

# CONTACT

**CRAIGIE, DUNDONALD  
and SYMINGTON CHURCH**



**APRIL/MAY 2026**

# Easter Message



Dear Friends,

As I take time out to reflect after Easter I'm drawn to the words of the Prophet Micah (6:8)

He had told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

The prophet Micah asks, what does God require of us? He's asking this question against a background of occupation, a time of violence, a time of greed, a time of corruption, a time of injustice. It's a time when the leaders and the people had wandered so far from God's path that they were completely lost. How familiar does that sound? It would appear they were living in a time that is not too different from that of today.

Now, had Micah asked the people his question, the answer would probably be something along the lines of sacrifice, showing up for worship, giving their offerings. However, Micah doesn't ask the people. Instead, he asks and answers this question from God's point of view. And the answer should never cease to shock and surprise us, to make us uncomfortable as we wonder: am I really doing that?

You see what we discover is that God doesn't require the things we might expect, like showing up for worship, knowing the Bible inside out, chapter and verse, or having all the right beliefs. Instead, God requires that we do justice, that we love kindness and that we walk humbly with God. In other words, God wants us to take action and, in His eyes, showing compassion, kindness and generosity to our friends and neighbours through the actions we take is not optional when it comes to a life of faith.

And of course, Micah isn't the only voice in the Bible asking this question. In the New Testament we hear "faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead," and Jesus summed up the life of faith as loving God with our whole being and loving our neighbour as ourselves.

Faith is not a feeling but an action; it's the way we live out our lives with the kind of love that humbly walks with God, seeks out justice, and extends kindness to all. This is what God wants, and it seems to me, as I'm sure it seems to many, that it's what our world needs in these troubled times, when we seem to have wandered so far of God's path that we're in danger of getting completely lost.

But with God's help and God's grace we can grow to love more deeply, so that justice, and kindness, and a closer walk with God become more and more how we live because faith is about what we do with what we believe.

This Easter may God grant you His grace, peace, love and joy.

07596719107 Tmcleod@churchofscotland.org.uk



**Catriona Mayes, Family & Pastoral worker - 07305620611 / treenieg@gmail.com**

*I give God my worries, the big ones, the small ones,  
The ones I can't even put into words.  
And I remind myself that peace  
Doesn't come from having control  
It comes from trusting the One who does.*

Craigie  
Symington  
Church  
@9:30am

# sunday services

Dundonald  
Church  
@11:00am

APRIL & MAY 2026



## April

12th April	09:30	Craigie Symington, Catriona
	11:00	Dundonald, Catriona
	19:00	Dundonald, Spirit & Song Service, Catriona
19th April	09:30	Craigie Symington, Rev. Tom
	11:00	Dundonald, Rev. Tom
26th April	09:30	Craigie Symington, Catriona
	11:00	Dundonald, Service of Praise, Catriona/Choir

## May

3rd May	09:30	Craigie Symington Communion, Rev Tom
	11:00	Dundonald Communion, Rev Tom
	19:00	Dundonald, Spirit & Song Service, Catriona
10th May	09:30	Craigie Symington, Rev Tom
	11:00	Dundonald, Rev Tom
17th May	09:30	Craigie Symington, Catriona
	11:00	Dundonald, Catriona
	14:00	Silver Service, Dundonald with Afternoon Tea
24th May	09.30	Craigie Symington, Rev Tom
	11:00	Dundonald, Rev Tom
31st May	09:30	Craigie Symington, Rev Tom
	11.00	Dundonald, Rev Tom



Coffee &  
TEA

AFTER CHURCH

CRAIGIE  
SYMINGTON

The first Sunday of  
every month  
(except July and  
August)

Coffee after  
Church on  
Christian Aid  
Sunday  
10<sup>th</sup> May

DUNDONALD

Come over to Hall  
after the service for  
coffee/tea and  
catch up.  
Please contact  
Ruth if you are  
able to join one of  
the teams  
[erutheaston@gmail.com](mailto:erutheaston@gmail.com)

## Dundonald Creche

Children of all ages are welcome in our Church.

Those age 3 and under will be taken across to creche  
in the Church Hall with the Sunday school after the  
children's address.



# EASTER AT CRAIGIE DUNDONALD AND SYMINGTON CHURCH



## PARISH REGISTER

### DEATHS

Norman Judd  
William Andrew Glover  
Anne Wylie  
Jessie Gracie  
John Gracie

### CRAIGIE SYMINGTON

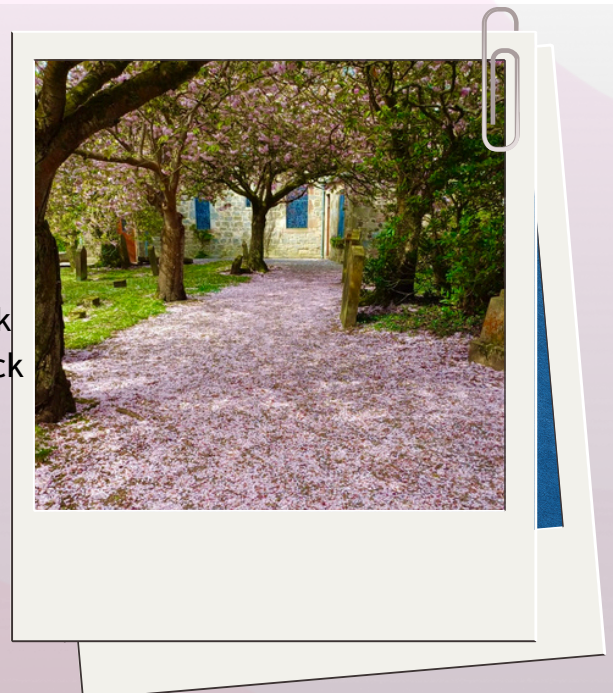
Lady Kirk, Monkton  
Hall of Barnwell, Craigie  
Westbank Nursing Home, Troon  
120 Lainshaw Avenue, Kilmarnock  
120 Lainshaw Avenue, Kilmarnock

### DEATHS

Hugh Appleby  
Janette Stewart  
Ian Hardie

### DUNDONALD

32 Fullarton Avenue  
55 Kilnford Drive  
5 Morven Drive, Troon



# Dundonald Boys' Brigade



It has been a season full of energy, achievement and community pride for the Dundonald Boys' Brigade, with each section contributing to a vibrant and memorable year.

A particular highlight was celebrating Jack Murdoch as he received his King's Badge, the highest honour in the Boys' Brigade. Jack's dedication, leadership, and service have been outstanding, and the whole Company is incredibly proud of his achievement. We were also delighted to award the President's Badge to Harry Bartling, Caelan Bissett, Robin Ferguson, Jamie Husband, Cameron McFarlane, Sebastian Morrison, Glenn Parker, and Ethan Penman. Each of these young men has shown commitment, enthusiasm, and a willingness to grow – qualities that strengthen our Company and set a brilliant example for younger members.

Our sections have been busy across the board. **The Junior Section** recently took part in the annual Battalion Supergroup Competition, tackling a range of physical and mental team challenges. Their teamwork, determination, and good humour shone through the whole day. **The Company Section** continued their strong tradition of excellence by winning the Battalion Drill Competition, a fantastic achievement that reflects their discipline, teamwork, and hard work. Meanwhile, our **Anchor Boys** have been enjoying a lively and varied Friday night programme, filled with games, crafts, stories, and plenty of fun. Their enthusiasm brings great energy to the hall each week.

A major moment for the whole Company came on Sunday 23rd March, when Dundonald had the privilege of hosting the East Ayrshire Battalion Parade. It was wonderful to welcome Boys' Brigade members from across the region, filling the village with music, colour, and fellowship. Our thanks go to everyone who supported the event and helped make the day run smoothly.

As always, we are grateful for the continued encouragement from the congregation and wider community. The Boys' Brigade in Dundonald remains a place where young people can grow in confidence, character, and faith – and this year has been a shining example of that.



Many  
congrats  
to our BB  
boys and  
officers!



Thank you to everyone who kindly gave towards Dundonald Church Flowers in February/March - Elaine Grant, Jean Gorman, Kate Tweedie.

Please get in touch with Sheila if you know of anyone who would appreciate flowers from the Sunday Service

*Save THE Date*



I would like to thank the members of Craigie Symington Church, for the lovely arrangement delivered by Glynis since I'm missing Sunday worship. Best wishes to you all. Ima Kennedy

Thank you for the beautiful flowers recently received on my birthday. Iris are one of my favourites, along with Alstromeria (which I had in my wedding bouquet and which also remind me of dear friend Sheila Wilson). These were complemented by the lovely pink roses - such beautiful spring colours and gorgeous fragrance! Shirley Shaw

Thank you also to all our willing and helpful drivers on Dundonald Car Rota. We would welcome some more drivers for Sunday mornings. Please contact Jane Ritchie if you can help out in this way - 07817 040426



**BREAKFAST AT TIFFANYS**

• 19 APRIL • 2pm SYMINGTON COMMUNITY HALL  
Come along & enjoy the film at this fundraising event for upkeep of the hall. Tickets £5, from 01563 830713, 07944 377837, 01563 830369 or symingtonhall4all@gmail.com

*MARRCAPPELLA - TROON COMMUNITY CHOIR*  
Tuesday 12th May at St Meddans Church Troon - for Alzheimer's Scotland



**SPRING CONCERT**  
13th May 7.30pm  
at Howard Centre  
Kilmarnock

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Keswick Ayrshire 2026**  
29th - 31st May

Speaker: Ian Coffey



**Keswick Ayrshire**  
HEARING • BECOMING • SERVING

MEMBER OF THE **Keswick FELLOWSHIP**



# CRAIGIE, DUNDONALD AND SYMINGTON GUILD



## DUNDONALD BRANCH

**Julie De Simone**

### 22nd February - Scams

PC Blair McGarvie and his colleague from trading standards spoke to the Guild about various scams that are around at the moment. They advised us the best way of spotting a scam and who to contact if we suspect one. A highly useful and informative evening.

### 16th February - Fashion Show

Update Boutique from Stewarton provided the latest fashion in clothing and accessories for us to peruse. A lovely collection.

### 2nd March Ayrshire - Cancer Support

Ayrshire Cancer Support is our local charity this year. Andy outlined the amazing services and work the charity carries out for cancer patients in Ayrshire. At the end of the evening Andy was presented with a cheque for £600.

### 16th March - AGM followed by card making

Our AGM was held. Beth Griffin then gave a card making demonstration. She showed us many different designs using many different techniques. They were fantastic and provided some of us with the inspiration to go home and get crafty.

## Afternoon Tea

The Dundonald Branch Annual Afternoon Tea will be at Boswell's Coach House, Auchinleck on Monday 20th April - 1.15pm for 1.30pm. £17. Those who have not added their name to the list and would like to go please speak to Adaline, Elaine or Anne, so that numbers can be confirmed.



**CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING  
SATURDAY 16TH MAY  
10-12 IN CHURCH HALL**



*Susan McClure would welcome help at the Christian Aid coffee morning as well as donations of baking and raffle prizes. Please get in touch asap with Susan 07878 249849*



This was written to stimulate discussion in a workshop attended many years ago; I can not remember the name of the lady who wrote this, but I was pleased to re-discover it recently amongst some old papers. *Shirley Shaw*

**LOVE** - holds God and other people close to our hearts; the love we show others is only bettered by the love we receive from God.

**JOY** - knows the passionate excitement which only comes from God; celebrates freedom in Christ and is thankful in all circumstances.

**PEACE** - knows that Jesus is Lord and that God is in control, no matter whether things are going well or badly.

**PATIENCE** - is able to look beyond the differences in people living around us, takes time to understand them and finds things in common.

**KINDNESS** - has ways of touching the lives of others, being encouraging in what we say and being generous with our time and money.

**GOODNESS** - seeks to shape our lives in the image of Christ, is constantly in prayer and sees the good in others too.

**FAITHFULNESS** - is steady in our walk with God, through the ups and downs; dependable and trustworthy to the people around us.

**GENTLENESS** - shows compassion and tolerance to others, spends time with them and in that attention, makes them feel really special.

**SELF-CONTROL** - is able to be measured in our feelings and emotions; puts thought before action.

# Tributes



## **Janette Stewart: 8/1/43 - 28/3/26**

Born in Dalbeattie in January 1943, Janette spent most of her childhood in Troon. Jinty Orr as she was known in her teens, enjoyed her social life with her friends as well as sport, especially hockey, tennis and the occasional game of golf.

Working at ICI she met Gordon and in 1968 they married. Soon Jennifer came along followed the next year by Alasdair. After this there was a move from Kilwinning to their house in Dundonald where Janette lived until the end.

For the 50 years they were married Janette supported Gordon in everything he did, and as his physical health began to fail she was with him every step of the way. Her devotion and determination were incredible during this time.

Janette was rarely idle; fundraising for school, village and Church activities, contributing beautiful knitting to Blytheswood Shoeboxes, The Micah Project and more. She also enjoyed gardening. She joined the YWG then the Guild - in fact, Janette supported everything.

We cannot thank Janette enough for all she did over many many years in preparing for the communion services, a task she took on when Gordon was Session Clerk and she continued until the very week she died.

Janette was Janette right up to her final days, busy, caring, chatting, calm and in control. During her few days in hospital she was peaceful, with family and friends round her. She slipped away quickly and quietly for which we must be thankful, she is at rest with God,

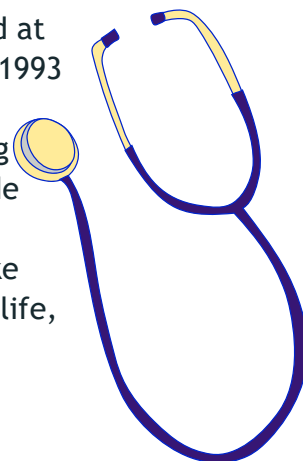
## **Mike Wood: 1962-2026 - our GP in Dreghorn, Dundonald & Symington**

Mike was an Ayrshire boy born in Irvine in February 1962. The middle child to Ann and Ian who was a GP in Irvine. With Mike's older brother Murray and his younger sister Cathy they were a happy, loving family. During summer breaks, he worked as a green keeper and spent most weekends playing at his beloved Bogside. He golfed every week with the same group of friends. Mike studied medicine at Glasgow University graduating in 1985. Mike and Lynne's story began at Crosshouse, when he gave her a tour of the hospital - it was love at first sight.

Shortly after they bought their first house in Dundonald quickly followed by their first 'baby' - a golden retriever puppy called Jade. In April 1989 Lynne and Mike married at Glasgow University Chapel and the family expanded with the arrival of Jennifer in 1993 and Katy in 1995. Watching the children growing up was one of Mike's happiest times. Mike truly loved being a GP in Dundonald, Symington and Dreghorn, forming close friendships with patients and colleagues. His kindness and steady nature made him a wonderful mentor, and for many years he was a GP trainer.

In retirement, Lynne and Mike found their happy place at their Kenmore lodge. Mike loved walking the dogs and he took on a new role when he became a papa later in life, welcoming his two grandchildren Erin and Lucy into the family.

Mike was a loving husband, caring dad and papa, a friend to all, with empathy and understanding for his patients. Mike will be sorely missed by family and friends.



# prayers

Debi Dunn



## A Prayer to Start the Day

Heavenly Father, thank you for this new morning.  
Thank you for the breath in my lungs  
And for the light that woke me up.  
Thank you for another chance to grow,  
To love, To try again.  
Even in the small things  
I see your mercy.

Lord, as I step into this day, give me strength for  
what I cannot see.

Strength for challenges, patience for people,  
wisdom for decisions.  
When I feel weak, remind me that your power is  
made perfect in weakness.

God, order my steps today.  
Guide my words, calm my reactions, purify my  
intentions.  
Lead me away from temptation and closer to your  
will.  
Be the voice that guides me and the peace that  
steadies me.

Father, I give this day to you before it even begins.  
My plans, my worries, my dreams, my fears.  
I place them in your hands.  
Renew my faith,  
Fill my heart with peace and  
Let everything I do today bring glory to you.  
Amen Anon

## Springtime

Springtime!  
Your message of hope  
to a world tiring of winter's starkness,  
longing for that first crocus  
to push through snow's icy blanket  
and spread its leaves,  
like arms outstretched,  
to its creator.  
Springtime!  
Our yearly reminder, if we needed  
one,  
that to a world that was dark and  
cold,  
a world devoid of love's sweet  
warmth, you sent your Son  
to break through sin's icy blanket,  
and, arms outstretched  
on a cross,  
he brought us hope.

Thank you  
©John Birch  
<https://www.faithandworship.com>

## Wisdom

There is real wisdom, Lord, in the adage  
'It is always Springtime in the heart that loves  
God.'

Springtime is a season of optimism and hope,  
and the Christian lives a faith centred on hope.  
Winter, with its cold and dark days has gone,  
just as Good Friday has passed to Easter and  
beyond.

We live a resurrection life  
reflected in the new life springing up around us.  
Thank you, Lord, for the hope that you bring,  
the renewal that you bring,  
both to this world and to our hearts and lives.

©John Birch

<https://www.faithandworship.com>

*PRAYER THURSDAYS: WE LOOK FORWARD TO  
WELCOMING YOU FOR A TIME OF PRAYER &  
REFLECTION IN THE CHURCH SESSION ROOM OR FOR  
PERSONAL PRAYER IN THE CHURCH.  
FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT DEBI DUNN  
DEBORAHDUNN01@OUTLOOK.COM*

# BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God (Matthew 5:9)

Loving God,  
We come before you in sorrow for once again we are a world affected by war.  
So many lives disrupted, so much destruction  
So much needless loss, So much fear and uncertainty  
So much grief and pain

Forgive our inability to live at peace  
We pray for peace and unity  
Not just the cessation of hostilities and the laying down of the weapons of war  
But the costly, just peace that transforms hearts, structures and lives.

We prayer for those in power, for wisdom and courage for world leaders  
A willingness to negotiate  
For blessed are the peacemakers

We pray for one another that we could be true to Christ  
Who calls us to be peacemakers  
Who calls us to pursue justice  
Who calls us to love both neighbour and enemy  
We pray for safety and security  
For residents and visitors across the Middle East  
For our Church staff and students in the Holy Land  
We pray for comfort and compassion  
For all those who are grieving, for those who are afraid.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.  
In Jesus name, we pray, Amen

**Rt Rev Rosie Frew, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland**

## A Spring Prayer Hymn

Lord, afford a spring to me,  
Let me feel like what I see;  
Speak, and by your gracious  
voice,  
Make my drooping soul  
rejoice.  
On your garden deign to smile,  
Raise the plants, enrich the  
soil;  
Soon your presence will  
restore  
Life to what seemed dead  
before.  
*John Newton, author of  
"Amazing Grace"*



MY  
NAME'S  
DODDIE  
foundation



## DINNER AND AUCTION NIGHT

IN AID OF MY NAME'S DODDIE FOUNDATION  
(MND CHARITY)

FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY

£30pp

FROM 7PM

AUCTION, RAFFLE & PRIZES

BOOKING REQUIRED, DEPOSIT FOR TABLES OVER 4.

## GRAND CYCLE - SPONSORSHIP

SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY

AUCHANS TO MELROSE SEVENS- 100 MILES

IN AID OF THE FOUNDATION



THE AUCHANS  
RESTAURANT-BAR



# MY NAME'S DODDIE FOUNDATION

'Calum's Doddie's Challenge' in 2026, a  
family effort

6 Sporting Events for Motor Neuron Disease

2 Bucket Collections and 2 Fundraising Stalls

Please ask Calum Scoular for more details to  
support

# MY NAME'S DODDIE FOUNDATION

You may sponsor Calum's MNDF challenge here if you would like to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/calumsdoddie5challenge>

Calum's Doddie Challenge events are:

22/04 - Ron's Run 5K- April

25/04 - Glasgow Kiltwalk- 14.6 miles

23/05 - Edinburgh 5K

31/05 - Chariots Beach Race

13/09 - Edinburgh Kiltwalk



West Coast Tree Surgeons at work in December



Maureen Taylor's beautiful hats for the Micah Project



Thank you to the wonderful team who gave Dundonald Kirk a 'deep clean' on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February. What a sparkling Church we came into on Sunday Morning (and all ready for the Union Service too)



**WE CONFESS**

Dear Lord, I'm both contrite and confused.  
 I don't understand what I do.  
 I think, and do, and love the wrong.  
 I'm sorry for making too little of You.  
 If ever I needed Your mercy, I need it now.  
 Please forgive me.  
 Help me give my whole self to You, now and forever. Amen.



**There's a new menu at Castle Visitors Centre - give it a try some time soon!**

01563 851489



www.dundonaldcastle.org.uk | SC031541

**COMMUNITY HUB**

WWW.DUNDONALDCASTLE.ORG.UK  
DUNDONALD | SOUTH AYRSHIRE | KA2 9HD

**KNIT 'N' NATTER**

A weekly social group where members gather to knit, chat, and share creative ideas.

Day: Every Monday  
Time: 1:00pm

**WRITE HERE AT DUNDONALD CASTLE**

A creative writing group led by a Writer in Residence. Members work on short stories, poetry, and collaborative projects.

Day: Every other Monday  
Time: 6:30pm- 8:00pm

**LADY WALKERS**

A group of local ladies who like to take a walk and talk, followed by a coffee and treat in the café.

Day: Every Tuesday  
Time: 1:30pm

**SCRABBLE CLUB**

Join our enthusiastic players and challenge your word count.

Every Wednesday  
Time: 1:30pm

**BOARDOM BUSTERS**

A fun and engaging group aimed at reducing boredom and loneliness through games, crafts, and social activities. Open to all ages and especially welcoming to those seeking companionship.

Day: Every Wednesday  
Time: 1:00pm

**DUNDONALD HISTORICAL AND ARCHIVE GROUP**

Friends of Dundonald Castle is taking stewardship of the local village archives, preserving stories and documentation that reflect the rich heritage of Dundonald and surrounding area.

Day: Monthly Talks on a Wednesday evening  
Time: 7:00pm

**BACK IN TIME CAFÉ**

A relaxed Thursday morning dementia café session offering conversation, refreshments, and a welcoming atmosphere for all.

Day: Every Thursday  
Time: 11:00am – 12:30pm

**CASTLE CRONIES**

A friendly social group aimed at older adults, offering regular meetups for conversation, activities, and community connection. It helps reduce isolation and build friendships.

Day: Every Thursday  
Time: 2:00pm

**SILENT BOOK CLUB**

A reflective and inclusive reading group where members read quietly together. Ideal for introverts and book lovers who enjoy a peaceful, communal reading experience.

Day: Every other Thursday  
Time: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

**CRAZY CASTLE KIDS JUNIOR COMMITTEE**

A youth led initiative that empowers children to take part in shaping the future of Dundonald Castle. Members help plan events, learn leadership skills, and engage with heritage in fun and meaningful ways.

Day: Every other Friday  
Time: 3:30pm

**YOGA AT THE CASTLE**

A relaxing yoga session held on the last Saturday of each month, overlooking the village from the castle grounds. Led by a local instructor, it focuses on mindfulness, flexibility, and community wellbeing.

Day: check social media and website for dates and times

**YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGISTS' CLUB**

A hands on heritage group for 8-16 year olds interested in archaeology and history.

Day: First Sunday of the Month  
Time: 2:00pm – 4:00pm



# DUNDONALD *Highland Games*



The Dundonald Games Society is pleased to announce that Mr John Mulholland has been appointed Chieftain of the Dundonald Highland Games 2026.

A lifelong resident of Dundonald and former pupil of Dundonald Primary School, John has made a significant contribution to community life at both local and national level. He is married to Fiona and has two sons, Scott and Craig, and a grandson, Finn.

John began his working life as an apprentice plumber before joining Kilmarnock and Loudoun District Council. He later became Coordinator, and subsequently Chief Executive, of Ayr Housing Aid Centre, a charity providing housing and homelessness advice and support to vulnerable individuals. He retired from this role in 2021. Alongside his professional career, John completed a Bachelor of Law degree at the University of Strathclyde in 2001, studying part-time over six years. He served as a local councillor on Kyle and Carrick District Council from 1988 to 1992 and has since been actively involved in numerous community organisations.

John is a Past President of Dundonald Bowling Club and has served on its committee for many years in a variety of roles, contributing significantly to the club's development. He is also a Past President and current committee member of Dundonald Burns Club, where he promotes the life and works of Robert Burns and encourages engagement with Scottish culture. John is a trustee of Friends of Dundonald Castle and has been involved with the Dundonald Highland Games since its inception, having written the Games' constitution and continuing to offer advice and support. He maintains strong links with Dundonald Primary School, regularly visiting to promote bowling with younger generations and, through the Burns Club, introducing pupils to Scottish literature and heritage.

In recent years, John has also supported local Church-linked community projects, assisting with grant applications and development planning. Floyds Café is one such project to benefit from his involvement. He is widely known within the village for offering practical guidance and support to individuals navigating issues relating to local authorities, housing associations and the law.

The Dundonald Games Society is delighted to welcome John Mulholland as Chieftain for 2026 and looks forward to celebrating the Games under his leadership. Welcome to the Games family, John.

Dundonald Highland Games is one of Ayrshire's premier cultural events, set in the historic surroundings of Royal Dundonald Castle. The Games celebrate traditional Scottish heritage and strong community spirit.

Admission is free and the programme includes pipe band competitions, drum majors, solo piping, highland dancing, heavy events, side stalls, massed pipe bands, and street parades.

The Dundonald Highland Games will take place on Saturday 1 August 2026, beginning with a street procession at 12 noon. Dundonald Games Week runs in the lead-up to the Games and includes a treasure hunt, 10km road race, children's fun run, pet show, and 7-a-side football competition.

John Bryson, Chairperson - 07708 449166, Colin Meldrum, Vice Chair - 07455025941

[dundonald-games.org.uk](http://dundonald-games.org.uk) [facebook.com/DundonaldGames](https://www.facebook.com/DundonaldGames) #DHG26

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL

***Meets on the second Thursday of the month (apart from January, July & August) to discuss any issues in the Village. All matters addressed.  
From 7-9 pm in Montgomerie Hall. [ddcdundonald@gmail.com](mailto:ddcdundonald@gmail.com)***

# SMILERS

Laughter is the soul's medicine



There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk. The lady thought for a moment and replied "only the ten commandments.

How does Moses make his tea? ...Hebrews it I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me. I'm reading a book about anti-gravity ...I can't put it down.

Teacher - Jamie what is the chemical formula for water?'

Jamie- "H I J K L M N O"

Teacher "what are you talking about, Jamie?"

Jamie: "Well, yesterday you said it's H to O."

## Your Summer Reading list

The Art of Archery by Beau N. Arrow  
Irish Heart Surgery by Angie O'Plasty  
Desert Offering by I. Rhoda Camel  
School Truancy by Marcus Absent  
I Lost my Balance by Eileen Dover and Phil Down  
Mystery in the Barnyard by Hu Flung Dung  
Come on in by Doris Open  
The German Bank Robbery by Hans Zupp  
I Hate the Sun by Gladys Knight  
Prison Security by Barb Dwyer  
The Lion Attacked by Claude Yarmoff



A superb concert of Scottish traditional music & and song. Catchy tunes and beautiful songs from the Scots tradition by three of Scotland's finest musicians.

BRÒG features legendary piper Gary West on pipes, whistles, vocals and guitar; virtuoso fiddler Greg Borland on fiddle and bass; and the sensational Sandy Brechin on accordion. Gary currently plays with the famous Atholl Highlanders, and is the presenter of the podcast 'Enjoy Your Piping'. Greg plays with Other Roads. Sandy plays with The Sandy Brechin Band, the Jimi Shandrix Experience, the Wendy Weatherby Band and a host of other bands.

Please bring your own refreshments and glasses. Teas, coffees and cakes are available at the interval.

Tickets (advance booking preferred) £12 & £6 (under 16), payable by cash only on the night • Advance tickets / further info. from Lorna Dewar 078999 78736

-Music at Craigie-

## BROG IN CONCERT

-in Craigie Village Hall-

7.30pm on Saturday 11 April 2026



# Tasty Treats

## Poulet a la Marengo

4 chicken portions  
Seasoned flour to coat  
3 tablespoons oil  
1 large onion, chopped  
1 clove garlic, crushed  
200g/8oz tomatoes, chopped and skinned/or tinned  
1 small tin or tube of tomato puree  
Half pint white wine or chicken stock  
4 tablespoons sherry, 100g/4oz mushrooms



Coat chicken in seasoned flour. Fry in hot oil until golden, then remove from pan. Fry the onion and garlic lightly in oil left in pan, then add tomatoes and continue cooking for about 5 mins. Add tomato puree, wine or stock, sherry and mushrooms. Replace the pieces of chicken. Cover pan tightly and simmer for 20-30 mins until chicken is tender. Serve with rice and salad. Top with chopped parsley.

**TAKEN FROM DUNDONALD PARISH CHURCH YOUNG WOMAN'S COOKERY BOOK (KINDLY RETYPED BY JUNE SHANNON RECENTLY)**



## Stem Ginger Chocolate Truffles

300g dark chocolate (70%)  
65g coconut oil  
80g almond butter  
4 tablespoons stem ginger syrup  
65g stem ginger  
60g crystallised ginger

Line a 22cm square tin with greaseproof paper. Roughly chop the chocolate and put in a heatproof bowl. Place coconut oil, almond butter, stem ginger syrup and chopped stem ginger in a small pan over a low heat. When everything has melted (don't worry if the almond butter stays clumped) pour it over the chocolate. Stir with a fork to mix, breaking up any lumps of butter.

Pour the chocolate mixture into prepared tin, gently shake to distribute evenly and sprinkle over the crystallised ginger. Leave to set then cut into squares.

**SHEILA PAYNE**

*Laura, Robin & Laurissa Ferguson along with other family members are taking part in the KiltWalk to raise funds for Pancreatic Cancer Research in memory of Ian. To support the family go to <https://www.justgiving.com/team/fergy?msocid=3c4aad6ba81165bb0950bbe6a99f6442>*



## GOOD GRIEF GROUP

2nd Tuesday of the month,  
1.30pm in The Auchans  
An informal group who  
meet to chat & support  
each other over a cuppa.  
Those who think they might  
benefit from this are  
welcome to attend.  
Please share your thoughts  
with  
Anne FitzGerald,  
Moira Kerr, John Wilson,  
Catriona and Tom.

## BADMINTON

Tuesdays/Thursdays  
10am -12noon  
Dundonald Church Hall

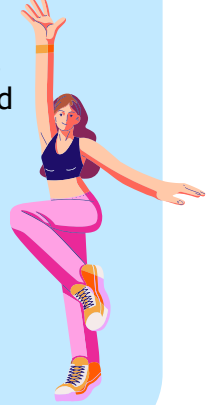
Marie 07847388646



## GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS

Wednesdays 10-11am  
Dundonald Church Hall

Increase resilience,  
calm, flexibility and  
strength.  
Carolyn  
07961 323078  
seasonalwellbeing  
@gmail.com



## FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Wednesdays in Symington  
Community Hall  
from 11.45am until 2.30pm.  
All are welcome to come  
along for a cup of  
tea/coffee, cakes, biscuits  
and a good blether!



## DUNDONALD CRAFT AND SOCIAL CLUB

Thursdays in Montgomerie  
Hall, Dundonald  
Over 50s  
2pm - 4pm  
Tea, coffee, biscuits  
Board Games,  
Card making, Pool



One off yearly fee: £20

## SWI DUNDONALD

First Thursday of month,  
Montgomerie Hall

7th May  
AGM & QUIZ



## MEN'S CLUB

Thursdays 7.30pm  
in Dundonald Church Hall

An informal group who meet  
to chat & support each  
other.  
Carpet bowling, fellowship  
and a cup of tea. Ladies  
most welcome!



## DUNDONALD BURNS CLUB

Dundonald Burns Club extend a  
warm welcome to all  
those who wish to join them.  
Dundonald Bowling Club at  
7.30pm unless otherwise stated  
**Wednesday 22nd April - Club  
Outing to Wellwood**

For further info. see  
[https://www.burnsclub.org/  
syllabus/](https://www.burnsclub.org/syllabus/)  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
people/Dundonald-  
Burns-Club/100086497921801/](https://www.facebook.com/people/Dundonald-Burns-Club/100086497921801/)  
[Dundonaldburnsclub@gmail.com](mailto:Dundonaldburnsclub@gmail.com)

## Floyd's Cafe

**MONDAYS 9:30-12:00**

Community Hub  
in the Church Hall  
Complimentary coffee/tea,  
toasties & homebaking.  
A warm and friendly welcome.

Bring a friend along with you!  
Floyds is for everyone!



linked to South  
Ayrshire foodbank and  
the Trussell Trust

**LOCUM MINISTER & INTERIM  
MODERATOR**  
Rev Tom McLeod 07596 719107

**SESSION CLERKS**  
Bob McMillan & Doreen Tait

**TREASURERS**  
Morag Marriot & Sheila Tannock

**FAMILY & CHILDREN'S WORKER**  
Catriona Mayes 07305 620611

**SAFEGUARDING**  
Ruth Easton (D) & Angela Liggat (CS)

**ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER**  
Mariae Chisholm (D)

**CHURCH OFFICER**  
Vacant

**FABRIC CONVENORS**  
Doug Grant (D) & Bill Kilpatrick (CS)

**PASTORAL CARE**  
Sheila Payne/Isobel Mactier

**PRAYERS**  
Thursdays 1-2pm  
Dundonald Session Room  
Debi Dunn 07714 160486

**BIBLE READING**  
Elaine Grant (D) & Doreen Tait (CS)

**CAR ROTA**  
Jane Ritchie (D) 07817 040426

**FLOWERS & CHURCH DECORATION**  
Sheila Payne/Maureen Brown (D)  
May Steele (CS)

**FACEBOOK CDS**  
Debi Dunn 07714 160486

**WEBSITE CDS**  
Fraser McMillan 07932 397582

**DUNDONALD CHURCH HALL  
BOOKINGS**  
Katy Purdie 07860 878911

**DUNDONALD SESSION ROOM  
BOOKINGS**  
Please record your booking request in  
advance on forms kept in this room.

**SYMINGTON HALL BOOKINGS**  
Doug Marriot

**CRAIGIE SYMINGTON CHURCH  
BOOKINGS**  
Doreen Tait

**SOCIAL ACTION**  
Adaline Finlayson (D)

**FLOYDS COMMUNITY CAFE**  
Mondays 9.30-12noon,  
Dundonald Church Hall  
Food Bank: Debi Dunn 07714 160486  
Frances Mavor 07985 527087

**WATER AID - JARS OF GRACE**  
Libba Fallows

**BIRTHDAY SCHEME**  
Supporting Mary's Meals in Malawi  
Frances Mavor 07985 527087

**INTIMATIONS**  
Lorna Dewar 07899 978736 (D)  
lorna@cultural-connections.co.uk

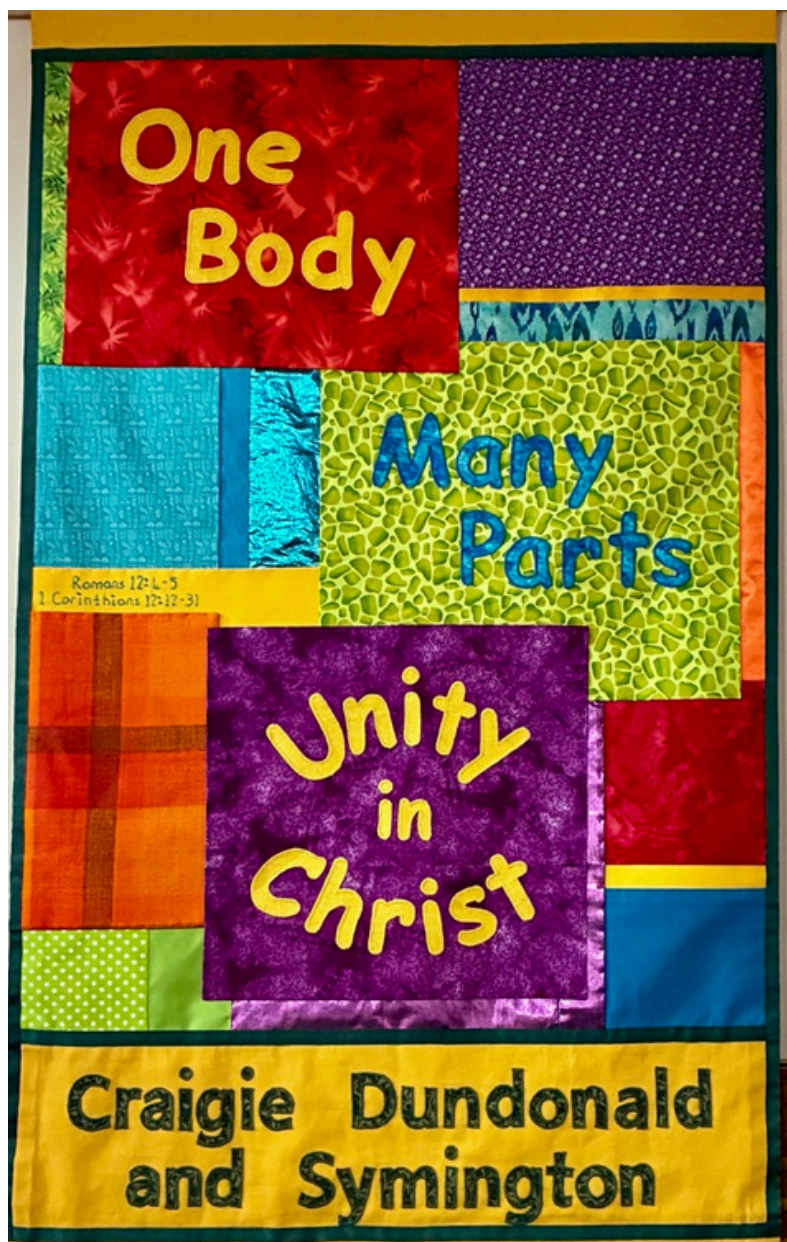
**Articles for June/July CONTACT to be submitted by 25th May 2026**  
**Thank you!**

**Frances Mavor: sandyfrancesm@icloud.com 07985 527087**  
**All articles and news welcomed from both Churches**

*The Nominating Committee would appreciate the prayers of the congregation as they continue the work they have been elected to do. This is a huge responsibility.*

*They have been asked by you, the congregation, to discern where God is leading us & to identify the minister that God is calling to serve in this community. Please pray for wisdom, discernment and guidance.*

# Union Banner



Last year, Bob McMillan requested that a banner be made to recognise the union of Craigie Symington and Dundonald Churches and it seemed appropriate to use the theme -

'One Body, Many Parts, Unity in Christ'.

(Romans 12: 4-5 / 1

Corinthians 12: 12-31).

A banner design based on these Bible verses was explored several years ago but had been put on hold while other banners were created in the meantime. As usual, the design process consisted of Frances & Shirley exploring a number of options (on-line, on paper and using fabric), although all the ideas were based on the use of geometric shapes with bright 'liturgical' colours.

We were very grateful indeed to a friend of Shirley's who donated a huge box of beautiful cotton 'fat quarters', just as we were finalising the fabric selection. Several pieces were used in the banner which were beautiful to sew with and have provided a lovely colour combination. Angela, Frances' sister, also donated some fabric from her collection.

Colour options were explored for the wording, along with a selection of fonts. Quite late on in the process Shirley was able to source some shimmering yellow fabric and some very dark green/blue ribbon for a border which co-ordinated well with the darker green wording created for the Church names.

We hope that the vibrancy of the banner and the Bible verse references provide encouragement to us all, to work together, using all the different gifts we have been given.

*Thank you to Lorna (cover), BBs, Doreen, Kevin T, Maureen and Shirley for lovely photos in Contact.*