

CONTACT

**CRAIGIE, DUNDONALD
and SYMINGTON CHURCH**



OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2025

CRAIGIE, DUNDONALD AND SYMINGTON CHURCH

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2025

A MESSAGE OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Dear Friends

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose.” Romans 8:28



Panic and fear are very human reactions which we are all faced with at some time in our lives. However, the Bible has a lot to say about fear and how we should handle it. In fact, there are approximately 61 times in Scripture (48 OT and 13 NT) when we are clearly and reassuringly commanded to ‘fear not.’

Can you imagine the panic and fear that Queen Esther must have felt when she received the news from her cousin concerning the planned attack on her people. Realising she faced certain death if the king was angry, she entered his presence uninvited. Overcoming her fear, she put her trust in God and pressed ahead speaking the truth and ultimately saving her nation. Could something good result from her actions? Yes! If you read the book of Esther, you find that God honoured her faithfulness and her trust in Him. He saved her nation from the scheme of an evil man who had planned to obliterate them from the face of the earth.

In 1944 Corrie ten Boom and her sister Betsie found themselves in the flea infested Barrack 28 of Ravensbruck concentration camp. We can't begin to imagine how they felt. Perhaps they were fearful of what might lie ahead of them? Miraculously they had been able to hide a Bible and a bottle of vitamins as they passed through checkpoints and inspections on their way to Ravensbruck. The Bible, they used to bring hope and comfort to their fellow prisoners by means of Bible studies. Imagine their joy when they realised that their studies were uninterrupted by the guards because of the fleas. The simple truth was the guards feared being infested by fleas and stayed out of the barrack. God does make all things work together for good and on this occasion, He used fleas!

Then we have the book of Job, who lost everything. God allowed a catalogue of catastrophic events to impact his life depriving him of his livestock, children, wealth and finally even his health. However, throughout it all he was able to say: *‘Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.’ Job 13:15*

His motto might have been “no fear here.” He was rewarded for his faithfulness when God restored his family and increased his wealth one hundred per cent. What was behind the successes of Esther, Job and the Ten Boom sisters? Was it perhaps their unshakable faith and trust in their God?

What are you facing today? How are you dealing with the issues in your life? Can we perhaps learn anything from the experiences of others? Remember that Jesus promised *“never to leave you or forsake you” Heb. 13:5*. Be assured of His presence with you at all times and in every situation encountered in life.

Yours in His Service

Tom McLeod, Interim Moderator and Locum Minister

Vacancy Update - *We have now appointed our Nomination Committee. They will now be working away in the background looking to determine a sole nominee for the post of Minister at Craigie, Dundonald and Symington Parish Church. It is extremely important that their work remains confidential so our next update will be when the committee have found a potential candidate to preach to the Congregation. I would ask that you encourage and support them by praying for the work they are undertaking and that they will be successful in finding a candidate.*

PARISH REGISTER

DEATHS - CRAIGIE SYMINGTON

Mrs Helen Hall, 4 Parish Gardens Symington

Mrs Mary Beattie, Thornton Estate Nursing Home Crosshouse

Mrs Margaret Douglas, 1 Lomond View Symington

DEATHS - DUNDONALD

28/9/25 - Barbara Handling - 1 Warly Place, Dundonald

*Remembering
family and
friends in our
prayers*



SUNDAY SERVICES



CRAIGIE SYMINGTON CHURCH @ 9.30am

DUNDONALD CHURCH @ 11am

OCTOBER 2025

5th October - Rev Tom McLeod
Craigie Symington: 9.30am - Communion
with coffee after Church
Dundonald: 11 am - BB Dedication Service,

5th October - Catriona Mayes.
Dundonald: 7pm - Evening Worship
Come along & enjoy a service of informal
worship with praise & prayer
Please use the Church side door entrance.

12th October - Catriona Mayes
Harvest Thanksgiving

19th October - Graeme Stewart

26th October - Rev Tom McLeod
Dundonald - Communion

*Date for your diary ... Dundonald 14th December -
'Time to Remember' Service*

NOVEMBER 2025

2nd November - Catriona Mayes

9th November - Rev Tom McLeod
Craigie Symington
Craigie War Memorial: 9am

Symington War Memorial: 10.15am
after shortened Church Service.
Followed by Big Breakfast provided by
the Guild at the Community Hall

Dundonald War Memorial: 10.30am
Catriona Mayes

Parade of Uniformed organisations
Dundonald Church: 11am

Rev Tom McLeod
Remembrance Service

16th November - Catriona Mayes

23rd November - Rev Tom McLeod

30th November - Rev Tom McLeod
First Sunday in Advent

CRAIGIE SYMINGTON COFFEE/TEA AFTER CHURCH

The first Sunday of every
month (except July and
August), in November on
Remembrance Sunday and in
May on Christian Aid Sunday

DUNDONALD COFFEE/TEA AFTER CHURCH

Come and share fellowship
after the service with coffee/tea
in the Hall.
erutheaston@gmail.com

DUNDONALD CRECHE

In Church Hall for children
age 3 and under during
service. Hall is open from
10.45 am.



If you can't attend here is the link:<https://www.youtube.com/DundonaldParishChurch/live>
or go straight to YouTube and type in "Dundonald Parish Church".

CHOIR PRACTICES

Choir Practices are in the choir room
at 10am each Sunday. New members
& anyone wishing to come from
Symington will be made very
welcome. We will be rehearsing
Christmas music alongside our
regular items.

CHURCH FLOWERS

Thank you to everyone who kindly gave
towards Dundonald Church Flowers in
August/September
Lilian Axford, Ellen Gray, Anne Watts.

Please let Sheila know if you know of anyone
who would appreciate flowers from the
Sunday Service.



Thank
you

Helen and I would like to thank Rev Tom, Catriona and everyone for their support and kindness at the passing of Haldane. The cards, warm words and flowers have been a real comfort at this sad time.

Dorothy Richmond

I would to say thankyou to all my Church family at Craigie Dundonald and Symington, for the lovely flowers and most enjoyable afternoon tea from Floyd's, after the unexpected passing of my older brother in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

It came as a shock to his family and friends, and we are trying to deal with the sadness and grief that we are feeling at this time.

R.I.P. Robert.

Kind regards John W

Sincere thanks to everyone for their help and support during our recent health problems; thankfully, we are making a steady recovery.

We are truly privileged to have such a caring Church family.

Many thanks also for the beautiful flowers delivered by Sheila, they were very much appreciated.

God bless

Campbell and Margaret

Thankyou everyone for the beautiful flowers and cards which we received from so many of our Church friends.

We may have moved to Troon but we will still be active in Craigie, Dundonald and Symington Church.
Thanks Irene

Many thanks for the beautiful flowers we received from our Church family. They were very much appreciated and brightened up our day!
Love Netta & Gordon
Highet xx

DUNDONALD GUILD
Monday @ 7pm
Church Hall

6th October

Dedication Rev Tom McLeod
Entertainment by Centre Stage
Junior Show Choir

20th October

Crossreach: Playful Beginnings
Guild Project

3rd November

The Glasgow Cook Book
Gilda Smith

17th November

Wreath Making
Sally Gray

1st December

Crossroads Hub Choir
Guest Evening

15th December

Christmas Meal & Auction
The Auchans

**CRAIGIE SYMINGTON
GUILD -
TUESDAY @ 2pm
Community Hall**

30th September

River Green Rehab Centre
Jardine Simpson

28th October

Norwich to Walsingham
Illustrated talk
Joe Cassidy

25th November

Entertainment from
Symington Primary School

9th December

Christmas afternoon tea





Dundonald Sunday School Round-Up: A Year of Fun, Fellowship and Faith

Adaline Finlayson & Kirsty Zorget

Every Sunday morning at 11am, the sound of laughter, singing, and happy chatter fills our Church as our Sunday School children gather for a morning full of fun, friendship, and learning about God's love.

What a wonderful year it has been! Each week, our children have enjoyed a variety of activities - from cheerful singing and exciting games to colourful crafts and meaningful stories. It's been a joy to watch friendships blossom and see the children grow in confidence and faith. This summer brought an extra splash of creativity as we enjoyed a fantastic series of craft sessions led by Shirley Shaw. The children (and the leaders!) had a brilliant time getting stuck in with glue, glitter, paint and plenty of imagination. A huge thank you to Shirley for all the time and energy she poured into making these crafts so special. As we settle into the autumn term, we're already looking forward to celebrating Harvest Festival, a time when we give thanks for all the good things in our lives. Then, before we know it, we'll be dusting off the costumes and warming up our voices as we begin rehearsals for our much-anticipated Nativity Performance in December - always a heartwarming and joyful occasion in the Church calendar.

Our Sunday School is open to all children and we're always ready to welcome new faces. If your child would like to join us, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Kirsty Zorget on 07710 683757 for more information. Here's to another joyful year ahead!



Floyds 4th Anniversary!



MONDAYS 9:30-12:00 CHURCH HALL



Happy birthday to Floyd's! It is hard to believe we were 4 years old in September. Starting as a Foodbank outlet during Covid, initially in the Montgomerie Hall then moving to the Dundonald Church Hall, it has been wonderful to see it evolve.

So many people have been involved over the years and we couldn't do what we do without our **wonderful volunteers**. Those who set-up and clear up. Those who serve, wash up and make toasties. Those who apply for funding grants. Those who donate money, baking and crafting items. Those who come to chat and make people feel welcome.

It is truly a **hub for the community**. A place for people to have something warm to eat, a chat if they want it, a cup of tea made for them when they are looking after youngsters. Signposting to different services (benefits, money/debt, mental health, foodbank etc) if needed - **Floyd's has been proud to welcome all ages from new born to 95!!** We have become a real Dundonald family.

Over the years we have enjoyed several '**Celebration**' days - Platinum Jubilee, King Charles's coronation and VE Day and each week we gift delicious 'Afternoon Teas', made up beautifully by the kitchen volunteers. As well, some young people have volunteered in the cafe which contributes towards their Duke of Edinburgh award.

The importance of community and volunteering was highlighted recently by Callie. A local lass who, as part of her participation in the '**Miss Teen Great Britain**' competition, overwhelmed us with a wonderful donation of homebaking. This was enjoyed by all on the day. Callie also organised a large collection of essential items for the South Ayrshire Foodbank. If you want to be involved or want to see what we are about, please just pop in.



HALDANE RICHMOND - 01/01/1937-16/07/2025

Elder at Dundonald Church



Born in 1937 to Elizabeth Stevenson and David Richmond, Adam Haldane Richmond's home for all his 88 years was in Dundonald - he was always known to us as Haldane. A Dundonald boy born and bred who loved his home and throughout his years was involved in all that the village and surrounding areas offered. Many of Haldane's earliest memories were of Dundonald being home to troops training for the Normandy landings and for Haldane this was exciting. The upstairs bedroom on the corner of Richmond Terrace, where they lived at the time, was home to the big gun protecting the village. On VE day this year, Haldane joined others from the village at the War memorial and shared his wartime memories.

After school in Dundonald and Troon, Haldane served his apprenticeship at Troon Shipyard as a Marine Engineer. He joined the Merchant Navy, which gave him time to see India in the late 50s. Also, at this time he thought it was time to learn to dance and went along to a class where he met Dorothy. They married on 22nd February 1963; Haldane always said marrying Dorothy was the best thing he ever did.

Haldane could fix or mend almost anything. He especially loved working on engines and cars in the garage on Richmond Terrace, where he tinkered for hours with his cousin John Aird and this came in very handy when things went wrong. He and his pals would also cover up for each other working into the night to avoid parents' wrath at times. Haldane was an incredibly skilled engineer. After the Merchant Navy he worked for Glazier Metal, Kilmarnock in research and also tool making, seconded to London to set up operations there. He rebuilt almost from scratch the family house on 40 Main St which generations of the family lived in and he completely restored the grandfather clock which still stands in the hall today. Restoring didn't end there as throughout the years he has helped his daughter Helen and her friends restore and reinstate original features in several properties.

He worked with ball bearing manufacturer SKF and was posted to work in Sweden, Germany and Turkey. Always interested in those he was working with Haldane was invited to meet the families. The overseas teams always asked for Big Hal to come back. While working at SKF he solved a problem that had management and senior engineers stumped. The company was delighted as it saved vast amounts of time and money. He always believed that simpler solutions were more elegant and believed almost any problem could be solved if you looked at it in the right way. He then worked as a Hydraulic Engineer and had the opportunity to start a business with 2 colleagues. Strathclyde Hydraulics is still going strong today. He decided to retire in 1996, more time for exploring the world and his hobbies.

He and Dorothy liked to travel, enjoying many great adventures together- in Scotland, France, Germany, Austria, Cyprus, Dubai. Their furthest adventure was to Australia and New Zealand where they visited family and travelled with lifelong friends Jean & Dave. On their first cruise together they flew to Italy, excitedly took a taxi to the quayside and saw their boat, Haldane's first words were 'it's a car ferry!' It was and the conversion to a cruise ship wasn't quite complete.

Some of Haldane's retirement pursuits were hobbies since boyhood. He started as a beekeeper when only 14, with his Uncle Jimmy and continued keeping bees well into his 70s. He told many stories about rescuing bees that had swarmed and how he transported them home on the back seat of the car with Dorothy, his reluctant bee partner, who does not like bees but likes their honey! Haldane encouraged young people in engineering, volunteering at Dundonald Primary school helping children make things out of Kleenex. They did really well nationally and Haldane and the children went to London to receive an award. As a teenager Haldane competed in target shooting for his county and was an active member of the range in Dundonald. Haldane's trademark was his deerstalker and many of us have memories of him walking across the coo park in it with his dog and his gun, sometimes with his pals. Haldane was also a keen fisherman and he also helped with the Pony Club on a Monday night.

He was an Elder in Dundonald church, which was a role he enjoyed for many years, receiving a Golden Egg for his service. He was Chieftain of the Dundonald Games in 2006 and was doubly proud as his baby grandson Max was there in the field supporting him. Haldane continued to parade with the ex-chieftains until 2023.

Haldane joined Troon Navigation in 1965 and in April this year he was honoured to receive a certificate for 60 years' membership. He was also a founding member of Lodge Burns Dundonald in 1985 and was Master of this lodge from 1991 to 1992. Being part of this fellowship was something he held dear, and he was always very proud of all the charitable work they carry out. He was president of the Dundonald Burns Club from 1990 to 1991 and was quite prone to reciting a bit of Burns or bursting into song completely out of the blue, often when it had nothing to do with the conversation that was taking place! He was involved in making the brazier for the year 2000 Millenium celebrations, and despite skepticism from his neighbours, using diving rods to find drains

Even with his busy life and the many ways, he served his community, Haldane always had time for family, Dorothy, his daughter Helen, Son in law Graham, and grandson Max. They were always the most important to him. Haldane had a long, happy and full life surrounded by the love of family and friends. A man whose bywords were "treat people as you want to be treated" and "A man's a man for a' that".

CRAIGIE, DUNDONALD and SYMINGTON CHURCH of SCOTLAND

Charity No. SC008284

10th August 2025

Minister: Rev. Tom McLeod, c/o 5 Firth Gardens, Troon, KA10 6TQ - 07596719107

Joint Session Clerk: Mr. Bob McMillan, 5 Firth Gardens, Troon, KA10 6TQ - 07977035937

Joint Session Clerk: Mrs. Doreen Tait, 11 Townend Terrace, Symington, KA1 5QH -07762730811

Dear Member,

Storage of your personal information

Craigie, Dundonald & Symington Parish Church needs to hold certain information about you to function as your Church. We must comply with the Data Protection Act 1998 to ensure that any personal data about you as an individual is stored and used in an appropriate way.

Craigie, Dundonald & Symington Parish Church is committed to protecting your privacy and to safeguarding your personal data. We will use the information you have provided to us for Membership record keeping and related matters and will only keep the data for as long as necessary i.e. 1 year after you cease to be a member of Craigie, Dundonald & Symington Parish Church or one of its organisations. Where you are an Elder, Convenor, or key member of any organisation, your information may appear in the Church Yearbook, Website/Social Media and/or Contact Magazine. Your information will never be supplied to a third party.

The information we hold includes your name and address (essential) plus, in some cases, telephone number and email address where either of these have been provided. Details are held on the Congregational Roll, Elder's Handbook and Giving or Gift Aid records and access to these is strictly controlled. You need do nothing if you agree with us holding this information, or using it as described. Occasionally photos/videos may be made of Church & organisation events in which you may appear. Such material will also be covered by the Data Protection Act.

*If you have any further queries about this please contact
Rev. Tom McLeod (07596719107) or Mr. Bob McMillan (07977035937)
or Mrs. Doreen Tait (07762730811) stating your concern or objection.*

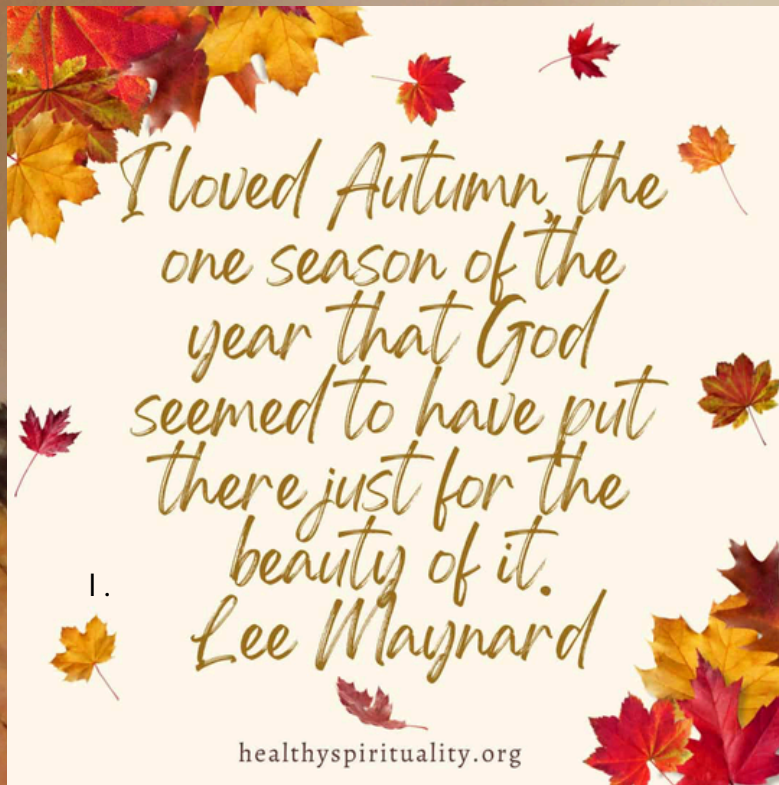
Kind regards and thank you for your assistance.

Bob McMillan

Joint Session Clerk / Data Protection Officer

PRAYERS

Debi Dunn



The Church is full of people in the Autumn of their years. Some have led colourful lives, leaves bronzed and golden through exposure to the elements, their appearance the centre of attention. Others have been exposed to more extreme conditions branches bowed and scarred. Some go unnoticed, yet stand tall and steadfast against wind and rain. All have a story to tell all can offer support and shelter for saplings which grow beneath their leafy canopy.

©John Birch

<https://www.faithandworship.com/>

AUTUMN BLESSINGS

Autumn brings to the soul relief,
as hot Summer days come to an end
God sent the season for weary hearts
to restore, repair and mend.

Unlike the Autumn trees,
that shed their changing leaves
God sent the season for failing hearts
to adhere, embrace and cleave.

Just as, with the Autumn winds,
there comes a new, refreshing rain
God sends the season for fraying hearts
to increase, to grow and gain.

The Autumn sun is slow to climb
and dips much earlier into the night
God sent the season for sleepy hearts
to rise, shine and unwind in His light.

God gave to us the Autumn season
so we could have respite and rest
for it is the season for our beset souls
to see how much we are blessed.

© 2012 Deborah Ann Belka

A PRAYER FOR HELP

Oh, God, when I have food,
Help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work, help me
To remember the jobless;
When I have a warm home
Help me to remember the homeless;
When I am without pain,
Help me to remember those who suffer;
And remembering, help me
To destroy my complacency
And bestir my compassion.
May me concerned enough
To help, by word or deed,
Those who cry out
For what we take for granted.

Samuel F. Pugh

*“Autumn reminds us that the
change can be the most beautiful
chapter of all.”*

Anon



PRAYER IS ALL YOU NEED

“We have the opportunity to offer heartfelt prayers for every person we see. The attendant at the grocery store. The nurse in the doctor’s office. You don’t have to tell them of your intercessory prayer. When we seek to bless others through prayer, we are blessed. Studies draw causal links between prayer and faith and health and happiness. The act of praying for others has a boomerang effect. It allows us to shift the burden we carry for others to the shoulders of God. Don’t grow angry at the church’s condition.

Pray for her. Don’t fret about the future of your family, pray for them. Assume the posture of prayer. Is there a crisis in your world? Are you called to give hope where hope cannot be found? Is prayer all that you have? That’s okay. Prayer is all you need. And this is how happiness happens.”

How Happiness Happens: Finding Lasting Joy in a World of Comparison, Disappointment, and Unmet Expectations
By: Max Lucado Thomas Nelson / 2019 / Hardcover. Prayer is all you need (Max Lucado Podcast Sept 30th 2019).

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. Ecclesiastes 3:1

The nicest place to be is in someone’s thoughts, the safest place to be is in someone’s prayers, and the very best place to be is in the hands of God. (*St Anne’s Prayer Tree Outreach*)

Prayer for Israel and Palestine (Iona Community)

God of mercy, we lay before you the hearts, minds and bodies of all those suffering from violence in the occupied Palestinian territory and Israel. Shower upon all the people of this holy land the spirit of justice and reconciliation.

Lord have mercy

In you, Lord, all life is connected and all the Earth and its land are to be cherished, not controlled. Your gifts are for all.

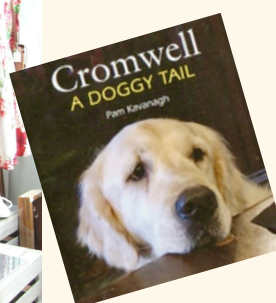
Yet as we see the violence and hatred in the land called Holy, and see the signs of climate breakdown, help us all to work to live in communion.

Lord have mercy

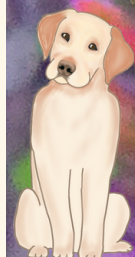
The Nominating Committee would appreciate the prayers of the congregation as they begin the work they have been elected to do. This is a huge responsibility. They have been asked by you, the congregation, to discern where God is leading us & to identify the minister that God is calling to serve in this community. Please pray for wisdom, discernment and guidance.

PRAYER THURSDAYS 1-2pm

Come along for a time of prayer & reflection in the Church Session Room and/or a time of personal prayer in the Church. For further information please contact Debi Dunn deborahdunn01@outlook.com



Pam, with George and Jack, presenting a cheque of proceeds from her book “Cromwell, A Doggy Tail”, to Marie Curie in Troon

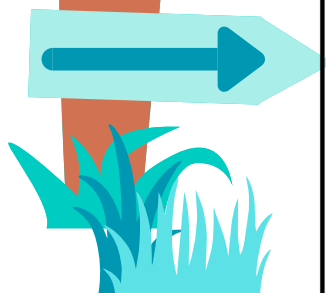




Notice



Board



Harvest Service 12th October

We are again collecting for the South Ayrshire Foodbank, Trussell Trust.

Items most needed are jars of pasta sauce, instant mashed potato, tinned carrots, tins of chopped tomatoes, hot meals (stew, mince, chilli, bolonese, curry), fruit, custard and rice, UHT milk, tea, coffee, diluting juice, boil in the bag or microwave rice - but all non-perishable food items are most welcome.

SYMINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL -

The school urgently needs sensory toys & sensory lights, such as stress balls with coloured lights & bubble lights, for their Nurture Room.

If you are able to donate any such toys or lights, then please contact Rosie Smith, deputy headteacher / school admin staff 01292-830389

DUNDONALD PRIMARY SCHOOL FRUIT BASKET

The school have a fruit basket that sits in an open area & is available for all pupils to help themselves. The staff are very grateful for our support in filling this. Bananas are their favourite, but apples, oranges pears & plums are all appreciated too.

Please give any donations to Debi Dunn, Adaline Finlayson or Catriona.

Crossreach Calendars and Christmas Cards

are available and can be ordered from Katy Purdie at 07860878911 or via email at ktpurdie@hotmail.com by 23rd November. Calendars are the same price as last year at £5.50 .

There are a few catalogues at the Church door if anyone would like to view the cards which come in packs of 10 for around £4. You can also order directly from Crossreach <https://shop.crossreach.org.uk/product-category/calendars/>

POPPIES NEEDED Following the beautiful display of poppies that Helen Campbell & her team of knitters & crocheters from Floyds created for the VE day celebrations, we are hoping to create a display at the Church in November.

We know we will need many more poppies so please get knitting now. Helen has some wool if anyone needs it & this can be collected from Floyds, or let Catriona know at Church.

Symington Community Hall 31 Main Street Symington

Fun and Film night

Friday 24th October 6-8.30pm

Reindeer Drive

Friday 28th November 7pm

Meet Santa

Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th December
10am-3 pm

Email symingtonhall4all@gmail.com for further details or contact Symington Community Hall facebook page. The Hall offers a loop system and accessible parking



Poppies made by Anne Y

GOOD GRIEF GROUP

**2nd Tuesday of the month,
1.30pm in The Auchans, until
November.**

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.

As we start planning for another set of formal meetings in the Autumn, feedback from anyone who has attended in the past year will be very welcome. Please share your thoughts with any one of the facilitators (Anne FitzGerald, Moira Kerr, John Wilson, Catriona and Tom).

FELLOWSHIP GROUP

**Every Wednesday in
Symington Community Hall
from 11.45am until 2.30pm.**

In this day and age there are still far too many people who feel lonely and isolate, despite all that is going on in the area.

If you are one of those people then please come along and join us in the Fellowship Group. It is open to anyone and it has a variety of activities, helping people to socialise and meet new friends.

So, come along and join us!

MEN'S CLUB

**Every Thursday 7.30 pm
in Dundonald Church Hall.**

An informal group who meet to chat & support each other over a cuppa. Carpet bowling, fellowship and a cup of tea.

Ladies most welcome!



BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOE BOX APEAL 2025 - As in previous years we will be participating in this appeal. The idea is to cover a shoe box in Christmas paper & then fill it with small, practical items such as toiletries, stationery & clothing all detailed in one of their leaflets which are available at the Church door. If you are not able to fill a shoebox you can provide individual items & these will be used to fill boxes.

The boxes are transported & distributed in schools, hospitals, orphanages, care homes & households in very low-income communities in countries such as Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia & Ukraine.

The boxes are packed at Fullarton Church during the first three weeks of November. You can email coordinator@FullartonConnexions.co.uk and Ash or Esther will be able to confirm dates. Or phone 01294273741 between 9 and 4 Mon to Fri.



THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS campaign is looking for pants & socks for children/young people ages 3-15, boys & girls. If you would like to donate any of these items then please give them to Helen Campbell 07821936472.

Alternatively bring them to Floyds, where we can collect them for Helen to pass on to the NB4C team.

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



**Christmas Fayre
Dundonald Church
Hall**

**Saturday
6th December**

**Look out for
details of our
Festive Fayre
coming soon!**



DUNDONALD BURNS CLUB

Dundonald Burns Club are excited to announce a fantastic series of events for the year ahead & look forward to extending a warm welcome to all those who wish to join them. They will be hearing from, & entertained by, an eclectic group of fascinating people, including a world record cyclist, an historian, a football club owner, an archaeologist, an art collector; as well hosting a couthie St Andrew's Night shindig & a richt-guid Burns Supper full of songs & clatter.

The first meeting at 7.30pm on Wed. 1 Oct in Dundonald Bowling Club, will feature John Kerr talking about 'The Covenanters, a topic he has an impressive knowledge on & which is deep-rooted in our local history - These events are open to all. No tickets or pre-booking required, except for the St. Andrews and Burns Supper events.

For further info. see

<https://www.burnsclub.org/syllabus/>

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Dundonald-Burns-Club/100086497921801/> or
email Dundonaldburnsclub@gmail.com

DUNDONALD BURNS CLUB PRESENTS

THE COVENANTERS RELIGIOUS FREEDOM OR RELIGIOUS FANATICS

JOHN KERR



The Covenanters were a 17th-century Presbyterian religious movement.

They signed national covenants, pledging to defend their Church's independence against the attempts by King Charles I to impose a more episcopal system. This led to a period of intense persecution, known as "The Killing Time." Ayrshire was a key Covenanter stronghold. The region's commitment to Presbyterianism and its remote landscape made it a refuge for Covenanters holding illegal outdoor worship services called conventicles.

The area is rich with sites and memorials dedicated to the Covenanter struggle, reflecting its deep association with the movement's history.

John Kerr is a Past President of Dundonald Burns Club and a popular local speaker. He has an impressive knowledge on the Covenanters and their deep-rooted history in Dundonald and Ayrshire.

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

SWI Dundonald

THURSDAY OCT 2ND

JENNIE CAMPBELL
MY DANCING LIFE
COMPETITION
PASTA SALAD
SINGLE ROSE

THURSDAY NOV 6TH

ANNE WALKER
BAKING DEMONSTRATION
COMPETITION
FRUIT LOAF
JAM DISH

Dundonald Craft and social club

Tea, coffee & biscuits
Board games
Card Making
Pool

Over 50's

THURSDAYS 2PM-4PM
Montgomerie hall

33 MAIN STREET DUNDONALD SOUTH AYRSHIRE

One off yearly joining fee £20

COME AND JOIN US AT
DUNDONALD YOUTH CAFE

THURSDAYS FROM 25TH SEPTEMBER
AT DUNDONALD ACTIVITY CENTRE
6PM-7:30PM

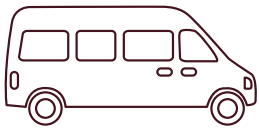
SCAN THE QR CODE OR USE THE URL BELOW TO SIGN UP



[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/EI9CGS051TNE](https://forms.office.com/EI9CGS051TNE)

THRIVING
COMMUNITIES





VOLUNTEER VAN DRIVERS WANTED FOR SOUTH AYRSHIRE FOODBANK

Are you looking to make a difference in your community? South Ayrshire Foodbank is seeking volunteer van drivers to help support our vital services across the region.

Role Overview:

We rely on dedicated drivers to uplift donations from local supporters and deliver food parcels to our community hubs throughout South Ayrshire. This is a rewarding opportunity to directly support people in need and be part of a caring team.

Requirements:

- Must hold a full, clean UK driver's licence
- Physically fit – able to lift and carry heavy items (food crates and boxes)
- Flexible with time – hours may vary depending on need
- Reliable, responsible, and friendly

What You'll Be Doing:

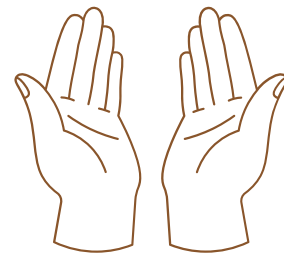
- Driving a van to collect food donations from local supermarkets, churches, and community groups
- Delivering food parcels to distribution hubs.
- Representing South Ayrshire Foodbank with professionalism and compassion

If you're ready to make a real impact in your community, we'd love to hear from you!

✉ To apply or find out more, contact us at: info@southayrshire.foodbank.org.uk

*Lord of the loving heart, may mine be loving too
 Lord of the gentle hands, may mine be gentle too,
 Lord of the willing feet, may mine be willing too,
 So I may grow more like You in all I say and do*

From All our days - Lion Book of Prayers, Mary Batchelor



**Music at Craigie - Folk Music Concerts
 in Craigie Village Hall -
 7.30pm on 4 Oct. & 29 Nov. 2025**

**Sat. 4 Oct - Celine Donoghue &
 Neil Sturgeon in concert**

Celine plays excellent tenor banjo and fiddle, sharing vocals with singer-songwriter Neil Sturgeon, a first-class guitarist who provides great accompaniment.

Celine and Neil always create a warm and infectious interaction with the audience. Together they produce a fresh sound that combines traditional and contemporary music.



**Sat. 29 Nov -
 A St. Andrews Night Special Concert
 with Plaidson & Davie Anderson**

Plaidson feature Syd on guitar and vocals and Nicky on vocals. Their Scottish traditional songs are always fitted into a historical background, while their own compositions are notable.

The standard of their performance is excellent – sympathetic guitar playing meets wonderful singing !

Singer-Songwriter Davie Anderson mixes Folk, Americana, Rockabilly & Blues on acoustic, electric guitar, Bass and E-bow.

Davie's influences are as varied as Big Country, Buddy Holly and Robert Burns and has taken his music to USA, Germany, Ireland and Northern Spain.



Pop in any day between 10am and 5pm for friendly service, tasty lunches, fresh cakes, delicious coffee. Entry to Castle is available during opening hours at 10am, 11am, 12 noon, 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm.

**DUNDONALD HISTORICAL & ARCHIVE GROUP
WED. 8 OCT. - 7pm**

Alasdair McFarlane will give a talk entitled 'Reflections on Everest', based on his recent trek to Everest base camp. Earlier this year many people in the village helped to raise funds for Alasdair's trek, in aid of Amnesty International.

DUNDONALD HISTORICAL & ARCHIVE GROUP PRESENTS:

ALLAN MACKINTOSH

FULL CIRCLE - THE AMAZING HISTORY OF PRESTWICK AIRPORT FROM 1913

**DUNDONALD CASTLE VISITOR CENTRE
12TH NOVEMBER | 7PM**

Join Allan Mackintosh, Chair of Prestwick Aerospace Operational Group & Owner/Founder of Prestwick Aviation Tours (and Dundonald Castle Guide!), in an exploration of of Prestwick Airport and surrounding aviation, from 1913.

FREE ENTRY FOR FODC MEMBERS
NON-MEMBERS: MINIMUM DONATION £3
BISCUITS & TEA/COFFEE PROVIDED AFTER THE TALK

DOORS OPEN 6.30PM

COMMUNITY HUB DUNDONALD CASTLE

Ayrshire Young Archaeology Club

First Sunday of the month from 2pm to 4pm.

Youngsters aged 8 to 16. Please email archaeology@dundonaldcastle.org.uk

Knit & Natter

Mondays 1pm to 3pm. Fancy sharing tips and techniques, working projects and showing off talents with like-minded knitters over tea/coffee?

Write Lines

Mon evenings from 6.30-8.30pm every other week. Local author, Caroline Johnstone, Poet in Residence, is leading sessions encouraging people to read and write their own poetry, until mid-Dec.

Scrabble

Wednesdays 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Enjoy some friendly competition and keep your mind active.

Castle Cronies

Thursdays 2pm-4pm. Led by our senior trustee and well-known local historian, Jim McQuiston. Meet to chat about the history of the castle, village and surrounding areas.

Back in Time Drop-in

Thursdays 1100-1230. Step back in time and join us at Dundonald Castle Visitor Centre for a relaxed morning with friends. Open to anyone living with dementia/memory loss and carer/family members.

Crazy Castle Kids

Every 2nd Friday. Young people in P3-P7.


For more info please email

education@dundonaldcastle.org.uk

Dundonald Historical and Archive Society

The second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm.

Look on Dundonald Castle FaceBook for other exciting upcoming events in October & November
<http://www.dundonaldcastle.org.uk/>



AYR CHORAL
PRESENTS

ETERNAL LIGHT

Goodall | ETERNAL LIGHT | Durufle REQUIEM

Andy McTaggart & Jenna Martin
With Jerome Knox, Rose Szafir & Sioned Gwen Davies
Caledonian Consort

7:30pm Sunday 26th October 2025
Ayr Town Hall

www.ayrchoralunion.net

Marr Cappella



Together Through Song

Where are you Christmas?

"If there is love in your heart and mind, you will feel like Christmas all the time"

Marr Cappella Christmas Concerts
With Musical director Krista Donnelly and Accompanist David Sullivan

St Meddan's, Troon Church of Scotland.
Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th of December
at 7.30pm (doors open 7pm)
suggested donation at the door £10
Children free

Proceeds to
'Whiteley's Retreat'
and "Cycling without Age Scotland"



Daisy McMurtrie has kindly passed on a newspaper cutting of a class at Dundonald Primary School in 1925 - 100 years ago! Some of you will recognise the names below (and the faces above).

Let us know your memories!

Included in the picture are H. Murray, M. Orr, A. Fido, S. Hillhouse, H Brathcie, C Millar, J. Richmond, M. McCulloch, C. McDonald, J. Dunlop, J. Currie, C. Hutchinson, Joe Edgar, N Belts, J. Alexander, J. Ross, J. Johnston, G. Aird, P. Watt, N. Todd, J. Watt, D. Johnston, G. Halbert, D. Burgess, H. Morrison, J. Hillhouse, W. Stevenson, A. English, S. Goodwin, Ian Mair, M. McLeary and J Hynds.

DUNDONALD HISTORICAL AND ARCHIVE GROUP

On behalf of the Friends of Dundonald Castle, we are excited to be carrying the group forward - on the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm, from September to April, with no session in December.

The main changes to the running of the group are twofold:

- **First**, as discussed in the AGM, the previous committee have stepped down/retired from their posts, and the group will now sit within the Friends of Dundonald Castle. Like each of our community groups, it will run under the FODC committee, with myself (Blythe Paterson) as the contact for the charity. With this in mind, the name of the group will be 'Dundonald Historical & Archives Group' instead of 'Society', just to reflect that it is no longer a stand-alone society.
- **Second**, instead of paying dues to the Historical & Archive Society, talks will now be included with Friends of Dundonald Castle membership. Many of you will already be FODC members, but for those of you who are not FODC will be honouring Senior Membership or Senior Couple Membership rates (£10/year for one person, £15/year for a couple) for this year. For those who are already members, you will need to bring your membership cards along on the night. If you don't currently have a card just email membership@dundonaldcastle.org.uk, and we can get you a new one.

Membership is renewed on an annual basis, and can be paid by direct debit, or paid in the Visitor Centre. In addition to entry to the talks, membership includes:

- Free entry to the castle for the full year - Priority booking for all events
- Prior notification of opportunities (e.g. volunteering at the archaeological excavations)
- An exclusive members' monthly newsletter (via email) - An annual member's social event
- and of course, you will be supporting a small community charity!

For anyone not wishing to take out membership, talks will still be open to the public, with a minimum requested donation of £3 per session. These donations will go towards funding the tea, coffee and biscuits as well as the annual trip. Blythe Patterson.

10th September 2025: Hidden Prehistoric Ayrshire

Lauren Mitchell, MSc University of Glasgow

8th October 2025: Reflections on Everest

Alasdair McFarlane, Friends of Dundonald Castle

12th November 2025: Full Circle - The Amazing History of Prestwick Airport from 1913

Allan Mackintosh, Chair of Prestwick Aerospace Operational Group & Owner/Founder of Prestwick Aviation Tours

TASTY TREATS

PORK IN PEANUT SAUCE - FELICITY PAPE

- 2 pork steaks or an equivalent amount of cold roast pork
- 1 tablespoons tomato ketchup, 3 tablespoons Worcester sauce
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 heaped tablespoons peanut butter - either smooth or chunky can be used
- 2 cloves of garlic (or 2 tbs grated onion if preferred)



Remove any fat and gristle from the meat, and cut it into 1 cm pieces. Grate garlic into small bowl and add ketchup, Worcester sauce and soy sauce. Stir in peanut butter and enough water to make the mix about the consistency of double cream. Fry meat gently in a tablespoon of neutral flavoured cooking oil (eg sunflower) until lightly browned. Add sauce and simmer gently for about 30 minutes, stirring from time to time until meat is thoroughly cooked and sauce thickened. Add more boiled water if sauce gets too thick. When cooked, taste and if necessary add salt and pepper. Goes well with brown rice and broccoli.

QUICK BEAN STEW - SHEILA PAYNE

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion, 1 yellow pepper, deseeded and chopped
- 1 medium courgette, diced, 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 2 teaspoons tomato purée, 400g/14oz tin cherry tomatoes
- Pinch of caster sugar
- 400g/14oz tin flageolet beans
- 100g/4oz watercress, 1 teaspoon chilli oil
- 1 lemon cut into wedges



Heat the oil in a large pan and fry onion and pepper for 2/3 minutes. Stir in courgette, garlic, tomato purée and cook for another 2 minutes. Add the cherry tomatoes and caster sugar and simmer gently till thickened slightly. Add beans, watercress and chilli oil. The stew can be topped with pieces of cooked salmon or slices of griddled halloumi. Garnish with lemon wedges. Serves 4

ICED BERRIES WITH LIMONCELLO WHITE CHOCOLATE SAUCE - MOIRA KERR

- 250ml/9fl oz double cream
- 4 tablespoons limoncello liqueur
- 200g/7oz white chocolate, finely chopped
- 500g/1lb 2oz frozen mixed berries



Put double cream and two tablespoons of the limoncello in a milk pan, and stir it until just about to come to the boil, but not actually boiling. Take the pan off the heat and add the white chocolate, then swirl the pan about so that it is all submerged. Take the berries out of the freezer and arrange them in a single layer in a dish or plate that has a small lip (so that the sauce doesn't drip off later). Sprinkle with the remaining two tablespoons of limoncello and leave for five minutes, during which time you can swirl your white chocolate pan about every now and again to help the chocolate melt into the lemony cream. Using a rubber spatula, gently stir the chocolate-cream mixture, still off the heat, until it's smooth, then pour it over the berries and serve immediately.

Calling Craigie, Dundonald and Symington Congregation ! Please share your favourite recipes for our Tasty Treats page - we would love to hear from you!

Email the Editor at sandyfrancesm@icloud.com

BANANA TEA BREAD - ELEANOR GAULT

2 ripe bananas, 1 level teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
8oz/200g plain flour, 1 level teaspoon baking powder
4oz/100g margarine, 2 eggs, beaten, 4oz/100g raisins



Set oven to 180C/160 Fan, GM4. Peel and mash bananas to a pulp. Dissolve bicarbonate in milk then mix into bananas. Sift flour and baking powder together in a bowl, mix in bananas and all remaining ingredients. Beat well with wooden spoon for a minute until all ingredients are well combined then pour into loaf tin. The mixture will be wet and drop easily from a spoon. Bake in centre of oven for 1 to 1 and quarter hours until centre is firm to touch. Leave to cool in the tin, turn out when cold and served sliced and spread with butter.

Eleanor, the Craigie Symington Guild President, is sharing this recipe which was a great favourite at the Malcolm Sargeant House, Prestwick when she worked there.

SMILERS Laughter is the soul's medicine



- We don't change the message, the message changes us.
- If God is your Co-pilot - swap seats!
- You can tell how big a person is by what it takes to discourage him.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on 24 October in the Church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- Pot Luck Supper Sunday at 5.00 pm - prayer and medication to follow.
- A lad came home from the Church youth club and said "Dad, I've got a part in the play."
- "What is it?" his Dad asked. "I play a man who has been married for 20 years." "Never mind," said his Father. "Next time you may get a speaking part."
- My Father had to have a regular hospital check up which sometimes required a couple of days stay. The local funeral director, a family friend, had been very helpful giving lifts to and from the hospital. On one occasion, the night before he was due to come home, the nurse approached my Father, "Your wife is on the 'phone." she said cheerfully. "She wants to know what time you will be ready for the undertaker to collect you?" *Contact 2014*

THE MINISTER'S CAT?

This is a true story about a Church Minister. He had a kitten that climbed up a tree in his garden and then was afraid to come down. The Minister coaxed, offered warm milk etc. The cat would not come down. The tree was not sturdy enough to climb, so the Minister decided that if he tied a rope to his car and pulled it until the tree bent down, he could then reach up and get the kitten. That's what he did, all the while checking his progress in the car. He was almost there but reckoned if he went just a little bit further, the tree would be bent sufficiently for him to reach the kitten. But as he moved the car a little further forward, the rope broke. The tree went boing! And the kitten instantly sailed through the air out of sight. The Minister felt terrible. He walked all over the neighbourhood asking people if they had seen a little kitten. No. Nobody had seen a stray kitten. So he prayed, "Lord, I just commit this kitten to your keeping," and went on about his business.

A few days later he was at Asda, and met one of his Church members. He happened to look into her shopping trolley and was amazed to see cat food. This woman was a cat hater and everyone knew it, so he asked her. "Why are you buying cat food when you hate cats so much?" She replied. "You won't believe this" and then told him how her little girl had been begging her for a cat, but she kept refusing. Then a few days before, the child had begged again, so her Mum finally told her little girl, "Well, if God gives you a cat, I'll let you keep it." She told the Minister, "I watched my child go out in the garden, get on her knees, and ask God for a cat. And really, you won't believe this, but I saw it with my own eyes. A kitten suddenly came flying out of the blue sky, with its paws outspread, and landed right in front of her." Lesson learned: Never underestimate the Power of God and His unique sense of humour. *Contact 2010*



REFLECTION

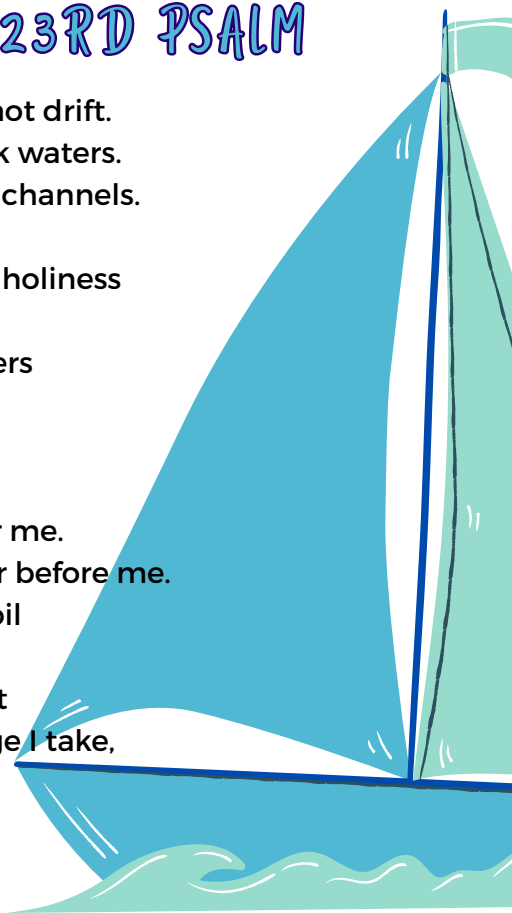
How can we know what happens
In other people's lives.
How can we be so certain,
We cannot just surmise.
We are all so different
We have to recognise
That we must never prejudice
How others may survive.
We are not judge and jury
We were not there to see.
We are so quick to comment
Thus causing much more pain.
How would we feel if it was us?
How would we stand the strain?
So let's not judge, but step aside
And show some sympathy
The lesson here must surely be
For the Grace of God goes me.

Contact 2010

THE SEAFARER'S 23RD PSALM

The Lord is my pilot, I shall not drift.
He lights me across the dark waters.
He steers me through deep channels.
He keeps my log.
He guides me by the star of holiness
for His name's sake.
Yes, even amidst the thunders
and tempest of life,
I shall dread no longer
for He is with me;
His love and His care shelter me.
He prepares a quiet harbour before me.
He anoints the waves with oil
My ship rides calmly.
Surely sunlight and starlight
shall guide me on the voyage I take,
And I will rest in the port
of my God forever.

Contact 2010



Update from Dundonald Church's Malawi Partnership



We have just transferred 1.7million Malawi Kwacha (£524) to cover the cost of maize flour reinforced with protein and vitamins/ minerals for the 13 weeks of the first term of 2025/26 which started on 22nd September.

Using this maize, volunteers from our linked Mdyaka Congregation will provide a daily wholesome meal for up to 154 nursery school children (68 boys and 86 girls).

Rev Chimphopo replied "Many thanks for money that has been transferred to our account. May the Almighty Father continue being with you. Wishing you all the best."

Thank you to Dundonald Congregation who helped raised the money through our Church Fete and Fayre



Titanic: The Last Hero and the Last Coward

Saturday 25th October 5:15 - 6:30pm, Doors at 4:45pm

West Kilbride Parish Church

45 Main Street, West Kilbride KA23 9AW

Searchlight Theatre

By West Kilbride Parish Church of Scotland

John Harper and Joseph Ismay. Passengers on the Titanic.

One a hero, one a coward - both have a story to tell.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/titanic-the-last-hero-and-the-last-coward-searchlight-theatre-tickets-1440391372369?aff=ebdsshcopyurl&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing&utm-campaign=social&utm-medium=discovery&utm-content=attendeeshare>

LOCUM MINISTER & INTERIM MODERATOR

Rev Tom McLeod

SESSION CLERKS

Bob McMillan & Doreen Tait

TREASURERS

Morag Marriot & Sheila Tannock

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S WORKER

Catriona Mayes

SAFEGUARDING

Ruth Easton (D) & Angela Liggat (CS)

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER

Mariea Chisholm

CHURCH OFFICER

Hugh Appleby

FABRIC CONVENORS

Doug Grant (D) & Bill Kilpatrick (CS)

PASTORAL SUPPORT

Sheila Payne/Isobel Mactier

BIBLE READING

Elaine Grant (D) & Doreen Tait (CS)

CAR ROTA

Jane Ritchie 07817040426.

FLOWERS & CHURCH DECORATION

Sheila Payne/Maureen Brown (D)

May Steele (CS)

PRAYERS

Thursdays 1-2pm in Dundonald Session Room. Debi Dunn 07714 160486

INTIMATIONS

Lorna Dewar 07899978736 (D)

lorna@cultural-connections.co.uk

FACEBOOK CDS

For items to be added to FaceBook, Debi Dunn 07714 160486

WEBSITE CDS

For info/items for the website 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

WATERAID - JARS OF GRACE

Libba Fallows

BIRTHDAY SCHEME

Supporting Mary's Meals in Malawi

Frances Mavor 07985527087

SOCIAL ACTION

Adaline Finlayson (D)

FLOYDS COMMUNITY CAFE

Mondays 9.30-12noon,
Dundonald Church Hall.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Wednesdays 11.45am - 2.30pm
Symington Community Hall.

MEN'S CLUB

Thursdays 7.30pm
Dundonald Church Hall

BADMINTON

Tuesdays/Thursdays 10am -12noon
Dundonald Church Hall. Marie 07847388646

GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS

Wednesdays 10-11am, Dundonald Church Hall.
Carolyn 07961 323078
seasonalwellbeing@gmail.com



Articles for December/January CONTACT to be submitted by 25th November 2025
Thank you! - Frances Mavor sandyfrancesm@icloud.com
07985 527087. All articles and news welcomed from both Churches

Ellen's Seafarers's gloves



Ann's Seafarers's hats

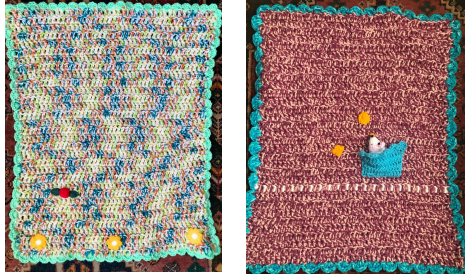


FLOYDS' WONDERFUL KNITTERS !

Fiona's teddies



Maureen's blankets



Freda's mice



Geraldine's blankets (Mariea's sister)



Tickets are selling fast for Keith & Kristyn Getty's Home for Christmas event at the SEC Armadillo, Glasgow on Wednesday 17 December 2025!
 A one-night-only celebration of the Christmas story – filled with beloved carols, festive worship, and powerful Celtic sounds. It's going to be an unforgettable evening with the New Scottish Choir, Celtic Worship, world-class musicians, and special guests. Don't miss out – grab your tickets now and celebrate!
 #HomeForChristmas #KeithandKristynGetty
<https://www.gettymusic.com/tour>

Photos contibuted by Doreen, Shirley & Frances