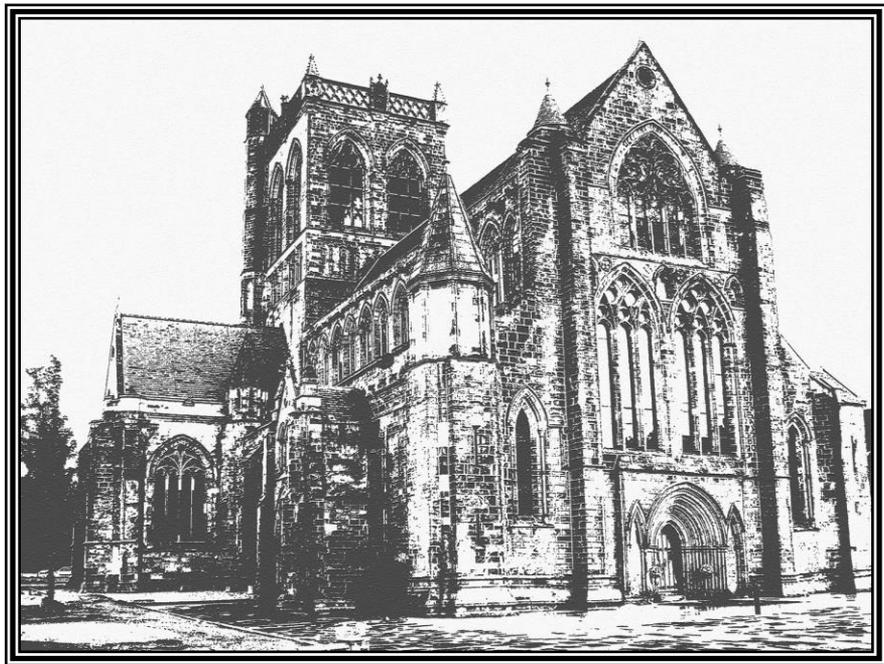


Paisley Abbey



Abbey Herald

May 2019

May 2019

Dear Friends,

I am writing this letter for the Herald on Holy Saturday, a sort of in-between day with the drama and sadness of Good Friday over and the joy and celebration of Easter Day still to come. It is a day of preparation, not least preparing the Abbey for the great festival of Easter when colour returns after the stark plainness of Holy Week. White and gold falls, glorious flowers and the Easter garden will combine with the truly wonderful music we always enjoy on Easter Day in the Abbey to make the festival a truly joyful celebration of the triumph of the love of God over everything opposed to it. And the joyful celebration of Easter will continue through the month of May to the feasts of the Ascension and Pentecost at the beginning of June. So many people work so very hard to ensure that Easter is a truly glorious celebration, choir, organists and orchestra, flower arrangers and Sunday School teachers and children, Church Officers and the Sunday coffee team - it is thanks to all of you that Easter in the Abbey is a really wonderful time.

Another joyful occasion coming up will happen at the end of May (Sunday 26 May) when we welcome back to the Abbey The Very Reverend Dr. Lorna Hood who will present Long Service certificates to a number of people who have given outstanding service to the Abbey over many years as elders, choir members and Sunday School teachers. When we think of Paisley Abbey, we usually think of the great building that has stood for so many centuries as the symbol of Christian worship and witness at the heart of Paisley. But Paisley Abbey is also the people who worship in the building and witness to God's love in and from the building. You are the living stones of Paisley Abbey manifesting the same love of God that was embodied in Jesus. And it is right that we all celebrate faithful service given over many years by 'living stones' who help make Paisley Abbey today what it has been throughout its long history, the Body of Christ in our parish and community and among our many visitors.

Christ is risen: he is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Alan D. Birss
Minister at Paisley Abbey

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Saturday 4 May Coffee Morning at 10.00am
followed by a recital by the Abbey
Strings at 12.30pm
Tickets £5 payable at the door
- Wednesday 8 May Organ Recital at 7.30pm
George McPhee with Robert
Wallace (Pipes)
- Wednesday 15 May Organ Recital at 7.30pm
Roger Williams (St. Machar's
Cathedral, Aberdeen)
- Saturday 18 May Coffee Morning at 10.00am
followed by a recital at 12.30pm by
Eleanor Kemp
Tickets £5 payable at the door
- Wednesday 22 May Organ Recital at 7.30pm
Michael Harris (St. Giles'
Cathedral, Edinburgh)
- Wednesdays 29 May Organ Recital at 7.30pm
John Turner (Formerly Glasgow
Cathedral)
- Admission to all May Organ recitals is £10 payable at the door
- Sunday 9 June Christian Aid Lunch after the
morning service
Information will follow soon
- Saturday 23 June Coffee Morning at 10.00am
followed by a recital at 12.30pm by
Andrew Laird (Clarinet) and
Ronald McIntosh (Piano)
Tickets £5 payable at the door

ELDERS ON DUTY

MAY 2019

Jim MacGregor's Team

JUNE 2019

Marjory Noble's Team

Articles for the June 2019 issue of the Abbey Herald, which is the last one before the summer break, should be emailed to cathycraig73@aol.com or robincraig73@aol.com or handed into the office as soon as possible but no later than Sunday 19 May

THE FRIENDLY HOUR

The final meeting of the Friendly Hour for this session will take place on Thursday 9th May at 2pm in The White Room. Please come along and join us

Cath McCord

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Parish and Community Committee are planning to hold a Soup, Bread and Cheese Lunch on Sunday 9 June the proceeds of which will go to Christian Aid.

Details will be available soon

Do come along and support this worthwhile cause.

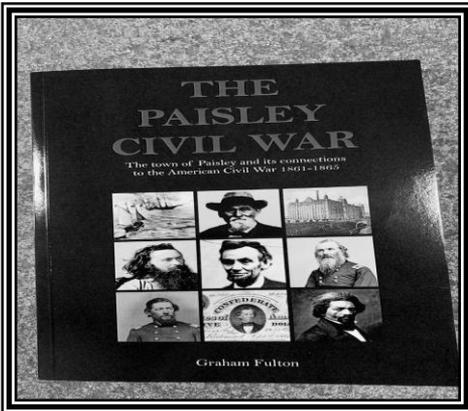
SHOP NEWS



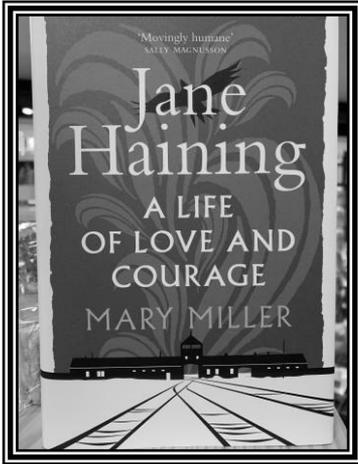
Beautiful Paisley made chocolates are now available in the Abbey Shop.

We have a wide selection of flavours- including pink gin! These have proved very popular so why not visit the shop and try a few!

We have also been selling local Paisley Honey. This is so popular that we have had to reorder several times. Many have said that apart from being delicious if you suffer from hay fever local honey can help alleviate problems!

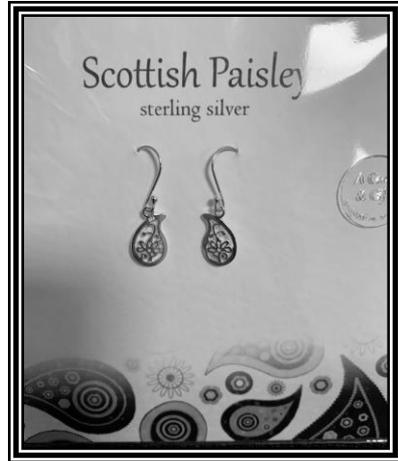


2 new books in the shop this month are 'The Paisley Civil War' £5 and a book about Jane Haining.



Many new items are appearing in the shop at the moment ,including an addition to our range of carded Scottish made jewellery- Paisley designed earrings and pendants (and soon bracelets as well). The earrings and pendant are only £15 and make

wonderful gifts.



Lucky sixpences are popular and our range has just expanded to include an Abbey design and a Paisley pattern one. These make perfect small gifts for many occasions including births, Baptisms, Weddings, New Home, Graduations and many more.



New photograph prints by Nice Wee Photos are now on sale -£20

PARISH REGISTER – APRIL 2019

Death

Jess Love (Date unknown)

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS OF PAISLEY ABBEY

The annual AGM and Lunch will be held on Sunday 2 June at 12.30pm.

The Society of Friends exists to support the Abbey.

If you are not a member but would like to find out more about the Society do come along to the meeting. You will be made most welcome

CHRISTIAN AID MARKET

There will be a market in Wallneuk Church on Saturday 11 May from 10 -12.

Various stalls and tea room

Tickets £2 available at the Abbey shop or at the door



FOODBANK

The Renfrewshire FoodBank has provided food for 9,358 people, 2,567 children so far in 2018/19.

This year is challenging as more and more people in our community are left without money for food while they wait at least 5 weeks for their first payment of the welfare benefit, Universal Credit.

The Project Manager has written to thank the Abbey congregation for their regular donations on the last Sunday of each month.

The May collection date is Sunday May 28. Any non-perishable goods will be welcome (tins or packets). Soup and beans always seem to be in stock so perhaps not these. Juice, toiletries, tinned fruit or vegetables, custard or tinned rice pudding, jam or a cash donation are always needed. Please add a few items to your weekly shop for those in need.

Thank you.

Margaret Sharp

BRIDGE EVENTS

Two Bridge Events have been organised for Thursday 30 May at 7.00pm and Friday 31 May at 1.30pm

Tickets are £26 per table



PAISLEY ABBEY SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL CHRISTIAN AID SPONSORED WALK

Another year has passed and once again, it is time for the children of the Sunday School to get into training to take part in the Christian Aid Sponsored Walk around the Abbey.

This year it is being held on Sunday 12th May. As ever, we will be walking around the outside of the Abbey church while the service is taking place.

If you would like to sponsor an individual child, they all have their own sponsor sheets.

On the morning of the walk, both before and after the service, we will gather general donations at the Cotton Street entrance to The Abbey.

CHRISTIAN AID

Christian Aid week this year is May 12-18.



Everyone is equal in the sight of God, yet we live in a world where poverty still persists. Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive.

For over 70 years Christian Aid has been standing with the poorest of our neighbours , working in 37 countries with people of all faiths and none, to stand up for dignity, equality and justice. Christian Aid also works in places where emergency aid is needed e.g. Mozambique after Cyclone Idai.

Please support their work this month by donating directly (call 020 7523 2493) or by using the envelopes which will be in the church on the 2 Sundays of Christian Aid week or by attending our lunch in the Place of Paisley after the service on June 9th.

Thank you

Margaret Sharp

SCOUT NOTES

The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have all been on holiday for much of April although the Cubs did manage to fit in a ten-pin bowling trip with other Cubs in the district and the Scouts went on a camp at Lapwing Lodge again with other troops from the District to help them prepare for the Highland Adventure camp at the beginning of May which, with 700 Scouts attending, is Scotland's biggest camp for Scouts (girls and boys aged 11-14).

With a large number of young people progressing from Cubs to Scouts recently we now have vacancies in the Cub section for girls and boys aged 8 to 10.5. They meet on a Friday in the Lawn Street halls at the same time as the Scouts, 7.30pm to 9.30pm, and have a varied programme of badge work and games along with regular camps and district events such as the ten-pin bowling evening already mentioned. If you know children of the right age for the Cubs, do encourage them to come along to see what happens on a typical Friday evening - we're sure they will enjoy the experience and want to come back!

We're also looking for more leaders especially for the Beaver and Scout sections - we have a great team but could do with a few more to enable us provide even more activities for the young people. If you would be interested in helping on a Friday evening, or know someone who would be, then please let me know either in person or by email:- scouts@paisleyabbey.org.uk

Alan Birss
Group Scout Leader

WORLD MISSION STAMP APPEAL

50 YEARS OF THE STAMP APPEAL

In 2019 World Mission Stamp Appeal is celebrating its 50th anniversary. In its early days the Stamp Appeal helped raise funds for the general work of the World Mission Council but since 2003 money raised has gone to a specific project each year. Here are some of them. How many do you remember?

2003 – Stamp out HIV/AIDS. The funds raised were sent towards the new Church of Scotland HIV/AIDS Project

2007 The Appeal raised money for crutches and wheelchairs for Chinese orphans with a physical disability

2008 Support for a school in Kalimpong India for young girls who dropped out of school due to lack of funds

2012 Support for a project for Palestinian refugees in South Lebanon, teaching agricultural skills

2018 Support for the Reformed Church in Transcarpathia Ukraine, who run day care centres providing educational, emotional and physical support for children and young people with difficulties

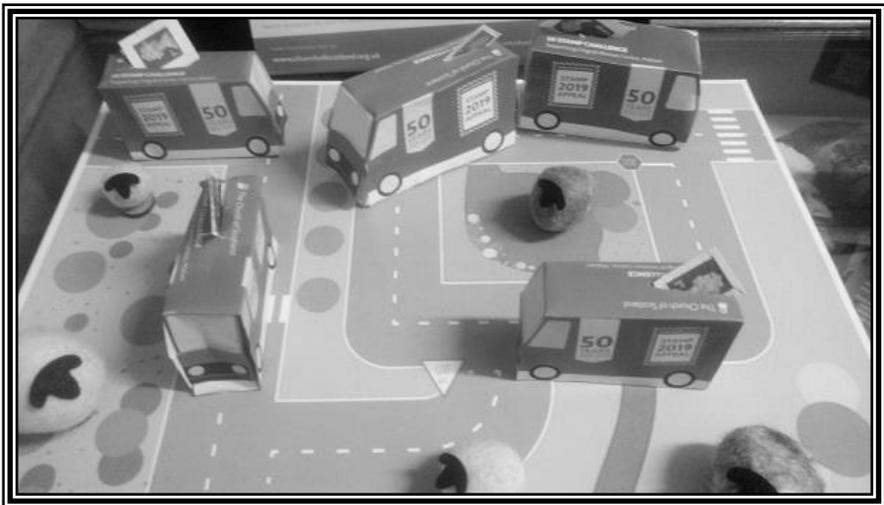
This year the Stamp Appeal is supporting the Chigodi Woman's Centre in Blantyre, Malawi who are also celebrating their 50th anniversary. The centre is delivering a broad range of skills training to address the challenges faced by women in Malawi. Through providing training in tailoring, fashion design and chicken farming the Centre will improve the women's skills in marketing and entrepreneurship. The aim is that the women's socio-economic status is improved and their chances future employment increase. By selling their produce made at the Centre the plan is that when the funding finishes the project will be self-sustainable – helping to continue to improve the lives of women in Malawi.

You can be part of supporting the work of this project that is changing lives simply by collecting your used stamps. Just cut off the stamps on your old envelopes, collect them and bring them into the Abbey.

Perhaps you are not aware that we have been collecting and sending stamps to World Mission for a number of years now and have thus contributed to many of their worthwhile projects. Bring your stamps into the Abbey where they will be collected and sent to the World Mission Stamp Appeal.

To mark the 50th anniversary, this year, participants are being challenged to collect 50 stamps in a post van-shaped collection box which you can download at the link below and make our fun collection post van and see if you can collect 50 stamps in a year.

www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/world_mission/get_involved/campaigns/stamp_appeal



Thank you for all the support you have given World Mission over the years

PILGRIMAGE WALKS TO IONA 2019

On Monday 8th April on one of the most beautiful of days of the month we set out to recce the walk from Rothesay to Colintrave Church. It was decided that we would take the car and recce on four wheels rather than two feet, the full extent of the route we were taking, to Oban.

This didn't actually go to plan. Recceing the first walk to Colintrave went without a hitch and appears to be straight forward. However the other parts of the walk we covered told a different story. The most heartening thing about walks 1 and walk 2 was the amount of local knowledge which was volunteered to us by strangers who enthusiastically informed us parts of old roads which although marked on the map no longer existed or were over grown. We drove on to Otter Ferry but first of all took advantage of having the car to go to Glendaruel and visit their ancient stones. Very interesting beautifully cared for exhibition we then drove on to Otter Ferry through pine forestation. A scary steep hill after 8 miles of walking was not well received especially since we would still have another 5miles to go. You can see where this was taking us!!!

I needed to look at the map again. For our first walk we will walk to Colintrave, but the second will take us from Colintrave to Glendaruel turning south to Taighnabruich. We eventually took the ferry from Portavadie to Tarbert and discovered that the road to Ardrishaig Parish Church without out any alternative, safe paths was basically a 10 pin Bowling Alley in which the cars were bowls and the pilgrims' pins! Deep breath! Still working on that one!

This was not as easy as we thought and we certainly didn't get to Oban. Hey Ho! The weather though was glorious and Scotland was looking its, amazing, best.

The first walk Rothesay to Colintrave will take place on Saturday 25th May 2019.

SERVICES : 12 MAY TO 2 JUNE 2019

Sunday 12 May – *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

11am Morning Service with dedication of chamber organ

Readings: Acts 9. 36-43
Revelation 7. 9, 14-17
St. John 10. 27-30

Music: Psalm 100 *Responsorial*
Te Deum *Gibbons (Short Service)*
Laudibus in sanctis *Byrd*

12.15 pm Holy Communion

4pm Choral Evensong

Readings: Isaiah 63. 7-14
St. Luke 24. 36-49

Music: Psalms 113, 114
Canticles *McPhee (Second Service)*
My Shepherd is the living Lord
McPhee

Sunday 19 May – *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

11am Holy Communion

Readings: Acts 11. 1-18
St. John 13. 31-35

Music: Messe Solennelle *Vierne*
A Celtic Prayer *McPhee*

Sunday 26 May – Sixth Sunday of Easter

11am Morning Service

with presentation of Long Service certificates

Guest preacher: The Very Revd. Dr. Lorna Hood

Readings: Acts 16. 9-15

St. John 14. 23-29

Music: Psalm 67

Jubilate Deo *Howells*

(Collegium Regale)

Dominus quis habitat *McPhee*

Sunday 2 June – The Sunday after Ascension Day

11 am Holy Communion

Readings: Acts 1. 1-11

St. Luke 24. 44-53

Music: St. Anne Mass

MacMillan

setting for congregational singing

Gloria in Excelsis

McPhee

Ascension

McGuire