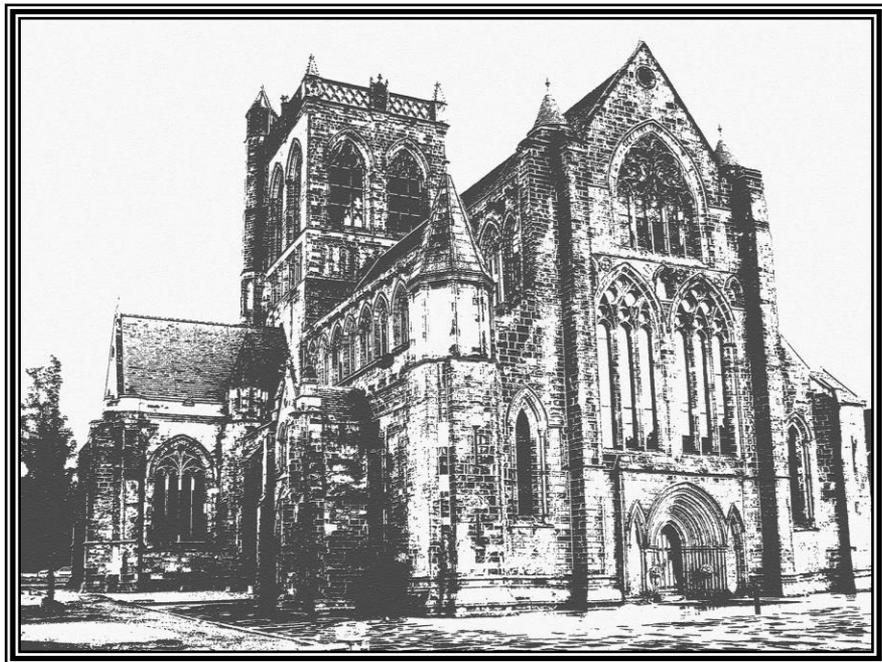


Paisley Abbey



Abbey Herald

April 2019

April 2019

Dear Friends,

April this year will see a big change in the life of the Abbey with the retirement of our long-serving Church Officer, Matt McIntosh who has been Church Officer for 19 years. As you will see elsewhere in the *Abbey Herald*, Matt's retirement after Easter will be marked by a presentation and lunch on Sunday 5 May. The position of Church Officer evolved significantly during his tenure and he has been key to the success of our endeavours to make the Abbey and its buildings places of welcome to a wide range of community groups and organisations as well as to the many thousands of visitors and pilgrims who come to the Abbey all through the year.

When Matt announced his retirement, we took the opportunity to look at our staffing structure and consider what structure might best fit with our hopes and plans for the ways in which the Abbey will move forward. As a result, the Kirk Session agreed to appoint a Church Manager with two part-time Church Officers working under the Manager. We were delighted with the response to the advertisement we placed for the new position of Church Manager and had a very strong list of candidates to consider. The appointing committee agreed unanimously to appoint Linda Barrett to the post and she will be joining us after Easter Day. Elsewhere in the *Herald* there is an article about the role the new Church Manager will fulfil and a brief introduction to Linda who brings a wealth of experience and commitment to this post.

For much of April this year we will still be in the season of Lent and I would remind all who love and value the Abbey of the importance of our annual Lent Appeal. Everyone's support is needed and valued to ensure that the Abbey can long continue to offer worship to God that reflects our long tradition of worship that draws on the best in liturgy and music from the Church's history, to be a place of welcome for all who visit the Abbey for whatever reason and to be a church that is at the centre of the life

of the community around us - as the Abbey has been for so many centuries.

I would also like to commend to you our Holy Week and Easter Day services. During Holy Week we talk with our Lord each evening Sunday to Thursday and then on Good Friday we observe the Three Hour Vigil from 12 noon to 3pm marking the final three hours of our Lord on the Cross. To walk the way of the cross in Holy Week enables us to celebrate with much greater joy the Resurrection on Easter Day with its glorious proclamation that God's way of love has been and will ever be triumphant over all opposed to it.

When it comes, may you all have a very happy and a very blessed Easter.

Revd. Alan D. Birss
Minister at Paisley Abbey

CHURCH MANAGER

Following a review of staffing, the Kirk Session made the decision to appoint a Church Manager whose overall function will be to manage and oversee the effective and cost-efficient running of the Abbey buildings (including the Lawn Street Halls) and their facilities and to ensure the provision of a welcoming, valued and supportive service to all building users. In particular the Manager will have responsibility for marketing and communication, managing events held in the Abbey, the Place of Paisley and the Lawn Street Halls, ensuring that the Abbey is prepared for services, managing the assistant church officers and, in time, the sourcing, buying and display of items for sale in the shop.

We were delighted at the response to the advertisement for the post and had a very strong field of candidates from which to choose. Unanimously, the appointment committee selected Linda Barrett and I am absolutely delighted that she has agreed to join us in this new and exciting rôle.

Linda was born, brought up and lives in Paisley. She comes to us with a wealth of experience most recently as the person responsible for the day-to-day management of Low Parks Museum, Hamilton and the Hamilton Mausoleum. In that position she has been responsible for income generation through marketing the facilities, organising events and concerts, managing exhibitions and managing the museum shop. She has a wealth of experience that matches what we are looking for in the Church Manager, a love of Paisley and its Abbey, and an approachable and warm personality.

Writing about her appointment, Linda says, ‘I am delighted to be joining the staff at Paisley Abbey and very honoured to be the first Church Manager. Paisley Abbey has always enjoyed a special place amongst the community, spiritually and culturally, and I am very excited to bring my experience to enhance and strengthen that bond. The proposed future developments recognise the need to evolve in order to maintain a relevance and

accessibility for the local audience and wider community. I will be looking to build on the work already done, and the knowledge and skills of all the Abbey staff and volunteers to ensure we achieve just that. As a Paisley Buddie, born and bred I could not be prouder to be given this role.'

We hope that Linda will be able to begin working with us on Tuesday 30 April.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Saturday 13 April Guitar Recital by Samrat Majumder and Jocopo Lazzaretti at 12.30pm
Tickets £5 from Abbey Shop or payable at the door
- Sunday 28 April Paisley Sinfonia (formerly St James's Orchestra) Concert at 7.30pm
The French Connection include music by Hector Berlioz, Georges Bizet, Camille Saint-Saëns (with George McPhee – Organ)
Tickets £10 (£5 school pupils) available from members or from www.eventbrite.com/e/the-french-connection-tickets-57091640634 or at the door
- Saturday 4 May Coffee Morning at 10.00am followed by a recital by the Abbey Strings at 12.30pm
- Saturday 18 May Coffee Morning at 10.00am followed by a recital at 12.30pm by Eleanor Kemp
Tickets £5 payable at the door
- Sunday 9 June Christian Aid Lunch after the morning service
Information will follow soon

ELDERS ON DUTY

APRIL 2019

Michael McGill's Team

MAY 2019

Jim MacGregor's Team

Articles for the May 2019 issue of the Abbey Herald could be emailed to cathycraig73@aol.com or robincraig73@aol.com or handed into the office as soon as possible but no later than Sunday 21 April

FRIENDLY HOUR

The April meetings of the Friendly Hour will be held on 11th and 25th. Please come along and join us for a 'cuppa' and chat. We meet on alternate Thursdays in the White Room at 2pm.

Cath McCord

FOODBANK

The next collection will be on Sunday April 28.

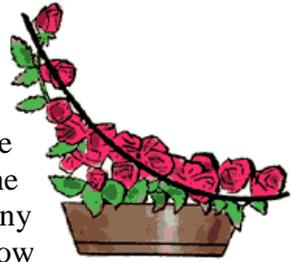
Shortages are juice, jam and tinned puddings.

Many thanks to all who donate

Margaret Sharp

FLOWERS IN THE ABBEY

With Easter approaching I take this opportunity to remind all the members of the Flower Guild that we will be decorating the Abbey for Easter on Saturday 20th April, many hands will be required so please let me know who will be available to help.



I also wish to notify our benefactors that the 2019 flower list is posted on the notice board; space was limited so it only covers January to June meantime, more to follow.

Margaret Neil

CROSSREACH



In celebration of 150 years of the Church of Scotland providing social care in Scotland, CrossReach will be showcasing a very special exhibition.

The 150th anniversary exhibition will be debuted at Heart and Soul 2019 and will then tour venues in Scotland throughout the year.

SIGNS SEEN NEAR A CHURCH

“No God – No Peace Know God – Know Peace”

“Free trip to Heaven. Details Inside”

“Try our Sundays. They are better than Baskin- Robbins.”

“Searching for a new Look? Have your faith lifted here.”

An ad for St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church has a picture of two hands holding stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments are inscribed and a headline that reads, “For fast, fast, fast relief, take two tablets.”

When the restaurant next to the Lutheran Church put out a big sign with red letters that said, “Open Sundays,” the church reciprocated with its own message: “We are open on Sundays, too.”

“Have trouble sleeping? We have sermons- come and hear one!”

A singing group called “The Resurrection” was scheduled to sing at a church. When a big snowstorm postponed the performance, the minister fixed the outside sign to read, “The Resurrection is postponed.”

“People are like teabags – you have to put them in hot water before you know how strong they are.”

“God so loved the world that He did not send a committee.”

“Come in and pray today. Beat the Christmas rush!”

“When down in the mouth, remember Jonah. He came out alright”

“Sign broken. Message inside this Sunday”

PAISLEY ABBEY PILGRIMAGE WALK TO IONA

It is some time now since the Paisley Abbey Pilgrims completed the last of their walks 'In the Footsteps of the Royal Stewarts'.

I know that when nothing is happening there are those who get itchy feet and wish to walk out into spring with another Pilgrimage project to soothe the irritation. Excitingly our next project is a walk to Iona.

YesI know.....for all our wanderings we have not, yet, mastered the art of walking on water. The new series of pilgrimage walks will require the use of at least four ferries. No... We're not cheating.

Pilgrims traditionally were more likely to travel on water than on land. It is not without the bounds of possibility that the monks who came from Wenlock in Shropshire to Paisley at the behest of Water Fitzalan the first Steward, came to Scotland by boat. If you walk from Paisley to Glasgow on the Whithorn Way you will walk alongside the River White Cart to the confluence with the Black Cart and then along the River Clyde to Glasgow. The Clyde would have been easily navigable and it is believed that the Cart in the 1160's was navigable too. Despite the fact that piracy could not be ruled out travel by boat was considered to be safer than ox cart or walking.

Finding the route which we are taking to Iona links directly in with the last of the Royal Stewart pilgrimages which finished by walking part of the West Island Way (I know...!) to Mount Stuart visiting places frequented by the Stewards and the Stewart Kings (particularly James IV).

The intention is to continue the Paisley Abbey links with Bute. In walking from Bute we will be linking the footpath into the 'Whithorn Way', Kilmacolm (the cell of Columba) Paisley and Glasgow.

En route from Otter Ferry we visit Kilfinan Church which belonged to Paisley Abbey originally.

Our walks take us through some of the most historical landscapes in the whole of Scotland. Along with stunning scenery which will possibly prove to be the most exciting set of walks we have undertaken. Anyone is welcome to join us. If the walks are daunting you could help the relief drivers and use your car. Much of the route is also possible by bicycle.

P.S. The walk on Mull will be partly by bus leaving an approximate four mile coastal walk to Fionnphort and the Iona Ferry

Walk No.	Date	From	To	Destination	Miles
1	24/5/19	Rothesay	Colintraive	Colintraive Church	9.6
2	29/06/19	Colintraive	Otter Ferry	Oystercatcher Bar	13.00
3	20/07/19	Otter Ferry	Tarbert	Tarbert Parish Church	13.4
4	24/08/19	Tarbert	Ardrishaig	Ardrishaig Parish Church	11.6
5	28/09/19	Ardrishaig	Kilmartin	Kilmartin Church	12.4
6		Kilmartin	Dalavich	Dalavich Church	13.6
7	Dates for	Dalavich	Kilchrenan	Kilchrenan Church	8.4
8	2020	Kilchrenan	Taynuilt	Church of the Visitation	7.4
9	To be	Taynuilt	Oban		12.6
10	decided	Craignure Mull	Iona		35.7
11		Iona	Possible Stay		

FRIENDSHIP IS A BLESSING

Friendship is a blessing
It's the best you have to share,
The talents and the wisdom,
The capacity to share

It's being there to lend support,
Whatever needs arise
It's making sure that others know
They're special in your eyes.

Friendship is a blessing,
And, to all who have a friend,
It's one of the most precious gifts
that life could ever send.

Author unknown

**Never let your friends feel
lonely... Disturb them all
the time.**



SCOUT NOTES

The highlight of March for the Scout group was the Group Indoor weekend camp at Lapwing Lodge. During one of the mildest winters of recent years, the group managed to choose a weekend in which they woke up on the Saturday to snow - but that just added to the enjoyment, at least for the young people.

All three sections were there, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts along with their leaders: the Beavers stayed over on the Friday night and the others were there to the Sunday. Red Nose Day for Comic Relief provided the Beavers with a great theme for the Friday evening and on the Saturday they joined with the Cubs in a range of activities including archery. The Cubs and Scouts both went on hikes; the Cubs improved their knotting skills and the Scouts backwood cooking in snow and rain! All in all a great time was had by all.





PRESBYTERY PRAYTIME

Eternal loving Father,

In our bustling, teeming, jostling world there are people who are lost and astray.

As we try to follow your example, guide us as we strive in our way to be good shepherds.

Amen.

(From Douglas Scott, presbytery prayer coordinator)



CRÈCHE HELPERS

Volunteers are always needed for the Talk it Over Group (PND Support) Crèche on a Tuesday from 10.30 -12 in the Place of Paisley. The children are nearly always babies or pre-school toddlers.

Anyone (or if you know anyone) who might be able to offer 1 Tuesday a month, please contact the Crèche Organiser, Janette McKenna 07919 130751

Services: 14 April to 5 May 2019

Sunday 14 April – Palm / Passion Sunday

11am **Morning Service** with distribution of palm crosses and reading of the Passion narrative according to St. Luke.

Music: Hosanna to the Son of David *Weelkes*
Pueri Hebraeorum *Vittoria*
Ave verum corpus *Byrd*

7.30pm **Compline**

Reading: St. Luke 20. 9-19
Music: Lamentations of Jeremiah *Tallis*

Monday 15 April

7:30pm **Holy Week Service**

Readings: Isaiah 42. 1-89
St. John 12. 1-11
Music Psalm 36: 5-11 *Trent*
Nunc Dimittis *Tonus Peregrinus*
Call to remembrance *Farrant*

Tuesday 16 April

7:30pm **Holy Week Service**

Readings: *Isaiah 49. 1-7*
St. John 12. 20-36
Music: Psalm 130
Nunc Dimittis *Tonus Peregrinus*
Stabat mater doloroso *Perglosi*

Wednesday 17 April

7:30pm **Holy Week Service**

Readings: Isaiah 50. 4-9

St. John 13. 21-32

Music: In the departure of the Lord *Bull*
Ave verum corpus *Mozart*
Hear my prayer *Batten*
Crucifixus à 8 *Lotti*
Lord, let me know mine end *Greene*

Thursday 18 April - Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Holy Communion

Readings: Exodus 12. 1-14
1 Corinthians 11. 23-26
St. John 13. 1-7; 31b-35

Music: Psalm 116 *Camidge*
Ubi caritas *Duruflé*

Friday 19 April - Good Friday

12 noon *The Three Hour Vigil*

Readings, meditations and music to mark the final three hours of our Lord's agony on the Cross

12 noon: Stainer's Crucifixion (with the Choir)

c. 1pm: The Passion according to John (read)

C.1.25 pm Meditations around Haydn's *Seven Last Words* (with a string quartet)

EASTER DAY Sunday 21 April

11am Holy Communion
with sermon, choir and orchestra

Mozart *Coronation Mass K317*

Byrd *Haec Dies*

Dutch Carol arr. McPhee *This joyful Eastertide*

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

Sunday 28 April
Second Sunday of Easter

11am Morning Service

Readings: Acts 5. 27-32

Revelation 4. 1-8

St John 20. 19-31

Music: Psalm 118

Jubilate Deo *Stanford in Bb*

Blessed be the God and Father *Wesley*

12.15pm Holy Communion

No Evening Service - concert by Paisley Sinfonia

Sunday 5 May – *Third Sunday of Easter*

11am Holy Communion

Readings: Acts 9. 1-6
St. John 21. 1-19

Music: St. Anne Mass *MacMillan*
setting for congregational singing
The Lamb has come for us *MacMillan*

The service on 5 May will be followed by a presentation to Matt McIntosh marking his retirement as Church Officer.

Matt's Retirement

Our Church Officer is retiring at the end of April and a presentation will be made to him in the Abbey following the service on 5 May. If you would like to contribute to the presentation, please put your donation in an envelope clearly marked 'Matt's presentation' and either place it in the offering plate on a Sunday or hand in to the Abbey Office.

There will be a light buffet lunch in the Place of Paisley following the presentation and tickets for the lunch priced £10 will be on sale in April.