



# The Link

Easter 2024



The Magazine of Dalriada Mid Argyll  
(Church of Scotland)

Registered Charity No. SC001002

## **Easter Greetings to Everyone**

Welcome to our first Easter edition of the Dalriada Mid Argyll Link. We hope you enjoy reading the variety of articles people have contributed.



### **An Easter Perspective**

As children, most of us had a keen sense of fairness and, no doubt, from time to time cried out “It’s not fair!” Adults tend to do the same; ranging from the petty to the profound. What’s not fair for/to you today? The thoughts and the issues raised by such a question are endless, ranging from the personal to the global. Jesus’ teachings on love are so hard for us and challenge our sense of ‘fairness’.

In Chapter 6 of Matthew’s Gospel he is quoted, “if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic (vest), let him have your cloak (shirt) as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.” Almost instinctively the cry is “that’s not fair!”

And in Chapter 18 we read, ‘Peter came up and said to him [Jesus]’, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.”

And again, we might protest: “But that’s not fair, Jesus!” But, if we think on God’s incredible love for us, we begin to realise, that’s not fair either! That the God of all goodness and power and beauty and Truth should create us, should love us, should love me, a sinner, is not fair. But both our existence and our salvation are rooted in the unfairness of God’s love and mercy – the unfairness of the events of Holy Week and Easter Week. And here’s the hard part: As Christians, we are called to love others as God loves us: compassionately, consistently, inclusively, and forgivingly. To do otherwise, would not be fair!

Let me finish with these words of Bishop Klaus Hemmerle (1929-94):

“I wish each of us Easter eyes –  
able to perceive in death, life;  
in guilt, forgiveness;  
in separation, unity;  
in wounds, glory;  
in the human, God;  
in God, the human;  
and in the I, the you.”



## **David Carruthers**

### **Easter Events Round-up!**

At the time of writing this for The Link most of the events mentioned here haven't happened. But by the time you are reading it, they will have been and gone! However, let's hope and pray that in various ways and in a variety of places there has been opportunity for people to engage with God, and for Him to speak to their hearts and be heard and responded to.

Dalriada Mid Argyll Eco Church Group have held a stall at the primary school Open Day in Ardrishaig. The Ardrishaig Seedlings Garden Project kindly gave us a wreath they'd made at Christmas, and now we've been able to help them pot up seeds for Spring. We hope that not only the seeds, but the link we've established will grow and flourish.

Easter Eggs for schools: all the primary schools within the parish were given the opportunity to receive an Easter Egg and accompanying Easter Story booklet for each child. Tayvallich Primary school visited the village church, and Easter assemblies were held in other schools too.

The Journey to the Cross exhibition provided a unique opportunity for people to explore and engage with the events of Easter through a series of interactive displays.

Meditating on the events of Jesus' final days and His resurrection can be profound. The challenge for most of us though, is shutting out the noise and distractions of everyday life long enough to quieten our souls and listen to the Spirit of God.

The Journey to the Cross interactive exhibition in Ardrishaig Public Hall this past Holy Week offered just such an opportunity. Putting aside an hour or so, leaving unnecessary distractions aside and quietly contemplating the various displays, gave participants that special time to reflect on the events of Holy Week.

Without the help of so many people from our congregation, along with our brothers and sisters of Christchurch, St Margaret's, Lochgilphead Baptist Church and the Free Church it would have been a daunting task to stage such an event over three days. But with their encouragement and support the Church in all its diversity and unity was able to take the message of Easter to our local community, providing spiritual (and home-baked!) refreshment to many.

Special mention is made of the local Flower Group whose floral arrangements helped tell the story and enhance the whole exhibition, and of Lynne Girdwood from Ardrishaig Halls, whose artwork and helpfulness are both hugely appreciated.

Good Friday Services took place within the Public Hall at the Journey to the Cross exhibition, and in St Columba's cave at Ellary.

Easter Sunday Morning: a special early morning service was held in the open air at Lochgilphead Front Green, a change of venue from the usual one at Ardrishaig Bowling and Tennis Club. Local churches joined together for this occasion to celebrate the Risen Christ.

And the cries of "He is risen! He is risen indeed!" also rang out at the Easter Sunday morning celebration led by David Logue in the old Keills Chapel at Keills.

# Easter at Keills Chapel

## He is risen indeed!

Around 600 AD the Irish missionaries were bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to our shores. They came first to Dalriada, to the West coast and on to Iona.



In the 700s AD a missionary named Cormac, or Carmaig set up a centre for worship and prayer at the tip of the Keills peninsula, south of Tayvallich. He also made a place for retreat on the Island of Eilan Mor, one of the McCormac Isles.

In the 1100s AD a Chapel was built at Keills and this still stands overlooking the Sound of Jura and the seaway to and from Ireland. It is breathtaking to imagine the Irish missionary monks coming over these waters in their small wood and hide boats.

Until the 16th Century this was the Parish church for Knapdale – drawing people from both sides of Loch Sween, until a larger building was made at Inverlussa near Achnamara.



Since the 1980s the congregation of North Knapdale has held worship services in Keills Chapel on Easter Sunday Morning to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. A wonderful setting to retell the good news and to enjoy the beauty of God's creation all around.

Many come, both local and visitors, and know the joy of continuing centuries of worship, and celebrating that the Church of Christ is alive here, thirteen centuries after it was first preached to the pagan communities of Knapdale and beyond.

Keills is about five miles past Tayvallich – keep going to the end of the road! Then it is a short scramble across rough ground to the chapel.

If you visit, you will find a beautiful chapel, lovely views, and a “thin place” where you can enjoy a meeting place with God.

“Rejoice, O Church!, Exult in Glory!  
The risen Saviour shines upon you!  
May this place resound with joy,  
Echoing the mighty song of all God’s people  
Alleluia!”

*“Liturgies of Lindisfarne”, Ray Simpson*

**David Logue**

### **The Memory Box - Ruth Carruthers**

While we may all complain that our memory lets us down at times, it's still a good idea to exercise it! And what better way to exercise it than to store away a piece of God's Word so we have it with us at all times.

‘Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.’

### **Hebrews Chapter 4: verse 16**

If you have a friend in the congregation who's trying this too, keep checking with each other to see who masters it first, and encourage one another.

#### **Visual Impairment Mid Argyll Social Group**

Do you, or someone you know, have a  
visual impairment?

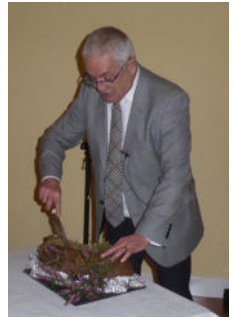
Would you like to be part of a new social group?

**Our first meeting will take place on  
Monday 13th May 2024 at 2.00pm in the  
MS Centre Campbell Street, Lochgilhead.**

For further details please contact  
**David Bowen: 07729478478482**

## Church Burns Supper

On Saturday February 3rd, we held our Burns Supper, in Lochgilphead Church Hall. Some forty seven members of the congregation and friends attended and were warmly entertained by a wealth of local talent.



Ian Davidson, chaired the evening and kept the proceedings running smoothly. After it had been piped in by Euan McCartan, Ian gave an energetic performance in his address to the haggis.

After an excellent meal prepared by Margaret Davidson and Fiona Elder, we moved on to the second part of the evening.

The Immortal Memory was proposed by John Orr, mixing the life history of the bard with some of his songs. John had travelled up from Millport to be with us. Jim Malcolm proposed the toast to the lassies in a unique and entertaining way, which was replied to by Donna Dugdale, speaking at a Burns supper for the first time.



We were also entertained by Kate Morrison who sang 'Ye Banks and Braes' and 'Flow Gently Sweet Afton', a couple of recitations from Ian Davidson and John Orr and an alternative 'Tam O' Shanter', recited by Steve Hunter. The poem had been written by Steve's father.



Rev David Carruthers gave the Vote of Thanks and the evening closed with more traditional Burns' songs and 'Auld Lang Syne'.

**Ian and Margaret Davidson**

## Reorganisation in Inverness

John Murray shares how reorganisation has affected the churches in Inverness.

After some procrastinating, I had decided that I would join the congregation of Daviot and Dunlichity (which I understand to have been the first linked parish in Scotland); linked with Moy and Dalarossie, but recent machinations in the



Daviot Church

Presbytery have produced further linkages with Cawdor and Croy added to Petty, which is easily the least central church. I know no more since I have seen no publicity of any kind about the changes and wonder if the Church of Scotland is missing opportunities to tell people what they are doing and why. Church-going may be a declining social habit, but if interested people like myself are missing

helpful information, what about the rest of the population? So, without any public knowledge of the current service arrangements, I remain on the roll of Glassary, Kilmartin and Ford.

Does the church spend too much time talking to its members and adherents and not enough interacting with its communities? Church closures continue to proceed. The Old High Church in Inverness, easily to my mind the finest Inverness church: riverside setting; 13th/14th Century base of tower; was amalgamated with St Stephen's Church and is now closed and up for sale. The East Church, poorly sited in Academy Street, and not one of my favourites, has been sold to be developed as a Gaelic 'Hub'.

As an early teenager with an interest in old buildings, I found Inverness rather disappointingly Victorian and spent some time visiting Beaulieu Priory, Fortrose Abbey (not a lot left post Cromwell) and a gem which I recently revisited: Ardclach Bell Tower, on a back road between Forres and Culloden Moor. 17th Century, on a prominent Torr far above the Parish Church, partially fortified. A remote and evocative gem.



Dunlichity Church



Ardclach Bell Tower

**John Y Murray**



## St Columba's Cave



Argyll is peppered with many places of historical interest and intrigue. Some of them are relatively well known and generally talked about whilst others are less known and rarely mentioned. Perhaps it depends on which circles you move in.

A cave, some four miles beyond Achahoish towards Ellary, falls into the second category, probably because of its location. Traditionally connected with St Columba, the cave lies just above the shoreline of Loch Caolisport and is signposted. But, should you decide to venture there and explore it for yourself, wear appropriate footwear (it can be a wee bit boggy in places) and avoid the midge season! Follow the short path past the somewhat overgrown ruins of a small 13th century chapel and you will come to a natural cave beneath an upturned rock face.

Reputedly, following a dispute over the copying of a manuscript, Columba exiled himself from Ulster and went on a pilgrimage by sea. His first 'port of call' saw him land on the shores of Kintyre (Southend), before continuing northwards in his coracle. The cave at Ellary was a stopping off point on his way to what would become his new home, Iona.

Inside the cave there is a raised shelf of rock and an altar upon it, with a small cross carved into the cave wall, above it. There are two other crosses carved into the cave walls which are harder to see: a cross with equal horizontal and vertical arms surrounded by five small rounded pits and a further very faint cross which can only be seen in certain lights.



From archaeological digs evidence was discovered that the cave was in use as far back as the Mesolithic period (long before Columba!) and is still on use today.

For a while there were ecumenical Services held in the cave on the Sunday closest to St Columba's Day (9th June) but more recently services have been held on Good Friday evening drawing locals and visitors alike.

Did St Columba stay there?

There's simply no way of truly knowing. All we can really be sure of is that the cave was used for human habitation at various points over the course of thousands of years. But there is no reason to doubt that Columba 'could' have stayed there. Regardless, the location is superb, and the views over the loch from the road are fantastic.

**David Carruthers**

### **Daffodils at Easter**

There are few sights that bring us the expectation of spring as clearly as a 'host of golden daffodils'. Their colour somehow brings joy, and their dancing makes us smile. Spring, new life, hope, expectation, all symbolised by these beautiful flowers. It is not surprising to find daffodils are used widely throughout the Christian community to remind us of the new life, expectation, and hope which the news of Jesus' resurrection brings as we celebrate Easter Sunday.

At Tayvallich for many years now we have set up a cross at the church door for our Easter service. This cross is covered in daffodils and a bucket of more blooms is waiting alongside for people to come and add their own daffodil and be a part of creating this flower covered cross expressing life, joy and celebration that -

Jesus is risen – He is Risen indeed.

**David Logue**



## Letter from Orkney

I am writing this just as we come to the end of our second major snowy spell of the winter. This is apparently the worst year for snow in Orkney in either eleven years or twenty years, depending who you speak to. In any case, it has been pretty bad.



During the first spell we were more or less snowed in for around four days and at one stage the message to everyone in mainland Orkney was to stay at home as the gritters could not cope and had been recalled to base. The biggest problem was drifting snow from the fields.

Since December, if it hasn't been snowing we have been battling through periods of very high winds and heavy rain in what has been the most severe winter since we moved to Orkney. So we look forward to Spring, hopefully better weather, and more activity. There is certainly a lot going on here. Around Christmas and New Year we once again had the Tree Lighting and St Lucy celebration at the Cathedral and the charity Tractor Run with around 180 lit up tractors going round the streets of Kirkwall.

Spring leads us into a series of festivals of music and art. Orkney certainly enjoys its festivals. We have the Folk Festival, the St Magnus International Festival, the Science Festival and The Nature Festival to look forward to.

One of the few disappointments we have faced in Orkney is our lack of success when it comes to cetacean spotting. Orkney is a popular place for spotting whales and dolphins but so far they have eluded us. On a couple of occasions we missed a sighting by only a few minutes as we arrived at locations they had just left! So hopefully we will be lucky in 2024.

Hopefully all is well with everyone in Mid-Argyll.

All the best.

**Alan and Lesley Steele**

## Birthday Blessings

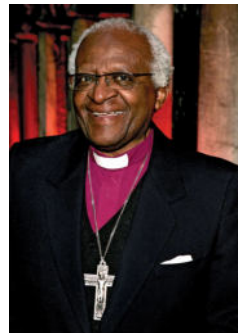
If you've had a birthday recently, or have one coming up, please take this well-known little prayer as our blessing upon you to mark the occasion!

I said a prayer for you today  
And know God must have heard.  
I felt the answer in my heart,  
Although He spoke no word.  
I didn't ask for wealth or fame,  
I knew you wouldn't mind.  
I asked Him to send treasures  
Of a far more lasting kind.  
I asked that He be near you  
At the start of each new day  
To grant you health and blessings  
And friends to share your way.  
I asked for happiness for you  
In all things, great and small,  
But it was for His loving care  
I prayed the most of all.

Anon.

## Worship: Archbishop Desmond Tutu

A woman who had worshipped in Archbishop Desmond Tutu's cathedral was deeply moved by the worship - the African rhythms, the colour and the drama. When she expressed her appreciation the Archbishop responded with a twinkle in his eye, "isn't worship fun?" As the 100th Psalm reminds us, that idea is highly biblical:



**All people that on earth do dwell  
Sing to the Lord with *cheerful* voice  
Him serve with *mirth*, his praise forth tell  
Come ye before him and *rejoice*.**

## **Passio Domini nostri Jesu Christi secundum Evangelistam Matthæum**

As Lent moves onwards towards Holy Week and Good Friday, musicians and music lovers throughout the world, think again about Bach's St Matthew Passion. This is a monumental work which, without doubt, stands alongside the greatest artistic achievements of man through the ages.

The backbone of 'The St Matthew Passion' is sung by the evangelist from the gospel according to Matthew chapter 26 and 27. This account is interspersed with recitatives and arias, the texts of which were written for Bach by Picander, the pen name of Christian Friedrich Henrici and which provide moments of reflection on the words of the evangelist. Bach also uses Chorales at regular intervals. These are hymns well known to Lutheran congregations, and help us apply the lessons of scripture to our own lives.

Bach was cantor or choirmaster at St Thomas's Church in Leipzig and it was here in 1736 that the 'Matthew Passion' was first performed. The church would have been packed. Good Friday was even more important than Easter Day in the Lutheran concept of salvation. The congregation must have experienced the same awe as we today from the very opening chorus. Wave upon wave of interweaving sound from two choirs and a children's choir set the scene for the passion story. A story of self-sacrifice, betrayal, denial, remorse and unbelievable cruelty.



There are many moments of great drama, perhaps non more so than the denial of Peter. The evangelist describes how having denied any knowledge of Jesus, he went out and “wept bitterly”, followed by the famous most poignant aria 'Erbarme dich.....' where counter tenor and violin intertwined together, cast a scene of grief and shame.

Again after the death of Jesus the bass singer in the recitative sings of three evenings.

- The first evening at the time of creation, when Adam was cast from Eden.
- The second evening when, after the flood as Noah waited almost despairingly for a sign of life, the dove returned carrying an olive branch, and it was clear that the world had been spared;
- and the third evening, that of Good Friday, when as Jesus, now dead, was taken down from the cross, the world, by his sacrifice, was redeemed.

It seems clear that Bach, a consummate musician and composer, was also an inspired dramatist and even theologian.

I heard a musician recently from the Akademie für Alte Music in Berlin, who when asked for his thoughts about the 'St Matthew Passion' said,

“It's about the death of Jesus, it's about our death and about how we get there”

It reminded me of the moment in the 'Matthew Passion' when after the death of Jesus the choir sing the chorale known well to congregations at that time, as to us today, and sometimes referred to as the Passion Chorale.

When once I must depart  
Do not depart from me  
When I must suffer death  
Then stand thou by me.

**Francis N Madden**



Dear friends

Many years ago, when I was preparing to come to Malawi for the first time, there was a valedictory service for our family in Edinburgh. The minister who led the prayer at the service was called Richard Baxter and I later learned that he had served in Malawi himself at an earlier time, in the 1950s and 1960s. I cannot remember everything that he included in the prayer but one thing I do recall is that he prayed that we would be enriched by the heritage of faith that was represented by Harry Kambwiri Matecheta and Stephen Kundecha. It was the first time I had heard these names. Little did I imagine that thirty-six years later I would be publishing a little book about the two of them. This, however, is what has just occurred - perhaps an answer to Richard's prayer.

The two men have indeed become inspirational figures for me, as they are for many others here in Malawi. They were the first two to be selected for training as ministers when the Blantyre Mission decided, in 1907, that the time had come to establish an African ministry. This fact alone gives them a unique place in history. But what is more remarkable is the calibre of the two men – which is what I have tried to capture in the book. Matecheta, for example, had witnessed as a teenager the last big Ngoni raid on the Shire Highlands where he lived.

Ten years later he left his own Yao people to become a missionary among the Ngoni. As he put it, "In 1884 the Ngoni brought war to our villages; in 1893 we took the gospel to their villages." He spent the rest of his life among the Ngoni and was buried next to the church at Bemvu where I now serve as associate minister. It was therefore very special on Sunday 28 January when I was able to present some copies of the new book to the congregation who are his living legacy. His memory continues to inspire. The book is a small one, really a booklet, and is part of a new series that aims to publish small but meaningful contributions – the Luviri Occasional Papers. Luviri Press is an innovative publisher, based in the north of Malawi, and its new series aims to identify seminal articles, some previously published but no longer readily available and others newly written, and to publish them in booklet form.

Another current book project is on a much bigger scale. This year the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, (CCAP) which grew out of the Scottish Missions in Malawi, will mark its centenary, having been formed in 1924.

## **PARTNERPLAN**

Last year Zomba Theological University, (ZTU) held a Research Conference to attempt some academic analysis of the 100 years of the CCAP. Since then, my assignment, working closely with Mwawi Chilongozi, Secretary General of the CCAP General Assembly, has been to turn the conference papers into a book that can be published in time for the centenary celebrations in August this year. There has been terrific collaboration in this effort and now the book is very close to going to press. We plan to have a print edition circulating in Malawi and also an open-access digital edition.

Meanwhile another academic year is underway at ZTU and healthy recruitment into our Masters programmes has been keeping me busy with admission and orientation of new students. It is exciting to welcome new students who are highly motivated to realise their academic potential. A significant development in our taught-track Masters is that the enrolment is close to 50-50 between women and men.

A generation ago, access to theological education in Malawi was largely restricted to men so there has been quite a sea change. With more than fifty postgraduate students currently enrolled, the programme has grown rapidly and challenges our capacity to provide quality supervision. Nevertheless, the University is eager to continue to expand its postgraduate work and further programmes are in the pipeline. For most Malawians this is a time of hope but also anxiety as the crops are planted and the question is whether or not it will be a favourable growing season. The rains came late this year, arriving in many places on Christmas Day, but were plentiful in the month of January, getting the crops off to a good start. All around are fields full of healthy maize plants – now they need a few weeks of steady rainfall to enable them to mature and produce a good harvest. This is the prayer of almost every Malawian, with many still recovering from the devastation brought by Cyclone Freddy last year.



Wishing you well as you journey through the winter season in Scotland and praying for all who are working hard to help the Church meet the special challenges of this time.

In friendship,

**Kenneth**

**Please pray for:**

- The Church of Central Africa Presbyterian preparing to celebrate its centenary – for a moment of thanksgiving and also renewal.
- The living legacy of the ministry of Harry Kambwiri Matecheta – that his memory might inspire the congregation at Bemvu as it seeks to meet today's challenges.
- Zomba Theological University with its high ambitions and many challenges – for a fruitful academic year in 2024.
- The people of Malawi tending their crops and needing steady rainfall to bring them to maturity.

**S.O.S. - Save Our Stamps**

'A big thank you to everyone who donated used postage stamps to the 2023-2024 Stamp Appeal. At the time of posting off our stamps over £10,000 had been raised for the Malawi Tree Planting Project; a project designed to improve nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, create youth employment and mitigate the impact of the climate crisis.



The aim of the self sustaining tree nurseries is to nurture and protect the environment and livelihoods for households and communities.

We await the announcement of the 2024-2025 Church of Scotland Stamp Appeal chosen project. Please continue to save used postage stamps in the meantime'.

**Janet Jardine**

## What is the Church Mission Group all about?

One of the first decisions by our session was to set up four groups to take forward aspects of our organisation. These were – Finance, Property, Safeguarding and Mission – all important aspects to help us develop as an active and effective church in our community.

This wee article is about the Mission Group. 'Mission' is a role for everyone in the congregation, it is not a separate activity for one or two. Just as we all contribute financially through our offerings, enjoy the benefits of well maintained buildings and take care to safeguard others, we also are all involved in 'mission', in sharing our way of living as following Jesus. This can take as many forms as there are people! We all have different stories of God's touch in our lives and different ways of expressing the Kingdom of God.

The Mission Group recently hosted an evening meal for the elders to get together to get to know one another, to enjoy a social evening and to have conversations around the theme of Mission. We had lots of interesting conversations and ideas, and the important aspect is that we have started to talk about our mission as a church. We want to keep this conversation going and involve all the congregation.

We are getting to know one another in Dalriada Mid Argyll, enjoying worshipping together and valuing the diversity which comes from the five previous congregations. As we grow together, so too will our capacity and the opportunities to share our faith with our communities across Mid Argyll.

The Mission Group is currently – David and Louise Logue, Catherine MacLennan, Janet Jardine and David Curruthers. We would love to have more people on the group. If you would like to be involved in the Mission group or have comments and ideas on mission please get in touch with me – **David Logue**, [davidlogue286@gmail.com](mailto:davidlogue286@gmail.com) or 075547092990.



Prayer for Dalriada Mid Argyll:

Lord God of all that has been,  
remind us of the good flowing from You,  
through your church in this area.

From the Celtic saints preaching and serving the  
pagan communities of Dalriada, to the outreach  
and witness of the five parishes now made one

–

Dalriada Mid Argyll.

## **Donna Dugdale's Attachment to Dalriada Mid Argyll**

We have been delighted to welcome Donna Dugdale among us. Donna is a candidate for full time ministry within the Church of Scotland.



Donna Dugdale with Rev David Carruthers

Whilst her attachment to Dalriada Mid Argyll has been brief, (six months in total) her presence is being made known and much appreciated.

Currently Donna is in her second year of academic studies as a full time student with Highland Theological College (HTC) part of the University of the Highlands and Islands.

As she and her family live on Mull Donna is doing her course work by distance learning. It is a big undertaking; as is her practical work – travelling to and from Mull to Mid Argyll each weekend she is with us.

### **Donna shares her experiences with us**

With the exception of attending a local mod in Lochgilphead High School, I had never been to the area of Dalriada Mid-Argyll before my ministry training placed me here alongside David. He did warn me that some of the roads that we would have to speed through between churches on a Sunday morning were quite narrow and bumpy, but having spent the last 20 years living on the Isle of Mull, they were just like home.

The drive down from Oban has never been arduous, even though it was made much longer for the first few months of my placement, after the landslides obliged me to detour via Inveraray. I usually travelled in the dark on the Saturday evening, but the Sunday drives home took me through such beautifully changing scenery, depending on the changing weather. What a beautiful part of the country this is!

I have had such a warm welcome from the congregation across all five churches over the last six months. It has been a pleasure working with David and getting to know new faces and new places, not to mention new hymns!

Every time I have stood at the front of one of the churches to lead any part of worship, I have been welcomed by smiling faces, and I cannot begin to tell you how encouraging that is. My only regret is that, because of the distance from home, I was unable to participate in more community events through the week.

I was delighted to be able to join in with the Burns' Night Supper in Lochgilphead, but I would have loved to be able to attend other events and special occasions as well. I am looking forward to the Journey to the Cross, but unfortunately Easter weekend will be my last weekend in Dalriada Mid Argyll, as my first placement comes to an end.

One thing which surprised me was the delighted response that I received from so many people for my use of the Gaelic Blessing, and so I leave you with those words, and my heartfelt thanks for your welcoming friendship.



*Gur an gràs an Tighearna Iosa Chrìost,  
agus gràdh Dhè, agus co-chomann an  
Spìoaid Naoimh, gu robh maile rinn uile, a-nis  
agus gu siorraidh.*

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God and the friendship we find in the  
Holy Spirit be with us all, now and forever more.  
Amen.

**Thank You Dalriada**



Advance notice. Dust off your old Bibles and books. In our next edition we will give you details of Dalriada Mid Argyll collection points so they can be donated to Book Aid.

DALRIADA MID ARGYLL CHURCH

IN LOCHGILPHEAD  
CHURCH HALL

**BACON BUTTY  
AND A  
BREW**



PUT THE  
DATE IN  
YOUR  
DIARY

**SATURDAY APRIL 27th**  
**10.30am – 12.30pm**

Come along and enjoy a late breakfast  
or an early lunch

Donations of Home Baking and  
Raffle Prizes welcome

Dates for your diary



[Ardrishaig Church Sale of Work](#)

on Saturday 21st September in  
Ardrishaig Public Hall at 2.00 p.m.

