



DECEMBER 2011 & JANUARY 2012  
 CHURCH of SCOTLAND LOCAL PARISH NEWSLETTER  
**KILMORE & OBAN**  
*Belonging, Believing, Blessing*



WHAT'S ON

LATEST NEWS

SERVICE TIMES

## FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK



round buying turkeys, fancy Swiss chocolates and new sofas. They want it to be just right when they sit down on the 25th. Finally they have arrived – though – at what? Nostalgia for a time that never was? Warm fuzzy glows? Do they want a connectedness with something that brings meaning – be it family or timeless values.

A Christmas without Christ doesn't really do it. Our essential and basic human connectedness is with God the Creator or all, and the Son who saves us all, and the Holy Spirit who binds us together in love. Without God the essential component is absent. And all with which we can face an empty universe is sentimentality.

So at this time of Christmas we have a basic task as Christians and that is to welcome people who, in large numbers, come into our midst. Let them belong and make connections with the holy. We talk of Belonging, Believing and Blessing. Let it be so in our church – may everyone sense that they belong here. And here is a story which testifies to belonging's importance.

*Rev Dugald*

A lot of people travel around Christmas time. Most are making their way to family. We really value being together at Christmas – and hence it can also be the most isolating time for those without the opportunity on their own.

People travel to make connections. On one level, yes, it is to be with family. But also, at a deeper level, people wish to sense a groundedness, a belonging in the confusing fast changing and often chaotic world in which we live. Perhaps that is why people rush

### **Beverley's story**

*Beverley had a baby and she brought him for baptism. She joined the church mums' and toddlers group and enjoyed helping out when needed in the kitchen. She began to take an active role in the leadership of the group and found herself developing deep friendships with the other leaders. She became interested in another church group that met to worship through the use of dance and she was invited to come along. She enjoyed the friendships and honesty with the group, as well as the creativity. It all began to fall into place: she began to feel she belonged, she liked being with these people, and she connected with using the body in worship. After some time, she was asked if she would like to attend a nurture course and through that she made a commitment to Christ.*



**BELONGING,  
 BELIEVING  
 and BLESSING**



### **Christmas Eve Saturday 24th Dec**

**7.00pm  
 Corran Esplanade**

**9.00pm  
 Kilmore Kirk**

**11.30pm  
 Watchnight Service  
 Glencruitten Road**

Get a life and come to church on the most important evening of the year. (TV is rubbish and rots your brain anyway) Make an impression that last a life time.

### **WORSHIP TIMES**

**Christmas Day  
 Sunday 25th Dec  
 10.00am**

**Corran Esplanade  
 (30 min service)**

\*\* There will be no afternoon Gaelic worship service (see separate item!!)

**New Year's Day  
 Sunday 1st January**

**11.30am  
 Glencruitten Road**

\*\* There will be a shorter celebration of Communion at GR on 1st Jan at 11.00am

\*\* New Year's Day 4.00pm worship in Kilmore Kirk.

## DATE FOR THE DIARY

The Rotary will be holding their Christmas Celebration on Sunday 18th December in the Corran Halls at 3.00pm. All are welcome to this annual event.

## HELP!

The Cleaning Team at Corran Esplanade Church report that their trusty Dyson has gone all temperamental and is not now working to order. It would appear that this is not now suitable for repair and before committing to a new replacement they ask if anyone has a spare vacuum cleaner, in good working order that can be put to good use. If you can assist please let Maureen know at Church Office at (01631) 562405

*Sandra Clark*

## SOROBA HOUSE LUNCH & GAMES CLUB

The above Club meets every Wednesday at Soroba House Hotel & Training Academy from 12noon until 4.00pm. Lunch is served from 12 until 2.00pm with Afternoon Tea at 3.30pm before transport home. From lunch until teatime there is the option of taking part in a range of games such as Bridge, Dominoes, Scrabble, Bingo or other board games. If you would prefer, you can opt to watch television or take the opportunity to chat with friends old and new in the comfortable coffee lounge. Transport can be provided if required. A modest charge of £3 to cover the cost of lunch – an additional £2 for transport if that is required – will be payable.

If you are interested in this please contact Ian Strain at Soroba (01631) 563367 or ask your Home Manager, if you are in Sheltered accommodation, to enquire on your behalf.

## LADIES BADMINTON

Sessions take place in the Church Centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2.00pm – 4.00pm. £1 per session.

New players always welcome. Beginners on Tuesdays.

Tuesdays: December 6th and January 17th.

Thursdays: December 1st, 8th and 15th. January 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th.

*Margo Macdonald*

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Committee will be busy again over the next few months and we hope to have the support of all friends and members of Kilmore and Oban as we had in the course of the past year.

Several proposals that we have made have been passed on to other groups within the congregation where they will be taken forward, so you will hear in due course from the Property Committee, and from Carol Leech, Ian Kerr and others with their plans. As a committee we will be happy to raise funds to kick start new developments within the parish aiming at all age groups and interests.

We have arranged to hold two separate and very different money-raising events in the New Year. The first is to be a big Church Sale on Saturday 18th February in the Church Centre. This will be along the lines of the successful event that we organised last year but with a different range of stalls and stallholders. The stalls that we plan for 2012 are Toys, White Elephant, Art & Craft, Baking, Talent Sale/Auction and “Wheels” – i.e. anything that has wheels; bikes, prams golf trolleys etc.!

In January, preceding the sale, we will be asking members and friends to search out their lofts and cupboards for any unwanted items in any of these categories that they would be willing to donate towards the sale. Items can, of course, be uplifted if required. Please start looking now!

The second money-raising event will be along the lines of an “Oban’s Got Young Talent Show” to be held in late March, featuring as many young people from the P5-P6 to young adults age range as we can find. They will be encouraged to enter in one of four categories: Singing, Dance, Musical Instruments and Groups. More information will follow but I am pleased to say that Gwyneth Neal has agreed to take this project forward. As you will know, Gwyneth has considerable experience of both show business and in working with young people. This will be an event for the whole community and one not to be missed!

*Andy Henderson –Convener*

## CHRISTMAS SERVICE OFFERINGS

For the past two years the retiring collections from the various special services held in Church around Christmas, including the Christingle service, have been equally divided between two charities, Mary’s Meals and FROM Scotland. This year the Kirk Session has agreed to continue with this, which is good news for both as we raise around £1,000 for these good causes.

Mary’s Meals, being both local to Argyll and a charity with a huge international reputation, needs no introduction. FROM Scotland is a much smaller organisation but does a fantastic job in Malawi, and being small, it can be flexible to meet the needs of the day. It was started up by Tracy Thompson, a member and later leader in SSC, who went to work in Malawi nearly ten years ago to work on projects for Strathclyde University.

Seeing the desperate needs of the population there she set up FROM Scotland to do as Mary’s Meals has done elsewhere, by providing

daily meals for children, mainly orphans, at school, alleviating both hunger and poor education. Currently FROM Scotland are feeding over 1,000 children every day. In addition though, they have organised many other activities to help people there. These include provision of mosquito nets, hygiene kits and water treatment packs. Education in sustainable farming methods has been given to villagers. Donated football kits and equipment have been given to children and books and baby clothes sent from Scotland have been distributed. Surplus medical equipment from the NHS and out of date RNL first aid kits have been shipped over from Scotland and have been hugely valued. SSC, which has so many members amongst young people in Oban, has been a continued support too. This year twelve – four adults and eight teenagers – raised money themselves to travel to Malawi for four weeks in June when they met young people from the villages and paid for and started work on the building of a much needed High Dependency unit for the small hospital at Chikhwaha. That building is now complete and already fulfilling a vital function within the community.

Your support for those charities at Christmas will mean a great deal to many!

*Andy Henderson*



# CHRISTINGLE

FRIDAY 16th 6.30pm CORRAN ESPLANADE

When the lights are dimmed in the Sanctuary towards the close of our Christingle service the glowing light of candles is reflected in the wondering eyes of the children in the congregation. The magic and the wonder of the Christingle message, a tradition that we have from the 18th century Moravian church, helps to celebrate the Christmas message in an inspirational way for children and adults alike.

The orange here represents the world, the red ribbon the blood/love of Christ. The candle with the flame represents Jesus, the Light of



the World, and the sweets and fruits are the four seasons, the fruits of the earth and the gifts of the Lord.

## NATIVITY SUNDAY 18th DECEMBER

The Sunday school will be presenting their Nativity on Sunday 18th December at Glencruitten Road. This is an event that is keenly anticipated throughout the year and a ready source for talent spotting. Any youngsters attracted to the smell of the greasepaint and the roar of the crowd should be aware that casting and rehearsals

commence at the Sunday school on 4th December at the Church Centre at 1115.

After the service on the 18th there will be Teas and Coffees along with Mince Pies available to all at the Church Centre. We ask members and friends to support this event in their customary generous fashion.



## SOROBA YOUNG FAMILIES NATIVITY

Just to let you know that for the fifth year Soroba Young Families will be celebrating a Nativity in Corran Esplanade Church. Everyone will be welcome on Thursday 15th Dec at 10.30am.

## GAELIC SERVICE ON CHRISTMAS DAY

This year we will be incorporating Gaelic into our morning worship with both readings and praise in the language of angels. Rev Dugald will be leading a bit, along with more fluent speakers. A bheil sibh 'tighinn dhan eaglais air La Nollaig?



## THE GUILD

Welcomes Men and Women  
of all ages

The October afternoon meeting saw a small group hear an excellent presentation from Liz Crawford and Helen Pearson on their summer trip to Iona. This chimed well with this year's theme "Called to walk Humbly with God."

The Evening Group on 9th November were brought up to date on what is happening within the Prison Service by Archie Campbell (son of the late Norma Campbell) who was slightly bemused on facing an audience of ladies who had known him as a youngster!

Both groups will be celebrating Christmas in December and in January the Evening Group will be hosting an Old New Year Ceilidh. The Afternoon Group will be sharing "A Life on the Ocean Wave" with Willie Melville. Both groups will share the hosting of an Entertainment and Afternoon Tea for Senior Citizens on 28th January. Please check future Intimation Sheets for details of Dates and Times.

The Guild takes this opportunity of wishing the congregation and all our supporters every Blessing at Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

*June Campbell*

**An Ecumenical Advent Service will be held on Sunday 27th November at St John's Cathedral at 6.30pm.**

## CORRAN ESPLANADE UPDATE

On 24th Nov. a meeting was held between the McCaig Trustees, the C of S General Trustees, Presbytery Representatives and congregational office bearers. Unfortunately, due to the late date of this meeting our office bearers are not in a position, as yet, to bring any more substantive information to the congregation. When we are able to do so we shall give good intimation and offer opportunity for the congregation to respond.

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT KILMORE & OBAN

## Sunday 4th December – Advent 2

09.15	CE	Holy Communion
10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Family Worship
16.00	K	Kilmore Evening Worship

## Monday 5th December

19.30	CE	Grieving and Gratitude
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## Sunday 11th Dec – Advent 3 (Remember Lord's Larder)

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Family Worship

## Friday 16th December

18.30	CE	Christingle Service
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## Sunday 18th December – Advent 4

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Nativity

## Saturday 24th December – Christmas Eve

19.00	CE	Christmas Family Service
21.00	K	Christmas Family Service
23.30	GR	Watchnight Service

## Sunday 25th December – Christmas Day

10.00	CE	Christmas Service and Gaelic Praise
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**There will be no Family Faithshare in December but we look forward to welcoming you on January 29th 2011.**

## Sunday 1st January 2012

11.00	GR	Holy Communion
11.30	GR	Family Worship
16.00	K	Kilmore Evening Worship* NB time

## Sunday 8th January

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Family Worship

## Sunday 15th January

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Family Worship

## Sunday 22th January

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Family Worship
15.00	GR	Gaelic Service

## Sunday 29th January

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.15	CC	Family Faithshare
11.30	GR	Family Worship

**KEY:** CC—Church Centre, Glencruitten Road.  
K—Kilmore Kirk. CE—Corran Esplanade Church.  
GR—Glencruitten Road. Church. EG—Eadar Glinn

## SANTA'S DILEMMA

'Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck  
How to live in a world that's politically correct?

No presents that might be construed to pollute  
Nothing to aim with, nothing to shoot  
Nothing that clamoured or made lots of noise  
No things for just girls, or just for the boys.

Nothing that claimed to be gender specific,  
Nothing that's warlike or too non-pacific,  
No candy or sweets 'cos they're bad for the tooth.  
Nothing that seemed to embellish a truth.

So Santa just stood there, disheartened, perplexed,  
Unable to figure on what to do next.  
His sack was quite empty and limp on the ground,  
For nothing completely PC could be found.

But then he remembered-it gave him a lift!  
That there's one thing left over to give as a gift.  
So here is his wish and it's priced beyond worth;  
"May you and your loved ones enjoy Peace on Earth!"



## CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

### Funerals ....*Nothing can separate us from the Love of God*

Elizabeth McIver of Dunmar Court, Oban  
Alexander (Tam) Clark of Dalintart Drive, Oban  
Alexander (Alisdair) MacKinnon of Benmore View, North Connel  
Lachie Birrell of Torosay Court, Oban  
William Taylor of Ure Gardens, Oban  
Ewen Lawrie of Lynn of Lorn, Oban  
John Bichard, of Nant Drive, Oban  
John MacKechnie of Hazeldean Crescent, Oban  
Donald "Skye" McIntosh of Lismore Crescent, Oban

### Marriages ....*Commitments in Love*

Sandra MacIntyre to Euan Dewar at Corran Esplanade Church on 29th October 2011 by Rev. Dugald Cameron.

### Baptisms ....*And a child shall lead them*

James Cameron MacCallum son of Neil and Kirsty MacCallum

## EDITORIAL: Ken MacColl

**Our next edition for February 2012  
will be available on Sunday 29th January 2012.**

**Copy and photographs should be at the  
Church Office or sent direct to the editor at  
[kenmaccoll@btinternet.com](mailto:kenmaccoll@btinternet.com)  
by Monday 23rd January 2012.**

**Contributions are welcomed!**

*Photographs or short news items are particularly welcome.*