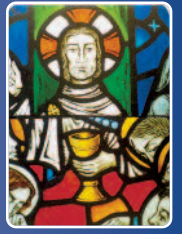




NOVEMBER 2011  
 CHURCH of SCOTLAND LOCAL PARISH NEWSLETTER  
**KILMORE & OBAN**  
*Belonging, Believing, Blessing*



WHAT'S ON

LATEST NEWS

SERVICE TIMES



**FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK**  
**BELONGING, BELIEVING and BLESSING**

In the recent discussions about building provision and stewardship within Kilmore and Oban the theme of mission has come up again and again. This is right. How are we to be CHURCH in 21st century Oban so

that we point to God active in our world, and welcome people into the community of faith? Our congregation has a theme of Belonging, Believing and Blessing, and the extract below taken from the book Mission Shaped Church challenges us to see mission in personal terms. Take time to read and reflect, and then imagine this in our congregational context, week by week, Sunday by Sunday.

**Travelling in**

New folk in church have to be able to get close to those who are more towards the centre. And over and over again, one of the problems that people find when they come into the church community is that they are 'on the outside' of the significant groups or relationships that are operating in the church. They are kept at arm's length. They are greeted at coffee time, but when they offer help in the kitchen, or putting away chairs, the response is in the negative. As they walk home after two years of attending church they may find themselves reflecting that they still don't really know anyone; that there seems to be an 'in group', that they are definitely not part of what is 'really going on in the church'.

If we want a community to be truly apostolic, we need to be assisting people to travel much more freely from the edge towards the centre. 'Welcome' is not just what happens on the door, it is the whole process by which someone moves from the periphery of a church community towards the core. Many churches that pride themselves on being friendly are in fact only friendly to those on the inside. And while many in our congregations have hearts that are wide open to the stranger, there can be others, more covert,

doorkeepers – the ones who really decide who gets to stay, who is accepted. As one clergyman said to me wearily, 'I get them in but I have an elder who is determined to get them out again.'

**How can we assist 'travelling in'?**

It can be the simplest thing that begins to help people to 'come in':

- The kitchen team, at Sunday coffee, accepting the offer of help from the widow who's just started coming to church, with an, 'Oh great – could you give us a hand?'
- The maintenance team inviting 'fringe' people to come and help clear the churchyard of litter and brambles and to have fish and chips afterwards.
- An invitation to eat a meal together.

Relational evangelism is, at heart, simple. Like 'two by two', it is not dependent on sophisticated techniques, or massive material resources. Most people can make relationships, especially where there is an atmosphere of trust. Children can. Grandparents can. Single mums can. Young men can. Successful middle-aged couples can. It shouldn't perhaps surprise us that we've been given something that we can do! But it does. In our rush to embrace models of evangelism that are mass produced, we have often succeeded in removing evangelism from the sphere of human relationships; and thus from the capabilities of most of the people in our churches. Making community together is not rocket science. But has it, perhaps, been convenient to us in the churches of the West to think that evangelism is something for the experts? It may be easier to run around looking for alternative solutions than face the simple one that is before us.

For, although relational evangelism is not difficult – it is costly. It means giving ourselves to others. Perhaps to many others. It means letting them into my life, not just nodding to them with a smile on Sundays. It remains true that if I want to see life, I must give my life. If I want to see love, I must give love. And that self-giving has to be happening at the centre of the common life. The church's leadership has to take the lead.

*Rev Dugald Cameron*

**Remembrance Sunday 13th November**

This year both our services will be at the normal time, however, Corran Esplanade worship will last only 30 minutes thereby allowing plenty time for those who wish to make their way to the war memorial.

Both services will incorporate a time of silence.

Retiring offerings at both services will be taken for the British Legion.

**Make a joyful noise unto the Lord**

On Sunday 20th November, 11.30am, the last Sunday in the liturgical year, we celebrate the Kingship of Christ our Lord. This year we will be led in worship by our Recorder Group as The Guild mark their annual rededication. There will also be a baptism. So come early for a seat!

**Advent Sunday 27th November**

This will be the next Family Faithshare service. So let us begin our preparations for the birth of our Saviour.

# CORRAN ESPLANADE UPDATE

The first meeting of the congregation to air opinions and share facts about the way forward in mission and stewardship for our congregation was held at the end of September. The next step in the process will be taken on Thursday 24th November when office bearers of the congregation will meet with representatives of both the McCaig Trustees and the Church of Scotland General Trustees. As and when more information becomes available we shall keep the congregation up to date.

## THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



SOCIAL WORK

## SUPPORT CROSSREACH

If you shop online, and more and more of us do, why not click on

[www.spendandraise.com /circleofcare](http://www.spendandraise.com/circleofcare)

where you will find a wide variety of outlets; M&S, Amazon, John Lewis, Comet and many others. When you buy through this link CrossReach, the Church's Board of Social Responsibility gains commission and help for its many community activities. The CrossReach Registered Charity number is SC0234366

# CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

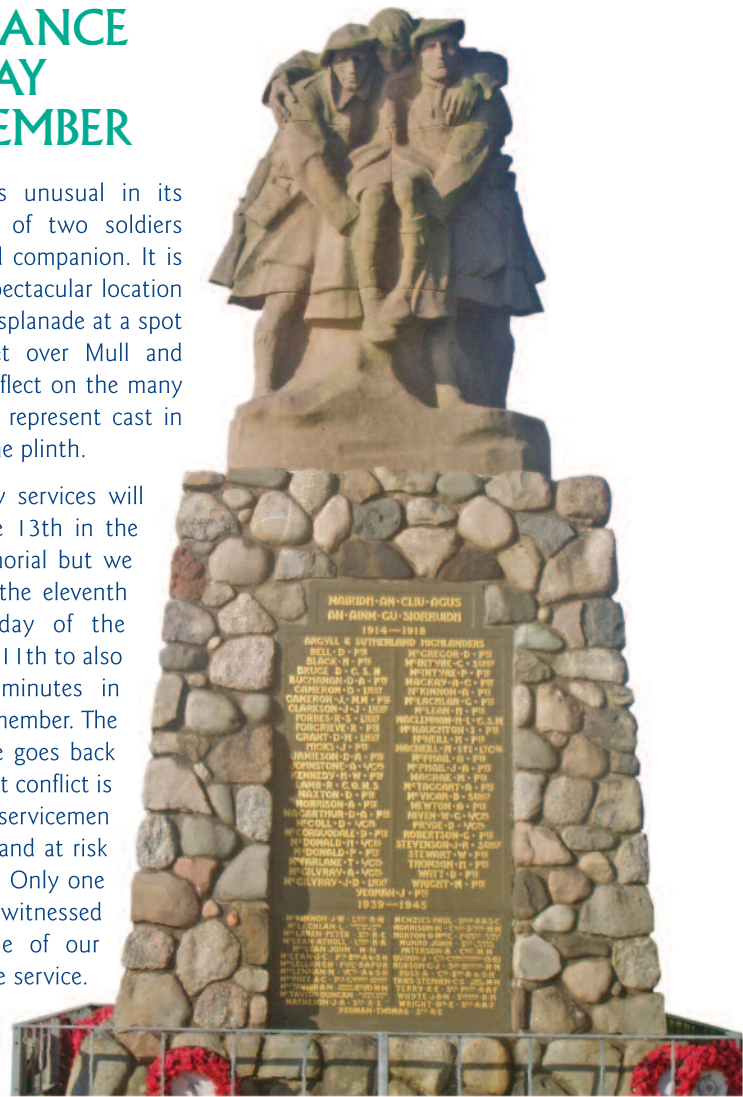
October is not yet past and the street decorations are going up in Oban. For weeks the shops have been stocking cards, mincemeat pies and other items associated with our traditional Christmas celebrations. Elsewhere in those columns there is notice that the last Sunday service in November will be an Advent service incorporating Family Faithshare. As we celebrate the celebrations of the birth of our Saviour we should always keep in mind the true reasons for our celebrations and keep CHRIST in Christmas.

# REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 13th NOVEMBER

Oban's War Memorial is unusual in its compassionate depiction of two soldiers assisting a third wounded companion. It is also situated in a most spectacular location at the end of the Corran Esplanade at a spot ideal to view the sunset over Mull and Morvern and to sit and reflect on the many names and the lives they represent cast in bronze on the panels of the plinth.

The Remembrance Sunday services will take place on Sunday the 13th in the churches and at the memorial but we would urge you all, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month on Friday 11th to also pause and reflect for two minutes in your daily routine and remember. The focus of our remembrance goes back to the two World Wars but conflict is always with us and our servicemen and women are on duty and at risk on our behalf at all times. Only one year since 1918 has not witnessed the loss of at least one of our service personnel on active service.

Make remembering a priority.



*To you from falling hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow.*

*In Flanders Fields  
John McCrae*



*They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old.  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.*

*For the Fallen  
Laurence Binyon*



*Oban in autumn and reflective Mull  
cast on the water. . . . No one drowns  
in this amazing light. The War Memorial burns.  
One soldier helps another through the stone. . . .*

*Oban 1955 -1982  
Iain Crichton Smith*

## CHRISTIAN GIVING

Giving to God is a response to God's giving to us. The Cross is a sure sign of God holding nothing back and giving everything in the death of Jesus Christ.

The Cross becomes a challenge to our giving, a challenge to the generosity of our giving of our time, of our talents and of our money.

GIFT AID is a government approved scheme that enables the Church to reclaim the tax that you have already paid on the money that you give through your offering. While the basic tax level remains standard the Church can recover the tax at an enhanced rate on every pound given under the scheme.

### Who can give through GIFT AID?

- Anyone who pays Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax .

### What is required?

- The completion of a simple Gift Aid Declaration Form
- Giving your offering through Free Will Offering envelopes, by cheque or by bank Standing Order to provide the church with the necessary record of your giving.

### Please note:

- Offerings given through the open Plate cannot be treated for Gift Aid
- You need not promise to give a particular amount each week or to commit to a specified period of time.

## GIFT AID IS GOOD STEWARDSHIP

Giving through Gift Aid makes your offering worth more

More money means that more can be done to further the mission of the Church and advance the kingdom of God.

Please be assured that donors do not have to reveal their income or the tax that they pay.

Any member who would like more information on this should contact their Elder, the Church Office or Caroline MacCulloch, the Gift Aid Convener.

## HARVEST THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL



All our churches were appropriately decked out with fruit, vegetables and other goods to commemorate the Harvest Thanksgiving Festival. Photographer Alex Clark was on hand to capture the ladies decorating Esplanade Church.



## THE GUILD

### Welcomes Men and Women of all ages

The Guild made an excellent start to the new session with a very successful coffee morning in early October when the splendid total of £738.48 was raised. Thanks are due to all who worked hard and to all those who supported the event to reach such a worthwhile sum.

The Evening group heard a most interesting talk on 12th October from Elizabeth Little from Singing for the Brain, which has been in operation for over a year now. Based on a system first operated in the south of England this provides a support group for post stroke and dementia sufferers through the medium of music and has proved to have a very beneficial effect. The Afternoon group will hear from Liz Crawford and Helen Pearson on 27th October about their recent visit to Iona.

The incoming month will be a busy one for Guild members as on the evening of 9th November they will hear from Archie Campbell of his work with the Prison Service – a follow on from last year's talk, On the Other Side. The Afternoon group meeting will hear reflections on her travels from Christine Sharpe. All members are asked to attend the rededication Service at Glencruitten Road Church on Sunday 20th November.

The Guild will host the Autumn Rally in the Church Centre on Saturday 26th November at 1.30pm. The speaker will be from Support for Heroes. This is an issue that has affected the community and will take the form of an open meeting which anyone interested is welcome to attend. Please note the early start time which has been arranged to accommodate ferry users.

*June Campbell*

## LADIES BADMINTON

We play in the main hall of the Church Centre from 2.00pm–4.00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sessions cost £1.00 per person. New players are always welcome. Beginners should come on Tuesdays.

**Tuesdays in November 1st and 15th  
Thursdays 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th**

*Margo Macdonald*

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT KILMORE & OBAN

## Sunday 6th November

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

## Sunday 13th November

### Remembrance Sunday (Remember Lord's Larder)

10.00	CE	Morning Worship (30 min service)
11.30	GR	Family Worship

## Sunday 20th November

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.30	GR	Family Worship

## Sunday 27th November

10.00	CE	Morning Worship
11.15	CC	Family Faithshare
11.30	GR	Family Worship
15.00	GR	Gaelic Service

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

## CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

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

Margaret Graham of Longsdale Terrace, Oban  
Adam Hardie of Longistan Road, Oban  
Margaret (Peggy) Morrison of Creag-An-Airm, Oban  
Lillian Blue of Glenfoot Terrace, Oban  
Mary Blue of Millpark Avenue, Oban  
William Hendry Rodaway of Polvinster Road, Oban  
Mary Veronica MacKenzie of Alaval, South Shian, Benderloch  
Mary MacKenzie of Longsdale Terrace, Oban

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

Lyndsey Miller to Mark Lawson at Corran Esplanade Church on 24th September 2011 by Rev. Dugald Cameron.

## EDITORIAL: Ken MacColl

*Our next edition for December 2011 / January 2012 will be available on Sunday 27th November 2011.*

**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 21st November 2011.**

***Contributions are welcomed!***

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY RETIRING COLLECTION

Retiring collections at both churches on Remembrance Sunday will be taken for the work of the British Legion Poppy Fund.

## CARPE DIEM

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So, throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade winds in your sails.

Explore! Dream! Discover.

*Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain)*

## LIFE & WORK

The November issue of Life & Work is now available. This is a Church of Scotland publication that on a monthly basis publishes thoughtful, informative and, occasionally, provocative articles about issues affecting church life and our society.

This month's issue has features remembering the fallen and those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice with articles on Remembrance Sunday from the Moderator, the Rt Rev David Arnott and a contribution from the Principal Clerk, the Rt Rev John Chalmers, whose son was critically injured while serving in Afghanistan. Thomas Baldwin examines the impact of social networking, Twitter and facebook, on our churches and Jackie Macadam explores the work undertaken by the Church to change attitudes to domestic violence. The magazine includes regular items of Parish news, book reviews, crosswords and a lively letters page.

If you are not already a subscriber why not contact the Church Office for a sample copy?

## ECOTIP

Do not dispose of expended batteries and empty printer cartridges in your regular household waste. Both those items can be handed into the Church Office where there is the facility for safe and recyclable disposal.

## STOP PRESS

It has just been announced that the next Moderator of the General Assembly is to be the Rev Albert Bogle, minister of St Andrew's Church in Bo'ness. He is the founder of an established international charity that helps street children. The Rev Bogle set up the Vine Trust in 1985 and this charity is responsible for the Amazon Hope Project that provides educational opportunities and medical and dental healthcare for around 100,000 patients every year. Information about this charity can be found at [www.thevinetrust.com](http://www.thevinetrust.com)

Rev Bogle is married with two children. He will succeed the Rt Rev David Arnott at the start of the General Assembly in May 2012.