

**Memorial Service
for
Robert Cunningham**



On Sunday 28th December, the 100th anniversary of the death in a snow storm on Killantringan Moor, a Memorial Service for Robert Cunningham was held in the church.

Attending the service were representatives of Royal Mail, Mr Andrew Wood spoke about Robert and quoted from Mrs Macgregor, wife of Rev Ewan Macgregor Glenapp.

A wreath was laid in the church
The piper Mr William McCubbin played a lament and

Dr J Anderson led a prayer.

After the service refreshments were available at the Kings Arms Hotel courtesy of Royal Mail.

MALAWI 

On tea Sunday in December Donations received for the Malawi Bowl totalled £30. Anonymous donations have totalled £65. *Thanks to all.*

New Year Customs

Q. *When did the custom of making New Year resolutions begin and why?*

A. The early Christians believed the first day of the new year should be spent reflecting on past mistakes and resolving to improve oneself in the new year, It is believed that the Babylonians were the first to make New Year Resolutions.

Q. *Why do people always hope for a "tall, dark and handsome first footer"?*

A. In the days of hospitality to strangers, there were taboos about the luck brought by an unknown person entering a house after midnight on December 31st. A fair-haired visitor was considered bad luck in most areas, partly due to in-fighting between the dark Scots and the fair Norse invaders. In Christian times, however, a fair-haired man was considered very lucky, providing his name was Andrew, the same as Scotland's patron saint.

**From our prayer
Correspondent**



For reading & meditation:- Isaiah 40 —V 28- - 31

The Lord is the everlasting God v 28

Lord, we are at the beginning of a New Year we surrender the past to You, We give our failures and our successes our disappointments and regrets, Help us to look to the future and forget what has gone before, We bring You our hopes and dreams for the coming year, Purify and guide us with Your Holy Spirit, Challenge us by the power of Your Word, lead us in Your way, Let not the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ be in vain, You are our everlasting strength we entrust our future to you, Create a clean heart and right spirit within each of us, That we may become new creatures in You.

With Love in His name

Patricia Thackray

Christmas Cards

A total of £80 was donated to church funds from the delivery of local cards. We are grateful to all who supported this and thanks to those who acted as postman.



RETIRAL COLLECTION

The retiring collection at Moira McNally's funeral raised £525.00 which has been distributed as follows:
£100 to Asthma Scotland
£425 Ballantrae Parish Church

Used Stamps

As well as used stamps, we also collect old spectacles and used ink cartridges (except Epson).
Thanks to all who have donated

LIFE AND WORK

Copies of Life and Work the Church of Scotland's national magazine, are available from Margaret McKissock.

Biblical Songs



Noah: "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head"

Adam and Eve: "Strangers in Paradise"

Job: "I've Got a Right to Sing the Blues"

Moses: "The Wanderer"

Jezebel: "The Lady is a Tramp"

Samson: "Hair"

Salome: "I Could Have Danced All Night"

Daniel: "The Lion Sleeps Tonight"

Joshua: "Good Vibrations"

Peter: "I'm Sorry"

Esau: "Born To Be Wild"

Shadrach, Meshach, and

Abednego: "Great Balls of Fire!"

The Three Kings: "When You Wish Upon a Star"

Jonah: "Got a Whale of a Tale"

Methuselah: "Staying' Alive"



SWRI

New members welcome to attend our monthly meetings.

Next meeting on the

2nd February.

Cookery by Susan Crosthwaite

LEPROSY MISSION

Donations for the Leprosy Mission should go to Georgina McKinlay
Thanks to Michelle Oellerman
For her work with the mission

Winter Warmer to use up left over stuffing. 190 C / 375 F / Gas 5.

Ingredients

500g Pork Sausages
pinch salt/pepper
225g chopped canned tomatoes
9 Tbsp Dry stuffing mix
2 Tbsp Vegetable Oil
1 Egg (beaten)
750g Floury Potatoes
3 Celery Stalks Chopped
2 Large Onions (Sliced)
25g Butter & 25g melted butter

Method

Melt marg. in frying pan and add the onions and celery. Cook on moderate heat for 10-15 mins until softened but not coloured, layer in bottom of casserole dish with a lid

Boil potatoes, lower the heat and simmer for 5mins, drain potatoes and leave to cool. Cut potatoes into 5mm slices

Meanwhile score along sides of each sausage and pull away the skins, roll sausages in beaten egg then in dry stuffing, ensuring they are coated thoroughly. Pour oil into remaining fat in frying pan, evenly fry sausages for 10 minutes. Arrange browned sausages over the cooked vegetable mix in the casserole dish. Pour tomatoes, sprinkle with salt and pepper, arrange the potatoes cover, cook for 1 hour. Heat grill, remove casserole lid and brush potatoes with the melted butter, brown for 2-3mins - serve!

For a different flavour use cream of mushroom soup instead of canned tomatoes.



The day after I had submitted my contribution to the November notes, my memory was refreshed by a letter from the minister of St. Mary's church, Haddington. The earliest reference to a church there dates from 1139. In 1355 it suffered at the hands of Edward 111's army and great destruction was caused in 1548-49 in the siege of Haddington. At the instigation of John Knox, reputedly, born just across the River Tyne, the Town Council repaired the church in 1561 "frae steeple to the west end". So the eastern part remained a ruin for over 400yrs until restored in the early 1970's. The great west window depicts "Christ and the sea of Galilee" and dates from 1906. The present minister is the Rev. Jennifer McCrae — Rev. Mr & Mrs Brain were members of the church in Glasgow where she was before St Mary's.

Turning to the weather, two rainfall events were of note in the first half of December. During the night of the 3rd - 49.2mm (1.93ins) fell in about 6hrs while during the afternoon and evening of the 12th 80.6mm (3.17ins) fell in about 12hrs, causing the river Stinchar to burst its banks near Ballantrae and flood the A77. Late in November, some magnificent shower clouds (Cumulonimbus) were observed, and at 5.35pm on the 28th of November, the International Space Station was seen, with the Shuttle Endeavour already well detached. At about the same time on the 1st December the close proximity of the new Moon, Venus and Jupiter was something not to miss. Venus comes close to the new Moon again on the evening of 31st December, with Jupiter and Mercury near the South western horizon.

George Watt



The Luncheon Club

are

having a Burns Night

on

Wednesday 14th January

in the

Kings Arms Hotel at 7pm



Many Thanks to those of you who filled the shoe boxes for the Troops.

Janette

Ballantrae Library

CHURCH FAMILY

Deaths

Margaret (Meg) McIlwraith

Rev. Ernest Brain

"I am the resurrection and the Life"

Christmas Services

The Watch Night Service

Conducted by Rev. Jim Guthrie was very well attended and enjoyed by all.

The Christmas Day Service

Like last year, it was conducted by members of the congregation, there was a reasonable turnout of members and friends.

Carol Service at Glenapp.

The Kirk was filled almost to capacity, an enjoyable service of Carols and Lessons led by Rev Jim Guthrie followed.

YOUNG WOMENS GROUP

The YWG enjoyed a Christmas meal out on Wednesday 10th December and then the following night we decorated the church. Thank you to all the ladies for their contributions to the arrangements. Instead of our usual lucky dip Christmas gifts we put the money together and purchased the following from UNICEF : 100 measles vaccines, 100 cups of therapeutic milk, medicine for 3 children with HIV and a first aid kit.

Our first meeting of the new year will be Mrs Pat Evans on Yoga at 8pm in the vestry on **Weds. 14th January 2009.**



CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GUILD



Due mainly to absence from home and illness a much smaller number than usual attended the Guild dinner in the King's Arms. Those who were able to be there enjoyed the meal, and afterwards were entertained by Christmas music provided by Mrs Michelle Oelerman.

The next meeting is on **Monday 19th January**, when Mrs Meg Peacock will be telling us about the work done by the Presbytery of Ayr, of which she is the member representing our church.

The Flower Calendar



The flower calendar for 2009 is at the church entrance, and anyone wishing to donate flowers should add their name against the appropriate Sunday's.

We are grateful to those who donate the church flowers, which are sent to those who are sick or elderly. There is also a flower fund which donations of any amount can be given, these should be placed in the offering plate in a suitably marked envelope, or given to the minister or any office bearer. If you wish to donate the flowers but are unable to arrange them this can be done for you.



Newsletter

Items for February should be in by 28th January. The *Newsletter* costs approx. £400 per annum to produce. Donations towards the cost may be left in a suitably marked envelope in the offering plate at any time, or given to the minister or any office bearer. The total for this year was £300, sincere thanks to those who have donated.

Blythswood Care



Is glad to receive donations of food, clothes, bedding, bric-a-brac and household goods. A truck will collect from this area on 2nd Tuesday of every month. Contact any WRVS member for more information.

LISTS AND ROTAS

Flower Calendar



Jan. 4th
11th Awaiting
18th. update
25th



Tea Duty

February 1st

Lorna Greenhill, Florence Brown, Liz Gregg, Georgina McKinley & Penny Savage

Church Cleaning Teams

11th January 2009

John & Janice McIlwraith

25th January -

Penny Savage & Liz Gregg

If unable to fulfil your given date, please swap with another team. If you can help with the Church cleaning rota, contact **Liz Gregg, tel. 841686.**

Sunday Duty Rota

Jan.	Feb.
4th D	1st C
11th E	8th D
18th A	15th A
25th B	22nd B

OUR NEW MINISTER



Rev. Stephen Ogston and family.

The Ordination and Induction of Rev. Stephen Ogston will take place on
Tuesday 27th January.
(This date has still to be confirmed by Presbytery)

In preparation for the new family coming into the manse, work has started on interior decoration and several other jobs inside have been completed. Outside the old stone walls behind the garage have been knocked down and taken away as has the old greenhouse. During the two years the manse has been empty the grass has been cut and the garden kept tidy, and more recently furniture has been dismantled and moved, carpets lifted and many more smaller jobs completed.

The Kirk Session would like to take this opportunity to express their sincere thanks to the loyal band of volunteers from both Ballantrae and St Colmon's who have given freely of their time and talents



CHURCH OF SCOTLAND BALLANTRAE PARISH CHURCH

LINKED WITH

ST. COLMON

www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk

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