

## A Smile For You

Smiling is infectious - you catch it like the flu.

When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too.

I passed around the corner, and someone saw my grin,

When he smiled I realised I'd passed it on to him!

I thought about that smile, then I realized its worth.

A single smile, just like mine, could travel round the earth.

So, if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected -

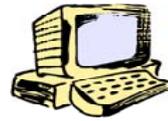
Let's start an epidemic quick, and get the world infected!



## Blythwood 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.



## GOING ON LINE

Worth a visit to keep up to date with events in Scotland

<http://www.churches-housing.org/>

<http://www.acts-scotland.org/>

## S.W.R.I.

New members welcome to attend our monthly meetings. Next meeting on the 4th Feb.

Life in the Rural & Hand Crafts by Annette Torbet.



## Newsletter

Items for the March should be in by 29th February. 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.



## Malawi Partnership

Thanks to all who contributed to the Christmas "cardboard box appeal".

This resulted in my receiving a large number of boxes and a huge number of assorted items *i.e.* clothing, bed sheets, curtains, tea-towels, pots and pans, children's clothing, children's books and a generous donation of 100 t-shirts.

There has been a tremendous "pebble in the pond" effect regarding donations and we are receiving items not only from Church members but from many friends not living in Ballantrae who have heard of our Presbytery project. I would like to thank all members who have given generous donations of cash to help with the transportation costs. Ideas on how members would like the project carried forward in 2008 would be much appreciated.. Thank you all for your continued support.

Meg Peacock.

## Used Stamps

As well as used stamps, we also collect old spectacles and used ink cartridges (except Epson).



## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GUILD

Ballantrae Branch will meet on **18th Feb.**

Mr A McGarva will talk on Flowers and Plants of the Bible, followed by the Project Report All interested are welcome to attend.

**Sunday 24th Feb.** Lenten Lunch will be served after church in the community centre. Tickets £3 –Adult £1—child available from committee members or you can pay at the door.

## YOUNG WOMENS GROUP

Wed 20/02/08



Indian Head Massage & Reiki  
Louise Lynch

## LIFE AND WORK

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

## Prayer Secretary

As part of the secretaries tasks, I would like to encourage all members of the congregation to write a prayer for inclusion in the newsletter. These can be handed into John at any time.



## Sunday School



The Sunday School has now resumed after the Christmas holidays and the children have written our prayer this month.

Dear God

Thank you for sending your son Jesus to us that we can celebrate his birth. Thank you for the lovely Christmas we have just had, we know there are other people in this world who are not as fortunate as we are and don't have the good things we are used to. This Christmas we have enjoyed:

Spending time with family and friend  
Parties.  
Singing Carols.  
Pantomime.  
Lots of presents.  
Turkey.  
Plum Pudding.  
Christmas Trees and Decorations  
Chocolate Pudding  
Pavlova  
Schloer to drink.

And we are very thankful for this. We are happy to be back at Sunday School, we enjoy the stories, games and treats that we have as well as learning about the life of Jesus.

We would be very happy if some more of our friends would come and join us.

AMEN

## Scripture Cake



### Ingredients:

1 1/2 C. Judges 5:25 (butter)  
4 1/4 C. Leviticus 2:2 (flour)  
2 C. Jeremiah 6:20 (sugar)  
Pinch of Matthew 5:13 (salt)  
6 Luke 11:12 (eggs)  
2 T. Exodus 12:15 (baking powder)  
2 T. Proverbs 24:13 (honey)  
2 C.1 Samuel 30:12 (raisins)  
1 1/2 C. Hebrews 5:12 (milk)  
2 C. Revelation 6:13 (figs)  
2 T. Revelation 18:13 (cinnamon)  
1 C. Genesis 43:11 (almonds)  
1 tsp. Exodus 25:6 (nutmeg)

### Preparation

Cream together ingredients from Judges 5:25 and Jeremiah 6:20; add Luke 11:12 and Proverbs 24:13. Then add alternately with Hebrews 5:12 the following; Revelation 8:13, Exodus 25:6, Leviticus 2:2, Matthew 5:13 and Exodus 12:15. Lastly, add to this from 1 Samuel 30:12, Revelation 6:13 and Genesis 43:11.

Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

## This Thing will Pass

The wind is beating at the pane--  
In frantic gusts of sleeting rain.  
Like lashes of a whip it falls  
On the windows and the walls, thrashing  
through the tortured trees--  
at the house, while I at ease--  
sit in comfort safe and warm--  
From the fury of the storm..

The demon wind must spend its force  
have its hour and take its course. Re-  
member this when trials increase. Rest  
in faith and be at peace.  
Through the turmoil and the din--  
Hear that small voice within--  
speak above the crashing brass--  
saying, Trust. This thing will pass.



## Weather

The year started mild and wet but it soon turned colder. On the evening of the 3rd there was a fall of 1-2 inches of snow on high ground inland. After that it was mainly wet with the odd better day. It was probably on one of these that a salmon was seen spawning on the river Tig at Heronsford. In the first 20 days just over 8 inches of rain fell which reminds me of the rhyme.

**Rainy, rainy rattlestones,  
Don't rain on me.  
Rain on John O' Groat's house,  
Far across the sea.**

George Watt

## PARISH REGISTER

### Baptism



Sun. 27th Jan.  
Emma Elizabeth  
Daughter of  
Robert & Gillian Nelson

### Death

20th Jan.  
George Drummond

### Holy Communion

The sacrament of the Lord's supper will be celebrated on Sunday 24th. Feb.



### World Day of Prayer



Friday 7th March @ 7 pm in the church.

### Church Statistics 2007

Communicant Members	270
New Members	4
Members Removed	10
Elders	23
Board Members	11
Baptisms	4
Weddings	7
Funerals	6

## THE HOUSE GROUP



The House Group meets on the second Sunday of each month, in the home of Jim & Pat Guthrie; for prayer and Christian fellowship. We have about a dozen folk who come along, from the former three parishes of Ballantrae, Colmonell and Barrhill. The evening comprises of praise, discussion, bible study and prayer; when we think about the vacancy and the needs of the church.

Last month in looking at the bible story of the wedding in Cana, of Galilee, we used the Swedish bible study method. You start with a blank sheet and down the left hand side – equally spaced – you draw a candle, a question mark and an arrow. Beside the candle you put what new light has come to you from the passage; beside the question mark what questions you have and beside the arrow what the passage is telling you to do. Simple but effective. The group thoroughly enjoyed themselves. If you would like to join us do come along. Our next meeting is on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>. Feb. at 7 pm. 2 Barrhill Rd. Pinwherry.

## To Make You Laugh Generosity

At an auction in Manchester a wealthy American announced that he had lost his wallet containing £10,000 and would give a reward of £100 to the person who found it. From the back of the hall a Scottish voice shouted, "I'll give £150!"

## Seldom In Church

A friend was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside.

The minister said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!" My friend replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Minister." Minister questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?" He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service"

### Circle of Care Magazine

Anyone wishing to see the magazine please contact Margaret Bean. This months edition contains a Sutton Seeds catalogue and for every £5 spent £1 donated to **Crossreach**.

## LISTS AND ROTAS

### Flower Calendar

Feb 3rd R McKinlay  
10th  
17th  
24th R Stirling



### Tea Duty



### Sunday 2nd. March

Dorothy Flitter  
Margaret McKissock  
Margaret Maule  
Anthea Russell

### Church Cleaning Teams

**Feb 3rd.**  
Adam & Michelle Oellermann  
**Feb. 16th**  
Robert & Caroline Dalrymple

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

February	March
<b>3rd. C</b>	<b>2nd. B</b>
<b>10th. D</b>	<b>9th. C</b>
<b>17th. E</b>	<b>16th. D</b>
<b>24th. A</b>	<b>23rd. E</b>
	<b>30th. A</b>

## THE VACANCY



*It's now a year since I took over at Ballantrae. During that time we have seen the procedures of the vacancy system take shape. We had visits from the Presbytery; we've had an election to form a Nominating (Vacancy) Committee; we've advertised the job in Life & Work (Church of Scotland magazine) and in the Ministers Forum. Net result, two inquiries and no applications; which is very disappointing. This is my sixth shot at being an Interim Moderator, over a forty year period, and I can honestly say this the longest time I've gone into a vacancy without a response. I had hoped that by this time we would have someone lined up to present to the congregation, with a view to an induction in the early summer.*

*I don't want to be over gloomy about this but I feel I should warn you that our vacancy might go on for a bit yet! The Presbytery Clerk tells me that come this summer we could be looking at eight vacancies in the Presbytery of Ayr. Throughout the rest of Scotland I'm informed that there some one hundred and eighty vacant churches. So, we're in a sticky situation and we must be patient. I still believe God has someone for us and in this belief we move forward. Everyone has to play their part. So all eyes and ears open and everyone, and I mean everyone, keep this matter very much in your prayers.*

*With every blessing.*

*Your friend in Christ.*

*Jim Guthrie, Interim Moderator*

## BALLANTRAE PARISH CHURCH

[www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk)

Interim Moderator:

Revd. James Guthrie

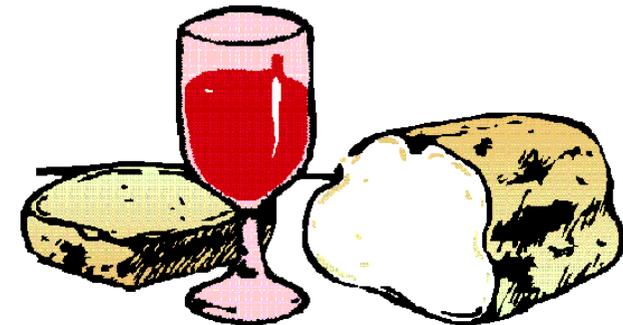
Tel. 01465 841236

E-mail: [p.h.m.guthrie@btinternet.com](mailto:p.h.m.guthrie@btinternet.com)

Registered Scottish Charity: SC008536



# Newsletter



# February 2008