

## THANKS

*I would like to thank our many friends in Ballantrae for all the cards, letters and phone calls we received following Bob's sad death. Eileen, Andrew and I and the wider family circle have been greatly sustained and uplifted by the love, friendship and prayers which have enfolded us throughout Bob's illness and for this we thank you.*

*Thank you also to all those who baked for the tea after the funeral and for the daffodils which filled the church. It was good to know a bit of Ballantrae was with us.*

*May you all know God's richest blessing.  
Irene Bell*



## GOING ON LINE

Worth a visit to keep up to date with events

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

[http://www.christianweb.org.uk/  
bible/](http://www.christianweb.org.uk/bible/)

## S.W.R.I.



New members welcome to attend our monthly meetings.

Next meeting on April 7th  
Carrick Singers (Open Night)

## Newsletter

Items for May should be in by 26th April 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



*Thanks to all who have already donated*

## **Robert Patterson Bell**

(66yrs).

We were all somewhat surprised by the announcement last weekend about Bob's death. Surprised, because Bob has been at death's door so often this past year that we had come to expect him to bounce back. Not this time. His passing will be felt by many people in Ballantrae parish for during these past ten years he was very much at the centre of things.

A Glasgow man, he started his working life with the British Atomic Authority, in Doonray but the call to the ministry soon changed all that. After studying Divinity, at Glasgow University, he accepted a call to be minister of Belhaven Church, Craigneuk, Lanarkshire. From there he went to Cambuslang, where he spent 23yrs. It was during this time that he was made Moderator of Glasgow Presbytery; with over 200 special events and functions to attend – Glasgow Presbytery is the biggest presbytery in the world. In 1998 he accepted a call to be minister of Ballantrae, what he called the 'happy years'.

Bob was married to Irene, his wife, for over 40yrs. They have two children Aileen and Andrew and were also proud grandparents.

Bob Bell was a man of great spirituality and a faithful parish minister. He was greatly loved by his people in Ballantrae and will be sorely missed by so many in our community, both within and without the church. Our thoughts and prayers at this time are very much with Irene and the family. We thank God for bringing Bob Bell into our lives and at this Easter time take great comfort from the words in St. Luke, where we read, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen. (Lk24:5/6).

## A “Must” for Chocoholics



### Mars Bar cheesecake

#### Ingredients;

9oz Philladelphia cheese  
4 Mars bars  
Base  
7oz Digestive biscuits (crushed)  
5oz Butter (softened)  
1 tsp. Cinnamon

#### Method;

Take a saucepan over a medium heat and mix together butter, cinnamon and biscuits.

Remove from saucepan and compact into a 2” deep flan tin.

Place 3 halved mars bars in a bowl and melt gradually over a pan of water.

Once melted, mix in the cream cheese.

Chop in the remaining mars bar and add to the mixture while stirring.

Place on the top of the base and refrigerate.

The hardest part is mixing the cheese into the mars bars. Easiest is eating it.

Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why they no longer lived in Eden?

A. Your Mother ate us out of house and home.

## From our prayer correspondent



Mark chapter 16—v. 1– 8 He Is Risen!

Let us reflect on the events of the past weeks culminating in the death and resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday. What does it mean for us?

Loving God you gave your only Son Jesus.

He died and was raised again on the third day so that we might have everlasting life.

He took all our sins and sickness to Himself, He who was without sin died for our sins. Let us look in our own hearts and contemplate what this sacrifice means for each of us.

We worship you Lord, with a heart full of gratitude. As we are challenged, help us to pursue the truth of the sacrifice made for us.

Help each of us to look deep inside ourselves and find the joy that knowing our Risen Saviour brings. As we go forward from this special time, let us be strengthened, encouraged and challenged in our walk of faith.

May God’s blessing rest on each of you.

*Pat*



## Weather

You may think that if you are a weather forecaster on TV or radio, you would get sackfuls of fan mail everyday. Well, about 35 years ago when the forecasters at the now defunct Glasgow weather centre (officer-in-charge - Harry McKellar, brother of Kenneth) did a 2 year stint on “Good Morning Scotland”(BBC radio), we got a total of just 2 letters, and half of them was for me!

One morning I could not work out how to start my broadcast, so at 5am I opened the door out onto a dreary and deserted Waterloo Street, and there was my immediate inspiration - a red sky. It was my mentioning of this in my broadcast that prompted a lady in Inverness to write to me and explain there were red skies and red skies! The ones which meant “red sky in the morning, shepherds warning” were those which appeared in the east before sunrise, then seemed to go back down again as the rising stopped shinning on the lower side of a bank of high cloud, ahead of a front coming in from the west. This forecasting “rule” was first recorded nearly 2,500 years ago by the Greek philosopher Theophrastus in the fourth century BC.

So remember look up now and then and not have your eyes glued to the ground all the time looking for sixpences.

George Watt

## Dawn’s Rainbow

From darkness, now a chink of light  
So small as yet to view,  
Pierces through the veil of night  
In ever-changing hue.  
Grey at first, then creamy blush  
As morn begins to stir;  
Raspberry pink, then strawberry crush,  
The colours begin to blur.  
The land is slowly waking,  
Greeting the newness of the day;  
Birds are softly singing  
In their own melodious way.  
Night is but a distant star  
As dawn draws ever night;  
Enveloping the treetops  
With her rainbow-coloured sky.



## “Dear Harold”

A dad was listening to his child say his prayer “ Dear Harold”. At this, dad interrupted and said, “How come you called God, Harold?” The little boy looked up and said, “That’s what they call Him in Sunday school. You know the prayer we say, “Our Father, who art in Heaven, Harold be thy name”.

## Used Stamps

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

## CHURCH FAMILY Deaths:

*"I am the resurrection and the Life"*

14th March  
James Alexander Thomson  
22nd March  
Rev. Robert Patterson Bell  
March  
Mrs Jean Lind



## EASTER SERVICES

There was an excellent turnout for the Good Friday and Easter Sunday services, members of the congregation participated by readings and placing the implements of the Crucifixion at the Cross.

Prior to the Easter Sunday service the Sunday School and members of the congregation paraded from the harbour carrying a cross which the young ones decorated with Daffodils

## STATED ANNUAL MEETING



The stated Annual Meeting of the Church will take place on Sunday 13th April after morning service.

## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GUILD



Ballantrae Branch will meet on Monday 21st — Open Night — everyone invited  
"Hugh and Friends" from Maybole.  
The coffee morning on the 29th. March  
The sum of £431-70 was raised. Guild members are most grateful to everyone whose support made this excellent result possible.



## YOUNG WOMENS GROUP

Will meet on **Wed 23/04/08**  
Meeting to discuss next years syllabus & Gala 2008

**Venue:** Thistles Tearoom—8 p.m.

## COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 3rd May in the Community Centre 10-11.30am.  
In aid of the Senior Citizens Summer outing, usual stalls, donations gratefully received.

## Leprosy Mission Collection

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously for the Leprosy Mission in January. Ballantrae Parish Church collected £126-50 for this worthy cause.  
*Michelle Oellermann*

## Mathieson House Ayr



Mathieson House was donated to the Church of Scotland in 1979 by Miss Elizabeth Mathieson who wished to realise her vision of providing accommodation for independent ladies within the comfort of a homely setting. Today, accommodating both men and women, the building remains in the ownership of the Church of Scotland while Mathieson House operates as an independent charitable company overseen by a board of directors. Should you wish any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us  
**01292262742**



## BRICC THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop Committee would like to thank the members of the public for their overwhelming support in raising in raising £807 at the recent coffee morning held at Bricc House. The proceeds from this event will be used for refurbishing the new Thrift Shop to make it a warm comfortable environment in which volunteers work and a safe, inviting place for customers to visit. Anyone wishing to help in the Thrift Shop should contact Jean Dunlop.

## LISTS AND ROTAS Flower Calendar



April. 6th J. Nelson  
13th  
20th G. Goudie  
27th



## Tea Duty

**Sunday 4th May**

Betty Nelson  
May Cunningham Rossi McKinley  
Meg Peacock

## Church Cleaning Teams

**APRIL.13th**

Anthea Russell &  
Marina Dempsey

**27th**

Pearl & Bill McKnight

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

April	May
6th. B	4th A
13th. C	11th B
20th. D	18th C

## April Holiday Club



Ballantrae Parish Church is hosting a Holiday Club!

During the holidays in April, we'll be having an afternoon of fun, games, activities and music. The Holiday Club will be held at the Manse on 18 April 2008, from 13h00 to 16h00. We've put together an action-packed schedule which includes art and crafts activities, a variety of intense and exciting games, and a programme of foot-stomping praise and worship music! The event is aimed at primary aged pupils (4-11) – but given the extreme fun levels, we'll welcome any older kids or parents who want to come along as well.

We're hoping to make a big impression, and begin building new relationships with young people and their families in Ballantrae. We aim to expand this with a bigger 5-day programme in the summer, which we hope and trust will provide us with the momentum to establish a regular youth group in the village.

While we're doing our best to put on a well-organised, exciting event, we believe that no amount of work or preparation can, on its own, achieve our goals. Salvation belongs to our God, and apart from his work we would labour in vain – but we know that the Lord is zealous for the young people of Ballantrae, and so we trust in His provision and grace. We covet your prayers, particularly in the following areas:

- That a good number of children would come - and learn that when the Church is involved, you're in for an exciting time!
- That the leaders and organisers would work in God's strength
- That we'd have many opportunities to talk to children and parents about the wonderful News God has for them
- That God would use this simple event to build his Church for His glory!

Please encourage any local children you know (or their parents) to come along and enjoy the fun! If you'd like to know more about the event, or you want to put a parent in touch, please contact Adam and Michelle Oellermann (01465 891247, [adam@oellermann.com](mailto:adam@oellermann.com), [michelle@oellermann.com](mailto:michelle@oellermann.com)).

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# CHURCH OF SCOTLAND BALLANTRAE PARISH CHURCH

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