



Paws for Thought—April 10

Well I hope you have all had a good April. I did. I went on holiday to Beaulieu (near Inverness) for a week and had grrrrreat time. My granny and grandpa took me for lots of nice walks and it was so lovely and sunny that we even went to the beach. I had a lovely birthday while I was away. I got new tennis balls and was very excited when mummy told me I had got a stuffed pheasant. I quickly tore it apart expecting it to be stuffed with sausage meat or other tasty treat, but it wasn't. I hardly got a chance to see what the stuffing was before mummy said it was too messy and put it in the bin. I had an unfortunate incident with one of my tennis balls too. It got stuck under the sofa in the lounge and I only noticed it during the prayer meeting. Have you ever tried to discreetly get a tennis ball from under a sofa during a prayer meeting? – It's not easy. I'm hoping for good weather in May to get out in the garden a bit more so next month I'll give you an update on the Manse garden. Till then..

Dougie 



Happy Birthday



Many happy returns to Ballantrae's oldest church member who celebrated his 100th birthday on the 27th of April. The Hon Hew Dalrymple – was born in London on 27th April 1910 – second son of Viscount Dalrymple who was the Member of Parliament for Wigtownshire. Hewie spent most of childhood at Lochinch Castle Stranraer. His father inherited the title Earl of Stair at the beginning of the First World War while he was a prisoner of the Germans. Hewie served in the Second World War with the Black Watch and was badly injured in Burma resulting in the loss of movement and index finger of his left hand. He moved to Ballantrae in 1946 with his wife Mildred and new born son Robert. He farmed the Kings Arms Farm and kept the Hotel and Garage which he inherited from his father. Mildred died in 1980 and about the same time his son Robert took over the farm. He lived in Ballantrae until last year when he could no longer manage on his own and is now at Malin Court Nursing Home. He enjoyed all Country pursuits – shooting, fishing and bird life right into old age.



Weather

When I was at Glasgow Weather Centre from 1968 to 1989, one of my officers –in-charge was Harry McKellar, elder brother of Kenneth who died on 9th April aged 82yrs. One of his songs was called “The Midges” which he composed himself. Hopefully I have transcribed it as accurately as possible.

Chorus :- The Midges, the midges, I'm no gonna kid yiz
the midges is really the limit.



With teeth like piranhas, they drive you bananas,
If you let them get under your semmit.

The Lord put the Garden of Eden on Earth, and it's north of the Tweed we believe. Aye Scotland's the place, and the whole human race started off with McAdam and Eve.

In 6 day's or under he finished this wonder except the Forth and Tay Bridges. Then always a bloke for a practical joke he made Scotland the home of the midges.



Chorus

Back in 1314 the proud Edward was keen to take Scotland into his care, But he made a u-turn when he reached Bannockburn, just a few weeks before Glasgow Fair.

For the midges let loose by King Robert the Bruce straight into the English got tore. So they ran off in tears and for 600 years they've been blocking the A74!



Chorus

Now never forget when the sun's going to set and the midges arise on Loch Eck, Like the vampires you see when by Christopher Lee, they will give you a pain in the neck.

You can smack them and whack them—in vain you'll attack them, For they know every move that you make. If you manage to kill yin another half million are ready to come to the wake.

Chorus

 George Watt

P.S. 2 swifts were seen just south of Cairnryan on the 22nd of April.
Swallows and House Martins were seen on the 24th of April.



Ballantrae Patchwork and Quilting Group

Ballantrae Patchwork and Quilting Group would like to thank the Church for kindly letting them have the use of the Church for their Anniversary Show on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th April. They had a successful and happy time with visitors from as far away as New Zealand and Australia. The group would like to thank everyone for their support in making the occasion so successful



LIFE & WORK

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



News Letter

Items for next news letter should be in by **24th May**

From our Prayer Correspondent



For reading and meditation -- LUKE 4 V 1 - 9 MATHEW 26 V 36 -39

How often are we tempted to give in when we face difficulties and trials, many of us have had major problems in our lives, times when it would have been easier to give in and give up. As Christians we are often tested. There is one who was tested far more than we ever will be, Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He was tested in the Wilderness, - the Garden of Gethsemane and the final test ~ The Cross. He was tested and He triumphed over his trials, by prayer and the loving support of His Father.

Jesus our Saviour, you are our strength in weakness our joy in sadness, our hope in salvation You overcame temptations and trials Help us when we are tempted to give in, No matter how dark the problems in our lives We can triumph over them with your help You bring comfort with your presence Lord Your word is a lamp to our feet, the light on our path Help each of us to come to you in prayer Giving thanks for what you did on the cross.

Amen

Every blessing in Jesus name . Pat

Bible Lesson

A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem.

A small child replied: "They couldn't get a baby sitter."



Haircut

A young boy had just gotten his driving permit. He asked his father, who was a minister, if they could discuss the use of the car. His father took him to his study and said to him, "I'll make a deal with you. You bring your grades up, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut and we'll talk about it." After about a month the boy came back and again asked his father if they could discuss use of the car. They again went to the father's study where his father said, "Son, I've been real proud of you. You have brought your grades up, you've studied your Bible diligently, but you didn't get your hair cut!"

The young man waited a moment and replied, "You know Dad, I've been thinking about that. You know, Samson had long hair, Moses had long hair, Noah had long hair, and even Jesus had long hair...."

To which his father replied, "Yes, and they walked every where they went!"



Thanks

Margaret McKissock would like to say thank you to the many kind people who visited her in hospital and at home, gave flowers and other gifts and sent cards and letters. It is all greatly appreciated.

Coffee Morning

In Community Centre on **Saturday 8th May @ 10-11.30am**
Baking. Plants, Produce, Hamper & Raffle
Adults £2 Children 50p.
Proceeds in aid of Senior Citizens Summer Outing.



Communion

Sunday 9th May



Prayer Meeting

Thursday 27th May at 7:30pm in the Manse. It has been moved to Thursday as the minister only gets back from General Assembly on 26th May.

Kirk Session



Will meet on

Monday 10th May

7.30pm in the vestry

(Special Meeting)

Consultation Paper

Special Commission on Same-sex Relationships and the Ministry

Kirk Session & Board

Will meet on

Wednesday 12th May

7.30 pm in the vestry

Ballantrae Church Guild



The Guild coffee morning raised the sum of £547. The Guild are grateful to everyone who helped, and all those who came along and supported the event.

Open Evening—Our guests this year were members of Alloway W.R.I. We were well entertained with a variety of songs, recitations, sketches etc. We were joined by members from neighbouring Guilds and groups and a number of friends. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

May meeting will be held in the Community Centre on Monday 17th At 7.15pm. The guest speaker will be Rev. Arrick Wilkinson from Kirkoswald Church.

Everyone welcome

Barrhill Film Night



Barrhill Memorial Hall

7th June

6pm – Bolt (PG)

8pm – Avatar (12)



Rhubarb



With spring fast approaching, rhubarb will soon be a common sight. Historically, rhubarb was used as a laxative and is still consumed today for this purpose. It wasn't until the 18th century that people began to cook with rhubarb. Although rhubarb is botanically a vegetable it doubles as a fruit..

Rhubarb Belongs to the Anti-Cancer Foods Group and boasts several important nutrients—vitamin C, calcium, vitamin K, and potassium. And, like other fruits and vegetables, rhubarb has its fair share of fiber. Plus it's low in fat. (rhubarb is often prepared with sugar due to its tartness. This diminishes the fiber content per serving and increases the calorie count.)

But now there's even more reason to swallow this tart, veggie-fruit: polyphenols. Rhubarb, and other deep-colored fruits, contains an ample amount of polyphenols, powerful antioxidants known for stopping and preventing the growth of cancer cells. It is so versatile you can eat it for breakfast lunch and dinner.

Breakfast :- Add stewed rhubarb to your Cornflakes.

Morning coffee:- Rhubarb muffin

Lunch:- Puree the rhubarb and eat with any oily fish, mackerel, herring (John's favourite).

Afternoon tea:- Oven scone served with rhubarb jam.

Dinner:- enhance the flavour of a rhubarb tart by putting a layer of strawberries on top of the rhubarb, or why not have a large bowl of warm stewed rhubarb and ice cream—delicious.

LISTS AND ROTAS

Flower Calendar



May

2nd. Jean Nelson

9th. Glenda Goudie

16th. Caroline Dalrymple

23rd. G Campbell

30th. Dorothy Flitter



Tea Duty

June 6th

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

Church Cleaning Teem

May 2nd. Meg Peacock & Lorna Greenhill

May 16th. Robert & Caroline Dalrymple

May 30th. John & Janice McIlwraith

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.**

Please note church should be cleaned prior to date indicated .

Sunday Duty Rota

May

2nd C

9th Comm.

16th D

23rd E

30th F

June

6th A

13th B

20th C

27th D

Message from the Manse



Dear Friends,

I have never been a keen gardener. My father is and my grandparents were, but it was not something I ever enjoyed, but I have to admit that I am slowly enjoying it. What has made the difference for me is being responsible for it and deciding what goes here and what goes there.

In the Manse garden, I have created a section (about a third of the garden) which will be used for fruit and vegetables. In terms of fruit I so far have strawberries, blackcurrants, raspberries, rhubarb, pears, apples, and cherries, and in terms of vegetables I have only potatoes, though hope to add more in the coming months. I also need to do work to create a seating area and a better play area for the children.

Gardens as you all know take plenty of time and plenty of patience. They don't just happen instantly, but take a lot of hard work. We need to care for the plants and make sure that they have all that they need to grow and develop as they should.

The same is true for our faith. For it to grow and develop, we need to feed it, and nurture it - through being part of a Christian community, spending time with God and learning more about what it means to be a Christian. It is also important that we weed out ideas or habits that will damage our faith or prevent its growth.

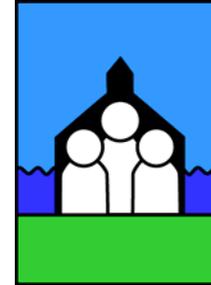
We also need to be patient, because like in the garden it takes time for our faith to grow, as God, the master gardener, works in our lives and encourages us to get to know him better.

I hope your faith continues to grow as my garden continues to grow.

God bless,

Stephen

P.S. If anyone wants some rhubarb, please let me know as I have plenty at the moment.



CHURCH OF SCOTLAND BALLANTRAE PARISH CHURCH

LINKED WITH

St. COLMON

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