

Make your paths known to me Lord;
teach me your ways.
Lead me by your faithfulness and teach me,
for you are God my saviour.
(Psalm 25: 4-5)



May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
And the Love of God
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
Be with us all evermore. Amen
(2 Corinthians 13)

Contacts

If you are reading this Printout electronically and have any enquiries, please contact us on our church email address - ardchattanchurch@gmail.com

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Facebook - Ardchattan Church

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this Printout.

April & May 2021

Print Out ...



A round up of news,
information, views and a bit of fun.



Welcome to our Printout for April and May ...



How wonderful it is to have these lengthening days, fresh growth in fields, hedgerows and gardens. Young lambs frolicking, migrant birds returning singing, butterflies on the wing. Some glorious colours in the skies at sunrise and sunset. Folk may be reminded of the lines of a 19c. hymn -



‘All things praise Thee, Lord most high; Heaven and earth and sea and sky.’

(George W. Conder)

The gradual relaxation of the rules saving us from the pandemic. The New Life promised to us with Easter time.

We are still in the Church's season of Easter, with Ascension Day and Pentecost (or Whitsunday) to follow.

At Pentecost, we are told in Acts, the Disciples were all gathered together in one place. On May 23rd we plan to have another live service in St. Modan's where at least some will be able to gather together in one place again. Please contact Morag if you are interested in joining in this service. (find contact details on back of the Printout) An online service will be available as usual.

*If you watch our services on line, have you 'subscribed' to the Ardchattan Church link yet? (it is free!) Click on the YouTube link at the top of our Website home page, there will be a 'button' that says 'Subscribe', just click on that. If we can get up to 100 subscribers it will become much easier to put the services on line. Maybe you could ask family and friends to 'subscribe' too.



Kiltwalk for Christian Aid - 23rd -25th April



10 members of our congregation took part in this as the 'Ardchattan Church Team'. Over 60 miles were walked and 82 miles cycled in the Parish altogether, along with, further afield, a section of the West Highland Way. Many thanks to everyone who participated in and donated to the effort. £350 has been raised which will be increased 50% by the Hunter Foundation. It has been suggested that the great weather that weekend helped!

Our Kirk Session currently meets once a month on Zoom. If you have anything that you would like us to discuss or a question to ask, do contact Allison or any of the Session members.



Not The Scottish Quiz



1. The Gran Teatre del Liceu is one of the worlds finest opera houses. In which city is it located?
2. What is the fruit of a hicory tree?
3. What do the letters RAM stand for?
4. Who is always in pursuit of Tweetie Pie?
5. Which Roman Emperor sentenced St Peter to crucifixion?
6. In fishing, line, hooks, floats and weights are known collectively as what?
7. What is the plural of mongoose?
8. At what age does a baby kangaroo, or Joey leave its mother's pouch as it has grown too big?
9. Which newspaper was known as the Thunderer?
10. What is the substance that gels in water and enables jam to set?
11. When the state of Israel was first formed, which country occupied the West Bank?
12. Which schoolboy did Flashman bully in a famous novel?
13. Which opera, the story of ill- fated love was written by George Gershwin for a black cast in 1935?
14. For Christians Lent means the forty days leading up to Easter. What day marks the beginning of Lent?
15. What is the world's largest fresh water lake?
16. What is the legal drinking age in all American states?
17. In 1973 Roger Moore took over as "Bond", but one film tempted Sean Connery back to the role. Which was it?
18. Apricots are native to which country?
19. The Julian Calendar was used in Europe until the 1580's. Which Calendar was adopted after 1582 in Roman Catholic countries and later in Protestant countries?
20. What name was given to the movement whereby half Europe broke away from the Roman Catholic Church and Protestantism flourished?

Answers to our March Quiz -

- 1) Johann Christian Bach, 2)Tiger, 3)French, 4)Literature, 5)Ken Dodd, 6)Maryland, 7)Dwarf, 8)Poirot, 9)Air, 10)South Pole, 11)Cambridge, 12)New Zealand, 13)Gopher, 14)Hyacinth, 15)George III, 16)China, 17)Nova Scotia, 18)Clergymen, 19)Attila the Hun, 20)Copenhagen

Missing Vowels

Here are some well known sayings which are said to have originated in the New Testament.

The consonants are all in the correct order but all the vowels have been left out and spaces between words have been moved.

TW SHY RH ND SFT HMT TR

SCLR SCRY S TL

NTHT WNK LNG FNY

MN FT RMY WN HR T

S GNFT HTM S

TGT HXT RML

Once you have worked out what the sayings are, can you find the references in the New Testament?

The verses are listed below to help you.

Mt 5;41, Mt 16;3 , Mt 27;24, Acts 13;22, 1 Cor 15;52 , Rev 22;1

... and just a bit of nonsense ...

How did Noah see inside the ark?
He used floodlights.

What was Boaz like before he got married?
Ruth-less.

What kind of car did the disciples drive?
A Honda - the Bible says they were all in one Accord.

(Thanks to Leprosy Mission sales goods for inspiring this page.)

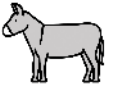


Some memories of Holy Week ~

It may already seem a long time ago now, but we hope it was a special time for you.

Our Palm Sunday Donkey

It was good to see photographs of Ann's donkey, Bobby, on Achnaba Farm during our Palm Sunday worship.



Bobby has lived at Achnaba for 11 years since he was 4, moving from South Connel when he became 'field-less'. Bobby's predecessor, Bodach, once took part in a Church Nativity Play which was filmed in Ardchatten. Bodach was a helpful creature who would bray whenever a cow went into labour on the farm.

Maundy Thursday

It seems unlikely that any other virtual Communion Services were introduced by a Minister from his hospital bed, many miles from home. What a memorable and moving Tenebrae service it was.

The flowering Cross

On the Saturday a wonderful collection of daffodils were left at the foot of our 'rugged' cross. The following transformation of the cross for all to see on Easter Morning and for days to follow was a joy to behold. It was much appreciated by so many folk, thanks to everyone involved.



Easter Service at St Modan's Church

While Easter Sunday is always special, this year was all the more so for the 25 people who gathered in St Modan's Church on the 4th April. This was the first service of public worship held in the parish since we went into the first lockdown period in March 2020. As we required to be socially distanced with 2m spacing between individuals from different households, the numbers attending were limited and people were asked to "book" a seat in advance. This allowed for a detailed seating plan to be prepared with all attending having a specific seat allocation. The building was well ventilated and the external doors stayed open during the service. The service which was led by Mrs Aileen Binner included elements from the YouTube service, and while singing is currently not allowed, we were able to hum along to the hymns if we so desired. With all its restrictions it was good to be back together.

Annual Accounts

Sadly, we have been unable to present the annual accounts at our usual Stated Annual Meeting.

The accounts are now available on the Church website (on the library page) or a printed copy on request from me.

Thanks to Sheena and Allison who's hard work has made the accounts very easy to put together this year.

Covid restrictions on worship since late March 2020 have significantly reduced the opportunity for giving, in particular open plate offerings.

Thankfully there has been a sustained positive response to our request to pay by standing order or in other ways.

The vast majority of our congregation are now giving by standing order and few others by posting cheques or using our new online donation 'button' through the People's Fundraising service.

We are thankful that despite the difficulties the year has brought our congregation has continued to support the Church generously with overall donations only about 20% less than recent years.

During 2020 there was an operating deficit of £8,617, which occurred due to a significant increase in Fabric maintenance expenses and due to the impact of Covid 19 restrictions.

The deficit was offset by transfer of funds from the Consolidated Fabric Fund Revenue Account and by use of cash held in current accounts.

We are fortunate to have monthly rental revenue from the letting of the Manse to cover many of our routine buildings expenses like insurance and electricity.

Its impossible to predict what 2021 will hold for us, but we move forward in faith and thankfulness that we are not subject to the severe financial problems being experienced by many churches.

CD Bavington
Treasurer

GIFT AID DECLARATION

To claim Gift aid from HMRC we require to update gift aid declarations regularly.

If you are a UK tax payer please complete the Gift Aid Form available on the Church website. Send this to me by post or email.

Many thanks,
Charlie

From our Minister ...

A bright wind is blowing...

Lately, as we are approaching Pentecost, I've been thinking a lot about the wind: Somehow, the wind has always spoken to me; even as a child. I would lay down a blanket under a huge old tree and just listen to the music of the wind, dancing through the leaves.

Lockdown has forced us to spend more time on thinking; rather than doing. On listening; rather than speaking. On reflecting; rather than just accepting someone else's truth.

During these months, I have learnt to think and listen and reflect. Especially to focus on the "Ruach" of Genesis 1, again. The Hebrew word, "Ruach" means wind and breath and spirit. And I have marvelled again at how God's creative spirit has the ability to carry our church through all the obstacles (and darkness) of lockdown.

In the words of our hymn:

"The bright wind is blowing, the bright wind of heaven,
and where it is going to, no one can say;
but where it is passing our hearts are awaking
to stretch from the darkness and reach for the day."

I could witness the impact of our parishioners' contributions to our video services. Every voice that sang. Every instrument that was played. Every brave soul who prayed or read a passage from scripture. Every bit of creative magic from the production team.

Labours of love- all of them. For 'the fire that it fans, is the warmth of our caring'.

Yes-

"The bright wind is blowing, the bright wind of heaven,
the love that it kindles will never betray;
the fire that it fans is the warmth of our caring,
so lean on the wind - it will show us the way."

Shalom!

Willem