



8th Ayr Boys' Brigade Company

Our Annual Parents Night was held in the Church Hall on Thursday 2/5/2019. All the boys in the Anchor Boys & Junior Section received their Award Work badges for the session. The Company Section boys also received their Award Work badges. In addition the main awards in the Company Section were as follows:-

PRESIDENT'S BADGE – Scott Dunlop

BEST RECRUIT – Isaac Porte & Liam Rout

PROGRESS – Rory Lamberton

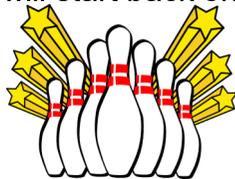
LEADERSHIP – Dylan Thayne & Liam Hepburn

BEST BOY – Scott Dunlop

During May the Junior Section & Company Section Boys & Leaders attended the Battalion Church Parade & Service in Monkton & Prestwick North Parish Church. The Anchor Boys went to the Farm Park for an outing. The Junior & Company Sections boys are going to LA Bowl, Ayr for Lazerzone, Ten Pin Bowling and something to eat. During June the Company Section Boys and Company Leaders will help at the Prestwick & District Dog Training show at Rozelle.

We are now finished for the summer and will start back on Friday 6/9/2019.

Stuart Hyslop
Company Captain



Thoughts from the Manse



Dear all,

I was a little unlucky yesterday when I decided to join my family in Helensburgh for the day, to enjoy a lunch in the square with my husband and to catch up with friends I have not seen for a while: A lorry bumped into a railway bridge between Kilwinning and Barassie (luckily nobody was injured to my knowledge), the structure of the bridge had to be assessed and as a consequence two trains were cancelled and the one I did catch was delayed, shortening the planned lunch with my husband to a quick coffee.

I had, however, some time to spend in Glasgow, having missed my connecting train, I had a good look around. What surprised and shocked me, was the increased number of homeless people in the streets around Buchanan Street, especially in Gordon Street, near Central Station. Maybe it was just the relatively mild weather, but I thought, there were quite a few more, than when I was last in the city, there were at least seven on the short way from one station to the other. To my shame I looked away and hurried on. I was much more drawn to the shop windows and department stores. There was no reason, there was no hurry, I just did not want to see the poverty and the misery in our streets.

When I was finally sitting in the train I felt a little ashamed. It would have been easy to buy a sandwich or a hot drink for any one of them, even to say a friendly word, but I did not, it would have been easy not to pass them by, but I did. I forgot about Jesus command to love our neighbour as we do ourselves, I forgot about his teaching that what I do – one way or another - for the least of our brothers and sisters that I would do to him and today – just before their AGM – I would like to commend the

Cont/ volunteers of our Christ in Action foodbank , and those who support their work, who live out exactly this part of the gospel, who do not look away.

Every blessing,
Barbara



Treasurer's Report

Offerings etc. for May 2019

	5th	12th	19th	26th
Freewill Offering	503.00	416.00	338.00	492.50
Open Plate	19.00	40.00	18.00	10.00
Lunch Box				
Donations		110.00		
Mile of 5pences				5.00

This month we received a donation of £100.00 from the Boys' Brigade.

We also received a donation of £10.00 from a resident at Newton Park Court.

The wheelbarrow has been counted once again and the sum of £144.50 has been added.

Have a lovely summer break whatever you do and lets hope the sun shines!

Alison Hyslop
Treasurer



12th Ayr Guides

On Tuesday 7th May we held our Annual Parents Night. This year we changed the format of this event to showcase some of the new badges the girls have completed and some of the events they have attended or taken part in during the session.

The girls received badges including Meditation, Mixology, Aspirations, Confectionery and Fitness. Awards were presented as follows:-

- Best Recruit – Erin
- Progress – Grace
- Endeavour – Erin & Iona
- Best PL – Eva
- Best Patrol – Dolphins (Eva, Grace, Molly, Iona & Daisy)
- Best Guide – Iona

From Friday 10th to Sunday 12th May, we were camping at Nether Auchendrane where the girls learned basic camping skills and gained their Backwoods Cooking, Whittling, Camp Stage 3 and Have Adventures theme badges. The weather was very good to us and everyone had a fantastic weekend.

On Tuesday 28th May, the girls are attending a District Event at the heated swimming pool at New Cumnock. This will be our last night before the summer break.

We will re-start on Tuesday 27th August 2019 at 7.30pm, if you know any girls aged 10-15years who would like to join us, please let me know. (gill.ayr@btinternet.com/ Tel: 283924/M: 07763 821013)

Gillian Hay
Guide Leader



Well, it's been an unusual time for us with Easter, school holidays & 2 Bank Holidays thrown in.

Brownies have been working hard and have now finished all the Skill Builders & Unit meeting Activities for the "Take Action" Theme. To complete this, they all need to do an Interest Badge, at home, with parental support.

We took advantage of the good weather 2 weeks ago & became Environmental Detectives for the Evening. Good fun was had by all (& we even managed 25 minutes in the play park).

Last week we visited Collins Aerospace & had a fascinating wander round the shop floor seeing and learning about various plane parts & hearing how the girls could be part of this type of industry that historically had been for men only. The girls thoroughly enjoyed themselves & I can envisage a few Brownies becoming Aeronautical Engineers in the future.

This week we will complete the Collins challenge by designing a spacecraft!

We finish this term on the 11th June

Louise Dunn
Brown Owl



Kid's Time Community Playgroup

The Playgroup continues to be popular and again during May we had a number of new children placed on the register.

The Playgroup will close during the school holidays. We will finish on Thursday 27th June and resume on Thursday 22nd August.

SPREAD THE NEWS!!! WE ARE IN THE HALL EVERY THURSDAY FROM 10 AM TILL 11.45 UNTIL THURSDAY 27thJUNE. ALL PRE-SCHOOL KIDS AND BABIES MOST WELCOME TO COME ALONG.

Moyra Smith
Playgroup Leader



Junior Church

Our **Annual Prizegiving Service** will be held on **Sunday, 23rd June 2019** and it is hoped that you will join us that Sunday in the Church. You will be made most welcome.

Our **Annual Picnic** will also be on **Sunday, 23rd June 2019**. We are off to Farm Park this year again, with the bus leaving the Church Hall shortly after 12 noon to arrive at 12.20 pm and returning around 4.45 pm with the departure from the Farm Park at 4.30 pm. Tickets will be £4.50 per person and will be on sale from myself. Due to the generosity of you and the congregation with the donation of pennies the children will eat in the restaurant this year again. As usual it is hoped that we will be lucky with the weather but please send the children appropriately dressed for all weather. **Any parent wishing to attend**, especially those of the very young, are more than

Cont/welcome to come but they will need to pay for their entrance and their own lunch. There has been a noticeable increase in entrance fees so any Parent wishing to attend must inform us as soon as possible and we will include you in the block booking and pay us the £9.00 otherwise it will be over £12.00 at the gate.

The Summer Club/Creche will commence on Sunday, 30th June 2019 and run through the summer each Sunday. Anyone willing to volunteer for a Sunday to help, please let Moyra know as we do depend on our volunteers at this time to enable this Club/Creche to run.

The Junior Church will start again on Sunday, 25th August 2019 at the usual time of 10.45 am in the Church Hall.

Thank you for your support over the session and the children and staff wish you all a good summer.

Gillian Cunningham
Secretary



Note from Junior Church Leader

When I joined the staff of the Junior Church a long time ago we had 120 children on the register, sadly this is no longer the case. Unfortunately this is a sign of the times.

We at St James are very fortunate to still have a Junior Church as many churches in Ayr Presbytery no longer have a Sunday School or Junior Church. At present we are fortunate to have 15 children on our register and they are a great bunch of kids.

I appeal to all Parents or Grandparents who are members of St



Christian Aid Week

The "BIG BREKKIE on Saturday 18th May 2019" raised £168.14

The Junior Church donated £50 from their funds; this was a portion of the amount they raised at their Easter Brunch. The amount raised from donation envelopes was £387.70

The total amount raised at St James this year was	£605.84
Last year we raised	£659.31

Sincere thanks to everyone who supported Christian Aid, the money raised has helped show our love for people who are living in poverty and suffering injustice around the world.

Moyra Smith
Christian Aid Convenor.



Ministry of Flowers

Once again I thank everyone who has donated money towards the floral arrangements for church on Sundays. These arrangements are divided into 6 bunches of flowers after the service and distributed to those who have been in hospital, going through treatment or perhaps a special event. If you know of a member deserving of a bunch of flowers please contact me.

Lilian Kerr



Outreach Group



Foodbank (Christ in Action)

Once again sincere thanks to all the caring folks at St James, Kingcase, Monkton and Prestwick North and St Quivox Roman Catholic Church, Prestwick who continue to support the work of the food bank by giving donations of food and money on a regular basis. Thank you all for your support of the Christ in Action Foodbank which is a partnership of the four churches mentioned above.

The date of the Foodbank AGM is Wednesday 12th June at Monkton and Prestwick North Parish Church at 10.30 am. Copies of signed Accounts are now in the Church Office, should anyone wish to see them please speak to Moyra. The Trustees wish to invite all their supporters, volunteers and anyone interested in the work of the Foodbank to please come along and meet the people who make things happen with your donations of food and money. There will be an opportunity to visit the food store, see the bags being made up and hear about how and to whom they are delivered. Refreshments will also be served.

Messy Church



Our next Messy Church is on Saturday 22nd June from 1.45 pm till 4pm in the church hall. Children, parents, friend's carers etc will be made very welcome.

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD

Moyra Smith
Outreach Convenor

Cont/James to please bring their children or grandchildren along to the Junior Church on a Sunday morning.

The Junior Church will close during the summer holidays but we will be running our Summer Sunday Club every Sunday during the summer break.

Moyra Smith
Junior Church Leader



Fundraising/Social Committee

Our Sponsored Walk/Event/Family Fun Night pencilled in for June has not yet been finalised: more information will be available via the church intimations.

Social Event

Our Annual Pentecost Lunch is on Sunday 9th June after the service. All church members are invited to attend. If transport is required please contact Moyra Smith.

Please come along and enjoy a nice meal and a good chat. You will find further information elsewhere in the newsletter.

Fundraising Wheelbarrow in aid of Manse Roof

The barrow is in the vestibule every Sunday morning and your contributions are very much appreciated. The total raised during April and up to May 19th was £144.60 bringing the total amount raised so far to £961.48. We don't have far to go to reach the first thousand!

Future Events

The Committee met recently to discuss future plans which include a concert by the Salvation Army Community Gospel

Cont/Choir, an Afternoon Tea, a Quiz Night and of course our Annual Christmas Fayre and Congregational Christmas Party. More information will appear in the Aug/Sept edition of the Newsletter or via the Church Intimations.

The committee thank you all for your support and wish you a happy and restful summer.

Moyra Smith
Fundraising/Social Convenor



Church Garden Group

Due to the efforts of our garden group the church gardens are looking good. All concerned are working very hard to ensure that this continues. If you wish to join the group you will be made most welcome.

A surprising number of people stop and speak to us whilst we are working in the church garden and they all say that the gardens are beautiful.

**PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO HELP KEEP OUR GARDENS
LOOKING GOOD**



Session Clerk's Message

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this newsletter the 2019 General Assembly of the Church of Scotland will have taken place. One of the most important items of business was to receive proposals for a Radical Action Plan in relation to the life of the Church. In this plan there is recognition that our structures may not necessarily be effective in the ministry and mission of the Church. It questions the wisdom of Kirk Session numbers simply being determined by the number of "visiting" districts. The plan makes a case for short term periods of service for Elders. Whatever the outcome of the plan, there is a clear need for individual congregations to overhaul their own operating structures.

We need to make use of members who can be invited to take on tasks that while traditionally associated with the Eldership are not actually "Leadership Tasks".

Times they are a changing and we have to be prepared to take on board whatever is necessary for the good of our congregation.

Finally wherever you are going for a break over the summer have a good time.

God bless

Bill Mackie
Session Clerk

