

# DUNLOP DIARY



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**From the Church of Scotland, Dunlop**

**February 2018**

**Minister Rev Alison McBrier**

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This is my first winter in Dunlop, and as someone who grew up near the Ayrshire coast where snowflakes fall but rarely lie, I've been really quite delighted by the snow of the past week. The snow has a truly transformative effect - in more than one way.

Snowfall makes our world sound different - quieter, more peaceful - providing something of a rest for our ears. Our wintry landscape becomes almost monochrome, with white fields and hills, gardens and roofs, contrasting with the dark trees, hedges and occasionally gritted roads! We see our familiar surroundings in a new way, and when the sun comes out we see a shining beauty which lifts the spirits and warms us despite the January chill.

A fresh blanket of snow is wonderful in its newness - a blank canvas as it were, upon which are soon written the marks of creation here in this place. The first marks are usually made by wild animals - rabbits, deer and foxes. My own pet cats have been reluctant to leave the house, so there aren't many feline paw prints in the manse garden! Later come the prints left by dog walkers and their faithful companions, followed the excitement of children with snowballs, snowmen and sledges!

Even before his birth, Jesus had the power to transform the world, and the changes wrought by the snow are a reminder of the possibilities of transformation. Not only in how we perceive the world, not only in the ways in which creation shows itself alive and active, but also in the ways we respond to each other. Over this past week people have shared information about how safe the roads are, looked in on elderly and unwell neighbours, cleared paths and pavements, pushed cars up hills, and put out water and bread for birds and other wildlife.

The snow brings a temporary transformation, and perhaps this changed-but-the-same landscape gives us a glimpse into the eternal and enduring transformation offered by, through and with Christ.

He is with us in snow, ice and thaw; sun, clouds and rainbows; always in compassion, hope and love.

Alison

## ***Dunlop Kirk – Services and Events***

**All warmly welcomed**

**Sunday Morning Worship – 11.30 am**

**Sunday Crèche – 11.30 am**

**Sunday School – 11.30 am**

**Exploring the Bible, Tuesdays in Caldwell Vestry 10.15am**

**Evening Service Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 6.30pm in rear Church Hall**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018 - The Stated Annual Meeting** will be held after morning worship. Anyone wishing to nominate new members to the Congregational Board should speak to Anne Sinclair, Clerk to the Board, 01560 483745.

## CHURCH ROTAS

| Date      | Flowers           | Readers         |
|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Feb 4th   | Doris Livingstone | Sheila Wyllie   |
| 11th      | Janette Miller    | David Clement   |
| 18th      | Nellie Nisbet     | Anne Sinclair   |
| 25th      | Susan Shorroch    | Bob Brown       |
| March 4th | Anne Sinclair     | Marilyn Bell    |
| 11th      | Carolyn Blyth     | Lynn Davidson   |
| 18th      | Margaret Hunter   | Alastair Martin |
| 25th      | Bertha Horne      | Netta Howie     |

## Welcome Teams

| February         | March           |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Jimmy Howie      | Sandy Hutchison |
| Douglas Bell     | Lynn Davidson   |
| Marilyn Bell     | Jess Duncan     |
| John Campbell    | Irene Kerr      |
| Alison Howie     | Margaret Robb   |
| Isabel Kerr      | Roy Wyllie      |
| Andrew Pinkerton | Sheila Wyllie   |
| Linda Pinkerton  |                 |

## Creche Rota

|               |                 |                               |                               |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| February 25th | 4th, 11th, 18th | Marilyn Bell and Ruth Wilson  | Alistair Martin and Jen Smith |
| March 18th    | 4th, 11th       | Ruth Wilson and Anne Sinclair | Jen Smith and Maureen Jackson |
| 25th          |                 | Annette Brown                 | and Greer Thompson            |
| April         | 1st, 8th        | Annette Brown                 | and Graham Kilgour            |

## Deaths

Mr Colin Curran November 2017  
Mr Jimmy Finlay December 2017  
Mrs Joan Howie December 2017

*“Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted”*

### Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock Prayer Meetings

24th February at Hurlford Church  
24th March at St. Kentigern's Church.  
24th March at Irvine St. Andrews  
28th April at Stewarton John Knox  
30th June at Darvel  
25th August at Dreghorn and Springside  
29th September at St. John's Onthank  
27th October at Crosshouse  
24th November at Girdle Toll

All are welcome. Tea and Coffee is served from 9.30am.  
Prayer time begins at 10.00am and closes at 10.45am. Every event is different.

### Future Focus update.

Copies of the report have been emailed to all who provided email addresses. If you would like a copy emailed please provide your email to Margo McMurdo (01560 484824).

**On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February**, after Morning Worship there will be a **Future Focus – What next?** Meeting in the church. Tea, coffee and sandwiches will be provided. All welcome.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL “JAR OF GRACE” APPEAL

The Sunday School are raising funds from now until Easter for UNICEF's “JAR OF GRACE” appeal. If you would like to help, please drop some coins into a jar before a meal and take a moment to remember less fortunate children around the world. Please hand in your coins to Sunday School any Sunday before Easter, and many thanks.

## **Dunlop Friends of Ayrshire Hospice**

### **Bagpack in Asda on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

The Dunlop Friends of the Ayrshire Hospice kindly request your help to raise funds for a very worthy cause by offering your assistance at the annual Asda Bagpack event.

As funds raised are usually proportionate to the number of helpers available, we hope to encourage as many people as possible to give up two hours of their time. So, please join us on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – no previous experience required!!!

If you are able to help, please contact either Andrena Reid on 01560 483696 or any other committee member.

The next meeting of the **Dunlop Alzheimer's Circle of Friends Musical Minds** will be on Thursday, 8th February, in the church hall from 2pm-4pm. The group is meant for anyone affected by Alzheimer's or dementia, but all who are interested will be made very welcome.

Eddie and Bill will provide the music. Contact Susan Shorrocks 482109 or Jean Spence 428593

## **Dunlop Community Cinema**

Happy New Year to all our Dunlop Community Cinema supporters. We're back with a bang this month with 3 films for your delectation and many more to come over the next few months.

The first Film Club Film of the year will be 'Baby Driver'. Baby has been a getaway driver for kingpin Doc since he was too young to drive, always accelerating to the beat of his favourite tunes as they drown out his tinnitus from a childhood accident. When Baby meets waitress Deborah he sees a way out... It's an exhilarating piece of film making with a fantastic soundtrack and will be a great start to the new Film Club year. The opening sequence is worth the entrance fee alone. As ever, you don't have to be a member of the film club to come along. Join us on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 7.30pm.

Next up on the 18<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm is our family film, 'Captain Underpants'. The film sees two friends unintentionally transform their school headmaster into their comic-book creation 'Captain Underpants' - a hapless, clueless superhero whose main power is extreme stupidity. It's a thoroughly entertaining and likeable film choc-full of the type of gags kids (and some adults) love. In other words, there's a LOT of toilet humour! It will have them rolling in the aisles.

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February (7.30pm) brings the final film of the month - an epic war movie - Christopher Nolan's 'Dunkirk'. The story of the evacuation of Dunkirk told by a gifted ensemble cast including Kenneth Branagh, Mark Rylance and Tom Hardy. This is not your every-day war movie. Nolan applies his usual directorial flourish by intercutting three separate timelines that move at different speeds to focus on individuals under immense pressure in an immeasurable crisis. Beautifully photographed with some incredible aerial battle scenes and a pulsating score by Hans Zimmer, this is a film best viewed on the big screen. It's also a 12a so bring your older kids along for a history lesson with a difference.

For further details of our programme and details of the Film Club membership catch us on Facebook.

### **DUNLOP COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE**

The Dunlop Community Hub was formed when Merito was put up for sale and we were forced to consider the prospect of a village without a pub. Considering the sizeable space available above the pub could also be put to good use by the community, the idea of a community take-over bid quickly gained pace and the Hub was formed to help facilitate the process. The plan is to try and gain funding from the Scottish Land Fund to buy the building and run it as a business which would also provide Dunlop with a flexible community space then distribute any profits made back into the village via our various community groups.

Following a packed (and informative) meeting in November where the initial plans were laid out and discussed, a larger committee has been formed to further prepare the Stage 2 funding application and discuss proposals for the currently vacant space above the pub. Anyone who is interested in taking part in the committee should get in touch with the Hub (details below) as involvement from the local community is key to the success of this project.

In order to prove to the funding body that they do have community support, the Hub have created a membership form to enable people to show their support for the venture. There is no money involved, you don't have to pay to be a member, but by signing up to the Hub you will help the group get one step closer to keeping this significant space open to the community. Forms can be collected from Merito or Normans and there will be a number of volunteers knocking on doors over the coming week or so delivering forms to anyone who is interested.

At the same time you will be asked your opinion on what the vacant space above the pub should be used for, and your views would be much appreciated. The Hub are well aware of the current facilities and opportunities offered by other community ventures and businesses and will ensure that any ideas that are taken forward do not interfere with anything that is currently in place. Working together as a community to bring the best ideas to the table will not only save our pub and open up more opportunities for Dunlop but also provide our village with more funds for the future so please come and get involved, we'd love to hear from you.

For any further information please contact [dunlopch@outlook.com](mailto:dunlopch@outlook.com), find us on Facebook under 'Dunlop Community Hub' or speak to Scott Gilmour, Mike Sharp or Kevin Brown.

**DUNLOP W.R.I.**

Wednesday 31st January

100th Scots Tea

With

Dunlop Barber Shop Singers

Competitions: Wartime Soup (given recipe)

3 golden biscuits

**Guild****FEBRUARY**

13th World Travel (Iran)

Vivienne MacDonald

27th Dumfries House

Alec MacDonald (Head Guide)

**DUNLOP & LUGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Agenda and minutes of meetings are posted on the Community Council website and also displayed on the notice board outside Norman's and in the Village Hall.

The first meeting of the new year is on **Thursday 1st February 2018 at 7.00pm** in the Village Hall.

**Everyone most welcome to attend.**

Enquiries can be made to any member of the community council or addressed to:

Eleanor Lochhead (Secretary)

[ellylochhead@gmail.com](mailto:ellylochhead@gmail.com)mobile [07719 232366](tel:07719232366)**DUNLOP GALLERY**

The Kilmaurs Photography Club will be showing their work up until the 7th of February. If you haven't had a chance to see it, do come along during cafe hours, it really is a terrific show. After this, it's the turn of our local artists from Gillian Park's Wednesday Art Class. They will be holding an open evening on Thursday the 8th of February, from 7 till 9. Do come along and see their work, enjoy a glass of wine, and have a chat. You can also see their work during cafe hours on Thursdays and Fridays, and the first Saturday of the month. This exhibition will run until the 8th of March.

For any further details, please contact Ellenor at 07811 045600, or Shiona at 07506 951620

**Christmas Appeal East Ayrshire Churches Homelessness Action:** Dunlop delivered two car loads of beautifully wrapped Christmas gifts, bags of food and cash donations.

Janice Grant, EACHa organiser was delighted: *'We are especially grateful for the gifts of food, and cash for the food parcels. The food was distributed to the young people of the Blue Triangle. Dunlop folks donated the magnificent sum of £390, which allowed us to purchase 72 food parcels for hostel residents, and everyone in temporary accommodation. These parcels included the ingredients for a three course Christmas lunch, and we are very grateful for the generosity of Dunlop members in making this possible. These parcels really make a difference to people at a time of crisis.'*

The Kirk Session appreciates the support this appeal always receives from the congregation and the wider community.

A wonderful sum of £428.86 was raised at the Watchnight Service. This is shared equally between **Christian Aid and Shelter**. Thanks to all who contributed.

**Wednesday Coffee**

This restarts on Wednesday 7th February in rear church hall from 10.00—11.30am.

We urgently need some more volunteers to donate baking. If you feel you can help speak to Irene Kerr (484213) or Marilyn Bell (482966).