

# CONTACT

**CRAIGIE, DUNDONALD  
and SYMINGTON CHURCH**



**JUNE/JULY 2026**

# Message of encouragement



Dear Friends

All too often we can lose hope and especially in a world that often encourages us to focus on what we lack, it's easy to overlook the blessings we already have. As Christians, gratitude isn't just an attitude - it's a spiritual practice and a profound acknowledgment of God's provision and sovereignty. The Bible continually calls us to be thankful, not just in moments of abundance but in all circumstances.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Paul writes, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." This verse doesn't say to be thankful only when things are going well. It challenges us to adopt a posture of gratitude even in trials. Why? Because thankfulness aligns our hearts with God's will and reminds us of His ultimate control over our lives.

It is of course only natural to focus on our unmet desires: the promotion that didn't come, the relationship that didn't work out, or the healing that hasn't yet arrived. But when we pause to reflect, we see God's faithfulness in our lives. The roof over our heads, the meal on the table, the family and friends who support us - these are all evidence of His goodness. When we take the time out to reflect more on what we have that what we are lacking we can see that God has in fact been very generous to us and we do have much to be thankful for.

Finally, when we choose to be thankful and shift our focus from what we don't have to what we do that is a powerful antidote to dissatisfaction and envy. It helps us see life through the lens of abundance rather than scarcity. So let us be grateful for all we have and let us lead a happier and more fulfilling life.

God bless you all with abundance.

Tom McLeod  
Interim Moderator and Locum Minister

07596719107 Tmcleod@churchofscotland.org.uk

Catrina Mayes, Family & Pastoral worker - 07305620611 / treenieg@gmail.com

**PARISH REGISTER** CRAIGIE SYMINGTON

**MARRIAGE** "Whom God has joined together"

2nd May 2026: Alice Sampson and Harry Findlay

Craigie  
Symington  
Church  
@9:30am

# sunday services

Dundonald  
Church  
@11:00am

APRIL & MAY 2026



## June

- 7th June      Craigie Symington - Rev Tom  
Dundonald - Catriona  
Dundonald, Spirit & Song Service, 7pm  
Dundonald Castle Visitor Centre - Catriona
- 14th June      Craigie Symington - Rev Tom  
Dundonald - Rev Tom
- 21st June      Craigie Symington - Catriona  
Dundonald - Catriona
- 28th June      Craigie Symington - Catriona  
Dundonald Nature Service - Catriona

## July

- 5th July      Craigie Symington Communion - Rev Tom  
Dundonald Communion - Rev Tom
- 12th July      Craigie Symington - Rev Tom  
Dundonald - Rev Tom
- 19<sup>th</sup> July      Craigie Symington - Rev Tom  
Dundonald - Rev Tom
- 26th July      Craigie Symington - Rev Tom  
Dundonald - Rev Tom

*Coffee &  
TEA*  
AFTER CHURCH

CRAIGIE  
SYMINGTON

The first Sunday  
of every month  
except July  
and August

DUNDONALD

Come over to Hall  
after the service for  
coffee/tea and  
catch up.  
Please contact  
Ruth if you are  
able to join one of  
the teams  
[erutheaston  
@gmail.com](mailto:erutheaston@gmail.com)

### Dundonald Creche

Children of all ages are welcome in our Church.  
Those age 3 and under will be taken across to creche  
in the Church Hall with the Sunday School after the  
children's address.





Thank you to everyone who sent flowers, plants, cakes, biscuits and cards after Mum, Janette, died and thanks to Sheila Payne for the beautiful flowers in the Church. Many thanks to Catriona and Tom for giving Mum a good send off. She would have been proud.

Thanks to my Church family for being there at this sad time and for everyone passing on their condolences.

Mum will be missed by many. Love from Jennifer, Fraser, Alasdair, Mary & Lauren,

Many thanks to the Church, Guild, Rural and Christian Aid Coffee Morning for the lovely flowers and plant and also cards I received on my 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

They were all very much appreciated.

Joan Edgar

I would like to thank everybody for the warmth and love you showed me during Lindsay's illness and after.

It meant so much to me at that time. I have made many new friends who I hope to keep in touch with.

I will never forget your kindness

With much love from Ann/Annie Russell

Dear Sheila,  
Thank you for a most enjoyable afternoon tea. It gave me the opportunity to meet and chat with friends I haven't seen in along time.

Thank you very much,  
Julie Hannah xx

Isobel Frew would like to say thank you to everyone for the beautiful flowers and cards she received for her recent 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Thank you so much for my beautiful birthday flowers.

Such a lovely surprise, I was delighted to receive them!  
Moira Henderson

## Symington Friendship Group



In the lead up to Easter the ladies from Symington Friendship Group decorated Easter bonnets. Thanks to Tom who kindly came along and judged the best bonnet. Following a difficult decision, the winner was Daisy Cameron's. After a light lunch the afternoon concluded with a wee quiz. *Anna Allan*



# Tribute

**Hugh Appleby 3/11/59 - 22/2/26**

***Church Officer at Dundonald Church***



Born in November 1959, Hugh spent his whole life in this area, much of it by the sea. The youngest of six, he was always trying to keep up with the rest, and that spirit never left him. Hugh was a real character. At Marr College he was known and liked by everyone, making friends across every year. He had a mischievous streak, but at heart he simply treated everyone as an equal.

He was generous with his time and always ready to help. You could hardly walk down a street in Troon with Hugh without stopping to speak to the many friends he had made over the years. From joining the Sea Cadets at 11, Hugh's life was shaped by the water. He spent his working years at the marina and boatyard in Troon, rowed with the coastal team, and also served for a time with the RNLI. He met Janette on a trip to Bute, and together with Alan they built a loving family life.

As Church Officer, Hugh was dependable, precise, and quietly hardworking. So much was always done and put right before anyone else had even noticed, and only now do many of us realise just how much he gave behind the scenes.

He loved to look the part too, whether in a smart suit, a Killie tracksuit, or dressed up as Santa or Mr Motivator for the children. He brought fun wherever he went, even as the town's much-loved paperboy.

Hugh was also a big part of Highland Games Week, throwing himself into every event with his usual energy and warmth. For fourteen years, he proudly led the parade. He loved the Highland Games, pipe bands, and traditional Scottish pipe music.

Hugh was a lifelong Killie fan. From his first match as a boy, when Kilmarnock won their first European tie at Rugby Park, his loyalty never wavered. Some of his happiest days were the times Alan took him to hospitality for his birthday or Father's Day.

These last months were not easy for Hugh, but he was deeply thankful for every kindness shown to him. In caring for him, we were only giving back a little of all he had given to others over the years. He was no saint, as he would be the first to admit, but he was our wild boy, a loving family man, and a rascal with a heart of gold. Now he is at rest with the saints.



We are hosting the tea tent at the Games on Saturday 1st August, and Adaline is looking for donations of home baking (no cream). We are also looking for volunteers on the day to help. Donations of baking for the Hospitality Tent would also be gratefully received. Thank you everyone.

Please contact: Adaline on [07582590899](tel:07582590899) or [adafinlayson@live.co.uk](mailto:adafinlayson@live.co.uk)



# Dundonald Primary School Church Visits

This year we have had visits from P1 who came along to Dundonald Church to learn more about Baptism. Primary 6 & 7 visited to find out about the history and practices of the Church in Dundonald. We have received some lovely thank you letters. Here are what some of the children said.

Dear Dundonald Church, thank you for inviting us to the Church.  
It was a great day

One fact I learned was the clock was made in 1841 and the bell is in an Edinburgh museum and there were three Churches here before the Church today.

I learned the old bell had a crack in it which is why you gave it away.

I liked learning about the stained glass window. They are so cool because they all have their own story.

Learning the Bible stories for the banners was cool

It was so special because I get to learn about my history

I really enjoyed learning about the drums and that they are from a different country

I really enjoyed visiting the graves and the beekeepers grave because it had alot of facts

Liked the instruments because they came from Africa. An interesting thing was how we held the wooden banana because it was peculiar

Thank you for letting us visit, we really appreciated it.

Thank you to Adaline, Bob, Mariea, Moreen, Shirley, Willie and Yvonne for all your input with the youngsters, they really did enjoy the day

## Lent 2026 : 31 school days of kindness

During Lent Catriona challenged all the classes to keep a 40 days of Kindness Chart. You will see all their acts of kindness displayed soon on the Church railings. What lovely, kind and thoughtful children we have in our village.

**SUNDAY 28 JUNE • NUTURE SERVICE 11am** - We welcome all our youngsters from Creche, Sunday School & Youth Group to worship with us & give them gifts to encourage them on their journey in Christian faith. This year children who attend the Craigie-Symington Sunday Club & the children from the Dundonald Groups will be joining us - an All-Age service with our youngsters remaining in Church throughout.

We hope you are able to come along to worship & celebrate with our youth.

# The Silver Service



The Pastoral team would like to thank everyone who made the Silver Service such a special and happy occasion.

Huge thanks go to Catriona and Glenda for their meaningful and thoughtful service and Mariea for her playing and carefully chosen hymns, Fraser for his tech expertise and the drivers for their help getting everyone to the service.

Thanks to the ladies who set up the hall for the tea afterwards, Ruth for lending us her beautiful china, Maureen for the pretty flowers on each table and also the bakers for all the goodies. Once again, huge thanks to our wonderful BB's, to Colin, Willie, Ross and the boys for all their help in the kitchen, serving teas, for steadying arms and pushing wheelchairs to and from the hall. Such kindness and all done with huge smiles... well done boys.

It truly was a special and joyous afternoon. *Sheila Payne*

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: 10th - 16th MAY



*Thank you to everyone and all the helpers for this year's contributions and for your participation in our Christian Aid Week fundraising activities.*

*During the week we had a great Lunch, a lovely Big Brekkie and an enjoyable Coffee Morning.*

*Thank you to everyone who contributed baking, raffle prizes and time in helping raise funds. The total raised by Craigie Dundonald Symington Church was a fantastic. £2,134.30 a very creditable amount*

*Susan McClure*

## CRAIGIE, DUNDONALD AND SYMINGTON GUILD DUNDONALD BRANCH

30 of the Guild met on 20th April at Boswells Coach House, Auchinleck for afternoon tea. The food was of an exceptional standard. Beautiful sandwiches filled with egg mayonnaise, coronation chicken, cheese and pickle, tuna and ham. There were also sausage rolls, pork pies and savoury eggs. Next came scones with jam and cream. Strawberry tarts, caramel tarts, macarons and traybakes concluded the tea. We all left happy and well filled. A lovely end to the Guild year. *Julie De Simone*



# Symington Community Hall



Come along to this unforgettable evening of Mark Twain's humour & anecdotes and of course the famous white suit! Conceived by Ken O'Hara from Mark Twain's own work, we will hear Twain's views on religion, stories about strange-looking dogs, steamboats on the Mississippi, of Mr Twain's adventures in the American Civil War and much more.

**Tickets £15 from Morag Marriott, Jim McKenzie, Angela Liggat or Liz Campbell or [emailsymingtonhall4all@gmail.com](mailto:emailsymingtonhall4all@gmail.com)**



**CRAIGIE'S SCARECROW COMPETITION 2026**

YOU'RE INVITED TO

get creative and build your own scarecrow to create the Craigie Scarecrow Trail 2026 with prizes across various categories!

**Theme : Commonwealth Games**

Display from  
**17 | 07 | 2026**

**JUDGING : 01.08.2026**  
Prize Giving & Brunch  
**02 | 08 | 2026 - 12noon**

REGISTER YOUR SCARECROW:  
07766 570039 (HANNAH) / 07821 973306 (RAYMOND)



**Messy Church**

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August**

**At Symington Community Hall**

**2pm - 4pm**

An afternoon of **CRAFTS, SONGS, and STORIES** with **FOOD** provided!

**All families welcome**

All children must be accompanied by an adult

Please confirm your space by email:  
[Youthteam@craigie-dundonald-symington.org.uk](mailto:Youthteam@craigie-dundonald-symington.org.uk)

**On Sunday 31st May the first Messy Church was held in Symington Community Hall - a wonderful afternoon with 14 children and parents attending for crafts, songs, stories and food ... a great time was had by all! The next Messy Church is on Sunday 30 August - keep this date for your diary.**  
**[youthteam@craigiedundonaldsymington.org.uk](mailto:youthteam@craigiedundonaldsymington.org.uk)**

## Ayrshire Rock Choir



### MEETING OF ALL TRUSTEES

**TUESDAY 16 JUNE 7PM  
SYMINGTON COMMUNITY MAIN  
HALL**

Could all Elders please attend this sole purpose meeting, to approve the accounts for last year before they go to the independent examiner. A good turnout would be very much appreciated.

### CAR DRIVERS

Thank you to all our willing and helpful drivers on the Dundonald Car Rota. We would welcome some more drivers for Sunday mornings. Please contact Jane Ritchie if you can help out in this way - 07817 040426

### FRUIT FOR SCHOOL

Dundonald Primary School has a fruit basket available for all pupils during the day. It empties very quickly. Why not buy some extra apples, pears, bananas, oranges, plums, peaches (not Berries) and hand them to Debi, Adaline or Catriona at Church or Floyds. This fruit will be delivered to the school.

A belated picture of Ayrshire Rock Choir's fabulous concert on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March in Dundonald Church.

This was organised by Mariaea and the Choir who generously divided their proceeds (£875) between Floyds Cafe and the Night Before Christmas Campaign.

THE 450 VOICE PRAISE GATHERING CHOIR, YOUTH CHOIR AND BAND PRESENT:

praise gathering 2026

GLASGOW ROYAL CONCERT HALL  
SATURDAY 20 JUNE 3PM  
SUNDAY 21 JUNE 4PM

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS  
CELTICWORSHIP  
AND  
SEARCHLIGHT  
THEATRE COMPANY

TICKETS NOW ON SALE FROM £20  
from venue box office, via a choir member or  
WWW.PRAISEGATHERING.ORG.UK

# prayers

Debi Dunn



## A Prayer to Start the Day

Heavenly Father, thank you for this new morning.

“Lest we fool ourselves into thinking that prayer is simply a nice treat once we get around to it, the calls to continual prayer alert us to just how essential an activity it is. Prayer is not optional; it is vital. Prayer is not an item to check off our to-do list, as though five minutes in the morning will cover us for the rest of the day. It is impossible for anyone to enjoy an intimate relationship with God without walking through their day, and the circumstances it brings, in an attitude of prayer.”

Alistair Begg

## A Blessing before our Summer Holidays

Take time to claim your strength; this is a gift from God. Take time to have fun; it is God’s way of teaching you your strengths. Take time to grow yourself; only you can grow you. Take time to trust yourself; God trusts you. Take time to be self-reliant; it is better than being dependent. Take time to share with others; they will bless you and you will bless them. Take time to have hope; you are a child of God.

– Unknown

Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing? Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love?' These are the real questions. I must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will be many fruits, here in this world and the life to come. **Henri Nouwen**

PRAYER THURSDAYS: WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU FOR A TIME OF PRAYER & REFLECTION IN THE CHURCH SESSION ROOM OR FOR PERSONAL PRAYER IN THE CHURCH. FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT DEBI: [DEBORAHDUNN01@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:DEBORAHDUNN01@OUTLOOK.COM) 🙏

JUNE IS THE MONTH THAT WE CELEBRATE FATHER'S DAY

## BLESS OUR FATHERS

Heavenly Father,  
We ask You to bless our earthly fathers  
for the many times they reflected the love, strength, generosity, wisdom and mercy that You  
exemplify in Your relationship with us, Your children.

We honour our fathers for putting our needs above their own convenience and comfort;  
for teaching us to show courage and determination in the face of adversity;  
for challenging us to move beyond self-limiting boundaries;  
for modelling the qualities that would turn us into responsible, principled, caring adults.

Not all our fathers lived up to these ideals.  
Give them the grace to acknowledge and learn from their mistakes.  
Give us the grace to extend to them the same forgiveness that you offer us all.  
Help us to resist the urge to stay stuck in past bitterness,  
instead, moving forward with humility and peace of heart.

We ask your blessing on those men who served as father figures in our lives  
when our biological fathers weren't able to do so.  
May the love and selflessness they showed us  
be returned to them in all their relationships,  
and help them to know that their influence has changed us for the better.

Give new and future fathers the guidance they need  
to raise happy and holy children,  
grounded in a love for God and other people -  
and remind these fathers that treating their wives  
with dignity, compassion and respect is  
one of the greatest gifts they can give their children.

We pray that our fathers who have passed into the next life  
have been welcomed into Your loving embrace,  
and that our family will one day be reunited in your heavenly kingdom. Amen.  
Tony Rossi (adapted)

### Strength of a Mountain

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagle's flight,  
The joy of a morning in spring,  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,  
When there was nothing more to add,  
He knew His masterpiece was  
complete,  
And so, He called it ... Dad

Author Unknown



## Prayers for our Nomination Committee

May we remind you to continue to pray for the committee that is searching for our new Minister. It is a great responsibility. Please pray expectantly – that they will continue to keep the Holy Spirit as their guide through the process.

*Matthew 7:7-8 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.”*

**Pray intentionally** – through the process of searching, advertising, speaking to people, trying to promote our church. For each member, for ministers out there who may be looking for a change but also, those who are not but whom God may be prompting – may they heed God’s voice. Also pray about what you can do – to spread the word, promote our wonderful church and villages.

**Pray reinforcing** God’s goodness and greatness. As our shepherd we can trust that he is leading us in this process.

*Isaiah 55:9 “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.”*

*Jeremiah 32:17 “Behold, you have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You.”*

*Ephesians 3:20 “Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us.”*

*Matthew 10:11 “I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.”*  
**Amen.**

CHANGING LIVES  
**FOR GOOD**  
AND **FOREVER**



This year, Blythswood is giving thanks for 60 years since their work began. Our congregations have supported their shoebox appeal for many years but this is only part of a much bigger international support, mission and outreach programme.

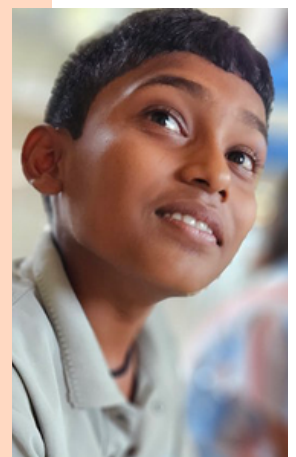
You can read about all they do at <https://blythswood.org/>

There have been many changes through the decades, but something that hasn’t changed is the necessity of prayer. Prayer was essential to the group going out with gospel tracts on the streets of Glasgow in 1966, and it is essential in the work of seeing lives changed for good and forever across Africa, Asia & Europe in 2026.

We were invited to set aside 60 minutes to give thanks for 60 years of Blythswood on Wednesday 3rd June but the need for prayerful support from all of us remains unchanged and their prayer diary, detailing prayer points is a useful guide to support this wonderful charity in prayer throughout the month of June. <https://blythswood.org/prayer-diary/>

Sixty years after Blythswood’s work began, their need for prayerful support from individuals, families and church congregations remains unchanged. As does their need to depend on the Lord every day, in every way.

Please support them in this request.



# Mission Partner Update

## **CRAIGIE, DUNDONALD AND SYMINGTON CHURCH SUPPORT MALAWI IN TWO DIFFERENT WAYS**

**Nutritious Meals for Nursery School Children:** Our partnership with Malawi began many years ago through the Ayr Presbytery programme started by Rev Arthur Christie (Monkton & Prestwick South). Dundonald Church is linked with Mdyaka Congregation and its 5 prayer houses and 2 nursery Schools, on the northern shores of Lake Malawi.

We send funds directly by bank transfer to the congregation to buy 'Likuni Phala' (a maize porridge fortified with protein and vitamins) feeding over 100 children throughout the year at their two Nursery schools for each day of the three terms. £570 was recently sent for the Summer term. Our main fund-raising now is from the **Dundonald Christmas Fayre** (and occasionally from 'Alternative Christmas Gifts' - a gift of £20 will feed one child for a year!).

**The Birthday Scheme:** This also supports feeding children in Malawi through Mary's Meals which gives folks an opportunity to donate on their birthday to the work of this worthwhile charity. If you would like to have more details about giving in this way, please contact Frances Mavor (07985 527087). We recently sent out our annual donation of £800 to Mary's Meals and received the grateful letter below from them. Thank you to everyone who has contributed.



## **MARY'S MEALS: THANKS TO DUNDONALD PARISH CHURCH - MAY 2026**

Thanks to your incredible support, children in Malawi and across the 16 countries in which we work are thriving with a daily meal in school. We are now feeding three million children every school day, thanks to the generosity of you and supporters like you across the UK.

For children like Mike, who attends Nyakamba Primary School in Malawi, your support is making a real difference. Mike knows that when he arrives at school, a warm cup of porridge will be waiting for him. This daily meal gives him the energy he needs to stay alert and learn effectively. "Before Mary's Meals started at our school, I used to feel tired and hungry in class. Sometimes I even missed lessons," Mike recalls. "But now I feel strong. The porridge gives me power to concentrate and participate in class! "I love coming to school because I feel welcome and cared for. I even help my friends with homework sometimes," .

Mike's mother, Martha, beams with joy when she talks about her children: "As a mother, it used to break my heart when I couldn't give them food before school. But now they eat every day. Mike is healthy, joyful, and doing so well in school. I can't thank Mary's Meals enough."

Because of your kindness, Mike and thousands of children just like him are learning every school day with full tummies and hope for a bright future. We ask that you continue to remember in your prayers all the children who eat Mary's Meals and all those who support our mission. THANK YOU ALL!

If you would like any further information about Mary's Meals, you can find our website at Mary's Meals UK; to book a talk about our work or to find out about volunteering with Mary's Meals, please contact Fran Lawson, Regional Development Officer, at [fran.lawson@marysmeals.org](mailto:fran.lawson@marysmeals.org) or by phone on 07593 447280.

## • JOB VACANCY •

### Church Officer

#### Craigie, Dundonald and Symington Parish Church

We are looking to employ a Part-time Church Officer. The role is principally to ensure that the preparations for Morning Worship, Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals are carried out.

For further information please contact the Interim Moderator Rev Tom McLeod

Telephone: 07596719107

Email: [tmcleod@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:tmcleod@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Please note this post is not considered Regulated Work with children under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007. The successful applicant will not be required to join the PVG Scheme or undergo a PVG Scheme Update Check prior to taking up post.

## • JOB VACANCY •

### Sunday Club Leader

#### Craigie, Dundonald and Symington Parish Church

We are looking for someone to volunteer as the Sunday Club Leader. The role mainly comprises of preparing activities for each Sunday and organising the volunteer helpers to deliver the activities.

Experience of working with young children is an advantage but not essential.

For further information please contact the Interim Moderator Rev Tom McLeod

Telephone: 07596719107

Email: [tmcleod@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:tmcleod@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Please note this post is considered Regulated Work with children under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.

The successful applicant will be required to join the PVG Scheme or undergo a PVG Scheme Update Check prior to taking up post.

### PRINTING OF HYMN SHEETS

The worship team are looking for a volunteer to set up and print the sheets each week...

It's not a difficult job - you only need to have more typing skills than Catriona 😊

If you can help, please contact Catriona or Bob McMillan.

3 Versions of the hymns are needed each week. Catriona & Bob have been playing about with the layout recently & think they have found a size & print that suits most.

# MY NAME'S DODDIE FOUNDATION

'Calum's Doddie'5 Challenge' in 2026, a  
family effort

6 Sporting Events for Motor Neuron Disease  
2 Bucket Collections and 2 Fundraising Stalls  
Please ask Calum Scoular for more details to  
support

# MY NAME'S DODDIE FOUNDATION

You may sponsor Calum's MNDF challenge here if you would like to:  
<https://www.justgiving.com/page/calumsdoddie5challenge>  
13/09 - Edinburgh Kiltwalk

*Jim English, John Kerr and back up man, Mark Torrance cycled on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May from Dundonald to Melrose - 100 miles - and arrived at the Melrose Sevens Tournament. We have raised over £15k (also through the Meal and Auction at the Auchans) including Gift Aid. John.*

MY  
NAME'S  
DODDIE  
foundation



MANY THANKS TO  
EVERYONE WHO HAS  
DONATED TO THE CHARITY.  
EVERYONE WHO ASSISTED,  
BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER  
THE CYCLE.

EVERYONE WHO HAS GIVEN  
ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE  
WHOLE EVENT.

To the The Creative Community group  
of St. Ninian's Church. Troon,

Just to let you know we have safely  
received your parcels comprising of 93  
hats, 20 fingerless gloves and 169 pairs  
of wrist warmers !! Could you please  
thank those involved for their kind  
efforts.

Thank you all for your support, it is  
much appreciated by crew.

Hope you had a lovely Easter. We gave  
out Easter Eggs to the crew's visiting  
our port, over the bank holiday.

Kind regards

Dianne

Mission to Seafarers. Tyne

**Ann Clark and Ellen Maxwell (a regular  
visitor to Floyds) both contributed  
their beautiful knitted goods to this  
mission.**



Seafarers are responsible for transporting over 90% of the world's goods and fuels. Collectively there are an estimated 1.89m seafarers across the world operating on 74,000 ships. These men and women of all nationalities, spend up to nine months at sea, far from families, friends and loved ones. With a history dating back to 1856, The Mission to Seafarers supports the men and women working at sea when they need us most, as they experience loneliness and mental health issues, combined with limited access to internet onboard ships. They have over 200+ ports in 50 countries, operating day and night, 365 days a year. You can help these essential key workers in a variety of ways, from donating online, corporate support or volunteering.

For more information see [The Mission to Seafarers website](http://TheMissiontoSeafarers.com)

## Out in the Fields with God

The little cares that fretted me I lost them yesterday,  
Among the fields, above the sea, among the winds at play;  
Among the lowing of the herds, the rustling of the trees;  
Among the singing of the birds, the humming of the bees.  
The foolish fears of what may happen, I cast them all away  
Among the clover-scented grass, among the new-mown hay;  
Among the rustling of the corn, where drowsy poppies nod,  
Where ill thoughts die and good are born - out in the fields with God.

*Elizabeth Barrett Browning 1806-1861*



# SMILERS

Laughter is the soul's medicine



**ANAGRAMS:** when rearranged...?

**PRESBYTERIAN:**

Best In Prayer

**ASTRONOMER:**

Moon Starer

**THE EYES:**

They See

**THE MORSE CODE:**

Here Come Dots

**DORMITORY:**

Dirty Room

**SLOT MACHINES:**

Cash Lost In Me

**ELECTION RESULTS:**

Lies-Let's Recountg

**SNOOZE ALARMS:**

Alas-No More Z's

**A DECIMAL POINT:**

I'm A Dot In Place

**ELEVEN PLUS TWO:**

Twelve Plus One

**MICROSOFT WINDOWS:**

Sown In Discomfort

**THE TITANIC DISASTER:**

Death, It Starts In Ice

**DEBIT CARD:**

Bad Credit

**STATUE OF LIBERTY:**

Built To Stay Free

**A GENTLEMAN:**

Elegant Man

**LISTEN:**

Silent

## THE GARDENER'S HYMN

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small  
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.  
But what we never mention, though gardeners know it's true  
Is when He made the goodies, the baddies came in too.  
All things spray and swatable, disasters great and small  
All things paraquatable, the Lord God permitted all.  
The greenfly on the roses, the maggots in the peas,  
Manure that fills our noses, He also gave us these.  
The fungus on the goose-gogs, the club root on the greens,  
The slugs that eat the lettuce and chew the aubergines.  
The drought that kills the fuchsias, the frost that nips the buds,  
The rain that drowns the seedlings, the blight that hits the spuds.  
The midges and mosquitoes, the nettles and the weeds,  
The pigeons in the green stuff, the sparrows on the seeds.  
The fly that gets the carrots, the wasp that eats the plums,  
How black the gardener's outlook,  
though green may be his thumbs.  
But still we gardeners labour, midst vegetables and flowers,  
And pray that what hits neighbours, will somehow bypass ours.  
All things bright and beautiful all creatures great and small!



*Dear God, I didn't think orange went with purple until I saw the sunset you made on Thursday night. That was really cool. Carol*

*Did you mean for giraffes to look like that, or was it an accident? Kevin  
From Children's letters to God*

# Tasty Treats

## Fajita Style Pasta *Moira Kerr*

2 tbsp olive oil  
2 large skinless chicken breasts cut into strips  
1 onion, thinly sliced  
1 red pepper, deseeded and sliced  
1 yellow pepper, deseeded and sliced  
1 garlic clove, crushed, ¼ tsp chilli powder  
1 heaped tsp sweet smoked paprika  
½ tsp dried oregano, 1 tsp ground coriander  
½ tsp ground cumin  
3 tbsp tomato purée, 80ml double cream  
350g penne or rigatoni pasta  
½ small bunch of flat-leaf parsley, finely chopped  
grated parmesan or cheddar, to serve



Heat the oil in a large shallow casserole or frying pan. Add the chicken and fry for 5 mins over a medium heat until golden all over. Remove and set aside on a plate. Put onion and peppers in the same pan and fry over medium heat for 8-10 mins. Add garlic, dried herbs and spices and cook for 1 min. Add the tomato purée and cook for 2 mins. Return chicken to pan and pour in cream, stirring to combine. Season to taste. Cook the pasta following pack instructions, then drain and reserve 150ml of cooking water. Add pasta to pan with 50ml of the water and stir everything together over heat. Add a little more water to loosen if needed. Season to taste and stir through the parsley. Divide between six bowls and top with a little cheese and extra chopped parsley, if you like. This can be packed into a lunchbox and eaten cold, too.

## Easy Ginger Loaf *Jane Ritchie*



125g/4½oz unsalted butter at room temperature, plus extra for greasing  
100g/3½oz dark brown sugar  
2 free-range eggs  
175g/6oz self-raising flour  
4 tablespoons milk  
1½ teaspoon ground ginger  
2 tablespoon orange marmalade  
1 orange, finely grated zest only  
4 bulbs stem ginger, chopped, plus 2 tbsp ginger syrup from the jar

Preheat oven to 190C/170C Fan/Gas 5. Grease or line a 2lb/900g loaf tin. Cream together the butter and sugar. Beat in an egg, then mix in half the flour. Beat in the other egg and milk, then mix in the rest of flour, ground ginger, marmalade, orange zest, chopped ginger and syrup. Spoon into prepared cake tin. Bake for 30-40 minutes, or until a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean. Leave the cake to cool in tin for 5 minutes, then remove and finish cooling on wire rack. Keep in an airtight tin or wrapped in foil for up to a week.

## Lemon Filo Cake *Sheila Payne*

### For the cake

200g caster sugar,  
200ml vegetable oil  
2 large eggs  
Zest of 2 lemons and juice of 3  
150g Greek yoghurt  
300g filo pastry or 10-12 sheets  
1 heaped teaspoon baking powder  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
225g raspberries, mashed

### For the syrup

275g caster sugar  
175ml water  
1 cinnamon stick



Heat the oven to 170C/Gas 5 and lightly oil a 23cm (9inch) square baking tin. Put the syrup ingredients in a pan and place over a high heat. Stir continuously and bring to the boil. Once it starts to bubble, take off the heat, remove the cinnamon stick and leave to cool completely.

Whisk together the caster sugar, oil and eggs in a large bowl until combined. Add the lemon zest, juice and Greek yoghurt, then whisk again. Shred the filo pastry into small shavings by tearing it with your hands into a separate bowl. Add this to the batter, along with the baking powder and vanilla extract and stir to combine. Put the raspberries into the bowl you used to shred the pastry and roughly mash them to a paste like consistency. Pour the batter into the tin and drop dollops of the mashed raspberries over the surface. Use a fork or skewer to swirl the berries through the mixture. Bake for 45 minutes until the cake is firm and golden on top. Remove from the oven and ladle over the syrup. Leave the cake for at least an hour to cool then refrigerate for 3 to 4 hours. If you let it cool in the tin it will slice properly.

*I have given the recipe as it is written but in my opinion (and Moira Kerr's) the amount of syrup is way too much and I only used half. We also both thought it would be a nicer pudding served with cream or ice cream!*

## Dust if you Must *Rose Milligan*

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better,  
To paint a picture or write a letter.  
Bake a cake or plant a seed,  
Ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must, but there's not much time,  
With rivers to swim and mountains to climb.  
Music to hear and books to read,  
Friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must, but the world's out there,  
With the sun in your eyes and the wind in your hair.  
A flutter of snow, a shower or rain,  
This day will not come around again.

Dust if you must, but bear in mind,  
Old age will come and it is not kind,  
And when you go (and go you must),  
You, yourself will make more dust.



**LOCUM MINISTER & INTERIM  
MODERATOR**  
Rev Tom McLeod 07596 719107

**FAMILY & CHILDREN'S WORKER**  
Catriona Mayes 07305 620611

**SESSION CLERKS**  
Bob McMillan & Doreen Tait

**TREASURERS**  
Morag Marriot & Sheila Tannock

**SAFEGUARDING**  
Ruth Easton (D) & Angela Liggat (CS)

**ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER**  
Mariea Chisholm (D)

**CHURCH OFFICER (D)**  
Vacant

**FABRIC CONVENORS**  
Doug Grant (D) & Bill Kilpatrick (CS)

**PASTORAL CARE**  
Sheila Payne/Isobel Mactier

**PRAYERS**  
Thursdays 1-2pm  
Dundonald Session Room  
Debi Dunn 07714 160486

**BIBLE READING**  
Elaine Grant (D) & Doreen Tait (CS)

**CAR ROTA**  
Jane Ritchie (D) 07817 040426

**FLOWERS & CHURCH DECORATION**  
Sheila Payne/Maureen Brown (D)  
May Steele (CS)

**FACEBOOK CDS**  
Debi Dunn 07714 160486

**WEBSITE CDS**  
Fraser McMillan 07932 397582

**DUNDONALD CHURCH HALL  
BOOKINGS**  
Katy Purdie 07860 878911

**DUNDONALD SESSION ROOM  
BOOKINGS**  
Please record your booking request in  
advance on forms kept in this room.

**SYMINGTON HALL BOOKINGS**  
Doug Marriot

**CRAIGIE SYMINGTON CHURCH  
BOOKINGS**  
Doreen Tait

**SOCIAL ACTION**  
Adaline Finlayson 07582 590899 (D)

**FLOYDS COMMUNITY CAFE**  
Mondays 9.30-12noon,  
Dundonald Church Hall  
Food Bank: Debi Dunn 07714 160486  
Frances Mavor 07985 527087

**WATER AID - JARS OF GRACE**  
Libba Fallows

**BIRTHDAY SCHEME**  
Mary's Meals in Malawi  
Frances Mavor 07985 527087

**INTIMATIONS**  
Lorna Dewar 07899 978736 (D)  
lorna@cultural-connections.co.uk

**Articles for August/September CONTACT to be submitted by 25th July 2026 Thank you!**  
Frances Mavor: sandyfrancesm@icloud.com 07985 527087.

## **South Ayrshire Foodbank**

South Ayrshire Foodbank would be very grateful for donations of any of the following:  
Tinned meat, tinned tuna, hot dogs, UHT milk, diluting juice, instant mash, tinned potatoes, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, custard, rice pudding, pasta sauce.

The Foodbank put together emergency food parcels for local people and families facing hunger. Every donation genuinely makes a difference and helps us continue supporting our community when it is needed most. Thank you so much for your continued kindness and support, the Foodbank appreciate it so much.

Items can be dropped off at Floyds Cafe, Dundonald Church Hall on a Monday morning between 9.30-12noon or contact Debi 07714 160486 or Frances 07985 527087