

ACROSS

THE GLENS

NEWSHEET NO. 1

DECEMBER 1987

STRALOCH

GLENSHEE

KIRKMICHAEL

CRAY

THE PARISH OF
KIRKMICHAEL,
STRALOCH &
GLENSHEE

NETHERTON

MINISTER: REV. ALAN T. MCKEAN
Manse of Glenshee, Dalnoid
Phone: Blackburn 255

SESSION CLERK: MARGARET BROOKES
Woodend, Enochhill
Phone: Strathmairn 375

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES

- December 20th Service as usual in Kirkmichael at 10.30 a.m.
Netherton at 12.15 p.m. The Sunday School will perform
their Nativity Play during this Service.
Ballintuim at 3.30 p.m. A special invitation has been
extended to us to join in this Service.
- December 22nd Schools Service in Kirkmichael Church 11.15 a.m. - 12 noon.
All Welcome
- December 24th Watchnight Service in Kirkmichael Church 11.15 p.m.
Carols with the Choir 11.00p.m.
- December 25th Christmas Day Service in Kirkmichael 10.30 a.m.
Service with Communion in St. Michaels 11.00 a.m.
- December 23rd Carol Singing around the Tree outside Kirkmichael Church
at 6.30 pm

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

I have always thought of Christmas time as a good time;
a kind forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only
time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when
men and women seem by one consent to open their shut up
hearts freely and therefore though it has never
put a scrap of gold or silver in my pocket, I believe
that it has done me good, and will do me good: and I
say, God bless it. (A Christmas Carol)

Across the Glens

It is hoped that the next issue will come out towards the end of March in time
for Easter and any suggestions to make it helpful and more interesting would be
much appreciated. Contributions for consideration for publication would be
most welcome. Articles, reminiscences, forthcoming events and news of all
kinds - IF WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT WE CAN'T PUT IT IN!

At the moment the Editorial Committee is:

Mrs. Elizabeth Dutton
Mrs. Jean Lindsay
Miss Caroline Macgregor
Mrs. Marjorie Stewart

Please have all copy in to our hands by March 10th. It may be sent to Mrs.
Stewart, 10 Glen Derby, Kirkmichael who is the copy editor or to any of the
committee.

We would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year and especially
our warmest wishes and prayers go to Mrs. McKean and our Minister and to all who
are ill or unhappy at this time.

Glenshee Manse. December 1987

My dear friends,

"ACROSS THE GLENS" is the first edition of our quarterly parish magazine. Aware of the area of our parish, aware of the isolation of many houses and families, we feel this magazine can be a tool for drawing us together and keep each area in touch with what is going on in other parts of the parish.

Many of you will have been aware of the visit on the 27th of October to our parish of the Moderator of the General Assembly the Right Rev. Dr. Duncan Shaw. Dr. Shaw was taken to Kirkmichael school where he met the pupils and had lunch. He then saw the Church and afterwards we made a "bee line" for Mr & Mrs Kirkwood's Honey Farm. This was followed by a visit to Glenshee and the Compass Christian Centre. The day ended with a visit to the Corb Farm where despite the terrible day Mrs. Ferguson and baby John Simon were able to increase the Moderator's knowledge about goats and cheese!

We really feel the loss of our former Session Clerk Bert Rattray. Bert had served loyally and well. The only Sunday when Bert was not in Church was the second Sunday in November when he would be in the ranks of the Commando Memorial men gathered at Spean Bridge. Our new Session Clerk is Mrs. Margaret Brookes. Mrs. Brookes' dedication to the Lord Jesus Christ and to this parish has been evident for many years, and she is already proving her good organisational ability. I hope you will accord to her the same loyalty as you did to Bert Rattray. We began with unity and close with that. Magazines, Moderators' visits, and hopes do not make for unity. Jesus Christ is the one who unites. As a member of the body of the Lord Jesus who is the King and Head of the Church: no matter where we live, we as Christians are pledged to know Christ and to make Him known. At Christmas time God made Himself known in the Son of God, Jesus Christ coming to earth. "God so loved the world that He gave His One and only Son". The Baby at which to marvel; the Teacher to learn from; the Saviour to worship; the God to obey. "For His name shall be called Immanuel which means GOD WITH US". Thank you for your prayers, support and love you have shown us during Kathy's continued illness.

May the Lord Jesus make Himself known to you at this Christmas and throughout 1988.

YOURS IN CHRIST

Alan McKean

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

The Sacrament of Baptism was administered to:

Jonathan James Glyn Menzies son of Brian and Petrina Menzies,	Kirkmichael	12.4.87
Jamie Thomas Clark son of William and Yvonne Clark.	Kirkmichael	13.5.87
Scott Sutherland Clark son of William and Yvonne Clark	Kirkmichael	3.5.87
Elizabeth Ann Harding daughter of Nigel and Frances Harding	Netherton	19.7.87
John Simon Charles Ferguson son of Simon and Denise Ferguson,	Netherton	20.9.87

Weddings

Patricia Patterson and Gordon Thomson	Glenshee	27.3.87
Diane Kathleen Brown and David John Shankie	Netherton	11.4.87
Betty Leslie and Charles Gilchrist	Cortachy	20.6.87
Lorna Brown and Gordon Dalrymple	Netherton	4.7.87
Kirsty Dutton and Paddy Graham-Jones	Netherton	1.8.87
Rosemary Strange and George Franks	Glenshee	17.10.87

Funerals

Mrs. W. Davidson	13.1.87	Mr. John Gilbert	13.5.87
Dr. William Shaw	15.1.87	Mr. John Webster	10.6.87
Miss Helen Small	13.2.87	Mr. Alexander McKenzie	26.6.87
Mr. Daniel Webster	18.2.87	Mr. Robert Rattray	
		(Session Clerk)	4.7.87
Mr. William Robertson	17.11.87		

Ordination of Elders

At the Service in Kirkmichael Church on December 5th Mrs. Margaret Brookes and Mrs. Mary Ringer were ordained as Elders and welcomed by the Kirk Session.

Services until the end of March: (see back page for further details of Christmas services).

DECEMBER 20th	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	
	Netherton 12.15p.m.	During this service the Sunday school will perform their Nativity Play.
	Episcopal Church (Ballintuim) Carol service 3.30p.m.	
DECEMBER 24th	Watchnight Service, Kirkmichael Church 11.15p.m.	Choir singing from 11.00p.m.
DECEMBER 25th	Christmas Day Service, Kirkmichael Church 10.30a.m.	
DECEMBER 27th	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	

1988

JANUARY 3rd	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	Netherton 12.15p.m.
JANUARY 10th	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	
JANUARY 17th	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	Netherton 12.15p.m.
JANUARY 24th	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	Netherton 12.15p.m.
JANUARY 31st	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	
FEBRUARY 7th	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	Netherton 12.15p.m.
FEBRUARY 14th	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	
FEBRUARY 21st	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	Netherton 12.15p.m.
FEBRUARY 28th	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	
MARCH 6th	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m.	Netherton 12.15p.m.
MARCH 27th	Kirkmichael 10.30a.m. (Palm Sunday)	

World Day of Prayer, first Friday in March.

THE WOMAN'S GUILD

Our geography dictates that we keep two branches, Kirkmichael and Straloch branch and Glenshee Branch; but we come together for two meetings and summer outing every year.

Both branches meet monthly, Kirkmichael on the first Thursday of the month in the Session House and Glenshee in various members' houses on the last Wednesday of the month.

We try to keep in touch with the wider work of the Guild and the Church by attending Presbyterial Council and Delegates meetings in Blairgowrie, bringing the news back to the Branches. Guildswomen are reputed to be the best informed members of congregations!

The membership of both branches seems to be on the increase this session and of course any interested ladies are very welcome to join in either Glen.

President of Kirkmichael Branch is Mrs. A. Sibbald, Whitehouse, Bridge of Cally (telephone Bridge of Cally 210) and Secretary is Mrs. M. Locke, Tonlold, Kirkmichael (telephone Kirkmichael 266).

President of Glenshee Branch is Mrs. P. Falconer, Corrydon, Glenshee (telephone Glenshee 221) and Secretary is Mrs. E. Dutton, Druimchardain, Bridge of Cally, (telephone Bridge of Cally 280).

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COMPASS CHRISTIAN CENTRE

"I just can't see the connection between religion and skiing" - so said an acquaintance of mine some years ago as he tried to understand the work of the Compass Christian Centre. Our work is not 'religion' for you can make a religion out of anything, including skiing! It is to 'go into all the world and share the Gospel' (the great news of God's love for us, the free offer of forgiveness which He holds out to anyone who will admit their need and accept the new life He offers) and 'all the world' is wherever people are, including the hills and mountains of Scotland.

In September we celebrated 20 years of God's goodness and faithfulness in providing for the running of the centre and at present there is an air of excitement about the centre as we look for God's guidance for the future. What now? Where do we go from here? How does God want us to face the future? Will you pray with us for clear guidance as to God's will and not man's ideas?

The winter months will see the centre used by church based groups, schools, cadets and private individuals. As we seek to show God's love in word and deed with so many young people from such a wide variety of backgrounds, will you support us in prayer? If you feel you don't know the centre well enough to pray intelligently for our needs, why not come up and see us sometime - you'll be most welcome and the kettle is aye ready to provide tea or coffee.

Telephone: Glenshee 209

(Warden) Sandy Falconer

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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School meets in Netherton on the first and third Sundays of the month. The children go to Church and leave the Service for Sunday School after the children's Address with their teacher Mrs. Flora Noonan (Bridge of Cally 203). At present there is an average attendance of eight children whose ages vary from four years to ten.

A picnic is held every summer and this year for the first time the children are presenting a Nativity Play in the Church on the 20th December at 12.15p.m. This is the new time for the Services at Netherton. Everyone will be very welcome.

* * *

Letter from Jane Baker

We have heard from Jane Baker one of our members who used to work at Kindrogan. Jane was sponsored by an American group to train for three years at the Bible Training Institute in Glasgow. Suddenly after two years the sponsorship was withdrawn and Jane had to take up office work to earn enough to continue her course. The following is an excerpt from her letter:

"From the moment I had the first phone call intimating that all was not well I felt very much at peace and able to accept whatever the outcome was as God's will".

"A year of clerical work may seem a waste, but God never wastes anything. One of the most valuable things so far has been the opportunity to be a Christian in an ordinary secular environment and since I had to explain my situation to those I was working with that gave the opportunity for conversation about what I believe. Talking about my faith is not something I find easy, but one girl was open to talking and as she is the sort of girl who asks very direct questions and wants straight answers that helped. Though she has left now we are still in touch".

Jane says she has managed to get a flat with a very low rent which includes a pint of milk a day! - and continues ...

"writing this gives me the opportunity to thank all those who gave so generously for my support over the summer including the fee for the Tell a Stranger in Chester. I wondered whether I would ever be able to walk up to a stranger and talk about Christ, but I discovered that half the team felt as I did but there is a saying 'where God calls, He equips', and we found this to be true. One of the team led a girl to Christ near the beginning of the fortnight and we met many who were 'thinking about' going to church and are now in touch with Christians in their own country or are receiving Bible Study courses. We gave out John's Gospels and other Scriptures in many languages. A girl from Qatar accepted a Gospel in Arabic and later in London a lad from Qatar made a profession of faith. Qatar is a Moslem country which according to the prayer handbook Operation World has no known believers. So T.A.S. in Britain was involved there in a frontier of mission - which means that everyone who gave financially and supported me in prayer was involved too! Please keep praying - that I'll be able to stand firm at work; for the Sunday School class I help with now; that I will be willing to pack up after the course is finished and to go wherever God wants me to go; and most of all that I'll be able to continue to trust in Him to show me the way forward step by step.

I go to Bible Study and prayer group and we all pray together as well as individually for Strathardle and Glenshee. It's good to get news of the glens.

S.W. R.I.

The 'Rurals' continue to enjoy full and varied programmes and the members learn many crafts and household skills as well as being entertained by a wide variety of speakers and demonstrators.

The Ballintuim Whist Drive is to be held on the 18th March, 1988.

The Kirkmichael Whist Drive will be on 25th March 1988

The first meeting of the New Year in Kirkmichael will be an Open Meeting. The speaker will be Mr. Matthews of the Strathlene Hotel who will give a talk on the Himalayas with slides. Everyone will be welcome in the Hall on January 14th 1988.

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Some Christmas RecipesA Christmas Cake (Mr. Stephen)

$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. Margarine and $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. Butter
 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. Brown sugar and $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. Caster
 1 oz. Treacle (about 1 teasp)

Cream together and add 4 eggs, one at a time, creaming it between each one.

Mix in:

2 oz. ground almonds, 7 oz. plain flour and 2 ozs. selfraising, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. sultanas
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Raisins, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. currants, 2 oz. peel and 2 oz. cherries.

Line the tin as usual and bake at 280F or 150C for nearly 3 hours.

Nutty Chicken with French Mustard

4 X 100g/4oz Chicken breast fillets, boned and skinned

4 Teasp. French Mustard

15g/ $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Hazelnuts, chopped

15g/ $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Fresh breadcrumbs

1 Teasp. Mixed herbs

Method: Place the chicken on a board and spread each side with the mustard.

Mix the remaining ingredients on a plate. Coat each piece of chicken with the mixture, covering well. Chill for 15 minutes then shallow fry for 6-8 minutes each side.

Recipe for a Happy Home (from a friend in Thailand)

To 3 cups of love and 2 cups of understanding, add 4 teaspoons of courtesy and 2 teaspoons each of thoughtfulness and helpfulness. Sift together thoroughly, then stir in an equal amount of work and play. Add 3 teaspoons of responsibility. Season to taste with study and culture. Then fold in a generous amount of worship. Place in a pan well greased with security and lined with respect for personality. Sprinkle lightly with a sense of humour. Allow to set in an atmosphere of democratic planning and mutual sharing. Bake in a moderate oven. When well done, remove and top with a thick coating of real common sense. Serve in a platter of friendliness garnished with smiles.

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Shop Closing

We understand all the shops will be closed on Christmas Day and on Boxing Day, and on New Year's Day and January 2nd. Milne's Stores will stay open until 6 p.m. on Thursday 24th December and will be open from 10 - Noon on Sunday 27th. They will also be open till 6 p.m. on Thursday December 31st and from 10 - Noon on January 3rd. The Post Offices will all be shut on Monday January 4th as well as the other dates.

Don't forget to order your extra bread and cream early.

The Thursday Club

The Thursday Club meet every Thursday during the school terms in Strone of Cally School at 12.30p.m. and enjoy lunch together. Sometimes this is followed by slides or other entertainment and sometimes just by a chat. At present it is a very flourishing club with an average of about 15 older people attending. The Organiser is Mr. John Maxwell, Alt-na-Feadh, Bridge of Cally. (Tel. Cally332)

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The Wednesday Afternoon Social Club

This club for retired people meets in Kirkmichael School during the winter terms at 2.30p.m. About once a month there is a speaker or a slide show, the other Wednesday afternoons the members play whist, and there is always a cup of tea and a biscuit. Chairman: Mrs. Violet Walker, Ardlemount (Strathardle 316)

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NEWS IN BRIEF

The Auction Sale held in Kirkmichael Hall in July in aid of the Church was a resounding success. During the course of a most entertaining day the sum of £1951.62 was raised. The refreshment stall raised £136.13.

Captain Duncan Ellin R.N. and Professor Hamish Miles were both awarded the O.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

A small ceremony was held in Kirkmichael in November when a new Play Area was opened. The equipment was given in memory of Dr. Archie Stewart.

Dr. G.F. Dutton received a Scottish Arts Council 'Autumn Book Award' in Edinburgh recently. He has just published his second collection of poetry entitled 'Squaring the Waves'.

Bridge of Cally raised over £600 with a Ceilidh in aid of their Village Hall.

Kirkmichael Woman's Guild organised and enjoyed an evening of entertainment in Dirnanean the home of Mrs. Balfour. Over £154 was made with the sale of tickets and at a small stall. £125 has been contributed to the funds of the Church.

Vaila Macdonald has been chosen to train with the Olympic Ski Team.

Francesca Ramazotti won 1st Prize in the Under 7 Division of a Poster Design Competition run by the Tayside Fire Brigade.

After winning the Girls up to 12 class at the Aberfeldy Mod for singing a Duet in Gaelic, Tracy Ogilvy and Katrina Falconer went on to win the Gold Medal at the National Mod in Stirling.

Schools re-open January 6th 1988.

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Seen on television live from a primary school Nativity play.

Joseph knocks on the Inn door.

"May we come in"?

Innkeeper (furious at not being chosen as Joseph) "Mary can come in, but there's no room for you". (drags Mary in and slams the door).

* * *