

ACROSS

THE GLENS

No 14

STRALOCH

GLENSHEE

KIRKMICHAEL

CRAY

1791 - 1991

PERSIE

THE PARISH OF
KIRKMICHAEL,
STRALOCH &
GLENSHEE

NETHERTON

1891 - 1991

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Kirkmichael Manse
October 1991

Dear Friends

This has been a marvellous few months since our last edition.

We had two marvellous services to look back and give thanks for. Two hundred years of work and witness in the Kirkmichael Church building and 100 years of Netherton Church. The Kirkmichael service was lead by the Rev Kenneth MacVicar the past moderator of our Presbytery and the Rev Walter Ritchie and the Rev Fraser Stewart took the prayers. Everybody had a great time at the Banquet which followed - thanks to all who made it a day to remember and for all the hard work put in.

Netherton Church on it's day had standing room only - some could not get in! The Rev David Doig who conducted a very good service could not believe his eyes! Thanks to all friends who turned up as well to the baptism - what better way to celebrate 100 years of past life than to welcome Sophie Grace Alicia into fellowship in baptism. Once again the food that followed was speechless - at least everybody was, they were too busy eating. We welcomed a party from St Andrews Church, Blairgowrie, the parent Church of Netherton and they passed on greetings from Mr Young and the congregation.

The Auction Sale raising over £3,000 was an answer to prayer. The power of work done by Mrs Fleming and Mrs Imlay was amazing, not to mention the willing help of many from the four corners of the Glens without whom it just would not have been possible. Those who supplied the hungry buyers with food should also be thanked. Jimmy Downie was on stage for seven hours without a break. This is his last auction and we do thank him for this and the others he has so kindly done. To come to listen to Jimmy was part of the day and if you ended up with calf feeders or a Ming vase it was all part of the fun.

The concert at the Bridge of Cally was the best yet with all the artists doing well. The dancers were superb, Bobby Brown, Fraser Penny, Mo, Ian Powrie and a surprise and much appreciated song from Joe Gordon and Sally Logan which brought the house down. Thanks to all these and to Sandy Stuart for being the compere - but the award for courage went to eight year old Andrew Mair who found that one of the reeds of his full-size set of pipes had been broken. He discovered this just a few minutes before he was due to appear but still played manfully on. In Sandy Stuart's words "He'll be a fine Ambassador for Scotland one day".

Thanks to all and to Mrs Cathy Gillon for drawing everything together. The concert raised about £245.

We have so much to thank God for, and so much hard work has been put in.

We are heading to the season when we remember the greatest gift of all - the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ at Bethlehem. Once more into a troubled world comes that greatest gift ever given to men, women and children. Behold you Saviour "O come O come Immanuel" and once again the Angel announces the great unalterable fact.

"Behold I bring you tidings of great joy which shall be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2 v 10, 11). What better way to close a letter of thanks.

May you and your families know the Spirit of God upon you this Christmas and in 1992.

Alan McKean

SERVICES

| | Kirkmichael | Netherton |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| October 27th | 10.30 | - |
| November 3rd | 10.30 (Communion) | 12.15 |
| 10th | 10.30 Remembrance Sunday | |
| 17th | 10.30 | 12.15 (Communion) |
| 24th | 10.30 Family Service | |
| December 1st | 10.30 | 12.15 Advent |
| 8th | 10.30 | - |
| 15th | 10.30 | 12.15 |
| 22nd | 10.30 Family Service | - |
| 24th | Watchnight Christmas Eve | Kirkmichael 11.15 pm |
| 25th | Christmas Day Service | - Kirkmichael 11.00 am |
| 29th | 10.30 | 5th Sunday |
| January 1992 | | |
| 5th | 10.30 | 12.15 |
| 12th | 10.30 Family Service | |
| 19th | 10.30 | 12.15 |
| 26th | 10.30 | |

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

December 20th Kirkmichael Village Carols Round the Tree at 6.30pm. Mincepies to follow.

December 23rd Carol Service in Ballintuim Episcopal Church at 3pm. Refreshments.

Everyone is welcome on both these traditional occasions.

PARISH REGISTER

Marriages:

June 15th Christina Page daughter of Mr & Mrs Frank Page to
Ivor Harrison
July 6th Angela Ogilvy daughter of Mr & Mrs Eric Ogilvy to
Stewart McCowan
July 25th Kitty Andrew daughter of Mr & Mrs Robin Andrew to
Alan Speedie
Sept 7th Helen Nicholson daughter of the late Mr & Mrs H A
Nicholson to Rupert Leng

Baptism:

Sophie Grace Alicia, born 17th March 1991, baptised 25th August
1991 - daughter of Simon and Denise Ferguson.

Deaths:

June 5th Michael Mackenzie-Smith, Kirkmichael
July 2nd James Kettles Cochrane, Kirkmichael
October 6th Joan Dow, Bridge of Cally
October 7th Robert Martin, Carsie

Michael Mackenzie-Smith of Finegand

Michael Mackenzie-Smith of Finegand was born the son of a Royal
Scot Colonel in 1917. His early life was spent abroad and later
in Yorkshire and Perthshire, specifically in Glenshee which he
loved and to which he was later to return.

Mike went to school at Winchester followed by Christ Church,
Oxford where he graduated in 1939. He was chosen for the
Colonial Service and, still at Oxford, he attended a six month
course in Law, Anthropology and Swahili before being posted to
Africa.

Almost immediately on arrival in Kenya Mike and his friends were
drafted into the Kenya Regiment, followed by OCTU, a commission,
a posting to the Middle East and transfer to the Yorkshire
Dragoons. It was at Alamein that his regiment was made prisoner.
During these long years of incarceration he made several attempts
to escape, the last of which was successful. Years of
imprisonment cannot but affect a man but Mike was nothing if not
resourceful and buttressed by spirituality: both these traits
stood him in good stead.

Returning to the Colonial Service after the War, he spent the
next 12 years in Africa. In 1956 he married Julia and they had
two sons. With the advance of independence in the Colonies
Mike's service abroad came to an end and coming home he worked
first with the Commonwealth Economic Committee at Marlborough
House in London and finally with the Monopolies Commission.

After retirement in 1970 he came back to Perthshire where he
looked after the Finegand Estate on behalf of members of his
family. This gave him great joy and fulfilment: whether he was
on the hill burning heather or on the shoots which he organised
so expertly or in fishing the Shee or in the other business of
the farm, he was clearly on top of the world.

What then can be said of Mike? Clearly a thoughtful person, a man full of joy, a man who was never heard to say anything ill of another, a man who could cope with adversity and a man of spiritual conviction as a witness his eldership in this Parish. Mike was a firm unchanging friend and it was our good fortune to have been able to count him as such. There is a verse of which Mike would surely have approved as it represents much of his life in these glens:

Do not stand by my grave and weep
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints in snow
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift up-flinging rush
Of quiet birds in circling flight
I am the soft star that shines at night.

Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there; I did not die.

WPGM

James Kettles Cochrane

Jim Cochrane came to the Glens which he loved during the War working in various parts from Enochdhu to Drumfork. He married Elma Stuart and they had a son who was tragically drowned at the age of 17 and a daughter who is married with two children. He retired to Kirkmichael.

Robert Martin

Bob Martin who leaves a widow and two married sons worked at Balnakilly, Glenfernate and further afield near Alyth. He was a very fine fisherman who was chosen to fish for Scotland. He retired to Carsie.

SUMMER WEDDINGS

Kirkmichael Village was the scene of two very happy days this summer when almost the whole population turned out to watch the weddings of Angela Ogilvy and Kitty Andrew. Schoolfriends from their early days they both made most beautiful brides and on both days the weather was glorious and the Church and the Blair's garden for the photographs looking their best. Angela's bridesmaids were her sister Tracy and her cousin Valerie and Kitty was attended by her two sisters Claire and Sarah and Alan's sister and brother, Alice and Alistair.

Two more lovely weddings took place in Ballintuim - Christina Page wasn't so fortunate with the weather but Kirkmichael was intrigued to see a Marquee on the lawn at Tiroran. Unfortunately her family have left the district. Helen Nicholson, another beautiful bride will be continuing to carry on her long family connection at Balnald. All in all we have seen more fashionable hats this year than for many a long day!

The Episcopal Church is now closed for the winter except for a service on Christmas Day at 11 am and the above Carol Service so members are very welcome to worship and take communion at Kirkmichael or Netherton with us.

LETTER FROM JANE BAKER ...

A/C Cedo, Apartado 294, 4703 BRAGA Codex

September 1991

I'm sitting in a room furnished with cardboard boxes and borrowed furniture; and, having had less than 2 weeks back in Braga, with plenty of questions about the future. What will life here be like? It's good to know that God has the answers. Meanwhile, at the end of a busy summer, there's plenty of news about the past.

I enjoyed reading the anniversary edition of the magazine, and look forward to the reports of the different services and the concert which I hear went very well. I was sorry that my visit home couldn't include a trip north of the Border, but a month isn't very long, and it was easily filled spending time with different members of my family. It was a good month, and I was glad I'd gone back to England.

My time in Coimbra came to an end all too quickly. The exam at the University was painless and I was pleased with the result. Then afterwards it got hotter and hotter. I was glad to stay inside most of the time. The flowers reached their most colourful phase, with the brilliant blue of the morning glories and the vivid pinks and purples of the bougainvillea. Not the easiest of times for packing up and moving again. It's good that it's near enough to Braga for weekend visits to friends.

After a couple of days in Braga with temperatures up over 100oF, I was happy to leave for the relative cool of Porto, to take part in a summer mission. In many ways, Porto is a typical European city - most people don't go to church, and are more interested in material things. But there is more respect for, and willingness to talk about, God, and the very international team had many good conversations about what it means to be a follower of Jesus. My Portuguese was well-stretched, and on several occasions I was aware of God taking away my fear and giving me the right words.

Then it was off on the journey to England - overland with a family of three. We climbed up through the mountains of Portugal, which are beautiful, trekked across the brown plateau of NW Spain, then down through the Pyrenees (covered in cloud) into France - very English-looking after Spain. The Channel was like a millpond. And England? - I felt as if I'd never been away!

And yesterday, I knew for certain I was back in Portugal. I was on the bus, and a lady moved her bag to make room for mine on the rack. Then I noticed a hen's head protruding from her bag. She tapped it and it disappeared, but soon came out again to look around. Well that's one way to ensure your Sunday roast is fresh!

Jane Baker

WOMAN'S GUILD
Theme: Faith Works

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Office Bearers: | Mrs Tricia Falconer | President |
| | Mrs Marjorie Stewart | Vice-President |
| | Mrs Ethel Duncan | Treasurer |
| | Mrs Sheila Fleming | Secretary |

After a busy summer helping with all the fund-raising a pleasant talk with slides on the National Trust from Mr John Murdoch opened our session. Hostesses were Mrs Duncan and Mrs Reid. As an experiment after November we are going to meet in the afternoon instead of the evening during the worst of the winter so members are asked to note the new times carefully. We are looking forward to welcoming the members of the Bridge of Cally Lunch Club and the Kirkmichael Wednesday Club to a Party when the staff of Glenshee Lodge will entertain.

November 7th 7.15 pm Talk & Slides on Roxburgh House - Dr Martin Leiper. Hostesses - Mrs Falconer, Mrs Fleming.
November 20th (Wednesday) 2.30 - 5 pm Party for Senior Citizens in Kirkmichael Hall.
December 5th 2 pm "Faith Works" - Barbara Steven and friends. Hostesses - Mrs Stewart, Mrs MacLachlan.
February 6th 2 pm AGM and Talk and Video on the Project "Building for their Future" - Mrs Marchant. Sew up Blankets. Hostesses - Mrs Dutton, Mrs Ferguson.
March 5th 2 pm "Life in Chile" - Rev A Smith, Dunkeld Cathedral. Hostesses - Mrs Ballantine, Mrs Marchant.
March 6th 2 pm World Day of Prayer - Session House, Kirkmichael. Hostesses - Mrs Brookes, Mrs McGregor.

CHURCH CONCERT

The Concert in aid of Church Funds was well attended with around 100 people in the audience. It opened with a real swing with the swirl of the pipes by eight year old Andrew Mair - his first appearance, so we all say well done Andrew!

We had a lovely performance from the Ann Burgess Highland Dancers, always a pleasure to watch. Bobby Brown we all know with his friend Fraser Penny on the accordion and fiddle. Our friends from Pitlochry The Happy Harmonicas were just great, then Ian Powrie and his friends closed the first half and again later brought the concert to Finale.

I thank every one of the artists for making this such a grand night - also a great many thanks to all the ladies who gave food and helped. I couldn't have managed without them. We raised £248. I am so pleased you all enjoyed the evening. Also the Office-Bearers give their sincere thanks to all who helped at the Centenary Service and Lunch.

Kathy Gillon

'SOIREE'

The Kirkmichael Concert & Soiree unfortunately had to be postponed owing to other functions occurring on the date chosen. It will be held sometime in the New Year.

THE NUN'S PRAYER

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am
growing older and will some day be old.
Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say
something on every subject and on every occasion.
Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's
affairs.
Make me thoughtful but not moody. Helpful but not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it
all but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few
friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details.
Give me wings to get to the point.
Seal my lips on my aches and pains, they are increasing and
love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as
the years go by.

I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of
other's pains

But help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory but for a growing
humility and a lessing cocksuremess

When my memory seems to clash with the memories of others
Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be
mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint - some
of them are so hard to live with - but a sour old
person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places
and talents in unexpected people

And give me, oh Lord, the grace to tell them so.

SOUVENIR ARTICLES

So far the sale of Mugs and Tea-towels realised £1,158.20 and the Church and the Strathardle & Glenshee Benevolent Fund have each benefitted by £500 from the sale of Bobby Brown's tape. Sales of all these items continue. There has been a second printing of tapes and the Kirkmichael mugs are rapidly becoming collectors pieces, more will soon have to be fired.

Bobby Brown's gift was a very generous one and we thank him again. The stall at the Games raised £251.

AUCTION SALE

Everyone pulled their weight to make this such a happy and successful day but special mention should be made of the army of white-coated "porters" who so cheerfully fetched and carried and kept the pot boiling all day. There was a tremendously encouraging response to our pleas for help.

ROUND THE RURALS

MOUNT BLAIR Members enjoyed meeting again at the start of the new session when we were treated to the intricacies of lace-making by Mrs Shirley Wallace. We were joined by husbands and friends for our birthday outing to Pitlochry Theatre where an enjoyable meal was followed by an excellent concert featuring Peter Morrison and Alastair McDonald. The Annual Whist Drive is to be held on Friday, 25th October in Blackwater Hall. Meetings for 1991 -

10th October Soft Furnishings; 14th November - Tupperware (Open Night); 12th December - Dried Flowers and Christmas Decorations; 23rd December - Pantomime. Do come along to any of our meetings. President - Mrs Pam Cameron. Secretary - Mrs Jean Jackson.

GLENSHEE The Whist Drive held recently raised nearly £118. President Mrs Cook, Secretary Mrs Fraser. Meetings held on the first Thursday of each month.

BALLINTUIM As the Red Cross didn't turn up for the first meeting the members had a Beetle Drive. Competitions - First Aid Box - 1. Mrs B Duncan; 2. Mrs H Reid. Strawberry Jam - 1. Mrs West; 2. Mrs H Reid; 3. Mrs B Duncan. President Mrs West, Secretary Mrs B Duncan. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month.

BRIDGE OF CALLY Meet on the first Tuesday. President Mrs B Farmer, Secretary Mrs Marchant.

KIRKMICHAEL President Mrs E Duncan, Vice President Mrs L Maclachlan, Secretary Mrs Cairns. Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

SOCIAL CLUB - The Club meets in Kirkmichael on Wednesday afternoons. President Mrs Flo Jackson, Secretary Mrs Mary Ross, Treasurer Mrs Madge Duncan.

KEEP FIT! - A class has been arranged by Mrs Moira Locke and will be held on Wednesday afternoons 1.45 - 2.45 pm in the Kirkmichael Village Hall. All welcome, bring your own mat or a towel.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING - Tuesday evenings at 8 pm in Kirkmichael Hall. Mrs Helen Dutch will be happy to welcome new dancers.

CHOIR - The Glen Choir meets in Kirkmichael School on Mondays at 7.30 pm. New members welcome.

JUNIOR & SENIOR YOUTH CLUBS - These Clubs meet in Kirkmichael Hall at 6.15 pm - 7.45 pm (Juniors) followed by the Seniors under the aegis of Mrs Norma Morris who would be glad to have any kind of scrap material - plastic cartons, ribbons, washing-up liquid bottles etc etc. This year the Clubs are collecting stamps in aid of the Guide Dogs for the Blind, so please give them your used stamps and be careful to leave a reasonable edge round them.

STRATHARDLE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY SPORTS ASSOCIATION
All-Weather Multi-Purpose Sports Court
Opening Ceremony

After almost a year of fund-raising the seemingly impossible financial target of £5,000 was reached. Work on the All-weather Court began during the School summer holidays and the court construction was completed at the beginning of September. The official opening ceremony was performed by District Councillor John Wilson on Sunday, 15th September at 2 pm and thereafter a full afternoon of "Sports For All" commenced. Games demonstrated and then participated in included Unihoc, Lacrosse, Tennis, Volleyball, Netball, Basketball and 5-a-Side Football. The weather was beautiful and everyone had fun - lots of red faces, especially amongst the Mum's Netball Team who showed that none of their old skills had been forgotten! Perth & Kinross District Council had also lent us the ever popular "Bouncy Castle" for the day. A light buffet (prepared by Hugh Cuthbertson) was provided in the school for all present. All in all it was a marvellous introduction for everyone to this first class facility, which we hope will now be actively used by the community throughout the year.

None of this would have been possible however without the support and generosity of the people and organisations in the area. Thanks to everyone for their help and support throughout the whole project.
YC

STRATHARDLE COMMUNITY GROUP

Meetings as before - see syllabus. Jumble Sale, November 9th Straloch School.

KIRKMICHAEL CHURCH DUTIES

| | |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| Jan 19 | Mrs McGregor & Mrs Reid |
| Feb 2 | Mrs Maclachlan |
| 16 | Mrs Staton |
| Mar 1 | Mrs J Keiro and Mrs B Duncan |
| 15 | Mrs Y Clark |
| Apr 5 | Mrs J Blair |
| 19 | Mrs E Duncan and Mrs G Andrew |
| May 3 | Mrs Stewart |
| 17 | Mrs Ringer |
| 31 | Mrs Dutch |
| Jun 14 | Mrs I Milne and Mrs K Duncan |
| 28 | Mrs M Brookes |
| Jul 12 | Mrs Fleming |

Editorial Committee

Mrs E Dutton Mrs J Lindsay Miss C Macgregor
Mrs M Stewart (Copy Editor) 10 Glen Derby - Strathardle 285.
Mrs Y Clark: Please have copy in our hands by January 12th 1992.
Special thanks to Yvonne without whom this edition would not have appeared.