

Winter 2023



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Material for the Spring 2024 issue should be emailed to
John Adams - grizzly121@me.com

by Sunday 14th January 2024 - No Later please

Charity Numbers Mochrum SC003300 Kirkinner SC001946 Sorbie SC010621

PRINCE OF PEACE

AS I write, Storm Babet is raging. The waves in Wigtown Bay are being whipped up and the white horses are rearing their heads.

As I write, war is raging in the middle east. People are being worked up into a frenzy and anger and hatred inhabit their hearts.

What is the answer in the face of stormy, troubled times?

The only one, who can calm the storm, is the one who came to bring us peace. This man, Jesus, would be called, 'Prince of Peace.' (Isaiah 9:6)

This winter season, as we approach Christmas, may you know God's peace. The peace which is above and beyond all our understanding. Peace between us, peace within us, peace among us.

A Gaelic Blessing

Deep peace of the running wave to you.

Deep peace of the flowing air to you.

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.

Deep peace of the shining stars to you.

Deep peace of the gentle night to you.

Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.

Deep peace of Christ, of Christ the light of the world to you.

Deep peace of Christ to you.

Rev. Eric Boyle (*Interim Moderator*)

CHURCH SERVICES LIST

Services normally start at 11.00am but please note exceptions.

For details of the Minister leading the services, where not listed, please contact
Session Clerk Jenni Gray on 01988 700948

NOVEMBER

5th Mochrum Donna Brewster

12th Millisle **12 noon**

10.50am - There will be a short Service of Remembrance with wreath laying at Port William War Memorial.

Wreath laying services will also be held at Garlieston, Kirkinner and Millisle - *times to be confirmed.*

19th Mochrum Elder led service

26th Millisle Rev Eric Boyle

DECEMBER

3rd Mochrum Donna Brewster

10th Millisle Donna Brewster

17th Mochrum Service of Lessons and Carols with the Creetown Silver Band

24th Millisle Elder led service

31st Mochrum Rev Eric Boyle

JANUARY

7th Millisle Donna Brewster

14th Mochrum Rev Eric Boyle

21st Millisle Catherine Morrison

28th Mochrum Elder led service

FEBRUARY

4th Millisle Donna Brewster

11th Mochrum Rev Eric Boyle

18th Millisle Elder led service

25th Mochrum Catherine Morrison

MOCHRUM PARISH

CHURCH REGISTER

FUNERALS

“The Lord Is My Shepherd”

August	Jimmy McNally	Formerly of Port William
	Jeff Penrose	Port William
	Bob Smith	Port William
	Sheila McMillan	Mochrum
September	Jimmy McCulloch	Mochrum
	Linda Malone	Formerly of Port William
October	Anna Thompson	Port William

ELDERS' DUTY LIST

November	Ann Wadsworth
December	Moira Adams
January	Elizabeth Wallace

COFFEE MORNING ROTA

November	1st	Rachel Wadsworth and Helen McTier
December	6th	Vicky Parker and Barbara Mellor
(with Sales Table)		
January	3rd	Barbara Gaw and Ann Gerrish
February	7th	Aileen Kirk and Kay Gibson
March	6th	Elsie Kirby and Ann Ballantyne
April	3rd	Arlene Morgan and Jane Nelson

FLOWER ROTA FOR MOCHRUM KIRK

(if the dates do not suit please swap and let us know)

November	5th	Morag Walker
	19th	Anne Highman
December	3rd	Lorraine Ker
	17th	Jenni Gray
	31st	Ann Wadsworth
January	14th	Annie Hyslop
	28th	Jean Hobbs
February	11th	Linda Gerrish
	25th	Rachel Wadsworth
March	10th	Audrey Wallace
	24th	Lorraine Ker
April	7th	Anne Gerrish
	21st	Helen McColm

QUIZ - THINGS WE ASSOCIATE WITH CHRISTMAS

e.g. A little friend who comes bobbin along? - "robin". Easy? - try these

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Scrooge featured in this. | 8) Rats? No! Turn about. |
| 2) Buddy | 9) Gives |
| 3) and the? | 10) Sounds as if it's wet darling |
| 4) The day for fights? | 11) I string dads chump (anagram - 2 words) |
| 5) Class 'A' Aunt (anagram - 2 words) | 12) Frank Carson would appreciate this at Yuletide |
| 6) Scales in the cattle trough | 13) Taxi Price on December 25th |
| 7) Aladdin and Cinderella, for example | 14) Daring little nets (anagram - 3 words) |

Answers on Page 17

ADVERTISEMENTS

Please could we remind everyone who advertises in the magazine that their payment is due by the end of January.

Please give monies to our treasurer Ieuan Morgan

Information - Jenni Gray 700948

MOCHRUM GUILD REPORT

IN August, our Guild held a “Ploughman’s and Pudding Lunch” which was a great success with over 80 folk enjoying food and friendship. Due to fantastic donations from supermarkets, members and friends, a sales table and anonymous financial donations, we raised £470 to help with our projects. Thank you to everyone who helped out and to all the folk who came along to enjoy the meal.

Our first Mochrum Guild meeting of the 2023/2024 season took place on Tuesday, 12th September, in the Maxwell Hall. Our theme this year is “New Wine, New Wineskins”. Vicky Parker welcomed everyone to the meeting including our speaker for the afternoon, Rev Eric Boyle.

We then went round and introduced ourselves to Eric before he asked us, what had stayed the same and what had changed over the past year in our lives. To give us a spell to think, Eric went first and told us about having a father and son holiday for a change. Everyone gave an example of a recent change in their lives, good or bad, and how they coped.

Eric spoke about the Guild’s new theme, and by quoting a few passages from Matthew, Mark and Luke, explained the meaning of our title. We found this very interesting and more understandable with

members engaging together about the meaning.

Eric finished by reading a prayer from the Guild Pack and leaving us with much to chat about while we enjoyed tea and cake.

Sadly, a few members were unable to attend our October meeting due to an unusual amount of hospital operations and treatments. Ann Wadsworth welcomed everyone to the meeting and then introduced our guest speakers Elizabeth Sykes and Norrie McIntosh from Citizens Advice Bureau, Stranraer.

Elizabeth explained that she was the manager of the Stranraer Branch and Norrie was a volunteer who specialised in employment issues. The Citizens Advice Bureau had been set up during the Second World War and was an organisation to give free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone. In 2022/23 the Citizens Advice Service network helped over 187,000 clients in Scotland and dealt with over 700,000 advice issues. With support from the network, clients gained over £140 million.

Elizabeth then gave us a summary of the many different areas in which they can help, such as welfare, debt, housing, utilities and employment to name a few. Enabling people to know their rights and helping to change government policies to suit more people.

We then had a lengthy Q&A session in which we all had something to ask this knowledgeable team.

Ann gave a vote of thanks to our speakers and finished with a prayer. We closed the meeting with a cuppa and cake plus lots to talk about.

Babs Mellor and Vicky Parker



are on duty for the December Coffee Morning on Wednesday 6th, 10.15am in the Maxwell Hall. We shall be having a sales table with a Christmas theme. If you have anything you would like to donate towards the table, please pass it to either lady asap. More importantly, we would love it so much if you would just join them for a cuppa that day and make it a full room with carols playing and a mince pie or two.

We are always looking for new members to join us. Any new members and visitors will be made very welcome, just come for a coffee and chat. Try it, you never know, you just might like it!

Vicky Parker

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November 14th

Meeting 2pm – Newton Stewart Museum

December W/C 12th

Christmas Meal

January 9th

Meeting 2pm – Members' Afternoon
Tea & Quiz

February 13th

Meeting 2pm – Barnardo's

March 1st

2pm – World Day of Prayer

March 12th

Meeting 2pm – AGM

April 9th

Meeting 2pm – The Faith Mission

PORT WILLIAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

OUR first term has flown by very quickly indeed!

We have 11 new Primary 1 children who have all settled in very well and are enjoying school life. We have been very active this term with Tag Rugby coaching for Primary 4/5 pupils ending with a Machars Cluster Tournament at Bladnoch.

Children in P4-7 also had a multi-sports after-school club and a lunchtime Boccia Club (any age) was held. Our Primary 7 pupils have taken their first steps into secondary education at the Douglas Ewart High School with a full S1 Transition day where they experienced new subjects, met their new teachers and learned more about the world of work.

Just before the summer we achieved our Bronze Level 'Rights Respecting Schools' award which was brilliant! Through this we are focusing on understanding children's rights and what they mean to children and adults. We have a Whole School Charter with a weekly "Article of the Week," for example Article 27

'Children have the right to food, clothing and a safe place to live.' There are 54 rights in for children (UNCRC United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child).

As well as being very busy learning in school, all children from P1 to P7 have chosen a Pupil Council which they would like to be part of. There are five councils: ECO Council, Pupil Council (school matters), Community Council, Digital Council and Rights Respecting School Council. They are pupil-led and really giving children a chance to express their ideas and thoughts through Pupil Voice and be decision-makers.

Looking ahead to next term we are hoping to develop and improve our playground environment and outdoor loose parts play area. We will be holding the School Christmas Fair and other festive school activities later in the term. Hopefully we will see you at our school events.

Thank you.

Mrs McDevitt

Head Teacher Port William and Kirkiner Partnership

MOCHRUM SESSION CLERK'S REPORT

WHEN I was younger I used to love the dark nights, come home from work, draw the curtains and shut out the world. Now I think the opposite, I hate the short cold days and although the colours of autumn are magnificent I much prefer the long warm days of summer but whatever the weather life is full of ups and downs. Some of you will be experiencing the pain of loss, I know that some of you have been through operations, some are suffering ill health or are in pain and many are struggling with the cost of living. So many people around the world are suffering and sadly we can do little to help but we must continue to pray that all who love God will pass that love onto their neighbour so that in time His love will spread like a ripple on the sea.

The Union of Kirkiner and Sorbie is now complete and renamed Millisle Kirk and the Basis of Linkage between Mochrum and Millisle has been drawn up and sent to the Church of Scotland Law Department for approval, following which the congregation will then have the opportunity to vote as to whether or not they are in favour of such a linkage but I am sure that this will merely be a formality as we have been a joint congregation for over five years now, making many new friends and becoming one family in the body of Christ. A new Unitary Constitution will then need to be adopted which no longer requires the Kirk to have a Board and a Session with the Session alone being solely responsible for all matters relating to the Kirk, as Trustees, and in accordance with the requirements of OSCR, although it is hoped that all current Board members will still retain their current areas of responsibility and that some may even go on to become Elders of the Kirk.

The leading of Sunday Worship is now shared between Rev Boyle, Donna Brewster and the Elders and our thanks go to all the Elders who have been so willing to lead these services and to take an active part in them. In September we again all met at Wigtown Parish Church and joined with the churches of Kirkcowan and the Baptist Church as part of the Wigtown Book Festival when we enjoyed a talk by American author Jeremy Swigart, co-author of 'Mending the Divide' and 'Creative Love in a Complicated World' as well being co-founder of the Global Immersion Project.

In October we held our Harvest Thanksgiving Service and we are so grateful to Claire Nash and her team for the beautiful flower arrangements which adorned the church and to Vicky Parker who again ensured that we had at least one extra man in our congregation for such a special service, even if

he did insist on sitting in a wheelbarrow. Thank you also to all who bought gifts to this service all of which were donated to the Machars Churches Basics Food Bank (*pic page 19*).

Our Bursary has now been awarded and this year went to Adam Old who is studying to be a plumber and heating engineer. Sadly the rules of the Bursary only allow us to offer it to just one applicant and it was a very difficult decision this year as all the applicants were so very deserving. All previous applicants are however welcome to reapply in future years so I do hope that those of you who weren't successful this year will try again next time.

We would really like to increase the numbers of those attending both our Thursday Club which meets fortnightly in The View, a perfect opportunity to meet with others who enjoy a chat and a cuppa and also our monthly coffee morning on the 1st Wednesday of the month 10.15 - 11.15 am in the Maxwell Hall. These events need support to continue so do please come along, there is always someone to chat to, the welcome is always warm, there is always something nice to eat, there are Kirk souvenirs on sale at the coffee morning and in December there will be a Christmas themed sales table. Both of these events are so enjoyed by those who do still make the effort to attend, for some it may even be the only time in the month that they can get together with others, so please come and join them.

On the 12th November at 10.45 we shall be holding a service of Remembrance at the War Memorial in Port William followed by Morning Worship At Millisle at 12.00. Noon, and on the 17th December we shall have our Service of Lessons and Carols with the Creetown Silver Band. The Christmas tree will be up and the church decorated so do please come along and join us. It is always such a wonderful service celebrating a special time of year.

The everyday task of keeping the church running continues, the boiler has been serviced, the toilet painted and the notice board has finally been updated. The church is a special place within our community so please come along and ensure that it is always there when it is needed. We are here or at Millisle every Sunday morning at 11.00 am, the kettle is on, there is always home baking to be enjoyed and the welcome is warm, we look forward to seeing you there.

You all remain, always in our prayers.

Jenni Gray



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Secretary	Mrs Audrey Kevan	700463

PORT WILLIAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Secretary	Mrs Davina Kiltie	700738

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Secretary	secretary.pwcc@gmail.com	

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Secretary Mr Richard McElrea 700195

If you would like the details of your organisation's office bearers listed please give the details to John Adams (details on the front page) including any changes in personnel before the closing date stated on the front of the magazine so that the directory may be kept up to date. *Thank you - B. Hillman*

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MOCHRUM/MILLISLE PARISH DIARY

NOVEMBER

Wednesday	1st	10.15 am	Coffee Morning (Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Thursday	2nd	2.30 pm	Thursday Club meets at The View
		7.00 pm	Craft Night (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William). Organised by the SWI but open to both members and non-members – all welcome
Sunday	5th	11.00 am	Service at Mochrum
Sunday	12th	10.50 am	Service at the War Memorial, Port William
		12 noon	Service at Millisle
			Wreath laying Garlieston, Kirkinner and Sorbie - <i>times to be confirmed</i>
Tuesday	14th	2.00 pm	Mochrum Guild (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Thursday	16th	2.30 pm	Thursday Club meets at The View
		7.30 pm	Port William SWI (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Saturday	18th	10.00 am	to 4.00pm. Christmas Craft Fayre (Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Sunday	19th	11.00 am	Service at Mochrum
Sunday	26th	11.00 am	Service at Millisle
Wednesday	29th	7.30 pm	PWCC – (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Thursday	30th	2.30 pm	Thursday Club meets at The View

DECEMBER

Christmas Arrangements with Dates and Times for Mochrum Guild and Port William SWI to be confirmed.

Sunday	3rd	11.00 am	Service at Mochrum
Wednesday	6th	10.15 am	Coffee Morning (Maxwell Hall, Port William) with Christmas Themed Sales Table
Thursday	7th	7.00 pm	Craft Night (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Sunday	10th	11.00 am	Service at Millisle
Thursday	14th	2.30 pm	Thursday Club meets at The View
Sunday	17th	11.00 am	Service of Lessons and Carols at Mochrum with the Creetown Silver Band
Sunday	24th	11.00 am	Service at Millisle
Sunday	31st	11.00 am	Service at Mochrum

JANUARY

Wednesday	3rd	10.15 am	Coffee Morning (Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Thursday	4th	7.00 pm	Craft Night (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Sunday	7th	11.00 am	Service at Millisle
Tuesday	9th	2.00 pm	Mochrum Guild (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Thursday	11th	2.30 pm	Thursday Club meets at The View - <i>to be confirmed</i>
Sunday	14th	11.00 am	Service at Mochrum
Thursday	18th	7.30 pm	Port William SWI (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Sunday	21st	11.00 am	Service at Millisle
Thursday	25th	2.30 pm	Thursday Club meets at The View
Sunday	28th	11.00 am	Service at Mochrum
Wednesday	31st	7.30 pm	PWCC (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)

FEBRUARY

Thursday	1st	7.00 pm	Craft Night (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Sunday	4th	11.00 am	Service at Millisle
Wednesday	7th	10.15 am	Coffee Morning (Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Thursday	8th	2.30 pm	Thursday Club meets at The View
Sunday	11th	11.00 am	Service at Mochrum
Tuesday	13th	2.00 pm	Mochrum Guild (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Thursday	15th	7.30 pm	Port William SWI (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)
Sunday	18th	11.00 am	Service at Millisle
Sunday	25th	11.00 am	Service at Mochrum
Wednesday	28th	7.30 pm	PWCC (Supper Room, Maxwell Hall, Port William)

NATURAL HISTORY OBSERVATIONS - July to September 2023

EARLY in **July** a Hairy Shieldbug (*see photo*) was seen in the garden at Seymour House and a day or two later, Wool Carder Bees were also seen. A few days later and also in the garden, a Narrow Bordered Cuckoo Wasp was discovered (*see photo*). This insect (as its name suggests) parasitizes the nests of wasps, notably Mason Wasps, which is interesting as we have recently put up a bee hotel in the garden which has attracted a lot of interest from bees and wasps.

Last winter Lisa constructed a wildlife pond into the garden together with a wet/damp area adjacent to the pond mainly for native plants. The pond itself also has native plants, strictly no fish and a gently sloping shingle area. The wildlife attracted to it has been amazing. From May through to September the following species were found: Whirligig Beetles, Pond Skaters, a Mayfly species, Water Beetle, Pond Snails, Water Boatman, Great Diving Beetle, Ramshorn Snail, Male Common Sympetrum Dragonfly and a single Frog. Just goes to show how much more wildlife a pond can bring to a garden.

Continuing in July and the middle of the month, a Black Sexton beetle was found in the garden followed a few days later by a Herald Moth, Holly Blue butterfly and Red Admirals. Our neighbours Dave and Julie also reported Holly Blue and of more interest, a Hummingbird Hawk-moth. Later in the month Wild Thyme, Common Centaury, Carline Thistle, Common Mullein, Wood Sage, Common Ragwort, an abundance of Sea Kale and a Hairy Shieldbug were seen on a brief visit to Barsalloch Point. At the end of the month, a visit to Airylick area beyond Elrig was rewarding.

Flora seen included Large Birdsfoot Trefoil, Common Hawthorn (some already with red berries), Skullcap, Branched Bur-reed, Brooklime, Water Mint, Purple Loosestrife, Polypody Fern, Water Forget-me-Not, Hedge Parsley, Climbing Corydalis, Bilberry, Sweet Cecily, Harebell, Rowan, and Blackthorn. An

Artichoke Gall was found on Common Oak and two grasshoppers Common Green and Common Field were also seen (or more accurately heard) in the grassland.

Early in **August** at Monreith Bay the following flora was seen: Sea Holly (rare in the area), Common Storksbill, Sea Kale, Sea Purslane, Sea Radish, Corn Sowthistle, Marram Grass, Sea Spurge, Yellow Horned Poppy (also rare in the area), Sea Beet and Burnet Rose. The rest of August we were in Shetland.

Early in **September** and in the very warm weather, we had a huge influx of mainly Red Admiral butterflies together with a few Small Tortoiseshell. They were on the garden plant Eupatorium maculatum, similar to the native Eupatoria – Hemp Agrimony except the garden plant is very large, some eight or nine feet tall with huge heads of purple flowers. The butterflies love it and the many Buddleja in the garden, were almost ignored!

A Speckled Wood butterfly (*see photo*) was seen in the garden for a few days, a first for Seymour House. Several plants have arrived spontaneously in the garden this year including Bittersweet, Black Nightshade, Common Ramping Fumitory, Navelwort and the grass Broomcorn Millet, all still flowering or fruiting.

Towards the end of the month a short wander up Garnets Walk at Port William and Contorted Willow, Red-osier Dogwood, Michaelmas Daisy and a large Garden Spider were seen.

On the Monreith Estate the following day we saw the following: Yellow-flowered Strawberry in flower and fruit, Sweet Chestnut, Monkshood, Himalayan Knotweed and a single Red Admiral. On the last day of the month, a Green Shieldbug (*see photo*) was seen at Seymour House together with the rare Ballerina Waxcap in the grassland, concluding an interesting three months.

Alan Wake



Hairy Shieldbug



Narrow bordered Cuckoo Wasp



Palomena prasina
(Green Shieldbug)



Speckled Wood



Craft Fayre: Get in the mood for Christmas at the Maxwell Hall Craft Fayre on Saturday 18th November from 10am to 4pm! Bring your family to Santa's grotto, get a festive family photo taken by a professional photographer, and browse the stalls containing gifts, food, drink, crafts, and cards, to name but a few. "Soup and Pud" lunches with tea, coffee and home baking will also be available in the supper room. We are looking for donations of soup, puddings and home baking to help raise much needed funds for the kitchen and downstairs toilet refurbishments. If you can help or help in any way message Mary on 07810 435117. Many thanks!

New Activities: Winter is just round the corner, so what can we do to keep active and socialise together? Are there classes or activities in the hall that you'd enjoy? We've discussed yoga, fitness classes, table

tennis and cooking demos, to name but a few, but we want to know what YOU would like. Tell us!

Hall Improvements: We've decided our priorities are refurbishment of the ground floor disabled toilet and improved kitchen facilities.

We'd like to thank the Wigtown Community Shop for their kind £500 donation towards the disabled toilet fund.

The council have finally indicated they will undertake the much needed work to address the damp in the corridor and the water ingress from the roof. We look forward to action following words

A Thank You: Mary Wallace has retired from the committee. She was one of a small number who formed the committee and took the steps necessary to ensure the hall stayed open for the community. We might not have it otherwise the council had decided to stop operating and managing halls. Thank you for all your work as treasurer and committee member, Mary.

MAXWELL HALL COMMITTEE:

Chair: Janis Edgar; **Secretary:** Mary Cowan;

Treasurers: Kay Gibson and Lorraine Ker;

Committee Members: Tony Cottam, Maria Old, and Bob Sheppard.

Contact: hallcommittee.mhm@gmail.com

BOOKINGS:

hallbookings.mhm@gmail.com

PORT WILLIAM SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB



OUR NEW season has started in the Maxwell Hall each Friday at 7pm. Do come along and join us for an enjoyable evening. Beginners are very welcome with bowls being provided if required.

Just turn up at the hall or contact Richard McElrea *Secretary* on 01988 700195 for further information.

PORT WILLIAM REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS

MONDAY

9.30 - 11.30am	Mothers and Toddlers (MH)
7.00pm	Bridge Club (Kirkinner)
7.30pm	Community Bingo (MH)
7.30pm	Bingo at Garlieston

WEDNESDAY

10.00 - 11.00.am	Pilates (MH)
1.45pm	Bridge Club at Wigtown Golf Club

THURSDAY

9.30 - 11.30am	Mothers and Toddlers (MH)
2.30 - 4pm	Thursday Club alternate Thursdays (The View)

FRIDAY

7.30pm	Short Mat Bowling re starts in September (MH)
7.30pm	Bingo Garlieston Hall

SUNDAY

11.00am	Morning Worship (see rota)
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KEY:	(MH)	Maxwell Hall
	(WH)	Whauphill Hall
	(MK)	Mochrum Kirk
	(PWS)	Port William Surgery
	(THW)	Town Hall Whithorn
	(KH)	Kirkinner Hall

NB: Not all exceptions to regular meetings are shown.
Please refer to individual organisations if in doubt!

ANSWERS TO CHRISTMAS QUIZ (page 5)

- | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1) A Christmas Carol | 5) Santa Claus | 9) Presents | 12) Cracker |
| 2) Holly | 6) Away in a manger | 10) Reindeer | 13) Christmas Fare |
| 3) Ivy | 7) A Pantomime | 11) Christmas Pudding | 14) Glitter and Tinsel |
| 4) Boxing Day | 8) Star | | |

MILLISLE SESSION CLERK'S REPORT

SINCE I last wrote a report Kirkinner Parish Church and Sorbie Parish Church have united as Millisle Kirk. This was the name which our late minister, Rev Jeffery Mead wished the united churches to be known as. We are now Millisle Kirk linked with Mochrum.

As I write Session Clerk Jenni Gray has been unwell and spent time in hospital in Dumfries.

Jenni is now home and we must all hope that Jenni's health continues to improve. Bridget Hillman's presence at church is also greatly missed. We all hope the two ladies make a continued and steady recovery.

On 1st October, the final Sunday of the Book Festival, a joint service was held in Wigtown Parish Church with members from Wigtown, Kirkcowan, Millisle and Mochrum, as well as members of the Baptist Church. Visitors to the Book Festival attended to hear an American preacher Jeremy Swigart deliver a most memorable message to all who attended.

When Jeremy left Wigtown he was travelling to Coventry and thence to Israel.

We have all watched in horror and great distress the dreadful situation which has unfolded in Israel and Palestine, particularly in the Gaza Strip. This was particularly worrying as Jeremy Swigart was in Israel. However, as I write, he is now safely home.

Tragically, many innocent people have lost their lives in the horrendous conflict which has unfolded. We can only hope and pray that there is a quick end to it.

Next month we shall have a Service of Remembrance in Millisle Kirk at 12 noon, to be followed by the laying of wreaths at Sorbie, Kirkinner and Garlieston in the afternoon.

Before we know where we are it will be Christmas with all the festivities that that entails. It is also a time when we should remember the less fortunate among us, the poor, the lonely and unemployed. If you are aware of anyone who might enjoy a wee visit or a bowl of soup please pay them a call.

I wish you all a Peaceful Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Morag Donnan

MAXWELL HALL PRESENTS

Christmas Fayre

**Saturday 18th
November**
10am - 4pm

**Soup & Sweet
Coffee/Tea**
£5.00

**Special Guest
SANTA CLAUS**

• FREE ENTRY •

We are looking for donations of soup, puddings and home baking to help raise much needed funds for the kitchen and downstairs toilet refurbishments. If you can help or help in any way message Mary on 07810 435117

SORBIE VILLAGE HALL WEEKLY MEETINGS

MONDAY

- 10.00am Aerobics (Trish active.communities@dumgal.gov.uk)
- 1.30pm Craft Club on 1st, 3rd and 5th Monday (Rosamond 01988 850237)
- 1.30pm U3A Table Tennis on 2nd, 4th Mondays
- 3.30pm Sorbie Junior Sports Club (Michael 01988 850237)
- 6.00pm Mad Mutts Dog Training (Mel Duncan 07880 590703)
- 7.30pm Carpet Bowling (Neil Milven 01988 840396)

TUESDAY

- 9.15am Yoga (Susie McKay 01988 850258 / 07703 677117)
- 6.00pm Lego Club (Morag Cuomo 01988 8850270)
- 7.00pm Community Council 2nd Tuesday of month (Morag Donnan 01988 850288)
- 7.30pm Sorbie WI 3rd Tuesday of month (Rosamond 01988 850237)

THURSDAY

- 9.30am Homestart Wigtownshire (Office 01776 706984)
- 7.00pm Yoga (Susie McKay 01988 850258 / 07703 677117)

FRIDAY

- 9.30am Homestart Wigtownshire (Office 01776 706984)

We also host meetings for Machars Motorcycle Club, these are not in a regular slot, please contact Michael (01988 850237)



Harvest Thanksgiving
at Mochrum Church



Mochrum Kirk Carol Service

with the

CREETOWN SILVER BAND

on Sunday 17th December

11.00 am

followed by refreshments

EVERYONE WELCOME



COME JOIN US: CELEBRATE FOR THE KING IS BORN!!!