

July/August 2022

The Parishioner

The magazine of the Portland Parish Church of Scotland: Troon
(Charity Number SC003477)



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

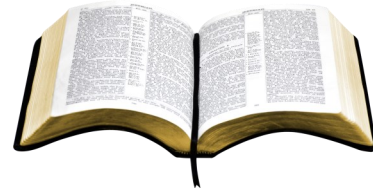
With God's support we are developing Portland as a dynamic, Spirit-led Church impacting on our town and beyond through encouragement, nurture and service

HOUSEGROUP

It was June, it was (fairly) warm and so we moved on to The Beatitudes. Matthew Chapter 5 starting at v17- 38.

Now this is a big thought provoking part of the Bible.

Fulfilment in the Law
Murder
Adultery
Divorce
Oaths
An eye for an Eye
Love for Enemies



But worth a thorough discussion.....we thought about differences since then and now, and came up with an awareness of our weaknesses, and a feeling we should strive to be better and respect one another. But not beat ourselves up - love ourselves, and move forward. Sounds easy? Lets see how we all get on.....

Next Housegroup will be on:

Wednesday 27th July at 7.30pm at 33 Beach Rd

An hour's discussion, followed by tea and biscuits. All are very welcome.

Barbie Short



A delightful photograph of Mel with the children—thank you Avril

LOCUM MINISTER

We look forward to welcoming Mrs. Gillean Richmond as locum minister for both Portland and Troon Old Parish. She is presently serving her probationary period in St. Columba's Church, Ayr, which finishes in September when she will be ordained into the ministry of word and sacrament.

It is arranged that Portland and Troon Old will share worship services—July services will be in Portland Church, August services in Troon Old.

Gillean is married with three sons, her husband is a department head at Wellington School, and Gillean was a dentist before answering her call.



News from Presbytery

At the Ayr Presbytery meeting of 28th of June 2022, the Rev Scott McKenna was confirmed as Interim Moderator for Troon Old. In addition, Mrs Gillean Richmond was confirmed as Locum for both Portland and Troon Old commencing from 1st of September 2022.

Gillean will complete her probationary period and will be ordained on or around the 1st of September 2022.

We look forward to welcoming Gillean as our Locum Minister.

John Reid
Session Clerk
Portland Parish Church

SUMMER 2022 SUNDAY SERVICES

Worship Service starts at 10.30 am followed by refreshments in the church halls

[July—Joint Services at Portland Parish Church](#)

[August—Joint Services at Troon Old Parish Church](#)

RECENT DEATHS

I am the resurrection and the life

Brian Spicer

June 2022



HAPPY HELPERS AND CUSTOMERS

GARDEN DAY 2022



Christian Aid in Portland

The Troon Committee for Christian Aid would like to thank everyone who donated to this year's Christian Aid Week so generously. We are aware that there are many good causes needing support and we thank you for supporting Christian Aid at this time.

The Coffee morning held in the hall of Troon Old raised **£638** and we thank the team from Troon Old for setting up, donating, serving and offering a warm welcome. Thank you to all who attended the coffee morning, helped on the day and donated baking and prizes.

The Soup lunches held in St Meddan's hall raised **£785**. Our thanks go to all who set up, served, donated and attended. It was a very sociable event and one of the first inter-church gatherings since lockdown. Great fellowship!

Walking the 300,000 steps Challenge in the month of May raised **£1,447**. This fundraiser was another inter-church event but without the cake, coffee and chat! Thank you to all who participated and donated in person or online.

There was an envelope collection in the four churches – St Ninian's, St Meddan's, Troon Old and Portland. **£1,402.20** was raised through this collection.

The total of **£4,272.20** will be received by Christian Aid where Gift Aid will be added to the donations where a Gift Aid form was completed.

This is a wonderful effort and we are grateful for your support. Thank you!

Margaret Weir

FOODBANK SHORT OF SUPPLIES

The need is increasing and the food donated is decreasing.

If you are able, please do give something to any of the collecting outlets - Morrisons, the Library, the churches or hand it to me.

Any tins, biscuits, toiletries, pasta, rice, sauces for pasta. Few treats for children.

And thanks from some of the folk in Troon who are very much needing help; also some of the Ukrainians who are here.

Any queries ask me.

Barbie Short, byshortoo@gmail.com

PRESENTATION TO REV MARY ELIZABETH PRENTICE-HYERS, 3RD JULY 2022

As Session Clerk, I stand before you with mixed emotions. Like reading a good book – you don't want it to end, but we are nearing the last paragraph in the final chapter.

The story so far has been about relationships and relationships are the life blood of the church.

Our relationship with Mel started back on the 12th of February 2017 when she graced our pulpit for the first time. An instant connection with the congregation was established and Mel must have liked us because she came back the next week – we certainly liked her and were so happy to see her back.

A whole year passed before we had the pleasure of Mel's company again, and she became a regular preacher during 2018 and 2019 and then we got lucky. The 19th of January 2020 saw the start of Mel's relationship with the Portland family as locum minister. Agreed for 6 weeks – a trial period, I believe. Time passes fast and we must have behaved ourselves and Mel stayed a bit longer than 6 weeks.

Mel, you came to us when we were on our knees, knocked down by decisions and indecisions at Presbytery and uncertain of our future. You walked with us during our difficult times, you walked with us when we were afraid and sad, and you lifted our spirits. You picked us up and transformed us back into a happy, loving congregation. You were there when we needed you and we will be forever grateful to you.

Although, you must have wondered what you had taken on.

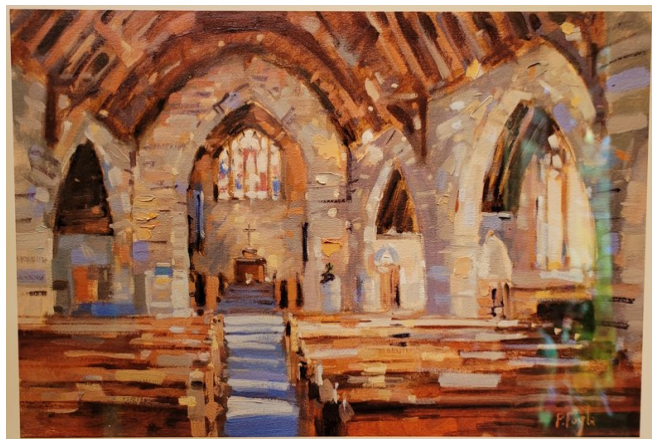
No sooner had you started as locum minister, we found ourselves in "lockdown" – 24th March 2020, day 1 of "lockdown". But you managed to keep good care of your new flock and you warmed to the challenge of virtual services. We are so grateful that you were willing to go the extra mile for us.

And now the six weeks has come to an end. Partings are never easy, but relationships last forever. Life is fortified by many friendships, to love and to be loved is the greatest happiness of existence. You have shown us true Christian love and we will miss you.

We cannot let you go without giving you a few reminders of your time with us here in Scotland.

Picture of the sanctuary of Portland Church

A small reminder of the place you made your own. I hope, when you glance at this picture, you are reminded of all the wonderful times we have worshiped together.



Picture of Portland Church



A small sketch of this beautiful building to show to your friends in the States and remind you of your time with us.

Orkney jewellery

A small piece of Scotland to take home with you. A reminder of the beauty of Scotland and a small token of our love and appreciation for all the times you supported us in our hour of need.



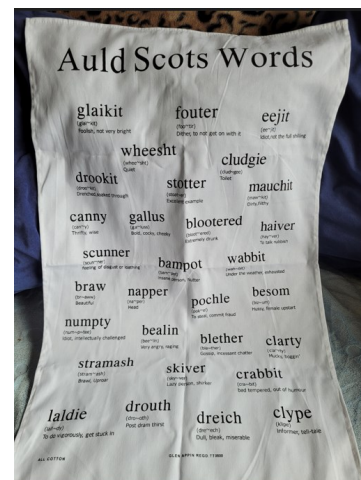
Harris Tweed bag



You cannot go back to the States without something as Scottish as Harris Tweed. A bag to remind you of Scotland.

A Tea Towel

A few auld Scots' words to remind you of these peculiar words often heard and rarely understood by you. One word jumps out and is so appropriate—Mel, you have been a stotter of a locum minister. Please tell Dave (and the boys) to put this tea towel to good use and not be a skiver or you'll get crabbit with them and that'll cause a stramash.



Scotland tops for the boys

I hope you will wear your Scotland top with pride and who knows, one day, you may get a call-up to play for Scotland



LuckenBrooch



The Luckenbooth Brooch

A Luckenbooth is a Scottish brooch that is heart-shaped (frequently two hearts, side by side), occasionally surmounted by a crown (that of Mary, Queen of Scots) and sometimes with a Cairngorm or gemstone. They are of medieval Scottish origin but continued to be popular in the 18th and 19th centuries.

They were often sold in the Luckenbooths, or locked booths, near St. Giles Kirk, on the High Street in Edinburgh which is how they gained the name.

Nowadays they are presented as a gift for good luck.

It is our delight to present you with this special Luckenbooth brooch— a gift to wish you good luck and something to remind you of Scotland and Troon every time you wear it.

Photobook

A picture tells a thousand words—Mel, please accept this photobook to remind you of your Portland family



Monetary Gift



Troon Harbour
From an original painting by Ronnie Russell

Card containing a cheque
Presented to
Reverend Mary Elizabeth Prentice-Hyers
Locum Minister
With grateful thanks
From
Portland Parish Church of Scotland, Troon
July 2022

Mel, please accept this small gift from us. Treat yourself and your family to something nice. We will miss you— but, the world is a small place, so we look forward to seeing you, Dave and the boys back for a visit some time in the future.

Dear Mel,

This is just a small token of our gratitude and love for all that you have done for us and meant to us over the last two and a half years since you became our Locum Minister.

You have been for so many of us, our support on the darkest days, the giver of joy on our happiest days and the centre of our congregation. We will all miss you greatly and wish you God's blessing for the next chapter of your life.

With much love and thanks from everyone in Portland Parish Church, Troon

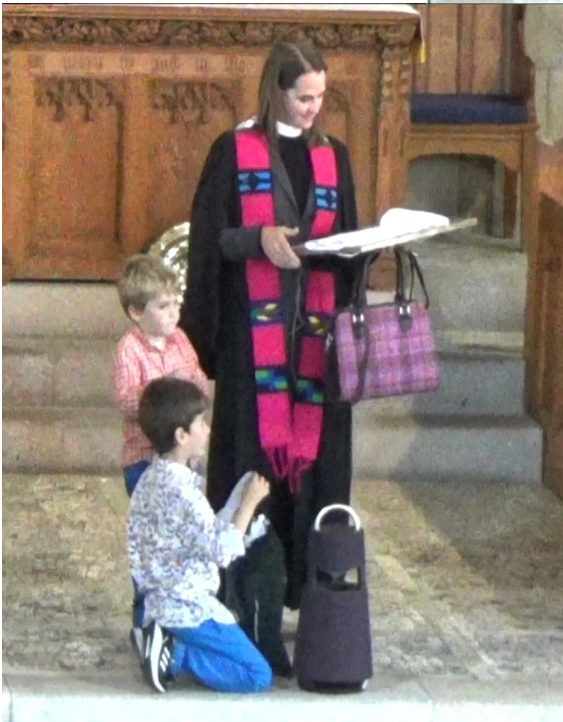
John Reid
Session Clerk
Portland Parish Church



Jess Reid presenting sketch of Portland



Keith McKeller presenting tea towel



Heartfelt Applause



**OUR NEXT ISSUE OF THE
PARISHIONER WILL BE FOR
SEPTEMBER 2022 POSTED AT THE
BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER
PLEASE SEND ANY
CONTRIBUTIONS TO YOUR
MAGAZINE TO —parishioner45@gmail.com**

CREATIVE COMMUNITY GROUP

This Group which will meet on the first Saturday of the month in St. Ninian's (10am to 12 noon) re-started on the 2nd July. It was well attended and it was good to see old faces as well as new. There was obviously a range of crafting talent represented, and in the future it is planned that some of these talents will be shared—knitting, crocheting, patchwork, quilting—perhaps supporting some charities—a pattern for hats for the Seamen's Mission was available. All are welcome and it was obvious that everybody enjoyed the fellowship of the morning, along with coffee and tea and biscuits.

Margaret Short

Please Note:

Data Protection rules suggest that private phone numbers and email addresses should not be published in a magazine which is then uploaded to a website unless the author of the article has given their permission. If you include any personal information in a submission to the Parishioner it will be assumed that you have given permission for this to be included.

John McDonald

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