

Blackbraes and Shieldhill  
Parish Church  
linked with  
Muiravonside Parish Church  
Easter 2019



[www.bsandm-church.org.uk](http://www.bsandm-church.org.uk)

Locum Minister: Rev Marion Perry BD

Registered Charity

Blackbraes and Shieldhill SC 002512

Muiravonside SC 007571



## **Welcome**

Welcome to the Easter edition of the Blackbraes and Shieldhill linked with Muiravonside Parish Church magazine.

This edition has lots of fantastic articles that you have kindly sent, including stories, poems, a recipe and upcoming events.

So please just sit back and enjoy all the articles and may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Easter as we rejoice in the wonderful news of our risen Lord.

Best Wishes and Blessings

From Drew



## **Muiravonside Choral Society**

Our annual spring concert is on 22nd of May this year at 7:30pm in Muiravonside Church.

Please come along and let us entertain you on a spring evening with some really lovely songs, old and new.

There will be tea/coffee served after the concert.

Everyone is Welcome.

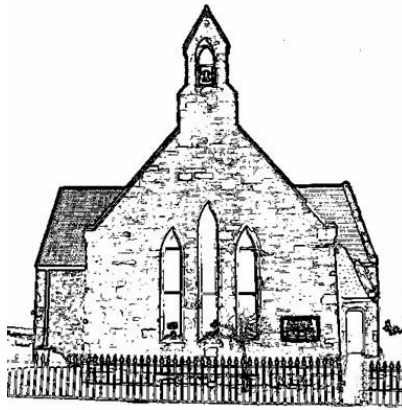
See you There!

**Jackie Napier**



## **Funerals**

***‘The Lord will protect you as you come and go, both now and forevermore’.***



## **Blackbraes and Shieldhill Parish**

Alex Smith

Margaret Catherine Leishman

## **Funerals**

***'The Lord will protect you as you come and go, both now and forevermore'.***



## **Muiravonside Parish**

Alex Baillie

Alex Stevenson

Andrew McDermott

John Thomas Russell

## Roses for our Gardens

Hybrid tea roses are best loved for their excellent fragrance and long flowering season from June to October. They are excellent for cut flowers as well. However, some varieties are prone to pests and diseases.

Perhaps the following named roses provide most fragrance and the least causes of disease.

Fragrant Cloud - Dusky red

Elizabeth Harkness - Cream pink tinged

Grandpa Dickson - Yellow

Alex's Red - Brilliant red

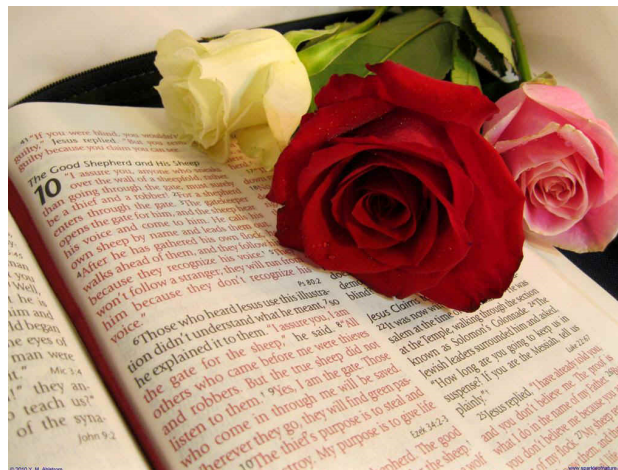
Piccadilly - Scarlet, sanded yellow

Peace - Yellow

Iceberg - White

Whatever variety you may grow, good pruning and feeding at this time of year will provide good results through out the growing season.

## John Robertson



### **Nominating Committee News**

Following Falkirk Presbytery Plans and being denied an extension of a further six months to seek a new Minister for our linked Parishes of Blackbraes and Shieldhill linked with Muiravonside, our committee has now ceased to continue its function.

Many thanks to all Nominating Vacancy Committee members who gave their time and commitment throughout this challenging task.

**John Robertson**

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### **Blessings at Easter Time**

You have to believe that the seeds will grow,  
that the warmth of the Spring will banish the snow.

You have to believe that the buds will unfold,  
that the darkest day has threads of gold.

That the sun will shine when the rain has passed,  
and no rainy day was meant to last.

You have to believe that the Father of all,  
who marks the tiniest sparrow's fall,  
is caring for you and will help you achieve.

Your place in the sun -

You have to believe.



**Rita Braes**





## **Guild Annual Report March 2019**



This session we embarked upon a new three year strategy “Seeking the Way”, the first year theme being “One Journey Many Roads” and the topic being “Unexpected Journeys”. Nationally we will be supporting six new projects relevant to the new strategy. This session we supported the Boy’s Brigade project “Faith in Young People” focussing on growing the organisation across Scotland. In November we heard about the project from Rev Derek Gunn, Brigade Scottish chaplain who was accompanied by a young officer.

In General Assembly week two members attended the Big Sing and five members again attended the Annual Gathering in Dundee. At both events we enjoyed meeting with Members from all over Scotland. Members have attended Presbyterian Council events and visited neighbouring Guilds.

Since Guild week began in 2004, it has always been celebrated in the third week of November but this year 2019 it is being planned for the week 8 -15 September being an opportunity to highlight the beginning of the Guild session and perhaps attract new members.

A combined Guild and Welcome-in committee continues to plan the varied syllabus and co-ordinate church events. Rev Marion Perry, locum, opened the session. A good number of friends attended our Scots evening when we were entertained by Ian Scott and friends. A fund raising event is planned for Wednesday 3 April.

Thanks to the Kirk Session for its continuing support. Thanks to all members who contribute in any way to the fellowship enjoyed by the Guild group. The regular attendance of our twenty-two members is much appreciated. The new syllabus with varied topics will be ready in September. Our meetings always begin with devotions. We are a warm, welcoming group of friends, open to both male and female. We offer interesting topic evenings and tasty refreshments. Come and join us.

### **Whose we are and Whom we serve**



**Lorna Coulter**





**Everyone at Blackbraes and Shieldhill Church and Muiravonside Church wishes Marion, our Locum Minister and Malcolm all the best and every happiness in their forthcoming Wedding.**





## **Tales from a Shieldhill Garden.**



A few weeks ago, I was a delegate at a World Mission conference. One activity that day was an opportunity to meet a few charity representatives, one of which was Christian Aid. As, by the time this magazine is in your hands, Christian Aid week will be upon us and churches across the land will be taking part in activities in order to raise money that will be handed over to Christian Aid.

Christian Aid works at home and abroad, wherever there are people in need. At the heart of this charity is the elimination of poverty and, with this aim, Christian Aid can be found wherever national disaster affects the poorest people of our world. This charity recognises that everyone, no matter the creed, is equal in the eyes of God.

Christian Aid has been championing the cause of the poor and marginalised for 70 years and currently have a presence in 37 countries world-wide. At the very heart of this charity is the elimination of poverty; to expose poverty; to help in practical ways and to expose and challenge and change the system and structures that are in favour of the rich and powerful over the poor and the marginalised. At the very heart of this charity is the teaching of Jesus, his message of love your neighbour.

Christian Aid is part of the worldwide church community and is supported by some 41 church communities within Britain and Ireland. They link with 770 local organisations, which are close to the communities that need aid and they seek to do their best to understand the best way to give these communities the help that they need.

The Christian Aid appeals that are running at the moment traverse the world. There are : Indonesia – Tsunami; Philippines – Typhoon Mangkhut; Kerala, in the south east corner of India-floods; South East Asia -floods; Rohingya crisis; Syrian Crisis and, most recently, the Cyclone Idai appeal in Malawi, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

It is not surprising that Christian Aid is also concerned with global

warming and climate change. We have felt and noticed the effect of this in our own country with topsy turvy seasons, high winds and heavy rain as well as last year's very heavy snow in March. We manage somehow to cope but the extreme weather that occurs in the poorest countries of the world has catastrophic effects. The wealthier countries such as Japan and the United States have building standards that incorporate safeguards when building houses. These buildings have to withstand hurricanes.

In common with many churches, we no longer hand out and collect envelopes during Christian Aid week. We will have a lunch and I hope that it will be well attended and the donations be generous. Other people fill the coin boxes. The Trinity Church will have a book sale and it is usually well worth visiting.

Sydney Carter's hymn springs to mind when thinking about the work of Christian Aid.

'When I needed a neighbour were you there, were you there? And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?'

**Rena**

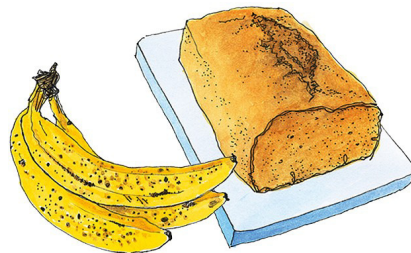


## A Recipe

This is an old recipe that I think was on the back of a Fyffes banana bag.

### Ingredients

100g butter  
150g castor sugar  
2 eggs  
300g bananas (skins removed)  
275g plain flour  
3 level teaspoons Baking powder  
Pinch of salt  
50g chopped walnuts (optional)



### Method

1. Cream butter until soft
2. Mix in the sugar
3. Add eggs a little at a time and beat to a smooth mixture
4. Mash the bananas and beat into the egg mixture
5. Sieve the flour, salt and baking powder.
6. If using nuts, stir a spoonful of flour into the nuts
7. Add the flour to the mixture and mix well.
8. Add the nuts
9. Put into a well-greased loaf tin and bake gas mark 4, 350°F or 180° C. If you have a fan oven check the temperature in your instruction book.

If you have a favourite recipe why not share it in the magazine.

**Rena**

## **RSPB Big Garden Birdcount**

472 785 people took part in this year's Big Garden Bird Count.

A total of

7 669 138 birds were counted.

Nationwide the top ten birds were:

- |                  |               |              |              |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. House Sparrow | 2. Starling.  | 3. Blue Tit  | 4. Blackbird |
| 5. Wood pigeon.  | 6. Goldfinch. | 7. Great Tit | 8. Robin     |
| 9. Chaffinch.    | 10. Magpie    |              |              |

In Scotland, the top ten birds were:

- |                  |                |               |              |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. House Sparrow | 2. Starling.   | 3. Chaffinch. | 4. Blue Tit  |
| 5. Blackbird     | 6. Wood Pigeon | 7. Goldfinch  | 8. Great Tit |
| 9. Robin         | 10. Coal Tit   |               |              |

## **Rena**





## Drew's view

### On a clear day...

Did you know that on a clear day - if the conditions are just right - it is possible to see Goatfell on the Isle of Arran from the top of the Ochil Hills? A distance of sixty eight miles. I have always been fascinated by how far it is possible to see distant places and objects with the naked eye and when I had read about this little nugget of information, I knew what I had to do!

Yes - you've guessed it! On the next very clear day, I headed with all possible speed to Ben Cleuch! (The highest hill in the Ochils range.) I then very enthusiastically followed the various paths. For me this was quite a feat, as I'm not exactly what you would call a "Hill Walker." I do own a pair of climbing boots and although they are over ten years old, these boots are in pristine condition. They have only been used three or four times!

Most people would have water or a hi-energy drink in the little rucksacks that they take with them. In my case, it's a little different! As well as the customary bottle or two of water, I have a small thermos flask filled with black coffee, together with copious amounts of chocolate biscuits! The flask has a tiny little cup on it which is really just a few sips and my journey up the hill, although very pleasant, takes ages. This is because every half hour or so, I will stop and have what is effectively a picnic as I replenish my little cup with coffee and eat my way through the biscuits.

I must say though that I have complete admiration for serious hill walkers. Many people overtook me as I walked slowly up the hill or took my little picnic. Every single one of them said "Hello" and asked me how I was getting on. A man who was roughly the same age as I am, coasted by me with a cheery wave. He was soon way up the path and out of sight leaving me standing. I couldn't help but marvel how fit this person was. I then got to thinking, if only I had taken up hill walking about thirty years ago, you would probably see a much different Drew in church every Sunday!

Another group of young people who were overtaking slowed down a good bit and I must have seemed like an "elderly man" to them. I was immensely touched because they walked with me a bit of the way. They told me how much they enjoyed the views from the top as well.

They also let me know that they had seen Goatfell quite a few times and I would almost certainly spot it on a day like this. Then with a cheery “Goodbye!” they hastened on.

After what was a long time which actually passed very pleasantly thanks to all these nice people, finally, hours later, I was almost up at the summit! Just before I arrived there, the group of young people passed by me on the way down. They seemed absolutely delighted that the “elderly man” had almost made it. They practically cheered when they saw me. With a thumbs up, they added that I wouldn’t be disappointed with the view.

A few steps more and I was actually there – right on the summit! The view that day, was indeed, truly stunning. I had a guide book with me which gave a bearing to look for Goatfell. It should be somewhere around 238 degrees when looking from Ben Cleuch summit. I took out my compass and slowly turned round to the right. Sure enough... there it was! It did indeed look very far away, but I could just make out the tip of Goatfell! I had often seen it when I was on the Clyde Coast and it has a very distinctive triangular or “jaggy” sort of shape when viewed from a distance.

I almost certainly would never have noticed it right away if I didn’t have the guidebook bearing to go by. I probably would have looked much further to the south and west. It is actually in a place that you wouldn’t think it would be. From Ben Cleuch summit, if you look over towards Stirling Castle then look a bit to the left, the very top part just peeks up over what is part of the distant Campsie Fells. I sat down and as I gazed over at it, I drank my last few drops of coffee and ate the last chocolate biscuit with great delight!

I sat there thinking that if I were to travel to Arran from where I am just now, it would literally take me hours to get there. It would involve, first the long walk down Ben Cleuch. Then, a two hour drive followed by a one hour ferry trip. Yet here I was, instantly able to see Arran’s highest hill by simply sitting here and looking over. That is what fascinates me about viewing distant objects. In some ways I find it quite comforting because they suddenly don’t seem quite so far away.

As I sat on top of Ben Cleuch reflecting on this, a lovely memory surfaced. It was about someone else describing how they had been able to see something in the distance from quite a long way off. I was very moved when she described her sighting. This was not only because I am fascinated about viewing distant objects, but also

because the object she described was a building that is very special to me. She was pleasantly surprised and felt comforted when she suddenly spotted it high up on top of a hill from quite far away. The lady who was just as enchanted as I am at spotting this building from a distance was - Louise. The building was - Blackbraes and Shieldhill Church.

Louise once said during a sermon that while she was driving one summer evening in the Airth area, as well as along the motorway near the Kelpies, she happened to glance up for a second and immediately caught sight of Blackbraes and Shieldhill Church. It was very clearly visible on the skyline in the evening sunshine, as she drove back towards the Braes area.

I was very moved by what she said because it made me think that we are so lucky that our church can be seen from all over the Forth Valley. There is also a sense of pride that it stands in such a prominent position. It also gives me a sense that no matter where we all travel in the Forth Valley, as we go about our day to day business, it watches over us from high up on the hill with its benevolent and protective presence. Full of love and grace.

Ever since Louise described her sighting, if I have found myself driving back from places like Stirling. Or if I have been passing through the many little villages that are in the Hillfoots area, I have stopped the car in a safe place and had a look to see if I can spot it!

It would, of course, be easy to spot the church from a much greater distance with binoculars, but I have set myself a rule that I must be able to spot it with the naked eye! (Or as in my case, with spectacles on!) I think the furthest point I may have seen it is just south of Bannockburn heading back towards Larbert and Falkirk. When you leave Bannockburn and head up the hill where the cottage hospital used to be, once you've passed the little transport café, there is a spot where you can see the Braes area. It is just visible for a few seconds and on a sunny summer's evening, I'm sure I caught sight of the church. I couldn't really stop there because it is on a bend in the busy main road, but my mum was with me and confirmed the sighting! (She



actually has superb long distance vision - much better than I and has never needed corrective glasses for distant vision ever in her life. So as you can imagine she is a very good person to have with you if you are trying to spot far away places!

It got me thinking though - has anybody spotted the church from further afield just using the naked eye? Or spectacles? Maybe this would be a good time to start an unofficial little competition! If anyone has, please let me know and I will put a note about your sighting in the next magazine!

When I was up on Ben Cleuch, I was able to see Shieldhill and the Braes area, but couldn't make out the church. But that was just me and I'm sure it is probably visible from there if the sun is at the correct angle!

Whenever I see Blackbraes and Shieldhill Church, even from quite a far distance, I know that home is not so far away. What Louise said about spotting the church from a distance touched a chord for two reasons. One reason is that it is a special place for all of us. The other is that it reminded me of an experience I had when I was much younger.

When I was seventeen, before I learned how to drive, I used to travel by bus every day to Stirling University. I lived in Brightons back in those days and the journey involved getting three buses. It took over two hours to get there because of all the changes that were involved. Because of the way the bus timetables were structured, I would often just miss my connection. I get homesick even if I'm away for the day! Being so young, and with the journey being so long, I felt like I had travelled all the way to Scandinavia!

Then...one day...I happened to walk up the hill behind Stirling University and could quite clearly see the high flats at Falkirk, as well as the Braes area. They looked so close! I couldn't get over this after travelling so long and marvelled that all these places which were so close to home were clearly visible on the horizon! From that moment on, I felt a lot better after that and never felt far from home.

There is however one person who can see Blackbraes and Shieldhill Church from a much greater distance. This person would win our little competition hands down! He could see it from the other side of the world in a twinkling if he wanted to. Or even from anywhere in the Universe. That person is, of course, God, with his omnipresence. In Jeremiah 23:23 the Lord says, "I am a God who is everywhere and not in one place only."

I have a cousin who is fascinated with what she calls "God's Omnies" and she loves discussing this when we get together. She loves the fact that God can be everywhere at the one time because she feels such a sense of protection by this. She knows that wherever she goes, he is watching over her and is always right beside her, just as he is always with us all.

She also marvels that God knows everything about us with his omniscience. Job 34:21 describes how, "He watches every step we take." She is fascinated that he knows about the past, the present and the future. One aspect of his omniscience I am totally thrilled by is that he saw the foundation stones being laid for both our churches and knows each church intimately as well as everyone who has ever attended there and those who will attend in the future.

My cousin is also utterly moved by the power of God - his omnipotence. One of her favourite pieces of Scripture is very short. It only contains eight words and is from Luke 1:37. It says, "For there is nothing that God cannot do." She was so inspired by these words that she has adopted the piece of Scripture as a sort of motto and it forms the cornerstone of her faith. If she is faced with a problem or a difficult task, she knows that God will help her to find the answer.

God may be able to see Blackbraes and Shieldhill Church from the other side of the world, but he can see Muiravonside Church just as easily. So Muiravonside Church, please do not feel that you are left out of this. I may not be able to see Muiravonside Church from the Forth Valley, but there is a special place that I can see it from that means just as much to me as seeing Blackbraes and Shieldhill Church from a great distance.

Every week when I visit my father's grave, Muiravonside Church is visible from where his grave is situated and I am so proud and reassured that my father is buried in the church's comforting presence and he would be too. He originally came from Maddiston and the walk from Maddiston along the Coal Road and then up the little lane to the church was one that he loved.

I feel so privileged to be associated with two churches that I love so much and that I can see no matter where I go, because God in his grace has given me the ability to see them in my mind, as well as in my travels.

They are such a reassuring sight.

**Drew Robertson**

Tea, coffee and a chat  
are always available in  
the hall after services.



### **Muiravonside Treasurer Report**

That's another financial year over with the accounts audited and the AGM completed, thanks to all those people who have helped me during the year.

We must now look to the future and what we contribute to the church, as Graham said in his address over the years we just always place in our envelopes what we have always done in the past, 'which is greatly appreciated', hopefully in the not to distant future we can attract a minister, to that end we must show a secure financial footing for the coming years in order to keep the church wind, water tight and warm on a Sunday morning.

Again thanks to all those people who support me throughout the year.

**Moir Sharp - Treasurer**

Some inspirational words written by Mrs Jean Grosvenor, a former Church, Guild and Choir member at Blackbraes and Shieldhill. A dear friend to many , Mrs Grosvenor sadly passed away on 8th January 2019 at the age of 100.



Remember me by the laughter, not the tears. Remember me for the joy and the fun we shared through all the happy years. And think of me, if you will, with a smile. When we all shared jokes and laughter at things we did a wee bit daft.

We sometimes gave the world a shake, and when the others stood and said oh what a way to carry on, I'm sure their senses must be gone; it only made us laugh the more.

So if you have some love for me  
Then that's how you'll remember me.  
For when you smile, I'll smile too, but  
if you cry I'll cry with you. So  
keep me happy, let me see a happy joy  
that's just for me. And as I sleep  
I'll smile with you. I'll share the  
past and future too.

## **The Turriff Cow**

Most people in their lifetime have paid national insurance contributions. Everyone over the age of sixteen and earning £162 and over weekly is liable for these contributions and when a person begins to work he or she is issued with a national insurance number. Payment allows contributors to qualify for certain benefits and the State Pension. The National Insurance Act was passed in 1911 as a form of insurance against illness and unemployment and was expanded by the Labour Government of 1948. Not always a popular tax, this famous incident involving non payment of the tax in the north east town of Turriff appeared as headlines worldwide and is still well known in the local area today.

Robert Paterson a farmer near Turriff, treated his workers very fairly and was responsible for setting up The Scottish Farm Servants Union. In 1913, he decided that he was not in favour of this new tax introduced by Prime Minister, Lloyd George and that it should not apply to farm servants so he refused to pay the tax and stamp the cards of his employees. He was breaking the law and the magistrate decided that an item of the farmer Robert Paterson should be sold to pay the money owing. His white cow was impounded and taken to the square in Turriff for public auction. A large crowd had gathered in the square and the mob resorted to violence. A variety of missiles were thrown at the auctioneer. A policeman was hit in the eye with an egg and fireworks were set off. The sale was stopped. The white cow, possibly traumatised, escaped and ran through the streets of Turriff. It was eventually caught and arrested.

In his wisdom, the magistrate decided that the cow should be transferred and auctioned in Aberdeen. Not to be outdone, the local Turriff farmers bought the animal at the Aberdeen auction and brought the by now famous white cow back to Turriff. Again a large crowd gathered triumphantly in Turriff square. The brass band played as the white cow joined in the parade before it was presented to Robert Paterson by his farmer friends.

The cow lived a peaceful life until 1919 when it died. It was buried in Lendrum, a farm near Turriff, where its memorial stands to this day.

**Lorna Coulter**

This Bothy ballad is well known yet.

In nineteen eleven Lloyd George did decide  
Aat natonal insurance wid hae tae be peyed.

For ivery man aat vrocht on the lan  
Includin Rob Patterson's hard workin band'

Pey nineteen and sixpence, said Robbie, na fear  
And syne he wis ordered in the coort tae appear.  
'Pay up," said the judge, "Or yer freedom ye'll tyne"  
So the rest of the farmers they peyed Robbies's fine.

Three nineteen and tenpence wis stull owerdue  
So the bailiffs they poinded Robbie's fite coo.  
Tae pey off the debt plus expenses and mair  
They wid auction the coo aff in Turra toon square.

Noo naebody offered a bid for the coo  
An a riot o the thoosan folk did ensue.  
In a stable the aul auctioneer hid tae hide  
An they pelted the bobbies on ivery side.

Noo the coo she broke lowse and doon wi her heid  
Up wi her tail and awa she did speed.  
She breenged a throwe Turra, tho files gey hard pressed  
Until she wis catched and placed under arrest.



The fermers clubbed in an they bocht the coo back  
Syne a great hero o Robbie did mak.  
Aul Auchmunzielsaid twas aricht how do you do.  
Bit the star o'taa wis the far famed fite coo.

### Lorna Coulter



.....  
Hi Everybody,

*Like everyone else, I recently heard about Ministry allocations which seem to involve strange exotic numbers such as a 0.5 Ministry or 0.75, or even more mysteriously - a 1.5 Ministry!*

*These mysterious figures ran around my head for quite a while and made me imagine something rather different from what the Presbytery or even 121 intended! I imagined that Ronnie Barker would have had a field day with this when he used to do these really funny speeches on "The Two Ronnies" as he portrayed a spokesman from some very obscure society or government department.*

*I have written on the next page, a spoof piece and my spokesman comes from the fictitious "Department of Ministries" (Although, who knows? Maybe there is such a department in a certain famous head office in George Street!)*

*No offence to tall people, small people or in-between people - the Department of Ministries loves you all!*



## **Message from the Department of Ministries**

Good Evening,

It has come to our attention that there has been some confusion over the Ministry allocations, where some parishes have been allocated a 0.5 Ministry, whereas others have a 1.0 or even (very luckily - a 1.5!)

The Department of Ministries would like to reassure everyone that there is no cause for concern and just to clarify things, here is an explanation of what these figures mean and what preparations can be done to help if you have, for example, a 0.5 Ministry.

Putting it all into context and quite simply speaking, a Minister in a 0.5 Ministry is only half as tall as a Minister in a 1.0 Ministry. As a result, in a 0.5 Ministry, certain preparations would have to be put in place as only the top part of the Minister's head will be visible from the pulpit. In these situations, it may be best to install a small platform at pulpit floor level to elevate the Minister up to 0.75 level, thus making them visible to the congregation.

There are certain exceptions in a 0.5 Ministry because you may encounter a female Minister. If she happens to be wearing high heels, she will be automatically elevated to 0.75 level and consequently, no platform is required.

In Parishes allocated with a 1.0 Ministry, whether the Minister is male or female, everything there is just fine.

We now move on to a 1.25 Ministry and with the Minister there, in contrast to a 0.5 Minister, there is a problem due to excessive height. The Minister in this allocation may be in danger of falling out the pulpit if he/she leans over to the slightest extent, so perhaps it would be prudent to fit a guard rail to extend 360 degrees.

Last but not least, if a Parish is lucky enough to be allocated a 1.5 Ministry, could the Minister there please contact me immediately, as The Church of Scotland Basketball Team needs a gigantically tall forward. This is rather urgent, as the Harlem Globetrotters are playing us next week.

Thank you and the best of luck with your new Ministry allocations!

**Drew Robertson**

The following beautiful and touching poem was read at Alex Smith's funeral. Elsie and family have very kindly given permission for us to share it with you.

### **The Ship**

What is dying  
I am standing on the seashore, a ship sails in the morning breeze and  
starts for the ocean.  
She is an object of beauty and I stand watching her till at last she  
fades on the horizon and someone at my side says:  
"She is gone."  
Gone!  
Where  
Gone from my sight that is all.  
She is just as large in the masts, hull and spars as she was when I  
saw her, and just as able to bear her load of living freight to its  
destination.  
The diminished size and total loss of sight is in me, not in her, and just  
at that moment when someone at my side says,  
"She is gone"  
there are others who are watching her coming, and other voices take  
up a glad shout:  
"There she comes!"  
and that is dying.

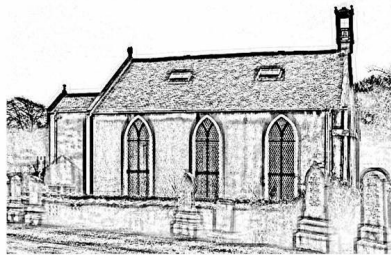
**From a poem by  
Bishop Charles Henry Brent**



### **Muiravonside Church Facebook Page**

Muiravonside Parish Church now has a Facebook page which gives all the latest news of events and can be viewed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/muiravonsideparishchurch/>



### **A Quick Message from the Editor**

Just another quick note to thank everyone for their magazine articles. We have again had a wonderful response, both from Blackbraes and Shieldhill and Muiravonside.

It is always such a pleasure to receive these articles and it is even more exciting compiling them and seeing the magazine take shape.

Thank you again and I look forward to the next magazine.

**Drew**

**Please see overleaf for details of all the upcoming Holy Week Services. I've put them on the back page for easy reference.**

**All are welcome.**

**BRAES CHURCHES  
JOINT HOLY WEEK  
SERVICES  
2019**



**Monday April 15th  
Polmont**

**Tuesday April 16th  
Laurieston**

**Wednesday April 17th  
Brightons**

**Thursday April 18th  
Muiravonside**

**Friday April 19th  
Slamannan**

**All at 7p.m.**