

# Kilbride Herald

St. Bride's - where Faith and Fellowship grow



Bishop of Connor, Rt Rev. George Davison, visits Kilbride

March - April 2024

# **Parish Of Kilbride: St Bride's Church - where Faith and Fellowship grow**

**Rector-in-Charge:** Rev. John McClure (07841 866414)

**Parish Reader**

David Holmes

**Honorary Treasurer**

Lilian Lyttle: 9332 3311

**Rector's Churchwarden**

Vacant - see rota

**Parish Hall Organiser**

Alex Johnston: 9334 9393

**People's Churchwarden**

Vacant - see rota

**Caretaker**

Claire Patterson: 07745 721069

**Rector's Glebwarden**

Jim Wilson: 2589 8753

**Parish Website**

[kilbrideparishchurch.org](http://kilbrideparishchurch.org)

Parish Webmaster: David Holmes

**People's Glebwarden**

Billy Robinson: 07306 303337

**Honorary Secretary**

Ivan Topping: 9334 1916

**Holy Baptism**

This is by arrangement.  
Please contact Rev. John McClure  
at the phone number above.

**FWO Secretary**

Fiona Charlton: 07504 813779

**Gift Aid Secretary**

Phyllis Glenn: 9334 0884

Rev. John McClure would be  
grateful for information about  
hospital admissions  
and discharges.

**Organist & Choir Director**

Timothy Wilson

**Kilbride Herald Editorial Panel**

David Holmes, Iris McCormick  
& Ivan Topping

**Sunday School Superintendent**

Eleanor Graham: 9334 0000

Charity Number: 10 35 70



## The Services at St. Bride's

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### **Sunday 3 March**

*Third Sunday in Lent*

11.00am Holy Communion

### **Sunday 10 March**

*Fourth Sunday in Lent,  
Mothering Sunday*

11.00am Morning Prayer



### **Sunday 17 March**

*Fifth Sunday in Lent,  
St Patrick's Day*

11.00am Holy Communion

Note: The Easter General Vestry meeting will follow in the Parish Hall immediately after this service. Refreshments will be served.

### **Wednesday 20 March**

Antrim Rural Deanery Lenten  
Mid-Week Service

7:30pm Evening Prayer

Exploring God's Loving Sacrifice

### **Sunday 24 March**

*Sixth Sunday in Lent, Palm Sunday*

11.00am Morning Prayer

### **Wednesday 27 March**

*Wednesday in Holy Week*

8:00pm Compline

### **Thursday 28 March**

*Maundy Thursday*

8:00pm Holy Communion

### **Friday 29 March**

*Good Friday*

8:00pm Devotion for Good Friday

### **Sunday 31 March**

*Easter Day*

*First Sunday of Easter*

*Feast of the Resurrection*

11:00am - Holy Communion



### **Sunday 7 April**

*Second Sunday of Easter*

11.00am Holy Communion

### **Sunday 14 April**

*Third Sunday of Easter*

11.00am Morning Prayer

### **Sunday 21 April**

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

11.00am Morning Prayer

### **Sunday 28 April**

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

11.00am Morning Prayer

Note: Refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall after the service.

### **Sunday 5 May**

*Sixth Sunday of Easter:*

*Rogation Sunday*

11.00am Holy Communion

## Dates to note

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### **Antrim Rural Deanery Lenten Mid-Week Services**

Exploring God's Loving Sacrifice

#### **Wednesday 13 March**

7:30pm in All Saints' Church, Antrim

#### **Wednesday 20 March**

7:30pm in St Bride's Church, Doagh

**LENT**   
Antrim Rural Deanery

#### **Wednesday 13 March -**

Kilbride Parish Church Ladies' Group

Tasting Evening, 7:30pm in Parish Hall

#### **Sunday 17 March -**

Easter General Vestry

This meeting will be held in the Parish Hall immediately after the Service of Morning Prayer. Refreshments will be served. All welcome.

#### **Tuesday 19 March -**

Watchmen Men's Group

Talk on The Honourable The Irish Society given by Edward Montgomery. 7:30pm in the Parish Room. Refreshments will be served. All welcome.

#### **Tuesday 9 April -**

Watchmen Men's Group

An audience with the Bishop of Connor, Rt Rev. George Davison. An informal chat with our Bishop. 7:30pm in the Parish Room. Refreshments will be served. All welcome.

#### **Wednesday 10 April -**

Kilbride Parish Church Ladies' Group

Talk on the unsolved murder of Patricia Curran in 1952 given by Stephen Cameron. 7:30pm in the Parish Hall. Refreshments will be served and tickets (£5) available from any member of the ladies' group. All welcome.

#### **Tuesday 7 May -**

St Bride's Rambling Group

Woodburn forest and Knockagh monument. Meet at the forest car park below Woodburn Presbyterian Church at 6:50pm. The walk is approximately 5 miles in length. All welcome.





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## Lenten Prayer

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### **Wednesday 8 May -**

Kilbride Parish Church Ladies' Group  
Annual General Meeting  
7:30pm in the Parish Room.

### **Tuesday 14 May -**

St Bride's Rambling Group  
Antrim Castle Gardens. Meet at  
6:50pm. Parking is available beside  
Clotworthy House within the Castle  
grounds. This can be accessed via  
the entrance on Randalstown Road.  
The walk is approximately 4 miles in  
length. All welcome.

*Please refer to the church website  
for more details or changes for all  
dates listed.*

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## **Bereavements in the Parish**

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### **Margaret Scott (née Turkington)**

2 February 2024  
Late of Burnside

### **Robert (Bobby) Campbell**

7 February 2024  
Late of Ballyclare

### **John Swanton**

9 February 2024  
Late of Doagh

### Loving God

We remember in this season of  
Lent the temptation of Jesus in the  
wilderness, the pressures he faced,  
the choices he had to make, the evil  
he had to resist, the path he chose.

We remember that though he was  
tempted as we are he did not give way,  
though he could have used his powers  
for his own ends he used them instead  
for us, though he could have taken the  
easy way he took the hard.

We thank you for the choice he made,  
and all that lay behind it - the faith that  
gave him the inner strength to resist  
temptation and accept your will, the  
courage to take the path of suffering  
and death, the love which guided all.

Lead us when our time of trial comes,  
when we are faced by the need to  
choose, and deliver us then from evil.

Teach us to follow, in the name of  
Christ, Amen

## Confirmation Services

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On 14th January the Bishop of Connor, Rt Rev. George Davison, visited St Bride's to officiate at a confirmation service. There were four candidates prepared for their confirmation and family and friends of each were welcomed to the church for this very special day in each candidate's life. The Bishop put each of them at their ease as he guided them through this very important service. He explained the significance of confirmation as they themselves confirm the promises made on their behalf when they were baptised.

Following the service the Bishop very kindly joined each family for a photograph before joining the rest of the congregation for refreshments in the Parish Hall where he was able to mingle with parishioners. He presented a Bible to each of the candidates, on behalf of the Parish, as an appropriate gift to mark the occasion.



## Baptism

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During the morning service with Holy Communion on 3rd March our rector, Rev. John McClure, performed his second baptism in St Bride's as a baby girl was presented for baptism by her parents, Stephen and Felicity Foster, together with her godparents Claire Cinnamon and Matthew Kirby. She was baptised Olivia Rose Claire Foster.

## Kilbride Ladies' Group February Meeting

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The Ladies' Group met on St Valentine's evening for an evening of fun playing Family Fortunes, a game based on the popular television series. The ladies split into two teams and the competition began with the eventual winning team members each being presented with a beautiful mug.

A very enjoyable evening ended with a cup of tea and biscuits.

There is a number of upcoming ladies meetings scheduled and we would welcome any newcomers. Please see the 'dates to note' section (page 4) for more information.



# Cathedral Chairs Appeal

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Donors are encouraged to give what they can, with donations of £150 or higher + gift aid to dedicate a chair in honour of a loved one, with their name and dates etched in a commemorative display within the Cathedral.

‘BC120,’ an ambitious plan, spearheaded by the newly-formed Belfast Cathedral Foundation, will run from 2024 – 2027 and will raise new funding to secure the future viability of the Cathedral for the coming years. The mission of ‘Preserving the past, building for the future’ will underpin the strategy and actions of the Foundation.

To donate go to the Belfast Cathedral website or use this link:  
[www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/belfast-cathedral-chairs-appeal](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/belfast-cathedral-chairs-appeal)



## BELFAST CATHEDRAL CHAIRS APPEAL

PRESERVING THE PAST. BUILDING THE FUTURE.





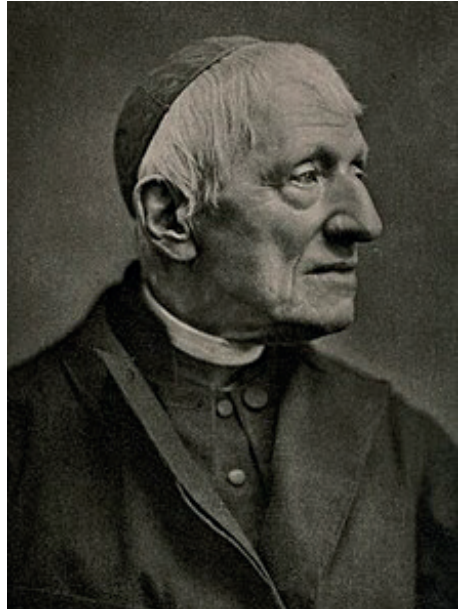
## History of Hymns

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**“Lead, Kindly Light”** written by John Henry Newman

John Henry Newman (21 February 1801 - 11 August 1890) was born in London and was a prominent academic, theologian, philosopher, historian, writer and poet. At the age of 15, in his last year of school, he converted to Evangelical Christianity. He went on to study at Trinity College, Oxford and in 1825 was ordained as a Church of England priest in Christ Church Cathedral by the Bishop of Oxford. He had often been outspoken about the Roman Catholic church, frequently criticising its doctrines but over a period of years his attitude changed and in 1843 he preached his last Anglican sermon before converting to Catholicism with great personal consequences, suffering broken relationships with family and friends. In 1846 he went to Rome and was ordained a priest before returning to England as an oratorian.

Over the following years he became very prominent in the promotion of the Catholic faith. In 1854, at the request of Irish Catholic bishops, Newman went to Dublin as rector and founder of the newly established Catholic University of Ireland, now University College Dublin, retiring from the role after four years. In 1879 Newman was elevated to the rank of cardinal by Pope Leo XIII.



John Henry Newman by photographer Herbert Rose Barraud, c 1885.

In 1991, many years after his death, Newman was proclaimed venerable by Pope John Paul II after a thorough examination of his life and work. He was beatified in 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI and canonised in 2019 by Pope Francis in a ceremony in St Peter’s Square, Rome, attended by King Charles III, then Prince of Wales.

Like many popular hymns the words of “Lead, Kindly Light” were first written as a poem with a musical setting being added some time later. The original poem was entitled ‘the Pillar of the

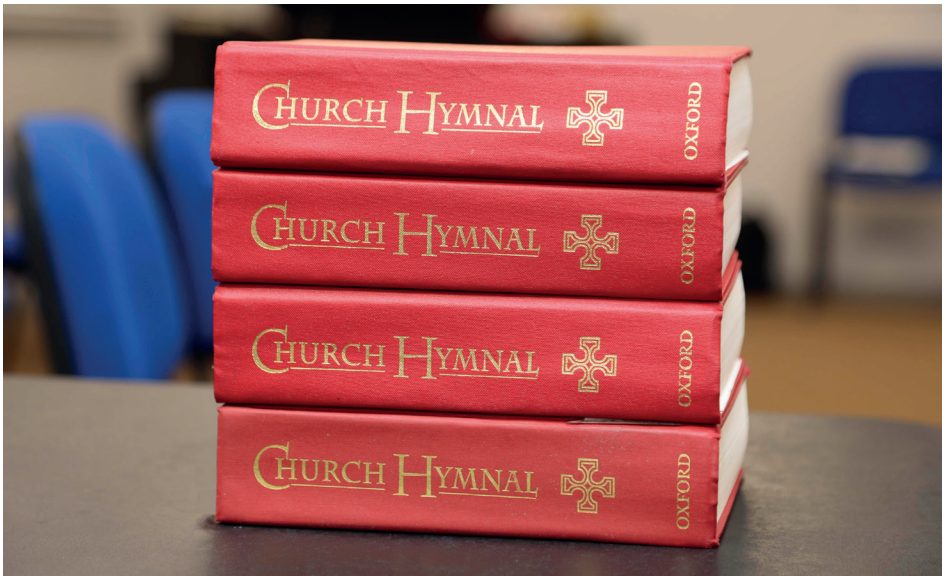
## History of Hymns continued

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Cloud' and it was written by John Henry Newman in 1833 on a sea voyage from Palermo in Sicily, Italy to Marseille in France. Newman, then a Church of England priest, had been ill during his visit to Italy and was unable to travel for a time. He was desperate to get back to England and as soon as he was well enough to travel he boarded an orange boat bound for Marseille. Frustratingly the boat was becalmed for a week in the Strait of Boniface, between the islands of Corsica and Sardinia, and it was then that he wrote the words of "Lead, Kindly Light", inspired by his recent illness and his remoteness from home at the time. He was seeking spiritual guidance and direction from God in

his mission in the Anglican church and he was stating his unquestioning faith in God to show him the path forward.

The first musical setting was published in 1868, set to the tune *Lux Benigna*, written by John Bacchus Dykes, an English clergyman and hymn writer. Newman himself credited the subsequent popularity of the hymn to Dykes' tune. Other musical settings have included *Bonifacio* by David Evans, *Alberta* by William Henry Harris which he composed on a train crossing of Canada, *Sandon* by Charles H. Purday and Arthur Sullivan's *Lux in Tenebris*. *Lux Benigna* and *Sandon* are the two versions published in the current Church of Ireland hymnal.



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There has been a number of notable occasions when it is known that the hymn was sung.

In a dreadful mining disaster in a colliery in Durham in 1909, 168 men and boys died following two underground explosions. Some 26 men sat in total darkness in a pocket of clean air awaiting rescue when one started humming the tune of the hymn, presumably to keep his and the others' spirits up, and in no time the other miners joined in singing the words. These 26 men were rescued 14 hours later.

Shortly before the R.M.S. 'Titanic' struck the iceberg on 14 April 1912 a soloist, Marion Wright, sang Lead, Kindly Light in a hymn singing gathering led by Rev. Ernest C. Carter. Instigated by Noëlle, Countess of Rothes, she and the other passengers in one of the lifeboats sang the hymn when the rescue ship 'Carpathia' was sighted the following morning.

During the German occupation of the Netherlands during World War 2 members of a Dutch Christian family were helping Jewish refugees escape from the Nazis. Two sisters in the family were Corrie and Betsie ten Boom and they and their family were also very active in the Dutch Resistance. Eventually an informant

notified the Gestapo and they and many others were arrested. Eventually the sisters and other women were interned in Ravensbrück concentration camp, located north of Berlin, and they sang the hymn as they were taken to the camp. Betsie, like many other prisoners, died of illness. Bizarrely Corrie was released less than two weeks later seemingly due to a clerical error and she found out later that all the women of her age were executed in the gas chambers a week later. Following the war she wrote many books about her experiences and travelled widely as a public speaker promoting her important messages of forgiveness, hope, love, and salvation through the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

The hymn has been noted as being the favourite of a number of famous people including Mahatma Gandhi and Percy French. French died suddenly in January 1920 and was buried in St Luke's Parish Churchyard, Formby in Lancashire.

The following lines from the hymn are engraved on his headstone;

*"So long thy power hath blessed me  
Sure it still will lead me on,  
O'er moor and fen,  
o'er crag and torrent;  
Till the night is gone."*



# He is risen!

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## **Luke 24:44-47**

### **The Death of Jesus**

44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, 45 for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

47 The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man." 48 When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. 49 But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

## **Mark 15:46-47**

46 So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. 47 Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

## **Luke 24:1-3**

### **Jesus Has Risen**

24 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

## **Matthew 28: 5-7**

5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

## **Jesus Appears to Thomas**

### **John 20:24-29**

24 Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

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## Children's Outlook on God

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26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

28 Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

29 Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

**Letters to God** - a selection of letters addressed to God from young children from a book compiled by Eric Marshall and Stuart Hample.

Dear God

When I wake up I am glad you left everything right where it was.

Chris

Dear God

I have to know who Shakespeare is before next Friday.

Melissa

Dear God

Church is all right but you could sure use better music I hope this does not hurt your feeling.

Can you write some new songs

Your friend Barry

Dear God

I would like a duck next easter I am tired of the same thing every time OK?

Love, Margaret

One of your clouds made a face that scared me. Please don't do it again

Ellen

Dear God

Are boys better than girls. I know you are one but try to be fair.

Sylvia



## Swan Rescue

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Wardens and choir members arriving at church early on 4th February were surprised to see a mute swan sitting on the car park. Clearly this was very unusual behaviour for this beautiful bird so on carefully approaching it blood was noticed on its beak and side. It stood up with some difficulty and sat down again on the grass so it was obviously hurt in some way. A number of Northern Ireland Electricity Networks linesmen had also arrived in the car park checking out a reported fault and it didn't take long to realise that the two events were connected. On checking the electrical installation at the bottom of the church car park the linesmen discovered that there was a blown fuse on the overhead line feeding the nearby houses. The swan had probably collided with the conductors, shorting them together and blowing the fuse, before crash landing on the car park. A couple of phone calls were made and within 15 minutes a vet from Clare Veterinary Practice in Ballyclare arrived and, with the assistance of the NIE Networks linesmen, the bird was very gently prepared for transport to the surgery in Ballyclare. There the on-call vet gave the swan a thorough examination and some antibiotics and moved it to an enclosure to recover. The USPCA was contacted and the swan was collected on Monday morning and taken to its specialist

wildlife facility in Newry. (The swan had a ring on its right leg and in doing a little research it was discovered that the convention is to place a ring on the right leg of a male and on the left leg of a female). In Newry the cob's minor injuries were tended to and on 14th February, when the staff were satisfied it had healed and was ready for the wild once again, they took him to north Woodburn reservoir where they released him into the water. Given that the reservoir had no other swans it was no surprise that he had disappeared two days later. Sincere thanks must go to everyone who helped with this rescue which happily had a good outcome.







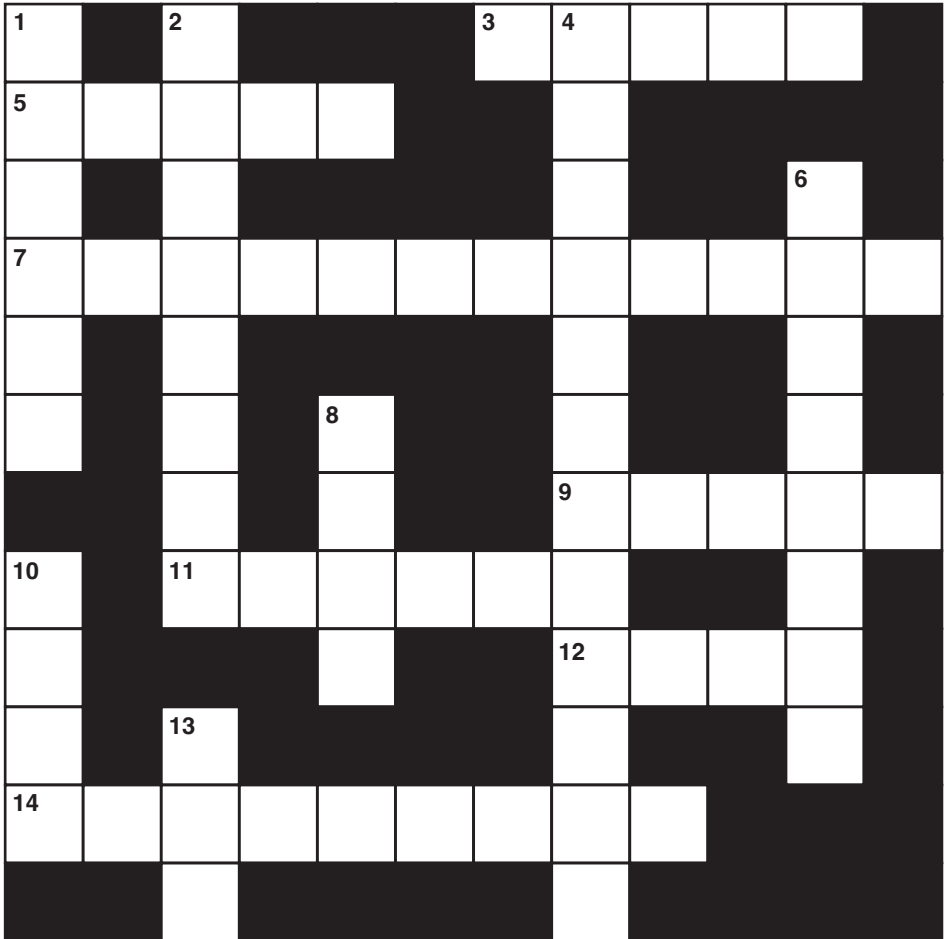
## Litter Pick

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Following the release of the injured swan it was noted how much litter was scattered around the north Woodburn reservoir and a decision was made to return to it to tidy the area up. A team of seven hardy individuals braved the cold weather and the occasional shower of rain and sleet and spent a few hours walking round the reservoir and the surrounding area picking up all manner of litter from beer cans, bottles and discarded fishing line to a croc (not the reptilian variety!) and a discarded collapsible picnic chair! There was also a lot of dog dirt lying around on the paths and the grass areas but it had to stay. Some 'responsible' dog owners had made life easier by putting their pets' deposits in little bags and they had left them on the grass for collection! By the time the litter pickers had finished 14 bin-bags had been filled

with rubbish leaving the area much tidier. Sadly our society is such that no doubt in a few weeks the litter will be back. Still it was a very worthwhile exercise and removed a lot of potentially harmful material from the area. Thanks must go to everyone who took part and to Mid & East Antrim Borough Council for providing pickers and some bags.





**Down**

- 1. Jesus wore a crown of (6)
- 2. What is the Jewish feast that was being celebrated the week Christ was crucified? (8)
- 4. Traditional Easter baked goods (3,5,4)
- 8. Traditional Easter meat (4)
- 10. What is the Sunday before Easter traditionally known as? (4)
- 13. A delicious chocolate treat (3)

**Across**

- 3. To which country does 'Easter Island' belong? (5)
- 5. My \_\_\_\_\_ is filled with thankfulness, popular hymn (5)
- 7. The Rising of Christ from the Dead (12)
- 9. A disciple whose name means 'rock' (5)
- 11. Pontius Pilate was the governor of which people? (6)
- 12. Who composed 'Easter Oratorio'? (4)
- 14. Mary who discovered the open tomb (9)



## 1st Kilbride Scout Group

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### Meeting times

**Squirrels** - Wednesday evenings  
from 5:45pm until 6:45pm.

**Beavers** - Wednesday evenings from  
7:00pm until 8:00pm.

**Cubs** - Monday evenings from  
6:30pm until 7:45pm.

**Scouts** - Monday evenings from  
8:00pm until 9:30pm.

For more information please  
contact Simon Charlton via email  
**kilbridescouts@hotmail.com**  
or by phone **07900 053885**

## 1st Kilbride Guide Group

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### Meeting times

**Rainbows** - Thursday evenings from  
5:45pm until 6:45pm.

**Brownies** - Thursday evenings  
from 6:50pm until 7:50pm.

**Guides** - Thursday evenings  
from 7:45pm until 9:15pm.

**Rangers** - Thursday evenings  
(2nd and 4th Thursday of each  
month) from 8:00pm until 9:15pm.

## Church Website

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**Kilbrideparishchurch.org** contains  
a lot of very important and useful  
information that everyone should  
find interesting and informative. It is  
updated on a regular basis by our  
webmaster, David Holmes, and he is  
keen to get details of anything that is  
happening in relation to the parish of  
Kilbride. Contact him with anything  
you think might be of interest using  
the contact page on the website or in  
person at the church.

## Badminton Club

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Kilbride Parish Church Badminton  
Club meets on a Tuesday Night in the  
Parish Hall from 8pm until 10pm.  
Players of all abilities will be made very  
welcome. A typical evening consists  
of a few games of badminton, plenty  
of chat and most importantly a cup of  
tea and a biscuit.

<b>Down</b>	1. Thorns
	2. Passover
	4. Hot cross buns
	6. Golgotha
	8. Lamb
	10. Palm
	13. Egg
<b>Across</b>	3. Chile
	5. Heart
	7. Resurrection
	9. Simon
	11. Romans
	12. Bach
	14. Magdelene

LENT

Kilbride Parish Church

**Share the news!**

Undoubtedly when The Herald has been read cover-to-cover many copies will be discarded into the recycling bin. When you have finished with your copy please do consider passing it on to someone in your family or circle of friends for them to read.