



*Ayr:St Quivox Parish Church*



**MARCH 2025**

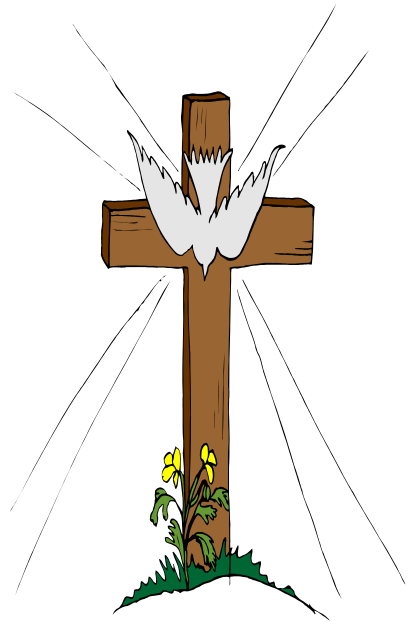
**SUNDAY SERVICES**

**Alternate between Auchincruive  
and Dalmilling**

Check Facebook page for  
updates

Ayr:St. Quivox Parish Church

MINISTER Rev John McCutcheon  
Tel: 01292 861641





Welcome to our first magazine of 2025.

I hope everyone had a restful and peaceful Festive season. As mentioned elsewhere in the magazine, 2025 is going to be a tough year for us as a church. But then again, over the last few years, certainly in the five years that I have been minister, there haven't been any easy years for us. However, with God's grace and a lot of prayer, hopefully we can come through it all, even though it might not necessarily be in the way that we want.

Life in all of its many forms still also goes on and unfortunately by the end of January we were bidding farewell to 3 stalwarts from the church—Mattie Halliday, Molly McPherson and Rosemary Piper; all three of whom for their own different reasons will be well remembered in the present history of St Quivox.

As a church we have been blessed throughout the years with many different people who have all brought their own characteristics and personalities to the life of the church and to the church's work in the community. All of which reminds us that whilst our buildings are certainly helpful for all that we do, it's the people themselves who are the church, the body of Christ within the community. After all, the stories in the Bible are all stories of people who in most cases were no different from us.

As such, we are all part of the ongoing gospel, God's good news, and we all have a story to tell of how the grace, love and mercy of Jesus has changed our lives.

In this year of transition and change for the church, it would be lovely to see more folk on a Sunday morning. If transport is an issue, please let us know and we can make the necessary arrangements. Come and join us and reconnect your story with THE story that has spanned generations.

Rev John McCutcheon



### Communion Service

Sunday 2nd March 2025

For those of our members who are unable to get to church a home communion is available if you feel you want it or if it would be helpful. Please feel free to get in touch if I can help you with this.

John

Tel: 01292 861641



### DATES FOR THE DIARY

6<sup>th</sup> APRIL 11 am

Joint Communion service with Newton Wallacetown and Lochside.

#### EASTER SERVICES

The Holy Week services this year are in St James between Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April and Friday 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### EASTER DAY 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL

On Easter morning we will, as usual, have our early service followed by tea etc then we will have our normal service at 10.30am.



The beginning of 2025 was one where as a congregation we experienced two weeks of highs and lows:

On the 5<sup>th</sup> January we joined with the congregations of Newton Wallacetown and Lochside and held a joint Communion service. We had a congregation of roughly 120 and everyone came out of the service refreshed, uplifted and sharing one question: Can we do this again?

It was particularly encouraging being able to worship with so many different other people and to have the church reverberating with a joyful noise whenever we sang.

In fact, such were the numbers in attendance that there was a fear at one point, that there would not be enough bread and wine for communion. Fortunately there was.....just.

It was also good seeing so many of the congregation staying after the service and sharing in tea, coffee etc. The buzz from the service definitely carried on into the hall.

The good news for those who want to do it again, is that we have agreed to do another joint communion service at NWT on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April, which of course means that there will be no service at St Quivox that day.

The following week we experienced the low when we only had 9 in attendance. I don't think I need to say anymore!

Let's not forget that at the end of last year we were involved in another joint service when we had a successful Watchnight service with ourselves and St James. Although these services aren't as popular as they once were, and many churches have stopped having them, we had about three dozen in attendance, made up mostly of members from St James, visitors, family members and our own church members. All of which added to the sense of unity and joyfulness as we welcomed in Christmas and celebrated the birth of Jesus.



Whilst it was in all likelihood the last Watchnight service held at Auchincruive, it was perhaps good to go out on a high as the theme of the sermon was that we are meant to be a people who have joy at the centre of all that we do.

## **Presbytery Plan**

At the time of writing, we are no further forward in implementing the Presbytery Plan, which is disappointing. However, I must re-emphasize that unfortunately we are not in control of events. As a Kirk Session we are ready to move forward and put the plan in place once others are able and willing to do so.

Nonetheless I would like to remind everyone that as a Kirk Session we agreed last year to dissolve the charge of St Quivox if the union with St James or any other plan could not be put into practice.

Whilst we would like to carry on for as long as possible, we don't have the resources, both human and financial, to do this.

Unless things change dramatically and quickly, the Kirk Session will be left with no choice but to apply to Presbytery for the dissolution of St Quivox.

Irrespective of what may or may not happen within the wider charge, the building at Auchincruive is due to close at the end of September this year.

As the minister I must admit that I have found it frustrating overseeing decisions that have been unpopular and disruptive to the life of the church, and to not then be able to move things on. All of which has meant that in many of the bigger things that need doing, we have been stuck in a rut and unable to do the things that need done.

2025 is going to be a very big year in the history of St Quivox parish church, where things will go one way or the other. Here's hoping that God's plan overcomes everyone else's.



## Christmas at Dalmilling

### Christmas Movie Night in partnership with The Iris Ayr

Christmas at Dalmilling kicked off on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November where we hosted a Christmas movie night in partnership with the Iris Ayr. Due to our parish being part of St Quivox the Iris was able to offer this to us free of charge and although it was short notice to the community we still welcomed along around 45 people who had an enjoyable evening at no cost. We are grateful to the Iris Ayr for supporting us in this and we have spoken about future partnership working to bring more free events like this one to Dalmilling and/or in partnership with other North Ayr churches.

### Christmas Fayre

The next event in the festive calendar was the annual Christmas Fayre in Dalmilling Church on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Around 24 stall holders were in attendance including crafters from the local area, bakers and even a face painter. Teddy Bear Tots had their own stall, and the funds raised from the stall went towards keeping the Christmas events free or low cost. It was a great opportunity to welcome people into the church at the most wonderful time of the year.

### Family Festive Meal in partnership with Vics in the Community

The family festive meal was a great success. Around 80 people attended and had a sit down delicious 3 course meal prepared by our wonderful team of volunteers. We enjoyed music from Scott Nicol, a Christmas themed quiz, a Christmas message from the minister and the kids received a visit and gift from Santa. The team worked so well together to make the day run efficiently.



### Afternoon Tea with the Grinch

Over eighty kids came along to afternoon tea with the Grinch. They enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea of sandwiches, sausage rolls, cakes, and fruit platters. All kids got to meet the Grinch and have photos taken before Santa came along with a gift for each child. Due to fundraising efforts we were able to run this at a low cost (£5) and include a £3 gift along with food & drink.

### Christmas Disco

On December 23<sup>rd</sup> we held a Christmas disco at the Wilson Hall. This was quiet with only 25 people in attendance. Despite this everyone had a great night and it allowed the kids who usually shy away from dancing or playing games the space to enjoy themselves. Once again Santa visited with gifts for all including the adults who were delighted with their sweets.

### Messy Christmas Eve

The annual messy Christmas Eve was quieter than usual this year. It was still a lovely evening of festive crafts, Christingles, carols, and a message of the true meaning of Christmas. It was lovely to see old and new faces in attendance.

### Spreading Christmas Cheer

With funding received from the Asda Foundation we were able to spread some much-needed festive cheer this year. We visited Whitletts Court Sheltered housing and delivered 40 boxes of biscuits, one for each household. We also enjoyed spending some quality time with the residents which is much needed for a lot of them. Through this funding we were also able to make up 22 hampers of goodies and deliver to those most in need in the community. Recipients included a man in homeless accommodation, a bereaved daughter and a struggling family.



[dalmillingbrownies@hotmail.com](mailto:dalmillingbrownies@hotmail.com)

by Brown Owl Lise Whittle



Dalmilling Brownies have been keeping very busy and having lots of fun too. Last term we completed our 'Out and About, Grow and Explore' farming themed badge with a farming activity night including games of 'Hook a Duck', 'Pin the Tail on Daphne the Cow', another game involving finding toy farm animals in a ball pond, a farm animal buzzer game, and a game called 'Farmers Ladders'. Another part of the badge was to grow some food to eat, so everyone decorated pots and planted some cress seeds to grow. After that we sang a song about Daphne the Cow (roughly to the tune of 'If You're Happy and You Know It'). You can try it too! – here are the words;

*"Daphne the Cow Licked Rosie on the Nosey in the barn" (repeat 3 times)*  
*"And the Farmer said it would Do No Harm!" (repeat song getting faster and faster!).*

At the end of the night everyone went home with a puzzle sheet, their pot of seeds, a bag of animal biscuits, rosy cheeks and smiles on their faces. We overheard one parent saying "Brownies is like going to a party every week!"

The Brownies had lots of fun at their Pumpkin Party, playing games including 'Giants, Goblins and Wizards', a skeleton treasure hunt finding





pictures of various bones and putting them back together hopefully in the correct order! Then we had a science-themed craft activity called 'Fizzy Monsters' – the Brownies drew a monster's face on coloured paper cups and cut out the mouth. The Brownies then put ingredients inside the cup – a dessert spoon of Bicarbonate of Soda, some food colouring, 2 squirts of liquid hand soap, and then added  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of white vinegar ..... and the ingredients magically started foaming up and pouring out of the mouth! An animation film editor called Rory came along and filmed the foaming monsters and edited it into a short film which we were able to send out to the Brownies later.



Another night we had a Quiz Night with questions such as;

What colour is the tongue of a giraffe?

A= Red B= Grey C= Purple D= Black.

How many eyes do caterpillars have?

A= 2 B= 12 C= 4 D= 1

**(answers at the end!)**



We had a 'Remembrance Night' and discussed who we remember on Remembrance Sunday. We talked about past and current wars, and shared thoughts about why wars start. Each Brownie has the name of a serviceman from Dalmilling War Memorial to remember each year, and we painted a poppy pebble with their serviceman's name on it. 1<sup>st</sup>

Dalmilling Brownies and the Owls paid their respects at the Church Remembrance Service, and they sang '*We'll Meet Again*' to the congregation during the service.

Thank you to Asda Ayr for kindly supplying our beautiful poppy wreath for Remembrance Sunday.



Some of our Brownies joined many other girls from across Girlguiding Ayrshire South at a Taylor Swift Tribute Party in Troon, and had fun dancing and singing along to their favourite songs, and swapping friendship bracelets.

Thank you to Argos at Sainsbury's in Prestwick for another generous donation towards our Healthy Eating night. The Brownies were able to make up delicious Christmas hampers, and we are very grateful for the kind donation from Argos.





We had an Awards Night where two Brownies received their Brownie Bronze Award (2 theme badges completed), and everyone also received their 'Be Well' theme badge which we had been working on all term. Some of the Brownies were also awarded with prizes and certificates for their Stamp Competition entries that they had put together earlier in the year. We had 2 winners across the different age categories, and everyone who entered received a certificate and prizes, with some colourful postcards for everyone else.



Continuing with stamps, for our Christmas Crafts night we all got very sticky and messy soaking and gluing Christmas stamps onto baubles, and painting a varnish on top. We left the baubles drying until the following week which was our Christmas Party.

We were really pleased that Reverend John and Elizabeth were able to join us for our Christmas party, and we started with a Christmas Mexican Wave, and then we had a chat about why we have Christmas, and why we give presents. We sang 'O Little Town of Bethlehem', followed by a game of 'Santa Says'. After that we went through to the Church next door and John and Elizabeth showed the Brownies the beautiful Church Christmas tree. Then it was time to go back to the halls for an energetic game of Musical Chairs, followed by a pass-the-parcel type game while listening to a story about Frosty the left-handed Snowman. They had to listen carefully and switch direction passing the parcel every time the words 'Left' or 'Right' were mentioned in the story, which happened a lot! Next it was time for the very popular newspaper Snowball Fight with each team winning points for the least snowballs left on their side of the room, it ended in a draw for both teams which meant prizes for everyone!



One of our Brownies is now old enough to join Guides in Ayr, and she received a little Brownies memory bag to remind her of her time in Brownies. We all sang 'We'll Meet Again' and asked her to remember to come back and tell us what Guides is like. The party ended with another song – 'Jingle Bells', and then everyone went home with some sweeties and cake, a present to put under the tree, a puzzle page, and a carol sheet to sing along to on the way home!

But that wasn't quite the last time we met together – most of the Brownies were able to come along to a cinema trip at Ayr Astoria cinema to see Moana 2, and everyone enjoyed the film and popcorn.



In January we started the New Year with a new blue theme badge called 'Know Myself – Reflect'. It's all about having fun and games and getting to know who we are, our role in Girlguiding, and the wider world. We'll let you know more about that in our next report!

A huge thank you to all the volunteer Owls, and for the support and encouragement from everyone at the Church. Dalmilling is in great need of more volunteer Leaders, and we are especially looking for a couple of adult Leaders to restart the Rainbows (age 5-7) and also Guides (age 10-14) as we have girls enquiring and waiting to join. A programme is already available, and full training and support will be given. If you or anyone you know might be interested, please contact Brownie leader Lise Whittle at [dalmillingbrownies@hotmail.com](mailto:dalmillingbrownies@hotmail.com) or District Commissioner Janis Meredith at [dcjcentralayr@girlguidingayrshiresouth.org.uk](mailto:dcjcentralayr@girlguidingayrshiresouth.org.uk)



**Quiz answers:** C (giraffes have purple tongues), and B (caterpillars have 12 eyes - two groups of six eyes on each side of the head!)



*IT TAKES A LIFETIME TO LEARN HOW TO LIVE*

*It takes a lifetime to learn how to live*

*How to share and how to give,*

*How to face tragedy that comes your way,*

*How to find courage to face each new day.*

*How to smile when your heart is sore,*

*How to go on when you can take no more.*

*How to laugh when you want to cry,*

*How to be brave when you say goodbye.*

*How to still love when your loss is great,*

*How to forgive when your urge is to hate.*

*How to be sure that God's really there,*

*How to find him?*

*Seek him in prayer.*

*Anon.*



designed by freepik



M	A	R	Y	Y	P	S	U	S	E	J	E	R	L
H	U	T	R	P	I	P	A	S	N	B	N	E	T
R	D	S	E	E	L	B	C	E	E	E	O	S	G
G	E	M	P	T	A	M	R	L	J	T	T	U	O
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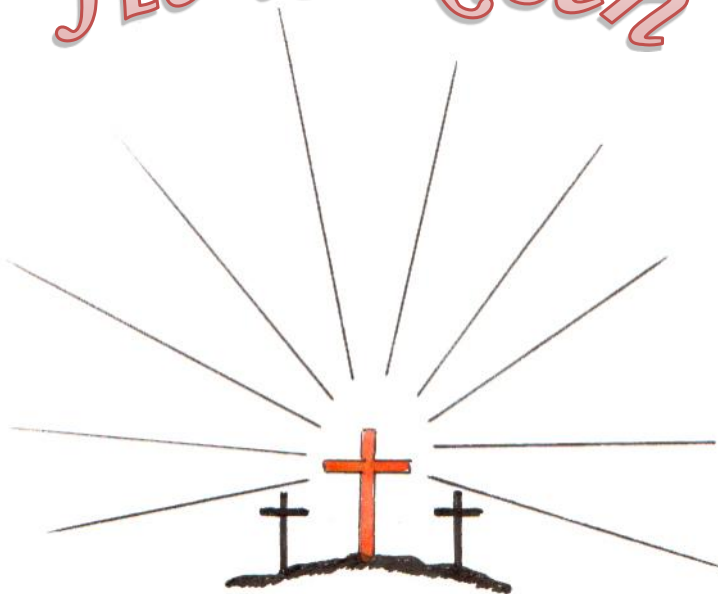
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Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/8011668/>



BETRAYAL	FRIDAY	LAST SUPPER
CROSS	GETHSEMANE	MARY
CRUCIFIXION	GOLGOTHA	PETER
DENIAL	JERUSALEM	PILATE
DISCIPLES	JESUS	RESURRECTION
EASTER	JOSEPH	STONE
EMPTY TOMB	JUDAS	SUNDAY

*He is Risen*







If you have been attending church, you will notice that flowers are once more decorating both the sanctuaries. After the service, these flowers are given to people who are ill, been in hospital, are housebound, or have been bereaved. They are sometimes given to celebrate good news or birthdays.



If you would like to commemorate a special date by donating flowers, speak to Rosemary if the date falls on a day we worship at Auchincruive, or Pat if it is Dalmilling.

**Website:** [www.ayrstquivox.com](http://www.ayrstquivox.com)

**Facebook:** Search for Ayr:St. Quivox Parish Church  
Here you can find updates on our services and signposts to what's going on in our church.



May you have  
The gladness of Easter which is Hope.   
The promise of Easter which is Peace.   
The spirit of Easter which is Love. 



## Funerals

Jan

7<sup>th</sup> Margaret Wark, 40 Westwood Crescent, Ayr9<sup>th</sup> Robert Whiteside, 12 George Square, Ayr20<sup>th</sup> Nan Walker, 38 Springbank Road, Ayr29<sup>th</sup> Mattie Halliday, 3 Abbot Court, Prestwick29<sup>th</sup> Molly McPherson, 28 Glenmuir Road, Ayr

Feb

6<sup>th</sup> Brenda Glass, Ayr6<sup>th</sup> Rosemary Piper, 10 Whitletts Court , Ayr

*Hymn: 268 in CH4  
O God of Bethel! By whose hand  
O spread thy covering wings around,  
till all our wanderings cease,  
and at our Father's loved abode  
our souls arrive in peace.*



## DATES, TIMES AND LOCATION OF SERVICES

19

2 Mar 2025, Sun	9 Mar 2025, Sun	16 Mar 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30
Dalmilling Church	Auchincruive Church	Dalmilling Church

23 Mar 2025, Sun	30 Mar 2025, Sun	6 Apr 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30	11:00 – 12:00 Communion Service
Auchincruive Church	Dalmilling Church	Newton Wallacetown

13 Apr 2025, Sun	20 Apr 2025, Sun	27 Apr 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30
Dalmilling Church	Auchincruive Church	Dalmilling Church

4 May 2025, Sun	11 May 2025, Sun	18 May 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30
Auchincruive Church	Dalmilling Church	Auchincruive Church

25 May 2025, Sun	1 Jun 2025, Sun	8 Jun 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30
Dalmilling Church	Auchincruive Church	Dalmilling Church

15 Jun 2025, Sun	22 Jun 2025, Sun	29 Jun 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30
Auchincruive Church	Dalmilling Church	Auchincruive Church

6 Jul 2025, Sun	13 Jul 2025, Sun	20 Jul 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30	10:30 – 11:30
Dalmilling Church	Auchincruive Church	Dalmilling Church



Minister	Rev John McCutcheon	01292 861641
Church Office	Dalmilling Church	262177
Acting Session Clerk		
Treasurer		
Roll Keeper & Elders Districts	Vickie Mutch	263678
Family/ Community Worker		
Data Protection Officer	To be elected.	
Health and Safety Officer	Allan Leydon	262293
Safeguarding Team	A Leydon, R Alexander, Rev John McCutcheon	
Audio/Visual Programmer		
Order of Service & Intimations Secretary	Vickie Mutch	263678
Organist	Jennifer McCutcheon	261248
Auchincruive Church Officer	Katharine Black	478242
Dalmilling Sunday Church Officer	Allan Leydon	262293
Dalmilling Premises	Allan Leydon	262293
Auchincruive Communion	Katharine & John Black.	478242
Dalmilling Communion	Allan Leydon Elizabeth Brechany	262293 268363
Flowers Auchincruive	Rosemary Alexander	
Flowers Dalmilling	Pat Smith	
Hall Bookings Secretary	Elizabeth Brechany	268363
Magazine Editor	Elizabeth Brechany	268363

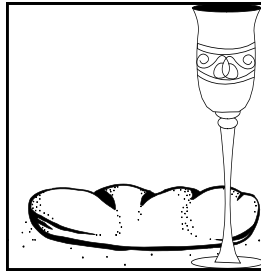


We Invite You

Communion Service

Sunday 2nd March 2025

At Dalmilling Church at 10:30am



*Do this in remembrance of me.*

*Luke 22:19*

Next issue of Church Magazine

All items should be submitted to Elizabeth Brechany

by Sunday 4th May 2025

St Quivox Parish Church: Ayr (Church of Scotland) (known as Ayr:St Quivox Parish Church) is a Scottish Charity, SC004906, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).