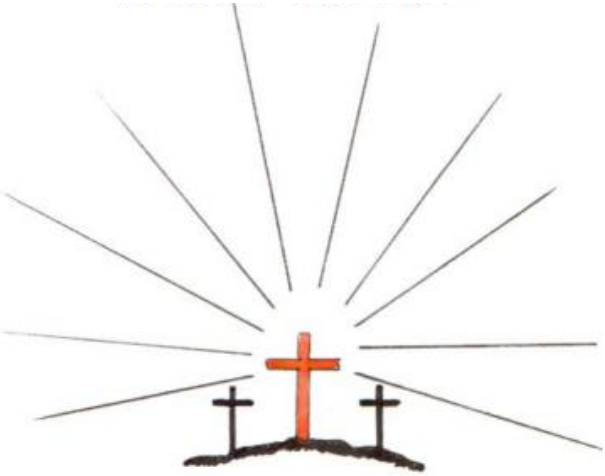
ΑΩ

Ayr:St Quivox Parish Church

June 2025



SUNDAY SERVICES
Alternate between Auchincruive and Dalmilling

all July Services will be held at Newton Wallacetown

Check Facebook page for updates
Ayr:St. Quivox Parish Church

MINISTER Rev John McCutcheon
Tel: 01292 861641

It seems like no time at all since I was sitting at the computer and writing about everything that would be taking place in the life of the church over the Christmas period.

Now at the time of writing we are basking in our second period of relatively good weather which definitely puts a spring in the step of most of us.

As a church, hopefully the good weather is also a sign of everything that is to come as far as the church is concerned. Elsewhere in the magazine I have written about the new proposed Presbytery Plan for St Quivox, and that subject to the agreement of the Presbytery in June, we would like to have the new united charge of St Quivox and Newton Wallacetown-Lochside, up and running before Autumn.

We have just celebrated Easter and taken part in the various services from Palm Sunday to Holy Week and to Easter Day. All of these services, in their own way, remind us of why we come to church and do the things we do. It is always worth keeping these things to the forefront of our minds as we so often allow ourselves to get caught up in the minutiae of church life as we try to keep things going.

I am very grateful to everyone who has persevered and enabled us to get to this point, nothing we do is ever taken for granted.

As always, I still feel privileged to call myself your minister.

If there is anything I can help with or you need some pastoral support please feel free to contact me on:

Tel 01292 861641

Email JMcCutcheon@churchofscotland.org.uk

Communion Service

Sunday 1st June 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

Website: 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.

Easter is a time of highs and lows, expectations and despair. From the entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday with shouts of acclamation to betrayal and a cross on Calgary by the Friday. We know however that this is not the end, it is only the beginning, with the Resurrection to come. The message is one of hope and faith that if we take our troubles to Jesus that he is always there for us.

It's a message that we in the church today need to remind ourselves of. At times of falling numbers and merging congregations we are in a state of flux. We stand on a precipice not knowing where to turn. Whether to take a leap of faith and start a new journey or to remain mired in place.

In our case at Ayr: St. Quivox, with an aging congregation, there are fewer people able to fill the roles required in the church. We rely on others to come to our aid.

Fortunately we have a great team of volunteers so things like Teddy Bear Tots continue to thrive on Wednesday mornings. We have partnered with Whitletts Vics in the Community who aid our volunteers to run the Community Corner providing lunch and a warm space on Wednesday afternoons. Our volunteers also run Wild Rhythm on a Thursday afternoon providing music and refreshments to those of the disability community.

Also within the community the church has a good relationship with Dalmilling School who come to us for services at Christmas and Easter. We also recently hosted a Spring Fling for the Nursery children and their families. I was at all of these events and it is wonderful to see the children taking part and enjoying themselves.

We also host 1st Dalmilling Brownies in our halls on a Monday afternoon. John and I have attended their Christmas and Easter parties joining in on their games, crafts and singing.

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings the Wilson Hall is used by the Lynne Crombie School of Dancing. This is a popular pastime for young people in the area interested in a wide variety of dance classes.

Other regular users are the Women's Exercise Class on a Friday, the War Gamers who meet on a Sunday and a Training Group who use the church 2 days per month.

Of course we also host an occasional Birthday Party. Recently we've had two 4th birthdays and a 5th birthday party scheduled for June.

All in all there is a lot going on and it is our hope that this will continue to be the case. Time will march inexorably on until our fate is revealed.

This April John was leading the services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday in Newton Wallacetown church. A few of us from Ayr: St.Quivox went along joining the congregations of Newton Wallacetown and Lochside. It is so much better worshipping in a church filled with people, all there for the common cause of Remembrance of the ultimate sacrifice paid by our Lord Jesus Christ. Afterwards we enjoyed some time of fellowship with friends amongst the various congregations.

Elizabeth Brechany

Presbytery Plan

At the June Presbytery meeting we have been told that there is going to be a change to the Presbytery Plan in relation to St Quivox.

It will be proposed that St Quivox unite with Newton Wallacetown-Lochside, to form what will eventually become one North Ayr Parish. It will be run with one minister (me). The MDS post that we have will be retained and it is hoped that once we get the Union confirmed we can start drawing up a job specification for the type of candidate that we will be looking for. NWT also have just appointed a Youth Worker and so it is an exciting opportunity for the new church to progress forward and to be able to look into the future and to everything that God has planned for us

The new revised plan has been agreed by the Kirk Sessions of St Quivox and Newton Wallacetown.

There are a few matters regarding admin that the two Kirk Sessions will need to agree on.

A Basis of Union will eventually be agreed and the congregations of the churches will then have to agree to the Basis of Union.

Members of St Quivox will only have one vote and that will be to agree to the union between the churches. The members at Newton Wallacetown-Lochside will have two votes; one to agree to the Union and the other to agree to me being the minister.

If there is a 'no' vote to any of the questions, it takes us back to the drawing board, and will probably hasten the closure of our own church.

To ensure that you will be able to vote I would urge everyone to make sure that they are on the Church roll. If you are not on it, you will not get to have your say on what is one of the most important decisions that the congregation of St Quivox will make.

It is to be hoped that everything will be concluded quite quickly and that the new united charge will be running by Autumn if not sooner.

Of course this means that there will be changes. Auchincruive will still close at the end of September. Whilst Dalmilling will remain open, all the church services will take place at Newton Wallacetown Church. All the usual events and groups that take place within the church building will not be affected and will be running as usual.

There is a 10 o'clock service already in place at Lochside which will be retained. It is an option for anyone who doesn't want to go the service at 11 o'clock at NWT.

That said, everyone who has attended the joint services we have had at NWT have all commented on how uplifting and encouraging they have been, especially when there are many others in attendance.

We will endeavour to make sure that those non drivers who want to get to church will be able to do so, but everyone has to play their parts as well and let us know that you want a lift.

This is an exciting time to be part of the church as we put behind us the problems and the uncertainty that we have faced over the last year or so.

I also know that many in NWT are looking forward to a new start as well.

I intend to hold a question and answer session at some point either after a service or one afternoon during the week so that we can allay any 'rumours' that might arise, but also so that we can move forward with the minimum disruption.

Teddy Bear Tots

We have had a busy month at Teddy Bear Tots. Our numbers are starting to increase and due to the work with Cherry Tree Nursery we have welcomed along some of the kids and the teachers to teddy bear tots. This has been a great connection especially for the parents who are sending their kids on to Cherry Tree in the future. It gave them the opportunity to get to know the teachers and ease any concerns they have.

Community Corner

The community corner continues to be busy on a weekly basis, this month we welcomed along the girls from the information and advice hub who supported some of our members with housing information and pensions and benefits. The girls will pop in every few weeks to offer any support or advice that may be needed. Our members continue to enjoy a delicious lunch, friendship and lots of good conversation.

The Mans Cave

The man's cave hasn't returned as of yet, this group requires some work to get it up and running, will speak to the men interested on how this can be taken forward.

Wild Rhythm

Wild Rhythm continues every Thursday in the Wilson Hall, our numbers have been steady over the month of April and we are constantly learning about our members. We are constantly looking for ways to keep things fresh and engaging for our members.

Easter at Dalmilling

* The Church Easter Lunch was attended by around 45 people. A delicious 3 course meal, Easter quiz, arts and crafts and music was enjoyed by those in attendance. The sum of **£170** was raised for church funds.

* Cherry Tree Nursery's Spring Fling was a great success. It was lovely to see all the children perform. We believe this has strengthened connections with the nursery and has already led to more engagement.

* Dalmilling Primary School used the church for their Easter celebration. The kids did extremely well in their presentation and singing. This was also a great opportunity to see the kids who attend events in church throughout the year showing confidence coming through the church doors.

* The Easter Egg drive was a great success and Easter Eggs were given to the kids at Teddy Bear Tots and some local children over the Easter holidays.

* Whitletts Court afternoon teas - 28 afternoon tea boxes were delivered to Whitletts Court in time for Easter Sunday. These were greatly received and much appreciated.

Other Work

* **5** people supported with fuel through the fuel bank foundation – vouchers totalling **£49**

* All volunteers now registered for their basic disclosure certificate.

* Our **2** volunteers from Ayr Academy are doing extremely well and growing in confidence each week.

* Ayr Academy are looking into the possibility of the girls attending next year as part of their NAT5 childcare.

Looking Forward

* We received **£800** from the Health and Social Care Partnership that will go towards summer activities within Dalmilling Church.
* We plan to put in another application to Ayrshire Housing towards summer activities this can be up to £1000.
* The South Ayrshire Volunteer Awards will be held on 5th June at Ayr Town Hall. We have nominated 7 volunteers who are eligible this year.
* Pat Reid has been nominated for the community champion award at The South Ayrshire Volunteer Awards. This was agreed by all the volunteers.
* We would like to plan another community trip this year. There are a few funders that could possibly fund this.
* The Asda foundation is open in June with grants of up to 20k. This could be used for disabled toilets and access.

The South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership Carers Event in Dalmilling Church was very informative. A wide range of stalls were present offering advice on stopping smoking, ageing well, period poverty, caring for someone, volunteering, help and support.

There was also entertainment provided by Dalmilling Primary P7's who sang songs from their school show The Greatest Showman. They were fantastic. Scott Nicol who plays for the Wild Rhythm group also sang a few songs.

Kirsty McArdle

News from overseas.

Margaret O'Hara living the dream in America.

dalmillingbrownies@hotmail.com

by Brown Owl Lise Whittle

At Brownies we have been working towards a theme badge called 'Know Myself – Reflect'. It's all about having fun and games and getting to know who we are, our community, our role in Girlguiding, and the wider world.

We are pleased to welcome several new Brownies into our Unit, and we hope they will enjoy all the fun. We started our term off in January with a Welcome Night, singing our Brownie songs, and then had a Pow-wow (circle chat). Then it was time for a game – an Advent Calendar relay race running up to open the next number in the correct order on the chocolate Advent calendar – it takes longer than you'd think! Everyone enjoyed their chocolate treat inside. After that, the Brownies made bead zippers for their jackets, they could choose any colours or patterns they liked that reminded them of Brownies in some way. This activity was part of their badge work, and their jackets looked bright and colourful once their bead zippers were fixed on.

We celebrated Burns Night by singing Happy Birthday to Robbie, and working out how old he was (he was born in 1759 – can you work it out?!) The Brownies enjoyed making and decorating a little clay haggis to take home, along with a card and some shortbread. Another night each Brownie put together a one-sheet stamp competition entry with some titles including 'Nature', 'Aeroplanes' and 'My Favourite Colours'.

1st Dalmilling Brownies joined up with 3rd Alloway Brownies for an overnight Brownies Fairytales Sleepover in Alloway Church Halls. We asked for two Brownies to volunteer to write about the Sleepover, and here is their report;

Skylar and Lucy, 1st Dalmilling Brownies;

"First we set up our bed time stuff/bed/sleeping bag on the floor and went to the hall and did some games and activities. We started to sign peoples diaries on the back, and then headed to the table and made some magic wands. My wand is purple with gems and a big white flower and little stars. Then we played ladders / beanstalk game but princess version so two were given a princess name of Cinderella, Rapunzell, Ariel, Belle, Tiana and Jasmine. We made fairytale lanterns to take to bed. Gingerbread man biscuit challenge. Dragon breathing yoga, and campfire songs."

Fairytale Lanterns

On another night at Brownies we planted baby spider plants taken from Brown Owl's larger plant (which had originally been a baby plant from one at Dalmilling Primary School!) We also potted daffodil bulbs, and left some of the plants for the Church congregation.

To celebrate Girlguiding Thinking Day we made lanterns for battery candles, to put in our windows to let everyone know we were thinking of other Girlguiding members across the world.

For pancake night everyone had lots of fun. We played a game where the Brownies took turns throwing a dice in correct number order to be offered a pancake and different toppings – throw a 1 or 2 for a pancake; 3 for butter; 4 for jam or chocolate spread (some had both!); 5 for olives or sardines (surprisingly there were no takers!); and 6 for sprinkles and chocolate chips. At the end everyone enjoyed eating their pancakes, thankfully without olives or sardines!

We celebrated St Patrick's Day and learnt all about St. Patrick. We made leprechaun magnets and had fun trying out Irish dancing.

As part of our 'Know Myself' badge work, the Brownies performed in a Talent Show which included displays of dances, a presentation about dogs, reading a poem, a martial arts demonstration, and showing a toy collection.

For Special Lady Day the Brownies made a felt heart picture and learnt to sew a button onto the heart to give to their special lady at home. They mounted the button heart onto a board with the wording beneath 'Thank you – you hold everything together.' For many of the girls it was the first time they had ever sewn something, and despite a few challenging knots and interesting over-the-side stitches, they all did an excellent job! So if a button on your clothes becomes loose, find a Brownie to sew it back on!

As another part of their badge work, the Brownies planned their own Easter party for the end of term. We were very pleased that Reverend John and Elizabeth were able to join us at the party. At the party we discussed why we have Easter, then they made an Easter bauble craft with a little chick inside. We had an Easter egg hunt with challenges to complete before the Brownie was allowed to pick up her chocolate egg, such as *'Before you pick up your egg, jump like a lamb 5 times!'* and *'Flap your wings 10 times saying Cheep'.* This was followed by some Easter games including an Egg and Spoon race, and an Easter-jigsaw-bunny-hop-relay-race! We sang 'Betty the Bunny has 5 Ears', and then a running-around-the-circle game called 'Flopsy, Mopsy and Cottontail'. Everyone went home with an Easter egg, sweeties, and a puzzle sheet, and happy faces.

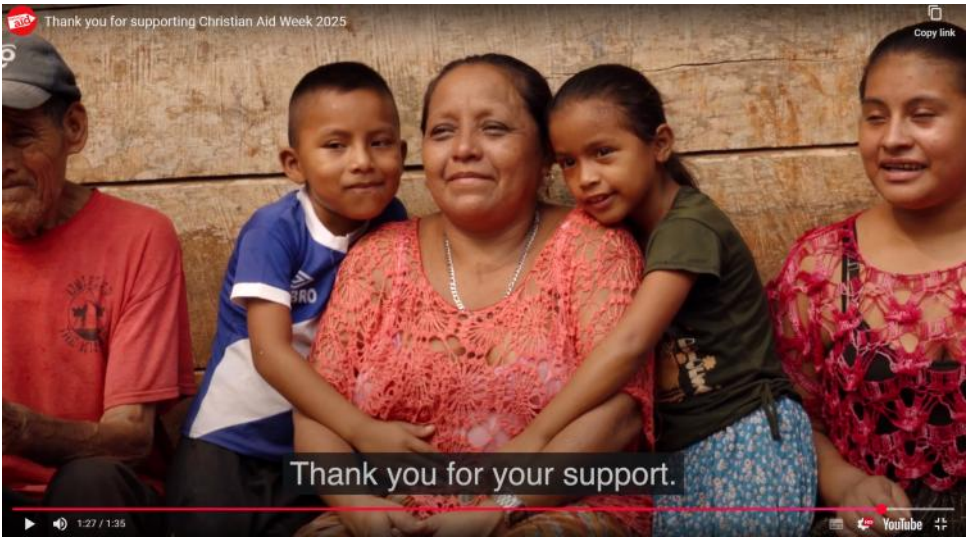
A huge thank you to all the volunteer Owls, and for the support and encouragement from everyone at the Church. Dalmilling is in great need of more volunteer Leaders, and we are especially looking for a couple of adult Leaders to restart the Rainbows (age 5-7) and also Guides (age 10-14) as we have girls enquiring and wanting 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 or District Commissioner Janis Meredith at *dcjcentralayr@girlguidingayrshiresouth.org.uk*

Thank you for being part of the Christian Aid Week 2025 appeal! You've once again shown us how 7 days can make a real difference.

Whether you organised a coffee morning, hosted a bake sale, walked 70k in May, raised funds via house-to-house envelope collections, or gave what you could - you've stood with people like Amelia and Aurelia facing the impact of the climate crisis.

How your support is changing lives

Your support is sharing hope with communities on the frontline of the climate crisis.



In Guatemala, 24-year-old Amelia is facing the climate crisis head-on. As heatwaves dry up the river that runs through her farm, she's determined to protect her children from hunger.

Thanks to your support this Christian Aid Week, Amelia is learning agricultural methods that help her grow resilient crops, conserve water and share her knowledge with others in her community.

'With high heat, there is little we can do but adapt.' – Amelia

Your kindness is helping families like Amelia's build a future full of hope. Thank you.

'Amelia's story is one of resistance, and it's just beginning.'

- Gerardo C. Tobar, Programme Office.

Going Bananas

Bananas are the world's most popular fruit – and the fourth most important food crop globally. But now the communities who grow them are facing a growing threat from the climate crisis.

Our new report, *Going Bananas*, explores how rising temperatures, extreme weather and disease are putting bananas – and the people who rely on them – at risk.

Bananas are a vital source of food and income for millions of people. Over **400 million people** rely on them for up to **27% of their daily calories** and they're a key export crop for countries in **Latin America and the Caribbean**, who supply **80% of the world's bananas**.

'Climate change has been killing our crops. This means there is no income because we cannot sell anything.'

— **Aurelia**, banana farmer, Guatemala

Word Search

S	D	K	L	Y	O	N	D	E	R	O	L	L	S
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Play this puzzle online at : https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/8362112/

Find the underlined words from the Gospel Songs listed on the page opposite.

Amazing Grace

Because he Lives

Blessed Assurance

Daddy Sang Bass

Do Lord

Give me that old time Religion

He Touched Me

His Eye is on the Sparrow

How Great Thou Art

I'd Rather have Jesus

In the Garden

It Is No Secret

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Peace in the Valley

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

The Lily of the Valley

The Old Rugged Cross

We'll Understand it Better By and By

When the Roll Is called Up Yonder

Will the Circle Be Unbroken

June 8th United Pentecostal celebration service at Newton Wallacetown Church 11am

15th Rev. David Ness leading worship at Auchincruive 10.30am

July 6th United communion service at Newton Wallacetown Church 11am.

September 7th Communion service at Auchincruive Church, 10.30am

September 21st Last service at Auchincruive Church, 10.30am.
Former ministers Rev Rona Young and Rev Ken Yorke have confirmed their attendance and will no doubt be given something to do for the service.

If the proposal for the new United charge is agreed at Presbytery on 14th June, it would be my intention, subject to agreement of both Kirk Sessions, to have a month of united services at Newton Wallacetown in July.

In part this is to let everyone see that this is the direction of travel we will be undergoing as a church. But also, because the summer months always see a drop off in attendance at our services, and when they are starting from a low number anyway, it can be quite discouraging. It also makes sense to build on the momentum that has been building since the start of the year for these joint services.

There is also another reason in that the worship team at NWT have been carrying the church services every Sunday since last July and I wanted to give them a month off so that they can recharge their batteries as well.

We will keep everyone up to date about this either on Sunday mornings or via our Facebook page.

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

25 May 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30
Dalmilling Church

1 Jun 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30 Communion
Auchincruive Church

8 Jun 2025, Sun
11:00 – 12:00 Pentecost
Newton Wallacetown

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

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

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

6 Jul 2025, Sun
11:00 – 12:00
Newton Wallacetown

13 Jul 2025, Sun
11:00 – 12:00
Newton Wallacetown

20 Jul 2025, Sun
11:00 – 12:00
Newton Wallacetown

27 Jul 2025, Sun
11:00 – 12:00
Newton Wallacetown

3 Aug 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30
Dalmilling Church

10 Aug 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30
Auchincruive Church

17 Aug 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30
Dalmilling Church

24 Aug 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30
Auchincruive Church

31 Aug 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30
Dalmilling Church

7 Sept 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30 Communion
Auchincruive Church

14 Sept 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30
Dalmilling Church

21 Sept 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30
Auchincruive Church

28 Sept 2025, Sun
10:30 – 11:30
Dalmilling Church

Funerals

April

24th Frances & Ian MacGarvey, Suncourt Nursing Home

28th Johnnie McCallister, Princes Court, Ayr

May

2nd Anna Mack, 4 Monkton Court

20th Hannah Balasz, 19 Pollock Gardens

"Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

Revelations 21:

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.

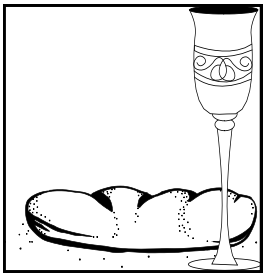
Minister	Rev John McCutcheon	01292 861641
Church Office	Dalmilling Church	262177
Acting Session Clerk		
Treasurer		
Roll Keeper & Elders Districts	Vickie Mutch	263678
Family/ Community Worker		
Data Protection Officer	To be elected.	
Health and Safety Officer	Allan Leydon	262293
Safeguarding Team	A Leydon, R Alexander, Rev John McCutcheon	
Audio/Visual Programmer		
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 1st June 2025

At Auchincruive 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 10th August 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).