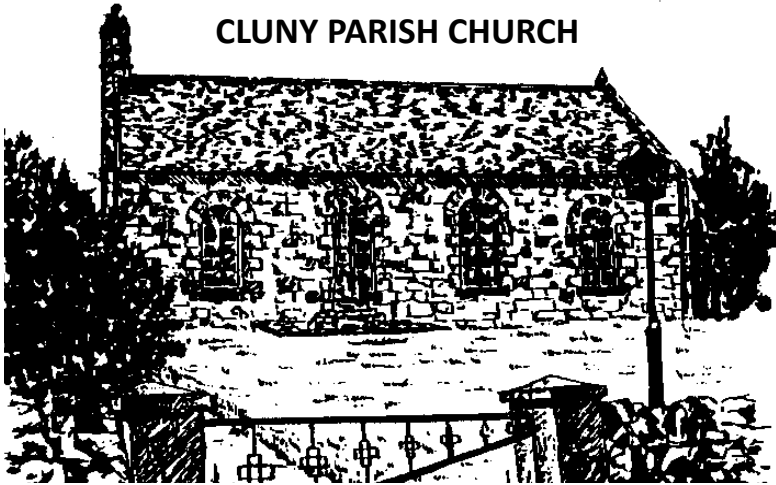


## CLUNY PARISH CHURCH



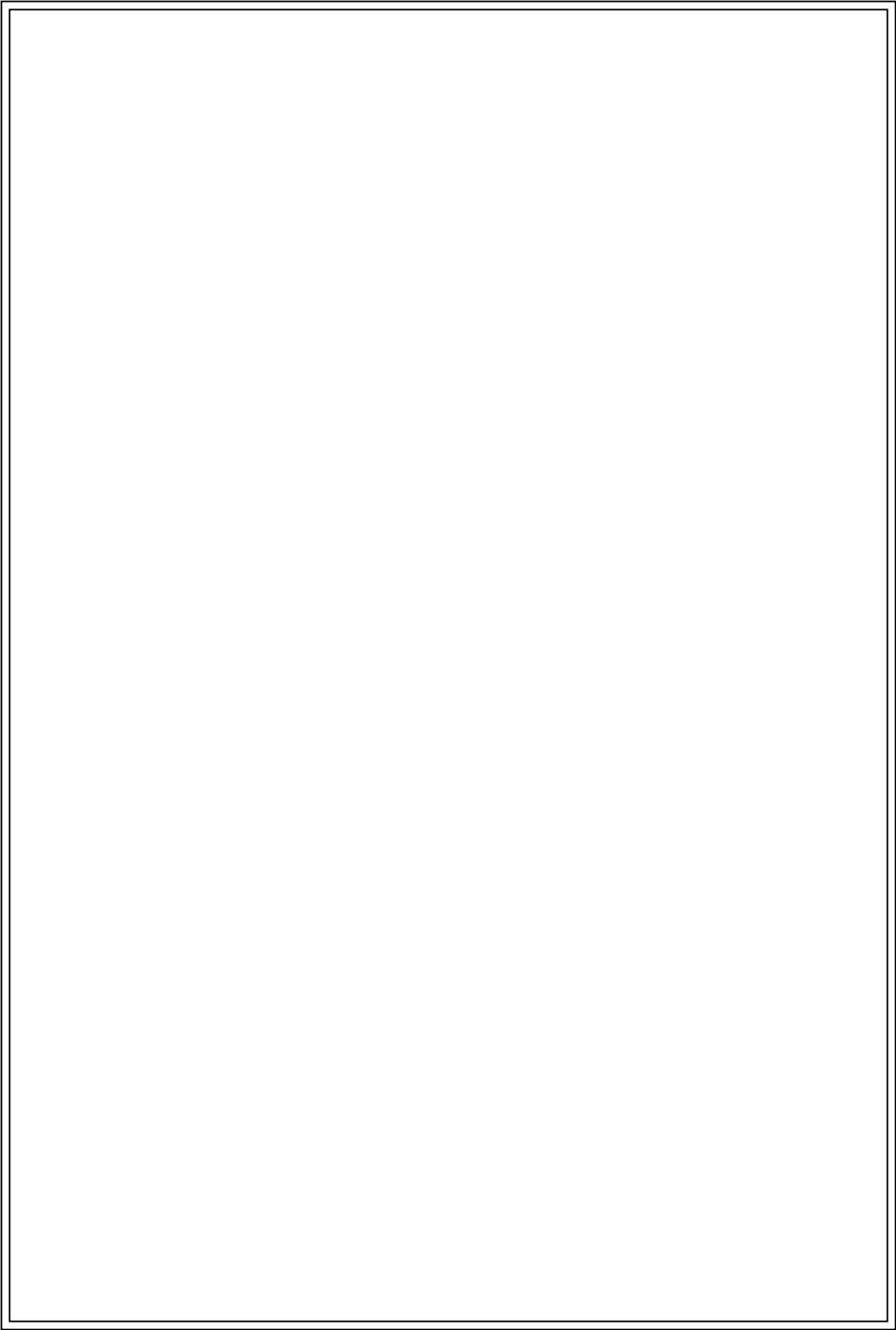
### Newsletter Number Fifty One: October 2015

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#### Times of Church Services

Sunday morning worship takes place at 11am in Cluny Church except for the joint services which are held at 10am on the first Sunday of the month and alternate between Cluny (October) and Monymusk (November). Members of Cluny Church are reminded that the minister's day off is Monday. It would be appreciated that, unless there is an emergency, contact should be made at any other time during the week.

[www.clunychurch.weebly.com](http://www.clunychurch.weebly.com)



## **Letter from the Manse**

It's the middle of September as I write this and I am beginning to think that we have jumped a season and gone from spring to autumn. There has been much in the news about the terrible summer and many folk that I speak with have felt down because of the lack of summer sunshine. But our need for a bit of sun does not compare with those in agriculture and farming who, by all accounts, have had a terrible year due to the unseasonal weather we have faced. Is it a trend or just a blip? I am not wise enough to know but what I do know is that many people around the world, especially those living in the poorer places, are suffering greatly as a result of climate change. This makes such an impact on their lives that it leads not just to folk feeling down but to their being hungry, malnourished and even to their death. The congregations of Cluny and Monymusk are working to become Fairtrade Churches so that we can support the Fairtrade movement which means that producers will get a fair return for their labour. Maybe we should also make every effort to support our local farmers and buying British foodstuffs so that they too may get a fair return for their efforts.

As we restart our activities after the summer holidays I would ask that you pray for the organisations and events running in our church. Remember mainly music, Cluny Kirkers, Bible Study, special events and worship ideas; remember your elders and board members in their work for the congregation. Prayer is the foundation upon which we can build the congregation and all can play their part in this.

In the last newsletter I paid tribute to Scott Langlands as our retiring treasurer. I am delighted that Scott realised how hard it would be for me to find a replacement and has agreed to stay on. The answer to prayer!

Once again if you need a visit or just someone to talk to please always feel free to contact me and I will happily pop round.

Your friend and minister

Euan Glen

## **Church Register**

### **Baptism**

Mhairi Anne Farquhar on 16<sup>th</sup> August

### **Death**

Mr James Dickson on 4<sup>th</sup> August

## **Property Update**

A new manse kitchen was installed during August. This is the final major part of refurbishing the manse. It is good stewardship to keep this property well maintained. The minister would like to thank Steve Christie who project managed the job and arranged the tradesmen to carry out the work and Scott Langlands from Cluny who worked really hard as a labourer helping Steve in his work and also redecorating the kitchen after the tradesmen had left. Scott did this simply as service to the church and not as a contractor. The manse family will be having an open house on the first Sunday in November once all the work has been completed and you are all invited either after worship or between 1pm and 3pm for a cup of tea/coffee and some fine pieces to see your “new” manse in all its glory.

There are some minor works around the church that will be attended to during the winter months, nothing major, but if you see anything that needs doing please don't hesitate to point it out to your elder or to Richard Lattimer our new property convener.

## **Stewardship: A Perspective**

Stewardship is important. It is part of every Christian's responsibility to respond to the gifts that God has given us, and to give back some of our time, our talents and our money in his service. This year we are to focus on money. This is not an appeal to get more money but to ask each member to think about what they have and how much they contribute to the life of the congregation and the church and

through them to the community we live in. As a Christian I believe that what I have comes from God- in the beginning God -and that God has been good to me. He gave me everything including his only Son that I might have life in all its fullness. What can I give back? I give my time, my talents and yes my money because, when not giving of the first two, money is still being used to fund and maintain the church. It is important that we contribute and that we assess how much we give each year. Some years we can give more, others less, depending upon our circumstances and that is good stewardship. The Stewardship Department of the Church of Scotland circulated this poem and it is worth reading again.

We give money to make a difference  
to the life of our community  
to the life of our nation  
to the life of our world  
by sharing the gospel  
through the worship, fellowship,  
mission and service  
of the church.

## **Cluny Kirkers**

The Kirkers have restarted after the summer holidays and numbers are relatively good as I write this. We have had to say farewell to Hannah Duncan as she is heading off to Edinburgh to study to become a vet. We wish her every blessing in her studies and her new surroundings in Edinburgh. She will be sorely missed as she has been such a great help during the past few years.

This year we have decided to follow a new programme from an organisation called GoTeach which gives weekly lessons for 16 week blocks. The lessons come with PowerPoint displays and worksheets and we hope that this will be an interesting change. It will also make the work of the staff a bit easier in planning for each week. If you have, or know of any, primary school age children who would like to come along we meet each Thursday during term time from 5.30-6.30pm.

We are also a bit stretched with staff so if you have time and could help out even on an occasional basis could you please speak with Euan Glen.

## Data Protection

When the elders are visiting members of Cluny Church this autumn they are going to bring with them a form which is asking for your permission for the church to hold information about you (mostly names and addresses).

This is necessary because of Data Protection legislation. The letter and form will state what information we hold about you and how we use this. Under the legislation the church is bound to hold that information securely in locked filing cabinets.

Any electronic records will be encrypted so should the computer be stolen or hacked the information would be unobtainable. We hope that members will agree to fill in and sign the form. If you want to discuss this further please contact Euan Glen, who is the Data Controller for all of Gordon Presbytery and can answer your questions (well most of them!)

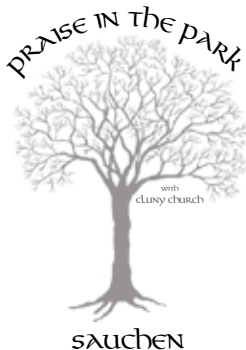




## Summer Events

Four highly successful events were held over the summer. First of all the Monymusk Boules Competition took place on a dry if a little cool day at the end of May. Lots of fun was had by the competitors and spectators resulting in a large sum of money being raised. Cluny Church was very grateful for the donation of £1950.

The Plant Sale was held at Millbank Hall on the following Saturday and a huge amount of plants were donated and sold in aid of church funds. The total raised was £1560.



The annual Praise in the Park service on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August was blessed with good weather and the excellent Granite City Brass band leading worship. Residents of Sauchen were treated to the sound of rousing hymns drifting across the air on that Sunday morning!

Finally, on a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon at the end of August, Susan and Alasdair Reid hosted a garden party at their home at Ardneidly. Members from Cluny and Monymusk Churches helped out in the kitchen and with serving the amazing selection of scones, pancakes, tray bakes and cakes. £630 was raised to be split between the two congregations and the World Vision Nepal Earthquake Appeal.

## **Soup and Sweet Lunch**

The Paterson/Brodie team wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to you all for your tremendous support and generosity over the past few years on this memorable day.

Owing to changing circumstances within the family, we are no longer able to continue with lunch on Remembrance Sunday and convey our thanks and best wishes to you all.

The Paterson/Brodie Team

*Note from the editor:*

*The congregation is grateful for the generous hospitality extended to us by Irene Brodie and her family.*

*Not only did they raise a great deal of money for the church but they provided a friendly and welcoming occasion each November for us all to enjoy fellowship along with their delicious fare.*

## **Our Choir Needs You**

We are keen to recruit new members, male and female, to our choir. If you would like to sing (no past choral experience is necessary) we would be very pleased to welcome you at our rehearsals. From the 9th November we will be meeting every Monday evening at 7.30pm in the Church Hall to prepare for the Christmas services. The annual Candlelight Carol Services will be taking place at 7.30pm on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December in Cluny Church and then at 7pm on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December in Monymusk Church.

Sandy Argo

## **Fairtrade Church**



At the joint meeting in June with Monymusk Church Committee it was agreed that both churches should aim to apply for Fairtrade Church status in a year's time. An account has been set up with Traidcraft and Fairtrade produce will be on sale from time to time after church services and at events held in both churches. You can access the Traidcraft catalogue at <http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/>

If you would like to order any items please get in touch with Ann Wilkinson [am\\_wilkinson81@hotmail.com](mailto:am_wilkinson81@hotmail.com)

Post and Packaging would be free if orders add up in total to more than £50.

## How Great Thou Art

“How Great Thou Art” is one of the nation’s favourite hymns based on a poem written by Carl Gustav Boberg in Sweden in 1885. It was translated into German and then Russian (when it became a hymn) and then into English by Stuart Hine. It was set to a Russian melody and popularised in Britain during the Billy Graham crusades. The inspiration for the poem came when Boberg was walking home from church listening to the bells which were ringing out and in his own words,

*“It was that time of year when everything seemed to be in its richest colouring; the birds were singing in trees and everywhere. It was very warm; a thunderstorm appeared on the horizon and soon there was thunder and lightning. We had to hurry to shelter. But the storm was soon over and the clear sky appeared. When I came home I opened my window toward the sea. There had been a funeral and the bells were playing the tune of ‘When eternity’s clock calls my saved soul to its Sabbath rest.’ That evening, I wrote the song, ‘How Great Thou Art’ ”*

## How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made.  
I see the stars; I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

### *Refrain:*

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:  
*(Repeat Refrain.)*

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin:  
*(Repeat Refrain.)*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!  
*(Repeat Refrain.)*

## **A Short Biblical Quiz**

Question: What book of the Bible first mentions tennis?

Answer: Genesis where it says that Joseph served in Pharaoh's Court.

Question: Who was the wisest financial investor in the Bible?

Answer: Noah because he floated his stock while everyone else liquidated their assets.

Question: What is the lumberjack's favourite book of the Bible?

Answer: The Axe of the Apostles.

## **And Finally.....**

The vicar at Harvest Festival had arranged all the vegetables in front of the altar. He asked the children if they could name them. The replies were potatoes, cabbage, carrots, broccoli and turnip. So he asked if they could use one word to cover them all. A little boy held his hand up and replied "gravy".

## **Church Flowers**

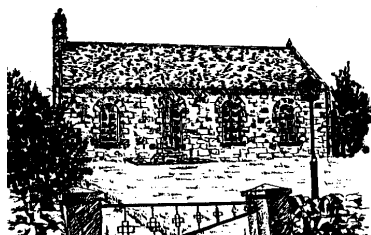
Mrs Betty Ross has been Flower Convener at Cluny Church for over two years now and thanks are due to her for organising the rota and also to everyone who puts flowers in the church for the weekly services. Betty would be delighted to hear from anyone else who would like to do so. You can contact her on 01330 833591

## **Church Website**

The minister has set up a website for Cluny Church and would appreciate any feedback. You can access it on [www.clunychurch.weebly.com](http://www.clunychurch.weebly.com) The site includes details of church life and a programme of events.

## **Newsletter**

Thanks are due to those who provide items for our twice yearly newsletter. We would be happy to receive further suggestions and items for inclusion in future letters. If you wish to add an item for the next newsletter e.g. advertising a local event or to tell people about a local organisation please contact either Euan or the editor.



Cluny Church of Scotland SC003429