



# Mauchline Parish Church

*Linked with Sorn Parish*

[www.mauchlineparish.org.uk](http://www.mauchlineparish.org.uk)

Scottish Charity Numbers: SCSC007714 & SC015899

Minister: Rev Dr Allan S Vint



## May/June 2024 Magazine

### From the Minister – Rev Dr Allan Vint

It's getting closer to summer and we have just arranged to go on a short break abroad – but there is a problem. I don't have a current passport. My previous passport has now run out. So before we are able to head off beyond the UK I need to rectify the problem – a new passport will be required. It was apparently in the 16<sup>th</sup> century that people in Scotland could apply for this precious and important document (it was so important that for many years it was personally authorised and signed by the monarch). It did however allow travel and importantly it was also proof of citizenship.

It has often been said that Christians are citizens of heaven, that being our true home. However, what proof is there of our citizenship, by whose authority are we able to enter into that far country? The Bible is clear that there is only one way, one gate, one passport for gaining entry and that is Jesus. It is our faith in him that allows the necessary travel. It is following his way that gets us to where we want to go. It is only through Jesus that we can enjoy the wonders of our heavenly home.



So the question for us all before we attempt to travel – do you have that special passport to hand? If not then perhaps now is the time to be making the necessary application. “Therefore, everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 10:32).

### Simon Mann



Since autumn here in Mauchline and in Sorn we have been blessed with the placement of Simon, coming to us as an OLM (Ordained Local Minister) student in his first church placement. In addition to his day to day teaching job at Doon Academy Simon has taken part in many Sunday services and other church activities including Messy Church. As Simon prepares to conclude his time with us and move on to his next placement, we want to thank Simon for his friendship and shared wisdom. We wish Simon, Diane and the family God's blessing as they each continue to know God's grace and leading. We look forward to watching Simon's progress towards ordination.



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### Beetle Drive

A fun filled family Beetle Drive was held in the Church Hall on Friday 26th April.

Forty-eight people, of all ages, took part with much hilarity and chatter.

It was lovely to see all the age groups mixing so well together.

Prizes were given to the top scoring adult and child and also the best drawn beetles in both categories too.

There was a fun prize for the lowest scoring adult and child.

Annette and the Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who came along and a special thank you to everyone who donated baking, as the night was rounded off with a fantastic supper.

*Annette Milton*

### Mauchline Church Mens Club

The Rev Bob Mayes gave an interesting and amusing talk on his walking holidays at our September meeting.

The AGM was held in April and office bearers remain the same.

The club look forward to our summer outing to Ve/tech, Tarbolton on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

The new session starts on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September, at 7pm with a games night.

Meetings are held in the Church Hall.

Come along and join our friendly group.

*Willie Jardine*

### Flower Fund

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who donate to the Flower fund whether it be in money donations or providing the flowers .

A big Thankyou to Sue Crawshaw and Lynne Vint for helping me to arrange the flowers on occasions when I was unable to.

This year will see the 3rd year of my post as Flowers Convenor and I am increasingly finding it harder to commit to arranging the flowers every Saturday.

While it is lovely to have the Church decorated with flowers on a Sunday it is very time consuming.

I have previously appealed for volunteers to help so that I can draw up a rota as was done for many years gone by.

This has been met with no success, therefore I have to say that towards the end of this Flower Calendar year I will be reviewing whether I will continue or not.

*Carol Strachan*

*Flower Convenor*



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### Retirement of Church Treasurer

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March, Elizabeth Morris carried out her last duty as Church Treasurer at the Stated Business Meeting when she gave the annual report on Finances for 2023.

Elizabeth was presented with flowers and a small gift in recognition of her years of service as Church Treasurer. We would like to thank her for all her hard work.

Mark Crawshaw has taken over as church treasurer although Elizabeth is still helping out during the transition period.



### Treasurer's Report

Total receipts Jan – April 2024	<b>£27,621</b>
Total expenditure Jan – April 2024	<b><u>£23,478</u></b>
<b>Surplus Jan – April 2024</b>	<b><u>£4,143</u></b>

There have been a few one-off expenses in March and April

H Turnbull - Plumbing work at the manse - £165

DW Shaw for church hall title deed work - £97.60

D & K Phillips for graveyard work (trimming trees, garden work, etc.) £1,485. This included work on the Gibson grave.

Drain Klear – cleaning gutters on church and halls - £834

We were given a £5,000 legacy in March, which has helped balance the books this year.

However, without this we would currently be in deficit this year so far by £856.

We held a successful Beetle Drive, which was well attended, great fun, and raised £115 for church funds.

The shopper's lunch continues to be busy and brings in between £250 and £300 each month.

I would encourage you to attend this on the third Thursday of the month (Sept – June) – as well as helping church funds you will get a delicious lunch.





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We are in preparations for Christian Aid week in May. Also, for the Holy Fair Teas in the Hall, which will bring in funds for the church.

I would like to thank my predecessor Elizabeth Morris for her years of service as church treasurer and wish her a restful retirement. I would also like to thank Janice Taylor for keeping the books and generally ensuring things are right. Elizabeth, Janice and our minister Allan have been, and continue to be, very helpful in transitioning me into the role of treasurer and this is appreciated.

Yours in Christ

*Mark Crawshaw Treasurer*

### FoodBank

I would like to say a big thank you to those who regularly give to the Food Bank and to those who contribute on special occasions, such as Harvest time.

I realise that there has been a lot of fundraising recently, Marie Curie Coffee Morning, Smiles Foundation for Romania, Christian Aid this coming week and donations for the Holy Fair teas to name a few.

However, can I urge you not to forget our local food bank.

The volunteers there work very hard to ensure that folk don't go without essentials.

Even just one extra item in your weekly shop would make such a difference.

I am also aware that some of you donate whilst inside the supermarket and that is great.

There's a box for donations in the Clarke Memorial Vestibule just behind the computer area.

Items of dried/tinned foods, diluting juice, toiletries, including toilet rolls would be very welcome.

Thank you,

*Sheena*



### Who's Who & Where

#### Minister

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