



Happy Easter  
2022

Muckairn Parish Church

## From the Editor...

Welcome to the Muckairn Easter Special Magazine.

A big thank you to everyone who sent in articles and photographs. I hope you enjoy reading them along with a slice of Simnel cake and a nice hot cuppa. What could be better on a Springtime afternoon?

Easter is a time for new beginnings and hope. A time when we look forward to warmer days and the regeneration of plants and flowers. A time when we can spend more time together.

One of my favourite quotes for this season is, "If an egg is broken by an outside force - life ends. If broken by an inside force - life begins. Great things always begin from inside." So here's to new beginnings.

I wish you, your friends and your family a joyful Easter. May new beginnings bring you much happiness and may the miracle of Easter brighten your life with love, joy and chocolate!

Katherine Blyth



"Easter morning bright and fair  
Tells me of God's loving care.  
Flowers that were gone from view,  
Now awakening, bloom anew.  
Though God's face I do not see,  
I will trust His care for me."

by Jennifer Hayden



The tulips in the garden  
Are wearing yellow hats;  
The pussy-willows by the brook  
Have fur like any cats'.  
The bee is honey hunting;  
The robin's chirp is gay;  
And all the world is singing,  
"Oh happy Easter Day!"

Author Unknown



## Praise The One by Rusty Edwards

Praise the one who breaks the darkness  
with a liberating light.

Praise the one who frees the prisoners,  
turning blindness into sight.

Praise the one who preached the Gospel,  
healing every dread disease,  
calming storms and feeding thousands  
with the very bread of peace.

Praise the one who blessed the children  
with a strong yet gentle word.

Praise the one who drove out demons  
with a piercing two-edged sword.

Praise the one who brings cool water  
to the desert's burning sand.

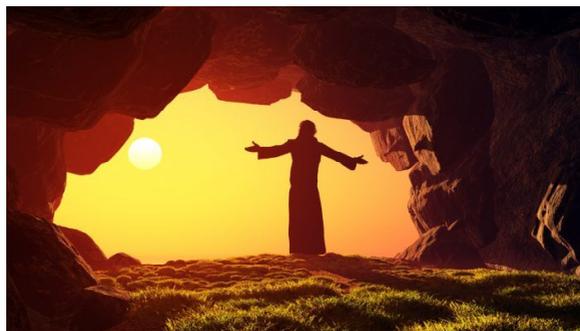
From this well comes living water,  
quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate:  
Christ who suffered in our place.

Jesus died and rose for many  
that we may know God by grace.

Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
seeing what our God has done.

Praise the one redeeming glory,  
praise the One who makes us one.



## Easter Song

I Got me flowers to straw Thy way,  
I got me boughs off many a tree;  
But Thou wast up by break of day,  
And brought'st Thy sweets along with Thee.

The sunne arising in the East,  
Though he give light, and th' East perfume,  
If they should offer to contest  
With Thy arising, they presume.

Can there be any day but this,  
Though many sunnes to shine endeavour?  
We count three hundred, but we misse:  
There is but one, and that one ever.

by George Herbert (1593-1632)



## Grace and peace to you all.

One can only hope that when this magazine is published the news will be better. Though I must admit it feels like hoping against hope. Pundits at this time are fearful of World War III, without recognizing that this is already happening. Russia has invaded Ukraine militarily and the Ukrainians have put up an amazing resistance. Refugees have poured out into the West and armaments and supplies are making their way east. Previously unheard-of sanctions and the exodus of companies who previously did business in Russia are ratcheting up day-by-day. And now the oil spigots are being turned off. I can't help but believe that this is a soft-power world war as well as a military battle for Ukraine. As horrible as two-weeks' worth of suffering has already brought upon the people of the Ukraine, it is only the beginning. We see the pictures of the horror and the heart-break and our hearts break. We are angered by the senselessness of it, the callous brutality and feel powerless in the face of it.

I wonder if Jesus felt the same powerlessness as he stood outside of Jerusalem and cried out, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!"

But we are no less powerful than Jesus, we too can pray, can give of ourselves, and can suffer for others. And so, we are called to be generous in supporting the Ukrainian refugees and those who remain to fight.

In a time when we have so little patience and such short attention spans one wonders... Will we remain steadfast in our economic resolve and will we pay attention to and support the already poor who will bear the brunt of food and energy scarcity and inflation? Will we remain steadfast as the days progress and the way becomes long? (Maybe we will

need to pray as much for our steadfastness as for the well-being of the Ukrainian people.) Or will we fall asleep as the disciples did in the garden, because the night has grown long?

### Equinox Joy

This year's equinox takes on further meaning as it marks the date that legal COVID-19 governmental restrictions will reduce in Scotland. Make no mistake in thinking that COVID is done. I am aware of dozens of people who have contracted COVID recently, whereas, I personally knew of only a mere handful in the previous two years. Fortunately, all the recent COVID sufferers I have known about have reported only bad "cold-like" symptoms and each were fully vaccinated. On the whole, the vaccine seems to work. The welcome signs of a closing of this chapter of various restrictions were the gatherings I attended in the village halls - a soup lunch in the Kilchrenan, the pantomime in Taynuilt, and the pancakes shared by the churches in Taynuilt. Other groups are beginning to meet again and the coming of spring takes on new meaning as we are able to gather again.

### Holy Week Worship

2019 was the last time we were able to worship together in Holy Week. A Good Friday worship was held at Kilchrenan and Holy Thursday worship at Muckairn.

This year it seems right to worship on Holy Thursday at Dalavich on 14 April at 6pm and Good Friday at Muckairn on 15 April at 6pm

Rev. Tom Telfer

## "The Skylight" by Seamus Heaney

You were the one for skylights. I opposed  
Cutting into the seasoned tongue-and-groove  
Of pitch pine. I liked it low and closed,  
Its claustrophobic, nest-up-in-the-roof  
Effect. I like the snuff-dry feeling,  
The perfect, trunk-lid fit of the old ceiling.  
Under there, it was all hutch and hatch.  
The blue slates kept the heat like midnight thatch.

But when the slates came off, extravagant  
Sky entered and held surprise wide open.  
For days I felt like an inhabitant  
Of that house where the man sick of the palsy  
Was lowered through the roof, had his sins forgiven,  
Was healed, took up his bed and walked away.

I like this sonnet, such a splendid portrayal of eventual acceptance of what cannot be changed, of being unable to return to a previous situation.

Its first word "You" refers to Heaney's wife, Marie, and the skylight is in their cottage in County Wicklow. Heaney has returned from a stint of work at Harvard in the U.S. to find the fait accompli. His initial shock was presently replaced by an acceptance of what was irreversible.

You can, of course, just take the poem at face value but I am not sure that that is what Heaney intended. It is certainly possible to read much more into it. Is it possible to see here something of gloom preceding the crucifixion and then the joy and hope of the resurrection of Easter morning? Or currently something of the claustrophobia of lockdown and then the fresh air of relief from restrictions? Clearly Heaney would not have had that in mind!

Michael G. Kidd

"Christ the Lord is risen today!"  
All on earth and angels say;  
raise your joys and triumphs high;  
sing, ye heavens; and earth, reply.  
Love's redeeming work is done,  
fought the fight, the battle won.  
Lo! The sun's eclipse is o'er.  
Lo! He sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;  
Christ has burst the gates of hell.  
Death in vain forbids his rise;  
Christ has opened Paradise.  
Lives again our glorious king!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting?  
Once he died our souls to save;  
where thy victory, O grave?

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!  
Praise to thee by both be given.  
Thee we greet triumphant now:  
hail, the Resurrection, thou!

Charles Wesley (1707 - 1788)



# Celebrating the Silver Jubilee of Muckairn Handbells



Muckairn Junior Music Group were guest demonstrators with their belleplates at a Dunblane Cathedral Ring in Praise seminar.



They loved being able to play "real bells" there. Following this, Mrs Doreen Penswick presented to the church a two octave set (25 bells) of Malmark Handbells.

On Easter Sunday, 25 years ago, Muckairn Ringers welcomed members of the congregation as they came to celebrate Easter Sunday. In June that same year, the ringers were at the railway station to welcome pilgrims on their way to Iona. The ringers led the procession to the village hall where the pilgrims were given refreshments before setting off on their way through Glen Lonan. The Ringers have brought music to folk in care homes and the hospital to give them a little joy.



This Easter is the 25th Anniversary of Muckairn Handbells.

Other ringing events have included: Ringing for God, Save the Children and other charities, The Oban Winter Festival, HRGB rallies, charity raising services in Oban, local church fundraising events, the Candlelight Suppers, weddings, funerals, and of course, Sunday Worship.

What a wonderful gift to share with others.

Margaret Millar & Ann MacCallum



# Easter Giggles...

If you see a rabbit laying

little brown eggs,

Don't eat them,

It's not chocolate!

Happy Easter  
Every Bunny!



Why did the Easter Egg hide?  
It was a little chicken.

What happened to the Easter Egg when it  
laughed?  
It cracked up

What do you call an Easter Egg from outer space?  
An Eggstraterrestrial

What kind of books do bunnies like?  
Ones with hoppy endings

*Easter is the only  
time of the year  
when it is safe to  
put all your eggs  
in one basket*



How does the Easter bunny keep her hair  
looking so good?  
She uses hare spray

What do you call a dumb bunny?  
A hare brain

Why can't a rabbit's nose be 12 inches long?  
Because that would make it a foot



# Can you name the Chocolate from these famous Advertising Slogans?

- 1 - Try both, and pick a side?
- 2 - A hazelnut in every bite?
- 3 - The chocolate that melts in your mouth not in your hand?
- 4 - P-P-Pick up a?
- 5 - You're not you when you're hungry?
- 6 - Made for Sharing?
- 7 - The Intense Chocolate Hit?
- 8 - Get that Friday feeling?
- 9 - Every day should be this good?
- 10 - When you feel like a great big bite?
- 11 - Do you love anyone enough to give them your last?
- 12 - It's not for girls (now banned)?
- 13 - Why have cotton when you can have silk?
- 14 - How do you eat yours?
- 15 - Soft on the outside, crunchy on the inside?
- 16 - A glass and a half in every pound?
- 17 - It's not Terry's, It's mine?
- 18 - The chocolate bar you can eat between meals without spoiling your appetite?
- 19 - Take it easy?
- 20 - And all because the lady loves?
- 21 - The taste of paradise?
- 22 - Feel the bubbles?
- 23 - The lighter way to enjoy chocolate?





# Easter TRIVIA Quiz

1. The idea of the Easter Bunny came from Germany, but it was originally which animal?  
A Cat      B Chicken      C Hare
2. Which part of a chocolate bunny do most people eat first?  
A Ears      B Feet      C Tail
3. The 1948 musical film Easter Parade starred which Hollywood icon?  
A K. Hepburn      B J. Garland      C M. Monroe
4. Easter Island is a special territory of which South American country?  
A Brazil      B Peru      C Chile
5. The world's largest Easter egg hunt consisted of how many eggs?  
A 101,000      B 301,000      C 501,000
6. Who - or what - brings eggs to French children?  
A The Easter bunny      B Flying church bells      C Chickens
7. How many Easter eggs are bought and consumed in the UK each year?  
A 8 million      B 80 million      C 18 million
8. Which chocolatier produced the first hollow chocolate Easter egg?  
A JS Fry & Sons      B John Cadbury      C Frank Mars
9. Which country throws a massive water fight to celebrate Easter?  
A Poland      B Switzerland      C Greece
10. What is the most popular Easter Food eaten in the United States?  
A Turkey      B Beef      C Ham
11. Which colour were the first Easter Eggs dyed?  
A Yellow      B Red      C Blue
12. Nick Easter is a former professional sportsman in which sport?  
A Rugby      B Rowing      C Football
13. Who directed the 2004 film 'The Passion of the Christ'?  
A Steven Spielberg      B Claire Denis      C Mel Gibson
14. When is more confectionary sold?  
A Easter      B Valentine's Day      C Halloween
15. How many marzipan balls are traditionally on a Simnel cake?  
A 13      B 11      C 12



16. What was the name of the high priest servant who Simon Peter attacked with a sword?  
A Malchus B Onesimus C Seth
17. What flower is considered a symbol of Easter?  
A Daffodil B Lily C Tulip
18. What popular snack is associated with Easter?  
A Hula-hoops B Pretzels C Twiglets
19. The Saturday before Palm Sunday is named after which Biblical character?  
A Mary B Aaron C Lazarus
20. The Easter Egg Museum is home to the largest collection of Easter eggs? Where is it?  
A. Germany B. Poland C. Czech Republic



We wanted to say a big Thank You to  
Mary and Rosemary for putting  
together such beautiful posies for  
Mothering Sunday



If you would like to make a  
donation towards the church  
flowers please pass these on to  
Mary Nicolson



Hope Kitchen sent a big thank you for the generous donations given over Christmas. Hope Kitchen were able to provide over 400 people with Christmas food and gift hampers, cook Christmas dinner for 75 people and have 20 people for lunch on Christmas day.

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Your Christmas Wishes Messages in Muckairn's Christmas magazine raised £160 for Christian Aid.

and...

Donations from The World Day of Prayer raised £246.50 to be shared equally between Mary's Meals and Hope Kitchen.

Ann Sutherland has kindly lent me "Along the Way" by Nan Inkster, along with Nan's permission for us to include this beautiful poem from her book.

Editor

## Awakening

Winter, stern keeper of all joy,  
Surrenders now to Spring,  
That sapling boy,  
Who, David-like, lays chill Goliath low  
With one sweet breath.

His supple fingers free at last  
The frozen bars, that held  
The mountain-waters fast  
Where rimy stars lie caught  
In crystal effigies.

His laughing voice calls forth the stream  
And stirs within its rills  
A near-forgotten dream  
Of rushing dance and sudden leap  
Among the lamb-clad hills.

Till, like Pied Piper's charming notes  
That led the children on,  
His bubbling laughter wider floats  
Across the waking land,  
O'er spills, and melts the heart.

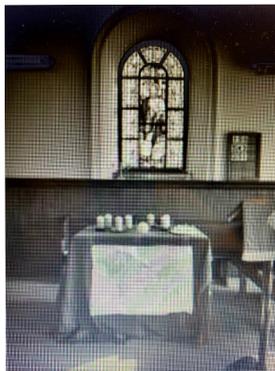


# World Day of Prayer

Services were held in Kilchrenan on the 20th February, and at Dalavich and Muckairn with The Visitation Church on the 27th February.

Each of the churches were opened on 4th March for quiet reflection and prayers.

Thank you to everyone who offered their gifts of music and prayers to make these services special.



# A' Mothering by I A Blyth

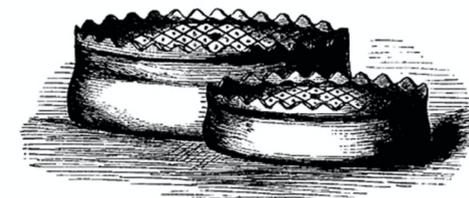
Upon this happy Sunday morn,  
A' Mothering to Church we go.  
We tread within tradition's path,  
That leads us to the love we know.

And all around new signs of life,  
Push past the winter's doubting days.  
Our joyous hearts and minds draw near,  
To worship God in love and praise.

Upon the banks beside the lane,  
With gentle hands the flowers we lift.  
These meadow jewels entwined with love,  
become our treasured, thankful gift.

And in our sack a Fast's respite,  
Securely packed and tied with string,  
The Simnel cake, fit for a feast,  
Here to our families we bring.

The open Church doors welcome home,  
Our youth, too long from here away,  
Restored within our family love,  
On this A' Mothering Sunday.



SIMNEL CAKES.

## Easter Quiz Answers

1. C Hare
2. A Ears
3. B J. Garland
4. C Chile
5. C 501,000
6. B Flying church bells
7. B 80 million
8. A JS Fry & Sons
9. A Poland
10. C Ham
11. B Red
12. A Rugby
13. C Mel Gibson
14. C Halloween
15. B 11
16. A Malchus
17. B Lily
18. B Pretzels
19. C Lazarus
20. B. Poland



## Advertising Slogan Answers:

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Twix                      | 2 Topic                |
| 3 M&Ms                      | 4 Penguin              |
| 5 Snickers                  | 6 Quality Street       |
| 7 Twirl                     | 8 Crunchie             |
| 9 Mars                      | 10 Lion Bar            |
| 11 Rolo                     | 12 Yorkie              |
| 13 Galaxy                   | 14 Cadbury Creme Eggs  |
| 15 Dime Bar                 | 16 Dairy milk          |
| 17 Terry's Chocolate orange | 18 Milky Way           |
| 19 Cadbury's Caramel        | 20 Cadbury's milk Tray |
| 21 Bounty                   | 22 Aero                |
| 23 Maltesers                |                        |

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



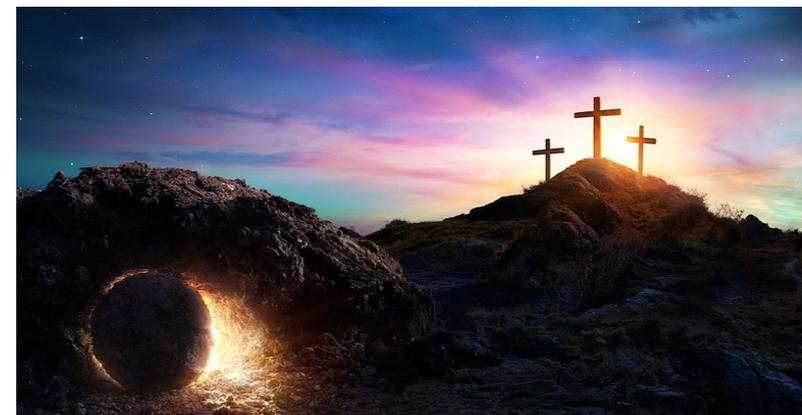
14th April 2022  
Holy Thursday Service at Dalavich  
6.00pm

15th April  
Good Friday Service at Muckairn 6.00pm

## EASTER WORSHIP

17th April 2022

Dalavich	9.45am
Muckairn	11.30am





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