

Dear Friends,

from your **Minister**

I hope you have all had a good summer and enjoyed all that has been going on. As I have said before, I always expected the summer to be a bit quieter, but here it can be even busier, what with Church Fairs, Galas and the Flower Show. Still, I hope you got some rest and space to yourselves.

Over the summer, you will have noticed that we have been looking at the story of Joseph. The story of Joseph, clearly reveals to us that even those who trust in God still have highs and lows in life. However, it also teaches us that God is in control and that he always looks after his children.

Stories are important for our faith. We all have two stories. The first is about all that we have done in life, and the second is about our faith, though obviously they are closely related. Just as we have grown up physically from a baby through childhood, adolescence and into adulthood, we have also grown in our faith since we became a Christian.

It is important that we have story rich lives. Stories are always good to share, and just as we share with our friends what we have done, so we need to share what God has done in our lives and how our faith is developing.

Therefore over the next few months, we are going to be reflecting on some of the Parables (the stories) that Jesus told. There are about 36 parables, but we will only look at about 9 of them. I am sure many of them will be well known to you, but hopefully as we read and study them, we will see them in a fresh light and they will help our faith to grow as our spiritual story continues.

Are you sitting comfortably ... then let us begin.

God bless, Stephen

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I always keep them company just in case there is any left over "sheep-bait" in the form of biscuits. I can always be relied upon to dispose of it. (Just to prevent it from being used to lure another sheep, of course.)



HS says I am just a greedy pest (or worse).

You know, writing this takes up a lot of valuable eating time. I reckon that dogs must have too much time on their paws. Think I will leave the journalism to them in future. Wait a minute, I have just realised that all the rest are shorn and that means that it is my turn.

Must run..... Alfie.

(article submitted in June)



# ST COLMON PARISH CHURCH

## September 2010 Newsletter

### What's on this month?

Sunday 5th September  
10am - Service - St Colmon Church,  
Colmonell- **Sunday Club** starts

Sunday 12th September  
10am - Rededication and Communion  
Service with Sunday Club - St Colmon  
Church, Colmonell.

Tuesday 14th September  
7pm - Kirk Session - St Colmon Kirk Hall

Sunday 19th September  
10am - Service with Sunday Club -  
St Colmon Church, Colmonell.  
3pm - Service - Barrhill Memorial Hall

Sunday 26th September  
10am - Service with Sunday Club -  
St Colmon Church, Colmonell.

Monday 27th September  
7:30pm - Colmonell Circle  
- Kirk Hall - 'Banner Making'

Sunday 3rd October  
10am - **All Age Service** - Harvest  
St Colmon Church, Colmonell.



**Sunday Club** for children starts on the first Sunday in September and will meet in the Kirk hall during services except when we have All Age Services.

The **All Age Services** are participatory and focus on a theme in a creative way. They can use quizzes and video clips. They are always followed by refreshments in the church hall.

The new website of St Colmon can be found at:  
[www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stcolmonparishchurch.org.uk)



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# Paws for Thought

It's nice to be able to share my news with you after a long summer break. It's been a busy summer, and I hope you have all enjoyed the beautiful weather we had. I didn't get out much so see it, but I'm sure it was lovely. My sister had her sun parasol out a lot, but she calls it an umbrella.

One of my highlights of the summer was winning the "Best Dressed Dog" certificate at the



Ballantrae Gala. I have my certificate up on the kitchen wall next to Daddy and my brothers certificate for "Cutest Float" (they were pirates) and my sisters certificate for her sponsored cycle at nursery.

I had a 2 week holiday in Edinburgh which was very peaceful. Mummy took me lots of walkies because Daddy wasn't well. The children seemed to do lots of interesting things, but I stayed in the flat. Just as well, the flat was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and my wee legs can't cope with that many stairs anymore.

Talking of coping, another highlight of the summer was that I got a huge new bed with a massive fluffy mattress. The downside of it is that it is in the utility room. I used to sleep on a sofa in mummy and daddy's room but apparently I was making too much use of the en-suite facilities.

I've received lots of letters and postcards from some of my loyal readers, but I'll share those with you next month.

Till then, Dougie



**South Carrick Churches  
Together Pot Luck Supper**  
26<sup>th</sup> Sept 2010 at 7pm in Girvan  
South Parish Church Hall  
- All Welcome.



**Colmonell Circle**  
resumes on Monday  
27th September at  
7:30pm in the Kirk  
Hall. Theme: Banner Making.

**St Colmon Kirk Session**  
will next meet on the 14<sup>th</sup> Sept  
at 7pm in the Kirk Hall.

**Joint Church Social Evening**  
Friday 1st October - 7:30pm -  
Ballantrae Community Centre  
Entertainment and food will be  
provided -admission: free.



Oh, no it is THAT time again!

Sorry, I haven't introduced myself. I am Alfie the sheep and I am 12 years old.

My human slave (HS) tells me that a dog writes a column in the Church magazine so I thought if one of them can do it, so can I.

For most of the year, we have quiet, uneventful lives. We eat then we lie down and chew our cud.

Sometimes HS decides that we need some medicine or other and at other times, we get sore feet and HS tries to catch us to fix them.

# Announcements

## Flower and Refreshment Rotas

Please remember to check the rotas for flowers and refreshments and add your name if you can help in any way or would like to mark an anniversary with a flower arrangement.

## Ballantrae Guild

The opening meeting will take place in Ballantrae Church on Monday 20th September at 7.15pm. The speaker for the evening will be Very Rev Dr Sandy McDonald, former moderator, and his subject "Houses I Have Lived In" A warm welcome is extended to members old and new and also to anyone who would like to hear this very interesting speaker.

It is amazing how fast we can go even with sore feet. We normally outstrip HS unless we are crept up on and caught unawares!

To get back to the subject, THAT time occurs every year as soon as the days get longer and a bit warmer. For some reason, human slave thinks we need to have our coats removed. It is alright for humans, they can put theirs back on if it gets colder or it rains, but we have no option but to shiver it out. I have heard that the pantomime season in other places is around Christmas time. Up here it takes place in the middle of summer!

Do you have any idea how embarrassing it is to be dragged upside down across a field just as a tourist (usually from Australia) appears to take a photograph?

## Barrhill Film Night

'Furry Vengeance' will be shown in Barrhill Memorial Hall on Friday 10th September at 7pm.

## Interested in joining the Church?

In the autumn there will be a short course running for those interested in joining the church. If you or someone you know would be interested in joining the church, please speak to the Minister.

## Stamps

Remember your stamps this year are raising funds for a residential hostel which houses and educates 400 girls in Sialkot, Pakistan. Please put them in the box in the vestibule.

Even worse, sometimes it is one of us who is upside down!

One thing you do not want is to be the first to be shorn because the rest of us think you are a stranger and pick a fight. If you are second, at least you have a fellow-sufferer.

Once the first one is done the warning goes out and suddenly, perfectly tame sheep are as wild as any others.

The other thing you do not want is to get the title that is awarded annually - Rough Clip of the Year.

Now you might think that that is funny but you have no idea the stick we get from our mates!

Now, I like when one of the others is being shorn.