



**DRYFESDALE CHURCH**



**HUTTON CHURCH**

## **LOCKERBIE DRYFESDALE, HUTTON AND CORRIE CHURCH**

### **PARISH PROFILE**



**Lockerbie High Street**



**View from Hutton Church**

## **LOCKERBIE DRYFESDALE, HUTTON AND CORRIE CHURCH**

A very successful union of Dryfesdale Church with Hutton and Corrie Church took place in 2007. We are one congregation and have two places of worship, a town and a country church which compliment each other and offer similar forms of worship. Each church has its own special atmosphere, yet the congregations work together as a team.

**Dryfesdale Church** is in the market town of Lockerbie with a population around 5,000. The current church was opened in 1898 and has seating for approximately 600 people. The church has an electric organ and a good sized vestry. There are excellent transport links by road and rail, with Edinburgh and Glasgow being only an hour away and Carlisle just over the border at 25 minutes away. The town hall dominates the town with its clock tower and four faces and there are many individual shops along with supermarkets. There are six hotels with the Kings Arms claiming that Bonnie Prince Charlie and Sir Walter Scott stayed there. For cultural enthusiasts there is the local amateur theatre who perform regularly, an annual jazz festival featuring many well known musicians and Lockerbie Pipe band who perform annually at our gala and other local events. Other local groups include the Rotary Club and Retired and Independent Ladies Group as well as other rural groups. The Guiding and Scout movement are well established and supported in the area. There are many sporting opportunities available including: 18 hole golf course, curling and skating at the ice rink which also hosts top class curling events, a new 3G pitch utilised by all ages by Mid Annandale Football Club youth and amateur teams as well as other local football clubs, Squash Club, Green Bowling Club, Pickleball and snooker/pool. The Dryfesdale Lodge Visitors' Centre located on the outskirts of the town houses a permanent exhibition room illustrating Lockerbie's history. Nearby is Eskrigg Nature Reserve offering woodland walks with an educational centre and hides, and is home to red squirrels and various other wildlife. The town boasts a new build all through primary and secondary school comprising of 2 nursery classes and a learning centre with 330 children on the primary role and 750 on the secondary. There is a modern independent childcare facility and easily accessible Medical Centre in the centre of the town.



**Dryfesdale Church**

**Hutton and Corrie Church** is situated in the village of Boreland 7 miles from Lockerbie. It sits in the beautiful Dryfe valley surrounded by rolling hills. The church is thought to date from 1710 and has seating for approximately 140 people. There is a vestry which can be used as a meeting room for about 20 people. There is a one teacher primary school in the centre of the village. The school is encouraged to use the church whenever they wish. Both Boreland and Corrie have village halls which are used regularly by their communities.

### **Membership**

Extract from Roll Statistics at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015:

Number of Members on the Roll: 730

Number of children in Sunday School 19

There are approximately 80 members who attend regularly at Dryfesdale with much larger numbers on special occasions e.g. Christenings and Sunday School presentations.

At Hutton and Corrie Church there are approximately 20 regular attendees.

### **Worship**

There is a morning service at 11.15 a.m. every Sunday at Dryfesdale church. Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday there is also a service in Hutton and Corrie Church at 10.00 a.m. We are fortunate to have regular organists for both churches. We have a choir at Dryfesdale Church to support the congregation in their singing.



**Dryfesdale Church**



On the first Sunday of each month there is an Alternative Service held in the church hall at 10.00 a.m. at which a Praise band helps lead the worship.

Communion is held in both churches in April and October. There is a Communion Service held in the church hall on these Sundays to allow for easier access. There is a short Communion service on the last Sunday of each month in Dryfesdale church.

During Holy Week there is a special service for Maundy Thursday at Hutton and Corrie Church including Communion. The Good Friday service is held in Dryfesdale church.

Short services are arranged for Westfield and Dryfemount Care Homes.

CH4 is used as our main hymn book.

There is an enthusiastic Sunday School who attend the first part of our Sunday morning service at Dryfesdale church. They are supported by parents and spend their time in the Church Hall with activities and themes related to the Bible. Each year we look forward to their nativity and the congregation enjoy their participation in church throughout the school year. They have represented the church in the Gala Parade in the past two years.

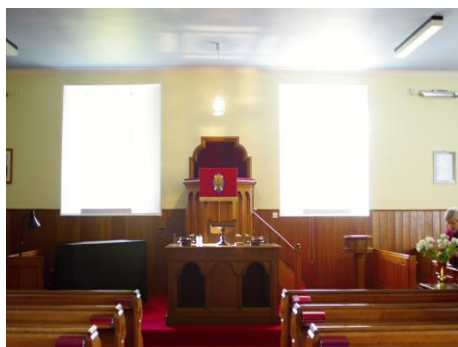
There is a group of volunteers who contribute with the Bible readings each Sunday in Dryfesdale Church.

A group of ladies in both churches organise the floral displays for Sunday worship. Members of the congregation contribute bunches of flowers which are given to members to show our care for them.

Coffee and tea are served by volunteers after Sunday worship in Dryfesdale Church.

Worship in Schools - The minister is part of the Chaplaincy team at Lockerbie Academy and is chaplain to Lockerbie Primary and Hutton Primary schools. There is a regular input into all three schools.

Pastoral care is regarded as a very important part of our role and visiting duties are undertaken by the minister, elders and a visiting team of volunteers from the congregation.



**Hutton Church**



### **Kirk Session**

The Kirk Session operates under the Unitary Constitution. 5 new elders have recently been ordained making a total of 44.

There are regular Session meetings which are well attended. Due to the large numbers at present on the Congregational Roll elders are given specific districts for both churches. Elders also take responsibility for pastoral care, property, church newsletters and the Safeguarding roll for all our organisations and all current issues regarding our churches and their congregation.



**Pulpit Fall, Hutton Church**

### **Deacon**

Our church shares the services of a Deacon with two other charges in our Presbytery. The Deacon works in a team of four including herself and three Parish Ministers. The team meets regularly and one of the Parish Ministers is her Line Manager. At times she leads the worship in our church. She is involved in several projects within our local community which have a focus on social care issues. She has established a link with Narva hospital in Estonia and knitted goods have been sent there. We have Messy church events organised by our deacon on a regular basis. She currently leads worship in the two care homes in the town.

**The Manse** is situated within Lockerbie. It is an attractive sandstone building which consists of two public rooms, one dining room, four bedrooms, a study, a bathroom, a shower room, a kitchen and breakfast room and a large utility room. There is UPVC double glazing throughout, gas central heating and an insulated loft. There is a large mature garden around the manse. Currently there is a part-time gardener employed to maintain this garden. It is proposed to redecorate most of the rooms after consulting the new minister in the choice of colour scheme.

### **Property Committee**

There is an active group who look after all our church properties.

### **Church Hall**

There is a modernised hall across the road from Dryfesdale Church. It has a large hall, meeting rooms, office, kitchen and toilets. The main hall can accommodate 100 people. It is used regularly by both the congregation and the local community.

We have a paid secretary/cleaner who co-ordinates all the activities.

### **Session House**

Our Session House has been modernised and is now used most successfully by the Mother and Toddler Group. Everyone felt that this was a practical and worthwhile use of a building that was no longer used. Our deacon is the link person to their group.



**Dryfesdale Church Gallery**

### **Regular Church Hall Users**

- Sunday School**      The Sunday School involves our young people up to the age of 12.
- The Guild**            We have a supportive and active Guild who meet fortnightly on a Monday afternoon.
- Ladies Group**        This group meets monthly from September to March. The emphasis is on fellowship.
- Friendship Group**   This has been a most successful social venture providing entertainment and fellowship for our community fortnightly between September and April.
- Cinema Club**        This is held monthly and members watch a good variety of films.
- Art & Craft Group**   This group learns different skills with an opportunity to make items to support both here and abroad.
- Monthly Coffee Mornings**   Our active Fund Raising Group runs these coffee mornings which have become events looked forward to by both church members and the wider community.
- Spring Fayre/  
Autumn Fayre**        These fayres are also organised by the Fund Raising Group. The group also organise an interesting variety of events throughout the year.
- Community Groups**        There are a variety of groups which regularly use our hall. These include badminton, yoga, highland dancing, Hoola Ala Hoop, and Taekwondo.
- Christmas Shoe Boxes**      Due to the efforts of one of our members there is now an established commitment by our congregation to support this worthy cause.



**Font, Hutton Church**



**View from Hutton Church**

### **A reflection on our church and community by our locum**

Forty-two years ago my wife and I moved from the Central belt to start our married life in Lockerbie and teach at Lockerbie Academy. We were immediately struck by the warmth of welcome we received in the community and the support that there was from the community for the school and a vast number of community projects including the church. Lockerbie then and even more so now had very good transport links by road and rail to Glasgow, Edinburgh, Carlisle and the south. The quality of health care, child care and education in Dumfries and Galloway was and remains high and we were very happy that our children were born, reared and educated here. There are also lots of opportunities to become involved in music and the arts. We moved from Lockerbie to Dumfries, Stranraer and then Moffat as a result of the development of my career. Dumfries and Galloway is full of places to visit, unspoiled beaches, hills to roam and amazing historical sites. Having been a Reader with the Church of Scotland for many years I felt privileged to be invited to be the locum for the charge and took up this post, on a temporary part-time basis, in August, 2016. Again I experience the same warm welcome, care and support from the people in Lockerbie, Hutton and Corrie. The church has a number of active organisations and the congregation have a “give it a go” attitude to change. The suite of halls which have been recently refurbished are also used by a wide variety of community groups. This is a vibrant rural community with much to offer and is a great place to live and work.



**View from Hutton Church**

There are a lot of positive features about our church outlined in this profile. We would like to highlight aspects of church life which we feel we would like to focus on with our new minister.

## **Youth**

We have a strong Sunday School representing the nursery and primary stages. However it is rarely they continue after the age of 12. Although two elders have a house group for secondary age only a few attend. There is little for our youth and we need ideas and inspiration to lead this area of ministry.

## **Spiritual Leader**

We are looking for a minister who recognises both traditional and alternative worship, encouraging our members and community to develop their faith. Like many other churches our attendance has decreased over the years which highlights a need for an active Minister to be our spiritual leader and work with us to help us take our church community forward.

If you would like to know more or have any queries please do contact Charlie Conchie, Session Clerk, The Grove, 2 Dumfries Road, Lockerbie, DG11 2EF. Telephone 01576 202119 or e-mail at [charlesconchie@talktalk.net](mailto:charlesconchie@talktalk.net).



**Cross in Memorial Aisle, Dryfesdale Church**