

DUNFERMLINE
ST MARGARET'S
PARISH
CHURCH OF
SCOTLAND



News Magazine *Winter edition* Nov 2017-Jan 2018



The Advent of The
Prince of Peace
(Isaiah 9:5-7)

In this issue:

November: Remembrance & Communion
Advent

50 years of the Women's Fellowship

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From the Minister:

It is once again approaching the Season of Advent. I don't know about you, but in a sense, I have grown weary of Christmas over the years. We troop out the same old platitudes year in, year out and nothing seems to change – Christmas for the vast majority of people, has become a time for unreasonable self-indulgence and a remarkable capacity for some to get into significant debt. All because it is the Saviour's Birth? I don't think so! Almost all of what Christmas is about has been hijacked by the shops in order to boost sales and profits and the success or otherwise of their entire fiscal year is often measured by how well, or otherwise, they do at Christmas. The only Good News at Christmas for the shops is in how much their profits are boosted at Christmas!

Bah, humbug, I hear you say! But please don't get me wrong – I want to celebrate Christmas. I want to enjoy a special day when I share a day of expressing my love to them by the giving of presents and the sharing of a meal. I want to feast and give thanks for my family. But I don't want the whole escapade to begin in August and be part of the whole hype for nearly 4 months as our culture hijacks the whole affair.

I do want time to reflect upon the Advent – the Coming of God the Son into our world. I do want to spend time marvelling at the extent of the love, kindness and generosity of God. I do want in my mind to go to that cave where he was born in such humble circumstances and reflect on the great self-giving, sacrificial love of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I do want for two or three weeks in Church, with my sisters and brothers in Christ, to sing the ancient and modern Christmas Hymns and be filled with joy and peace of the whole "reason for the season".

So let us not shun the giving but make our principal concentration The Gift, this Christmas.

Iain

The Magic of
Christmas
is not in the presents
but in *His* 
presence



FROM THE EDITOR

Hello All – and welcome to this edition of the magazine which starts the new quarterly schedule. This magazine covers November, December 2017, and January 2018. Blimey – talking about 2018 already!!

An awful lot going on so do take time to read all the details of what is happening. We do of course have Remembrance Sunday, Communion and Christmas events details all included so make sure you check your diaries. I would draw your attention to the Scout Christmas Card delivery at an EXTREMELY good price so save yourself some money. We have our Church Christmas Fayre in the plans and of course people can have their photographs taken with Santa who always manages to favour us on this day! Lots of goodies required for the stalls and of course tell your friends and bring them along on the day please – another few tiles for the roof!! Back by popular demand is a page for recipes including a lovely Christmas Pudding suitable for people with diabetes and the meringues that are available at the afternoon tea sessions. I usually receive a poem or two from people so I have introduced a “Poet’s Corner” and I would encourage those of you who like a nice bit of poetry to submit your favourite and let’s make this a regular feature. I am again obliged to David and Linda Langskaill for allowing me to include articles from the 39th Scout Magazine. Delighted to report that both David and Linda were awarded the Scout Movement “Thanks Badge” for all their hard voluntary work over many years. Very well deserved – well done both! Lovely photographs of the Women’s Fellowship 50th Birthday – it really was good to see them all at the service and we hope they enjoy a good few years yet! Remembrance Day is always special to me – for no more than my heart felt appreciation of those that dedicated their lives to making sure that we could enjoy the lives that we have had. Delighted to say that we have two contributions for the Points of View section – so come on get involved!! I do hope you enjoy the magazine – pretty full this time but always room for more from the youth sections and other groups. I know you will join me in wishing Alistair Greenshields every good wish for the role that he has taken on for the church and I hope to be able to include a contribution from Alistair in future magazines to keep us informed as to progress.

Do please have a good read of Iain’s letter!!

Hope you enjoy the read - and remember:

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

Ross Kerr

REMEMBRANCE

“I stopped over in Coventry for 24 hours the other week and took the opportunity to go to Coventry Cathedral. I found the experience both moving and inspiring. Standing in the ruins of the old, bombed out building and looking at the charred wood taken from these ruins, forged into a Cross, I found deeply moving. Looking at the words beneath the Cross – “Father Forgive” – I sensed the reality of Jesus in that statement and place.

No matter how noble we make Remembrance sound it is sadly remembering our human capacity to kill and maim one another. Yes, we give thanks and remember those, often very afraid, men [and women] too who gave their lives to prevent the spread of tyranny – as we should, and with humble and grateful hearts. However, the very fact of war [and it continues to this day unabated all over the world] is a sad statement about the nature of our sad and broken world and our capacity to destroy and maim. That is why I found, standing at that charred Cross in Coventry so moving, and why on Remembrance Day, I will give thanks for noble souls but will also be saying, Father Forgive.”

Iain



THE KOHIMA EPITAPH

The Kohima Epitaph is engraved on the war memorial at Kohima where the decisive battle of Burma was fought in 1944, at the same time as the D-Day landings in Normandy. The Epitaph dates from 480 BC when it was composed as a tribute to the Spartan troops who died at Thermopylae defending Athens from invasion by Persia. In 1944 General Slim's 14th Army similarly suffered heavy casualties defending India from invasion by the Japanese army. However, in a series of fierce jungle battles in and around Kohima they inflicted on the Japanese the biggest defeat in their military history and forced them to abandon their plans to invade India. The similarity between the two battles led those designing the Kohima War Memorial to relate it to the Spartans at Thermopylae and to include the epitaph composed in their honour. The epitaph as engraved at Kohima is dedicated to all the Commonwealth forces who served in Burma from 1941 to 1945.

**“When you go home, tell of us and say,
For your tomorrow we gave our today”**

(This information was first given by the late Bill MacKay, who served this church for many years. I find it very interesting and moving and felt it should be included in these pages of Remembrance – Ed.)



N FLANDERS FIELDS

by John McCrae, May 1915

**In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.**

**We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.**

**Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.**



“Why Wear A Poppy?”

by Don Crawford

**“Please wear a Poppy,” the lady said,
And held one forth, but I shook my head,
Then I stopped and watched as she offered them there,
And her face was old and lined with care;
But beneath the scars the years had made
There remained a smile that refused to fade.**

**A boy came whistling down the street,
Bouncing along on carefree feet,
His smile was full of joy and fun:
“Lady,” said he, “May I have one?”
When she pinned it on he turned to say,
“Why do we wear a poppy today?”**

**The lady smiled in her wistful way,
And answered, “This is Remembrance Day,
And the poppy there is a symbol for
The gallant ones who died in war,
And because they did, you and I are free,
That’s why we wear the poppy, you see.**

**I had a boy about your size,
With golden hair and big blue eyes.
He loved to play and jump and shout,
Free as a bird he would race about.
As the years went by he learned and grew,
And became a man – as you will, too.**

**But the war went on and he had to stay,
And all I could do was wait and pray.
His letters told of the dreadful plight,
(I can see it still in my dreams at night)
With the tanks and guns and cruel barbed wire,
and the mines and bullets, the bombs and fire.**

Till at last, at last, the war was won –

**And that's why we wear a poppy, son."
The small boy turned as if to go,
Then said, "Thanks lady, I'm glad to know,
That sure did sound like an awful fight,
But your son – did he come back all right?"
A tear rolled down each faded cheek:
She shook her head but didn't speak.
I slunk away in a sort of shame,
And if you were me you'd have done the same:
For our thanks, in giving, is oft delayed
Though our freedom was bought
And thousands paid.**

**And so when we see a poppy worn,
Let us reflect on the burden borne,
By those who gave their very all,
When asked to answer their country's call.
That we at home in peace might live.**

Then wear a poppy, remember and give.

~~~~~

***(wonderful sentiment – Ed)***



**THE KIRK SESSION WARMLY INVITES YOU TO COMMUNION on**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2017**

**Morning Communion 10am**

**Evening Communion 7.30pm**

**We look forward very much indeed to welcoming you to either or both Services**

*(if you have not “tried” the Evening Communion before, do come along. It is a shorter, more “personal” Service, perhaps- and most who attend also attend the Morning Communion! Ed.)*

**COMMUNION DUTY**

**NOVEMBER 19th**

Session Clerk: Ritchie Campbell

Senior Elder: Ross Kerr

1. Mrs. I Cunningham
2. Mrs. I Gillespie
3. Mrs. J McAleece
4. Mrs. J Gresty
5. J Thomson
6. M Giraldas
7. D Clark
8. Mrs J Eadie

Reserve: Mrs. M Watson



## CHRISTMAS SERVICES at St Margaret's

*The wonder of Christmas comes around again and as usual St. Margaret's will be celebrating the birth of Jesus in style – and in different ways to suit all!*

- 3<sup>rd</sup> December:** ADVENT 1 – Gordon Brown leads the first of two Services for Advent,  
*“Prophets foretold Him, infant of wonder”*  
 St Margaret's HALBEATH at 11.30am:  
 COMMUNION led by Rev Iain Greenshields
- 10<sup>th</sup> December:** ADVENT 2 – 10am led by Gordon Brown: *“Prophets foretold Him...”*
- 17<sup>th</sup> December:** ADVENT 3 – 10 am Guest Service NATIVITY  
 Featuring TOUCH SHCOOL NURSERY  
 (followed by JAM Club Christmas Party)
- 24<sup>th</sup> December:** ADVENT 4 – 10am Service led by Iain Greenshields  
 WATCHNIGHT SERVICE (with mince pies!) at 10.30pm led by Iain Greenshields
- 25<sup>th</sup> December** CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE at 10.30am with Gordon Brown  
**31<sup>st</sup> December** AULD YEAR/NEW YEAR SERVICE at 10.30am with Sandy Muirhead

*(Something for everybody and each service for everyone as well! Gordon's introduction to Advent will be up to his usual high standard to set us up for the “BIG DAY”. Will be great to see the children taking part and I am sure that they would like Relatives and friends to come along to help celebrate – so go on – encourage them to come along! Do note the time change of the services on 24<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December. – Ed)*

### J.A.M. Club

It's good to be able to share news, relating to the younger members of our church family, with you once again. In our year plan, we always include some "object lessons" as they often help children understand tricky messages in a meaningful way. In October we used a pumpkin-right from the start we were clearly on to a winner! The children heard the story of a gardener who grew pumpkins and brought his finest one into his kitchen. He was keen to show his friends the most beautiful specimen possible, so he took a knife and cut out all the "goo" from the inside.



It was now clean both outside and inside but the gardener still didn't feel it was good enough.....so he carefully carved a lovely face. However, even this wasn't enough to make the pumpkin perfect in the gardener's opinion! His final task was to place a light inside it and the pumpkin glowed beautifully. At last, the project was complete and he had created something extraordinary.



We explained to the children that we are like the pumpkins and God is the gardener. God creates and cares for us.....he wants to clean out the nasty parts (our sins) so he sent his son to take the punishment we deserved.....he gives us his light to shine through us.

Of course, the boys and girls loved hearing about "yucky bits" and "goo." They regaled us with stories of their own pumpkin-carving efforts. From

now on, we hope they will remember what they learned about God.....through a story about a pumpkin!

If possible, in our craft activities, an effort is made to link the craftwork to the theme of the evening. It would not have been a good idea to have our youngest members wielding very sharp knives to carve real pumpkins!

As ever at J.A.M. Club.....we try to have a "plan B!" This entailed decorating individual "lanterns" which were safely lit using battery-operated tealights. The children loved this craft!

We concluded our evening with "the pumpkin prayer (which the children took home)

### The Pumpkin Prayer

Let me shine with the light of Jesus,  
let my eyes see the beautiful things around me.  
Never let me turn up my nose to others....  
and let my mouth share the good news I have found!



Amen

Here are some photographs taken during the evening.





This is a lovely photograph of Elice with her wonderful lantern.



The lanterns glowed beautifully

So, as you can see, the Autumn was indeed a time of fruitfulness at **J.A.M.** Club. However, time moves on and the next few months will be busy ones! The Christmas Fayre is always a time much-enjoyed by the children. It's a day when our whole church building is utilised.....the cafe is open in the Rita Elder Hall, the hall (next to the Sanctuary) is used to capacity for displaying the many fantastic items for sale.....and the lower hall becomes a fun place for the children. It's a day we hope to see our J.A.M. club members-and also their families if possible. Each child takes home a

personal invitation to encourage their folks to come along and support St. Margaret's.

Remembrance is a theme which we consider important, so one of our evenings is based on this topic. We then move on (all too quickly!) to the season of Advent and celebration of Christmas. It's always a time when we try very hard to help the boys and girls understand the real reason for celebrating Christmas.....of course we also enjoy the festivities and share lots of fun with the children! Our special service on the 17<sup>th</sup> December is followed by a party. When the children finish school for the holidays, it's time for the J.A.M. Club leaders to have a wee break too.....WHEW!.....before we resume on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

### **Sponsored Walk & Coffee Morning September 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017**



Jim, Linda and Joyce wish to thank all who sponsored and donated to their Alzheimer Scotland Action on Dementia fundraising event. The magnificent sum of £811, including Gift Aid, was realised. £611 of the total was sent to Alzheimer Head Office in Edinburgh and the proceeds from the coffee morning (£200) were donated to the Kirkcaldy Branch of the Charity to support their in-house projects with Fife dementia sufferers. Well done St Margaret's!





**PASTORAL CARE GROUP HOME HANDYMAN SERVICE**

**How many members of the Pastoral Care Group does it take to change a lightbulb?**

**Well, two actually!**

**We are starting a service for just those awkward wee kinds of jobs, and it's open to members of the St Margaret's congregation who could do with a wee hand now and again.**

**Whether you're not able to go up a ladder or need something pruned in the garden or a (small!) repair done, please contact**

**John or Morna Thomson on 730074 or mornathomson2@gmail.com**

**There is NO CHARGE for this service (forgive the pun!!) though if you'd like to make a small donation to the Roof Fund, you can do so through Jim Adamson (tel 727719)**

*(Please note that we can't do any professional work such as electric or plumbing repairs, which need a qualified tradesman)*

**POET'S CORNER.**

**SMILING IS INFECTIOUS**

**Smiling is infectious, you can catch it like the flu.  
When someone smiled at me to-day, I started smiling too.  
I passed around the corner and someone saw me grin.  
When he smiled, I realised I'd passed it on to him.  
I thought about that smile, then realised its worth;  
A single smile, just like mine, could travel round the earth.  
So, if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected.  
Let's start an epidemic, quick, and get the world infected.**

## **LOOKING BACK**

**We met and married a long time ago,  
Worked for long hours when wages were low.  
No TV, no wireless, no bath - times were hard.  
Just a cold water tap, and a walk up the yard.  
No holidays abroad, no posh carpets on floors,  
But we had coal on the fire, and we didn't lock doors.  
Our children arrived, no "pill" in those days,  
And we brought them up without state aid.  
They were quite safe to go and play in the park,  
Then old folk could go for a walk in the park.  
No vallium, no drugs, no LSD  
We cured most of our ills with a good cup of tea.  
But if you were sick you were treated at once,  
No form to fill in and come back in six months.  
No vandals, no muggings, there was nothing to rob  
And we were quite rich with a couple of bob.  
People were happier in so many ways,  
Milkmen and paper boys used to whistle and sing.  
A night at the pictures was one mad fling.  
We all get our share of troubles and strife,  
And we just have to face it, that's the pattern of life.  
But now I'm alone and I look back through the years,  
I don't think of bad times, the troubles and tears.  
I remember the blessings, our home, our love,  
And that we shared them together  
I thank God above.**

*(sent in by Linda Adamson)*





The lovely wee faces pictured above belong to the party of children from Touch Nursery School who visited us on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October. They were at St Margaret's to present the donations of food they had very thoughtfully collected for our Harvest Guest Service on 8<sup>th</sup> October – knowing that donations were passed on to Fife charities.

What a pleasure it was to be there when their Nursery Teachers brought them up to the Thursday café to sing a song of “Autumn leaves are falling down”! Café staff treated the girls and boys to pancakes and juice, and then it was time for a photo in the Sanctuary.

The other two cheeky wee faces in the picture belong to our Minister Iain and that lovely gentleman and senior member of our congregation, Mr Bob Kerr.

+++

Come to think of it, why don't YOU come along to the Thursday café? It's not just about the good food – there are always lovely people to meet and something might make your day! ...And even more so, why not come along to the short and sweet Guest Service on the first Sunday of the month? It's a family-friendly café-style Service designed for folk who haven't been to church and are interested in what goes on. Last one of 2017 is on 5<sup>th</sup> November, with a flavour of Remembrance themes. It would be lovely if you could invite someone to come with you to this “taster” Service.

***Let's thank the Lord for good food shared!***



## Women's Fellowship 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



The Women's Fellowship would like to thank everyone for making the 50th Anniversary such a success. Thank you to June for the lovely cake, Audrey for the flowers and Jim Adamson for the photographs and Iain and Irene for their company at our meal at the Pitbauchlie.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. A warm welcome to any ladies who would like to join us.

*(Great achievement by this group! Many years of happy fellowship ahead so why not come along ladies to swell the throng! Ed)*



*Happy  
50th  
Birthday!*



St Margaret Parish Church

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November

11.30am – 2.30pm



Tombola, bottles, chocolates, bric a brac, crafts, home baking,  
Winter Wonderland downstairs with lots of fun for the children



**CAFÉ OPEN FOR LIGHT LUNCHES & SNACKS**



Free pictures with Santa!



From our "Reader"!

## Looking for a Christmas present?

How about a book? One that is difficult to put down. One in which the outcome is not revealed until the very last pages. And even then, another surprise!

Then how about **"Conclave" by Robert Harris** - one of today's leading story tellers.

Behind the locked doors of the Sistine Chapel in Rome, 118 Roman Catholic Cardinals meet in 'conclave' (meaning – 'room or private place that can be locked up') to cast their votes in the world's most secretive election – for the appointment of a new Supreme Pontiff or Pope. Events unfold over a period of some 72 hours. During that time, we learn much about the way the Catholic Church works and how the Cardinals think. These are holy men. But some are ambitious. And they have rivals.

A terrific read for the Christmas break.

Now in paperback. In the shops £7.99. Online, probably cheaper.

*Gordon*



**The Editor, St. Margaret's News.**

**Sir,**

**The Kirk Session are no doubt working hard at delivering the targets set out in our forward plan "Mission & Action plan"**

**In this context I have been quite taken by some of the articles in recent editions of Life and Work written by the Rev. Albert Bogle, for instance the suggestions that Kirk Sessions might consider revisiting their supplementary rolls and trying to renew contact with those on such a roll. Has our Kirk Session ever considered such an action?**

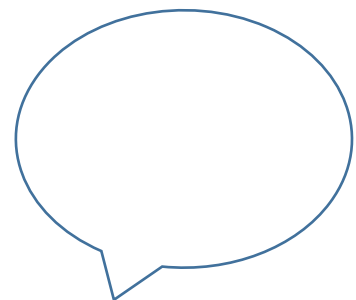
**I also noted a reference which was made to the "Church without Walls" published way back in 2001. Is there anything in that report which might still be of significance to St. Margaret's Church to-day?**

**Would be interested if our Kirk Session are considering or would consider either of the foregoing suggestions.**

**CM**

**(name & address supplied)**

*(The editor received this in plenty of time to allow for a response by our minister. Ed)*



**As part of an exercise in visiting the whole congregation (90% visited so far) the minister has included visiting everyone on the supplementary Roll. Some people have gone away and were uncontactable, but the majority of people wanted to remain, in some form, their association with St. Margaret's – something the minister is entirely happy with. Only two people asked to be removed from Church membership.**

**Church without Walls is partly about our "outreach". This is the task of our new Family and Children worker but also a responsibility as a Church to engage with him in maintaining bridge-building.**

**Iain Greenshields.**

**FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVENING  
TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER.  
6.45 pm for 7.15 pm**

As part of St. Margaret's Christmas celebrations, we will again be holding the now "cannot be missed" evening when we all join in with Christmas Carols and have a really good evening.

We will of course have "goodies" for eating and drinking – home made products by members of the congregation and specially prepared mulled wine to warm everyone up.

The GREAT NEWS is that we will again be joined by our very good friends from across the Forth in West Lothian - the now "NOT TO BE MISSED"

**TOCCATA LADIES CHOIR.**

Those of you who have attended before know just how good they are – those that have not been along before then give yourself a REAL treat by coming along. The BEST VALUE in entertainment that you will have over the festive season.

**AND EVEN MORE!**

We will have that now famous and quite unique rendering of the 12 days of Christmas – so we do need your voice to help swell the throng. FANTASTIC. Tickets will be on sale for £6 at the Church - see Irene Cunningham or pay at the door on the evening.

**WELCOME ONE AND ALL**

*Ed.*



**2<sup>nd</sup> Fife & 39<sup>th</sup> Fife Scout Groups  
CHRISTMAS CARDS POST 2017**

The Scouts are again providing a Christmas Post Service this year at a remarkable low cost of 35p per card! Cards will be accepted for the following areas:  
ABERDOUR, ALVA, AUCHTERMUCHTY, BACKMUIR, BOWERSHALL, BLAIRHALL, CAIRNEYHILL, CARNOCK, CHARLESTOWN, CLACKMANNAN, COLEDGE VILLAGE, COMRIE, COWDENBEATH, COWSTRANDBURN, CROMBIE, CROSSFORD, CROSSGATES, CULROSS, DALGETY BAY, DOLLAR, DONIBRISTLE VILLAGE, DUNFERMLINE, FORDELL VILLAGE, FREUCHIE, GOWKHALL, HALBEATH, HIGH VALLEYFIELD, HILL OF BEATH, HILLEND, INVERKEITHING, KELTY, KINCARDINE, KINGSEAT, KINGSKETTLE, LADYBANK, LIMEKILNS, LOCHGELLY, LUMPHINNANS, LOW VALLEYFIELD, MENSTRIE, NEWMILLS, NORTH QUEENSFERRY, OAKLEY, PATTIESMUIR, PITLESSIE, ROSYTH, SALINE, SAUCHIE, STEELEND, STRATHMIGLO, TILlicouLTRY, TORRYBURN, TOWNHILL, TULLIBODY, WELLWOOD.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

The following areas will NOT be covered:  
BURNTISLAND, KINGHORN, EDINBURGH, GLENROTHES, KIRKCALDY, THE NORTH-EAST FIFE VILLAGES, OR ANY OTHER AREAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE LIST ABOVE.

**IMPORTANT**

Cards can be handed into the church on  
SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> and SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
Cards can also be handed into the Scout Hall on the evenings of  
MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup>, TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> and WEDNESDA 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
Between 6.30pm and 7.30pm

Cards will be DELIVERED between 16<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017

*(Come on folks, a great way to beat inflation and keep costs down, as well as helping this important fundraiser for the Scouts – Ed)*

## SCOUT NEWS

### The House of 1000 Mirrors



Long long ago in a small, far away village, there was a place known as the House of 1000 Mirrors.

A small, happy little dog learned of this place and decided to visit. When he arrived, he bounced happily up the stairs to the doorway of the house. He looked through the doorway with his ears lifted high and his tail wagging as fast as it could. To his great surprise, he found himself staring at 1000 other happy little dogs with their tails wagging just as fast as his. He smiled a great smile, and was answered with 1000 great smiles just as warm and friendly. As he left the house, he thought to himself, "This is a wonderful place. I will come back and visit it often."

In this same village, another little dog, who was not quite as happy as the first one, decided to visit the house. He slowly climbed the stairs and hung his head low as he looked into the door. When he saw the 1000 unfriendly looking dogs staring back at him, he growled at them and was horrified to see 1000 little dogs growling back at him. As he left, he thought to himself, "That is a horrible place, and I will never go back there again."

**All the faces in the world are mirrors. What kind of reflections do you see in the faces of the people you meet?**

by Keith Strachan



## WELCOME ....

Welcome once more to our quarterly magazine. We finished off prior to the Summer holidays with our Group Camp at Fordell Firs with the weather for once being kind to us with a weekend of sunshine. Lots of site activities together with a campfire on the Saturday evening and a coastal walk on the Sunday all added up to an excellent weekend.

## EXECUTIVE MATTERS ....

I mentioned in my last Magazine report that a number of members of our Executive Committee were stepping down at the AGM in June and it was very pleasing to see the positive response from parents to joining up with us to ensure we continue to have a viable and active Committee. It was very rewarding that in addition to the kids receiving their badges and awards, our District Commissioner presented Yolanda, Graham and Tom with their Awards of Merit. Well deserved.

## CAMPS & CAMPING ....

Some of our Explorers had a Summer Camp at Meggernie near Aberfeldy in July - see Explorer report.

Following our return from the holidays we arranged camps at Nineacres, Crook of Devon, for the Beavers and Cubs to assist Yolanda in achieving her Outdoor Camping Permit, with the Scouts having a separate skills camp. Another good camp but once again it finished up very wet and the hall was under canvas for a whole week to allow everything to dry off

Cubs, Scouts and Explorers attended the District Sports Day in September and came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Once again, the weather was good while we were at Pitreavie and luckily everything finished before the heavens opened.

## FUTURE EVENTS ....

Looking ahead, we will be holding a 'Gardenathon' in November to tidy up the hall garden areas and we will also be taking on responsibility for the area of ground behind the hall to bring this area of land back into use for the Sections. It is a great area for practicing tent pitching, cooking etc and we can look at using different parts for badgework.

We are looking forward to running the Group Hallowe'en Party at the end of October which is always a fun and messy event, and Graham has once again booked seats at the Pantomime for December.

At the end of November, we will be attending our Church, St Margaret's in Touch for our St Andrew's Day Service together with the Guides. A good attendance is expected.

## CHRISTMAS POST ....



This all leads up to the Scout Christmas Post in December which is our main fundraiser for the year and needs as many parents as possible helping with the sorting and delivering. A lot of work but it is also good fun. I look forward to seeing you there. Keith

## A TOAST TO FRIENDSHIP

I would like to share with you a Toast which one of our friends has introduced us to and it has now become our habit to use whenever we gather with friends as we did one Saturday evening.

*There are Long Ships*

*There are Tall Ships*

*There are ships that sail the seas*

*But the best ships are Friendships*

*And may that always be.*

May you be blessed with many good friends as we are.

Moira Watson

*(Many thanks Moira – and we feel blessed with your friendship. Ed)*

## A RECIPE FOR FRIENDSHIP

### INGREDIENTS:

|                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 pint of trust               | 1 cup of mutual affection |
| 1 dash of caring              | 1 sprinkle of respect     |
| 2 cups of understanding       | 2 lbs of common interest  |
| 2 spoonfuls of shared secrets | 3 spoonfuls of listening  |

### AND 1 BAG OF FUN!

*(From Audrey MacArthur – many thanks - and mix this all up with love and you have that perfect friendship which we should be spreading to those in need at Christmas. Ed)*

## RECIPE SUGGESTIONS

### **BASIC MERINGUES**

(as served at the Church afternoon teas)

#### Ingredients

- 4 egg whites
- 8 oz (225 g) castor sugar

#### Method

- Pre-heat oven to 130°C
- Line 2 baking trays with non- stick backing paper.
- Place egg whites in large clean bowl and whisk on high speed until stiff – BUT not dry.
- Add the sugar a teaspoonful at a time whisking well after each addition
- Either pipe the meringue mixture into “blobs” onto paper or use two spoons making oval shapes
- Bake in pre-heated oven for about 1 – 1.5 hours or until they can be easily lifted from the paper
- Turn off the oven and leave the door ajar until the meringues are cold
- To serve – fill with whipped cream

### **CHRISTAMA PUDDING**

(suitable for people with diabetes)

#### Ingredients

- |                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 3 oz currants             | 4oz wholemeal breadcrumbs      |
| 3 oz raisins              | 1oz blanched almonds chopped   |
| 3 oz sultanas             | 2 teaspoon mixed spice         |
| 4oz Wholemeal flour       | 1 pinch salt                   |
| 1 medium carrot – grated. | 1 lemon – rind and juice only. |
| 3 oz polyunsaturated      | 1 quarter pint Guinness stout  |
| Margarine (melted)        |                                |
| 3 eggs                    |                                |

#### Method

- Mix all ingredients together – stout in last.
- Transfer to 1-pint pudding basin



- Steam for 2.5 – 3 hours.
- Then keep till Christmas day when steam for a further 2 hours (approx.) The pudding will darken during this 2<sup>nd</sup> steaming.
- This pudding can be put in the freezer.

*(both recipes supplied by Janet Kerr whose husband can definitely recommend them!! – Ed)*

### MEN'S BREAKFAST DISCUSSION GROUP

Although dates and details have still to be finalised the new programme is shaping up as follows

14 October – *“Saving the world one heart at a time”* – Christian Bikers Association

18<sup>th</sup> November – *“Coping with diabetes”* – our very own, Ross Kerr

December – Joint meeting with Fossoway & Cleish Men's Group, at St Margaret's. Topic for discussion will be – *“Is there a place for ‘an eye for an eye’ in respect of the most heinous crimes?”* Sandy Muirhead will lead this discussion.

Then into the New Year.....

February – *“Should we follow the Church of England example and provide services for transgender people?”* – probably led by Episcopalian priest [tba]

March – *“Who should have the final say over a child's welfare – parents, medics, the courts or other authorities?”* – led by Hilary Warnock

April – *“What is love?”* - Discussion guided by our Minister, Iain.

Numbers attending last season's meetings fluctuated quite widely. This made catering difficult and it was slightly embarrassing when guest discussion leaders had travelled a distance to be with us. So, we urge men folk from the congregation and beyond to come along and join us and to those who are regulars – why not invite a pal or two? These are informal, friendly but worthwhile gatherings. We look forward to seeing you.

Contact – Gordon Brown for any information [01577 840248]

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### DOOR DUTY 2017/18

|        |                                     |                                                 |
|--------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 5-Nov  | J Colville<br>Mrs A McArthur        | Mrs M Chapman<br>Mrs V Evans                    |
| 12-Nov | Mrs I Cunningham<br>Mrs I Gillespie | Mrs J McAleece<br>Mrs J Gresty                  |
| 19-Nov | W Bowie<br>J Adamson<br>Mrs C Gray  | Mrs N Bowie<br>Mrs L Adamson<br>Mrs C McCulloch |
| 26-Nov | J McLean<br>M Gordon                | Mrs V Wilson<br>Mrs E Brown                     |
| 3-Dec  | I Telfer<br>S Foxley                | J Thomson<br>M Giraldas                         |
| 10-Dec | R Kerr<br>Mrs D Hynd                | Mrs S Richards<br>Mrs M Aitken                  |
| 17-Dec | Mrs M McIntosh<br>Mrs M Watson      | T McIntosh<br>J Anderson                        |
| 24-Dec | J Colville<br>Mrs A McArthur        | Mrs A Prentice<br>A Prentice                    |
| 31-Dec | Mrs I Cunningham<br>Mrs I Gillespie | Mrs J McAleece<br>D Clark                       |

### 2018

|        |                                  |                               |
|--------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 7-Jan  | W Bowie<br>J Adamson             | Mrs N Bowie<br>Mrs L Adamson  |
| 14-Jan | J McLean<br>M Gordon             | Mrs J Eadie<br>J Eadie        |
| 21-Jan | I Telfer<br>S Foxley             | Mrs F Grieve<br>J Grieve      |
| 28-Jan | R Kerr<br>Mrs D Hynd             | Mrs. M Chapman<br>Mrs E Pratt |
| 4-Feb  | Mrs. M McIntosh<br>Mrs. M Watson | T McIntosh<br>Mrs. V Evans    |



### SUNDAY MORNING TEA ROTA

In response to a recent request for new volunteers to join the Rota, we welcome and thank Rosslynn Clusker, Mrs Cheryl Jones and Mr Tom McIntosh. Due to several volunteers "retiring", we are still recruiting volunteers. If interested, Marjory McIntosh, 726342, can give you further details. Go on – it will be good for your CV! As you are now aware, at the beginning of each month the Church is having a "Guest Service" and 6 rota volunteers are required to serve teas and coffees at tables located at both ends of the Main Church Hall.

|                           |           |                         |                                             |                          |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>November,<br/>2017</b> | <b>05</b> | Mrs Irene<br>Cunningham | Mrs Isobel<br>Gillespie                     | Mrs June McAleece        |
|                           |           | Mrs Marjory<br>McIntosh | Mrs Margaret<br>Scoon                       | Mrs Jeanette<br>Clements |
|                           | <b>12</b> | Mrs Ann Prentice        | Mrs Maureen<br>Chapman                      | Mrs Margaret Hynd        |
|                           | <b>19</b> | Mrs Marjory<br>McIntosh | Mrs Mary Bruce,<br>covering Mrs J<br>Grieve | Mrs Marion Smith         |
|                           | <b>26</b> | Mrs Nancy Bowie         | Mrs Lorna Telfer                            | Mrs Margaret Orr         |

|                           |           |                         |                         |                   |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>December,<br/>2017</b> | <b>03</b> | Mrs Irene<br>Cunningham | Mrs Isobel<br>Gillespie | Mrs June McAleece |
|                           |           | Mrs Ann McEwen          | Mrs Maureen<br>Hynd     | Mrs Vera Wilson   |
|                           | <b>10</b> | Mrs Ann Prentice        | Mrs Catherine<br>Gray   | Rosslynn Clusker  |
|                           | <b>17</b> | Mrs Nancy Bowie         | Mrs Pam Moultrie        | Mrs Cheryl Jones  |
|                           | <b>24</b> | Marjory McIntosh        | Mrs Margaret<br>Scoon   | Mr Tom McIntosh   |
|                           | <b>31</b> | Mrs Maureen<br>Chapman  | Mrs Marion Smith        | Mrs Margaret Hynd |

|                      |           |                                              |                                                   |                                           |
|----------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>January, 2018</b> | <b>07</b> | Mrs Irene Cunningham<br><br>Mrs Pam Moultrie | Mrs Isobel Gillespie<br><br>Mrs Jeanette Clements | Mrs June McAleece<br><br>Mrs Margaret Orr |
|                      | <b>14</b> | Mrs Ann Prentice                             | Mrs Margaret Scoon                                | Mrs Cheryl Jones                          |
|                      | <b>21</b> | Mrs Marjory McIntosh                         | Mrs Vera Wilson                                   | Mr Tom McIntosh                           |
|                      | <b>28</b> | Mrs Ann McEwen                               | Roslynn Clusker                                   | Mrs Margaret Hynd                         |

|                       |           |                                                |                                               |                                             |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>February, 2018</b> | <b>04</b> | Mrs Irene Cunningham<br><br>Mrs Catherine Gray | Mrs Isobel Gillespie<br><br>Mrs Margaret Hynd | Mrs June McAleece<br><br>Mrs Margaret Scoon |
|                       | <b>11</b> | Mrs Marjory McIntosh                           | Mrs Margaret Orr                              | Mr Tom McIntosh                             |
|                       | <b>18</b> | Mrs Nancy Bowie                                | Mrs Maureen Hynd                              | Mrs Cheryl Jones                            |
|                       | <b>25</b> | Mrs Maureen Chapman                            | Mrs Marion Smith                              | Roslynn Cluster                             |

**As usual, if you are on holiday, or on door duty, can you please arrange a swap.**

**Thank you in the meantime to everyone who helps with this much enjoyed tea and fellowship after the Sunday Services.**

**FLOWER CALENDAR 2017/2018**

| Date   | Donor                 | Tel No.     | Arranger          | Tel No. |
|--------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------|
| Nov 5  | Mrs M Watson          | 07766295705 | June McAleece     | 724992  |
| Nov 12 | Mrs A Lawrence        | 725889      | Colleen Watson    | 721284  |
| Nov 19 | Mr & Mrs W Bowie      | 727779      | Nancy Bowie       | 737779  |
| Nov 26 | Moira Moyes           | 738341      | Audrey McArthur   | 728128  |
| Dec 3  | Flower Fund           |             | Marion Aitken     | 735996  |
| Dec 11 | Merva Brown           | 721661      | Marjory McIntosh  | 726342  |
| Dec 17 | Mr & Mrs J Cunningham | 731947      | June McAleece     | 724992  |
| Dec 24 | Moira Watson          | 07766295705 | Nancy Bowie       | 737779  |
| Dec 29 | Mr & Mrs I Carlton    | 721049      | Coleen Watson     | 721285  |
| Jan 7  | Mr Mrs Ross Kerr      | 726663      | Audrey McArthur   | 728128  |
| Jan 14 | Mrs. Moira Moyes      | 738341      | Marion Aitken     | 735996  |
| Jan 21 | Mrs. Joan Eadie       | 721992      | Mrs. Joan Eadie   | 721992  |
| Jan 28 | Mr Mrs J Hynd         | 720222      | Mrs June McAleece | 724992  |

Please could arrangers swap if these dates are unsuitable.

**FLOWER DELIVERY CALENDAR 2017**

|     |      |                           |        |
|-----|------|---------------------------|--------|
| NOV | 5th  | John and Shiela McLean    | 726919 |
| NOV | 12th | Jennifer Paxton           | 249220 |
| NOV | 19th | Jim and Linda Adamson     | 727719 |
| NOV | 26th | Keith and Elizabeth Brown | 733956 |
| DEC | 3rd  | Tom and Marjory McIntosh  | 726242 |
| DEC | 10th | Shiela McIntyre           | 735352 |
| DEC | 17th | Marion Aitken             | 735996 |
| DEC | 24th | Pam Moultrie              | 622329 |
| DEC | 31st | Rachel Wilson             | 734696 |

Please feel free to change with members of the team if the date selected is not suitable.

PLEASE NOTE: The information for January deliveries will be issued separately.

*(Thanks to Lily for organising this and of course to the people who deliver the flowers which are always very welcome - Ed)*



## **ORGANISATIONS**

**Bowling Fellowship** - Meet on Mondays in the main hall at 6.30pm. Contact Tom McIntosh on 01383 726342

**The Craft Group** - Meet on Tuesdays in the Rita Elder Hall at 2.00pm. Contact Audrey McArthur on 01383 728128

**The Guild** - Meet on the first & third Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the Rita Elder Hall – contact Margaret Hynd on 01383 721314

**Women's Fellowship** meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 2pm in the Rita Elder Hall. Contact Helen on 725753

**Swingnastics** – Meet from September to May every Wednesday in the Rita Elder Hall at 10.00am Contact Catherine McCulloch on 01383 734463

**Ladies Badminton** - Meet for social Badminton every Wednesday at 10.00am - 12 noon in the Church Main Hall. Contact Cherry O'Sullivan on 01383 720594

**Banner Group** - Meet on Thursdays in the Rita Elder Hall at 2pm Contact June McAleece on 01383 724992

**Men's Breakfast Discussion Group** – Meets once a month on a Saturday morning from September - May at 8.30am (see website or programme in the magazine for actual dates and/or contact Gordon Brown on 01577 840248)

**Sunday Club & Crèche** - Meet in the Church at 10.00am on Sundays during Morning Service, except during school holidays. Contact - Helen Webber on 01383 736486

**JAM (Jesus And Me) CLUB** –Meet Sundays in term time at 5.45pm - 7.15pm. Contact Linda Adamson on 01383 727719

**Rainbows** - Meet every Tuesday in the Rita Elder Hall at 6.15pm - 7.30pm Contact Anne Laird on 01383 727515

**Brownies** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Dunfermline Pack meet on Wednesdays in the Downstairs Hall 6.15pm - 7.45pm. Contact Susan Guild on 01383 727167

**2<sup>nd</sup> Dunfermline Guides** meet on Thursdays in term time, from 7.15-9.15pm.

For more information, please contact Anne Simpson on 01383 410490 or 07972181351

### **BEAVERS - CUB SCOUTS - SCOUTS - EXPLORER SCOUTS**

Meet in **the Scouts H.Q. Carron Grove**

Contact Keith Strachan on 01383 735399.

**Beavers** - Mondays 6.30pm - 7.45pm

**Cubs** - Tuesdays 7.00pm - 8.30pm

**Scouts** - Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

**Explorer Scouts** - Thursdays 7.00pm - 9.00pm



**READER**  
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Fossway, Kinross-shire  
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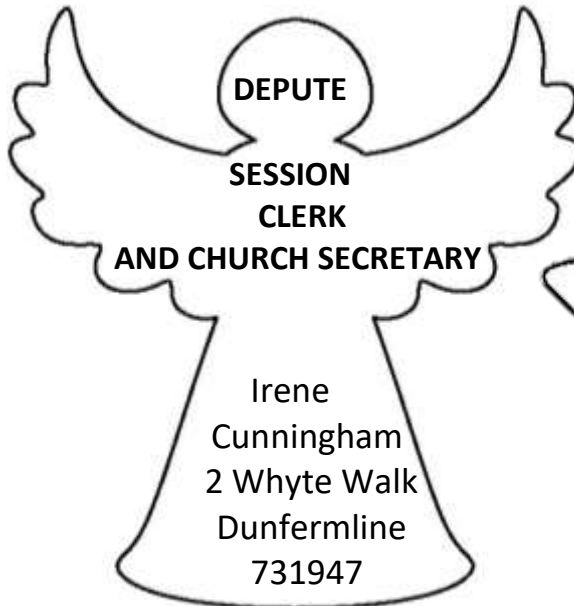
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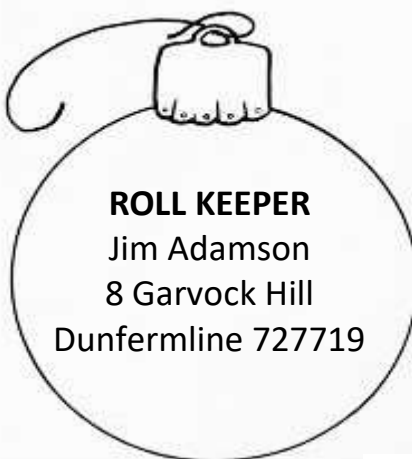
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