

The Parishioner



SUMMER 2010



Quarterly Magazine of Dyce Parish Church, Aberdeen

dyceparishchurch.org.uk



You're always welcome!

Who's Who

MINISTER

Rev Manson Merchant
144 Victoria Street
Tel: 722380

"LIFE & WORK" ORGANISER

Sheena Rosie
10 Raxton Place
Tel: 722015

SESSION CLERK

Raymond Mack
16 Glen Avenue
Tel: 724798

ROCK SOLID

Carol Howitt
10 Gordon Terrace
Tel: 722458

CLERK TO CONGREGATIONAL BOARD

David Reid
19 Parkhill Court
Tel: 725170

ICHTHUS

Carol Howitt
10 Gordon Terrace
Tel: 722458

TREASURER

Barbara Cruden
Standingstones
Tel: 770001

KIDZONE

Tina Gunn
14 Hollybank Place
Aberdeen
Tel: 588310

FWO TREASURER

Barbara Cruden
Standingstones
Tel: 770001

PRIMARY SUNDAY CLUB

James Swanson
23 Parkhill Avenue
Tel: 723931

GIFT AID CONVENER

Morag Reid
19 Summerfield Terrace
Aberdeen
Tel: 640548

CRECHE

Suzanne Douglas
8 Berrywell Walk
Tel: 772270

STEWARDSHIP PROMOTER

Robert Gunn
3 Glen Drive
Tel: 722831

CHURCH OFFICER/HALL KEEPER/

HALL BOOKINGS

Pat Sharp
8 Goval Terrace
Tel: 724887

EDITOR OF PARISHIONER

Ian Milne
110 Corrennie Circle
Tel: 722088
Email: thelian@btinternet.com

FABRIC CONVENOR

James Milton
19 Overton Avenue
Tel: 723939

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends

Firstly, let me say a big thank you to all the folks who helped with the collection for Christian Aid this past week. Once again the good folks of Dyce responded wonderfully and dug deep into their pockets to support the work of this very worthwhile charity

During Christian Aid week I was in the local primary school taking the assembly and thought it would be a good idea to share with the children about the work of Christian Aid. I mentioned to them about the door-to-door collection, telling them that they might well see someone coming to their door with some envelopes asking for a donation.

One of our collectors, Margaret, was thrilled when she was collecting in her designated area. As she went down the street carrying her Christian Aid carrier bag, one little girl saw her and cried out, "*You're the Christian lady*". I'm glad that my message at assembly wasn't lost on the children. At least I know that one girl was listening.

Her comment to Margaret however was quite profound. As she observed Margaret going about her business for Christian Aid, she recognised her to be one of the collectors, one of many up and down the breadth of our land. Margaret was immediately identifiable as someone associated with Christian Aid. As Christians, we too should be readily identifiable, not because of our appearance but rather because of our actions – the way we live our lives.

In the early chapters of the book of Acts we read of two of the apostles, Peter and John being arrested by the authorities for declaring

in public that Jesus had risen from the dead. Despite the very real possibility of being martyred for their faith, both Peter and John stood firm in their faith and refused to bow to the threats of their accusers. This encounter with the religious hierarchy ends with these words, "*When they (the religious authorities) saw the courage of Peter and John and realised that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and took note that **these men had been with Jesus***".

Peter and John, along with the other early believers were prepared to 'stand up for Jesus' and to 'stand out for Jesus'. They were prepared to 'stand up to the crowd' and to 'stand out in the crowd'. The early believers were delighted to be known as 'those who had been with Jesus'.

The Church today, especially in the western world, faces many challenges. We are today, very much in the minority within our secular society. If the Church is to stem its decline then it will need all believers, whether schooled or unschooled, to be bold and courageous and to wear their faith on their sleeve. The time is now right for all who profess to be followers of Jesus Christ to 'stand up' and to 'stand out'.

Jesus charged all believers to be 'salt' and 'light'. In other words, Jesus asked us to be different. That doesn't mean that we take on an heir of superiority and look down our noses upon others, considering ourselves somehow better than others, far from it. Indeed the exact opposite is true.

We recognise ourselves as weak and broken vessels, but weak and broken vessels which

Jesus can use to fulfil his purposes. We live in a broken world; we live in a troubled world – a world that is crying out to hear good news. We are the bearers of that good news; through our words and our actions we can bring the love of God to others. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all of us were to have Margaret's experience and to be instantly recognised for whose we are and whom we serve; recognised as those who 'have been with Jesus'.

The time is right for all believers, to borrow the title of that wonderful old hymn by

George Duffield, to '*Stand up, stand up for Jesus!*'

Will you rise to the challenge and be one who will stand? Will you be someone who will share the good news with others? I trust that you will.

Have a wonderful summer and may God's blessing be with you and those most dear to you, now and for ever.

Your grateful minister,
Manson

Purpose Statement

We seek to Proclaim Christ
Promote Fellowship
Produce Discipleship

In order that God's Kingdom may be extended in our midst through a believing, belonging and becoming community of faith.

SUNDAY SERVICES

- 9.30am** Second and last Sunday in the month
(**except July and August**)
- 10.00am** Every Sunday (**July and August only**)
- 11.00am** Every Sunday (**except July and August**)
- 2.30pm** Service at Fergus House on the first Sunday of the month
(**except July and August**)

Please note that there is no longer a 6.30pm Service. This has been replaced with a mid-week service on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Church.

MONTHLY MID-WEEK SERVICES

(**except July and August**)

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1st Wednesday | Church, 7.30pm |
| 2nd Wednesday | Victoria Grange, 7.15pm* |
| 3rd Wednesday | Berrymoss Court, 7.15pm* |
| 4th Wednesday | Parkhill Court, 7.15pm* |

***Members are encouraged to support these Services in the Sheltered Homes. The residents are always so pleased to welcome anyone who comes along. Remember they too are part of our Church Family.**

PARISH REGISTER

FUNERALS

FEBRUARY

- 17 Mrs Lily McRitchie, 2 Overton Park, Dyce
18 Miss Edith Elizabeth Lawson,
Banff Care Home, Banff
18 Mrs Mary Helen Black, 4 Drinnies Crescent, Dyce
19 Mr Gordon Angus, 26 Constitution Street,
Inverurie

MARCH

- 17 Mrs Molly Begg, Fairview Care Home, Danestone
22 Mr Neville Thomson,
8 Rainnieshill Road, Newmachar
25 Mrs Nancy Hedridge, Fergus House, Dyce
30 Mr John Allan Davidson,
21 Corrennie Circle, Dyce

APRIL

- 1 Mr Bob Milne Low, 10 Gallowhill Terrace, Dyce
15 Mr Gordon Nicol, 10 Gallowhill Terrace, Dyce
20 Mrs Bessie Colvin, Belmedie Eventide Home
27 Mr Bill Strachan Nicol, 16 Parkhill Crescent, Dyce

MAY

- 4 Mrs Elsie Baxter, 7 Greens Road, Newmachar
4 Mr George Kerr Johnston,
22 Graeme Avenue, Dyce
7 Mrs Gladys Hay, Fergus House, Dyce
8 Mrs Margaret Morrice, 24 Graeme Avenue, Dyce

BAPTISMS

FEBRUARY

- 14 Katie Ella MacLean, Ella Mary MacLean
12 Pitmedden Gardens, Dyce

APRIL

- 11 Olivia Nicole Paul, 83 Corrennie Circle, Dyce
25 Ryan Nicholas Howden, 15 Glen Avenue, Dyce

MAY

- 2 Eilidh Anna Frost, 10 Overton Circle, Dyce

WEDDINGS

MAY

- 15 Alan McBain & Lynsey Davidson



Date for your diary...

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Sunday 30 June | Traidcraft (after 11am Service) |
| Saturday 3 July | New to You Sale (Church Hall 10 – 12) |
| Sunday 18 July | Traidcraft (after 10am Service) |
| Saturday 21 August | Rotary Fun Day (Central Park) |
| Saturday 25 September | Men of All Ages Annual Breakfast – Thainstone |
| Saturday 2 October | Rotary Coffee Morning (Church Hall) |
| Sunday 24 October | Rotary Fiddlers Rally (Menzies Hotel) |

Use of Church Buildings – a reminder to all users

There are several issues under scrutiny by the Fabric Committee of the Congregational Board concerning the use of our buildings and the safety and health of the users. The Church is subject to the same legislation as any other premises and as the “owners” of the buildings we must comply with them. The following article is a reminder to all the users of our buildings.

In the church hall the recently fitted roof fans are proving to be successful in improving the heating by forcing the heat in the high ceiling down toward the using area, thus reducing the amount of energy used. The fans must be switched on with the heating. They turn at high speed at this point and as the hall becomes warmer the fans slow. Both heating and fans are to be turned off after use.

The heaters in the small hall are operated by the two switches fitted beside the door to the corridor and are a simple off or on, one for each heater. However, if the switches on the heaters are used please return them to the hot setting after use.

The kitchen and its equipment are available to all groups using the hall. Users are asked to leave it and the equipment in a clean condition. There is also a first aid box and an incident book for the recording of all accidents within the building.

The handling and serving of food must comply with Food Safety legislation. The use of the urn must be carefully controlled and not filled by kettles of hot water. If the urn is to be emptied, the procedure is to do this in place by allowing the excess water to drain onto the drainer after switching off the power. It must not be lifted down to drain into sink. The Board is actively pursuing the fitting of a constant hot water

boiler to reduce the risks to users.

The users of the store room are reminded that the floor area must be clear to allow safe access to cupboards.

Please report any hazards found to the Fabric Committee.

All escape doors to be kept clear.

In the church the Board has recently accepted the Fire Safety Report and have implemented the recommendations of the report. Please make yourself familiar with the escape procedures that are to be found on notices in all parts of the building. The duty elders have been “trained” as required by legislation.

The serving of teas and coffee in the church are a fellowship success but are not without risk, consumers are asked to move away from the serving area and reduce congestion.

Volunteers are reminded that only the sealed catering flasks are to be used for the safe transporting and dispensing of hot drinks in the church. Comments have been made to me concerning the risk of carrying hot tea pots through a busy area.

Please report any slips or trip hazards you find.

The examination of portable equipment and fire escape lighting will take place soon and records must now be kept.

We all have a part to play in ensuring that our buildings are safe and healthy places to be.

The upkeep of our property must ensure that we comply with current legislation and best practice in all we do.

If user groups or individual members of the congregation have any questions or require advice please contact myself or any member of the fabric committee.

Now that the summer break approaches I feel this method of information is preferable to posting notices beside equipment or in rooms and will allow users to consider the safety factors in what they do in church buildings. The fire escape notices are a requirement.

Robert Gunn
Chairman

christian aid

A very big thank you to all who helped in any way during Christian Aid week. Your efforts have been extremely worthwhile. We are still expecting more donations to be handed in but the approximate total raised is £3,400 including Soup Sunday and New To You stall (more details below). We should also be able to claim back over £400 through Gift Aid. I will display a poster with the grand total raised when I have that figure. Your hard work and prayers make a big difference, so well done to all.

Sheena Merchant



Soup Sunday was held on 16 May at the end of Christian Aid Week. We had a super selection of soups and thanks to all who donated – Moira, Gordon, Christine, Morag (Reid), Jean, Susanne, Sheena, Valerie, Sandra, Thelma and Linda.

Thanks to everyone who shared the lunch with us, donated in any way and all who helped. £235.76 was donated to Christian Aid.



The New to You stall raised £77.55. Again a big thanks to all who donated items and those who bought.

**Editor's Footnote: Thanks must go to Morag Gunn who organised this event.
Another good time of Fellowship.**



Included in the latest bulletin from Traidcraft is the fact that before we finish our breakfast, we have relied on half the world. Besides their delicious muesli we may use honey, marmalade, tea or coffee. Food for thought, that when we end our nightly fast, our fair trade breakfast will help some family in the developing world to at least have something to eat that same day.

New products due late in May are Oatey Flapjacks, Geobars from a new recipe, Geo Muesli and chutneys. These should be on the sales table in June. The teabags have undergone some change and I would appreciate your feedback on these when you have tried them.

If you enjoy a glass of wine or beer I can order these for you. Just ask me for a catalogue so you can see what's on offer. The wine I can recommend, the beer hasn't been vetted yet!

At the risk of sounding repetitive, I do want to thank all of you who support Traidcraft so ardently and never let a month go by without a purchase or two...or more. I so appreciate your continued support as does everyone connected with Fairtrade all over the world. You are helping to make a huge difference in the lives of small farmers in the developing world who rely on us to give them the dignity and respect needed to provide for their families without relying on hand outs, by buying their produce.

If you are interested to know how the Supermarkets can sell Traidcraft goods cheaper than I can sell them, I do have a pamphlet that details the working arrangements of this. Once again, my grateful thanks.

THELMA

A Taste of TRAIDCRAFT

MEDITERRANEAN SALAD

INGREDIENTS (serves four)

250g Traidcraft Basmati rice
250g asparagus, chopped
1 red pepper chopped
3tblsp Traidcraft Zaytoun olive oil
1 lemon
125g feta cheese
Shredded mint leaves

METHOD

1. Cook the rice for 10mins in boiling water
2. Add the asparagus and cook for a further 3-4mins before draining into a sieve and running under cold water.
3. Once the rice is cold, stir in the red pepper, oil, mint leaves, crumbled feta cheese, juice from the lemon and some grated zest. Season well and serve.

Dyce Church Toddler Group

Dyce Church toddlers group is still meeting on a Monday and a Thursday morning in the Church hall from 9.30am – 11am. We have a regular 20 to 25 families attending on a Thursday morning for a chance to play, make a craft, share a snack and sing some songs. We are very grateful to a group of 10 volunteers who

come along on a rota basis to prepare our snack and make coffee and tea for the mums, dads, grannies, granddads and other carers. A Monday morning is a little more relaxed with a regular 6 families attending. The group is open to everyone and you will be made very welcome if you would like to come along.



**For more information
contact Fiona on 729688.**

Primary Sunday Club

This is for MYMUM

Inside the card the children put a sunflower seed which had kindly been donated and a red heart with a message to their mums-

Plant this seed
and watch it grow.

As it grows tall
I'll be growing taller too.

Thank you for looking after me.
I love you and God does too.



and this is for us all

For Easter this year we decided to try something different with the Primary one and under age group as the past few years we have planted an Easter garden. We decided to create a picture out of the children's Bible. (Now hanging on wall in Church beside organ.)

We got some creased calico to remind us of the clothes found in the tomb, made the shape of the cross by drawing round their hands and then painting them in. We used red and yellow fabric paint for the sky and purple for the words. Each child added a letter to the statement "God is Love".



In its simplicity we hope the children's efforts will remind everyone that no matter what God loves us.

Kidzone

Kidzone are continuing to keep busy with a regular group of 6 – 8 primary 5 to 7 children. Last term we decided to join in the churches effort of raising money for the emergency Haiti appeal by baking and selling cakes after the church service. We had great fun organising this and were delighted to get such a great

response from our customers, selling all our cakes in about 15 minutes.

We finished last term with a messy games party which was great fun. I think some of us are still finding bits of chocolate snowballs in our ears! We have another busy term planned with learning more about God, lots

of fun activities and are looking forward to taking part in our end of term service and Hawaiian party. We are a very friendly group and if you would like to come along and join us we meet in the church at 10.50am on a Sunday.

Dyce Gardening Club and Dyce in Bloom



There is absolutely no truth in the rumour that the wicked fairy from the Kirk panto shrunk the Community Garden Christmas tree. What happened is that a 10 foot Nordmann Fir has been purchased and planted permanently. It's thought that a smaller tree will have the best chance of success if not subject to wind rock. Flowers and shrubs have also been planted to soften fencing by the road and railway. Some children who came to hunt for Easter eggs in the Garden had spent a lot of time on their brilliant Easter Hats.

Remarkable too were the swathes of flowers from last winter's bulb planting by various organisations.

Dyce Primary School has planned that a sensory garden and outdoor classroom be built this summer with help from Aberdeen Airport. The Gardening Club members will assist with the choice of planting. This area will be available to all, and could be a welcome stop on the route to Asda via the Central Park, being sited between the primary school and its roundabout.

This April the National Spring Clean event was a litter pick of the Farburn alongside Riverview Drive, combined with overdue repair of the wire and post fence separating the burn from the road.

The loan of specialist equipment allowed five burly blokes to put in a few new fence posts and tighten the wire to great effect. Two ladies doing another litter pick in the Pitmedden area were joined by a Sir Galahad who got more black bags and disposed of the rubbish.

Both Aberdeen as a city and Dyce as an urban community have earned the right to represent Scotland in Britain in Bloom 2010. Two judges will arrive in Dyce in August to score the village on not just the floral bit and interesting green spaces, but also year-round involvement of residents and businesses who consider the environment.

A plea in the last magazine resulted in new "takers" for hanging baskets. This season the request is for able-bodied helpers who can occasionally assist with the regular watering of these baskets on the lamp posts. Green fingers are not a necessary qualification! Please get in touch with Kevin Mavor on 722011 or Evelyn Shearer on 723044.

The Gardening Club winter programme kicks off with an inter-club quiz, this year in the Carnegie Hall, on Tuesday, 21 September at 7.30pm.

Dyce Church Guild

Dyce Guild meets on every second Monday in Dyce Church hall and everyone is welcome. I would like to share a small part of the Secretary's report by Gladys Lamb on some of the remarkable work done by the Guild this session.

During the year Dyce Church Guild has been represented at the Annual Meeting the Guild Week Praise and Communion Service at St Machar's Cathedral where we were presented with a certificate to commemorate our 110th year as a Guild. We have also been represented at the Autumn & Spring Rallies, the Theme Day and will be hosting the Summer meeting. We have accepted and attended invitations to Cults, Fintray Kinellar & Keithhall, Newhills, Newmachar & Woodside and also Kingswells Guild. An invitation was accepted for an evening at Bucksburn Stonewood for a Songs of Praise evening and Kingswells to hear the Spectrum Singers perform. The link with Grahamston Guild has been maintained throughout the year.

Members once again helped at the Leprosy

Mission coffee morning headed up by Senga and we continue to send money from the Files to the Leprosy Mission. We were also represented at the "Tree Festival" in Dyce Church this year using a tree decorated in a Christmon style and assistance was given with the teas there as well. The Guild has also supported Thelma with her open days and the coffee morning for Fairtrade. Items were provided to fill boxes for Aberdeen

Cyrenians again this year. Money was donated towards the feeding of the homeless being run by the Bethany Trust and several members assisted in this project. We have encouraged members to knit for the Linus Appeal, local hospitals and the foreign seamen. The Guild has distributed over £2000 between various projects, charities and the Church this session.

A total of 41 subscriptions were paid for the year 2009 - 2010.

Let us never forget whose we are and whom we serve.

Kate Wood
VICE PRESIDENT

Tuesday Coffee Mornings



The coffee mornings resumed on 6 October 2009 and finished on 11 May 2010.

Money raised was £2,300 distributed to:-

Church Heating & Lighting	£1,000
Community Alarms for use in Dyce	£500
Dyce Senior Citizens	£200
Dyce In Bloom	£300

The Musical Coffee Morning on Saturday 15 May, with music provided by Ernie Simpson

and Raymond Mack, raised £972 to be divided equally between:-

Parkinsons Society
Woodlands School
Bethany Trust
Gateway at Credo, John Street.

Thanks to everyone for their help and support. If anyone would like to be part of the Group please contact Margaret Mack on 724798.

Coffee Mornings resume on Tuesday 5 October 2010.

EarthKeepers

There are many ways we can help the planet and the lesser well off in the emerging economies of the world. For many years a number of people in our Church have been working away in the background collecting items which are passed to various charities who in turn sell these items which provide much needed help to the poorest in our world.

Spectacles – your old ones which you no longer need but are taking up cupboard space, can be used by the “Caring City Charity” to bring the gift of sight to many in Uganda, Sudan, Zimbabwe and Malawi. Many children are required to attend schools for the blind which could be avoided if they had a simple pair of spectacles. Optical Express here in the UK is working with the charity to help improve the sight of millions of people throughout the world in underdeveloped countries.

Used stamps – when you receive a letter, if there is a postage stamp on it, cut it from the envelope with a reasonable border of paper and collect then hand them into Church. The Leprosy Mission will sort these stamps out and sell them on to collectors etc. and the money raised from this will be used to help people with this awful disease.

These are just a few examples of recycling; we can also recycle old mobile phones and printer cartridges to help other charities provide much needed help to others.

Ceilidh Dancing with Val

Another session of fun at Val’s ceilidh dancing will be coming to a close in June. It’s been such a great time for us who go, to learn so many new dances and perfect the ones we should know by now! Thanks Val for your patience and sense of fun at our Tuesday evening once a month. We sure have had a ball!

There is a **Blue Box** in the entrance to the Church where you can put any items of the above for recycling and Earth Keepers will ensure that they are passed on to the appropriate person.

Reading in the paper the other night, it appears that Aberdeen City has one the worst records for recycling in Scotland, just above Glasgow in the league table. There are plenty of recycling centres in and around our area for paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, glass, food and drink cans, even old clothes. So before you throw something in the bin, think, is there somewhere I can put this so that it does not go to landfill? The City Council are charged many pounds for every ton of material over an agreed quota that goes into landfill so you can help reduce this cost by doing a bit more recycling, after all you land up paying for this through your Council Tax!!

And let us not forget the garden, if you do not have a compost bin or a brown bin for the garden rubbish find somebody that could take your green waste for composting or take it to the recycling centre in Pitmedden Road, it will be taken away and composted.

If you have any questions on any of the topics in this article please ask any of the Earth Keepers who will be glad to help.

An Earth Keeper

53rd Boy's Brigade

Hello once again from all staff and boys at 53rd. How quickly time passes and seems to slip past without us noticing. Here we are almost half way through the year already and it only seems like last week we were writing Christmas cards and wishing loved ones a Happy New Year.

In April Patrice and I attended a church service held in Bucksburn/Stoneywood church to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 25th Company. It was a very enjoyable service where we heard a bit about the history of the company from some local people who have been involved in some way or another throughout the years. The company captain, Ray is known to us both through involvement with the Brigade Executive Committee, and was suitably shocked (and, I hope, quite happy to see us there). We were then served tea and coffee in the hall, where a display of old memorabilia had been set out to let everyone see the changes which have taken place over the years. A most enjoyable day was marred only by the fact that Ray announced that he is to step down as Captain this summer.

By the time this goes to print, our annual Open Night will be a distant memory and thoughts of the

next one won't be too far away. If any of you managed to attend, I hope you enjoyed your time with us.

Our summer camp this year is to Carrbridge, in the Highlands from 10 – 17 July. No doubt some of the lads attending will have some stories to tell in the winter edition.

One of our older lads, Daniel, who many of you know (he's not that easily forgotten!!!) received his Queens Badge on 12th May. This is the highest honour awarded to a boy in the Brigade, while he is still a "boy" under the age of 18. Daniel did a power of work towards his badge and received his certificate at the Towns House. In addition to this, he also received a certificate recognising his Community Service. He racked up an impressive 200+ hours helping the homeless charity Shelter in their store on Aberdeen's George Street. Well done Daniel for all your hard work and efforts.

Until our next "catch-up"

Albert B Smith
Company Captain
53rd (Dyce) Boys Brigade

Personal Thoughts

The following was written by an old friend of a member and found in his personal effects after his death. These words are shared with no further comment.

I have moments when I feel vulnerable. Those who have suffered tragedy are aware of what I mean. One can appear to the outsider to be behaving normally. One is not looking miserable. One is not boring one's friends with one's sadness.

One is apparently facing the loss, whether it be a parent, a child, a close friend, a wife or a husband, with equanimity. Unless the outsider has suffered a similar experience, they will not understand what lies beneath that equanimity. Professional

counsellors, for instance, may be trained in sentences of comfort, but unless they have truly suffered, their counselling services are theoretical. No counselling, for instance can cure the companionship void.

Dyce OAPs Club

During the first Session of the year the Club enjoyed some great entertainment. We were at the Thistle Hotel on 3 March and enjoyed a Scottish Afternoon Tea followed by entertainment from the Scottish Fiddle and Accordion Band from Durris who soon had the dancers on the floor. We were told that the Band do some 30 concerts a year and all monies raised, last year it was £7000, is disbursed to local charities.

A presentation was made by the Treasurer Mrs Mina Souter to Mrs Sheila Barron who had been secretary of the club for the past ten years. Mrs Barron was thanked for her dedication and hard work done on behalf of the club and she will continue serving as Deputy Secretary. Thanking the club for the card and gift Mrs Barron said she would have much pleasure and pride in wearing the jewellery she had received. When she became secretary the club had a strength of 144 but over the years that had fallen to 77. The Club is still looking for a Secretary (any volunteers?).

The club will celebrate its 50 years in 4 years time and she hoped that in that time the numbers would grow and the club prosper.

The Sale of Work on 3 April raised a grand total of £888.42 and the Committee would like to thank all who donated to the stalls, assisted on the day and to those who supported it by their attendance.

By the time you read this we will have had our annual bus trip which this year will be going to the Park Hotel, Montrose for afternoon tea then for a browse round the Brechin Garden Centre before heading back to the Thistle Hotel, Dyce for high tea.

Our next session starts on 1 September 2010 at 2pm and new members will be made most welcome. The joining age is now 50 and not 60 as previous.

I would like to thank all Members who have helped in the running of the Club for their support and look forward to next session.

Wilma Stewart
President

(Note from Editor—apologies to Mrs Stewart whose name was wrongly reported in the last magazine as Mrs Wilma Milne).

Christ's Love

When we know heartbreak and grief we often call upon Christ to help us.

Sometimes our situation is changed; sometimes, it is not.

But whether the cause of our suffering is removed or not.

Christ does help us by standing by with us and understanding our anguish, knowing our pain.

Painful situations are part of life. They come, inevitably, to us all. We cannot hope to live full lives without encountering them. But if we call out, Christ will not leave us to live through them alone.

Christ's sustaining love is sufficient to help us to bear, and finally to triumph, over any hurt.

Women Walking with God

On 5th of March this year 3 ladies from our church joined with a group of 45 ladies from Newhills Church to the Women Walking with God conference in Edinburgh. After travelling by train to Edinburgh we made our way to the Premier Inn hotel to meet with the rest of the group. We enjoyed dinner together before heading off to the Edinburgh Exhibition and Conference Centre for an evening of Worship and Praise with another 1200 women. The event was called Walking in Wisdom with God and was based on the book of Proverbs.

The next day the conference continued at the EECC with a variety of inspirational speakers, worship lead by Lou Fellingham and the band Phatfish which included a mix of traditional, modern and brand new songs. In the afternoon we were offered a selection of workshops in the ranging from hearing about the plight of the

Dalit women in India, a talk by the inspirational Debra Green working with communities in inner city Manchester who are using prayer to make big changes happen, to learning how to take our faith into our workplace to really become full time workers for God.

After a lovely meal together the day ended with the 1200 women back together worshipping and learning more about wisdom before heading back to the hotel to enjoy fellowship with the rest of our group before collapsing into bed shattered but fulfilled.

We will certainly be keen to go again next year and would hope that other ladies from Dyce would like to join us. We'll arrange to meet soon to plan next year's trip so if you're keen listen out for intimation in church.

ROTARY CLUB OF DYCE

In our last contribution to the Dyce Parishioner in autumn 2009, we spoke of our fund raising plans for the Christmas period. A total of about £7000 was collected which was put into the charity fund. Most of this will be distributed to local and national charities following discussions in the club at the end of the Rotary year in the summer. We did, however, decide to help the people of Haiti following the earthquake earlier this year by contributing £2000 to fund the sending of three shelter boxes and two aqua boxes. A supply

of shelter boxes is held by Rotary in the UK for distribution to any part of the world hit by a disaster and contains essentials for families which have lost their homes. An aqua box provides the means of purifying 33,000 litres of water.

Since the autumn, a number of social and fundraising activities have been held. The Senior Citizens Christmas Party in December was the usual success. A Burns Supper was held in January, an afternoon of traditional Scottish music in February and a Stovie Dance

in March. These were all very enjoyable.

The local primary schools again participated in the Schools Quiz with Dyce Primary School running out the winner. The team went forward to the area final which was held on Saturday 15 May, where Robert Gordon's ran out the winners.

As a club, we are always on the lookout for new ideas and new members. If you are interested in finding out more about Dyce Rotary Club, please get in touch with our secretary Bill Cruden on 01224 722471.

Girl Guides

Back in February I was lucky enough to join 15 other guiders and senior section members from across the UK to celebrate the Girl Guide Centenary in a very unique way. We were to embark on an "Ultimate Falklands South Atlantic Odyssey". Perhaps not everyone's cup of tea but definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity! We were to explore the islands and spend time with the guiding branch organisation in the Falklands.

Our adventure started with a day spent in Santiago, Chile. Where, after a long 14 hour flight, we set off for Cerro San Cristóbal, a local viewpoint. We took the funicular railway up for a spectacular view over the city and a relaxing dip in the outdoor swimming pool. We had hoped to explore the old city of Santiago on our return journey from the Falklands Islands. Unfortunately this wasn't to be – for reasons you will soon discover!

Arriving at Mount Pleasant airport in the Falklands in heavy rain, we hoped this wasn't a sign of things to come! Despite the weather we received a very warm welcome from the guides, brownies and rainbows of Stanley. We spent a lot of them with them during our stay. We helped out at their weekly meetings; a special Thinking Day sleepover and a very successful Garden Party at Government House to raise money for their trip to the UK centenary camp this summer.

For two weeks we explored Stanley and several of the surrounding islands. On Saunders Island we encountered an array of wildlife. From the globally threatened striated caracara and black browed Albatross to four species of penguin: magellanic,



rockhopper, gentoo and king. I have to say I can't decide which is my favourite though; the Kings are so regal, the gentoos very inquisitive and the rockhoppers so fluffy and cute. Those adventurous enough even braved the South Atlantic Ocean for a dip.

Travel in the Falklands is unpredictable and our stay on Saunders Island was extended a day as the weather closed in and prevented the local plane service from collecting us. Fortunately the owners of the island were amazing and took great care of us.

Throughout our stay there were rumours of tensions rising between Argentina and the UK over the oil exploration in the waters around the Falklands. This was causing some disruption to daily life, with cargo boats being held up and extra media presence in town. This seems to happen much more than is reported in the UK and the locals are pretty much unperturbed by it all. They have been dealing with instances like this for the last 28 years. Signs of the 1982 Falklands War are everywhere. Stanley is surrounded by minefields, which are still yet to be cleared. As part of our centenary trip we felt it was



important for us to visit several of the memorials and pay our respects to those who lost their lives for the liberation of the Falklands Islands. Many of our homestay families lived through the war and understandably many rather not talk about their experiences and the more we learned (heard and saw) the more we understand why.

Our trip took an interesting turn when on the morning we were due to leave we got news of the disastrous Chilean earthquake. We weren't going anywhere! Our thoughts went out to those caught up in the quake and although we were stranded we were thankful to at least we somewhere save.

Our extra week in Stanley due to the earthquake made our trip extra special. It meant we had time to really get to know the local community and feel a part of it. It came to the stage everyone knew we

were the 'guides' and would wave at us in the street. We got the chance to cook at the Governor's House, spin wool and visit the camp sports at Darwin.

Finally, over a week later we got seats on the weekly MoD flight to the UK via the Ascension Islands. There were tears as we left. Many of us didn't want to leave and were surprised how much our stay had affected us. We had all been made so welcome and have made some lifelong friends.

So after tensions with Argentina, being stranded on Saunders and having our trip extended 9 days due to an earthquake. I think it's safe to say our trip was definitely an "Ultimate Adventure".

Check out more about our adventure at:
http://www.girlguiding100years.org.uk/your_experiences/blogs/ultimate_falklands_blog.aspx

Life and Work good – OK

Life and Work – “The Editorially Independent Magazine of the Church of Scotland” – improves year by year and is a very good read for anyone interested in our Church and faith. It covers a wide range of news and issues – sometimes quite controversially – there is something for everyone. And every so often, there's something which really jumps off the page and hits home. There was a recent example of this for me when the words were – “...when local congregations ... recognise that they exist for the sake of those who are not members....” This was followed a month later by – “...I wonder what those on the outside (of the Church) would think of us if they could look in through our (church) windows.”

followed by – “...and stop the Churches becoming private clubs for those who are members.”

It was only then that I looked up to see that both articles had been written by the current Moderator, the Rt Rev William Hewitt. We can't argue with the quotes but they do help as reminders that our thoughts and efforts should be directed not to what we want or would like but towards what will help to bring the Gospel to those outside our Church. One particular group who should always be in our thoughts are the many young people who attend our church – towards the day when they will become the full members of the future. The Church does not exist for the sake of its members.

That's one example from recent editions of Life and Work. Another example was an article by Ron Ferguson titled “a life of sloth” which, maybe a bit tongue in cheek, questioned “workaholicism as one of the addictions of our time.” Entertaining yes but also thought provoking. I've always thought that the title Life and Work suggests that you can only live through work – and I couldn't agree with that.

Life and Work has a website but you can't read this magazine on-line. You have to buy it – a bargain at £1.60 a month – or an even better bargain if you subscribe for a year with Sheena Rosie (tel 722015). It's very well worth it.

A N Elder

How we got here – a mini history

About 2000 BC Abraham felt a call from God to lead his nomadic clan from southern Iraq, by a well-travelled route, via Syria, Israel (as now) down to Egypt. That took many generations. In Egypt they became serfs under a powerful Egyptian empire. After some centuries one of those enslaved Hebrews, Moses, adopted into the royal family, led a movement of revolt.

Inspired by the traditional vision from Abraham, Moses (? 1300 BC) led a campaign for the liberation of his people. Against all the odds they escaped and slowly made their way back towards the “Promised Land”. In the long years across the Sinai desert Moses gave the people a clearer vision of the ways of God and of his religious and moral law. After a generation or two of serious inter-tribal conflict and victory the people of Israel occupied their Land.

By 1,000 BC Israel was at the height of its political and economic power. Twelve tribes, united under the monarchy of David, became something of a middle-east power. His son Solomon expanded the state and continued massive public works – temple, palace, army, military stables – in alliance with foreign powers. This involved the forced

labour of his own people and the support of outside religions.

Soon after, the land of the twelve tribes was divided in two. The majority, who felt oppressed by Jerusalem, became (as Israel) a separate state, with the same faith but their own leaders. Both nations went into a series of external political alliances. Within two hundred years the northern tribes (‘Israel’) were defeated and overrun by Assyria. In 586 BC Judah/Jerusalem was overrun and most of the people were exiled to Babylon.

End of story? In exile a handful of leaders, prophets and ordinary people asked themselves what had happened. Slowly it came to them that this disaster fitted with what God had declared, through his law and by their disobedience. They began to re-focus on their history, their experience, and the message of the prophets. That was the beginning of our Old Testament, compiled in the trauma of exile and the challenge of restoration. It is their witness to the God who had led his people to a closer faith and a deeper obedience, across the years. So, after two generations they began to return home led by Nehemiah and Ezra.

Lesson learned? The Jews returned from exile to rebuild

themselves as a “people under God”. But unlike the universal promise to Abraham, or to be a light for the whole world, they went on to build a great wall round their Holy City, to purify themselves and their special ways. For three hundred years this narrow spirit continued, in the face of much external pressure. Our Bible should have a hundred blank pages between OT and NT – the people of God had got frozen in their own world, till Jesus spoke again.

The message of the gospels is that in Jesus the God of old has come to renew his ancient contract of love and deliverance – not through laws but in a human life lived to the full.

But in those centuries many Jews had sought out a better life. There were colonies to be found in Egypt, Spain, Rome, Turkey, the Black Sea, perhaps even India.

At the Pentecost “Home-coming” Passover there were present Jews from all over the Roman Empire. So the resurrection message of the risen Jesus had a universal aspect. It took St Paul to clarify the gospel that in Christ God has spoken to the whole world in love and mercy.

That is where the New Testament ends, about 100 AD.

By then the new faith was spreading across the whole Mediterranean area. Gradually it became the religion of Western Europe.

By 1000AD Christianity, in some form, had reached the known world, including North Africa and the Turkish Empire.

In later ages it nearly gained a presence in China and Japan, and certainly India. In the middle ages the church expanded (with violence) into South America; and in the 19th century into Africa, without the violence but with immense imperial consequences. Today the liberation gospel

of South America and the evangelical gospel of Africa are among the prevailing Christian forces worldwide.

One of our scholars has just written a book: "Christianity – The FIRST TWO THOUSAND YEARS"!

Ian Strachan

Letter to a Friend

Just a line to say I'm living
That I'm not among the dead
Tho' I'm getting more forgetful
And mixed up in the head!

I'm used to my arthritis,
To my dentures I'm resigned
I can cope with my bifocals
But how I miss my mind!
Sometimes I can't remember
When I'm standing by the stairs –
Should I be going up
Or have I just come down from there?

Beside the fridge so often
My mind is full of doubt
Did I put some food away
Or just come to take it out?

If it's my turn to write, dear
I hope you won't be sore
I may think that I've not written
But I don't want to be a bore
So remember, I do love you
And wished that you lived near
But now it's time to mail this
And say goodbye, my dear
TONS OF LOVE

P.S. When I stood beside the mailbox,
Oh boy was my face red.....
Instead of posting it to you,
I opened it instead!!

Thank you...

...so much to all the folk who, week after week, provide the welcome cups of tea and coffee and the 'fine pieces' after both the 9.30am and 11am services. These are much enjoyed by many and allow a happy, relaxed time of fellowship.

...again the beauty of the Church grounds continues to give much pleasure to the eyes of members and visitors alike. Our grateful thanks go to Derek Daun and Jack Black for all their hard work.

Something for children of all ages

For older children

Take the first letter from each answer.

Read downwards to reveal a famous Biblical place.

1. A famous boat builde _____
2. The boat he built _____
3. Jesus found him up a tree _____
4. This man is found in Genesis _____
5. The last Book of the Bible _____
6. This female name is also a Book of
the Bible _____
7. The disciple who doubted that Jesus
was alive again _____
8. The king visited by the Wise Men _____

For younger children

An adult may need to help here.

Take the first letter from each answer to reveal a famous person in the Bible.

1. The month that comes after April _____
2. A musical instrument seen in a church _____
3. This shines in the sky in the daytime _____
4. We roll eggs at this time _____
5. This shines in the sky at night _____

Something for children of all ages – Answers

For younger children
1. May 2. Organ 3. Sun 4. Easter 5. Star
6. Esther 7. Thomas 8. Herod

For older children
1. Noah 2. Ark 3. Zachheus 4. Adam 5. Revelation

The following was read at an interdenominational church service on board a cruise ship and gives a different twist to an old favourite.

The Seafarer's Version of the 23rd Psalm

The Lord is my pilot, I shall not drift.
He lighteth me across dark water.
He steereth me in the deep channels.
He keepeth my log.
He guideth me by the star of holiness for
His name's sake.
Yea, even amidst the thunders and tempests of life,
I dread no longer; for Thou art with me,
Thy love and Thy care, they shelter me.
Thou preparest a harbour before me in the homeland of Eternity.
Thou anointest the waves with oil – my ship rides calmly.
Surely sunlight and starlight shall favour me on the voyage I take,
And I will rest in the port of my God for ever.

Amen.

Words by Mother Theresa

Engraved on the wall of her home for children in Calcutta

People are often unreasonable, illogical and
self-centered; forgive them anyway.
If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;
be kind anyway.
If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some
true enemies; succeed anyway.
If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; be honest and
frank anyway.
What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;
build anyway.
If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; be happy
anyway.
The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; do
good anyway.
Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;
Give the world the best you've got anyway.
You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;
It was never between you and them anyway.

FLOWER ROTA



July – October 2010

July

4	Mrs G Lamb	48 Parkhill Avenue
11	Mrs J Thomson	14 Lickleyhead Way
18	Mrs M Whyte	81 Corrennie Circle
25	Mrs E Shearer	12 Overton Crescent

August

1	Mrs M. Lawson	17 Hopcroft Drive, Bucksburn
8	Mrs D. Robertson	3 Pitfichie Place.
15	Mrs J. Harper	17 Tornasheen Gdns.
22	Mrs W. Innes	43 Parkhill Circle.
29	Mrs B. Preacher	27 Parkhill Ave.

NOTE:

The Church is open on Saturdays from 10am until 4pm.

Please collect flowers for delivery after the 11am

Sunday Service.

September

5	Mrs M. Roach	2 Glen Ave.
12	Mrs M. Murrie	48 Bankhead Road, Bucksburn
19	Mrs M. McMann	17 Berrywell Gdns.
26	Mrs I. McLean	12 Glenhome Cres.

October

3	Mrs M. Paul	12 Gladstone Place
10	Mrs S. Knight	1 Northbeach Rd, Balmedie
17	Mrs S. Reid	29 Berrywell Walk.
24	Mrs M. Cattanach	1A Glenhome Ave.
31	Mrs B. Ross	8 Hopetoun Green, Bucksburn

Flower Convenor for July, August & September

Mrs Audrey Ross Tel. 773121 (Home) / 772424 (Shop)

Flower Convenor for October

Mrs Lucy Thurley Tel: 722396

DOOR COLLECTION AND FWO DUTIES

9.30am Services First named TWO in roster will officiate at early morning services

11am Services First named TWO bring in offering for dedication during singing of last verse of first hymn
First named SIX will officiate as follows:-

- a) TWO at door
 - b) TWO at inner doors and
 - c) TWO within Church directing worshippers to seats
- ALL EIGHT will assist at count in four teams of two.

Communion Services A separate detail will be issued for Communion Services

If you cannot attend please arrange a substitute.

PLEASE CHECK MASTER ROSTER FOR ALTERATIONS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>July 4 Service at 10am only
Messrs Henderson, Howitt, Innes,
Mrs Irvine, Messrs Kelly, Kelman, Knight,
Mrs Marjoribanks
A Lamb</p> <p>11 Service at 10am only
Messrs Martin, Milne, Milton, D Murray,
E Murray, Dr Orr, Mr Paul, Mrs Pirie
D Dunne</p> <p>18 Service at 10am only
Mr Ramsay, Miss Reid, Messrs Roach, Ross,
Mrs Shearer, Messrs Smail, Thurley,
Mrs Whyte
B Cruden</p> <p>25 Service at 10am only
Mrs Wilson, Mrs Aitken, Dr Barber,
Mrs Barbour, Mrs Baxter, Mrs Beagrie,
Mr Brown, Mrs Bruce
J Thomson</p> <p>August 1 Service at 10am only
Mrs Cattanach, Mr Cheyne, Mrs Clark,
Mrs Cumming, Mrs Drummond,
Mrs Greenhorn, Messrs Gunn and
Henderson
R Mack</p> <p>8 Service at 10am only
Messrs Howitt, Innes, Mrs Irvine,
Messrs Kelly, Kelman, Knight,
Mrs Marjoribanks, Mr Martin
A Lamb</p> | <p>August 15 Service at 10am only
Messrs Milne, Milton, D Murray, E Murray,
Dr Orr, Mr Paul, Mrs Pirie, Mr Ramsay
D Dunne</p> <p>22 Service at 10am only
Miss Reid, Messrs Roach, Ross,
Mrs Shearer, Messrs Smail, Thurley,
Mrs Whyte, Mrs Wilson
B Cruden</p> <p>29 Service at 10am only
Mrs Aitken, Dr Barber, Mrs Barbour,
Mrs Baxter, Mrs Beagrie, Mr Brown,
Mrs Bruce, Mrs Cattanach
J Thomson</p> <p>Sept 5 Service at 11am only
Mr Cheyne, Mrs Clark, Mrs Cumming,
Mrs Drummond, Mrs Greenhorn,
Messrs Gunn, Henderson and Howitt
R Mack</p> <p>12 Services at 9.30am and 11am
Mr Innes, Mrs Irvine, Messrs Kelly,
Kelman, Knight, Mrs Marjoribanks,
Messrs Martin and Milne
A Lamb</p> <p>19 Service at 11am only
Messrs Milton, D. Murray, E Murray,
Dr Orr, Mr Paul, Mrs Pirie, Mr Ramsay,
Miss Reid
D Dunne</p> <p>26 Services at 9.30am and 11am
Messrs Roach, Ross, Mrs Shearer,
Messrs Smail, Thurley, Mrs Whyte,
Mrs Wilson, Mrs Aitken
B Cruden</p> |
|---|---|

The Parishioner

Quarterly Magazine of Dyce Parish Church, Aberdeen

SPONSORED BY

thelawpractice

solicitors and estate agents

2 Rubislaw Place Aberdeen AB10 1XN

Contact Margaret B Waldron LL.B.(HONS), Dip.L.P., NP, Partner

T 01224 562870

F 01224 621540

mbwaldron@thelawpractice.org

thelawpractice.org



6 Rubislaw Terrace Aberdeen AB10 1XE

Contact Gregor Howitt

T 01224 639411

gregor@themortgageshopaberdeen.co.uk

themortgageshopaberdeen.co.uk

PARKHILL GARDEN CENTRE AND COFFEE SHOP

Parkhill, Dyce AB21 7AT

Tel 01224 722167

OPENING HOURS (7 DAYS)

Centre 9am to 5pm Restaurant 9am to 4.30pm



Dyce Caravans Ltd

Pitmedden Road Dyce Aberdeen AB21 0EY

Tel 01224 722227

info@dycecaravans.co.uk

dycecaravans.co.uk



Farburn Motors

21A Farburn Terrace Dyce Aberdeen

Tel 01224 770471

Fax 01224 772254