

The Parishioner



SUMMER 2009



Quarterly Magazine of Dyce Parish Church, Aberdeen

dyceparishchurch.org.uk



You're always welcome!

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Minister's Letter

Dear Friends

It's hard to believe that six months have passed since I made the short move from Newmachar to Dyce. It has been an exciting and busy time and I am thoroughly enjoying the fresh challenges of ministering in a larger congregation.

Dyce certainly is a large congregation. At the moment we have just more than 1200 members on the roll thereby making us the second largest congregation in the Presbytery of Aberdeen. Sadly however, close to 80% of our congregation rarely attend on a Sunday morning. Those 80% could easily identify with the late Sir Winston Churchill who said that his relationship with the church was a bit like a flying buttress: he supported it from the outside. In case you don't know a 'flying buttress' is an external support to the walls of a cathedral.

Here in Dyce it would appear that somewhere between 800 - 900 members are quite content to remain as it were on the outside. I realise that there are those within the congregation who would want to be more regular in their attendance but due to circumstances they are unable to play a more active part in the life of the church. I am talking about those who could attend if they so desired, but they choose not to. An argument often used to support this stance is *"I don't have to go to church to be a good Christian"*. I would have to sharply disagree with those who think in this way. We cannot possibly survive apart from the body of Christ. We were made for community. Paul the apostle described the church as a 'body', whilst Jesus described himself as the Vine with his followers being the branches.

We need one another, if we choose to

detach ourselves from the fellowship of believers, what faith we did have simple shrivels and dies. As one writer put it, *"The virtuous soul that is alone... is like the burning coal that is alone. It will grow colder rather than hotter"*.

The well-known Christian writer Philip Yancey writes regarding this matter, *"Christianity is not a purely intellectual, internal faith. It can be lived only in community. At a deep level, I sense that church contains something I desperately need. Whenever I abandoned church for a time, I found that I was the one who suffered. My faith faded and the crusty shell of lovelessness grew over me again. I grew colder rather than hotter"*.

Perhaps it's been a long time since you were in church, perhaps too long. I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to return. We need one another. I remember as a wee boy running away from home one day. I didn't run far – but I remember watching from behind a gorse bush as my mum and dad shouted on me. Eventually I plucked up the courage to return home and face the music. My fears were completely unfounded for rather than chastising me my parents embraced me.

We want to do the same in Dyce Church. We want to welcome the runaway back home. So if you are one of those people who haven't been in church for a long time can I just say to you, *"come on home – we've missed you badly!"*

Have a lovely summer.

May God bless you and those dear to you.

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

10.00am Every Sunday during July and August

No Mid-week Services during July and August

PARISH REGISTER

FUNERALS

February 19 Mrs Mary Lowe, 21 Gordon Terrace, Dyce
20 Mrs Nettie Bennett,
Auchtercragg Nursing Home, Ellon
26 Mr George McCombie,
30 Stonefield Drive, Inverurie
March 6 Mrs Barbara Henderson, 32 Sluie Drive, Dyce
9 Mrs Elsie Sutherland,
Bucksburn Care Home, Bucksburn
10 Mr Wattie Geddes, Roselea, Parkhill, Dyce
12 Mrs Pat Tosh, 51 Belrorie Circle, Dyce
19 Mrs Mary Duncan, Fergus House, Dyce
April 3 Mrs Ann Forrest, 27 Laws Drive, Aberdeen
6 Mrs Edith Philip, 25 Victoria Grange, Dyce
20 Mr Stuart Wood, Corrennie Circle, Dyce
May 5 Mrs Betty Neish, 3 Gladstone Place, Dyce
6 Mrs Violet Barron,
8 Balgownie Crescent, Aberdeen

WEDDINGS

April 18 Scott John Greig &
Joanne Margaret Fuller

BAPTISMS

March 8 Nathan James Carr,
41 Dubford Grove, Aberdeen
8 Emma Mairi Wilson,
38 Glenhome Gardens, Dyce
29 Josh Findlay,
12 Henderson Park, Kintore
29 Isla Jessica Gunn,
7 Fonthill Gardens West, Aberdeen
April 5 Macy Davidson,
77 Huntly Street, Aberdeen

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following people into the Fellowship:-

From other Congregations

Mr A & Mrs E McDonald, 38 Tornashean Gardens
Mrs E Middleton, 27 Victoria Grange
Mrs Margaret Findlay, Clewiston, Parkhill

HELP, HELP, HELP!

The Junior Sunday School is desperately looking for willing helpers to join us working with the children. (We have lost two teachers during the year.)

Ideally, we would like to run a rota, so that the work load could be spread. If **YOU** could commit even **one** hour per month we could ensure the continued success of our young folk's time at the club. We have children from ages 3½ to Primary 4. Training through the Church of Scotland Child Protection Scheme would be arranged.

Seeing the children growing and sharing together is not an onerous task but one that gives a great deal of joy and fulfilment in God's work.

Those interested should contact Jim Swanson either on **723931** or in **Church** on a Sunday.



**Keeping hope alive:
how to make your
money go further**

Congratulations Dyce

YOU HAVE HELPED RAISE OVER £3150

FOR SOME OF THE WORLD'S NEEDEST PEOPLE

THANK YOU!!

Dyce Church Guild

As we reach the end of our syllabus for the 2008/2009 year we can reflect on another successful year of faith and fellowship within the Guild.

Since the beginning of March we have enjoyed our very successful Scottish Night, heard from Professor Meston "Where there is a will there is a row", walked with Bill Stephen on his "History of

the Denburn" and enjoyed a talk by Elspeth Kerr.

We have also visited The Heritage Centre in Tarves where we were transported back in time to our schooldays and beyond. We sat at Victorian desks, wrote on blackboards with a charcoal pencil, saw again the dreaded Headmaster "belt" and many other reminders of the past,

put to the back of our minds, but certainly not forgotten. It was a really enjoyable visit.

Now it is time to enjoy our Summer break (hopefully with nice weather). Our meetings will resume in September with our new syllabus and we will be delighted to welcome along new members.

MARGARET WHYTE
VICE PRESIDENT



It was gratifying to have such a great turn out of interested folks to the Traidcraft coffee morning on the 7 March to help promote Fairtrade Fortnight throughout Aberdeen. I do thank you for such great support, whether you helped at the event or came along to buy and enjoy the fair trade goods on offer. It was appreciated by Traidcraft Exchange

Charity that we could send £90 (admission money) to help the small producers who are finding business particularly hard in this economic climate. Please keep your enthusiasm "on the boil" so we can continue to give all the help we can to the poorest people in the developing world who depend on us so much.

Thank you

THELMA

Festival of Christmas Trees and Arts 2010

Is it your opinion that another festival should take place this coming winter?

If so, should we change the format, have you any ideas to refresh this event?

Can you provide information of possible concert performers, lecture subjects and speakers, or indeed any contributions that can enrich the variety in the festival?

We have endeavoured to cover all tastes in previous years and will continue to do so should the event continue.

As ever, the happy band of workers always has room for more helpers or stewards.

Any comments to Rab please.

As an ECO church, we are concerned with the use of the trees after the festivities. If you can give a tree a home or know of anyone who will, please contact us (Senga or Rab). We already have one "home" on the list.

The above tree plea, brings to mind a folk song from my youth in Leith,

"There are no lights on our Christmas tree, because they spoil the tele v,
No party games, no mistletoe, just whistle Wenceslas and out you'll go"

To give a tree a home, ring me, thing me!
(01224 722831) RTG

Support your Pastor

This is a humorous imaginary story about Jesus walking along the road one day and seeing a man crying. When asked what was wrong, the man replied, "I'm blind," So Jesus healed him. Further along the road He met another man in tears and asked him the same question. He replied, "I'm lame," so Jesus healed him. Then He encountered a third man weeping. In response to Jesus' question he replied, "I'm a Pastor." So Jesus sat down and wept right along with him. Pastoring can be a thankless job; that's why the Bible says, "Hold them in highest regard" (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13NirV).

Somebody has described the "Perfect Pastor" as one who preaches for 20 minutes and sits down, condemns sin without offending anyone, works 16 hour days, has a model family, supports good causes. He has a burning desire to work with young people and spends all his time with senior citizens. He's 36 and been preaching for 40 years, makes 20 visits a day spends every

waking hour evangelising and is always available to whomsoever may wish to speak with him. The bad news is, he burned out and died at 37! Appreciate... pastoral leaders who give you the Word. Honour those... who work so hard for you, who have... the responsibility of... guiding you... Overwhelm them with appreciation and love.

IN OTHER WORDS ... SUPPORT YOUR PASTOR.
(Abridged from UCB)

Prayer Walk

On a pleasant Sunday evening in May, six Parishioners and Manson met at the Manse and set off on the first ever Prayer Walk round Dyce village. On the way Prayers were said at various vantage points for situations affecting the Parish. This was a most uplifting and happy experience and one which we hope will be repeated.

EarthKeepers

Earth Keepers have been active in a number of initiatives both in the Church and within the Eco Congregation project. In February we organised a talk by the RSPB that was held in the Church and a report by Helen Beagrie is given elsewhere in this edition of the magazine.

A film premier took place in Aberdeen on Saturday 14 March, unfortunately it was not widely advertised or shown beyond the premier night itself, but "The Age of Stupid" is a must see film, not just for those interested in "green issues" but for everyone. It depicts an archivist living in the devastated world of 2055. The world is a totally different place due to the effects of climate change. He is looking back at events in 2008 and asking why, with all our human knowledge and ingenuity, we could not see what we were doing to the planet and furthermore that **WE DID NOTHING TO STOP IT**. I have ordered a copy of this film and after its release in July hope that we will be able to show this one evening in the Church. Details will be published nearer the time of showing.

In March members of the congregation were asked to support the WWF "Earth Hour" campaign by "Signing Up To Switch Off". On Saturday 28 March at 8.30pm we sat in the dark for one hour, some sat for longer. Our houses, public buildings such as Local Authority offices, Universities, etc in Aberdeen, Scotland, the United Kingdom and world wide turned off the lights. WWF wanted as many people as possible, that was over a billion to take part and by this action send a powerful message from all around the globe, we do want action on climate change. In December, governments world-wide will be gathering in Copenhagen for the United Nations' climate summit. It is vital there is an effective international agreement at the summit. The deal should ensure that global greenhouse gas emissions peak and start a downward path well before 2020. WWF want us

to show world leaders that we care and to make the global deal a reality for the future of our planet, our children, grandchildren and the generations who follow. We registered Dyce Church as participants in this global event along with many other Churches, organisations and individuals. Almost 100 of our members took part in this event, so a big thanks to you. Perhaps if the politicians act to do something and not just talk we may not be called "the age of stupid" by future generations!!

For some time now I have been looking for an alternative to the light bulbs used in Church, one that was aesthetically pleasing but reduce the power consumption. The problem was that the fitting was small bayonet, these are mostly used in the UK, so not many manufacturers produce energy efficient light bulbs with this fitting. But a supplier was found and by the time you read this all of the bulbs will have been changed.

Some time ago I tried out the "Bukashi" food digester for leftover food and kitchen waste not suitable for the compost bins in the garden. It was a disaster for me, but now thanks to a birthday present, I have a wormery. Once the wiggly worms have done their best on our leftovers I hope to have liquid plant food and compost. I will let you know how this works as this could be a benefit to all gardeners and a way of reducing leftover food going to landfill.

As part of the Eco Congregation program, Dyce Church Earth Keepers and other groups in the area have restarted the Aberdeen and Shire Eco Congregation Network. This is where churches come together to exchange ideas, to support and encourage churches of all denominations to take part in the program. To date Dyce has hosted the first two meetings of this group.

Ken

Men of all ages

Although the weather was dreich it did not deter forty-five men from various fellowships attending the "Local Breakfast" hosted by the men of Dyce Church and chaired by Ian Milne. All enjoyed an excellent breakfast prepared by Rab Gunn and his crew.

The theme for the morning was "He who sings, prays twice" and we all certainly sang and prayed. The praise was led by our friends, Tom, Robin, John and Scott from CALIFORNIA who play under the name of "Maçjudah (Sons of Praise)". Two of the group Robin and Tom along with Edmund (student attached to Newhills Church) and Bill Currie from Newmachar gave spiritually uplifting talks both on the theme and personal testimony. Prayers were given by Rab and Ian. Unfortunately the Three Gypes could not be with us but their C in C, Maurice, gave his thoughts through poetry in his usual inimitable way which was

Dyce SWRI

Our Business Meeting was conducted by Bucksburn SWRI and their entertainment was wonderful. Songs, jokes, quizzes and short sketches had us laughing most of the evening. The business side went well – the committee now consists of members of the previous committee and also some new members (some of whom have served on the committee in previous years). From myself I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to our outgoing President, Jessie Milne and the other outgoing members of the committee. Jessie has been an inspiration to me and I hope I can live up to her dedication as president.

Everyone enjoyed the talk from Chris Gunstone of the RSPB and our sales table was a great success, boosting our funds a little.

We had some success in the Annual Bulb show with members gaining some good prizes.

Unfortunately we have had to cancel our trip

both funny and thoughtful.

The changed format from a main speaker to four short talks and prayers seemed to go down well with comments at the end being "totally uplifted", "a moving of the spirit" and "a feeling of belonging".

Thanks to Andy for his generous comments in his vote of thanks and to all for making the morning such a God given time of fellowship and learning.

Date for your diary

At the moment the next date for the diary is our annual Breakfast Rally to be held on Saturday 24 October 2009 at Thainstone Mart. Further details will follow.

Ian

P.S. Oh by the way California is just outside Falkirk!

to Scone Palace and Perth mainly due to the cost which members thought too much. We are hoping to arrange something nearer home later in the year.

We are looking forward to hearing from Fred Bull about the "World's Aberdeens" at our April meeting and also our June meeting where Helen Lawtie will be telling us all about Scented Scruffy Teddies.

We are hoping to boost our member numbers over the coming year and would welcome any one of any age to come along and visit to see what we get up to. I am sure you would all enjoy yourselves. If anyone needs any information about the SWRI please contact me on 01224 722983.

We meet on the Second Thursday of every month at 7.30pm in the Church Hall unless we advertise differently.

Joan Burbeck

Kidzone

Kidzone have had a great few months with between 8 and 14 children attending each week. We had great fun at a messy games afternoon where I'm sure the leaders were messier than the children!

We spent some time thinking of what we would like to do and

as a result helped with tea and hot cross buns on Easter Sunday, are learning some new songs (look out for Phil and his singers in church soon), are going to join the Sunday Club at their summer picnic and plan another games afternoon in June.

Five of our group will be

moving on to Rock Solid this summer. We are very sad to see them go but excited that they are ready to move on.

We are always keen to see new faces at Kidzone to join in with the fun, games and learning.

Tina, Gillian, Phil and Fiona

Lochaber - No More!

I suppose it's not that often that in mid April in Fort William you get clear blue skies, bright sunshine and not a puff of wind. On any other day I would have been delighted to fill my face with a 'fat boy' breakfast, pull on my boots, get the rucksack on my shoulders and head for the hills. Except today was not just any old day, it was the day myself and Maureen were running the Lochaber Marathon and heat, marathons and me don't mix. Well in truth, if you've read my previous musings on this subject, you'll know that marathons and me don't mix full stop.

The route, if you know the area, takes you out of Fort William on the A82 Mallaig road, through Corpach and alongside the shores of Loch Eil where the scenery is absolutely stunning, especially on such a clear day. A cone on the road at 13.1 miles let's you know that you are halfway there and then you turn around and head back from

whence you came. This may sound a bit boring but you get a different perspective and as Fort William gets nearer that view of a snow capped Ben Nevis is truly worth seeing.

This scenery makes the thirst, fatigue and cramp all (well to be honest not completely at the time) worthwhile but not perhaps as much as a few cold beers afterwards.

Needless to say, once again Maureen left me in her wake but I take consolation in the fact that I finished in one piece and smiling which cannot be said of my wife and I managed a short run the next morning. There is definitely something to be said for a sedate pace!

With the help of friends, family, fellow Rotarians and of course the good churchgoers of Dyce we have raised around £750 for the charity **deBra**, so many thanks to all.

You will be surprised to learn that four brief days after the

above marathon I entered the Loch Ness marathon which is due to be held in October this year. This in hindsight is slightly troubling and I am concerned that the time may come when I actually enjoy running marathons. Should this time ever come to pass I would appreciate if someone could contact the authorities as a matter of urgency!

Kind Regards
Roddy MacInnes

Val's Dancing

It has been such fun over the past few months at the ceilidh dancing class in the Church Hall with Val Drummond showing us how to strut our stuff! Thank you for your patience and sense of fun Val - we have had a ball!

Adventures in India

"Have you been away?" is one of the most common questions I get asked when I make one of my sporadic visits to church on a Sunday. Being employed in the offshore industry has taken me to a few interesting places around the globe, and from time to time I do get to spend a little time in them. Places like Singapore, Indonesia, Equatorial Guinea, Ivory Coast, Gabon, Angola, Mexico, even England on the odd occasion have all been visited amongst others on my travels. However, it is India that I have been working in for the past year, and have seen very eye-opening sights while there.

India is gearing up to be one of the largest economies of the world. As many companies out-source labour, Indians can find work through this – how many times have you been put through to an Indian call centre when enquiring about insurance for example? Many companies are setting up in India's tech capital, Hyderabad. Mumbai has been a bustling port for many years, and recently came to the world's attention with the terrorist atrocity there in November last year. Tata motors have just released the world's cheapest car, the Nano which costs in the region of \$2000. However, the booming economy escapes the majority of Indians, whose lives are more like some of the scenes in the recent hit movie 'Slumdog Millionaire'. Mumbai had Asia's largest slum called Dharavi, and many continue to live in poverty. Russell, our previous minister, had once travelled in India many years ago, and in the gap between him visiting and my visit, I suspect very little has changed.

I was working out of a port called Kakinada, in the Andhra Pradesh state. This is on the east coast of India, halfway between Chennai (formally Madras) and Kolkata (formally Calcutta). It seems it is a town the size of Perth, but I was amazed to find that it held around 500,000 people in the town and its immediate surrounds. The nearest large town is Visakhapatnam, three and a half hours drive up the coast, which is where I used to have to travel by car each time I came to

and from India to catch a flight to the nearest international airport. That really was a white knuckle ride!

The Andhra Pradesh state is extremely poor. The main industry is farming, followed by fishing on the coast. Oil related industry is boosting employment in Kakinada and Visakhapatnam. However, poverty is still prevalent everywhere. A trip down the streets dodging cows, goats, three wheeled taxis (known as tuk-tuks) and trying not to step into the products of the various farm animals and humans (yes, they used the streets as toilets too!) made a walk around town an adventure. Rubbish is everywhere, and is really a dismal sight. You know for people here, life is a struggle. Even in our time offshore, we would see people fish in the dead of night 60km offshore in what amounted to little more than canoes. These were people who really needed to earn a living, and took risks to do so.

How did I get involved? The boat I was working on was there to take part in the construction and commissioning of India's largest deepwater Gas and Oil field development. It is owned by Reliance Industries, one of the biggest companies in India, in turn owned by the richest (or 2nd richest) man in India, Mukesh Ambani. Our boat had a welfare fund, to buy things for the welfare of the crew, such as gym equipment, books, DVD's etc to pass the time when we were off shift. This was dependent on performance and safety. However, it was elected to give 25% of the bonus to a local charity in Kakinada to help those who have nothing, as people there do not benefit from the oil revenue in the same way we do in Aberdeen. As a member of the welfare committee, I was involved with the picking of the charity, and dealing with the administration of the assistance we gave.

The charity we picked was 'Mission to the Nations' (MTN). This was run by Mr Papparao Yelchi, who set up the charity in 1986. At the current

moment, his small charity runs 2 orphanages, schooling for 15,000 children who otherwise would miss out on education, a small free hospital, medical outreach to those in the rural areas with no medical services, training programs for people who need to learn new skills, and also work assistance schemes. Our welfare committee decided to help provide things for one of the orphanages, and also one of the schools.

In this article, and due to not being able to show the photos I took, I cannot describe fully what I saw in the orphanages. We do not fully realise how lucky we are here in the UK. The orphanage I visited had 400 children, yet only 6 staff. All the children were really happy to see us, and made us very welcome. The dormitories did not have enough beds for all the children, so some had to sleep on the floor. Each child had a small wooden box into which to keep their clothes and possessions. It struck me that there is no way I could have done that, indeed could any of us in Dyce – yet these kids kept smiling! Our welfare fund is paying for a well to be sunk at the orphanage, so they can irrigate the land, and increase their ability to grow their own food, so decreasing their reliance on donations. As it was, our welfare fund had paid for food in the past for the orphans.

The kids? They ranged from the ages of 3 to 14. Not all of them were orphans in the proper sense, but had been abandoned by their families who could not afford to keep them. The 4 of us from the ship that visited were mobbed by the kids, who wanted to meet us, and were so happy that somebody cared about them from thousands of miles away. What I found amazing was all of them were keen to get their photographs taken, and had great amazement when we were able to show them the photo on the display of a digital camera. It was so easy to forget that such a basic device as a camera was well out with their reach, and probably did not know such things existed.

Our visiting group played some games with the kids outside for a while, realising that while we were here, this gave us some time off work while

our colleagues slaved on the boat while it was in port. During this time, as the only Scotsman there, and backed up by 3 Norwegians, we were challenged to cricket. This is the national sport of India, but I was up against 10 year old kids. How hard could it be??? That's when my education progressed a little bit further, as did a lesson in humility for all 4 of us!

Our visit to the charity also included a visit to a couple of the schools run by MTN. Conditions were basic and crowded, some classrooms had to hold about 100 children, but only had seating for about half that number. Furthermore there was no air conditioning – this in an area which regularly hit 38°C. Mmm, Dyce Primary was never that bad when I was there, not even in the Portakabins prior to the Orange Unit being built!

The second school we visited had some ceiling fans, also purchased by our welfare fund. This was the school that interested me most, as around the walls of the buildings, there were quotations from scripture, and a list of the Ten Commandments. Mr Papparao is a committed Christian, and although the school gives a government approved secular education, they cannot fail to see evidence of Christ's love for them all around the place where they are educated. It struck me that India is a land of contrasts. Despite the majority of its population being extremely poor, there is an underlying happiness everywhere. Despite being dirty, polluted and smelly (certainly where I was) there is an uplifting colour, and to see the different cultures mix was certainly an experience I will never forget. And to see the work of God and Jesus being carried out in a place that I did not expect was probably the best experience.

If anybody is interested, the work of the charity can be seen on its website www.missiontothenations.com this website was donated to the charity by another supporter. Furthermore, if anybody wants to see some of my photographs from the orphanages and travel in India, please get in contact with me – sasecker@aol.com **Scott Secker**

FLOWER ROTA



July – December 2009

July

- 5 Mrs E Davidson 11 Bunzeach Place
- 12 Mrs C Kelly "Hillicrest", Parkhill
- 19 Mrs H Beagrie 11 Fifehill Park
- 26 Mrs E Barron 1 Pitmedden Avenue

August

- 2 Mrs M Brown 11 Glenhome Crescent
- 9 Mrs J Harper 7 Tornashean Gardens
- 16 Mrs M Lawson 17 Hopecroft Drive, Bucksburn
- 23 Mrs A Gettie 10 Glenhome Terrace
- 30 Mrs J Yule 179 Victoria Street

September

- 6 Mrs N Buchan 6 Sluie Drive
- 13 Mrs I Gall 31 Ardlair Terrace
- 20 Mrs E Shand 6 Glenhome Crescent
- 27 Mrs A Dunnet 15 Raxton Place

October

- 4 Mrs B Kelman 20 Gordon Terrace
- 11 Mrs S Knight 1 North Beach Road, Balmedie
- 18 Mrs E Duffton 18 Berrywell Road
- 25 Mrs W Souter "Tulaichean", Quarry Croft

November

- 1 Mrs J Bolton 31 Gladstone Place
- 8 Mrs C Smith 3 Overton Park
- 15 Mrs G Reid 93A Victoria Street
- 22 Mrs E. Dunn 4 Parkhill Avenue
- 29 Mrs G. Bruce 6 Don Place

December

- 6 Mrs E Innes 7 Delgaty Lane
- 13 Mrs M Orr 15 Glenhome Walk
- 20 Mrs T Welsh 11 Glenhome Terrace
- 27 Mrs A Ross Mains of Dyce

Flower Convenor for July, August & September

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

Convenor for October, November & December

Mrs Lucy Thurley Tel: 722396

NOTE:

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

Please collect flowers for delivery after the 11am Sunday Service.

Audrey Hepburn wrote when asked to share her 'beauty tips'
(Read at her funeral)

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness. For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people. For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry. For beautiful hair, let a child run his/her fingers through it once a day. For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone. People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed and redeemed; never throw out anyone. Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of each of your arms. As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands; one for helping yourself and the other for helping others.

Report on talk by RSPB on Climate Change and Conservation

Earth Keepers held an open night in Dyce Church on Wednesday 25 February, the speaker being Terri Cunningham of RSPB. Terri gave a really excellent presentation on the causes and effects of global warming. She told of the effects not only on birds and wildlife, but on the human population and the world we live in.

There are few people who would disagree with the fact that we really do have to change our way of living so as to halt the rise in global warming and many of us are already faithfully doing our bit by economising on gas and electricity consumption and by diligently recycling and composting as much as possible.

Weather wise, we are already experiencing warmer summers, wetter winters, flash flooding and landslides. Each of these scenarios bring its own problems – drought in summer with perhaps complete summer long hose bans and extra rainfall only hastening the rise in sea levels, with parts of our coast disappearing altogether.

Already our annual growing season has lengthened by about 4 weeks which may sound marvellous, but this can have a devastating effect on birds and wildlife because the food they rely on at specific times may not be available and some species are actually being threatened with extinction. The blue tit is a prime

example. Their young are timed to hatch when caterpillars are in abundance when the trees begin to leaf but if the trees leaf at an earlier stage in spring, then there is no food when the baby blue tits hatch. Many birds are experiencing survival problems as a result of changes in both their habitats and with food cycles being out of synchronisation. From coastal areas come reports of empty cliff faces where once there was a constant cacophony from colonies of birds but now there is silence.

The message is very clear – we really do have to be more active in reducing our carbon emissions. This message is not aimed at just “green minded” people, it is aimed at every single one of us, and yes, that also means you! We really do have to face up to the facts and decide what further measures can be taken.

Are you a gardener who still uses peat compost? Did you know that this country has banned peat extraction for garden use? And yet, unbelievably, garden centres are allowed to import peat products from other countries such as Ireland and Poland. The only way to stop the trade in peat products is to stem the demand, so next time you go to the garden centre for compost, how about choosing one of the peat free varieties?

One of the biggest problems

of our modern day life is transport. Many people are used to and indeed fully expect to be able to use their cars to take them wherever they want to go, however short the distance of their journey. High petrol or diesel prices seem to be no deterrent so “why shouldn’t we?” they will say. Many people will go to admirable lengths with their recycling and composting but the very mention of fuel consumption will invoke a complete mental shut down, a thorny subject not up for discussion. Does this scenario ring a bell with you? This attitude really must change although how this can be achieved is a very different story.

Air travel is another form of transport which is well known to increase our carbon footprint. It is recommended that if you really must travel by air, instead of flying off on several short holidays per year have only one extended stay abroad.

One thing is indeed certain, global warming is happening now and is likely to accelerate at an alarming rate if not checked. Could we not all try to do just a little bit more than we already do, and who knows, the cumulative effect might be enough to avoid the impending disaster which is almost a certainty if we decide to do nothing?

Dyce Gardening Club and Dyce in Bloom

As soon as winter meetings in the Carnegie Hall were over, summer activities began with tree planting alongside the smooth new paths in the Central Park. Dyce Community Council donated thirty oak, ash and wych elm trees for planting by the Gardening Club with guidance from Green Space, Aberdeen. Hopefully most trees will reach maturity and create open avenues for walkers and cyclists.

On a Saturday over Easter, youngsters were to be seen scurrying over the Community Garden searching for Fairtrade Easter eggs. Another event in the Garden is to be a summer Sunday barbecue. Will the solar-powered fountain be operational after the pond has had its clean and make-over?

The 2009 Spring Clean happened in a downpour, but what a result. The railway path from the Station to Farburn Terrace, and another from Colin's Tyres to the Skean Dhu railway bridge yielded more than a dozen black bags of rubbish, mostly plastic bottles and aluminium cans. Colourfully attired in rain gear and stout boots, the group cheerfully brandished long-handled pickers and shears for an hour to enable other pickers to bramble more easily in the autumn. Dyce in Bloom has requested that two rubbish bins be sited alongside the railway path.

At the May Plant Sale, villagers will have collected

compost and plants to fill the hanging baskets which they will nurture for a month before placing them by the lampposts in Victoria Street. Then, after the watering team takes over, people can watch how their pairs of baskets flourish. Please do consider taking two baskets next year, there are plenty lampposts!

The two competitions open to Dyce this year are the international Communities in Bloom and the urban community section of Beautiful Scotland. Isn't it pleasing that Bucksburn and Peterculter are also entered in this section in 2009, especially since the national awards ceremony is to be held in the Beach Ballroom in September. Official judges who come to Dyce

offer little criticism but many workable suggestions as to how groups and individuals, the young and not so young, can improve the village. Berry Moss Court residents are replanting their courtyard garden to be of year-round interest and colour. A yield of new tatties is eagerly awaited out of a secret plot.

Other people's gardens are always of interest. In June, Robbie Bacon will take us into Hatton Castle Gardens, Turriff which he looks after, and then in July, Albert the BP gardener will walk us round Greenridge.

Notices of Autumn/Winter meetings will be posted around the village in August. Contacts are Kevin Mavor, 722011 and Evelyn Shearer 723044.



These two gentlemen are not waiting for a train nor "singing in the rain" but they are cutting a dash in the fashion stakes helping with the tidy-up beside the railway station.

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.

6.30pm Services Last named TWO will officiate at evening services

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

July 5 Service at 10am only

Mrs Beagrie, Mr Brown, Mrs Bruce,
Mrs Cattanach, Mr Cheyne, Mrs Clark,
Mrs Cumming, Mrs Drummond

D Dunne

12 Service at 10am only

Mrs Greenhorn, Messrs Gunn, Henderson,
Howitt, Innes, Mrs Irvine, Mr Kelly
Mr Kelman

B Cruden

19 Service at 10am only

Messrs Knight, D MacInnes, R MacInnes,
Mrs Marjoribanks, Messrs Martin, Milne,
Milton, D Murray

J Thomson

26 Service at 10am only

Mr E Murray, Dr Orr, Mr Paul, Mrs Pirie,
Mr Ramsay, Miss Reid, Messrs Roach,
Ross

R Mack

August 2 Service at 10am only

Mrs Shearer, Messrs Smail, Thurley,
Mrs Whyte, Mrs Wilson, Mrs Adams,
Mrs Aitken, Dr Barber

G Hendry

9 Service at 10am only

Mrs Barbour, Mrs Baxter, Mrs Beagrie,
Mr Brown, Mrs Bruce, Mrs Cattanach
Mr Cheyne, Mrs Clark

A Lamb

August 16 Service at 10am only

Mrs Cumming, Mrs Drummond,
Mrs Greenhorn, Messrs Gunn, Henderson,
Howitt, Innes, Mrs Irvine

D Dunne

23 Service at 10am only

Messrs Kelly, Kelman, Knight,
D MacInnes, R MacInnes,
Mrs Marjoribanks, Messrs Martin, Milne

B Cruden

30 Service at 10am only

Messrs Milton, D Murray, E Murray,
Dr Orr, Mr Paul, Mrs Pirie, Mr Ramsay,
Miss Reid

J Thomson

September 7 Service at 11am only

Messrs Roach, Ross, Mrs Shearer,
Messrs Smail, Thurley, Mrs Whyte,
Mrs Wilson, Mrs Adams

R Mack

13 Services at 9.30am and 11am

Mrs Aitken, Dr Barber, Mrs Barbour,
Mrs Baxter, Mrs Beagrie, Mr Brown,
Mrs Bruce, Mrs Cattanach
G. Hendry

20 Service at 11am & 6.30pm

Mr Cheyne, Mrs Clark, Mrs Cumming,
Mrs Drummond, Mrs Greenhorn,
Messrs Gunn, Henderson, Howitt

A Lamb

27 Services at 9.30am & 11am

Mr Innes, Mrs Irvine, Messrs Kelly,
Kelman, Knight, D MacInnes, R MacInnes,
Mrs Marjoribanks

D Dunne

The Parishioner

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PARKHILL GARDEN CENTRE AND SEASONS RESTAURANT

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