

The Parishioner



SUMMER 2008



Quarterly Magazine of Dyce Parish Church, Aberdeen
dyceparishchurch.org.uk



You're always welcome!

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A Letter from the Interim Moderator...



Dear Friends at Dyce Church

The summer holidays are just round the corner and I hope you have enjoyed the sunny days that we have had just recently. I always have slightly mixed feelings about the Spring and Summer. On the one hand, it is wonderful to see more of the sun. The lighter mornings and longer days lift my spirits and I feel that I have more energy and pure get-up-and-go! On the other hand, my grass just keeps growing and growing and the flower beds need constant edging. None of that is particularly good news for me because I am a terrible gardener and hopeless DIY-er. In fact, if the sign above the gateway into heaven reads 'Well done, good and faithful servant!' then I think that the sign above the doorway to that 'other place' must surely read 'Welcome to B&Q'.

Having said that, I know that many people simply love pottering about in the garden. We are all different and that is how it is in the church of Jesus Christ. We are all different and God has given differing gifts to each of us for the good of the church and for the task of evangelising our community, city

and country. Your Nominating Committee is proceeding with the work of bringing a nomination to you as your next minister, not an easy task when the sometimes differing expectations of the whole congregation have to be kept in mind. The ministry vacancy at Dyce Church has now been well advertised and a number of expressions of interest have been received. The closing date for applications is the end of June. Please continue to pray for the Committee as they go on to the next stage which is to select and interview ministry applicants.

The Kirk Session and Congregational Board are both making sure that the congregation, as well as its property and finances, are functioning fully and are being properly administered in this period leading up to the calling of a new minister. Maggie Whyte has served the congregation excellently as locum minister and has become loved by everyone, having ministered with great thoughtfulness and kindness. It will be a great sadness to see Maggie leave, but she must now move on to the next stage of her ministry training which is to work as a probationer minister at

Rubislaw. I am sure that you will all want to express your own gratitude to her for her faithful ministry among you. As I write, steps are well in hand to invite and appoint a locum minister in succession to Maggie.

It was a joy to welcome Gareth and Caroline Brown into membership of the church a few Sundays back and we give thanks to God for these signs of His goodness to us, for adding new members to the congregation. Do please be on the lookout for any of your friends and family members who might respond positively to an invitation to come along to the church, or to a church activity, because our greatest desire is that they will hear the Gospel about Jesus Christ and receive Him as Saviour for themselves.

Lastly, Dyce Church has its own website up and running and if you have not yet seen it, you can do so at the following internet address – www.dyceparishchurch.org.uk

If you don't have access to the internet, why not write that down and ask a member

of your family who does, to show it to you on the world wide web. I am sure you will be impressed.

My prayer is that you are experiencing the gracious help of God in whatever situation you are facing and that your trust in Him is undiminished. Certainly, His loving hold on your life is much stronger and greater than your circumstances.

Enjoy the Summer holidays!

Your friend and Interim Moderator,
Louis

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P.S. Keep praying!



AUTUMN ISSUE – advance notice

Yes I know we have not had summer yet but there is nothing like getting you thinking early about the item you are going to prepare for the next issue!

Items can be forwarded to me at any time, by email to thelian@btinternet.com or posted in the Editor's Box (beside the lounge at back of Church) or to my home address (110 Corrennie Circle) before **Sunday 17 August 2008**.

Please remember that "snippets" relevant to Dyce will also be considered for inclusion.

SERVICES – JULY & AUGUST ONLY

Sunday Services

10am Every Sunday July and August only

No Service at Fergus House in July or August

No Mid-week Services in July or August

We welcome the following persons into the Fellowship:-

FROM OTHER CONGREGATIONS

Mrs Susan Moir, 15 Parkhill Avenue, Dyce

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

Correction to entry in last Magazine

December 9 Fay Andrena Cruickshank

April 20 Dylan Scott Rodland
Isla MacRae

WEDDING BLESSING

April 12 Murat Alan and Angela (nee Cheyne)

FUNERALS

March 15 Brian Hendry 169 Victoria Street
17 Florence Cruden Pitcairn Lodge,
Skene
20 Alistar Bruce 1A Overton Circle

April 17 Ronald Black 4 Drinnies Crescent
25 Edward Robertson 6 Parkhill Crescent
26 James McCulloch 54 Victoria Street

May 6 John Scorgie 29 Overton Park
15 William Innes 7 Fifehill Park
15 Fred Marshall 4 Glentanar Crescent
23 Kenneth Merson 8 Delgaty Lane
24 Jenny Morrison 8 Middlemuir Place,
Bucksburn

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.

Dyce Church Guild

The session for 2007 - 2008 has now drawn to a close and all members are looking forward to enjoying a summer break having participated in the last busy part of our syllabus.

We look back on a very successful Scottish Night with entertainment by the Inverurie Rotary Glee Club, afternoon entertainment by the Laird Family and an interesting talk on *A Victorian Schoolmistress*.

We also hosted the World Day of Prayer in the Church, conducted the services at Fergus House, Victoria Grange and Parkhill Court during March, visited Newhills and Cults Guilds and attended the Spring Rally.

Even more enjoyable was our outings to see "Clarinda" at the Arts Centre and "Oklahoma" at Oldmeldrum Academy.

Many members are looking forward to the Summer Outing along with friends from the Rural for a trip to St Andrews in June.

The next session will commence in September with a full syllabus of interesting speakers and topics.

Margaret Whyte
Vice President

Locum's Letter

Dear Friends

They do say time flies when you are enjoying yourself. Perhaps this is why I find myself careering towards the end of my time with you at break neck speed. At the time of writing I have been with you for 16 weeks and I have seven Sundays left with you before I go off to Rubislaw Parish Church to begin my Probationary Placement. While I am looking forward to this next stage on my journey towards full-time Ministry of Word and Sacrament, I will be sad to leave Dyce Parish Church.

Throughout my time with you I have been overwhelmed by the manner in which I have been welcomed into your church, your homes and your lives. Ministry gives a person a unique opportunity to come alongside people at the highest and also the lowest points of their lives. It is a great privilege to stand beside people as they prepare to publicly profess their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and equally so to sit beside a family who are preparing to entrust their loved one to God for the final time.

Ministry is a journey of highs and lows alongside other people and the shared belief that Jesus walks with us, in whatever situation we find ourselves, gives a sense of hope in all circumstances.

Throughout my time with you I have learned so much – and I don't just mean new hymns or ways of doing things! The people of Dyce have challenged me in so many ways to think about my faith. It has been an enormous privilege to visit people in their homes and hear them speak of their

faith in Christ and their devotion to Him. Often those with the heaviest burdens to bear are also those with the deepest faith and they are an example to us all.

I thank God that my past circumstances left me with this gap between University and Probation. At the beginning of the year I felt that I had missed out on something by not starting probation along with my peer group in the autumn. Now I count myself most fortunate to have had this time and I thank God for it – just one more example of God knowing best!

My last Service with you will be on 13 July and I plan to make this “all-age” worship. There will be no Sunday School as this is during the summer holiday time, so it would be fantastic to have as many families as possible together in church. I realise that some of you may be away on holiday but I look forward to welcoming as many of you – old, young and those admitting to neither! – as can make it that day.

Dyce will always have a special place in my heart and I will never forget my time with you. I have enjoyed every moment and every hug!

God bless you all.

Love in Christ,

Maggie Whyte

TEENRANCH 2008

The April Aberdeen holiday weekend saw Rock Solid take off once again to Teenranch in Inchture, Perthshire. Having just moved in January from Kidzone to Rock Solid this was my first time taking a group away anywhere. I was very nervous as it is such a huge responsibility but since we are blessed with such great, thoughtful, mature, well-behaved young people in the group I needn't have worried!

Our first activity was cycling, a hair-raising race round the ranch which I chose to abstain from! A few of the group couldn't cycle for various health reasons so instead we had some fun on the trampoline and played with the resident dog. Then it was on to the lake for a spot of canoeing and a slide down the 35-foot water chute. Not wanting to miss out, both Ken Knight (who had come along as our driver) and myself couldn't resist a shot on the slide and brilliant fun it was too! The action wasn't over then, we still had horse riding and archery to go. All the youth were great at both. They kindly let me have the slowest, gentlest horse and Ian gave me some expert tuition at archery. In the evening we had a worship session which was thoroughly enjoyed by all and very thought provoking.

Next day it was back to the horses for another little trek then off to the rifle range. The shooting proved a little difficult since the breeze kept blowing over all the cans before we got back to our seats to shoot them! Annoying but rather funny at the same time! We finished with the Flying Fox – a death-defying slide along a zip line over the lake! Luckily Mike went last as he almost managed to break it and we thought he was going to have to drop into the lake and swim back! Last thing to do was another worship session which finished with a call to find out more about professing yourself a Christian which all of the youth attended. Then the only thing left to do was pack up, exhausted but happy and head for home.

We were blessed with the most wonderful weather all weekend and, as is the norm for Teenranch, everyone had a great time. (Trip to Dundee A&E aside – but that's another story!)

A big thank you to the church for once again enabling us to go. This is such a worthwhile experience for the young people and we are very grateful to you all.

Carol Howitt
Rock Solid Leader



Traidcraft Meet the producers

Sweet Justice

Mother of five Celia began keeping bees in 1999 and thanks to the money earned from fair trade, she has been able to build a house for her family. Honey remains a major part of her plans with the construction of a harvesting room beside her new home.

Honey from Apicoop is used in Traidcraft's Geobars as well as being sold in jars. Beekeepers for Apicoop talk freely about the huge difference fair trade benefits have made to their lives.

Gold Africa Tea

Working at Kibena means Adriano is able to pay the school fees for his ten year old daughter, Adela and help with the cost of schooling two orphaned relatives too. "I would like to improve the lives of my children," he said, "I would like them to go to

secondary school and higher education so they can work in a good position."

The tea plucked by Adriano and other workers at Kibena is used in Traidcraft's East Africa Gold Tea. By buying this you help Traidcraft to support more producers like Adriano.

The above are just two success stories which I received from Traidcraft recently. I do thank you for your support which continues to help small producers in the developing world. You are making a difference to the world of fair trade.

If you haven't been to the sales table yet (it's usually the second Sunday of the month unless the date coincides with another Church activity) do pay us a visit as there is sure to be something to interest you. See you soon?

Thelma

HIKE, BIKE & TRIKE!



The day dawned perfectly for the above event organised by the Guild and Session.

Thank you to all who took up the challenge whether it be by cycling to Ellon and back, or indeed any distance on "the line".

To walkers who attempted the line to Newmachar or around the village by the Don – thank you.

To the kiddies who triked the park and had a Teddy Bears Picnic – thank you.

The more ambitious children who walked and scootered round the village route and to the lady on her electric scooter – well done.

Thanks also to all the stewards, caterers and administrators. A massive £1,600 was lodged on the day plus more pledged. All this is used in the upkeep of the church, hall and manse.

At the Sunday service during the children's address Maggie awarded gold medals to the children for running the race in the church. I would like to award all who took part in any way with a Gold medal. Thanks.

Morag Gunn

Tuesday Coffee Mornings



Another Session of Coffee Mornings finished with a musical Coffee Morning on Saturday 17 May. £2,100 was raised from Tuesday 2 October 2007 until Tuesday 13 May 2008 which has been allocated as follows:-

Church heating & lighting	£600
Community Alarms (for use in Dyce)	£600
Cornerstone Community Care	£400
Dyce in Bloom	£300
Senior Citizens	£200

The money raised at the Musical Coffee Morning was £1,050 which was divided amongst Archway, Clan and the Cyrenians.

Grateful thanks to everyone for their help and support. Coffee Mornings resume on Tuesday 7 October 2008.

Margaret Mack

THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the folks for the cards, phone calls, visits and home baking provided whilst I was in hospital and since coming home. The support I have had from everyone has been overwhelming. I am well on the road to recovery now and looking forward to getting out in the "sunshine".

God Bless
June Bolton

DYCE PARISH CHURCH IS NOW ONLINE!

Visit our new website at

www.dyceparishchurch.org.uk

You'll find information about various activities.

Email your suggestions/comments about the site to **contact@dyceparishchurch.org.uk**

Many thanks to our webmaster Vincent Cleary who can be contacted via the website.

Earth Keepers

Kitchen composter

In last November's edition of the Parishioner I spoke about a new kitchen composter. This was the Bokashi Kitchen Composter and I said at that time I would give one a trial. When it did arrive, late February, the kit comprised of two composter bins about the size of a small kitchen pedal bin and a supply of a bran material that is used as the accelerator to help break down the food. I had also ordered extra bran.

This new composter allows you to turn all kitchen waste food including cooked and uncooked food, meat, fish, bones, dairy products, bread, pasta, fruit scraps and vegetable peelings into nutrient rich compost. REALLY!! I kept a log of what was put in, the date and how much of the bran was used. It was soon apparent that the amount of veg peelings was going to be the major filler of this bin and those would normally have gone on the compost heap, so I reduced the amount of green waste.

During the filling of the first bin it was relegated to the greenhouse as there was a rather unpleasant smell when the lid was removed to add more waste food material. In the process of composting a liquid is produced and this can be drained off and diluted 1:100 to make your own plant food. From the two bins I have had about two litres of liquid that has been diluted and fed to the potatoes, only time will tell if this has had any real benefit.

The brochure states that you can empty the bins after two weeks and put the material on the compost heap. I kept an eye on the contents and decided to wait. Now in mid May I have emptied these bins and was not impressed, some of the stuff was in the same condition as it was when I put it in and the smell reminded me of my grandmother's pig farm.

I certainly would not be putting this stuff on my compost heap and it was bagged and went in the normal council bin heading for landfill which rather defeats the object of the exercise.

Conclusion – who said being green was easy? For me it was a waste of £34. This sort of thing would be best left to a professional operation where large containers could be fed with food waste, tumbled, heated and sterilised. Or maybe you could just reduce the amount of food you prepare in the first place and anything that is left over could be eaten the next day. But there are two composter bins and bran in my greenhouse if anyone wants to give it another trial!! Please see Ken Knight.

Sale

The sale on 26 April in the Church Hall organised by Earth Keepers on behalf of Church organisations was a great success. The basic idea was to have a car boot sale but in the hall where new and good quality second hand goods were sold to raise funds for the organisations. We had a great

day and thanks go to everyone who attended or helped in any way to make it the success it was. The kids who came enjoyed the games provided as a bit of fun. Hoop-la was made from cardboard boxes and targets were lemonade bottles half filled with water. There was a tin can "Coconut Shy" and "Splat the Rat" made from a piece of cardboard tube. All of the games were made from things that would have been thrown away or put in the recycling bin. In this day when kids have their expensive Nintendo DS games etc it was great to see them having fun with something that cost very little or nothing at all to produce.

Fuel

£60 to fill the car with petrol!! And it is not likely to get any cheaper. Time to use public transport more – where possible and practical leave the car at home. Get more miles from the tank by keeping the speed down. Not only will you save money but help the environment by cutting down on the carbon emissions polluting the atmosphere.

Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand

James 1:17

For I am your provider and I meet all your needs

Matthew 6:31-33

Ken Knight

RAINBOW GUIDES CELEBRATE 21 YEARS!



It does not seem 21 years ago since Guide Headquarters felt that something was needed for girls below Brownie age. Rainbow Guides were introduced to fill the gap.

The 1st Dyce Rainbow Guide Unit began soon after with 15 eager young girls under the very able leadership of Jean Jess, with the Guiders feeling their way in what was unknown and untried territory. The picture above shows the first Rainbows in Dyce the week after they were enrolled in May 1988, having been running for a while before tabards and badges were produced. Can you recognise these young girls?



A second Unit was started as the demand for places grew and the good news is that there are still Rainbows in Dyce, as there have been since they began, with dedicated leaders coming forward to fill the gaps as others have left. These willing volunteers give of their time and talents to make sure that Dyce Rainbows continue.

Nowadays, as the second photo shows, uniforms have changed but Rainbow Units still encourage fun, friendship and caring for others, among their eager young members.

"I promise that I will do my best to love my God and to be kind and helpful." (Rainbow Promise)
Happy 21st Birthday, Rainbow Guides.

Anon

Date for your diary

MEN OF ALL AGES (MOAA) "BREAKFAST RALLY"

Saturday 25 October 2008, 9.30am – 12.30pm in the Beach Ballroom

A warm welcome awaits you at the Men Of All Ages "Breakfast Rally" for Christian men throughout the North East which is being held on Saturday 25 October (9.30am – 12.30pm) in the Beach Ballroom.

Arrangements are at an advanced stage and once again the morning promises to be

spiritually uplifting with presentations by two very gifted speakers, Tommy MacNeil and Dan Robertson.

More details on the event and the speakers will be given shortly. So MEN please note the date in your diaries now.

DYCE OAPs

The Club has a membership of 98 but it is with sadness that I have to mention the deaths of two members, Eunice Hutchison and Nina Cameron, both of whom will be sadly missed and our sympathies are extended to their families and friends.

The Club has continued to have a close association with the Primary School and the members were invited on two occasions. The World War 2 Project was the first and this was exceedingly well done. Second was a concert which was much enjoyed by us all. In both events the teachers and pupils are to be congratulated for all their hard work in preparing for both events.

During the session the meetings have been well attended. It is our hope that those on our

sick list soon recover and will once again be able to join us.

We have again endeavoured to maintain a high standard of entertainment to suit all tastes and we are indebted to the committee for all their hard work. Our session finishes with our bus run to Donside and those unable to come on the bus will join us for the evening meal at the Green Trees.

We start again on Wednesday 3 September when new members will be made most welcome.

May you all enjoy good health during the summer break—that is if we get a summer!

Eric Galashan
President

Tax changes hit Gift Aid

We have all seen the recent headlines about the income tax changes made in the 2007 budget. The change of basic rate tax from 22% down to 20% affects a great many people personally but it also affects the income of all charities. Starting from 6 April 2008, Gift Aid reclaims from the Inland Revenue will also reduce from 22% down to 20%. This may not sound a big change but it is a 10% reduction.

The percentage reclaimed from the Revenue may be going down but our Gift Aid income in Dyce can increase. All that's needed is for more parishioners to sign up for Gift Aid and for those already signed

up to review their giving positively. 2008 is a good year for a review of all our contributions!

For anyone wanting to sign up to Gift Aid there are pre-printed forms in Church or please contact me – Alan Smail on 01224 723214.

For parishioners using Gift Aid please just increase the amount you give either by putting more in your envelope or advising your bank to increase your standing order.

With thanks to all.

Alan Smail
Gift Aid Convener

A letter from old friends...

Greetings to all the folks of Dyce Parish Church! It's almost six years now since we took the plunge with much misgiving and left the village to return to Edinburgh where Martha and I had been married on Boxing Day back in 1957! Yes, we had our Golden Wedding last December and only a few days later heard through the grapevine that a certain Rev Russel Moffat had been called to a church called St Martin's, less than a mile from where we stay in Portobello. Could this be the start of a mass exodus? Our church here – St Philip's Joppa – is very different in many ways from Dyce Parish Church, having been rebuilt after a disastrous fire in 1998. It is quite huge by Dyce standards and has award-winning modernistic stained glass windows at either end of the nave. Upkeep of the church is correspondingly large and we fondly remember Bill Mackenzie's Treasurers' reports to the Board when he would tell us how much we had to raise annually. Well, you could double or treble those sums for St Philip's with its much smaller membership. Yet somehow things always manage to sort themselves out. Between them the communities of Joppa and Portobello share three Church of Scotland places of worship – in addition to five others – Roman Catholic, Baptist, United Reformed, Spiritualist and Jehovah's Witnesses. Almost too much of a good thing!

The three Church of Scotland congregations collaborate amicably in many activities, including study groups and Christian Aid work and needless to say both Martha and I have been drawn into many of those since 2002. Martha keeps the Cradle Roll up to date and signs up readers for the 11am Sunday services. As for me, I was all too easily prevailed upon to take over editorship of the St Philip's Magazine which is issued quarterly like the Dyce Parishioner. To my horror, I then discovered that the editor was expected not only to put

the magazine articles together but also to print it out (all 600 copies) on the church's own Rizograph machine. So Martha was rapidly co-opted as assistant editor to proof read the copy and also to keep the chief editor right on how to organise the pages for printing.

Edinburgh is well known amongst a few other things for its huge Christian Aid book sale, held annually in St Andrew's and St George's Church in the city centre. By a strange quirk of fate (too complicated to explain here) I happened to become involved with that onerous enterprise in 2004 and have continued to take part ever since in the three weeks of preparation and then the seven days of intensive selling. Having been assigned to the prestigious post of Religious Books vice-convenor, I consequently meet up with dozens of retired ministers from all parts of the Lothians, all of whom naturally assume that I too am a retired minister. The first question invariably is "And where exactly was your charge?"

Most years we manage a short, nostalgic break back to Aberdeen and invariably meet up with some of our old friends from Dyce and Bucksburn. It is a pleasure to receive a regular copy of the Parishioner with its references to so many weel-kent fowk. That's another thing we miss, the Doric tongue of the North-east. Fowk doon here in Portybellas spik affa orra-like!

With all good wishes for a rapidly filled vacancy.

Gordon & Martha Booth

1st Dyce Scout Group



Cubs have been very busy as usual. One of the challenges that five cubs gaining their Chief Scout Silver Award had to undertake was raising money for a chosen charity. I had seen the presentation that Gregor Howitt gave in the church for Toy Box and thought this would interest the cubs. Toy Box is a charity to help children of all ages who live on the streets in Mexico and have to scavenge the dumps for food. Gregor came along and gave the presentation to the boys and their parents and the funds came rolling in. All the cubs took part but the five award boys did the organising. Gregor gave them some wrist bands to sell and they held a tuck shop after cubs for six weeks. They also held a Silver Penny Family Fun Night where everything cost a silver penny. There were games, stalls, quizzes, an Easter egg decorating table and teas. By the end of the evening they had raised £195

which was excellent. They were not ready to finish and during the holidays they held a Silver Penny Job Week. By the end of our Toy Box Appeal they had raised the fantastic some of £370 – not bad for 16 little boys. We leaders are so proud of them and we would like to thank them and their parents for all their efforts in raising such a large sum of money. Gregor came along at the end of April to be presented with the cheque and with the generosity of BP, who matched the money we had raised, we were able to donate £740 which is absolutely wonderful. The boys were all really chuffed. Gregor told us it would help to take a good lot of kids off the streets and into school for about a year.

Stuart Pratt and Kirk Robertson gained their Silver Award that evening before leaving to go to Scouts and lots of other challenge and activity badges were also presented by Jack,

our group scout leader.

We had a trip to the Aberdeen Gang Show to see two of our cubs Hope Pettit and Ciaran Mackland strut their stuff on stage. This was the first time in the cast for both and they really enjoyed the experience. We are off to our Summer Camp week-end in the middle of June. To raise some funds to allow us to do some extra activities we took part in the Earth Keepers sale and raised over £50.00 which will allow us to do archery and crate climbing.

Any boy or girl interested in Cubs please phone me on 724156 Akela (Moira). We meet on a Wednesday at 6.30pm – 8.00pm in the Scout Hut on Pitmedden Road.

Beavers are also always busy doing lots of different things. Crafts, playing, games and learning lots of skills from the newly updated Beaver programme where they can now gain more badges. They are off

to the Area Beaver Fun Day at Templars Park on 22 June.

Beavers are held on a Thursday night at 6pm – 7pm. Any boy or girl wishing to join please phone Rhoda Law (Leader) on 798112.

OUR GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!

The numbers in both Cubs and Beavers are steadily rising again which is great but unfortunately

we don't have a scout leader to enable the cubs to move on into Scouts in Dyce. We are lucky that they are able to go to Stoneywood Scouts and we are able to keep them in the movement. In the last couple of years I have sent 15–20 boys to Scouts and there could have been a thriving Scout Troop by this time. If anyone is interested in giving up some time to work with youngsters the

Scout programme is very varied and up to date now (no DIB DIB DIB) with more life and outdoor skills. NO experience is necessary just ready to have some fun. Please phone either myself (Moira Milligan) on 724156 or Jack Digweed on 723526 for more details. We look forward to hearing from you.

Moira Milligan (Akela)



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2008

The good people of Dyce have once again excelled themselves and donated £3374-21 – what a tremendous total! The generosity of our community never ceases to amaze me and you can be sure that Christian Aid will put the money to very good use and help some of the world's poorest people back to their feet and providing towards their own futures.

Thanks to all who collected, counted, prayed and of course gave.

Clearly Christian Aid is not just about a week in a year, it's about every day in a year, or to use the modern expression 24/7/365. This is a needy world where soaring food prices threaten some of the world's most vulnerable people short-term and

Don't mess with kids

One day a little girl was sitting watching her mother do the dishes. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast to her brunette head. She asked her mum "Why are some of your hairs white?" Her mother replied, "Well every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white." The little girl thought for a while and then said "Mum, how come ALL of Grandma's hairs are white?"

the impact of climate change is and will be felt by millions who do not have the capacity to resist or even prepare for it.

The lifestyle choices we make threaten the lives of people who have no choice. For instance, in Bangladesh, climate change means water supplies are in crisis, land is being lost and homes destroyed as sea levels rise.

So what will our legacy be and will we be proud of it? Have we got what it takes to live life more simply and in turn give hope to others? As they say the future is in our hands, literally.

Regards
Roddy

REACH FOR A RECIPE

Microwave Skirtie

Cut up onion, put in glass bowl, cover with sunflower oil, microwave for 4 mins, add oatmeal, salt & pepper and give good stir then microwave for further 4 mins.

Cabbage Brose

Boil cabbage for 20 mins with 1/4 tsp of salt. Take out a cup of the brine and leave to cool. Put 3 dstsps of oatmeal into a bowl and season with salt and pepper. Ladle the boiling cabbage brine into the oatmeal. Lastly pour the cup of cool brine on top.

Charlie Grant

WHO NOTICES?

I was at a crisis point. I was away to be travelling offshore and needed some reading material. Standing in Asda looking at the paperback selection (hard backs too heavy for the kit bag!) I could not find my usual diet of historical fact books or even a good biography to take offshore. In the time I have been working away from home, I have never had a crisis such as this. Would I be stuck reading the same old newspapers and dog-eared magazines on the boat for six weeks or would I find something worthwhile to read.

To be honest, looking at the rows of books on the shelves, I could not believe that I could not find something I would like to read. I was even getting tempted by some of the detective fiction. As a person who sometimes has enough trouble keeping up with the past and present I try to steer clear of fiction! What I did notice was that most of the covers seem to be written for women. You know the type – the book cover with the solemn faces, people crying, muted colours. It was then it hit me, most of these books were biographies of the survivors of child abuse.

I could not believe that out of the top 40 recommended books on display at that time, 16 were to do with child abuse. I asked the assistant who was stocking the bookshelves where the good books were and how many abuse stories do Asda really think we need?

The assistant replied that she was sorry, but that is just what is on sale at the moment, and that she had not noticed the imbalance in the reading offerings.

It was then that a second crisis hit me. The assistant didn't notice the amount of abuse stories despite working there every day. How many other people didn't notice that? In fact, I then realised that if more people had been busy 'noticing' then perhaps there would not be a need for so many books. Perhaps the writing of these biographies is part of the cure for those who have suffered but then it made me think what about everybody else who suffers in life? How full would the shelves be if they wrote a book?

In John Ch 8 v12, Jesus tells the Pharisees that 'I am the light of the world and whoever follows me will have the light and never have to walk in darkness'. Jesus also speaks about light in Luke 11 v 33 'No one lights a lamp and hides it under a bowl; instead he puts it on a light stand so everybody can see the light when they come in'.

Maybe if the human light shone brighter, then perhaps the darkness could be pushed back so nobody has to notice how many sad books are on our shelves and something more positive could shine in the life of everyone.

Food for thought?

THINGS MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME

- 1 My Mother taught me RELIGION — "You better pray that this mark will come out of the carpet"
- 2 My Mother taught me LOGIC — "Because I said so, that's why"
- 3 My mother taught me about WEATHER — "This room of yours looks like a tornado went through it"
- 4 My Mother taught me about ANTICIPATION — "Just wait until we get home"
- 5 My Mother taught me GENETICS — "You're just like your father"

LONDON TIMES OBITUARY TO THE LATE MR COMMON SENSE

“Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm, life isn't always fair and maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial polices (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six year old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, teens suspended from school for using mouth-wash after lunch and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children. It declined even further when schools were required to get

parental consent to administer sun lotion or Elastoplasts to a student, but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses and criminals received better treatment than their victims. Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live after a woman failed to realise that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little on her lap and was awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust, his wife, Discretion, along with his daughter and son, Responsibility and Reason. He is survived by his 4 stepbrothers, I Know My Rights, I Want It Now, Someone Else Is To Blame and I'm A Victim.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realised he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this news. If not, join the majority and do nothing.

CEILIDH DANCE GROUP

By the time you read this another season of the Ceilidh Dance Group will have ended. This lively group, with an average attendance of about 30, meets once a month on a Tuesday night in the Church Hall for an hour of fun and exercise. The actual date of each meeting is put into the Intimations sheet given out in Church. September should see the start of the new season. Over this season many new dances

have been attempted, the most noteworthy being 'Posties Jig' which brought the group to a complete standstill, due to total confusion and gales of laughter! The fact that the music AND the sets finish at the same time in the 'Eightsome Reel', usually produces a cheer. Yes, it is a fun and friendly group to be with and new members are always made very welcome.

PARACHUTES

One day, a retired US Air Force Colonel was invited to give a talk at a local university. He had been in active service over Europe during the Second World War flying bombers and during his service had been shot down and captured.

When he got shot down his plane was badly damaged and the Colonel had been badly injured. He parachuted from his doomed aircraft and was picked up by the Germans straight away. The Germans treated him well and saw to his wounds before placing him into a POW camp.

The purpose of his talk was to let students doing a history course know from first hand account what it was like being in combat over Europe during the war. At the end of his talk the Colonel allowed time for the students to ask him questions.

One of the students asked "Who would you like to thank most for your survival?"

The Colonel replied, "I'd love to thank the guy who packed my parachute. Even though I was treated well when I was captured, the guy who did my parachute is the guy I would love to thank, but I do not know who or where he is.

Congratulations...

Congratulations to the Nominating Committee leading our search for a new minister in Dyce! They have come up with the most attention-catching but thoughtful advertisement in the May edition of *Life and Work*. "**Flock seeks Shepherd**" is the headline which really catches the eye – no-one could miss it. Well done to all on the Committee!

The closing date for applications is set for 30 June so we can expect to hear after that just how many shepherds are keen to lead the Dyce flock. Then comes the difficult task for the committee of deciding who to present to the congregation as their nominee for Dyce. They deserve the prayers and support of all of us.

I probably passed him hundreds of times in the base before I was shot down but I never knew him and I would like to say I owe my life to him!"

Well, the moral of the story, each one of us has that someone who packs our parachute for us. People who are there just at the right times, who provide that safety net just as we need it. Be it somebody who listens, or somebody that does something for you, things you might not even know have taken place, until you think back. These are the people who pack your parachutes. If the guy who packed the Colonel's parachute hadn't been there or not done his job, the Colonel's story would have had a different outcome.

Do you know who packed your parachute? If you do, make sure that you tell them how much their efforts made a difference to your life.

How often do we thank Jesus for packing our 'parachute' or do we treat him like the anonymous person on the airbase?

Congratulations to everyone in the congregation who helped to make 2007 a successful year financially for our Church. This includes those who gave ever more generously and equally to those who helped to keep expenditure down during the year – well done all! Well done also to Barbara, our Treasurer, for her part in building up our balances in preparation for what will be an expensive year for our church. We won't get the new minister we need without incurring expenses and once we have our new minister who knows where he or she will want the flock – and what that might cost?

A N Elder



FLOWER ROTA

July – October 08

July

6	Mrs E Rattray	22 Overton Circle
13	Mrs S Stratton	Shady Nook Biedleston
20	Mrs K Adams	15 Glenhome Terrace
27	Mrs J Logan	26 Glenhome Gardens

August

3	Mrs E Irvine	23 Hopetoun Court Bucksburn
10	Mrs J Harper	7 Tornasheen Gardens
17	Mrs J Baxter	86 Denview Road Potterton
24	Mrs A Milne	28 Belrorie Circle
31	Mrs R Rugg	20 Parkhill Circle

September

7	Mrs B Henderson	32 Sluie Drive
14	Mrs M Donaldson	21 Glenhome Avenue
21	Mrs C Howitt	10 Gordon Terrace
28	Mrs M Lawson	17 Hoperoft Drive Bucksburn

October

5	Mrs S Knight	1 North Beach Road Balmedie
12	Mrs B Cruden	Standing Stones
19	Mrs E Murray	11 Glen Drive
26	Mrs S Maclean	24 Victoria Street

Convenor for July, August, September
Mrs Audrey Ross Tel 773121 (Home)/772424 (Work)

Convenor for October
Mrs Lucy Thurley Tel 722396

NOTE:

The Church is open on Saturdays from 10am to 4pm.
Please collect flowers for delivery after the 11am Sunday Service.

DOOR COLLECTION AND FWO DUTIES

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

11.00 am 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.

6.30 pm 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 6 **Service at 10am only**
Messrs Howitt, Innes, Mrs Irvine, Messrs Kelly,
Kelman, Knight, Lawson, D MacInnes
J Thomson

13 **Service at 10am only**
Mr R MacInnes, Mrs Marjoribanks,
Messrs Martin, Milne, Milton, D Murray,
E Murray, Dr Orr
R Mack

20 **Service at 10am only**
Mr Paul, Mrs Pirie, Mr Ramsay, Miss Reid,
Messrs Roach, Ross, Mrs Shearer, Mr Smail
G Hendry

27 **Service at 10am only**
Mr Thurley, Mrs Whyte, Mrs Wilson, Mrs Adams,
Mrs Aitken, Mrs Alexander, Dr Barber,
Mrs Barbour
A Lamb

August 3 **Service at 10am only**
Mrs Baxter, Mrs Beagrie, Mr Brown, Mrs Bruce,
Mrs Cattanach, Mr Cheyne, Mrs Clark,
Mrs Cumming
D Dunne

10 **Service at 10am only**
Mrs Drummond, Mrs Greenhorn,
Messrs Gunn, Henderson, Howitt, Innes,
Mrs Irvine, Mr Kelly
B Cruden

17 **Service at 10am only**
Messrs Kelman, Knight, Lawson, D MacInnes,
R MacInnes, Mrs Marjoribanks, Messrs Martin,
Milne
J Thomson

24 **Service at 10am only**
Messrs Milton, D Murray, E Murray, Dr Orr,
Mr Paul, Mrs Pirie, Mr Ramsay, Miss Reid
R Mack

31 **Service at 10am only**
Messrs Roach, Ross, Mrs Shearer,
Messrs Smail, Thurley, Mrs Whyte, Mrs Wilson,
Mrs Adams
G Hendry

Sept 7 **Service at 11am**
Mrs Aitken, Mrs Alexander, Dr Barber,
Mrs Barbour, Mrs Baxter, Mrs Beagrie,
Mr Brown, Mrs Bruce
A Lamb

14 **Services at 9.30am & 11am**
Mrs Cattanach, Mr Cheyne, Mrs Clark,
Mrs Cumming, Mrs Drummond,
Mrs Greenhorn, Messrs Gunn, Henderson
D Dunne

21 **Service 11am**
Messrs Howitt, Innes, Mrs Irvine, Messrs Kelly,
Kelman, Knight, Lawson, D MacInnes
B Cruden

28 **Services at 9.30am & 11am**
Mr R MacInnes, Mrs Marjoribanks,
Messrs Martin, Milne, Milton, D Murray,
E Murray, Dr Orr
J Thomson

The Parishioner

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