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**Kirriemuir St Andrew's**

Scottish Charity No SC004395

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**Link representatives:**

Mrs J Wilkie (Oathlaw/Tannadice)  
Mrs H Main (St Andrew's)



## **WHAT'S THE USE?**

Each day brings more bad news. Wars go on in Afghanistan and Iraq; there is continued turmoil in the Middle East; terrorists kill at random; economics of greed spiral out of control; voices of moderation are rarely to be heard.

### **What can we do? What is the use of trying?**

In our personal life the same sense of futility and frustration can arise. There are conflicts of principle, tensions of emotions, divided loyalties, the effort to give children a good start, the threat of unemployment, the pressure of demands on time or of making ends meet. Will these ever be resolved? Where are the landmarks of hope, or a foundation that is secure?

It is that kind of a world and we cannot opt out of it. It would be good to escape, to find an island in the sun, where land is cheap and life simple. But we can only stand where everyone stands, and if there is doubt or despair, we have something to offer. It is that the end is the beginning; that when all is finished, things begin to happen. At the cross we reach an end, but at Easter there is a beginning.

**“A horizon is nothing but the limit of sight. God lifts us up that we may see further.”**

*David Taverner*

**Minister**



At Easter time we all shall sing  
Our praises to the risen King.  
As Mary in the garden walked  
And with the risen Jesus talked.  
And friend to friend in wonder said,  
“The Lord has risen from the dead!”  
Now we shall sing with joyful voice  
Rejoice! Rejoice!

*M.D.*

## **Webster's High School Today**

On 19th February office bearers of our churches and St Mary's were invited to Webster's High School to see what is happening within education today.

The evening began with a presentation by the Rector, Eric Summers. Superimposed on a wonderful overall view of Kirriemuir taken from a glider, he built up a diagram using three of the words on the Scottish Mace - Wisdom, Justice and Compassion. Using these words he homed in on different aspects of the ethos of the school, of the education and of relations with the local community, with the environment and the wider world. Mr Summers felt that the school chaplains presented an invaluable link to the community. Global warming and its consequences was emphasized particularly, as was the developing relationship between WHS and a school in Kenya.

We were then taken in groups around the school, in our case by a pupil. Our group included several who had at one time been WHS pupils. It was fascinating listening to their comments - varying from "This room hasn't changed a bit." to, "It wasn't like this in our day." It was interesting to see the many high-tec gadgets needed for teachers' presentations.

Later, after coffee and biscuits, the St Mary's folk showed a film on Child Protection, but this included much that we have already adopted through the Church of Scotland Guidelines.

An interesting link came at the March Presbytery meeting when the Education Group presented an excellent paper regarding chaplaincies and religious education in Angus schools. The Rector of Webster's obviously values all his chaplains and church links, and has an ethos which encourages young people to be outward looking and thoughtful for others rather than self-obsessed.

*Nancy Davidson*

The **Scottish Bible Society** has sent out copies of the BBC's 'The Passion' on DVD to more than 400 secondary schools in Scotland. The BBC production was first aired over Easter 2008 and showed the story of the execution of Jesus Christ. The DVD is accompanied by a teachers' pack designed by education professionals to meet the requirements of the Religious and Moral Education curriculum. The DVD giveaway is just one of the initiatives being undertaken by the Scottish Bible Society in 2009 to celebrate its bicentenary this year.

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER IN OUR COMMUNITIES

<b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>5 April</b>	9.45 am Oathlaw/Tannadice Church 11.15 am St Andrew's Church
<b>Stations of the Cross</b> <b>7 April</b>	7.00 pm St Anthony's RC Church, Kirriemuir
<b>Maundy Thursday</b> <b>9 April</b>	7.00 pm Communion and Meal Oathlaw/Tannadice Church
<b>Good Friday</b> <b>10 April</b>	7.00 pm Service and Choir St Andrew's Church
<b>Easter Day</b> <b>12 April</b>	9.45 am Oathlaw/Tannadice Church 11.15 am St Andrew's Church

We hope you will try to come to something extra during Holy Week. The Stations of the Cross, Maundy Thursday Communion and Meal, and the Good Friday Service with the Choir, will all be a little different from normal Sunday Services.

*"Though our feelings come and go,  
God's love for us does not." C S Lewis*

### ***Faith in Six Words:***

- *Unconditional love. Christ died for me.*
- *With God all things are possible.*
- *Faith conquers and love endures all.*
- *We are all loved by God.*
- *Praying. The ultimate act of trust.*
- *God shall supply all our needs.*
- *Believing Christ died for our sins.*
- *Faith is the most wonderful gift.*

**To: St Andrew's Members From: The Treasurer**

In my last letter to you in the Link, I said we were living in an upheavalled world. It's sad to say things don't seem to be getting any better. We as a congregation must remain strong and continue the good work done in the past years; unfortunately for us this will not be headline news, but still rewarding.

Two members of a church wrote one another saying, "I think I'll stop going to church. I have gone for 30 years and heard thousands of sermons, yet can't remember any of them. I've been wasting my time." The other wrote back; "I have been married for 30 years. In that time my wife has cooked thousands of meals. I don't remember any of them, but they nourished me and gave me strength. Without them I would be dead and without hearing a sermon every week I would be spiritually dead." See you on Sunday.

*Jock Kerr*

"There is more than enough in this world for every man's needs, but not nearly enough for every man's greed." *Mahatma Gandhi*

### CONGRATULATIONS

*Andrew and Mabel Low, 11 Netherton Place, Westmuir,  
Kirriemuir, on their Diamond Wedding anniversary,  
and*

*Arthur and May Burgess, South Cottage, East Mains of  
Keithock, Brechin, on their Blue Sapphire (65<sup>th</sup>) Wedding  
anniversary.*

## EVOLUTION

Many of us will have been watching on television the series about **Charles Darwin's "Origin of Species"**. Christians should not see this as a threat, according to March's "Life and Work". Graham Hellier argues that Darwin's work 'drives us back to acknowledge the awesome majesty of God'. Darwin reminds us, he writes, "that our faith in God has to be an all or nothing affair. The ordinary is extraordinary and we look not for God in the occasional miraculous intervention for the whole of creation must live and move and have its being in Him."

The Church of Scotland is sponsoring a lecture at the Edinburgh International Science Festival seeking to shed light on the often heated debate between science and faith. Dr Denis Alexander, Director of the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge, will examine the question of what Charles Darwin believed and explore his openness to religious belief and opposition to non-biological uses of his theory of evolution, at the lecture on April 18, at the University of Edinburgh's Informatics Centre.

*But here's a thought: Entering the ape enclosure one morning, the zoo keeper was very surprised to find an orangutan perusing 2 books: one was the Bible and the other was Darwin's 'Origin of Species'. "Why are you reading those tomes?" he asked the ape. "Well," said the orangutan, "I wanted to determine whether I am my brother's keeper or my keeper's brother."*

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☺ ☺ ☺ **Some silly jokes....** ☺ ☺ ☺

- Why do we paint Easter eggs? Because it's easier than trying to wallpaper them!!
- Why are authors such strange creatures? Because tales come out of their heads.
- What do hedgehogs like to eat? Prickled onions.
- Why do oceans roar? You would too if you had lobsters in your bed.

## **Tannadice Church Events Committee**

### **Coffee Mornings**

Tannadice Church Coffee Mornings resumed in February and to date have raised over £150 for Extension Funds. On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April we will be having a Spring Fair, with various Stalls including Cake n' Candy, Jams & Preserves, Decorative Candles and Glassware and Greeting Cards etc. Anyone wishing to host a stall should speak to Nancy Davidson or John Rome as soon as possible. The next Coffee Morning will be held Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May and thereafter break for holidays and recommence in September.

**The French Evening** on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February in aid of Operacion St. Andres of Lima Peru was adjudged a great success and was very well supported by members and friends of the Congregation.

The ladies and gentlemen of the Congregation surpassed themselves with the range of Cuisine on offer: French Onion Soup, Beef Bourguignon, Cock au Vin to Crepes, Apple Tarts and a selection of Cheeses to name but a few of the choices available.

The extension was dressed in the French colours to create an authentic atmosphere for the evening. In addition a number wore French style garments, berets etc. David Taverner commenced

the proceedings with a French Grace and Nancy Davidson and John Rome combined to create a quiz with questions and music respectively.

Thanks once again are due to all who assisted with the catering, helped set up and tidy up and to all the members and friends who came along to support the evening.

As a result a cheque for over £300 will be forwarded to Dr. and Mrs Gilmour for onward transmission to the St Andros Charity.

### **Church Fete**

**The Annual Church Fete is being held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June** in the Church Extension and surrounding Area from 2.00 - 4.00pm. The Brechin City Band will again provide musical entertainment with the Bouncy Castle and Duck Race adding to the fun. There will be the usual stalls: Cake n Candy, Bottle and Chocolate Tombola, Plants and Crafts Stalls and any one wishing to host a Stall should contact a member of the Events Committee. Please support this afternoon, which is one of our major fundraisers of the year.

The Committee will be delighted to hear from any members who can assist with donations to the stalls and prizes or generally help in running the event.

*John Rome*

The **Christmas Quiz** held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec was once again a very successful evening with £247 being forwarded to the World Mission for Children in Nepal. Thanks to all who contributed to the enjoyment of the night by the provision of an excellent

Buffet. Nancy Davidson and John Rome are also to be thanked for compiling an interesting quiz.

The retiring collections taken after the **Watch Night Service** raised £85 for the Scottish Bible Society. Overall the Congregation raised £2427 for other Charities during 2008. Thanks to all who contributed to this excellent total.

**Other Functions planned during 2009 include:**

- Cheese and Wine and Film Evening – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May.
- “BBQ” in the Park – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August in the Jubilee Park, Tannadice.
- Golf Outing in late August or September – Details will be advised.
- Church Challenge Quiz with Kirriemuir St Andrews on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September.

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**A DIFFERENT KIND OF LOVE**

I recently read an article that said, “When I set about the task of loving I usually end up giving instead of receiving. Love inevitably costs me 3 commodities that are most precious – my time, energy and money. I don’t part with these easily because I have them in limited quantities. It’s time to strip away the false glamour that the world puts on loving, and tell the truth: true love is sacrificial.”

We can give without loving, however, we can’t love without giving something of ourself. Sacrificial love is about work, not play; it is about becoming a servant, not a hero. Jesus said, “whoever wants to be great must become a servant...” (Mark 10:43). Examples of sacrificial love are not difficult to find, but often they are not fully appreciated and taken for granted by the receiver.

Nowhere is there a more obvious example of sacrificial love than that given by Jesus Christ, who went to the Cross so that eternal life is available for all who choose to put their trust in Him. Isaac Watts, who wrote the hymn “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”, summed it up in the words:

***“Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were an offering far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.”***

*Donated by a Member*



**"We Believe in Life before Death"  
Christian Aid Week 10 – 16 May**

Christian Aid is an agency of the churches in the UK and Ireland. It works wherever the need is greatest and strives for a new world transformed by an end to poverty and campaigns to change the rules that keep people poor. Although Christian Aid is inspired by the gospel, it works with supporters and organisations overseas of many different faiths, and of no religion at all. This work is motivated by a belief that faith should be demonstrated in practical ways that help people in need.

By supporting Christian Aid your actions will bring about a better life for people in poor communities all over the world.

***A Prayer for Christian Aid Week***

*God of love, who is love,  
Melt my indifferent heart of stone.  
Open my eyes to your children's suffering  
And lift my head to see your perfect love again.  
Work a miracle in my life  
That through your Spirit  
And my softened heart's obedience  
I might give my very self to keep hope alive,  
And to be the change you require.*

**There will be a Coffee Morning for Christian Aid on  
Saturday 16 May  
in St Andrew's Boardroom from 10.00 am.**

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Robert cried all the way home in the back seat of the car. His Dad asked him three times what was wrong. Eventually, he said, "The minister said he wanted us to be brought up in a Christian home, and I just want to stay with you and Mum."

**TANNADICE & OATHLAW WRI** extends a warm invitation to anyone interested who would like to join the members on an outing to Crieff Visitor Centre on **Wednesday 3 June 2009**. The cost of the bus will be approximately £15.00 each and lunch will be extra. Please speak to Angela Hamper (tel 01356 630238) or Mairie Alexander (tel 01307 850271) before **Wednesday 6 May** if interested.

**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH CLUB at ST ANDREW'S**

The Club is going from strength to strength. At the beginning of the session Eleanor and Irene decided to give up serving duties for being served. We thank them for their assistance and are happy to see them every fortnight. The remaining team welcomed Anne Cook, Jenny Aitken and Joan Milne to join them. Numbers attending are near the 40 mark with one Tuesday 46 being served. Varied

menus are prepared and we thank Mr and Mrs Wylie and Mr and Mrs Lucas for the gift of turnips and potatoes throughout the session. Also for boxes of biscuits given. Our final day of this session is 14<sup>th</sup> April when we hope to see all 50 folks there. Thank you for your support.

Team - Anne, Charlotte, Gladys, Jenny, Joan, Margaret and Ruth.

**GARDENER'S QUESTION TIME**

**St Andrew's Church Hall - 7.00 pm Friday 22 May 2009**



With Maggie & Ian Young, Beechgrove Garden and local experts Ian Christie and Ally Bruce

Tickets: £7.50 incl 2 course buffet and wine

## **THE GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS ABOUT GETTING OLD**

- The bad news is that getting old is compulsory.
- The good news is that growing up is still optional.
  
- The good news is that you know all the answers.
- The bad news is that nobody asks you the questions any more.
  
- The good news is that time is a great healer.
- The bad news is that it is a lousy beautician.
  
- The good news is that wisdom comes with age.
- The bad news is that sometimes age comes alone.

### **ST ANDREW'S GUILD**

The meetings over the past session have been varied and very enjoyable. The ladies are organising a Spring Fayre to be held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 10-12 noon with home baking, tombola, etc and of course, a cup of tea. We look forward to receiving the support of the congregation at this fund raising event.

## *Oathlaw Tannadice Annual Stated Meeting*

All the Congregation stayed behind after the service on March 1st for the ASM which was chaired by Nancy Davidson. During the meeting the Sunday School served tea, coffee and biscuits.

In her report Nancy talked about the work being done by our church in the **Community**. The Board and Session believe that our main ministry is in the community; therefore we are totally involved in the village and the village people are happy to use all church facilities and to support us.

In **Presbytery**, David Taverner, Lindsey Rome and Nancy have been involved in the Angus Rural Forum. After putting together a report on the special aspects of rural ministry, the group organized a stand at the Angus Show. This may well be repeated this year and it is hoped we will have a presence at the Kirriemuir Show.

In the **Church of Scotland** Nancy attended the Rural Church Conference concerning the role of the Church in Rural Community Life and she also spoke at an ACTS conference on our experience of setting up a Hosted Post Office.

In the **Wider World** we have continued our support of Christian Aid, the World Mission to Nepal and Harvest Help, as well as our mission partners, the San Andreas Project.

John Rome, as always gave an excellent and comprehensive Treasurer's report. He suggested that now we have redecorated the inside of the church, money should be put aside for work to be done on the outside stonework.

Thanks were then made to everyone involved in the work of our church. David Taverner was thanked particularly for the wonderful work he does as our Minister.

St Andrew's Annual Stated Meeting will be held on Sunday 29 March following morning worship.

## OBITUARIES

**Ed Innes**, Benholm Cottage, Broomhill Road, Tannadice.

Ed Innes worked on Broom Farm for many years and then became a civilian worker at Noranside Prison. He enjoyed outdoor pursuits, walking and cycling, and so kept fit. He also loved gardening and had a fine vegetable garden. Ed would willingly help anyone and was very popular in the village. He was a straightforward and hardworking man, well-respected and well-liked by all who knew him.

We remember Ethel, Roy and Gavin.

**Mrs. Martha Bruce**, Storyville (formerly of 33 Sidlaw Range, Kirriemuir)

Martha left school at the age of 13 to look after her mother and to help bring up the younger family members. She was an exceptionally hard worker, practical and resourceful, and she raised six children of her own. She was a quiet person, kept an attractive flower garden and had a cheery disposition.

We remember her husband Ed and their family.

**Arthur Craib**, 41 Elm Road, Kirriemuir.

Arthur had always wanted to be a lorry driver. He was keen on Norton motorbikes, was very interested in engines, enjoyed travelling around the country and meeting different people - so he was ideally suited to his work and enjoyed it very much. He met his wife, Catherine, when they both worked for David Lawson in Kirriemuir. Arthur was kind, friendly and unselfish. He got on well with others, and people had a very high opinion of him.

We remember Catherine and their sons, Ewan, Gary and Simon.

**Bill Wallace**, 26 Henry Street, Kirriemuir.

Bill was brought up in the countryside near Lundie and was the grieve for many years at West Adamston Farm near Muirhead. He had an aptitude for dealing with animals, loved working with horses, and was also very good with cattle and sheep. Later he worked for local builders and at Logie sawmill. He was a keen gardener, also kept the garden at St. Andrew's Church in very good trim, and was a faithful Elder for over 50 years. He and Betty celebrated their Diamond Wedding last year.

We remember Betty, and their son, Max.

**Mrs. Margaret Boag**, 2 Netherton Place, Westmuir.

Margaret was brought up in Leith and always showed a remarkable enthusiasm for all that she did. She was an outgoing person, a good mixer with people and actively involved in the community. As an Elder at St. Andrew's Church, she was an exemplary pastoral visitor and was involved in running the Bible Class and Coffee Mornings. She loved the outdoors, thoroughly enjoyed caravan holidays, was a capable pianist, and sold home-made cards to raise funds for worthwhile causes. She demonstrated energy, enthusiasm, integrity and faith. In our prayers we remember her husband, John, and their sons, John and Malcolm.

**Mrs. Margaret Bowden**, Lisdin (formerly of 15 Old School Road, Westmuir)

Margaret Bowden came from Renfrew originally. During the War she worked as a bus conductress in Clydebank and helped bombing victims. She also worked as a social worker in Glasgow's East End. She was always on the side of the underdog and helped people who were having a bad time. She played an active part in the life of the community but was essentially a homely person. She had a "wicked" smile, and a kindly and caring nature.

We remember her daughter Maria.

† † † † † † † †

## **PARISH REGISTER**

### **New Members**

Oathlaw/Tannadice Church

Ernest and Brenda Powrie, 26 Sycamore Place, Kirriemuir.

### **Baptisms**

Kirriemuir St Andrew's

Caela Isabella Wallace, 19 Middlefield Avenue, Kirriemuir

## HEAVEN AND HELL

A holy man was having a conversation with God one day and said, "God, I would like to know what Heaven and Hell are like". God led the holy man to two doors. He opened one of the doors and the holy man looked in.

In the middle of the room was a large round table. In the middle of the table was a large pot of stew, which smelled delicious. The people sitting around the table were very thin and sickly. They appeared to be famished. They were holding spoons with very long handles that were strapped to their arms and each found it impossible to reach into the pot of stew and take a spoonful. As the handle was longer than their arms, they could not get the spoons back into their mouths. The holy man shuddered at the sight of their misery and suffering. God said, "You have seen Hell."

They opened the next door and looked into the second room. It was exactly the same as the first one; there was a large round table with a large pot of stew in the middle. The people were equipped with the same long handled spoons, but here the people were well nourished and plump, laughing and talking.

The holy man said, "I don't understand". "It is simple", said God. "It requires but one skill. You see, they have learned to feed each other, while the greedy think only of themselves."

### *A Prayer for our Christian Lives*

Father, we pray today about our Christian lives. We want our church to thrive. Help us to remember that we are the church. It is so easy to criticise and find fault; keep us from demanding standards from others which we never even try to achieve ourselves. Help us to be understanding and loving towards one another; cheerful in our own efforts to serve You within the church, and quick to take the opportunities You give us to witness for You. Help us to do what pleases You, Lord. Amen.

The next copy of "The Link" will be published at the end of June. Please pass any contributions of poems, stories, etc to Jean Wilkie and Helen Main in plenty time. Many thanks in anticipation!