

CON + ACT

The Newsletter of Rosyth Methodist Church and
St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church

No 31 February 2006

Methodist

Minister

Rev Deborah Cornish, 22 Mortimer Court, Dalgety Bay (822556)

St Margaret's

Priest-in-Charge

Rev Dr David Campbell, The Rectory, 17 Ardeer Place, Dunfermline
(723901)

Church Telephone No 418752

View from the Rectory...

From: The Revd Dr David Campbell

Happy Anniversary!



This month we celebrate 90 years of the Methodist Society in the Garden City. A wonderful and very distinguished history. Not at times without its difficulties, anxieties and fears for the future. And yet, a faithful group of men and women have down the years worked faithfully and persistently to make sure of the continuance of that society for those who would come after them. Surely in this faithfulness and persistence we have seen something of God's mission for the world being fulfilled.

I say this because you have concentrated on the things that would please the heart of God. You have concentrated on the faithful offering of worship to God, in the richness and fullness of your different traditions. You have concentrated on the faithful preaching and hearing of the Scriptures, by the different ministers and local preachers who have been with you. You have concentrated on making yourselves accessible to those who would come your way, to be your members or friends for a short time or for a lifetime. Perhaps most importantly you have concentrated on making your buildings a place of hospitality in the Garden City to those who will never come to join you. In so doing you may well have entertained angels unawares. It is, if I may say so, in this generous and self-sacrificing offering of hospitality to the stranger and the outsider that you most fully mirror the life and work of Jesus of Nazareth. So, on behalf of my Episcopalian brothers and sisters, I say "Happy Anniversary" to you Methodists.



And we are not without our anniversaries on the Episcopalian side of the pitch either (not that we're altogether playing for different teams!). Many of you will recall how in late January 1996, after a rather sticky patch in the long and sometimes undistinguished history of Episcopalianism in Rosyth, our wee congregation was offered the use of the church buildings for our worship and community life by Rev Malcolm Trew. That is now fully ten years ago and much has changed and developed with us, and no doubt with you in these last years. Of course, it is not for me to say whether in welcoming us Episcopalians you have entertained angels unawares!

So, like as all times of anniversary, I say with all my heart and soul - "Thank-you Methodists for having us with you. Our love for you remains undiminished with the passing of the years. Indeed it grows and develops into a mature love as we continue to move forward together in partnership."

And at this time of anniversary for both congregations, it is particularly fitting that we are entering a new phase of our congregational life and development with our *Continuing Congregational Development* (CCD) programme. This programme began on 8 February and will see us once again working together to see what needs to be done in order to ensure that there is a great sense of divine purpose and encouragement for our work, in order to ensure that the Methodist Society reaches its glorious Centenary and that we Episcopalians may have the honour of saying in a decades time that we have been sharing with you for twenty years. You will be hearing more about the CCD programme, so please look out for information about where the programme will take us.

Albert Schweitzer once said: "I don't know what your destiny will be but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve." Perhaps at this happy time as we look back, as well as forwards, we may know the truth of this for ourselves and for our homes and for our congregations.

With all good wishes to you and yours

David

Editorial

A lot of people have contributed to this edition of Contact which contains reports of the various organisations which meet on our premises. My thanks to them all and I hope you will take the time to read all the reports and articles. It cost about 30p per copy to produce this bumper issue of Contact which I consider is money well spent if you find it interesting and informative. However, it is a waste of money if it is only given a cursory glance.

Martin Rogers

Family News

Birthday Celebration

On the 27 December Mrs Troop celebrated her 100th birthday at home with friends and family and, as one would expect, she received a congratulatory card from the Queen.



Blessing and Baptisms

On 28 December a Service of Blessing was held for Chloe Noor Burbury, the granddaughter of John and Sandra Daly. During January two families brought their little ones for baptism - Graham Edwin Day was baptised on New Year's Day and Joel Allan Allsopp was baptised on the 22 January during our annual Covenant Service. What a wonderful way to start 2006.

New Grandchildren

Congratulations to Janet Murray on the birth of 2 more grandchildren. Andrew and Christine have a daughter, Ailsa, born in January and Peter and Alison have a daughter, Emma, born earlier this month.

Please remember all these folk in your prayers.

Thanks

Home Missions

We collected £419.20 for Home Missions last session. The money goes toward the Church's work mainly in this country. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this total. Unfortunately, the number of people who collect is being affected by collectors dying or moving on. If anyone would like a box, please see me.

Audrie Pollard

Overseas Missions

In the year ending September 2005, we collected £1374 - an increase of £130 on the previous year. This was made up of £431 from JMA, £337 from boxes and £605 from special events. We would like to thank all those who contributed to this total. We hope to have a coffee morning on Saturday 18 March. Please come and support us to help raise our target for this year.

Norah Lauder and Gwyneth Kirby

Christmas Toy Service

The church was described as an 'angel from heaven', by the Fife Council Social Services Department, when Deborah telephoned to ask if they would like some toys following our Toy Service. The toys were gratefully received and distributed to needy families throughout Fife.

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## Church Stewards

Sadly, Susan Hitchon has found it necessary to stand down as a Church Steward due to pressures of work. We thank her for all that she has done in her time as steward and in her involvement with the fundraising committee. Mary Kidd has agreed to take Susan's place as a Church Steward with immediate effect and we welcome Mary to this different role. Audrie Pollard will be standing down as a Church Steward in April having completed 6 years in this post and a successor for her has still to be found.

## Church's 90th Anniversary

This year we are celebrating the Church's 90th Anniversary. The guest preacher at our Anniversary Service on Sunday 5 March will be Very Rev Dr Andrew McLellan, a former minister of St Andrew & St George's Church in Edinburgh and former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2000/2001. At present he is the Chief Inspector of Prisons in Scotland. Wouldn't it be great on such a special Sunday if the Church was full to overflowing. Please play your part to make this happen.

Associated with the Church Anniversary is our annual Gift Day and an envelope is attached to this edition of Contact. Please use this to make a contribution to Gift Day. On Saturday 4 March, the Church will be open between 10 am and 12 noon for tea, coffee, cakes and a blether and the opportunity to pass in your envelope to the minister, Rev Deborah Cornish. Gift Day envelopes may also be put in the Church offering bags or handed to Contact distributors. Please remember that you can Gift Aid your donation to Gift Day which means that the Church can get an extra 28p for every £1 you donate. It soon mounts up. For a donation of £10 the Church can claim an extra £2.80p at no cost to you. Of course you can only do this if you pay enough tax to cover your donation. For those who have already signed a Gift Aid declaration for John Cowie, you simply have to write on the Gift Day envelope the number of your weekly offering envelope. Those who have not completed a Gift Aid declaration should complete the section on the envelope. If you need any further explanation please speak to John Cowie.



## 90th Anniversary Celebrations

The 90th Anniversary celebration and fundraising group met at the end of January and have put together the following calendar of events for the next twelve months. However, there is room for more ideas and more people to share the workload. A further meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 7 March at 2 pm at the church. Please come along if you wish to be involved.

|             |                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April       | Thursday 13th - Paschal Meal<br>Sunday 16th - as part of the Easter Day celebrations there will be an Easter Garden competition and an Egg Hunt |
| May         | Friday 19th to Sunday 21st - Historical Exhibition and Flower Festival                                                                          |
| June        | Saturday 17th - Summer dance and promise auction                                                                                                |
| July        | Saturday 1st - Victorian afternoon and Strawberry Tea                                                                                           |
| August      | Time to Count Your Blessings (further details later)                                                                                            |
| September   | Saturday 23rd - Harvest Supper and Beetle Drive (proceeds for Christian Aid)<br>Sunday 24th - Harvest Festival                                  |
| October     | Saturday 28th - Tramps Supper                                                                                                                   |
| November    | Saturday 11th - Christmas Fayre and Silent Auction                                                                                              |
| <b>2007</b> |                                                                                                                                                 |
| January     | Saturday 20th - Church Concert                                                                                                                  |
| February    | Saturday 24th - Celebration Ceilidh                                                                                                             |

## REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS

### Children's and Youth Groups

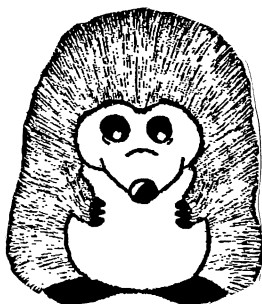


#### Sunday School

The Sunday School is very small at the moment as we depend on the few young families that we have in the Church. I hope that we are providing an equal amount of fun and learning. We would welcome the prayers of the Church members for our work and hopefully for our expansion.

**Audrie Pollard and Gwyneth Kirby**

***(At the time of going to print I had not received a report from the MUMS AND TODDLERS Group. However, they continue to thrive and have just started a second group meeting on Wednesday mornings.)***



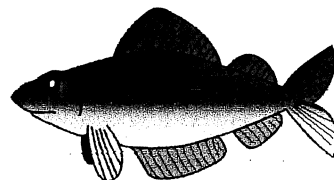
#### Brambles Playgroup

Happy new year to everyone from Brambles Playgroup. We are still here and currently have 33 children attending the Playgroup over the six sessions we hold (mornings and afternoons of Wednesday, Thursday and Friday). Numbers are increasing slowly. Last year was a busy year. We had a teddy bears' picnic, a Christmas Fayre and the man in the Big Red Coat came to visit us. Recently we have celebrated Burns Night and Chinese New Year. This year will be even busier. To help boost our funds, we are holding monthly coffee mornings starting on Wednesday 22 February from 11 am to 1 pm and we are also having a Spring Fayre on Saturday 1 April. Everyone is welcome to come along to these events.

***The Playgroup Staff***

#### 6th A Rosyth Rainbows (Wednesday night)

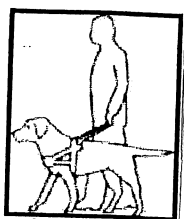
I have been the leader of this group for the last 18 months. We have done lots of activities and did a project on "under the sea". This was followed by a trip to Deep Sea World in June which was a great day out for all the children and leaders. We achieved this by having a sponsored obstacle course and with the help and support of all the parents we raised over £100 which paid for the Rainbows tops and the trip. A few of the Rainbows have moved up to Brownies. We do cooking and art projects. For Hallowe'en we decorated the board with pictures of ghosts and witches which the children loved doing and had a Hallowe'en Party where the children dressed up and played games. For Christmas we made cards and calendars, decorated Christmas baubles and had a great party at which the children were given a gift and a selection box. This year we have been talking about what we are going to do for the Church's 90th Anniversary and a garden project for March. All the children have come up with some great ideas and we just have to choose which ones we are going to do. I could not do any of this without my 2 parent helpers Karen (squirrel) and Hazel (bear) and my daughter Melissa (bunny rabbit) who was our young leader until she went to college. She still comes along when she is home as she really misses it. I am called reindeer - these are names which the children gave us. I really enjoy working with the children and my 2 helpers I hope to continue at rainbows for a long time.



***Susan Warren Rainbow Leader***

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Rosyth Brownies (Wednesday Night)

We currently have 22 girls in the unit with 4 going up to Guides after Easter. At Christmas the girls and leaders popped up to the Odeon Cinema to see Narnia and then off to Pizza Hut for tea which the girls thoroughly enjoyed. We have been working on the Environmental and Disability Awareness badges recently.



As part of the Disability Awareness Badge, the girls picked Friends to Animals where they sponsor an animal charity. They are having a sponsor fun night in February with half the proceeds going to the unit and the other half going to Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Some of the girls will be doing their hostess badge the night of the presentation and hopefully the Press will come down to let everyone know how the girls have helped the charity. The girls really enjoyed their trip to Fordell Firs last summer and we are hoping to organise a similar event this year. Helping me with the running of the unit are Sarah Worling (Snowy Owl) and Kirsty McKenzie (Tawny Owl).

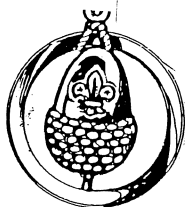
**Heather McIlroy (Brown Owl)**

***(At the time of going to print I had not received reports of the RAINBOWS, BROWNIES and GUIDES who meet on a Monday night. They are still going strong but are suffering from a shortage of leaders at the present time.)***

### The Scout Group

Having had a successful year with full programmes and growing membership in almost all the Sections, we were sad when two of our Leaders (Paul Ward and Alex Mitchell) resigned at the turn of the year. As a result, the Cub and Scout Sections now have only one dedicated adult leader each and both Sections are highly dependent upon the support and commitment given by some of our Explorer Scouts who have recently completed their Young Leader training. We have, however, been glad to welcome one new leader into the Explorer Scout Section – which is just as well considering the non-stop activity programme that they run throughout the year.

The high points in the Scout Group this year have undoubtedly been the award of the Silver Acorn by the Scout Association to our Cub Leader Martin Rogers, and Chief Scout's Awards to one of our Scouts, to five Explorer Scouts and to seven Cubs. These awards are all amongst the highest that can be gained in the Scout Movement and are worthy of being mentioned here, not only as evidence of the commitment and enthusiasm of our Scouts and Leaders but also as a testimony to the standard of youth work sustained by the church.



Wouldn't it be great if more of our church members or their families or friends could help out at our weekly meetings and activities! We are desperately looking out for new people, both men and women, to come along and help with the Cub and Scout Sections. So if anyone knows of someone who might be able to help on a Tuesday or Friday evening, please let me know.

The **Explorer Scout** programme this year makes you feel tired just reading it! They went off to an International Scout Camp in Essex last August; they have twice been abroad - to Belgium and France; they are active members of a conservation group in Fife, they put on a two-hour gang-show in the church, and they went on a three day walking expedition in central Scotland, not to mention their "routine" programme of camping, water-skiing, snow skiing, wind-carting, and kayaking.

The **Scout** troop has maintained a full programme throughout the year and did well in some of the competitions that it entered. The Scouts won the annual safety competition and came second in the indoor scouting skills competition. Their summer camp was held at Bonaly by the Pentland Hills and they held several week-end camps throughout the spring, summer and autumn months.

The number of boys in the **Cubs** is still about the most that we have had for a long time - despite the Pack being so short of Leaders! Week-end camps, and hikes with sleep-overs at the Church, continue to feature in their programme. A strong focus on training through the Cub Challenge Badge scheme is evident by the fine display of badges on uniforms and the fact that a good number of boys attain the highest Cub award, the Chief Scout's Silver Award.

This year has seen huge changes in numbers attending **Beaver** meetings. The year started with a full colony of over twenty, and then fell back to about half that number when so many boys went up to the Cubs. New-comers swelled the group to 19 and now, with more boys only recently moving on into the Cubs they are down to 14 and so have lots of space for more to join. The Beavers programme is all about having fun and discovering new things, so the weekly meetings are full of games, handicraft activities, trying experiments, and learning about other people and places. Every now and then the Beavers take up a fund-raising challenge to raise money for a children's charity. Last year they raised money for "Children with Leukaemia".

Beaver, Cub and Scout meetings continue to take place at the usual times: Beavers (ages 6-8) and Cubs (ages 8-10<sup>1/2</sup>) meet in the Church hall on Tuesday evenings at 5.30 and 6.30pm respectively and the Scouts (ages 10<sup>1/2</sup>-14) and Explorer Scouts (14 - 18) meet on Fridays at 7pm.

**Stuart Fowell Group Scout Leader**

## Adult Groups



### Women's Own

This group of ladies meets every Wednesday afternoon in the comfort of the Church lounge. There are about 14 of us (on a good day!) and we meet for a cuppa and a chat, worship and fellowship and entertainment... all that in one hour! We welcome members of other Rosyth churches too. During last session we had speakers with wide and varied interests. We've been on a journey with Janet Murray, have beaten the Retirement Fellowship at "Call my Bluff", we've celebrated Harvest, sung our favourite hymns and been entertained by the Playgroup before Christmas. We've continued our fund raising throughout the year and like to support our Church in this way. We hope to continue together and look forward to our Spring/Summer session which has a few surprises in store. Anyone who would like to come along and join us would be most welcome.

**Mary Kidd**



### Parahandies Disabled Club

The Parahandies Club continues to meet each week. Despite small numbers, a varied programme of visits and activities are organised. The 2005 programme included day trips to Oban, Aviemore and Ayr. Local outings concentrated on visits to a number of parks for picnics and luckily we were blessed with good weather on each occasion.

The Club meets each Monday at 10.15 am for tea/coffee and a natter. Lunch is usually at about 12 noon, with a finish at about 2 pm. Anyone who would like to join the club would be made most welcome. Our office bearers are Cath Morgan (Chairperson), Marion Marshall (Treasurer) and myself (Secretary). Further information is available from me - 1 Mortimer Court, Dalgety Bay telephone 822940.

**Peter Merckel Secretary**

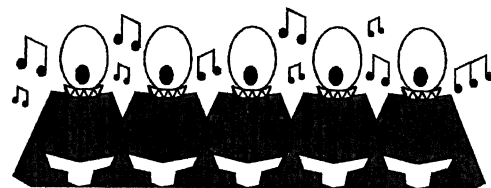
## Retirement Fellowship

A warm welcome awaits you if you wish to come along to the Methodist Church on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. We invite speakers on each first Tuesday and enjoy table games, Countdown, Beetle etc on each third Tuesday of our winter programme. During the summer months we enjoy each other's company at our Tea and Chat afternoons. We are a small but happy group and we would be delighted to see you.

**Jack Fowell**

## St Margaret's Choir

We rehearse most Fridays from 6-7 pm and sing at 9.30 am services on Sundays and also on the 4th Sunday of the month at 6 pm. We still have 4 or 5 sopranos, 3 altos, 2 tenors and 2 basses with a very welcome Methodist soprano joining us on particular occasions. Our main job is to lead the singing at regular services but there are special occasions to work for too, and these help to keep us motivated. The most challenging of these in the last year was singing parts of the Faure Requiem in a liturgical setting, once at Holy Trinity and once at St Margaret's on the Eve of All Souls' Day. This involved us in extra rehearsals but was well worthwhile and we are grateful to Holy Trinity for involving us. We also prepared anthems to sing at the Advent Carol Service and contributed a couple of items to the Christmas Carol Service. This year our annual party was on Twelfth Night (also Eve's 86th birthday), so we were able to sing some carols. Every member and one or two spouses enjoyed a jovial evening with plenty of food. Sadly, Sue Masson is not able to train us on a regular basis due to the considerable demands of her new post but she still plays the organ regularly and is available for Virginia and Myra to consult about all things musical.



**Myra Tarr**

## Alcoholics Anonymous



We have had a group of Alcoholics Anonymous meeting on our premises since June. I say "a group" because it is one of three which previously met in the Parish Church. They seem to have settled into their new home and have asked me to publicise the fact that the first meeting of the month is an open meeting which anyone is welcome to attend. So if you are interested to know a bit more about the organisation and see what happens at their meetings, please feel free to go along on the first Saturday of the month. The meetings are held between 7.30 and 9.30 pm with a cup of tea or coffee available before the meeting.

**Martin Rogers**

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Ten Glorious Years - St Margaret's, Rosyth

This short reminiscence is based very closely on a sermon preached by Rev Dr David Campbell on 14 January 2006 to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of St Margaret's Church, Rosyth.

Ten glorious years - that's how long the church of St Margaret of Scotland has been sharing these buildings with our friends of Rosyth Methodist Church. In this year of anniversaries, notably the 90th Anniversary of Methodism in Rosyth, that very fact is something worth celebrating, particularly as it gives us a chance to look back on what the past has brought us. And as we do, we look back on the twin strands of Episcopalian and Anglican Church history in this community.

Episcopalians have worshipped in Rosyth since 1917, when a wee congregation gathered in a temporary building dedicated on 29 July 1917 to St Andrew and St George.

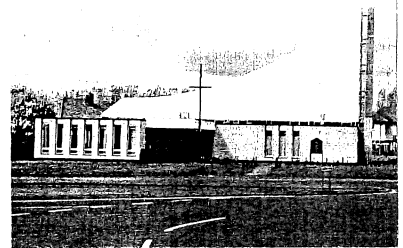




Nine years later the church of St Andrew and St George was built in Kings Place and consecrated in February 1926. After many a long and dedicated day of struggle, the church of St Andrew and St George became an incumbency in 1961, that is, it had a full-time priest. Various linkages with the churches in Inverkeithing and Lochgelly resulted in all three charges becoming part of the West Fife Team in 1986. Sadly the great, cathedralesque church was closed on 24 August 1986 and with it many of the hopes of the faithful people who had sustained it were dashed. It had lasted only 60 years. Worship continued for four years in the Salvation Army Hall in Backmarch Road, until the sad day in 1990 when the charge finally closed.

Anglicans associated with the Royal Navy and the Dockyard in Rosyth – not to be confused with Episcopalians, though in truth there is little difference, even though this was indeed an outpost of “the English church”! – have been in Rosyth since construction of the dockyard began in 1909. In about 1917, part of the outbuildings of Orchardhead Farm were converted into a temporary Church for the St Margaret’s Church of England Congregation. After victory was won in the Great War the fleet base and dockyard was placed on a *care and maintenance basis* in 1925. The Church was closed and the congregation merged with the St Andrew & St George Episcopal Church congregation. The Dockyard re-opened in 1938 bringing a great influx of people from the southern Dockyard towns.

In 1941, the RN Church of St Andrew was opened in a Nissen hut within the boundaries of the Dockyard. This temporary building served the needs of the Anglican community until 1969 when the newly built and consecrated St Margaret’s Anglican Church was opened. Anglicans of the senior service and others were served by a succession of chaplains at this place which is so familiar to many of us. But like its Episcopalian sister of St Andrew and St George, St Margaret’s had a short shelf life as a place of worship. Less than 30 years after it opened it was closed after the Trident fiasco and the withdrawal of the Royal Navy from Rosyth.



Twin strands of worshipping history – Anglican and Episcopalian. Different provinces. The same family of course. Similar liturgies. Similar outlooks. But who might have guessed back in 1995 when closure of the naval base was announced what might have lain in the future? And so for these last 10 years we – Methodists and Episcopalians – have been journeying together. And in that time we *piscies* have been a remarkably stable little flock, when all else in the church and world around us has been shaken. We have welcomed some new members. We have said fond farewells to some of our finest: - to Harry Jenkins and Marjorie Lloyd recently and to others of our own families and friends before them. We have continued to grow and to be inspired by music, by liturgy, by our social gatherings in these buildings – so graciously offered for our use by the Rev Malcolm Trew a decade ago.

And what are the lessons of this history on which we can reflect today? That Rosyth is a pretty volatile place to have a church – the Church of Scotland doesn’t need lessons from us about that. That nothing lasts for ever, that everything changes. That there are times of growth and times of decline. That the fortunes of the churches seem to be tied up with cycles of economic and social growth and decline. That we should rejoice in our church living while we can. That we should focus all our attentions on making this place the best we can. That we should be grateful for our existence to the priests from different places who loved, nurtured and cajoled us in the past: the great 15 years of Father Bone and the 12 years of Colin Preston-Thomas of St Andrew and St George. The chaplains on short tours of duty at the base – the Devonshires, Henleys, Johnsons and Weldons of this world. That we should cherish those who nurture, love and cajole us in the present and look always forward to those who will nurture us in the future.



We celebrate our first 10 years here. And who of us can imagine what the next 10 will bring? For some death, for others new life. For some limitations, for others abundance. For us, will it be decline or growth? For us, will it be the opening of new doors or the sad, final closing of less than a century of ecclesiastical history? I don't know about that. But I do believe that God is faithful. I do believe that from generation to generation God has shepherded his faithful people – through many a day of darkness, through many a day of strife. I do believe that he is leading us even today, even now. He is leading us to new places that we cannot as yet even begin to see or imagine. And I believe that he is good. That the one who called us to walk together on this pilgrimage a decade and more ago is still calling us onwards, still driving us forwards until we reach that glorious destiny that awaits us.

Methodist Church Finances

Below is a summary of the Church finances for the year ending 31 August 2005. At the beginning of that financial year our Church Treasurer, Ron Dempster, was forecasting a deficit in our accounts of some £2400 but you will see from the figures that we ended the year with a significant surplus. This was due to increased income (mainly from collections) and savings in the forecast Property expenditure. Thanks to everyone who helped make this possible. Five months into the financial year the situation is continuing to look healthy and with your continued support it is expected that we will have a surplus again this year. If you are an income tax payer, the Gift Aid scheme is a painless way of increasing the value of the money you give to the Church. John Cowie or Ron Dempster can give you further information about this scheme.

Summary of the Church finances for the year ending 31 August 2005:

Income		Expenditure	
CHURCH ACCOUNT			
Collections/donations	17075	Circuit assessment	22996
Tax refunds	4123	Sundry/Adverts/Offering Env	952
Gift day (personal)	2817	Printing/stationery	322
Fund raising	705	Connexional funds	150
Bank interest	<u>778</u>	Tax refund bequests	<u>305</u>
	25498		24725
Surplus on Church Account		773	
PROPERTY ACCOUNT			
St Margaret's	2100	Caretaking/cleaning/phone	895
Playgroup	2470	Gas/electricity/water	1221
Parahandies	430	Insurance	1229
Gift Day (organisations)	1000	Repairs & maintenance	1762
Other	605	Equipment/furnishings	-400
Property Fund	<u>209</u>	Relief & extension Fund	<u>100</u>
	6814		4807
Surplus on Property Account		2007	
Surplus for year to 31 August 2005		2780	

Summary of Funds:

Balance from previous financial year	15141
Surplus 2004/2005	2780
Held in special accounts	<u>3870</u>
Total	21791

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## Property Improvement Fund

There has been a disappointing response to the setting up of the Property Improvement Fund announced in a letter from Deborah in September. The fund was mainly set up to enable us to pay our share of a £47,500 "face lift" proposed for the Church if we were successful in 2 grant applications we were making under the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme. The bad news is that we were not successful with these 2 applications. The good news is that one of the grant making bodies (Biffaward) has encouraged us to re-submit our application if we could satisfy some concerns they had about financial costings and community involvement. The Church Council has agreed that we should re-submit the application and that we should also look at the availability of grants from other organisations which might enable us to go ahead with the creation of a new toilet for disabled people and possibly a new rear access for push chairs and wheelchairs. So money is still needed for the Fund and if you can help in any way by making a lump sum donation or regular monthly donations, it would be very much appreciated.



One of the items we had in our grant applications was the replacement of the carpet tiles throughout the Church. These have been in use for 25 years now and in many areas have been showing their age. Recently Paul Ward alerted us to the sale of a large quantity of carpet tiles by the firm for which he works. We were able to get these at less than a quarter of the normal cost and it was too good an opportunity to miss. Paul has been fitting these for us over the past 2 weeks. There was a limited range of patterns to choose from and limited quantities of each pattern but I hope you will agree that the overall effect has been a brightening up of our premises. In some instances, there is a bit of a clash between the decor of the rooms and the colour of the carpets but this can be remedied by a fresh coat of paint in due course.

On the subject of painting, last year we had a considerable amount of re-decorating work done both inside and outside the premises. We hope that the same group who did this (Instep Initiatives) will be returning later this year to re-decorate the Church sanctuary.

**Martin Rogers**

## Quietness, Reflection and Prayer

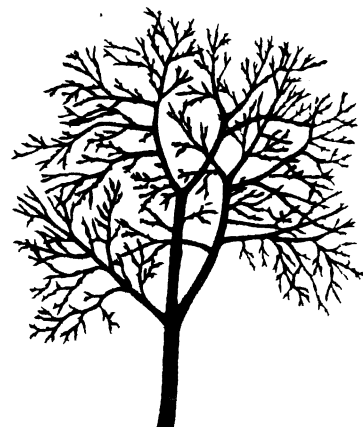
Many of you reading this will know that our Church is open for quietness, reflection and prayer on Tuesdays at 12 noon until 1 pm. The Church Council has agreed that a second period should be offered on Thursdays from 2 pm to 3 pm. As the Tuesday period is open to all so will be the Thursday time and it is hoped to start the additional time on Thursday 2 March.

## Pray Without Ceasing

The September issue of Contact included a Prayer Diary, so that each area of Rosyth could be prayed for throughout the month. During November and December a Prayer Discussion Group met at the Manse with folk from Rosyth and Kirkcaldy joining in some lively talks on the subject of prayer. From this has come a desire to meet regularly for prayer and it has been agreed that the group should meet on the first Monday of each month.

To help focus our prayers, a Prayer Tree has been put up in the church with notelets for prayer to be added. However, for purposes of confidentiality if you wish to add a situation to the prayer tree for the group to pray for, please do not give names unless the person concerned has given permission. Alternatively, please place prayer requests in a sealed envelope and leave them in Deborah's basket in the Vestry.

The next stage of the prayer initiative is to start a Prayer Chain, but more of this in the next Contact.



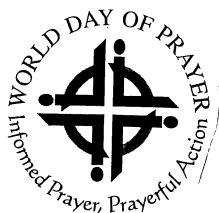
## Coming Events

### Rosyth Churches Joint Course

You are invited to join the Lenten Course this year, the title of which is "Easter People in a Good Friday World". It will begin on Monday 27 February and continue each Monday at 7.30 pm until 27 March. The course will be held at St Columba's Church of Scotland, Torridon Lane, Rosyth and you are very welcome to go along. Further information from Jack Fowell.

### Training for Pastoral Visitors

There is to be a series of four training sessions for anyone considering becoming a pastoral visitor and for our current pastoral visitors. The sessions are to be held fortnightly on Mondays from 2.30 pm, starting on Monday 27 February, and then 13 and 27 March, and finally 10 April. If you would like further details of these please give Deborah a call on 822556.



### World Day of Prayer

"Signs of the Times" is the theme this year and the Service has been written by women of South Africa. It will be held at North Queensferry Church on Friday 3 March at 2 pm. The building is not the original church but a small building further up the hill past the station on the back road to Inverkeithing.

### Circuit Weekend at Pitlochry

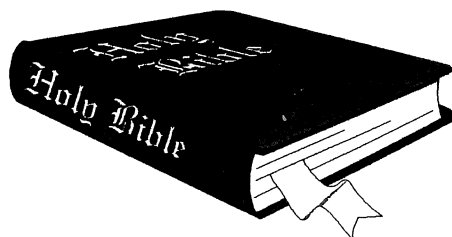
This is being held over the weekend 23/24 May at Pitlochry. See church notices for full details and booking forms. Please note there will be no 11 am service that day, however anyone who is unable to go to Pitlochry is encouraged to attend the 9.30 am service and/or the 5.30 pm Circuit Service which will be held in our Church. During the Circuit Service, Rev Deborah Cornish will give her testimony as part of the final preparations towards her Ordination at the June Conference.

### Ordination of Rev Deborah Cornish - 25 June

This year for the first time in many years, the Conference of the Methodist Church will be held in Edinburgh in June. One big plus for us at Rosyth is that we will be able to support Deborah when she is ordained during the Conference. The Ordination Service will be held at Murrayfield United Church on Sunday 25 June at 3.30 pm. Please see Howard Kirby if you wish to attend the service.

### Can You Find 25 Books of the Bible Hidden in this Article?

This is a most remarkable puzzle. Someone found it in the seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping himself occupied for hours. One man from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john-boat. Roy Dark studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Vicks mentioned it in her column once. One woman judges the job to be so involving that she brews a cup of tea to help calm her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot that's a fact. Some people will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names don't necessarily have a capital.



The truth is, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have. Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation may help - books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Punctuation or spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete. Remember, there are 25 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this passage. No cheating - like getting the Bible out - is allowed!

(Thanks to Ron & Mary Dempster for contributing this item - answer at the foot of page 12)

## Dates for Your Diary

### February

|            |           |                                                                                                                               |
|------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wed        | 22        | Playgroup Coffee Morning 11 am to 1 pm                                                                                        |
| Sat        | 25        | Church Spring Clean Day 10 am to 4 pm                                                                                         |
| <b>Sun</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>Worship led by Revs David Campbell and Deborah Cornish (Holy Communion)</b><br><b>6 pm Evensong led by Marc Tempelhoff</b> |
| Mon        | 27        | 2.30 pm First of the series of training sessions for Pastoral Visitors                                                        |
| Mon        | 27        | 7.30 pm First session of Rosyth Churches Lenten Course St Columba's Church                                                    |

### March

|            |           |                                                                                                                       |
|------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Wed</b> | <b>1</b>  | <b>Sung Eucharist for Ash Wednesday 7.30 pm</b>                                                                       |
| <b>Fri</b> | <b>3</b>  | <b>World Day of Prayer at North Queensferry Church at 2 pm</b>                                                        |
| Sat        | 4         | Church Anniversary Gift Day and Coffee Morning 10-12 noon                                                             |
| <b>Sun</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>Worship led by Very Rev Dr Andrew McLellan (Church Anniversary)</b>                                                |
| Tues       | 7         | 90th Anniversary & Fundraising Committee at the Church 2 pm                                                           |
| Wed        | 8         | Continuing Congregational Development meeting 7.30 pm                                                                 |
| <b>Sun</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>Worship led by Rev Malcolm Trew (All Age Worship)</b><br><b>6 pm Communion Service led by Rev Deborah Cornish</b>  |
| Tues       | 14        | Vestry Meeting 7.30 pm                                                                                                |
| Sat        | 18        | Overseas Missions Coffee Morning                                                                                      |
| <b>Sun</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>Worship led by Rev Colin Douglas</b>                                                                               |
| Wed        | 22        | Playgroup Coffee Morning 11 am to 1 pm                                                                                |
| <b>Sun</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>Worship led by Revs David Cooper and Deborah Cornish (Holy Communion)</b><br><b>6 pm Evensong led by Myra Tarr</b> |

### April

|             |           |                                                                                                 |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat         | 1         | Playgroup Spring Fayre in our Church                                                            |
| <b>Sun</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>Worship led by Mr Brian Curtis</b>                                                           |
| Tues        | 4         | Joint Church Council/Vestry Meeting 7.30 pm                                                     |
| <b>Sun</b>  | <b>9</b>  | <b>Palm Sunday Worship led by Dr Anne Pennington or Shona Johnston (All Age Worship)</b>        |
| <b>Tues</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>Holy Communion - Reflections on Christ's Journey to Good Friday 2.30 pm</b>                  |
| Thur        | 13        | Paschal Meal in the Church 7.30 pm                                                              |
| <b>Fri</b>  | <b>14</b> | <b>Good Friday Reflections 2.30 pm</b>                                                          |
| <b>Sun</b>  | <b>16</b> | <b>Sung Eucharist for Easter Day 9.30 am</b><br><b>Worship led by Rev Deborah Cornish 11 am</b> |

The next edition of Contact will be published on 2 April. All contributions to Martin Rogers by 26 March please.

Answers to Books of the Bible on page 11.

This is **AMOST** re**MARK**able puzzle. Someone found it in the seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu **LUKE**eping himself occupied for hours. One man from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his **JOHN**-boat. Roy Dark studied it while playing his ban **JOEL**aine Victs mentioned it in her column once. One woman **JUDGES** the **JOB** to be so involving that s**HEBREWS** a cup of tea to help calm her nerv**ESTHERE** will be some names that are really easy to spot that's a **FACTS**ome people will soon find themselves in a **JAMES**pecially since the book names don't necessarily have a capital.

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