



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

No 36 February 2007

**Methodist**

Minister

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

**St Margaret's**

Priest-in-Charge

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

**Scottish Charity Numbers**

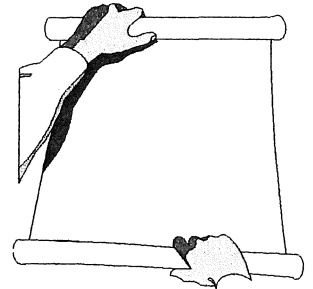
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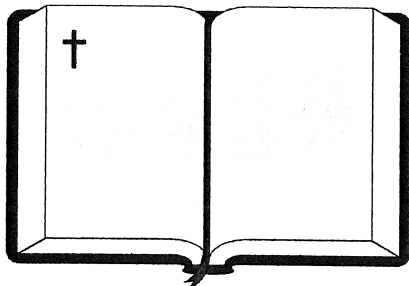
Church Telephone No 418752

To the church of God that is in Rosyth, including all the saints that live in the surrounding areas. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The apostle Paul when writing his pastoral letters opened in this way. He would have received verbal and written reports about the state of each of the churches he wrote to, and as we can see from his various letters some of the reports would be good and others would cause him concern. Essentially his letters were written to encourage and build-up the newly formed Christian communities, reminding them of their responsibilities to one another and to Christ whom they served.



I too write to encourage all of you who read this to learn more about one another, about the faith that moves people to come to worship here on Sundays. Why do the Sunday people continue to raise funds to maintain a building for others to use – it certainly isn't for financial gain. It is because that is a small part of what it is to be a member of a faith-filled congregation offering service to the wider community in a variety of ways. Being part of a faith-filled community is about building one another up in love, in order to do this we need to know about the God we serve, and our neighbours. Hence the need for coming together on Sunday for worship and during the week for fellowship: we cannot be part of the Church on our own. In order to be built up, to develop and grow, we need to be fed physically, spiritually and emotionally. This can be done through prayer both together and as individuals; studying the bible together and exploring how its teachings impact our living and our thinking; developing friendships by working and playing together - these are all elements of being part of an active, loving and spirit-filled congregation living in community with others.



The churches in Rosyth are exploring ways of building one another up in love, through worshipping together, bible study and prayer, and everyday activities such as walking, going to the cinema, sharing meals, sharing laughter and conversation – come join us, taste and see for yourself that God is good.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you and those who are near to you

**Deborah**

## **Editorial**

My thanks to all who have contributed to our "annual report" edition. Some reports have not been received in time and these will be included in the next edition of Contact. There have been no volunteers to take over the mantle of Editor from me. If anyone is prepared to think about it, please speak to me and I will be happy to let you know what is involved.

**Martin Rogers**

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## **Family News**

### **Silver Wedding**

Congratulations to David and Charlotte Morman who celebrated their Silver Wedding on 19 December. They were married in our Church by our then minister, Rev Barrie Cash.

### **Birthday Celebration**

Congratulations to Revd Tembu Rongong and his wife Helen who are the proud parents of a son, Jadon, born on 22 December.

### **Funeral**

Joan Groves, a member of St Margaret's congregation died on 28 December. Rev Dr David Campbell conducted the funeral service on 5 January. Please remember her family in your prayers.

### **Edna and Ivan Perry**

What a lovely surprise to have Ivan and Edna Perry worshipping with us earlier this month. Edna is a local girl who married Ivan (a tiffie at HMS Caledonia) and moved from the area over 40 years ago. Later in life Edna became a Methodist Minister (now retired) and Ivan and Edna currently live near Wigan.

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## **Thanks**

### **Christian Aid**

Thank you to all who have supported our efforts during the past year when we raised over £4000. We have already held the Harvest Beetle Drive in our Church which, along with some other donations and tax recovery through Gift Aiding, raised £355.43. Please keep watching the notice board for forthcoming events.

**Mary Dempster**

### **90th Anniversary Celebrations**

Monthly social and/or fundraising events were held during 2006 to mark our 90th Anniversary year. The Anniversary Committee worked very hard over the year to stage these events and, in so doing, raised a substantial sum for the Property Improvements Fund. Our grateful thanks to everyone involved in organising the events and to those who supported them.

### **St Margaret's Christmas Services**

Thanks to all who attended the Advent Service of Music and Readings and the Christmas Carol Service and also for their generous contributions to the retiring collections. A cheque for £181 was forwarded to CHAS. The next choral event will be music and readings for Passiontide on 25 March.

### **Jock Headden**

Jock has retired as Treasurer of St Margaret's after 10 years in charge of finances. We thank Jock for his quiet way of working and his thoughtfulness for the well-being of the Church. Jock is replaced as Treasurer by Alan Taylor, another well-known face to both congregations.

### **Capital Cities Quiz**

Thanks to all who bought a quiz sheet and to Mary Dempster for organising this annual brain teaser. More than £300 was raised for NCH. The correct answers have been placed on the Church notice board. The winner was I Paterson of Crossford.

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## Church Anniversary and Gift Day

Our Church Anniversary will be held on Sunday 4 March when worship will be led by Dr Jeremy Bradshaw. Associated with the Church Anniversary is our annual Gift Day and an envelope is attached to this edition of Contact for you to make a contribution to Gift Day. On Saturday 3 March, the Church will be open between 10 am and 12 noon to provide an opportunity to hand your Gift Day envelope to the minister, Rev Deborah Cornish. At the same time, JMA are holding a Coffee Morning and the fund-raising group are holding a table-top sale. Tables are available for £5 each so if you have items that you would like to sell, then here is the opportunity. It is planned to give a donation to the Children's Hospice from this event. Watch for the notice!



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 ask for one of the declarations and enclose it in the envelope. If you need any further explanation please speak to Ron Dempster.

## REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS

### Children's and Youth Groups



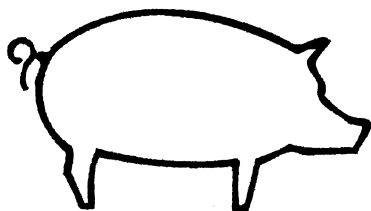
#### Sunday School

The Sunday School continues and though small in number, the children seem to enjoy their meetings and, hopefully, to receive the message from "Roots". "Roots" is a Sunday School series which ties in with the message which is being given every Sunday to adult congregations. We took the children to the pantomime where a cast of 5 people did very well in presenting "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs!" The children and the wicked queen really enjoyed themselves. In time we hope our numbers will grow and meanwhile we soldier on.

**Audrie Pollard and Gwyneth Kirby**

#### Brambles Playgroup

The Playgroup has had a turbulent few months. We suffered a financial crisis and have managed to turn it round yet again due to the hard work and effort of some of the parents. We have lost our Senior Playleader, Angela Harkin, due to personal circumstances. She will be sadly missed. I have taken on the Senior Playleader position as a temporary measure and we hope to have a new Senior in place by the Easter Break.



The children are coping well with the changes and we are continuing with our programmes and topics. We are learning about Robert Burns and celebrating Scottish culture with traditional dishes for snack time. Our display board is being prepared for Chinese New Year - the year of the Boar - and hopefully our handiwork will be on display soon. Of course, Easter is not too far away and we will be having our annual Easter bonnet parade which is always great fun. We hope that everyone enjoyed their Christmas (all the children seemed to) and we hope that 2007 will be a little less stressful.

**Debbie Jury**

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

### **6th Rosyth Rainbows (Monday night)**

I have been working with the Rainbows for around a year now and the girls elected to call me Hedgehog. We currently have around 8 girls in our group ranging from 5 to 7 years old. All of the girls have exceptional talents ranging from Spelling to Dance and Art!

In the last year, we have done lots of craft activities. We have been looking at endangered animals and as a group, we have adopted a Panda through the WWF scheme. The girls are really interested in learning about the plight of endangered animals around the world. In December, we visited the Pantomime at Carnegie Hall along with the Brownies and the Guides. Many of the girls had lost their voice the next day due to all the shouting but a great day was had by all!



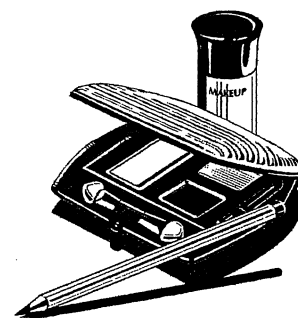
In the coming weeks we are planning a Chinese New Year project and will be making lanterns and having a Dragon Parade. We will learn more about the country in which our adopted Panda Lychee lives.

**Natalie Rooney**

### **6th Rosyth Brownies (Wednesday Night)**

Currently there are 20 girls in the Brownies, 7 of them came up from Rainbows and will ready to make their promise soon. The Girls have had a busy year - lots of changes as I was off for 12 weeks due to an operation. I would like to thank Sarah Worling (Snowy Owl), Paula Callaghan (Sleepy Owl) and Mandy Ward for all their help keeping the girls occupied.

We had the usual Christmas crafts and games. Our last night was a little different this year. We all dressed in our Pyjamas and had a pamper party. The girls had their hair braided, make up done, nails painted, tattoos and dance mats - the girls thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We also had pizzas and a chocolate fountain with marshmallows and strawberries certainly ended the year pleasantly. The girls are working on several badges at present with the little ones doing their Brownie Traditions.



Sadly our Snowy Owl, Sarah, has to leave as she is going back to work and not available at nights. We wish her all the best and will really miss her. If anyone is interested in helping out on a Wednesday night 6.30- 8 pm periodically please contact me.

**Heather McIlroy (Brown Owl)**

***(At the time of going to print I had not received reports of the BROWNIES and GUIDES who meet on a Monday night and the RAINBOWS who meet on a Wednesday night.)***

### **The Scout Group**

The Scouts and Guides provide the Church's outreach to the local community for children and young people up to 18 years of age, and each week the Scout Group brings about 60 young people from Rosyth into the Church premises. There is a fairly constant demand for places in the Beavers and Cubs from boys who want to join because their friends come along or from parents who increasingly recognise that the Scout Group offers a different combination of fun, challenge and adventure to that which is generally available elsewhere.

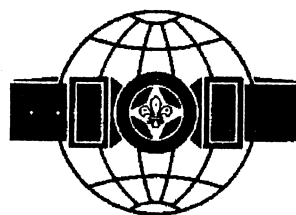


The **Beaver Colony** provides a programme that is all about having fun and discovering new things, so the weekly meetings are full of games, handicraft activities, trying experiments, and learning about other people and places. Almost all of the Beavers work to gain special Activity badges such as Animal Friend, Exploring, Creative, and Information Technology and during the past year four Beavers have won the highest award, the Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

For much of the year the **Cub Pack** operated with only one Leader and an Explorer Scout in regular attendance, with Leaders from other Sections and parents helping out on a rota basis. The Pack has held two camps, and a hike with a sleep-over at the church. A number of Outdoor, Global, and Fitness Challenge badges have been awarded and five of the older boys gained the Chief Scout's Silver Award, the highest award in the Cub Section. The Cubs came second in the annual Scout Sports event and third in the District 5-a-side football tournament.

The **Scout Troop** has maintained a full programme throughout the year. They held several week-end camps throughout the year and their annual summer camp was held near Galashiels. Five Scouts worked on a project with the Fife Area Conservation Group.

The **Explorer Scout Unit** continues to provide an intensive programme of adventure and service for young people between 14 and 18 years of age. Foreign travel has featured strongly this year. The Unit camped in Belgium and Norway, and one of our Explorer Scouts was selected to join the crew of Sir Francis Chichester's yacht, *Gipsy Moth IV*, and sail from Thailand to Sri Lanka. In addition, three Explorers took up the highly regarded Explorer Belt challenge in which they made their way unescorted through Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic finding out how people live and completing various service projects on the way. At home, conservation work is well supported by the Unit, and several of our Explorers are hoping soon to receive John Muir Trust awards for the work they have been doing over several years. Apart from service and exploration, the Explorer Unit's programme includes hill-walking, caving, canoeing and sailing.



Seven Explorer Scouts have completed Leader Training and are helping out with Beaver, Cub and Scout Sections both in our own Group and elsewhere.



The Scout Movement celebrates its centenary this year and it promises to be an exciting time for all our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers with a variety of events being put on at Group, District and Area level, and it's going to be a busy year for the Leaders. Plans are being made for a Scout Group reunion in September in conjunction with the Guide sections.

Beaver, Cub and Scout meetings take place every week: Beavers (ages 6-8) and Cubs (ages 8-10½) meet in the Church hall on Tuesday evenings at 5.30 and 6.30 pm respectively and the Scouts (ages 10½-14) and Explorer Scouts (14 - 18) meet on Fridays at 7 pm.

## Adult Groups

**Stuart Fowell, Group Scout Leader**



## Women's Own

This group of ladies meets every Wednesday afternoon in the comfort of the Church lounge. There are about 15 of us (on a good day!) and we meet for a cuppa and a chat, worship, fellowship and entertainment - not necessarily in that order, but all within an hour! This year we have welcomed new members, including 2 from St Margaret's Church, and members from other Rosyth Churches too.



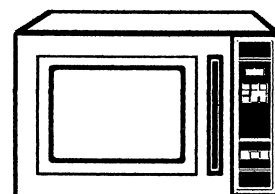
During the last session we have had speakers with wide and varied interests and who have travelled! We've reminisced with Malcolm and Frieda, sung our favourite hymns, enjoyed "Countdown" and been entertained by Brambles Playgroup. We have also continued our fund raising activities throughout the year to support our Church as well as the charities we have heard about. One new innovation was to have our refreshments around the

table on Members' afternoons. We hope to continue together and our new session which began on 7 February has a few surprises in store. Please do come along and join us - even in only for the occasional Wednesday - and be assured of a very warm welcome.

**Mary Kidd**

## Retirement Fellowship

Well friends, the time has come round again when reports of organisations have been asked for. The Retirement Fellowship seems to function for most of the year - an indication of the fellowship and joy we get in meeting together. Our winter programme starts in September and ends in May so this report covers February to January. We have had a happy year although at our age we get hit with hospital appointments and illness. We have enjoyed a varied number of topics and subjects (even a microwave demonstration) which have been brought by the willingness of a number of speakers who have come to us on the first Tuesday of the month. We enjoy our games sessions which are held on the third Tuesday of the month. From July to September we hold our "Tea and Chat" afternoons still on the first and third Tuesdays so if you are old in years but young at heart you'll find a warm welcome at the Retirement Fellowship 2 pm.



**Jack Fowell**

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## Methodist Church Finances

Below is a summary of the Church finances for the year ending 31 August 2006. We ended the financial year with a deficit but only because the expected tax refund was not received before the end of the financial year. If that had been received, we would have had a surplus of about £1800. We had been forecasting a deficit of some £1500 in this current financial year because of increases in the Circuit Assessment and in fuel costs but the fact that there will be 2 tax refunds during this financial year should more than cancel out the deficit. However, we must still aim to balance our income with our expenditure and this will require an increase in giving.

### Summary of the Church finances for the year ending 31 August 2006:

#### Income

#### Expenditure

#### CHURCH ACCOUNT

Collections/donations	18114	Circuit assessment	23239
Tax refunds	-157	Sundry/Adverts/Offering Env	761
Gift day (personal)	2883	Printing/stationery	628
Fund raising	0	Connexional funds	150
Bank interest	<u>925</u>	Tax refund bequests	<u>0</u>
	21765		24778

**Deficit on Church Account**

**3013**

#### PROPERTY ACCOUNT

St Margaret's	2100	Caretaking/cleaning/phone	946
Playgroup	2001	Gas/electricity/water	1462
Parahandies	430	Insurance	1241
Gift Day (organisations)	980	Repairs & maintenance	1880
Other	<u>1145</u>	Equipment/furnishings	<u>233</u>
	6656		5762

**Surplus on Property Account**

**894**

**Deficit for year to 31 August 2006**

**2119**

#### Summary of Funds:

Balance from previous financial year	17922
Deficit 2005/2006	2119
Held in special accounts	5595
Total	<u>21398</u>

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## Property Improvements Fund

The Property Improvements Fund was launched in September 2005 with a target of £12000. To date over £8000 has been raised with about £3000 of this coming from fund raising efforts. A further £1000 promised by St Margaret's will take the total to over £9000 so we are well on our way to meeting the target. About £1200 has already been spent from the Fund on the purchase of new carpet tiles and various fees so there is about £8000 available to spend. A poster showing progress with the Fund is displayed on the wall beside the door into the Church.

Our attempts to obtain grants under the Landfill Tax Credit scheme sadly came to nothing. We re-submitted an application to Biffaward last year but were advised in December that we had again been unsuccessful. This is very disappointing but we are still proceeding with plans to carry out various improvements to our premises.



We have received grants from the Rosyth Gothenburg Trust and the Awards for All towards the cost of putting in a new rear access to the premises (through room 1) and creating a toilet for use by disabled people using part of the Ladies toilet. The total cost will be in the region of £10000 of which 85% of the cost will be met from the grants we have received with the balance of about £1500 coming from the Property Improvements Fund. If all goes according to plan, this work will be carried out during the Easter holidays.

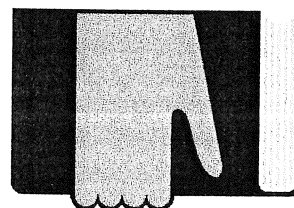
In addition, the Church Council agreed that we proceed with a package of improvements costing around £12000. This will form the basis of a grant application to the Relief and Extension Fund for Methodism in Scotland and it is hoped that we might receive a grant of about £4000 towards this. When added to the money we have in hand this will leave a shortfall of about £1600. The improvements planned are: new flooring in the hall and toilets, new kitchen, resurfacing of the car park, new cupboards in room 3.

We still hope to have the inside of the Church sanctuary re-decorated for the price of materials but this will not be before April.

**Martin Rogers**

## Bibles and Large Hymn Books

A number of the bibles and large hymn books in the Church seats have broken bindings. This is because they have been placed in the book rests with the spines uppermost. All of the weight of the book is then taken by the inside pages attached to the covers. To avoid any further damage, we are trying to ensure that the large books are placed in the book rests with their spines downwards. Ron MacMillan from Kirkcaldy Church has repaired similar damage to their books and is willing to come along and show us how to make effective repairs to our books. Any volunteers to help with this would be welcome. No expertise is required just a good eye and steady hand. Please speak to me if you can help.



**Martin Rogers**

## Coming Events



### World Day of Prayer

Our Church is hosting the World Day of Prayer service on Friday 2 March. The Service has been written by the Women of Paraguay and our Minister, Deborah, will give the main talk. Please do come along and support this event.

### Lenten Studies:

Deborah is organising a Lent Study Group which will meet every Friday during March at 7.15 pm. In recognition of the Bicentenary of the Abolition of Slavery, the Group will be looking at 'Set All Free'. Watch out for further details.

### **Church Fund-raising Events.**

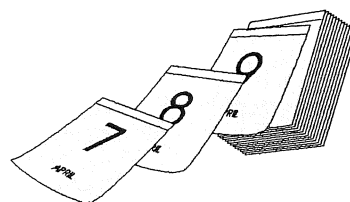
We are still trying to organise a ceilidh which will be in April so keep watching the notices. Other events are the Blessings Bags which went very well last year and were such fun to take part in. At Harvest in September we are holding our annual event for Christian Aid and probably in November there will be a Christmas Coffee Morning. All these events take a few people a great deal of time and organising so please do come and support us.

### **New Bible Study and Prayer Groups**

There are plans afoot to form some Prayer and Bible Study groups. Contact Valerie Sparling, Evelyn Kenny, Jean Hall or Susan Hitchon if you are interested in joining in a group. It has also been suggested that those who use the "Every Day with Jesus" bible reading notes might get together to discuss the readings. Contact Jack Fowell if you would like to join such a group.

### **Circuit Weekend at Pitlochry**

This is being held over the weekend 2/3 June at Gartmore, Aberfoyle. Booking forms are available from the stewards. A Circuit Service will be held at our Church on Sunday 3 June at 4 pm which will include the dedication of the Circuit tapestry.



## **Dates for Your Diary**

### **February**

- Wed 21** *7.30 pm Ash Wednesday Sung Eucharist conducted by Rev Canon Dr David Campbell*  
**Sun 25** *Worship led by Rev Canon Dr David Campbell (Holy Communion)*  
*6 pm Evening Service led by Myra Tarr*

### **March**

- Fri 2** *World Day of Prayer at Rosyth Methodist Church at 2 pm*  
**Sat 3** *Church Anniversary Gift Day and JMA Coffee Morning 10-12 noon*  
**Sun 4** *Worship led by Dr Jeremy Bradshaw (Church Anniversary)*  
**Mon 5** *Finance Committee meeting*  
**Sun 11** *Worship led by Rev Malcolm Trew*  
*6 pm Communion Service led by Rev Deborah Cornish*  
**Sun 18** *Worship led by Rev Deborah Cornish (Parade Service)*  
**Sun 25** *Worship led by Rev Deborah Cornish (Holy Communion)*  
*6 pm Music and readings for Passiontide (all welcome)*

### **April**

- Sun 1** *Worship led by Dr Anne Pennington (Palm Sunday)*  
**Thur 5** *7.30 pm Maundy Thursday – Sung Eucharist conducted by Rev Canon Dr David Campbell*  
**Fri 6** *7 pm Reflections on the Cross led by Rev Deborah Cornish*  
**Sun 8** *Easter Day Worship led by Rev Deborah Cornish (All Age Worship)*

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| <p><b>The next edition of Contact will be published on 1 April. All contributions to be with the Editor by 25 March please.</b></p> |
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