

Rosyth  
Methodist Church



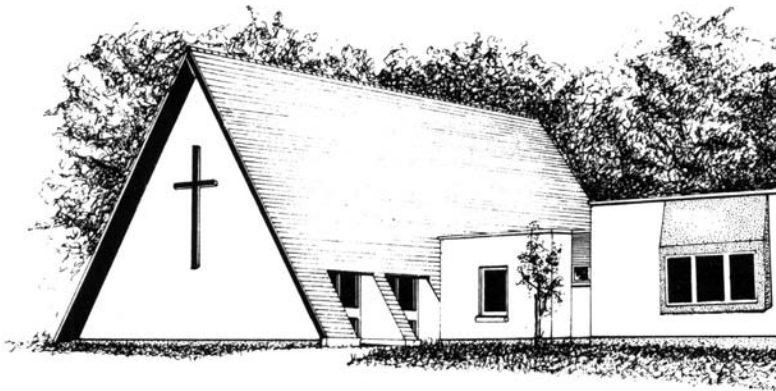
St Margaret's Scottish  
Episcopal Church



# Contact

the newsletter of the partnership between

Rosyth Methodist Church and  
St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church



Issue 51

June/July 2010

**Rosyth  
Methodist Church**

Scottish Charity SC028559

**St Margaret's Scottish  
Episcopal Church**

Scottish Charity SC028426

**in partnership**

Our partnership is formally recognised as a Local Ecumenical Partnership,  
with a constitution and Covenant signed on 14 June 2000

**Minister:**

Rev Eric Potts      01383 851373

**Supernumerary Minister:**

Rev Malcolm Trew      01383 420949

**Senior Steward:**

Mary Kidd      01383 872332

**Pastoral Secretary:**

Gwyneth Kirby      01383 624779

**Treasurer:**

Howard Kirby      01383 624779

**Rector:**

Rev Tim Bennison      01383 720532

**Associate Minister:**

Rev Ross Kennedy      01383 625887

**Vestry Secretary:**

Sandra Young      01383 415021

**Treasurer:**

Alan Taylor      01383 823902

**our regular pattern of worship**

**Sundays (except 4th)**

9.30am      Episcopalian Sung Eucharist  
(occasionally 9.15am – see diary pages for details)

11.00am      Methodist Morning Worship  
(including Sunday School)

**2nd Sundays:** for the Young Church

9.00am      Breakfast and “Sunday Funday”

11.00am      All-age service

**4th Sundays:** Worship together

11.00am      Joint Communion Service

6.00pm      “Sunday@Six”

Our postal address is Queensferry Road, Rosyth, Dunfermline, KY11 2JH, and you'll find us at the junction of Queensferry Road and Woodside Avenue. The car park is behind the church, and limited local on-street parking is available, but there is lots more space in the parking area at the junction with Park Road.

# Sharing our Faith

our monthly editorial by the Reverend Tim Bennison

Recently, at a diocesan event in Perth, I helped to lead a workshop on the subject of “Sharing our Faith”. The purpose of the workshop was to help participants more fully understand and embrace one of the Nine Marks of Mission that congregations around the diocese have been encouraged to adopt and develop: “Sharing faith by confident and sensitive evangelism, witnessing to God’s presence and power”.

The discussion was varied and informal, but one of the things that struck me was the level of ambivalence and uncertainty that people felt about the whole question of sharing their faith with others.

Evangelism, of course, is simply the sharing of the gospel, or ‘good news’ about Jesus Christ and, just to give members of the group some practice in sharing good news, we asked them to break into pairs and tell each other, in their pairs, about something good that had happened to them in the previous week. Afterwards, in feedback to the group, participants were unanimous in agreeing that sharing with others general good things that had happened in their lives was a positive, uplifting and energising experience.

And yet, when the discussion moved on to people’s experience of sharing the good news of their faith, then people became considerably less comfortable and rather more negative. Sharing faith was not perceived to be a positive or uplifting experience for many in the room. And between them, members of the group expressed a variety of fears: “What if I’m misunderstood?”; “What if I can’t answer their questions?”; ‘What if they want proof?’ And perhaps the strongest fears were around how they would be perceived: “People might think I’m ramming my faith down their throat”; and, worst of all,

“People might think I’m stupid”; “people might reject me”.

One of the things that I found interesting in all of this seemed to be a general, though unarticulated, assumption that evangelism, or faith sharing, meant somehow having to convince others of the truth of the gospel and being able to justify God’s existence and involvement in the world in the light of all the scientific evidence. And, of course, if that’s what people thought, then it’s no wonder they felt rather nervous at the prospect of sharing their faith.

But, perhaps, in the end, evangelism isn’t to do with telling people ‘facts’ about God or Jesus. Faith sharing isn’t about ‘proving’ to people that God created the world, or that Mary was a virgin or that Jesus rose from the dead. All those words like ‘convincing’, ‘proving’, ‘justifying’ in the end, I think, are unhelpful. Rather, the important thing in evangelism, it seems to me, is simply to offer ourselves and our experience: without any strings attached, without any expectations.

In the first letter of Peter we are exhorted to always be ready to give an account of the hope that is within us. And that, for me, is what evangelism is. Not to coerce or to persuade, but simply to offer what is ours: “This is how it is for me”; “This is my experience”; “This is what God means to me”.

It’s rare for people to come to faith or to join the church as a result of a process of rational argument and reflection – of being ‘convinced’ intellectually of truth of the gospel. What many people perhaps find rather more compelling is a living example of what it means to be a Christian and to experience, first hand, the transforming love of God in their lives.

Tim Bennison

# LEP 10th Anniversary

Celebrating our partnership

“As the partnership shares in worship on Sunday may the Spirit of Pentecost blow mightily through the hearts of all those gathered, and in the words of an old Anglican priest turned Methodist – may all feel their ‘hearts strangely warmed.’”

These words from Deborah Cornish were read at the beginning of our joint communion service on 23 May, which was led by Ross Kennedy.

Similar feelings were expressed when, later that day, we celebrated ten years of fellowship with an Agape meal. The forty present included as our guests:

Canon Val Nellist  
(representing Bishop David)

Rev Andrew Letby

Dr Bill Reid (Connexional Liaison  
Officer, Methodist Church in Scotland)

Rev Lindsey Sanderson  
(Assistant General Secretary, ACTS)

Shirt sleeve order for everyone, because the day turned out to be exceptionally hot!



Everyone appreciated both the fellowship and the three-course meal of soup, main course and sweet, which was interleaved with communion, when we served each other the bread and wine.

Heartfelt thanks are due to all those, from both congregations, who helped in the preparation and serving of food.



This dual focus on food and sacrament was new to some, but was well explained in the following way in the service sheet:

Agape is the New Testament Greek word for ‘Self-giving love’. In the Christian tradition, an ‘Agape’ is also the name for informal meals and times of togetherness and mutual sharing which remind us of all those meals Jesus shared with his friends and the unity that his Spirit continues to give us.

These meanings and associations are especially poignant for us today in Rosyth as we celebrate and give thanks for the close friendship that has developed between our two congregations. This special relationship was formalised ten years ago in the signing of a Covenant between us, marking the beginning of our Local Ecumenical Partnership.

And today, as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of our formal relationship, we also acknowledge and celebrate the many ways in which our congregations and their members work together both formally and informally, and the many friendships that have been formed over the years.

Such partnerships are important in the life of both our churches – both locally and nationally – and provide a valuable testimony to those around us of Christian unity and of a united witness to the Gospel and God’s love.

# Were you there?

Our LEP 10th anniversary Agape supper



Malcolm Trew has captured most of those who enjoyed fellowship and food, except of course himself!

## From absent friends ...

Dear Sandra

I am delighted to have received an invitation to the Agape marking the 10th anniversary of the ecumenical partnership between Rosyth Methodist and St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Churches. Unfortunately I am unable to accept as I have other services on that day.

I was pleased to lead worship at Rosyth recently and to find out more about the people and local mission firsthand. I enjoy receiving the magazine too. So I shall be thinking of you on 23rd May and ask that you convey greetings from me personally and from all of the Methodist District. As you celebrate God's provision thus far may you be inspired with the Holy Spirit's energy for His purposes in the days ahead.

Wishing you every blessing

Yours sincerely

Lily

Rev Lily Twist B.Sc, B.Th, PGCE  
Chair of the Methodist Synod in Scotland

Dear Sandra

Thank you for the kind invitation to the LEP anniversary service.

The Methodist Plan works far in advance of the invitation, so I regret to say John and I will be unable to join everyone at Rosyth for what, I am sure, will be a joyous occasion.

As we come together with the churches in Ledbury for a Pentecost Celebration that evening, we will remember with love and prayers our friends, both Methodist and Episcopal in Rosyth.

May the power of God's Holy Spirit move among you that evening and always.

Yours in Christ

Deborah and John





# 10 Years ago

a challenge from Jack Fowell

The first section of the document signed on 14 June 2000 is our covenant to work and worship together as a Local Ecumenical Partnership. Jack's reflection starts by quoting the promise that follows:

"We will seek to deepen our relationship  
... by:

sharing the Methodist Church  
facilities, including the Church  
Sanctuary;

meeting and taking counsel with  
each other;

sharing together in acts of worship  
including Holy Communion;

sharing together in prayer,  
fellowship, study and mission.

working together with Christians  
and churches in Rosyth and District;

and supporting projects which will  
benefit the wider community.

We pledge ourselves to this task in the  
presence of God".

These were the aims that we, as two  
separate churches – St Margaret's Scottish  
Episcopal and Rosyth Methodist – signed  
in agreement in June 2000.

It is now 10 years on – really? Yes indeed,  
and, on looking back over those years, it  
seems to me that we have met some of these  
aims better than others. So perhaps during  
the next 10 years?!! we should think about  
those aims which are not "up to speed".

The Covenant document was read out  
during the Agape meal, followed by a  
period of silence for reflection.

If you haven't re-read it recently, why  
not pause and do so when next you  
pass it by?

When the Covenant was signed in  
2000, Jack Fowell was the Methodist  
lay signatory, and Adrian Masson  
the Episcopalian lay signatory. The  
third of the surviving signatories was  
David Campbell, and you can find his  
reflections on page 10.



Rev Lindsey Sanderson, Assistant General  
Secretary of ACTS, holding the  
covenant document that she later read out

# **The Partnership Agreement**

some background from Adrian Masson

During the early years following our move from the Naval Community, St Margaret's existence was very tenuous. The invitation from Rosyth Methodist Church to share their building and facilities was warmly appreciated, indeed a lifeline that enabled the majority of St Margaret's congregation to stay together as a worshipping community enjoying the rites and traditions that had been central to our church life in Hilton Road. However lack of a Rector in Dunfermline to fulfil the role of priest-in-charge, and not being formally constituted as Scottish Episcopal Church, meant that our existence was under threat for over two years. With the appointment in 1998 of Hunter Farquarson as Rector of Holy Trinity Church, the opportunity was taken to formalise our place within the Scottish Episcopal community and to review the partnership between St Margaret's and Rosyth Methodist Church.

Credit for the Partnership Agreement that was eventually signed by both churches two years later needs to go to Malcolm Trew who tirelessly scoured Scotland (and beyond!) for examples of local and national agreements that might suit our circumstances.

The beauty of what emerged is its simplicity – it sets out very clearly the key elements of our life together, what we believe and the ways in which we will strive to work more closely. Importantly though it also recognises that we are two distinct churches with different traditions that we sometimes enjoy celebrating uniquely.

Numerically there is no question that St Margaret's is the minor partner in this arrangement and a separate agreement reflects our place as users of the church building. We have been pleased though to have been treated as equal partners and can look back over more than ten years at the many ways in which the two churches have increasingly worked together, supported each other in times of need, developed their worship together and grown strong bonds of friendship between the members of both congregations.

The future may still be a little tenuous, but for entirely different reasons from when we entered into this partnership. However we look back with thanks and delight for what has been achieved within the framework of our joint agreement; we look forward with hope.

## **Feedback from ACTS, our Sponsoring Body**

In her letter of thanks, as well as assuring us of the prayers and best wishes of our Sponsoring Body, Lindsey Sanderson said: "I do hope that within the two congregations you have felt that the Sponsoring Body has been a supportive presence in your work and witness.

"We certainly have appreciated the way in which the Partnership has offered feedback on a number of pieces of work we have been engaged upon, and we have enjoyed welcoming members of the Partnership to various Sponsoring Body events."

# Our Local Partnership

A personal reflection by Malcolm Trew

This is a special year for celebrating our Unity in Christ. 100 years ago the first World Missionary Conference was held in Edinburgh. Our recent Agape meal in Rosyth celebrated the signing of a Covenant ten years ago which formally initiated what is still the only Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) between a Scottish Episcopalian congregation and a Methodist one.

My personal ecumenical journey began in August 1959, when after four years theological training in Manchester, I spent three weeks studying at the World Council of Churches' Ecumenical Centre in Geneva. I was one of two Methodists in a group of 18 theological students from the UK. Returning to England as a probationer minister I was immediately caught up in "World Refugee Year" activities which led me to become actively involved throughout my ministry with Christians in other churches through Christian Aid.

I came to Scotland, to Glasgow, in 1969, after ten years' ministry in England. This was a few months before the vote to decide whether the Methodist and Anglican Churches should come together in an act of organic/structural union. If the vote had been in favour, services of reconciliation would have been held in various English cities at which Episcopal hands would be laid on Methodist ministers so that they might receive whatever God wished to impart to them. They might then acquire the necessary degree of acceptability to those who believed that Methodist ordination lacked something vital. I would then have travelled to Carlisle Cathedral to receive whatever additional blessing God wished to impart. I was clear in my mind that this was not re-ordination.

Though Methodist Conference voted in favour, the Anglicans rejected the plan.

During the next few years, a few of my ministerial colleagues became Anglicans and were re-ordained. I decided that I would never enter the Anglican Church 'through the back door' but by the 'front door' when, as I hoped, another attempt was made at reconciliation between our two churches. Unfortunately the goal of organic unity seems further off than ever!

Through the Anglican-Methodist Covenant signed in 2003, the Church of England has a special relationship with the Methodist Church. In some areas co-operation is extensive; Methodist ministers and Anglican priests regularly preach and, more significantly, celebrate Holy Communion in each other's churches.

Alas, in Scotland, ecumenical progress appears to have ground to a halt. I find this deeply disappointing. Though there are hundreds of LEPs in England, in Scotland there are very few. The first was Livingston Ecumenical Parish, established in 1966 as a single parish with members of the Church of Scotland, the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church. The second LEP was ours in Rosyth, which began when St Margaret's began to share our building in January 1996.

Our Methodist Congregation includes a number of ex-Presbyterians and the St Margaret's congregation have a number of English C of E members who were automatically regarded as Scottish Episcopalians when their Naval (English chaplaincy) church building was closed. If they had not accepted the invitation to share Methodist premises, some of them might quite happily have become Methodists!

/continued opposite



Presbyterians, Episcopalians and Methodists come from different backgrounds. Their church structures are different. They enjoy different ways of worship and have different ways of understanding and expressing their faith. Some Methodists are uncomfortable with vestments and set orders of service. Likewise, many Scottish Episcopalians are uncomfortable with spontaneous styles of worship, preferring books and service sheets which allow services to proceed unannounced.

Archbishop Rowan Williams wrote in 2007: "Our churches, Anglican and Methodist, remain in many ways divided, between themselves and within themselves."

There are three big divisions within the Christian Church. Firstly there are diverse views regarding the Holy Communion/Eucharist. Roman Catholics will not budge on that, nor will 'High' Anglo-Catholics. This is partly linked to the second division – the validity of our Orders. Because I have not been ordained by a Bishop, my ordination is generally regarded as 'defective' by some Scottish Episcopalians and the High Church wing of the English Anglican Church. Thus, whilst Episcopalian priests can preside at a Methodist communion, Methodist ministers are not allowed to preside at an Episcopalian eucharist. Differences in understanding the nature of the eucharist/communion are really too wide to be bridged.

The third big division of course is the understanding and authority of scripture – thus the Anglican world-wide communion is in real danger of fragmenting over issues such as sexuality.

However, Methodists and Scottish Episcopalians *can* share and enjoy numerous activities together, including worship and fellowship, and each may learn from the other and come to appreciate the differences.

To quote from Clause 4 of our LEP Constitution, "Although each congregation shall remain autonomous, as fellow Christians from different traditions we shall work together as partners in a covenant relationship, remaining flexible and open to future possibilities."

And how closely we have worked together during the past 13 years! In our first year we arranged a joint Alpha course. We now have joint Episcopal Vestry and Methodist Church Council Meetings. Two from St Margaret's now serve on the Property Committee and are active in maintaining and cleaning the premises. One of them has replaced me as Property Secretary. Both churches have shared in providing new furniture for the sanctuary. St Margaret's Traidcraft stall has 'customers' from both congregations. Methodist services now rely on music provided by two Episcopal organists, and some Methodists regularly sing with St Margaret's choir. Sunday@Six has replaced traditional Episcopal Evensong with a mixed programme of different styles of worship. The former Methodist-run Women's Own has become the Wednesday Fellowship, attended by men and women from both congregations, and will have an Episcopalian vice-president next session.

A joint Memorial Book records the passing of friends from both congregations. We now share in producing weekly notices and this joint "Contact". We share meals together, and through our combined activities new friendships are being formed and deepened. As we sung at our Agape meal:

(Christ) bids us build each other up;  
And gathered into one,  
To our high calling's glorious hope  
We hand in hand go on.

# LEP 10th Anniversary

Personal reflections from ...

## ... Fettes College

It is an extraordinary pleasure to be able to contribute something to this edition of Contact to mark this wonderful decade of partnership between the Methodists and Episcopalians of Rosyth.

I, for my part, was fortunate to have been part of that rich lineage of clergy who served the Episcopalians in Rosyth and the surrounding villages. I was doubly fortunate in that for many of the early years of the partnership I was able to have shared in that service with friends from both denominations and congregations.

For me, of course, this good and double fortune was heightened further by being able to work closely with two absolutely splendid ministerial characters and to get to know better a third.

The first, and a man who made the greatest of impacts on me, was of course Dr Gordon Murray CBE. I always say, for it is true, that I learned more that was valuable and enduring about ministering from Gordon than any theological college or bishop. Gordon and his wife Janet came to Rosyth at the same time as I did and from our first meeting – a convivial supper in their home – hours before his induction, I could sense that there was going to be an impressive meeting of minds, in which inevitable differences were not minimised but quite simply worked through in Gordon's amazing manner. I learned from Gordon so much about not taking myself too seriously and about concentrating on the things which matter. His legacy to me of extraordinary hopefulness even in difficult circumstances remains unfaded. His passing from us too soon one of the greatest regrets of my life. His funeral with roof-raising singing an enduring memory. He was, simply, a

colossus, a distinguished, walking, smoking, joyful, laughter-filled colossus. Of such as him is God's Kingdom built on earth.

And then, after a decent time and the shorter service of fellow-Irishman Eddie Curliss, the Methodist people found themselves a new minister – the Cornish Deborah Cornish – not only younger and better looking, but also from a somewhat different theological stable from Gordon. It was a privilege for me to get to know her well and to be able to share many of the early moments of an ordained life with Deborah. Not only her first energetic weeks and months in the congregations and district she served, but also the significant moment of ordination in Murrayfield Parish church on that balmy Sunday afternoon. And it became apparent to me what a lot of energy was required to sustain and enhance the lives of those congregations.

And then always in the background, a faithful and true servant of the people of Rosyth, was Malcolm Trew. He was simply a marvellous support for everything that went on, as was his much-loved and wonderfully talented wife Frieda.

But these are reflections – castings back of the mind to near and dimmer memories of the people with whom I worked from that night we signed the covenant between our two congregations with Bishop Michael and Chairman Adrian until the day I moved across the water to Edinburgh and to a very different context of work. As reflections they are important to me, but not as important as the ways in which, slowly but surely and inevitably, the people of God of the two congregations have grown together, learning to see the things which were vital and those which were extraneous to a fuller life.

/continued opposite

## ... 'Gwavas Lowena', Ledbury

I grew up in Cornwall believing I knew what Piskeys were, and then I moved to Scotland and found a new breed of them - Scottish Piskies in partnership with the Methodist Church in Rosyth.

It was a joy to be part of this ministry, which included working with an Irishman with a dreadful sense of humour, who thought he could eat the harvest offering whilst I preached. He tried to teach me the foibles of the Scottish Episcopal Church, whilst I tried to share with him the joys and wonders of forward planning, which meant thinking about Christmas during Lent. This just confirmed for David that Methodists really were strange beings from another place.

Tim took up the mantle from David, the advantage being he had some understanding of Methodist ways. It is with regret that we only worked together for a short time, but in that time we developed a good relationship built on our desire to see the partnership develop.

It is through the Scottish Episcopal Church that I got to know Tembu and family, both as ministers learning together and then, before he moved to Goldenacre, he joined us for Messy Church on Sunday mornings.

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From social gatherings to meetings for shared worship to maintaining a property, these have been the ways in which that growing together has taken place. And today, with extraordinary thankfulness for being able to play just a little part in it, I send my greetings across the Forth to you all for the continuing journey together.

Rev Dr David Campbell  
St Margaret's priest-in-charge 1999-2007



When I think of the partnership it is with happy memories of shared worship throughout the year, Paschal meals, Burns Night, carol singing in Tesco's doorway and so much more. There were get-togethers after Sunday worship when we would consider what we were about as two denominations working together in partnership. It is from meetings such as these that worship on the fourth Sunday in each month took on a new lease of life as Sundays@Six.

Another aspect of this partnership included the friendships forged across the two denominations through a love of music, and a real desire to work together as Christians in Rosyth.

As the partnership moves forward into the next decade, I am sure you will be blessed by the ministry of Deacon Sarah as she joins you in September, and that you will offer her the same support, encouragement and friendship you offered me.

It has been a privilege and joy to be part of this extended and ecumenical church family.

Deborah Cornish  
Methodist minister 2004-2009

# Queen's Scout's success marked at Windsor

Explorer Scout Stuart Hamilton was amongst 29 Queen's Scouts from Scotland who took part in the annual St George's Day Parade at Windsor Castle in April. It was, by all accounts, a hectic weekend for him but one which he will no doubt remember for the rest of his life.

After a long and tiring journey to London, Stuart met up with other Scottish Queen's Scouts, all wearing full uniform and kilts, to take in the sights of the big City. They visited the Natural History Museum, watched the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace, had a photo-shoot outside the front door of 10 Downing Street (they don't let just *anyone* do that you know!), before going on to see the Houses of Parliament and finally to take a sky-high flight on the London Eye. All this before buzzing off to tour the Tower of London.

As if that didn't test their stamina, early next morning the Queen's Scouts were bussed out to Victoria Barracks, where they were drilled by military instructors and taught to march properly and in time with each other. Uniforms were duly inspected, non-standard kit was removed, squint badges were taken off and sewn on straight, and shoes were polished. After all that, Stuart must now be the smartest Scout in our Scout Group!



Finally at Windsor, in the presence of HRH the Prince of Wales, the St George's Day Parade took place with bands playing, Scout Flags flying and Section Leaders keeping their divisions in line. Afterwards, the Queen's Scouts were inspected by Prince Charles and Chief Scout Bear Grylls.

For Stuart, a most exhausting but memorable and quite unrepeatable weekend.

Stuart Fowell, Group Scout Leader



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## Welcome to our Church family!

Baptised on Easter Day: Olivia Ruth CASSIE, born on 11 October 2009, daughter of Rachael and Darren, from Glenrothes.

Baptised on 16 May: Lara Kathy WEST, born on 8 January 2008, daughter of Clare and Dave, from Pitcorthie.

# Fellowship News

## Golden Wedding celebrations

Our actual anniversary date was 16 April but we found that some family members could not be with us on that day so we decided to celebrate on 24 April. In fact, we enjoyed a meal out with just our two daughters on the day itself, which was so nice.



We decided that having a lunch time celebration would be nice so the invitations went out, replies came back and unfortunately a few refusals due mainly to the age group involved having some health problems. However, on the day we were surrounded by folks we love, although our son-in-law Gordon was absent due to working on an oil rig somewhere in the North Sea. Both of us gave a short “talk” – and introduced our daughters and our grandchildren to everybody. Lots of cameras were in use, so if anyone has photographs, we would like you to send them to us so that we can put them in the Golden Wedding Album which we are busy putting together.

Many thanks to everyone who sent cards, beautiful flower arrangements, and gifts – we were quite overwhelmed by kindness and this will stay with us for ever.

Ron and Mary (Dempster)

## Jeremy Masson

Jeremy Masson, elder son of Adrian and Sue, has been known to St Margaret's congregation for most of his life. This June he qualifies with two degrees: BMus after four years at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, and a teaching qualification studied for concurrently during the last two years at Manchester Metropolitan University.



Jeremy plays the clarinet and bass clarinet. Before going to Manchester he was a member of the Rosyth Brass Band and has played with the National Orchestra of Scotland for several years, including their 30th anniversary tour to Poland and Germany last summer. Jeremy has also played in the pit orchestra for several shows in Bolton. As a schoolboy Jeremy composed the music for “Magi”, an Epiphany drama for young people that was performed in our church.

We congratulate Jeremy on his achievements to date and we wish him all the best in his future career. Jeremy is looking forward to starting work as a music teacher on 1 July at the John Madejski Sports Academy in Reading, a new type of secondary school opened in 2007 striving to provide the young people of Reading with an exciting and creative learning environment.



# Jim McNee

1929–2010

Jim was born on 22 June 1929 in Port Glasgow where he was grew up and served his apprenticeship in Mitchells shipyard. He was called to National Service, and served in Palestine with the Highland Light Infantry (a regiment of which he was justly proud).

In the early 50s Jim married and had four children. Sadly, the marriage eventually failed and Jim moved to England, although he never forgot his children he left behind in Scotland, nor his Scottish origins!

During the 70s he met Olive, who was at the time married to Ron and they had a daughter, Shona. After the break-up of their marriage, romance blossomed between Jim and Olive. Eventually they married and had a daughter, Heather. They all lived together as a family; Jim quickly took on the role of father to Shona.

Living in Chatham, Jim worked at the Dockyard for 6 years before its closure. Luckily for us, he transferred to Rosyth Dockyard in 1983. But shortly after that move, Jim was diagnosed with Lung Cancer and quickly underwent surgery to have a lung removed. The specialist and his doctors estimated that Jim would survive for only 2–3 years. But what did they know of his dogged determination and forbearance? Medically he retired and enjoyed his family life and the life of Riley!

As a family the McNees attended St. Margaret's Anglican church in the Naval Base until it closed. There they made many lasting friendships, especially with Adrian and Sue Masson. When their second son, Robert, was born, Jim and Olive were delighted to take on the role of his Godparents.

In fact, Jim felt quite honoured, and he took this role seriously. He enjoyed many happy hours playing football with the young Robert – and look where that skill has led him!

One of the things Jim enjoyed in his retirement was membership of the Masonic Lodge, which he joined in 1996. He made many firm friendships.

Dogged by ill health in his latter years, Jim was always supported by Olive and the girls. He suffered several medical difficulties with great fortitude, but he certainly made sure he lived to the full all of his nine lives. I will remember him as having a terrific sense of humour; he had a great gift for winding people up!

He was such a proud man to see his daughter, Heather, graduate from Dundee University with a Degree in Nursing.

Indeed Jim will be long remembered as the loving, proud family man; it was during his final years that he regained contact with his first family over in Glasgow – this time was very precious to him.



condensed from the tribute given  
by Mary Kidd at Jim's funeral

# Rhoda Stroud

1907–2010

Older readers may well remember Rhoda Stroud, who died a few days before Easter. She and her husband, Edwin, came from Portsmouth, to live and work in Rosyth during the Second World War, and lived in Dunfermline. They were members of Rosyth Methodist Church, where Eddie was a Church Steward during the Parkgate years.

Rhoda became involved with the Rosyth and District Operatic Society – it is thought as the Wardrobe Mistress – a love of which was passed on to her late daughter, Eunice, who undertook this role in the Dunfermline Gilbert and Sullivan Society.

After becoming a widow she returned to Portsmouth during the 1970s to live with Eunice and Harry Diver. When Harry was given a Naval appointment with FOSNI, the family returned to live in Burntisland in 1986. They were regular worshippers at St Columba's Church in South Rosyth. Rhoda was a regular member of the SWANS and its well-known choir. When SWANS ceased to be, she and her special friend, the late Rosina McKee, (a member of our once-upon-a-time Drama Club), came along together to join our Women's Own which met at church on Wednesday afternoons.

Her daughter, Eunice, is also fondly remembered because she was a regular visitor to the group, demonstrating her skills as a floral artist.



Rhoda's last years were spent in Raith Gate Residential Home in Kirkcaldy where she received loving care and attention and yet maintained a quiet dignity and a sense of belonging. She was visited regularly by her Pastoral Visitor, Jack Fowell. In September, 2007, she celebrated her 100th birthday, and is photographed here with her son, Alan, who was 70 on that same day. Those who remember her with kindness will always have cause to smile when they hear the name Rhoda Stroud.

Mary Kidd

## Our Memorial Book

As Malcolm mentions on page 9, one of the things we do jointly is to keep a Memorial Book, which records the passing of friends from both congregations.

Its annual update having been completed, the book has returned to its place in the display case at the back of the church.

Do take a look at the names of the saints who witnessed here in past years ...



# The Wednesday Fellowship

Members enjoyed a full programme throughout April and May, concluding with a session at which Keith McLeod, a Community Police Officer, made members of the Fellowship aware of personal safety at home and when out and about, an insight into the Chinese Church Community which Sandra has reported about on page 37, and the Annual General Meeting and Close of Session that ended the first full year of the Wednesday Fellowship.

Mary Kidd writes:

I think all members will agree that it has greatly added to the fellowship of the Church, and that it is the highlight of the their week, especially for those who live alone.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all those, from both congregations, who come to be a part of the Fellowship and who help out in any way with its smooth running. We now have a break until September to recharge, though several members have hinted that it would be good to keep going through the summer months. Maybe the idea of more housegroups will catch on!

A note from Sandra Young:

Our grateful thanks to the "Two Marys" (Kidd and Dempster) for their hard work to make the first year of the Wednesday Fellowship such a success. The pleasure they have given the members through a programme of varied and interesting topics has fulfilled a great need, especially for older members of our congregations and their friends from other Rosyth churches. It has been a joy to witness such friendship between everyone.

If you are looking for a way to spend Wednesday afternoon, do join us – men and women – in the autumn. A warm welcome awaits you.

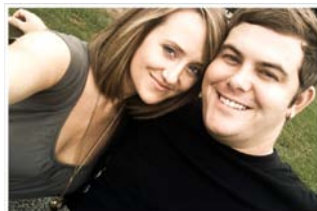


Community Police Officer Keith McLeod, with Ethel Douglas, May Hopper, Beth Stevenson, Allison Brown, and Jock and Audrey Headen.

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## Meet our visitors

**Ken Weatherford** grew up in Memphis, Tennessee, the home of the Blues. A born musician, Ken is a worship leader, vocal coach, studio musician and PGA announcer. His wife **Casey** grew up in the small town of Wynne, Arkansas, with a passion for design and photography that drives her freelance graphic design work, and with an innate knack for words that often turn into songs. The couple met at a small Methodist college in Tennessee. After four years in Memphis, they took a leap of faith this January, resigning from stable jobs to fulfil a joint calling to music and ministry.



Ken and Casey Weatherford

# Get connected!

## Our American visitors

The four American visitors currently doing the rounds of the Circuit are Ken and Casey, Bronwen and Lis. Eric Potts found them lovely people – very sensitive and co-operative. Back in America, they are all involved in music and/or youth ministry, as you'll see from the notes below.

We are delighted that at least two of them will be at church on 13 June for 'Sunday Funday' and the All-age service that follows. At the 'Sunday Funday' the visitors will observe and possibly 'muck in'. They will themselves lead the 11am service, with a bit of support from Andrew Letby, who will also be present for both events.

All our visitors will join us again for the Sunday@Six celebration on 20 June and will take a leading role in the worship.

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**Bronwen Dunn** is aged 27. Although born in Florida, she is a true Texan at heart! Since taking her degree in Journalism and Mass Communications, she has been engaged in youth ministry, working in Methodist churches of all sizes. Her many passions include missions, music, travelling, and photography, and she adores meeting and sharing time with people.

**Lis Beal** comes from Grand Rapids, Michigan. She took up the violin at age 5



Bronwen Dunn



Lis Beal

## Sunday@Six

2010 is an invitation to join worldwide remembrance and reflection of the 1910 World Anniversary Conference in Edinburgh, which marked the beginning of the modern ecumenical movement. We are invited to remember, celebrate and be inspired by God's call to mission – to witness to Christ today.

We plan to celebrate together on Sunday 20 June (note, *not* the usual 4th Sunday). This change allows our American visitors to be with us and provide most of the worship element for this special occasion.

The evening includes an act of worship of celebration, music and prayer, with an introduction to the conference theme of effective mission and Christian unity.

A barbeque will allow you to mix informally and have the opportunity to exchange ideas about how best to share the Christian message here in Fife. A further period of worship, with more music, will give an opportunity to share and to pray for the world.

This promises to be a stimulating evening of worship and fellowship as we welcome the team to Rosyth. Please come along and give them your support.

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and hasn't put it down since! Music has been a huge part of her life for the past 19 years, but she also spent 8 years as a competitive diver.

A Child Psychology and Youth Ministry graduate, her call to ministry took Lis to Memphis, where she studied and served as a youth ministry intern in a local church. She is now back in Grand Rapids working for an outreach ministry to teenagers.

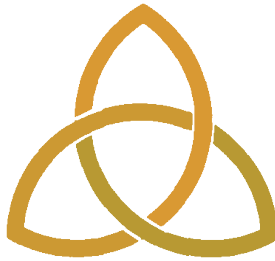
# Trinity Sunday

and the next 25 ...

Trinity Sunday is one of the few feasts of the Christian Year that celebrates a reality and doctrine rather than an event or person. Trinity Sunday celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity. We remember and honour the eternal God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. and it provides a particular occasion to reflect on the revelation of God's self as Trinity, immediately after the Great Fifty days of Easter.

Trinity Sunday is celebrated the Sunday after Pentecost, and lasts only one day, which is symbolic of the unity of the Trinity. The Christian Church ponders with joy and thanksgiving what the Father, Son and Holy Spirit have done to accomplish the salvation of sinful humanity. It is brought to remembrance how Christians should respond to the love God has shown us, praising Him and giving Him glory. We remember the Father as our Creator, the Son as our Saviour and the Holy Spirit as our Comforter.

In the triquetra (Latin for three-cornered) symbol at the centre of this page, the three equal arches of the circle express the equality of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the union of the arches represents the unity of the Godhead, and their continuous form symbolises eternity. The fact that they are interwoven denotes the indivisibility of the Trinity; in the centre is an equilateral triangle, the most ancient of the Trinity symbols; each pair of arches forms an ellipse, the symbol of God's glory.



Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday in a period which continues until Advent and is characterised by the use of green as the predominant liturgical colour, although the colour for Trinity Sunday itself is white. For the remaining twenty-five Sundays of the Christian year (and each Sunday is given a number) the Church considers the great teachings and lessons of the faith.

During the early weeks following Trinity Sunday, the church remembers several important people. On 24 June, we celebrate the Birth of John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin and the 'forerunner' in preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ. Three of Jesus' twelve disciples (learners or followers), whom Jesus sent out to be 'witnesses' and so named 'Apostles', are celebrated at this time: Simon Peter (29 June), Thomas also called "Doubting Thomas" (3 July), and James the Great, son of Zebedee (25 July). Barnabas (11 June), an important person in the foundation of the early Church and the spread of the gospel, is honoured with the title 'Apostle'.

The church also remembers Columba, Abbot of Iona, who died on 9 June 597. Columba, also known as Colum Cille (meaning "Dove of the Church", was a Gaelic Irish missionary monk. In 563 he travelled to Scotland with twelve companions, where, according to legend, he first landed at the southern tip of the Kintyre peninsula. However, still being in sight of his native land, he moved further north up the west coast of Scotland. In 563 he was granted land on the island of Iona, which became the centre of his evangelising mission to the Picts.



# Diary for May/June 2010

## Sunday 30 May

Trinity Sunday	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Tim Bennison
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Mr Iain Hampson
	7.00pm	House Fellowship at the Cochrane's, Dalgety Bay	
	for 7.30pm	(tel 01383 820535)	

Tuesday 1 Jun      6.30pm St Margaret's Vestry meets in Church Room 3

Wednesday 2 Jun      **Note:** The "Big Sing" event in Perth has had to be postponed.  
It is hoped to re-arrange it for early autumn.

Friday 4 Jun      7.30pm Edinburgh 2010 Conference Nicolson Square  
to 9.30pm (see page 23 for details)

## Sunday 6 June

Trinity 1	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Ross Kennedy
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Rev Eric Potts

Monday 7 Jun      7.30pm Methodist Circuit Meeting at Dunbar

Friday 11 Jun      7.30pm Gilbert & Sullivan Extravaganza  
Dunfermline G&S Society Alhambra Theatre,  
(doors open 7.00pm) (see page 38 for details)

7.30pm "Heart for Haiti" in the Highland Hall,  
The Royal Highland Centre, Edinburgh  
(doors open 6.00pm) (see page 22 for details)

Saturday 12 Jun      10.30am Annual District Resourcing Day  
to 3.30pm National Christian Outreach Centre, Perth  
(coffee at 10am) (see page 23 for details)

8.00pm The Scottish Chamber Choir, St Giles Cathedral,  
Edinburgh  
J S Bach: Cantatas 68 & 150 and Lutheran Mass in G  
(Tickets £10 from Martin Tarr)

## Sunday 13 June

Trinity 2	9.00am	Sunday 'Funday' and Breakfast Theme 'Hannah'	
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Tim Bennison
	11.00am	All-age service	Rev Andrew Lethby and American visitors

# Diary for June/July 2010

Monday 14 Jun	10.00am	Annual Gathering of "A Quiet Day for Scotland" onwards	St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth Event organised by Action of Churches Together for Scotland (see page 22 for details)
Tuesday 15 Jun	7.30pm	Methodist Church Council meets in Church Lounge	
Friday 18 Jun	7.30pm	Dunfermline Choral Union Summer Concert Vine Church, Dunfermline (see page 38 for details)	
Saturday 19 Jun	7.30pm	Praise Gathering 2010 in Usher Hall, Edinburgh (see page 38 for details)	

## Sunday 20 June

Trinity 3	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Tim Bennison
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Ms Rosemary Phiri
	6.00pm	Sunday@Six Service – A celebration for Edinburgh 2010 (See article on page 17)	
Tuesday 22 June	3.00pm	Malcolm's 'Open House'	
	to 8.00pm	(See invitation on page 34)	
Friday 25 Jun	7.00pm	St Andrews West Area Council Annual BBQ Warroch House, Dalqueish, near Kinross, home of Nan and David Kennedy	
	7.30pm	"Be Our Guest" Dunfermline Gilbert & Sullivan Society, Carnegie Hall (see page 38 for details)	

## Sunday 27 June

Trinity 4	11.00am	Joint Communion Service	Rev Geoffrey Baines
	4.00pm	Ordination of Valerie Walker, Curate for Holy Trinity and St Margaret's St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth followed by a ceilidh	
Saturday 3 Jul	2.00pm	Cream Tea for Action for Children (NCH)	
	to 4.00pm	at the home of Jean Hall, 6 The Willows, Cairneyhill	

## Sunday 4 July

Trinity 5	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Tim Bennison
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Dr Deirdre Homer

# Diary for July/August 2010

## Sunday 11 July

Sea Sunday	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Ross Kennedy
	11.00am	All-age service	Mr Lyn Smalridge

**Note:** No "Sunday Funday" during School Holidays

Saturday 17 Jul	12noon	Open Day Birthday Party –	
	to 5.30pm	50th Anniversary of Scottish Churches House	
		including Thanksgiving and Dedication	
		Dunblane Cathedral	

## Sunday 18 July

Trinity 7	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Tim Bennison
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Rev Eric Potts

## Sunday 25 July

Trinity 8	11.00am	Joint Communion Service	Rev Ross Kennedy
		Traidcraft goods on sale after the service	

**Note:** No Sunday@Six

## Sunday 1 August

Trinity 9	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Tim Bennison
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Mr John Hunter

**Sea Sunday**, this year on 11 July, is the day on which the Church remembers the important work that seafarers do. Across the world, congregations gather to thank God for seafarers, their families and the work that The Mission to Seafarers does in supporting this most dangerous and perilous way of life.

It began in 1975 when the three Christian maritime missionary societies – the Mission to Seafarers (Anglican), the Apostleship of the Sea (Roman Catholic) and the Sailors' Society (Free Church) – decided there should be a day in which the contributions of seafarers to the country were recognised. Sea Sunday has gone on to become an international day with services, parades and ship blessings.

Loneliness, danger and separation from loved ones are just some of the problems seafarers face. Around the world, night and day, The Mission to Seafarers provides help and support to those in need. As a Christian agency, they operate in more than 230 ports caring for the practical and spiritual welfare of seafarers of all nationalities and faiths. For more information visit their website [www.missiontoseafarers.org](http://www.missiontoseafarers.org)

# Invitations and requests

## Heart for Haiti

**7.30pm** (doors open 6.00pm)

**Friday 11 June** Highland Hall,

The Royal Highland Centre, Ingliston

Organised by Compassion UK and Lemon Aid, “Heart For Haiti” is an evening of worship with Brenton Brown, Graham Kendrick, Stuart Townend, Cathy Burton and an incredible band!

The event’s host will be Andy Hawthorne of Message Trust, and Guillbaud Saint-Cyr, the Country Director of Compassion Haiti, will update us on the current situation.

The Royal Highland Centre has made the the Highland Hall available free of charge for the evening, the Frenzy production team are giving their sound, AV and lights, and each of the artists has waived their fee to ensure that costs are kept to an absolute minimum.

The entrance charge is very modest (adults £5; under-16s £1; under-5s free), but an offering will be taken on the night, with every penny going to help rebuild the Wesleyan Hospital in Haiti. The buildings which housed the hospital sustained terminal structural cracks in the January earthquake and the buildings are unsafe to use. The hospital is operating now in temporary tents in the hospital grounds. The Wesleyan Hospital on the Island of Lagonave is the only hospital for the 120,000+ inhabitants.

**Ed:** Readers may recollect that when launching our own special retiring collection for Haiti, Eric Potts mentioned that medics from the Rosyth area go out to the hospital.

## A Quiet Day for Scotland

from **10.00am**

**Monday 14 June**

St Ninian’s Cathedral, Perth

Many people today find it difficult to make space and take time for quietness in the midst of busy lives. Quiet Day for Scotland is an initiative of Action of Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS) that seeks to:

**Inspire** people to offer local opportunities for quiet prayer and reflection

**Inform** others of these opportunities, through local and national publicity

**Invite** all to participate rather than impose a national blueprint

**Encourage** individuals to explore the value of quietness in their lives and to include time for quietness on a regular basis, in their communal and personal lives. So we encourage potential leaders and organisers to use their gifts and experience to encourage others in this.

The Annual Gathering Event brings together those who have held an event with those who would like to hold an event. We spend a morning sharing ideas and experiences of good practice. Resource material, which offers ideas and suggestions for leaders, will be available at the event. This year we have included suggestions for planning and marketing your event.

The Gathering is free and includes coffee and lunch but registration is vital.

If you would like to attend, please contact Shona Paterson (01259 222362, shonapaterson@acts-scotland.org or write to her at ACTS, 7 Forrester Lodge, Inglewood House, Alloa, FK10 2HU

# Invitations and requests

## Edinburgh 2010 Conference

**7.30–9.00pm** (salad buffet at 6.30pm)

**Friday 4 June**

City of Edinburgh Methodist Church,  
Nicolson Square

This offers a unique opportunity for everyone to meet two delegates attending the Conference, who are available to share the work of women and the experience of women in mission.

Harriet Olsen, Deputy General Secretary, Women's Division, and Glory Dharmaraj, Director of Spiritual Formation, both of the General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church, New York, will share stories, including comments being collected on DVD. They hope also to share music from the 1910 Conference, some that is still current in church and mission work today, and to add to a quilt showing viewpoints of women regarding mission. Beryl Cowling, ex Network Connexional President, will offer comments on mission involvement of Methodist women of Scotland.

Note that this is a meeting of real interest to both women and men, and is open to all, so please give the evening your support.

Further details from Margaret Kilner, Circuit Network secretary (0131 667 8863; [m.kilner@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:m.kilner@tiscali.co.uk)).

As you will have read in the last issue, we are jointly celebrating

**“Back to Church Sunday”  
on 26 September**

The details of what's on and how we are setting about inviting others are being considered at the Vestry and Council meetings during 15 June, and will be published in our next newsletter.

## District Resourcing Day

**10.30am–3.30pm** (coffee from 10am)

**Saturday 12 June**

National Christian Outreach Centre,  
Riggs Road, Perth, PH1 1PR

The Methodist Church in Scotland invites you to the District Resourcing Day led by Mike Bossingham and his daughter Sally from the Family Friendly Churches Trust.

The Trust  
everyone  
free and  
worship God



and age, and knows that churches often  
need assistance to become fully inclusive.

Designed to help you broaden the appeal of your worship, the day explores the mood, style and feel of inclusive worship, with a range of different models for Sunday and midweek worship.

This is a chance for you to explore and discuss ideas for your own context, as well as share in worship, meet old friends and make new ones.

The event is free and includes refreshments and lunch. For more information about the Trust go to [familyfriendlychurches.org.uk](http://familyfriendlychurches.org.uk).

Malcolm will be 'At home' on 22 June  
– see page 34 for your invitation

## Action For Children (NCH)

**Saturday 3 July**

**Cream Tea**

at the home of Jean Hall  
6 The Willows, Cairneyhill  
Tickets £3 now available



# Future Ministry in Fife

a letter to the congregation from Rev Eric Potts

As you will know, I am standing in as part-time and temporary minister in Rosyth for this current Methodist year, which ends at the beginning of September. I will step down from this post therefore at the end of August, when the Edinburgh and Forth Circuit have two new members of staff to take up office, one in Fife and one in Edinburgh. However, I think some people may be finding all this rather confusing! So this is an attempt to help us sort out what is happening.

Until fairly recently the Methodist Church had only one category of minister. This is the traditional kind of ministry, which involves:

- preaching and leading worship;
- presiding at the Sacraments, especially Holy Communion;
- overall responsibility for pastoral care;
- chairing Councils and other meetings, and generally acting as leader of the local church.

We have been used to referring to the person who holds such a post simply as “the minister”. However, in the last few decades, a rather different kind of ministry has developed. We believe this is part of God’s intention for us. So a number of people have experienced a call to ministry, and asked to be trained and ordained, but they have not understood their calling to be first and foremost to the kind of traditional ministry that I have just referred to. Rather than seeking to lead the existing local churches, these people tend to see their vocation much more in terms of reaching out to people either on the fringe of church life or even completely outside the Church. Certainly the two kinds of ministry overlap quite a lot, but they do have a different emphasis.

In order to make all this possible, we have had to create a slightly different language! Thus the older, more traditional kind of minister is now officially called a “presbyter” (Yes, I know this is particularly confusing in Scotland, but I’m afraid we are stuck with the language!) The word presbyter comes from a Greek word meaning elder!

And the new kind of minister is officially referred to as a “Deacon”. The word deacon comes from a Greek word meaning servant.

No doubt most people will still just talk about “the minister” for both kinds of work, but in official statements you might see the different terms presbyter or deacon, presbyteral or diaconal.

So, in September we will have the following situation in Fife – that is for both Rosyth and Kirkcaldy churches:

Deacon **Sarah McDowall** will be working full time within these two churches; she will offer general leadership and care, but always with the emphasis on reaching out beyond the congregation. Sarah will be living in a new manse at Crossgates;

Rev **Andrew Letby** will be responsible for the presbyteral work in the two Fife churches, as well as for churches across the water. Andrew lives in Dalkeith, but will still be available for us here as far as time allows.

Exactly how this will work in practice, no-one yet knows! But there are exciting possibilities ahead.

Above all, it is vital that we do find ways of sharing our Christian faith and hope with a much wider group of people, inside and beyond the present church.

/continued opposite

# “Holiness and Risk”

News from Eric Potts about a new initiative

Would you value the opportunity to think about just where you are on your own, personal, Christian journey? What has happened over the years to your own faith, to your understanding, and to your own relationship with God? Do you feel that you have been moving forward, or standing still or, even, slipping backwards? Have you thought that there must be more to being a Christian than simply going through the motions, doing the same old things week by week?

If these questions find an echo in your own life, then “Holiness and Risk” is for you. This is a new programme launched recently by the Methodist Church in Scotland. It is for everyone who would like to move forward in faith, but who may not know just how or where. Holiness and Risk is not a “course” or an academic programme, though perhaps a few people will be drawn to such a programme as a result of taking part. Equally, though, the programme may simply lead to a deeper level of satisfaction and fulfilment in your everyday Christian life. More details will be announced shortly.

The programme works under four headings:

**Discerning** – this simply means taking a careful look at where you have come from, the stages in your own faith journey, and seeing where you are now;

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It will be Sarah’s and Andrew’s task to encourage and guide us in this. Please pray for them both, often.

With best wishes,

Rev Eric Potts

**Reflecting** – thinking about what happens, day by day, and to make sense of it in the light of being a Christian;

**Rooting** – considering what is the meaning of being a Methodist, as distinct from other ways of being Christian;

**Learning** – asking where do you go from here, and what do you need to know or study to help you be a better Christian, or to work out your future role in the service of Christ.

“Holiness and Risk” uses many different ways of thinking about these things. No one is expected to do this on their own. Trained companions are available to walk alongside you on your journey. Our calling as Christians is to a life of holiness - not false piety or superior attitudes, but living in the way of Jesus. As Jesus found out, to be God’s servant means taking a risk, not simply standing where you are but moving out into the challenging world. Hence, “holiness” and “risk”.

Go on: take a risk; dare to be holy!

## For your diary

### Friday 3 September 7.30pm

A Service of Welcome will be held at the City of Edinburgh Methodist Church, Nicolson Square for Deacons Belinda Letby and Sarah McDowall, at which the preacher will be Rev Lily Twist, Chair of the Scotland District. Everybody welcome!

**Ed:** As we went to press, we learned that Deborah and John Cornish plan to be up at the beginning of September to attend the Welcome Service. We look forward to seeing them again.

# More about future ministry...

## A new curate

I am delighted to tell you that we are to have a new curate at St Margaret's. From the beginning of July, Valerie Walker, one of our ordinands currently in training, will come to work with us at St Margaret's (and at Holy Trinity) as our Curate.

Valerie will not spend her curacy exclusively with us, but will, rather, be a 'Diocesan' Curate. This means that she will spend part of her time with us, part of her time working with St John's in Alloa, and also be involved in some wider diocesan work where appropriate. It is hoped that this will give her a wider breadth of experience in different aspects of congregational and diocesan life and better equip her for her future ministry. Within that diversity, I will be Valerie's 'Training Rector' and oversee her work and development in all three areas.

Valerie's ordination to the diaconate will take place on Sunday 27 June at 4.00pm at the Cathedral in Perth, and I hope that a good number of us will be able to go to the service both to meet her and to offer her our support.

Tim Bennison



a happy family group,  
specially commissioned by Contact!

## From the new curate

The thought of becoming a curate next month both delights and daunts me. I'll be dividing myself between St John's Alloa, Holy Trinity Dunfermline, and St Margaret's Rosyth, and wonder how on earth I'll manage. On the other hand, working with different people in a variety of places can broaden the perspective. That was my experience practising as a nurse specialist between Ninewells Hospital, Dundee and Perth Royal Infirmary. Working in a variety of venues requires being sufficiently organised to be in the right place at the right time. Having no sense of direction will add to the challenge; a user friendly map or satellite navigation system will be essential.

I currently live in Forgandenny with husband Roger, son Ben and daughter Olivia. We moved here from Yorkshire six years ago when Roger became school chaplain at Strathallan. Olivia will soon go into her last year at school; Ben is about to start an Arts Blacksmithing degree. Like many teenagers they have mixed feelings about both parents being ordained!

It's a wrench leaving my hospital friends and nursing career but I've felt called to full-time ministry for several years now. As the date of ordination draws closer I look forward to meeting you that day or very soon afterwards. I hope and pray that we will be a source of blessing to each other but trust, in the words of the ordination service, that "with the help of God, we will."

Valerie Walker



# For the record

## Appointments

At the Methodist General Church Meeting held on 18 April, the following appointments were agreed. The appointments run from 1 May 2010 to 31 August 2011, and the year in parenthesis is that of the original appointment:

### Stewards:

Mary Kidd (Senior Steward)	(2006)
Valerie Sparling	(2007)
Sheila Lee	(2008)
David Cochrane	(2010)
Malcolm Trew	(2010)

### Council Representatives:

Sue Salthouse	(2005)
Jean Hall	(2006)
Janet Murray	(2007)
Ron Dempster	(2009)
Mandy Ward	(2009)
Gill Munro	(2010)

At the Methodist Council Meeting held on 20 April, the following appointments were approved.

### Other Officials:

John Cowie	Council Secretary (2004)
Howard Kirby	Treasurer (2007)
Gwyn Kirby	Pastoral Secretary (2005)

It was noted that:

John had served his six year term but, due to the imminent arrival of our new Deacon, he stated that he would be prepared to serve a further year for continuity, and this was agreed.

Howard wished to stand down as Treasurer at the end of the Methodist year, 31 August 2010. However, it was agreed that the Finance Committee would convene a special meeting to look at ways and means of lightening the Treasurer's role and duties.

Gill Munro had agreed to serve on the Finance Committee.

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## Font Fund

As well as making progress with the sanctuary improvements by personally removing the original heavy stone font (our April issue, page 27), Malcolm Trew has been busy fund-raising! Helped by Ron and Mary Dempster, a car boot sale realised £105 towards the cost of the project.

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## Retiring collections and tea-bar

At the 11am service, the retiring collection in April, together with the Easter Offerings, raised £105.32 towards the total of £250 that was sent to the Methodist Church World Mission Fund that month.

In May, the retiring collection and tea-bar offerings have so far raised £74.04 for Christian Aid.

Forthcoming retiring collections will be for MHA in June (championed by Sue Salthouse) and in July for the Scottish Bible Society (championed by Gill Munro).

# Our Church Building

the first in a series of articles by Martin Rogers  
celebrating 40 years of the present church building

Forty years ago, there was an air of anticipation, if not excitement, among the members and friends of Rosyth Methodist Church. The year before, we had moved out of the previous building in Parkgate and a contract had been let for the building of a new Church. Whilst the new Church was being built, services were being held in the Parish Church and the various organisations were meeting either in the Parish Church or in other venues in Rosyth. Wesley House, the building which originally stood on the site of the new Church, had been demolished.

The foundations for the new building had been laid and the walls were rising from the ground. At the end of April the beams for the Church sanctuary area had been erected, and on 2 May a stonelaying ceremony was held. This took place at the front of the Church below where the large cross now stands.

The foundation stone was laid by the senior local preacher in the Edinburgh Mission Circuit, Mr J Strongman. The platform party seen in the photo below consisted of the minister, Rev Roger Tate (at the lectern);

seated are Mr Strongman, Rev Alan Cliff (Superintendent Minister), and Rev J Bland (Kirkcaldy Church); standing are Rev Frank Foxon (a previous minister of the Church), Father Daniel Boyle (St John & St Columba's RC Church) and the Rev Colin Preston-Thomas of St Andrew and St George Episcopal Church. Also present were Rev H Haddow Tennant, Chairman of the Scotland District, and Sister Sylvia Macey. Hazel Lawson holds the Guide flag. Hymns sung during the ceremony were "O God of Bethel", "This, this is the God we adore" and "Now thank we all our God". Refreshments were served in the Baptist Church after the ceremony. A major milestone had been reached and members were now looking forward to the opening of the new building.





## Property Matters



Wesley House in November 1969



Erecting the beams for the sanctuary area

In 2007, we embarked on a programme of improvements to the Church premises. This included new flooring throughout most of the building, a new kitchen, a new back entrance with ramp, a disabled toilet and the re-surfacing of the car park. The final element of that improvement programme is now taking place with the provision of additional cupboard accommodation in Room 3. A bank of five new cupboards is being provided to meet the needs of some of the existing organisations. We will be disposing of the existing cupboard in that room and also the piano. Anyone want a piano?

In recent years Churches have come within the fire legislation provisions. After an inspection by the Fire Brigade, we were told we needed to install a fire alarm system and to re-instate the emergency lighting system. We have successfully applied for grants from the Circuit, the Scotland District Advance Fund and the Scottish Relief and Extension Fund and this will meet about two thirds of the total cost of £5,800. The balance will be met from our Property Improvements Fund. It is hoped this work will get under way in June.



We have been experiencing some damage to the property in recent months. You may have noticed the broken window in the sanctuary and the broken roof tiles along the front entrance. These incidents have been reported to the police. Over £400 has been spent on making good some of the broken tiles but more tiles have been broken recently.

The next major project will be to replace the felt roofing over Rooms 3 and 4 which is now almost 30 years old and beyond its life expectancy.

# “Casting the Net” News

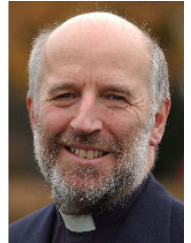
Casting the Net was the focus of the diocesan gathering in St Ninian's Cathedral Perth on Saturday 15 May 2010. We have included both this personal report from Bishop David and feedback from one of our own delegates.



More Casting the Net ... I can't find an acceptable way of describing "getting to the next stage" without an unacceptable mixing of metaphors.

Anyway we gathered a great crowd of people on Saturday – probably well over half the congregations in the diocese represented – and set up a series of workshops and other things all over the Cathedral. What did we do? Well there was drumming and Godly Play for children and workshops on mission and drama. I did three sessions in the Baptistry - one on reading the Bible in church, one on "To believe or not to believe" and one on "What really happens at Communion?" I remain completely astonished by the appetite which there is for talking/exploring sessions of that kind. I need to do more. In the Lady Chapel, our Spirituality Group was giving people some guided meditation. We ended with a Eucharist 'in the round' with African chant and all sorts of other excitements.

So where does all this fit in? Two things, it seems to me. One is that an event like this gives people a chance to 'taste' all sorts of things without needing to ask "Will it work?" or "Is it a good idea?"



The other is that, as congregations gradually develop mission plans, they will begin looking for some of these resources - so this is a way of encouraging people to believe that we can provide what is needed when the time comes.

It was great though. Organised in quite a hurry. I found myself with people many of whom I didn't know. Even some of the people running it were people I didn't know. In a small church like the SEC, that is both unusual and healthy!

Karen Gaskell, the Casting the Net Action Group Convenor will attend the St Margaret's Vestry meeting on 1 June. She will give a presentation, answer questions and explore the way forward. We very much hope there will be a positive outcome and we will be able to identify how we can proceed together with our Methodist friends.

# The Gathering

A personal reflection from Alan Taylor

Bishop David has given us a broad picture of what went on at The Gathering in Perth on 15 May. But what was it really like at the receiving end? Well, it was all that David said – and more. It was uplifting, it was stimulating, and it was simply great to be with so many folk, all enjoying themselves in one way or another. It was part of the Casting the Net process, though only a small part.

I went by train to Perth, itself an uplifting experience, on a beautiful day in May, and strangely enough we were asked at the first session I attended to state our first name – isn't it sad it is no longer PC to say Christian name? – and how we travelled. Needless to say, I was the only person to travel by train!!

The plan was to attend 3 different seminars, two in the morning before lunch, then one after lunch before the day ended with an all-age Eucharist. We had free choice what we did, choosing from 6 or 7 options. I chose Spirituality for the first seminar. This was led by Elaine Cameron, wife of former Primus Bruce Cameron, who was also Curate at my first church in Edinburgh – Holy Cross – back in the early 70s.

What is Spirituality? I don't really know! It probably means different things to different people – but I suspect it is being in a state of awareness of God, for starters. Elaine took us through various means of tuning in to God, mostly through silence – even though there were many noises off which were a little distracting. And then there was prayer, but maybe not as we know it. Is prayer a continuous state? I think it can be. Everything we do can be part of our association with God – even if it is only to say “thank you”.

My second choice was a Healing Ministry, led by Canon Alison Peden, from Holy Trinity Stirling. What did I expect? Was it miracles? I just didn't know, never have been close to a healing ministry. And yet why should I doubt, because the bible is full of references to a healing ministry – we were given a sheet with 16 different passages of a healing ministry. But what we did learn is that a healing ministry is not about laying on of hands and a person is cured – even though laying on of hands and anointing may be part of a particular person's experience – but rather it is the creation of a feeling of wellbeing in a person that allows them to accept the situation in which they find themselves. Even something as simple as “Thy will be done”.

After a “picnic” lunch, my third session was New Music and Drumming, lead by the Pastoral Musician from Dundee Cathedral. We discovered quite early on that we were to be “the choir” at the Eucharist!! But what fun, learning new settings of music for communion, accompanied by drums – it really got us moving around, and we were invited to take the music back to our own congregations to see if we could make use of any of it.

The all-age service, in the round, was very exciting – though I am uncertain if Bishop David was not occasionally a little bemused by what we were doing. It's difficult to sway too much in a chasuble, while carrying a crozier.

Sadly all too soon over – but with another train journey to look forward to!

# A New Life and New Hope

How Scotland's Methodists are transforming lives

In the west of central Africa is the gigantic country now called the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Previously it was known as Zaire and, when some of us were children, as the Belgian Congo. It covers almost a million square miles and has a population of 68 million. And for decades now it has been torn by civil wars and ethnic violence.

Around 10 years ago, in the North Katanga



region, a group of militants were targeting Christian ministers, murdering a number of them and their families with great brutality. In this area there was a Methodist minister, Charles Ilunga, with his wife Josée and two children. They felt it necessary to flee and after walking through the rainforest, dodging snipers, eventually found their way to a United Nations refugee camp at Mwange, in Zambia.

## From Mwange to Motherwell

For seven years Charles tried to minister to Christians there and in other camps, as his family struggled to survive amid huge hardships and illness. Then, together, the UN and the British Government agreed to resettle in Britain some of those whom, they reckoned, would never be able to go back home.

So, three years ago Charles, Josée and their now five children came to Motherwell, as part of a group of 80 refugees which the local council agreed to house. The family became an active and much loved part of the Methodist Church in Wishaw, where Eric Potts was then minister. The children went to local schools and the whole family gradually came to terms with the English language and Scottish life. We used to have regular Bible Studies at the Manse. The whole family would come, and also enjoy fellowship with other members afterwards over a fish supper (bought from the local Indian takeaway!)

Charles was accepted by the British Church as a recognised Methodist minister; he was sent to Queen's College in Birmingham, which is ecumenical and which has many overseas students. Although already ordained, he needed to learn about the Church in Britain, and to strengthen his theological education. The family of course moved with him and, later this year will move again, as Charles has been stationed in a circuit in North-East London.



### **The plight of many young girls**

Meanwhile his wife, Josée, has continued to be concerned about girls back in the camps, many of whom are now being made to return to Congo, and others who remained behind, and who have been orphaned by the war. They usually have no financial support and are denied education; they may be pushed, often at the age of 12, into marriage with much older men or, even worse, forced into prostitution. So Josée has been trying to find ways to help at least a few such girls and find support.



In the last couple of years the Scotland District of the Women's Network (of the Methodist Church) has been publicising the problem and raising money. Already, as a result, ten girls are now getting an education at a Secondary School. Network is continuing to raise funds in order to build a school with dormitories. Charles' uncle, Kandolo, is helping to organise things from the Congolese side – he is a lecturer in Hebrew at Mulungwishi College. The funding is being carefully handled through a western missionary in the Congo, Janice McLain, who is the Area Financial Executive.

Kandolo writes:

"In my family I have eight children: six girls and two boys. I have been well educated. I got my Masters in Canada at the University of Montreal. Back home I am trying to promote the education of the girls. As the President of Teachers College we have a serious problem to have girls at school. I have 325 students, only 17 girls are registered. We are trying to help girls to come to school: All the girls are paying the half of fees. The number of girls is increasing.

"At the other hand many girls are giving birth too soon. Without education they are not able to understand all social problems, such take care of babies, to control birth, to educate their own children. In the rural area it is very hard to study. Our project is how to create a school for these young mothers to help them to study and be able to gain the life. There are secondary schools (High school ) in rural areas, but few girls are able to complete their degree.

"The Church is involved in education, trying to help boys and girls to be responsible of the future. There is hope in Jesus. But everybody must control his sexual life in this period when population is moving from one region to another. Many diseases are killing guys.

"Our short term project is to build a dormitory. This will be helpful for the girls to stay together and safe under control of the Church. We are thinking about the building of the school later. At this moment the dormitory is very necessary. The girls will study in this existing organised school.

/continued overleaf



/from previous page

Organizing a school requires some strategies. The girls will be separated from boys. It will help to avoid the marriage of the youngest girls. We are planning to begin with the dormitory, then the school exclusively for girls."

On behalf of Network, Kathleen Pearson says:

"Please keep working to raise funds for this project. Although the process seems very slow everything you are doing to ensure the safety and education of girls will in time reap many benefits for these girls and for generations of Congolese girls in the future."

Grateful thanks to the Rev Eric Potts for providing this material. If you have encouraging tales, or requests for prayer or practical assistance, we'll be pleased to give you a 'platform'. Please let the Editor have your article and photographs, preferably by email to martin@mtarr.co.uk.

### **An invitation from Malcolm Trew**

Friends from Rosyth and Kirkcaldy Methodist  
and St Margaret's Churches are warmly invited to

## **Malcolm's 'Open House'**

anytime between 3.00 and 8.00pm on

## **Tuesday 22 June**

at his present home

155 Park Road West, ROSYTH, KY11 2SZ

before he moves house in July

For catering purposes, please respond by 15th June to

Malcolm: malcolm@mtrew155.plus.com; 01383 420949 or to

Mary Kidd: cmarykidd@btinternet.com; 01383 872332;

18 North Loanhead, LIMEKILNS, KY11 3LA



# Local news

## Brambles Playgroup

Brambles Playgroup takes children from 2 years 6 months to 5 years. Our activities include painting, home corner, arts and crafts, sand and water trays, all for Early Years education, under the direction of our play leader, Lesley Hynd. We were fortunate to receive a grant from the Carnegie Trust of £250 which we spent on flowers, vegetables, wind chimes and toys for our garden area.

Brambles are run by a committee chaired by Tracy Stephens and constituted as a separate charity (Scottish Charity number SC000916). The current fee is £5.75 per session, but we are in partnership with Fife Council, so can take funded children.

At present Brambles runs for five sessions each week, 9.00–11.30am and 12.30–3.00pm on Wednesdays and Fridays, and 12.30–3.00pm on Thursdays. However, we have been looking to extend our hours, and to put in a lunch club. Becca Murphy, our exchair, covers recruitment and is currently working on the lunch club project. At the moment we are still waiting for Care Commission approval for this. So, if you are interested, please get in touch with us, and we will confirm the arrangements when everything has been finalised.

Tracy Stephens

## Where are we at the Waterfront?

To answer my own question, “not much further than when I last reported to you in the March Contact”.

But things have been happening. Every household in Rosyth received an update on the waterfront project and a questionnaire from the Scarborough Muir Group (SMG), distributed by the local Scouts. This was followed by an Exhibition in the Parish Church Hall during the second week of April which was attended by over 300 people. SMG report they “had hoped more Fife MSPs and Councillors would have found time to attend the exhibition, given the economic, job potential, and strategic importance of this project.”

Rosyth Waterfront Liaison Group (RWLG) distributed over 1,000 flyers to local shops and businesses in support of SMG’s waterfront project. RWLG has also been active in the media, voicing concern, in particular, that remediation of the contaminated land at the waterfront may stop if progress is not made.

SMG report some 60 hits a day on their website, while 96% of postal votes and online votes received from Rosyth residents continue to support mixed-use development.

RWLG is very fortunate in having Jim Spowart as its Convenor, and Mike Shirkie – who is also Chairman of Rosyth Community Council – as its Vice-Convenor.

On a positive note, The Scotsman reported on 7 April that “Fife Council is committed to developing Rosyth’s role in tourism as well as the important industrial commercial role of the port, and looks forward to working in partnership with Scarborough Muir and the other land owners at Rosyth as part of the finalisation of the local plan.”

So we can be sure that what is needed to further this project, to the benefit of the residents of Rosyth and the greater good of Fife, is being done.

Alan Taylor

# Local ecumenical news

as reported by Morag Crawford DCS

## The Labyrinth

A new venture for the Ecumenical Group was a Labyrinth at Advent and during Holy Week. Although numbers adding were small for those who attended it was a very meaningful, spiritual experience, especially when lit by candles in the evenings.



The Labyrinth reshapes a 12th-century ritual for the 21st century. Its maze-like path takes you on a symbolic journey, creates space to unwind and think – in particular about our relationships with ourselves, one another, our planet and God.

It is designed for young and old alike, it provides a mixture of visuals, words, symbols and media to help guide the traveller.



Labyrinths were a feature of many medieval cathedrals, Unlike a maze they have only one path – there are no dead ends. People walk the labyrinth slowly, reflecting on their life's journey. It is used by many as a time of peace and reflection in a busy world.

## Stations of the Cross

The weather was fine for the Good Friday walk of witness around Rosyth stopping at appropriate points on the way for a reading and prayer. All the Churches were



represented. Tea, coffee and hot cross buns were provided at the Methodist Church at the end of the walk. St Margaret's and the Methodists had also hosted readings and prayers in the Church for those less able to walk.

## Rosyth Garden City Exhibition

A break-in and stolen sweets did not put a damper on the sweet stall at the Garden City Exhibition on shopping. Over 650 schoolchildren visited the exhibition and enjoyed weighing out an ounce of sweets and hearing how, in the early fifties, that would have had been their allowance for a week!



1,500 people attended the exhibition held in the Parish Church. Many enjoyed reminiscing on which shops used to be where and a pictorial display helped to recall shops and stories.

# The Chinese Christian Community in Rosyth

reported by Sandra Young

At a recent meeting of the Wednesday Fellowship, Felicity Greenfield gave an enlightening and interesting talk about the Chinese Christian Fellowship in Rosyth.

Most Chinese churches in Scotland are in University cities and are mainly for students. The Christian Fellowship in Rosyth is different. Here, the Chinese community is effectively an invisible community with nowhere to go. Language and culture are problems, which is why in 2005, a 'unique' church was established in Rosyth, to meet the needs of the local community of Chinese restaurant and 'take-away' workers.

The leaders are a Chinese missionary based in Perth and a Chinese Overseas Christian Missionary, who act like pastors. The Christian Fellowship meets on a Monday (the normal Chinese day off) from 11.30 until 3.00pm at Rosyth Baptist Church. There are usually between 60 and 80 attending, from all over Fife. The Chinese come for the day, not for an hour or so like us! But then it isn't just a church – it serves as a community and resource centre, additionally fulfilling the role of a 'citizen's advice bureau'. For example, the leaders will arrange visits to doctors, lawyers and similar. Felicity herself teaches English there.

The service is very traditional, Protestant, but akin to Methodism and follows a definite structure with hymns, prayers, readings and regular Holy Communion.

A Chinese/English Bible is used, with the scriptures read in Chinese. The sermon, which lasts for 1–1½ hours, is based on scripture and used to teach and instruct. The preacher is in a position of authority, so there is no room for challenging what is said! After the service they all enjoy a 'banquet' together – a 'bring and share' meal of hot food and fellowship.

Those who come to the church do so because they feel comfortable in their surroundings. Through their culture, they have a collective responsibility for their community, and this means that they share God's love in a very practical way,

There has always been a good relationship between the Baptist ministers and the Chinese leaders, but the Chinese congregation consider themselves as guests of the Baptist church, so contact is limited.

Felicity also discussed the culture of the Chinese and some of their customs. The Chinese are very family-orientated and see it as an obligation to go to visit their family for festivals. Women are less important than men, and the son is more important in the family than the daughter. They are very superstitious and fearful. Red is a lucky colour – brides get married in red – while white represents death. Surprisingly, they are gamblers, because this provides them with a social club – where else can you go when you finish work in the middle of the night?

## Music corner

### RSCM Celebration Day 2010

Aled Jones, Cynthia DeDakis and Professor Jeremy Dibble were among those honoured by the RSCM at a recent Celebration at Durham Cathedral. The music was led by a massed choir from RSCM-affiliated churches in the region, and the service was recorded by the BBC for "Songs of Praise" on 18 July.

### Friday Night is Music Night!

You will have *three* opportunities during June to enjoy an evening out! Whilst we recommend booking in advance, seats are unreserved, so you will be able to come early and sit with your friends.

All three concerts start at 7.30pm, and tickets are available now from Mary Kidd and Gwyneth Kirby.

**11 June** sees the Dunfermline Gilbert and Sullivan Society in the period splendour of the newly-refurbished Alhambra Theatre, performing "Trial by Jury" in the first half, and supporting Simon Butteriss after the break. Simon will be presenting "Gilbert & Sullivan – A Motley Pair" on Sky Arts in September, but why wait? You can hear his superb patter songs for only £12.50.

On **18 June**, the Dunfermline Choral Union Summer Concert takes place at the Vine Church, Garvock Hill. Richard Colvin is guest soloist, and the programme is lighter music for a summer evening, including some music shows. Tickets are £8 and £7 concession.

On **25 June**, we invite you to "Be Our Guest!" at the Carnegie Hall for the second of the G&S summer concerts, where a first half of Act 1 Finales from favourite operas will be followed by songs from Broadway and West End shows. Tickets are £10 and £9 concession.

### Praise Gathering 2010

In 2010, for the first time, Praise Gathering is coming to Edinburgh's Usher Hall on 19 June. A choir of 400 drawn from over 150 Scottish churches will lead the singing, accompanied by the PG Band. It is too late now to join the choir, but why not be part of the audience? Tickets on sale from the Usher Hall Box Office: Tel 0131 228 1155 or on-line at [www.usherhall.co.uk](http://www.usherhall.co.uk).

The content and quality of PG concerts has helped many Christians to invite friends, family and business colleagues into an environment of praise in the certain knowledge that "God inhabits the praises of His people." Many folk have been blessed, and encouraged through these concerts, and the financial surplus has supported Christian organisations such as Scripture Union Scotland, Gospel Literature Outreach, Care for the Family and Mission Aviation Fellowship. Browse the Praise Gathering web site at [www.praisegathering.org.uk](http://www.praisegathering.org.uk).

### "Rosyth's Got Talent"

By the end of the evening, the packed audience at the Christian Aid concert run by the Christian Aid Committee all agreed that Rosyth definitely has talent. We were treated to music from brass instruments, a harpist, solo singers, a choir of about twenty children singing and dancing to songs from the musical "Grease", and a young man singing like Frank Sinatra and performing a duet with a lovely young girl.

Altogether a very enjoyable evening that brought the community together to help provide clean water and sanitation in Kenya, and realised £385 for Christian Aid. What came over to the audience was that the children were really enjoying themselves, so hopefully we can have another concert next year.

Mary Dempster

# Contact points

This list supplements the list of formal contacts given on the inside cover, and is for the activities and organisations run by the Methodist Church Council and St Margaret's Vestry, and by affiliated but independent organisations.

## Church activities

Methodist Gift Aid enquiries to  
Ron Dempster 01383 721252  
ronmary.dempster@tiscali.co.uk

Property matters and letting enquiries to  
Martin Rogers 01383 415458  
martin.rogers@ukgateway.net

Rosyth Methodist Toddler Group  
Elaine Lambert 01383 417071  
elaine.lambert1@sky.com

St Margaret's Choir  
Myra Tarr 01383 723989  
myra@mtarr.co.uk

St Margaret's Gift Aid enquiries to  
Marc Tempelhoff 01383 410151  
marct@talktalk.net

Sunday School and Sunday Funday  
Gwyneth Kirby 01383 624779  
gmkirby@hotmail.com

Traidcraft  
Myra Tarr 01383 723989  
myra@mtarr.co.uk

Wednesday Fellowship  
Mary Kidd 01383 872332  
cmarykidd@btinternet.com

## Organisations meeting in our premises

Brambles Playgroup  
Lesley Hynd  
(play leader) 07758 877284  
Becca Murphy  
Tracy Stephens (chair)  
bramblesplaygroup@hotmail.com

Parahandies Disabled Club  
Peter Merckel  
(secretary) 01383 822940  
peter.merckel@yahoo.co.uk

## Scout Group

Group Scout Leader  
Stuart Fowell 01383 823936  
stuart.fowell@ukonline.co.uk

Beaver Scouts  
Stuart Fowell 01383 823936  
stuart.fowell@ukonline.co.uk

Cub Scouts  
Martin Rogers 01383 415458  
martin.rogers@ukgateway.net

Scouts  
Alan Connery 01383 731391  
alan.connery@virgin.net

Explorer Scouts  
Terry O'Neill 01363 842695  
terryoneill2003@yahoo.co.uk

## Guide Unit

Rainbows  
Susan Warren 01383 414355  
Young Leader, Melissa Peel

Brownies  
Suzy Knight 01383 416087

Guides  
Mandy Ward 01383 414944  
thewards\_197@talktalk.net

Assistant Guider, Susan Warren  
Young Leader, Nicola Byrne:

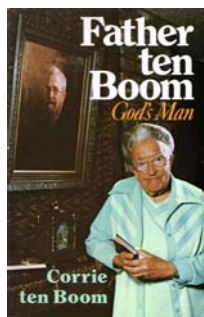
Please let the Editor know of any changes or additions to this list, preferably by email to martin@mtarr.co.uk

# The Bookcase: No.15

our regular feature from Jack Fowell

In this issue I bring before you three little books by Corrie ten Boom. Corrie was born in 1892 in Amsterdam, Holland, and raised in the Dutch Reformed Church. She was held in a German concentration camp in Ravensbrück because she had helped Jewish families to safety. Although often held in solitary confinement, and frequently interrogated by the Nazi authorities, her wonderful Christian faith sustained her and eventually brought her to freedom.

After the war she became a prolific author and speaker of world-wide reputation, and received several awards and honours. Her teaching focused on the Christian Gospel, with an emphasis on forgiveness.



The first of the books is entitled *Tramp for the Lord*, in which she tells of her twenty years of travelling all over the world, speaking at meetings large and small. She tells the story of how, after she had been teaching in Germany in 1947, she was approached by one of the cruellest former Ravensbrück camp guards. She was reluctant to forgive him, but prayed that she would be able to. She spent her life sharing the message of God's love, and fulfilling her mission to tell people everywhere that Jesus Christ is alive.

The second, called *Father ten Boom - God's man*, tells of the great work that her father did in his community in Holland. She vividly recalls lessons of love and encouragement she learned from her father.

The last of these little books bears the title *Not I, but Christ*, and is mainly of devotional talks that were written for Transworld Radio. By this time, Corrie had suffered a stroke, but had recovered sufficiently to work from her home in California. She died on the evening of her 91st birthday in 1983.



## On the web

There isn't enough space in Contact for all the information and photos, so soon you will be able to access more photos and items such as the Agape service sheet on a new Archive page on our website. You can also view or download Contact, and zoom in to look at text or photos in colour; at <http://tinyurl.com/34lb845>.

The **next issue** of Contact will be produced around the end of July 2010. Contributions please by **Sunday 25 July** to Martin Tarr (1 Methven Drive, Dunfermline, KY12 0AH; 01383 723989), preferably by email to [martin@mtarr.co.uk](mailto:martin@mtarr.co.uk). Please give information for the diary section at any time to Sandra Young ([sandrayoung39@btinternet.com](mailto:sandrayoung39@btinternet.com) or 01383 415021).