

Rosyth
Methodist Church



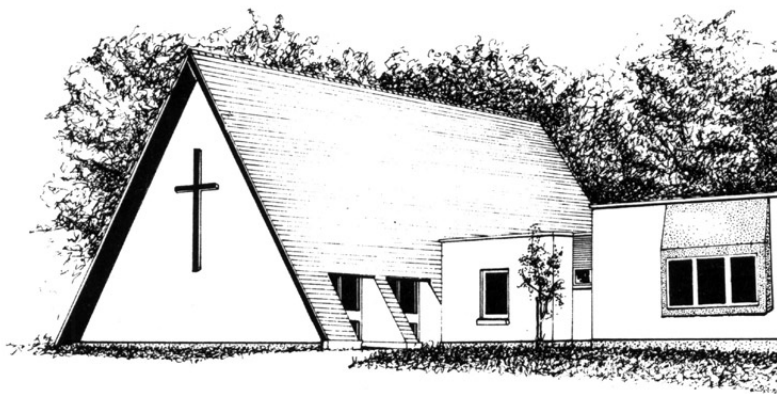
St Margaret's Scottish
Episcopal Church



Contact

the newsletter of the partnership between

Rosyth Methodist Church and
St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church



Issue 80

August/September 2015

Rosyth Methodist Church

Scottish Charity SC028559

www.rosythmethodist.org.uk

St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church

Scottish Charity SC028426

www.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk

in partnership

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

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Treasurer:

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our regular pattern of worship

Sundays (except 4th)

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

11.00am Methodist Morning Worship
(including Sunday School)

2nd Sundays (during term-time): for the Young Church

9.00am Breakfast and “Messy Church”

4th Sundays: Worship together

11.00am Joint Communion Service

6.00pm “Sunday@Six”

where to find us

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.

Journeying together

The Editor writes ...

Hopefully by the time this issue comes out, there will be more evidence of a 2015 summer in prospect, rather than just the memory of a few warm days in April and the odd sunny day, such as that enjoyed by those at our “wedding of the year” (page 9)!

‘Hopefully’! That brought to mind the phrase – “to travel hopefully is better than to arrive”. But what was its source and context? I found it at the end of Robert Louis Stevenson’s essay *El Dorado*, one of a set of “whimsical meditations on everyday life which earned Stevenson a reputation as a popular philosopher”.

Looking at this phrase from a Christian perspective, I wondered whether it is *really* the case that we journey through life towards a goal we never fully attain, yet find more satisfaction just in the journeying?

The not-fully-attaining bit resonates, at least for this earthly life: we can only *strive* to be more like Christ, and “here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come” (Hebrews 13:14).

And the satisfaction-in-journeying bit is also right, provided that what we achieve on our journey is done well and in the right spirit: “Pay careful attention to your own work, for then you will get the satisfaction of a job well done” (Galatians 6:4).

But I would have liked Stevenson to have added both that the journeying is an essential preparation for the goal, and that eventual complete satisfaction is assured!

Another sentence that spoke to me was: “An aspiration is a joy for ever, a possession as solid as a landed estate, a fortune which we can never exhaust and which gives us year by year a revenue of pleasurable activity.” Which immediately brought to mind: “Where there is no vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18).

Reading further, I found the phrase I had remembered was incomplete. The essay ends – “to travel hopefully is better than to arrive, and the true success is to labour”. Which reminded me of Romans 13:11 “The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed”.

So *El Dorado* for me was a reminder that we’re on a journey, with an end that is certain, with a vision set before us, and a challenge to fulfil our high calling. For Sarah and Archie, the mountains to be climbed, both real and spiritual, are further south; for most of us the challenges are local, but they will be different and even more demanding as we prepare for 2016. Fortunately, we have Christ as our companion, fellow-travellers on the road, and food for the journey (pp40–41).

What’s in this issue ...

This issue we have a section about the departure for Cumbria of Sarah and Archie McDowall (pp4–7), and some articles on what people have been getting up to recently:

Out and about	pp26–27
A summer in the jungle	pp28–29
Local travellers!	p30–32
Going down to the sea	p20, p33

Of course there are our regular items:

Diary to early October	pp21–25
Fellowship News	pp8–10
Invitations/requests	pp15–19
Reports	pp34–37
Wednesday Fellowship	p14, p42
Working together	p38–39
Young people	p11–13

Plus a fresh view about bread (pp40–41)!

Saying goodbye to Sarah

Evelyn Kenny was there!

Saying goodbye to Sarah our Deacon has almost been a 'mini-series'. On 30 June our leadership team of Helen, Sarah and stewards met at Mandy and Dave's home for an evening supper. Our usual format was changed for this last @Manse meeting! There was NO agenda on the menu, instead we enjoyed a delicious meal and then had an hour of hilarious laughter as we played guessing and memory games! Underneath we are all youngsters who enjoy FUN!!

On 5 July, at Sarah's last service at Rosyth, there was a more formal chance for the congregation to express thanks for her five years of ministry with us, with a presentation of engraved keepsakes – a crystal clock and two crystal glasses - for her and Archie.

On 24 July I joined Sarah at Rosyth Resource Centre where she was given a really splendid send-off complete with china cups and saucers, flowers and chocolate truffles being the order of this special occasion. The ladies really enjoyed their time together with glorious unaccompanied singing of old favourite hymns. Much appreciation was expressed by everyone – staff and clients together.

Sunday 26 July was the Circuit's opportunity to say farewell. A really vibrant service led by Deacon Belinda Letby was held in Kirkcaldy's recently-refurbished Methodist church. Many of these changes have been made over the last few years under Sarah's guidance.

The occasion was a farewell not only to Sarah but also to her husband Archie, for the latter had been a valued member of the circuit steward team for six years and he is now nearly fully-trained as a local preacher – an accomplishment ably demonstrated by his sermon at this service, as you will see from page 5 – 50+ people from all parts of the Circuit and local clergy and friends (including



14 from the two Rosyth congregations) “made a joyful noise” to praise God for Sarah and Archie's time with them. Sarah's move from the Church of Scotland as a Deacon to retrain in the Methodist tradition had meant a move for both of them from Glenrothes. As Rev Andrew Letby said in his address, the distance in miles may not be far, but in spiritual terms the distance was far greater.

It has been said that what has been seen of Sarah's ministry has been like the tip of an iceberg. What we have seen in worship situations has been only a small part of who she is and what she has been able to do on the Methodist Church's behalf. We will never know who she has been able to support and mentor and bless in her time in Edinburgh and Forth Circuit. Much of her work has been in the community around our buildings; in schools and older people's day centres, in nursing homes, in private homes preparing families for baptisms, funerals and, on 25 July, the wedding of Mary Kidd's son Drew to Andrea.

A call to a different ministry having been recognised by Deacon Sarah and Archie in recent years, and so we not only bid them farewell, but wish them every blessing with our prayers for their continued ministry in Carlisle. May God bless them both.

“Here are we, send us”

the sermon given by Archie McDowall at the farewell service on Sunday 26 July 2015

The readings were Isaiah 6:6-8 and Matthew 10:5-8

That reading from Isaiah, the first reading which we heard, is one that has special significance for Sarah and me. I'm not even sure if Sarah will remember this, she always says that I'm the one with the better memory, but almost six years ago we were sitting in our living room in our then house waiting for an email. Not just any email, but the email that would be telling us where we would be living for the next five years of our lives. While we were waiting we looked at the Bible reading for that day and it happened to be that passage from Isaiah.

“Here am I, send me”. Powerful words in any context, but particularly powerful at that moment as we were saying, “Here are we, send us”.

The fact that that Bible reading was the reading for that particular day further emphasized the sense of calling that we both felt. There had been a number of instances during the previous months when Sarah had received what she felt were clear signs that God was calling her into the Methodist Church and now we were sensing further confirmation.

Calling is a strange thing though. I remember speaking at Sarah's welcome service five years ago and saying then how difficult it often was to respond to God's calling. Difficult for the person called, of course, but also difficult for the friends and family of those who are called.

It's not of course, our practice in the Methodist Church to advertise for our ministers. Our system is one of stationing, but of course other denominations do advertise and I noticed in this month's *Life and Work*, the magazine of the Church of Scotland, an advert for a minister for

the Church of Scotland congregation in Bermuda. There are some places it would be nice to be called to!

I also came across recently a sort of combination of different adverts for ministers and this is what it said:

“We want a minister who never preaches for more than ten minutes and who condemns sin but never hurt's anyone's feelings. Someone who will work from 8.00am until midnight, but who always has unlimited energy. Someone who is young and good-looking with perfectly-behaved children, and who has a burning desire to work with teenagers but spends most of his time with senior citizens. Someone who is always smiling no matter what comments he overhears. We want someone who makes 15 visits a day but is always at home to answer his phone. Someone who always has time for church council and committee meetings, and enjoys doing all the administration but sees as a priority working with unchurched people and spends most of his time with them.”

Well of course, that is not a serious advert and we all laugh. But I wonder if those people in the room who are in full-time ministry, or even, dare I say it, married to someone who is in full-time ministry, are laughing just a little less than everyone else, because I suspect that there was at least one comment there that was maybe a bit too close to the truth.

There is a tension between the sort of minister that a congregation might want and the sort of minister which God might call. A tension between the sort of church a minister might want to serve and the sort of church the minister is called to.

I don't think that God looks at the world and thinks it would be really good if such a thing could happen, but I can't find the right sort of person to do that, so I will need to call a different sort of person instead. Of course He doesn't!

I happen to believe that God will call people in order to bring change. That I think is one of the strengths of our itinerant Methodist ministry. Our reading from Matthew reminded us of the different tasks that the disciples were called to. They were called to go, they were called to preach, they were called to heal, they were called to tend the lost sheep. God does not call everyone to do everything. God calls people according to their particular abilities and for particular tasks. And that's the point. Everyone is called by God. Not just those in full-time ministry. And the challenge isn't just responding to God's call – sometimes the challenge is hearing it in the first place, and sometimes it's about recognizing that call in others.

That word 'change' again. Some of you might know that Sarah and I are grandparents ... apologies for all the stories, pictures and videos over the last couple of years. But I've learned something during that time. Before being a grandparent I was a parent and I've realized that being a grandparent is different! Why? Because my daughter Claire and her partner Ben let our granddaughter Gracie do things that I would never have allowed Claire to do and don't allow her to do things that I would have allowed Claire to do. I've had to learn to let them do things in their way. If God was going to call people to do things in the same way, then he would have made us all the same. He didn't! Look around you if you don't believe me!

And that's what makes it so difficult! God is relying on each and every one of us to recognize not only what God is calling each of us to, but also to recognize what he is calling everyone else to too! People who

are very different from us. And we can only recognize calling by knowing each other. By knowing each other well!

I sometimes, not very often, buy a coffee in Starbucks. I don't know if anyone has been in Starbucks recently, but when you buy a coffee the assistant asks you your name and writes it on the cup. I have this inner objection to giving my name, so I usually give a false name, but I was caught out recently when I said my name was Alan, because the assistant immediately said is that with one L or two, and I wasn't expecting the question so the first thing that came into my mind was to say I don't know and the assistant looked at me as if I was totally mad! Of course she didn't really care what my name is. It's all part of a marketing ploy to give the impression that she knows me. That she's my friend. When of course she doesn't know me from Adam ... or Alan, or Archie, or whatever name I might be using!

But is that what we are like in the church? Do we know each other? Or do we only know names if even that? Sadly, often at funerals we will find out something about someone and think, I wish I had known that when they were alive, and we see the person in a totally different light.

I was thinking about this when I came across a newspaper obituary of a teacher from my school many years ago. I think there are two reasons for remembering teachers. Either they were kind, caring or loving or they were not. This teacher definitely fell into the second of these categories. A lady who taught me French, and I was convinced was quite mad. It was a few years ago that I came across her obituary.

Ed: At this point Archie read a shortened version of the obituary. The following paragraph replaces that with just the principal highlights, since the story of Susan Singerman's life can be found by an internet search.

It was a big sing!

Susan Singerman was born Susan Gerofi in Szekesfeharvar, Hungary. After the German invasion in March 1944, she experienced the traumas of so many Jewish families in being moved first to a ghetto and then to Auschwitz, where her sister, mother, aunt, cousin and grandmother were sent to the gas-chamber, but she was not. She came to Scotland in November 1946 following the discovery that an aunt and uncle had also survived the holocaust and were living in Glasgow. There she undertook an honours degree in French and German at Glasgow University and a teacher training course before teaching French and German at a number of schools in Glasgow. Upon retiring, in the early 1960s she helped to form and run the Campaign against Racial Discrimination (CARD) and began speaking to young people about her wartime experiences. She received hundreds of letters from schoolchildren saying how moved they had been by hearing her story. She felt it was important that what had happened should not be forgotten. In 1996 she was made an MBE for services to the understanding of the Holocaust.

Clearly, an amazing woman that I knew only as an eccentric, slightly mad school teacher. God has surrounded us with amazing people. If you don't believe me look around you. How well do we know each other, and how can we recognize those whom God is calling if we do not know each other? That's the challenge for us, whether we be in Edinburgh and Forth or in Cumbria, as we seek to fulfil God's will for His church. Amen.



The congregation at the farewell service enjoyed singing lustily. For the record, the hymns they sang are listed below – the numbers are from *Singing the Faith*:

“Jesus is Lord” (353)

“Our God is a great big God” (61)

“Have you heard God's voice?” (662)

“I, the Lord of sea and sky” (663)

“Love divine” (503)

“This, this is the God we adore” (67)

The second of these demanded actions, and Andrew Letby called on a reluctant Sarah McDowall to demonstrate!



From time to time in this issue you'll come across images that give different interpretations of the term “bread”, referring to Helen's sermon at our July Joint Service (pages 40–41) and Evelyn's all-age illustration, when she opened an enormous bag of different types of bread. Afterwards our communion used a home-baked loaf!



bread for the journey

Fellowship news – 1

Birthdays and celebrations

Congratulations to those within our church families who have celebrated special birthdays. **Sue Forman** made her half-century, and **John Cowell**, who was 90, and **June Baines**, a year younger, shared a delicious cake provided by Jean Hall.



Mary Dempster writes ...

June and July seem to be very popular months for birthdays, particularly in the Wednesday Fellowship. I realised that when I had eleven cards to make, plus six family and friends.

I too had a birthday in June and yes it was a special one, which I am not allowed to forget as I was referred to as “The old lady sitting in the corner”. I don’t really mind! Four others from the church had birthdays about the same time so it was nice to share the occasion with them with cake on 5 July. My daughters, Judith and Jillian were there, which made it a lovely time for me. Eleanor Salthouse had a cake too as she was 17 that day. St Margaret’s Church family were not around to share the day, so on the following Sunday they had a cake too. In all I had three cakes as I had one on my actual birthday from my family. Didn’t I do well!

Thank you all for the lovely cards I received.

The Salthouses

As we were going to press, we were sad to learn that David’s father died recently, following a fall. His funeral will take place on Friday 31 July in Ballater.

In the midst of dealing with all the many arrangements, David himself has been ill and spent a few days in hospital in Ballater. Sue’s cousin is also seriously ill in hospital.

In this far from easy time, we ask for your prayers for Sue, David, Edward, Eleanor and the whole family.

Moving on

Our dear friends, **Jim and Jean Oliver**, who sadly are no longer able to look after themselves, are now resident at Valley House, 44 Hill Street, Cowdenbeath, KY4 9DE. They have settled in and find the staff very caring. They will be happy to see visitors should anyone be passing!

We continue to remember Jim and Jean in our thoughts and prayers.

Thanks from Jock and Audrey Headden

We were surprised and delighted when Sue told us that St Margaret’s would like to take us out for lunch to thank us for what we had done for the Church over many years both here and the other places where we had worshipped. We were very happy to accept and on 5 July (Jock’s 89th birthday) a very nice meal was enjoyed by a group from St Margaret’s plus our son, Mike from Edinburgh and our daughter Sandra and our grandson Mitch from Durham, who try always to be with us on our birthdays.

It was a memorable day which we will look back on with pleasure in our retirement from these duties. Love and thanks to all concerned.

Fellowship news – 2

The wedding of the year!

Mary Kidd writes: Eleven years ago, my daughter, Becki, and Sean Donohoe were married in our church by David Campbell, and no wedding had taken place since that lovely day – until last Saturday afternoon.



My son, Drew married Andrea Mero Perez, on what turned out to be one of the sunniest Saturdays of 2015. Many people had gathered to share the joy, having travelled from faraway places like South Devon, London, Ecuador, Ireland and Dunfermline!

The service began with the hymn “Give me joy in my heart” and that indeed set the tone for the occasion. Members of the choir who were there sang “All you need is love” during

the signing of the register. Because that moment now takes place in the sanctuary everyone joined in. (I saw the beginnings of a Praise Band here to lead our worship!) Thank you, Sue Masson, for your organising this as well as performing.

On a personal note I was thrilled to see Aideen as a beautiful young lady; it didn't seem long since as a 5-year-old she ran away from David Campbell and hid behind the pulpit at her christening! Her brother, Jamie, took on his role as Head Usher with great understanding, ably assisted by his father. Jamie read a short reflection at the close of the service which many people, especially married couples, took to their own hearts. All you need is love ...



Passing of a former SWAN

The funeral of **Dorothy Maud Joyce** took place at St Margaret's on Wednesday 29 July. Born in Portsmouth in 1918, Dorothy moved to Dollytown when her husband Ted was posted to Rosyth in 1954.

Despite Ted's unexpected early death in 1958, Dorothy entered into Rosyth community life wholeheartedly, and will be remembered as an active member, among other organisations, of SWANS, the SWANS choir, and the Dockyard G&S Society.

Over the past ten years Dorothy became progressively more housebound and moved to Henderson House after she had been diagnosed with dementia: she died in Victoria Hospital on July 21.

We pray for her daughter Cynthia and her husband Rev Mike Johnston, who worshipped with us recently. Their home is in Ryde, on the Isle of Wight, and caring for Dorothy has been most difficult at such a distance.

Ed: SWANS = Society of Wives of Admiralty and Naval Services

Olive McNee

– a very personal remembrance

Adrian and I first met Olive at St Margaret's when it was the RN Anglican church where she used to run the crèche and Sunday School. We gave Jeremy, aged 10 months, into her care and she soon had his measure, knowing the way to his heart was to play cars incessantly with him. 15 months later, after the birth of our second son, we had become firm friends and we were delighted when Jim and Olive agreed to become



Robby's Godparents. They looked after him from only a few weeks old and shared in our family life – I have great memories of Robby insisting Olive try out the bouncy castle at one of his parties and playing football and skittles along our corridor. When coming to babysit she always brought her waterproofs so bath time could become a bubble-fest – her way of calming the children down before bed!!

Later on she supported them in other ways – coming with us to Manchester to listen to Jeremy's final recital at the Royal Northern College of Music, enjoying the music but also afternoon tea at "Harvey Nicks." When Robby went to college in the USA she kept in touch via Facebook and, although she hated watching sport of any description, when Tabor College started to stream Robby's soccer matches live she would sit up into the wee small hours trying to catch glimpses of him on her computer and phoning us every time he scored a goal so we could celebrate together.

Two and a half years ago Olive decided to move to Winchburgh to be nearer Heather and Lewis, her grandson. She tackled and tamed a huge, unkempt garden and proved to be a dab hand at stripping and hanging wallpaper, painting ceilings, grouting tiles and laying carpet, transforming her new flat into a cosy home.

Although now living "over the water" she continued to be

part of life at St Margaret's, attending some services, being one of Dorissia's "galley slaves" for the harvest feast and providing a welcome pair of hands at the Brambles sale where she manned the book stall.

She liked to go out to concerts and to be "a lady what lunched", but she was also happy with her own company, listening and watching André Rieu and his orchestra if she needed cheering up.

Life was not always kind to her, but her philosophy was that she should sort out the problems and move on, and through all the twists and turns she never lost her faith.

Dear Olive, thank you for your friendship and love over the last 25 years, for your generosity, for your love and care for Robby and Jeremy. I will miss our telephone chats, texts and lunches more than I can say. Lovely lady – may you rest in peace.

Sue Masson

Scout Group update

The **Beaver Colony** had a busy time in the weeks leading up to the holidays. They won the District Beaver Sports held at Camdean Playing Fields in May. In June they had a joint hike and sleepover with the Inverkeithing Beavers and they rounded off their meetings with an archery session at Fordell.



For those with young eyes!

The **Cubs** held a weekend camp at Nineacres, Crook of Devon, attended by 18 cubs. The main attraction for the cubs was the stream which flows through the site and there were “Pooh stick” type competitions with various kinds of model boats.



We had a camp fire with one of the Dalgety Bay troops who were camping there for the weekend.

The **Scout Troop** had a four-day camp at the Jock Neish Centre near Forfar. They seem to have had a good time, although the weather was not too good.

Last weekend our **Explorer Scouts** were assisting at the Dalgety Bay Push Kart Derby, helping to set up and dismantle the tents etc and running a stall.



Our Explorer Scout Leader, Terry O'Neill, is in Japan as part of the service team supporting the World Scout Jamboree currently taking place there. Did you know that the Japanese have a huge number of different varieties of Kit Kat (including green tea) and even have a Kit Kat shop? The photo is of Terry inside the shop trying to decide which ones to buy. Terry is taking up a new position as District Commissioner for Rosyth District come September and we wish him well in this new (and challenging) post. Some of you will know Tony and Ann Caudrey who have been involved with the Scout Group for many years. We were very pleased to hear that the Scout Association has recognised their service by conferring on them the Award of Merit. We will be making arrangements for the awards to be presented on a suitable occasion.

Martin Rogers
Assistant Group Scout Leader



camp-fire bread

Your Youth Fellowship

An invitation from Andrew Wedge



The Youth Fellowship (YF for short) at Holy Trinity has been going some twenty years. Throughout this time a huge number of young adults have found their faith, but more importantly a friendship that would last a life time.

I myself graduated from the YF back in 2008, it was a place I felt comfortable in, away from the pressures of high school. We take children from their final Easter at primary school up until 18 and then beyond till 25 and now, with changes in the Province, beyond that too. Not only did we have sleepovers in the church, we went walking, went on cycle rides, played on the beach, got lost in the woods, ran church pantomimes – real ones, this is not a dig at our weekly service! – water fights, spy games and a lot of food. Hitting sticks is a test of every new Rector, but you can ask Alison about that! We travelled around Scotland and down through northern England quite often and it became a huge part of our lives.



Then there was Glenalmond, I write this in the midst of ordering a deep-sea fisherman's outfit and a bouncer's jacket, testing radios, and trying to write down my personal definition of the Holy Spirit. I am now a leader at Glen, our Episcopal Church's youth camp, where the slogan was ... not everything at Glen makes sense – lucky for me! It brings together youth groups from across Scotland and the wider Porvoo Communion, but our youth group

at Holy Trinity was one of the cornerstones of the movement through our church.

As a cornerstone we had delegates through Glen come and join our weekly YF meetings: from Kinross and Limekilns, Inverkeithing and Kirkcaldy, young teenagers would

come to a church to relax, chill out, create friendships and sometimes even explore our faith. The problem with most churches is that they are top-heavy: the age demographic of the Scottish Episcopal church makes me, in my mid-20s, one of the youngest members. In many churches there are maybe a handful of teenagers who turn up infrequently if any at all. By having a youth group,

not in every church (although that would be fantastic), but centrally and working through a network, these one or two teenagers become a group. There is nothing worse in faith than feeling alone, by coming together is how we all feel God's spirit.

/cont'd

Meanwhile, at Rosyth ...



So why am I writing this to our partner churches in Rosyth? Because the youth group at Holy Trinity is *your* Youth Group. Whilst you may not have many young people, this is still *your* youth group. When people comment that the church is getting older and will die out, you can point and say “Our church has a youth group”. We may meet in Dunfermline on occasion, but we meet all over the country too. In the last year I moved back to the area and have helped run the group I was once a member of. We have now risen back up to ten members and are growing.

So, if you know anyone, either personally or someone in contact with either of the Rosyth partner churches, who might be interested, do please invite them to ‘Your Youth Group’ and get them to get in touch with Alison or me.

Footnote: Andrew mentioned the Porvoo communion of churches. This is part of the Anglican communion bringing people and values together across Europe. Andrew is one of two people from the SEC who will join others from Porvoo member churches for a 140km walk from Porto northwards to Santiago de Compostela. They will take part in a service in Portugal on 23 August and will take a week to complete the journey.

Things have been very quiet for the last couple of weeks while most of our children and young people are on holiday. Sunday School still takes place if there are any children around, so don’t be worried about bringing children to services.

It won’t be very long before Messy Church starts again! Look out for our new banner in September (beside the Triangle Coffee Shop Banner). Our first Messy Church will be on **13 September**, and we look forward to seeing all our friends there. But new friends are always welcome too, so if you’ve never been to Messy Church, bring your children (or grandchildren) along and have some fun exploring a story from the Bible through really messy crafts. You can even have breakfast first. Our bacon butties are legendary!

It was lovely to see some of our young people helping at Triangle Coffee Shop during the school holidays. They proved to be very good waiters and waitresses (and even managed to earn some tips!)

Some of our youngsters, with two leaders, will be going to the District Youth Weekend at the beginning of September. This is held at the PGL Centre at Dalguise, and gives the young people a chance to meet other young people from different parts of Scotland, while taking part in outdoor activities. We hope to have a report and photos in the next copy of Contact.

Gwyneth Kirby



a Messy Church
bacon roll

Wednesday Fellowship

It seems no time since we enjoyed our end of session lunch at the Elgin Hotel, yet here we are a month away from the start of our autumn session! The Committee met recently to plan this and has arranged a varied and interesting programme, with something for everyone to enjoy. Look out for the posters which will appear soon giving details.

Wednesday Fellowship has grown over the years and become a real ecumenical gathering, with members from all the other churches in Rosyth. We are always pleased to see new folk and cordially invite you to join us, whether it be regularly or occasionally if something appeals to you.

We meet in the church lounge at 2.15pm and usually begin with a time to meet and greet each other, before a short time of devotion.

Most afternoons we have a guest speaker, and we finish with refreshments and another opportunity to chat with each other.

The first meeting is on **2 September** and is a devotional afternoon led by the Rev Alison Cozens whom we welcome for the first time.

Other meetings in September are:

9th Games afternoon (always popular!)

16th Cooking for One with Jean Hall

23rd Harvest Thanksgiving with guest speaker from Rosyth Foodbank

30th Guest speaker the Rev Gilmour Lilly, Rosyth Baptist Church.

We are privileged that Bishop David will join us on **7 October** after his morning visit to Rosyth.

New Presiding Bishop

From Bishop David's blog for 27 June 2015 (<http://tinyurl.com/qga4b4q>)

"The Episcopal Church has elected Bishop Michael Curry as the new Presiding Bishop – with typical American razzmatazz This is one of those moments when a remarkable person with distinctive gifts steps onto the stage. Such moments are potentially transformative ...

"I've known Michael for about five years in his role as Bishop of North Carolina. He is an African American with the oratorical preaching gifts which go with that culture. He speaks passionately – and often quietly – about God and grace. He has personal charisma and charm in abundance. His sharp intelligence enables him to express our faith tradition and the story in ways that are fresh – often very funny – and which speak to the heart.

"I watched people around me as his election – by an overwhelming vote – was announced. Younger people in particular

were deeply moved. One young priest said to me that she 'feels her vocation more strongly today' because of this election.

"This church is reflecting deeply on its place in the Anglican Communion. Several people – and the Episcopal News Service – wanted to know what the wider impact would be. It's not for me to say. But I expect and hope that the fact that the new Presiding Bishop is an African-American who carries the story of racial prejudice in America – and the story of slavery – and the history of colonialism in his very being will change all the relational dynamics. And that's because many of the most difficult issues of the Communion are rooted in the enduring impact of colonialism.

"I'm looking forward very much to working with Presiding Bishop Michael. This is a good day for the Episcopal Church, for the world church and for the Anglican Communion."

Invitations and requests – 1

Bishop David's walkabout

Bishop David will be taking a walk around Rosyth on **Wednesday 7 October** from 10.30am–3.30pm starting with coffee and finishing with a cuppa at St Margaret's church.

A small group from our Local Ecumenical Partnership will join him on his walkabout, but if you would like to meet us you would be most welcome.

The Wednesday Fellowship has kindly agreed to reorganise their programme to accommodate Bishop David's visit.

What makes Rosyth tick? Where are the places to shop or have a coffee? Where does the local community gather? And how can we as Christian people connect and serve our local community?

We hope to visit the Dockyard, the Community Library, some local shops, the Resource Centre and the newly renovated Parish Church.

If you would like to be involved please speak to either Rev Alison Cozens or Martin Rogers.

Keep the paperbacks coming!

Thank you to those of you who have been donating paperbacks to our shelves in the Crush Hall. However, we still need lots more paperbacks to ensure we can rotate them. With many organisations and people coming into the church the paperbacks are in steady demand. If you or your friends have any unwanted paperbacks in good condition we would welcome them please.

Area Council Annual Service

This year's St Andrews West Area Council will be held on **Sunday 6 September** at 6.00pm in St Columba's Church, Aberdour. The service will be led by the Rev Dean Norby, Rector of All Souls Fife (formerly the Aberdour, Burntisland and Inverkeithing Group) and further details will be announced in the weekly notices. It is a few years since the service has been held in St Columba's and we can be assured of a warm welcome there. There is usually a good representation from St Margaret's, so please come along if you can.

Recycling update

Recycling **clothing** etc. The Rag-Bag box is nearly full again and another collection will soon happen, generating about £30 of income. Please continue to use it for recycling:

- any men's, ladies and children's clothing
- paired shoes (tied together)
- handbags, bags, ties & belts
- household linen & towels

Please do NOT include: duvets; pillows and cushions; carpets and rugs; soiled/wet clothing; uniforms/workwear; shredded/mutilated textile material; textile off-cuts, yarns or threaded material.

Recycling **printer cartridges**. A full box will shortly be collected and a new one put in place. The scheme run by Recycle4charity, caters only for **inkjet** cartridges.

Makes you can recycle include HP, Dell, Lexmark, Canon, Samsung, Neopost.

Please do NOT include Epson or Kodak cartridges, any labelled for another brand like Tesco, Asda or PC World, or cartridges that have been previously refilled.

Recycling **mobile phones**. There is no restriction on the make or age of old mobile phones that can be recycled: please just place them in the same box as that for recycling printer cartridges.

Invitations and requests – 2

Triangles Coffee Shop

Have you called in for a coffee yet? Lots of people have! And word has reached Dunfermline about the quality of the home baking on offer.

It's now about 12 weeks since we first opened Triangles and we have been really encouraged by the number of people who have visited us for coffee, cake and a chat. Some have not missed a single week, some come occasionally – and we always know who will come through the door at 9.30 sharp! (Thank you, gentlemen, for your support and encouragement.)

It was with some trepidation that I let myself become involved with this venture, but I can now honestly say that I really enjoy being a part of it, and even on the Fridays when my team are not working I find myself drawn to the coffee shop towards the end of the morning. There is always a lovely atmosphere there.

I would like to say a big thank you to all the volunteers who help to run Triangles and all those who provide the home baking. (It takes dedication to get up at 6.00am to make sure the scones are freshly baked!) More helpers are very welcome – even if you can't commit to a monthly rota, why not offer to come along when you can?

And if you haven't dropped in for a tea or coffee yet, why not give it a try? Bring some friends along. We are open **every Friday from 9.30am**, and there is always a warm welcome.

Gwyneth Kirby

Ed: This is well worth a visit. A lot of effort has gone into the décor – attractive aprons worn by the volunteers match the tablecloths!

Sunday@Six

Sunday@Six will be back on **23 August** with our popular theme of Summer Praise. Sue Masson is planning this and you can expect poems, readings, songs from the choir and hopefully the Ukulele Orchestra – back by popular request! Always an enjoyable and inspiring evening, so note the date now!

The following month, as part of our Harvest celebrations, we meet a day earlier, on **Saturday 26 September**. Come to our light supper and then hear about “The Land of the Thousand Hills” from Norman Liddle of the Scottish Bible Society. Details will be available nearer the time in the weekly notice sheet.

Sunday Bible Study

Alison's informal **Sunday evening** meetings have attracted a steady following, both regulars and occasional visitors, who enjoy the opportunity to read through the Bible passages for the following Sunday, and have time for reflection and prayer.

Note that these are open to everyone who is interested, and not restricted to those reading and leading intercessions in church the next week.

Note also that, while the normal venue remains the Rectory, this will not always be available during the currency of this issue of Contact, so it is intended to meet at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline. Any change to this will be communicated on the website and the weekly notice sheet

One minute, please

What did Jesus say?

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

Matthew 22:37 (NIV)

Invitations and requests – 3

Concerts at St Finnian's

Rev Margaret Dineley invites us to go to St Finnian's, Lochgelly to enjoy:

Spiritual Music from Mauritius Friday 14 August at 7.00pm

We are privileged to host a group of musicians from this rainbow nation who have been given a grant by an official body in Mauritius to tour the country for two months.

Mike Delaitre, a singer/songwriter from the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius, works with a fluid group of musicians, and African, Chinese, Indian and French influences lend colour to their singing and brings warmth to people's hearts. To quote Mike: "The music is to give people hope and consciousness in a world that is full of corruption, war and destruction. Music is my tool to lift people's spirits and to unite as one. We talk about change for this world, but we will never achieve change without positive example".

Do take the opportunity to hear this unique spiritual music. Tickets £5, to include refreshments, may be obtained from vestry members or on the night. BYOB if you wish.

Music from the Shows, Friday 4 September at 7.00pm

The amazing group of vocalists who entertained us last year with the music of Gershwin are returning with a new programme of music from the shows. Although amateurs, they are highly professional in performance. Further details to follow.

Action for Children

Stuart Laurie, Community Fundraiser Scotland – Action for Children writes...

"On behalf of everyone in Community Partnership Fundraising and Action for Children, thank you very much for everything you and your Church do in helping make the lives of children better. With your help, £1.5 million has been directly raised and donated by Methodist supporters throughout the UK over the last twelve months; a truly outstanding contribution and one we never take for granted, thank you.

"146 years ago, The Children's Home (as Action for Children was called then) was founded. This year marks our 60th anniversary here in Scotland from our humble beginnings of our very first Children's Home in Scotland, Cathkin House in Rutherglen, back in 1955. We would be honoured if you could help us celebrate our 60th Anniversary by getting on board to help raise much-needed funds to continue our amazing work throughout Scotland, whether this be holding an Action for Children Sunday service, a collection at a service or by taking on one of our fun and challenging events that can be found on our website. You may even wish to take on a challenge of your own in support of us."



Our local AfC champion is of course Jean Hall, who continues to amaze us by her energy and commitment. Go to page 26 to see what she and her helpers raised at this year's cream tea!

Invitations and requests – 4

Love God, Love God's World

– why Christians care for creation

This is an advance notice of an ecumenical event taking place on **Wednesday 23 September** at 7.30pm in St Andrew's and St George's West, George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PA.

Speakers include:

- The Most Rev David Chillingworth, Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church
- Sally Foster Fulton, Convenor of the Church and Society Council of the Church of Scotland
- Philippa Bonella, Head of Communications and Education at the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund
- The Rev John Humphreys, Synod Moderator of the United Reformed Church in Scotland

Watch the weekly notices for further details.

Harvest for the housebound

On **Sunday 27 September**, as well as their two morning services to celebrate harvest, this year St Finnian's Lochgelly are holding an afternoon service for housebound people and their carers, followed by refreshments. Time is to be confirmed, but is likely to be 2.30pm or 3.00pm. They already have someone coming from Dunfermline, and would welcome other visitors. Contact Margaret for details (01592 358933 or margaret.dineley@gmail.com).



a harvest loaf

Broaden your mind!

The Autumn lectures at St Margaret's Leven offer a very varied programme!

On **Monday 7 September**, *The Church in the Middle East, from its beginnings to the challenges of today* will be presented by the Venerable Ian Young MBE. Ian spent over twenty years ministering there where his positions included Archdeacon of Cyprus and the Gulf, Provisional Secretary of the Jerusalem and the Middle East, Gulf Liaison Officer for the Middle East Council of Churches, and Chaplain to the Anglican Church in Qatar. He also directs three of the National Youth Choirs of Scotland and is a UK Vocal Trainer for the British Council's World Voice Programme which has taken him to India and Bangladesh. In September Ian will visit Sudan to work with teachers and students.

The second lecture will be given on **Monday 5 October** by Canon Joe Morrow, Lord Lyon King of Arms, who is the heraldic authority in Scotland and responsible for all state ceremonial. Joe hails from Fife and is an advocate, President of the Mental Health Tribunal for Scotland, Vice Lord Lieutenant of the City of Dundee, and incumbent of the Chapel of Glamis Castle. He is also a commander of the Venerable Order of St John. Joe will speak on *The Court of the Lord Lyon with special reference to heraldry around Leven and the surrounding area*.

On **Monday 2 November**, the Very Reverend Hunter Farquharson, Provost of St. Ninian's Cathedral, Perth will speak on *Tattoos and Piercings*.

The lectures, to be held in St Margaret's Church Hall, Victoria Road, Leven, will begin at 7.00pm followed by refreshments. Admission is free. There will be a retiring collection for the Leven Foodbank. All are most welcome to attend.

Invitations from across the water

The Festival Fringe 2015

Following the success in 2014, the **City of Edinburgh Methodist Church** will be an Edinburgh Festival Fringe venue again this year. The venue is run by Greenside Venues Ltd, who proved to be very efficient and professional last year, when more than 14,000 people came through the doors to see more than 30 excellent shows.



This year's shows (including previews) run from **7 to 29 August**. Look through the Greenside@ Nicolson Square Fringe Programme for more details. It would be great to see you!

During the Fringe, the church's Well Cafe will have extended hours. It will be open from 9am to 9pm (last orders 8pm), Monday to Saturday, and looks forward to welcoming all customers, old and new.

Please pray for all aspects of the church's involvement in this year's Festival Fringe.

The **Kingdom Singers** return to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in this their 21st anniversary year on **Saturday 29 August** at 6.00pm and 7.30pm in St Cuthbert's Church, Lothian Road, Edinburgh.

The programme is designed to please all and consists of Scottish songs and show tunes, plus favourites old and new.

Family Fundraising Ceilidh

Join the Exile Ceilidh Band at St Stephen's Comely Bank Church, East Fettes Avenue, Edinburgh, EH4 1DW on **Saturday 15 August** at 5.30pm for a fantastic early evening of fun and traditional Scottish country dancing, and help us raise funds for Origin's summer Festival outreach – reaching people for Jesus in the heart of Edinburgh. On street parking. Bring your own picnic.

Tickets £5 per person or £10 for family (two adults and children) available on the door, or e-mail info@originscotland.org, or book online at <http://tinyurl.com/po5pve5>.

How Long, O Lord? Reflections in the Psalms

This is a brand-new event from Origin Scotland, the Edinburgh date being **Sunday 4 October** at 8.00pm in St Columba's Free Church, Johnston Terrace. EH1 2PW.

Using a mixture of contemporary and traditional music, along with dramatic readings, we will together explore the depths of the psalmists' worship and praise, and the faithfulness and glory of our God. In the voice of the psalmist, we will cry out to Him for repentance and healing in our nation. The Exile Band, Choir and Orchestra will be joined by Scottish singer-songwriter Stephen Macleod.

Free tickets for this event are available and there will be an offering on the night towards expenses. As tickets are limited please only book when you have confirmed your numbers. Book online at <http://tinyurl.com/nozs6ff>, e-mail info@originscotland.org or phone 0131 208 0095.

Sea Sunday 2015

A Mission to Seafarers Press Release launches this year's campaign:

2015 started with a series of shipping tragedies which included the sinking of two vessels the MV Cemfjord off Wick in Scotland and the MS Bulk Jupiter close to Vietnam in east Asia – on both vessels nearly all on board were lost – all eight crew were missing presumed dead on the Cemfjord and 18 seamen were lost on the Bulk Jupiter, with one survivor.

In Southampton Sound in the South of England, the giant car-carrier the Hoegh Osaka narrowly avoided a similar fate, when it listed severely on leaving port and was run aground to save it. Two crewmen were injured but all the seafarers were rescued by the coastguard.

The Mission to Seafarers' teams respond to those who face danger at sea, and support seafarers and their families in their hour of need in 71 countries and 260 ports worldwide. With fatalities at sea, it is the families of those lost that the Mission can help.

In Wick in Scotland Mission to Seafarers' Port Chaplain helped to organise support for the families. The Rev Tim Tunley said: "When tragedy of this magnitude happens, we offer counselling and support to the families left behind. Of the eight crew, seven were Polish nationals, and one was from the Philippines.

"We contacted our colleagues in Poland at the Apostleship of the Sea and liaised with them and local churches to bring support and pastoral care to those bereaved. We also contacted the family in the Philippines, and referred them on to our MtS colleagues in Manila.

"I worked closely with the shipping company, our fantastic local volunteers and the community in Wick who were all effected by the sinking so close to their shores."

Last weekend Rev Tim attended a memorial service in Wick with the families from Poland who had been flown over to attend and he holds a Sea Sunday service in Wick today. ...

Sea Sunday is held in 71 countries around the world by The Mission to Seafarers and which is marked with services of thanksgiving and prayer to remember the hard work that seafarers undertake by bringing 90% of all imported goods to shore by ship, night and day, 365 days a year.

You can read the full press release at this link: <http://tinyurl.com/ohznjyr>.

The work that The Mission to Seafarers does in supporting this most dangerous and perilous way of life began in 1975 when three Christian maritime missionary societies – the Mission to Seafarers (Anglican), the Apostleship of the Sea (Roman Catholic) and the Sailors' Society – decided there should be a day in which the contributions of seafarers to the country were recognised. Since then Sea Sunday – traditionally the second Sunday in July – has gone on to become an international day with services, parades and ships blessings.

This year St Margaret's are celebrating Sea Sunday on **30 August**, when our preacher will be the same Tim Tunley you've just been reading about in the Press Release!



hardtack –
traditional fare
for mariners

Diary for August 2015

Sunday 2 August

Pentecost 10	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Alison Cozens
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Mr Lyn Smalridge David Salthouse (Worship Leader)
	8.00pm	Bible Study at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline for readers on Sunday 9 August and anyone else interested (see page 16)	

Tuesday 4 Aug 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Jack Fowell's house at Rosyth

Friday 7 Aug 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
to 11.30am – tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 9 August

Pentecost 11	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Alison Cozens
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Rev Keith Pearce Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)
	Note: No Messy Church during School Holidays		
	8.00pm	Bible Study at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline for readers on Sunday 16 August and anyone else interested (see page 16)	

Tuesday 11 Aug 7.30pm Local Preachers' and Worship Leaders' meeting at Granton United Reformed Church

Friday 14 Aug 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
to 11.30am – tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice
7.00pm Concert of Spiritual Music from Mauritius at St Finnian's Church Lochgelly (see page 17 for details)

Sunday 16 August

Pentecost 12	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Alison Cozens
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Rev Dr Helen Jenkins David Salthouse (Worship Leader)
	3.00pm	Service at Orchardhead House	
	8.00pm	Bible Study at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline for readers at the joint service on Sunday 23 August and anyone else interested (see page 16)	

Diary for August/September 2015

Tuesday 18 Aug 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's home at Limekilns

7.00pm St Margaret's Vestry meets in Church Lounge

Friday 21 Aug 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall

to 11.30am – tea, coffee and home baking

7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 23 August

Pentecost 13 11.00am Joint Communion Service Rev Alison Cozens

Traidcraft goods on sale after the service

6.00pm Sunday@Six Summer Praise led by the choir

8.00pm Bible Study at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline for readers on Sunday 23 August and anyone else interested (see page 16)

Friday 28 Aug 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall

to 11.30am – tea, coffee and home baking

6.00pm Kingdom Singers at the Fringe

and 7.30pm St Cuthbert's Church, Lothian Road, Edinburgh (see page 19 for details)

7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 30 August

Pentecost 14 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens

Preacher: Rev Tim Tunley (Chaplain, Mission to Seafarers, Scotland)

11.00am Morning Worship Rev Andrew Letby

8.00pm Bible Study at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline for readers on Sunday 6 September and anyone else interested (see page 16)

Tuesday 1 Sep 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's home at Limekilns

7.00pm Meeting of the joint St Margaret's/Holy Trinity planning group in Holy Trinity Church Hall

Wednesday 2 Sep 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:
Opening Session – Rev Alison Cozens

Friday 4 Sep 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall

to 11.30am – tea, coffee and home baking

7.00pm Choir practice

Diary for September 2015

Sunday 6 September

- Pentecost 15 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens
11.00am Morning Worship
6.00pm St Andrew's West Area Council annual service in
St Columba's Aberdour, led by Rev Dean Norby
8.00pm Bible Study at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline
for readers on Sunday 13 September and anyone else
interested (see page 16)
- Monday 7 Sep 7.00pm "Lecture at Leven": Ian Young on *The Church in the
Middle East* (see page 18)
7.30pm Ecumenical Study Group, St Columba's, Torridon Lane
- Wednesday 9 Sep 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Games Afternoon
- Friday 11 Sep 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
to 11.30am – tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 13 September

- Pentecost 16 9.00am Messy Church and Breakfast
9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Dr Marion Keston
11.00am Morning Service
8.00pm Bible Study at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline
for readers on Sunday 20 September and anyone else
interested (see page 16)
- Tuesday 15 Sep 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's home at Limekilns
- Wednesday 16 Sep 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Cooking for One with Jean Hall
- Friday 18 Sep 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
to 11.30am – tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 20 September

- Pentecost 17 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Dr Marion Keston
11.00am Morning Worship
3.00pm Service at Orchardhead House
8.00pm Bible Study at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline for
readers at the joint service on Sunday 27 September and
anyone else interested (see page 16)

Diary for September/October 2015

Tuesday 22 Sep 7.30pm Rosyth Methodist Council meets in the Church Lounge

Wednesday 23 Sep 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Harvest with Guest speaker from Rosyth Foodbank (to be confirmed)

7.30pm Love God, Love God's World – why Christians care for creation: at St Andrew's and St George's West, George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PA (see page 18 for details)

Friday 25 Sep 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall

to 11.30am – tea, coffee and home baking

7.00pm Choir practice

Saturday 26 Sep 10.00am Being Church with Children – a one day workshop

to 4.30pm led by Lucy Moore (of Messy Church) Venue to be advised (see page 35 for details)

7.00pm Light Harvest Supper and hear about “The Land of the Thousand Hills” from Norman Liddle of the Scottish Bible Society

Sunday 27 September

Harvest 11.00am All-age Communion Service

Traidcraft goods on sale after the service

Note: No Sunday@Six

8.00pm Bible Study at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline for readers on Sunday 4 October and anyone else interested (see page 16)

Tuesday 29 Sep 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's home at Limekilns

7.30pm Joint meeting of St Margaret's Vestry/Methodist Council
in Church Lounge

Wednesday 30 Sep 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:
Guest speaker - Rev Gilmour Lilly

Friday 2 Oct 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall

to 11.30am – tea, coffee and home baking

7.00pm Choir practice

Diary for October 2015

Sunday 4 October

Pentecost 19	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Alison Cozens
	11.00am	Morning Worship	
	3.00pm	Service to launch the Scottish Episcopal Institute in St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth. Preacher: The Most Rev David Chillingworth, Primus and Bishop of St Andrews	
	8.00pm	Bible Study at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline for readers on Sunday 11 October and anyone else interested (see page 16)	

Monday 5 Oct	7.00pm	"Lecture at Leven": Joe Morrow on <i>The Court of the Lord Lyon</i> (see page 18)	
	7.30pm	Ecumenical Study Group, St Columba's, Torridon Lane	

Wednesday 7 Oct	10.30am	Bishop David's visit to Rosyth including tour of the Dockyard, visit local shops and lunch at the Parish Church.	
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Wednesday 7 Oct	2.15pm	Wednesday Fellowship: Guest speaker The Most Rev David Chillingworth	
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Friday 9 Oct	9.30am	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall	
	to 11.30am	– tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	Choir practice	

Advance Dates for your Diary!

We are delighted that the Most Reverend David Chillingworth, Bishop of St Andrews (and Primus of the SEC) and the Rev David Easton, Chair of the Scottish District Synod, will be with us on **Sunday 18 October** to lead our joint communion service. Both are well-known to our congregations, but this will be the first opportunity for them to take part together, although Bishop David and Rev Lily Twist (David Easton's predecessor) celebrated a joint communion service in November 2012.

We also extend a warm welcome to the congregation of Holy Trinity, Dunfermline who will be worshipping with us at Rosyth for the first time. A joint choir will lead the praise and if you would like to be part this augmented choir please talk to Sue Masson as soon as possible. Please note this date and do try to attend this special occasion.

Further ahead, on **Sunday 22 May 2016** – Holy Trinity's 125th Anniversary – there will be a joint service and confirmation at Holy Trinity at which Bishop David will preside.

Out and about – 1

Open Garden at Logie House



Our warm thanks to Sarah Hunt for hosting a garden party at Logie House on Saturday 18 July to welcome Peter and myself to Dunfermline and Rosyth.

We were blessed by the Bishop and delighted to welcome him and his wife Alison for the afternoon.

If you were wondering what kind of tea was served, please ask Rev Alison!

Thank you to everyone who helped to set up and clear away, to those who baked and brought delicious cakes and scones and thanks to Sarah for allowing us to wander around her beautiful gardens.

Alison and Peter Cozens

Action for Children cream tea

Many thanks for your kind support and donations. We were blessed with a lovely sunny day, and enjoyed a lovely cream tea and bletcher.

We raised £273. Thank you to the local helpers on the day, and everyone for their wonderful support.

Jean Hall

What do you need for a good garden party?

- collapsible and transportable tables
- crockery for 100+ people
- 12 x 2lb cakes
- 100 fresh scones
- assorted tray bakes
- some savoury and gluten-free options
- jars of strawberry and gooseberry jam to buy
- a beautiful house and garden with a generous hostess
- assorted chairs for indoors and out
- two hot water urns
- a charity for donations
 - (research into Type 1 diabetes)
- a team of willing bakers, kitchen slaves and furniture removers
- 100 or so people from three churches plus a Bishop and his wife
- good weather

All these came together on Saturday 18 July when Sarah Hunt kindly opened her beautiful house and gardens for us to enjoy. The wind, which had been stormy for the previous 24 hours eventually calmed down, the sun shone and everyone who came enjoyed a lovely afternoon. Many thanks to all who contributed in any way and especially to Sarah for the use of her house and grounds.

Sue Masson



let them eat
cake!

Out and about – 2

Church Family BBQ

The Annual BBQ took place on **28 June** at Silver Sands beach in Aberdour. Everyone who went enjoyed it. The weather was not as warm as might have been wished, but at least it wasn't pouring with rain!

As always, there were those who stayed in the shelter of the pergola, but others were more adventurous, and it's even rumoured that some were seen paddling!

Thanks to Jean Hall for sending us some photographs, and to David Salthouse's crew for providing the food.



bread for filling!

A summer in the jungle

Our special correspondent is Mary Dempster's granddaughter Katrina Schofield



This time last year I had not long arrived in Indonesia ready to spend my summer living in the tropical peat-swamp forests of Borneo. A few months earlier I had been accepted onto a conservation-volunteering programme with OuTrop: the Orang-utan Tropical Peatland Project.

What was even more exciting was that they'd also offered me a fantastic opportunity to carry out my own research while I was there for my honours project, which would count towards my degree in conservation.

Ever since one of my lecturers had told me all about his work in Malaysian Borneo, I'd had my heart set on doing my own project in a tropical rainforest, so understandably I jumped at the chance! There was a lot to organise before I set off, including various trips to the travel clinic as well as all my preparation for my project, which involved a lot of reading and a very long risk assessment. I never dreamed I would have to write: "Be aware of poisonous snakes, spiders and scorpions"!

So, after much preparation, nine vaccinations, four flights and 8,361 miles later, I arrived in Indonesian Borneo. I met with the other volunteers in Jakarta on the island of Java where we all flew over to Palangka Raya, the provincial capital of Central Kalimantan – the Indonesian part of Borneo. We spent a couple of days in the city before heading to base camp. This was a culture shock in itself. It's not a city that is often visited by tourists; so many of the locals wanted their photographs taken with us, which made my time there feel like I was a local celebrity rather than a tourist! Rather than the bus to the market we took a "bemo", which looked a bit like an orange Volkswagen Dormobile with benches in the back. At night, the roadsides came alive with food tents called "warungs" that were put up each night. Everybody rode motorcycles (or "ojek") with often up to 4 or 5 people on one bike! But, despite the obvious lack of health and safety, everybody there seemed so happy and carefree.



Living at camp was an experience I could never have imagined. Although we slept on thin mats under mosquito nets and used “mandi” buckets rather than showers to wash, the island of huts that stood above the swamp soon felt like home. In fact, after a hard day’s work in the humidity and heat of the forest, a cold mandi was just what you needed!

Two wooden boardwalks leave camp and run several kilometres south and west into the forest to provide access to the study transects within the forest. Once off the path, there was no point even trying to stay dry and clean. After our first venture into the forest, we all came back with mud up almost up to our waists! However, during our time there it came into the dry season, so walking became a bit easier and we were only then waist deep in mud if we fell in a hole!

Most days, I worked on my project with a team of staff and volunteers. My project involved investigating the impact of selective logging on tropical peat-swamp forest. The Indonesian staff had an incredible knowledge of the trees. Since there were over 200 species in the forest, knowing how to identify them all took years of experience. Each day was a challenge of finding my way through the jungle, learning

to identify trees and sometimes even having to climb trees to measure them! I made it my motto to get out what I put in during my time there, so I made it my goal to learn some Indonesian. This made data collection even more challenging when it was all done in Indonesian, but also made it more fun!

But it’s not just the trees that make the forest so special. One morning at around 4am, three of us ventured through the forest in the black of night towards the research tower. At 50m above the canopy, we could see the mist lift above the trees and hear the singing of gibbons and birds all around us as the forest awoke. The Sabangau is home to an amazing diversity of wildlife. On days when I wasn’t doing my project, I was lucky enough to participate in various projects including mammal surveys, primate behavioural research and butterfly trapping. Often we didn’t even have to go far into the forest to look for wildlife – it came to us! At camp we had many visitors, including orang-utans, red langur monkeys, wild pigs and two-meter long lizards! After the sun went down, the forest came alive with wolf spiders, frogs, bats and moths as big as your hand. At the end of our stay, we got to spend three days living on a boat and cruising the rivers of Tanjung Puting National Park, where we saw even more wildlife including proboscis monkeys, crocodiles and the famous and honoured hornbills.

Although I was happy to return home after two months to a diet other than rice and a comfy bed, my time in Indonesia was an experience I’ll never forget. The character and life of the Sabangau forest was so unique and the Indonesian people offered a kindness that was unimaginable. I hope one day I can go back!

Dunfermline Churches of Special Interest

Alan Taylor enjoys another day out!

Some members of the West Fife Members' Group of the National Trust for Scotland had a real treat on 1 July when they were invited to join members of the East Fife Members' Group on a visit to four of the many Dunfermline Churches. The group was led by Edwina Proudfoot – not only is she the wife of a former geography lecturer of mine at Queen's and past Professor of Geography at St Andrews, but she is also Chairman of Scottish Church Heritage Research.

Edwina took us firstly to Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church on Aberdour Road. Despite its rather dour exterior, this is a most beautiful church inside. It was built in 1966, just a few years before our own church. The altar is modern, of marble, and there are several wonderful stained-glass windows, including an Ave Maria window and a St Margaret window in medieval style. Despite being a modern church, it still has pews!

Our next visit was to St Leonard's Parish Church – you know, the one with the "Irish" Round Tower!! The tower is modelled on the famous example in Brechin. The interior of this church – built in 1903 – is quite amazing, and could be mistaken for a church of another denomination. It has a number of Anglo-Catholic overtones, with a wonderfully carved hood for the baptismal font, a carved, wooden Poor Box, two very tall seven-branched candle holders (yes, the Minister told me they are menorahs!), lots of shields round the gallery front, and an amazing mural painted on linen which is applied to the cupola over the communion table. Do pay a visit if you have not been!

Holy Trinity Scottish Episcopal Church was next – we know it well!! Built in 1891, it is Gothic in style, east-west orientation, with richly-traceried windows. Because of the difficult site, half of the church is below pavement level, which limits the extent – and dare I say it, the aesthetic balance – of the main windows. There is a fine reredos, an eagle lectern, and attractive stained glass.

After a good lunch in the Abbott House – sadly shortly to close – where else but Dunfermline Abbey? Do visit there with a guide if you can. Edwina's wonderful knowledge of the Abbey was most enlightening. It was founded as a priory in 1080. The original building was quite tiny, which belied its importance in later years, becoming one of the most important royal sites in Scotland. Then into the Abbey Church, where our old friend, Mary Welch, gave her usual presentation on St Margaret, Robert the Bruce, the spider – and all that!

A wonderful day, spent with old friends and new. And who knows, but Edwina might pay a return visit to the great churches we have in Rosyth!

Open Doors Day

St Finnian's Lochgelly is opening its doors in welcome as part of the Fife Open Doors Scheme on **Sunday 13 September**, from 2.00–5.00pm. There will be guided tours of the church, a display of history and vestments, a quiz for children, and appropriate music from our organist and also CDs, plus tea and coffee in our hall. Margaret Dineley says: "Do come along and soak up the spiritual atmosphere of our lovely church."

Saint Margaret Pilgrimage

Alan Taylor reports

Our former Queen, Saint and Patroness, Saint Margaret of Scotland, lived from 1045 to 1093. She was canonised in 1250 by Pope Innocent IV and her remains were re-interred in Dunfermline Abbey. Sadly, her relics were dispersed after the Scottish Reformation and subsequently mostly lost.

Such was her influence on the life of Scotland that a summer pilgrimage started in June 1250, which continued annually until the late 16th century. This was revived in 1899 and continued until 1974. The popularity of the pilgrimage soon meant that there was insufficient room in St Margaret's Roman Catholic Church in Dunfermline and the venue was changed to Dunfermline Athletic Football Stadium. Unfortunately the pilgrimage ended when use of the stadium fell out of favour.

This year, however, the good folk of St Margaret's decided to revive the Summer Pilgrimage, inviting folk from all over Scotland to take part, not really expecting the turn-out which ensued. I, along with some friends, joined the pilgrimage, which was held on Sunday 28 June. Those visiting Dunfermline were invited to explore the numerous holy sites associated with St Margaret throughout Dunfermline – her shrine, Malcolm's Tower, Dunfermline Abbey and St Margaret's Cave – before gathering at the gates of Pittencrieff Park for a grand procession through the city to the parish church. Some 1,000 folk had come together, including some uniformed organisations, many bearing banners from their own congregations.

The procession was preceded by pipers from St Columba's High School Pipe band, while St Margaret's relic was carried under a canopy at the rear of the procession, accompanied by Archbishop Leo Cushley.



At 4 o'clock, Holy Mass was offered by Archbishop Cushley in the parish church. Such was the crowd that many could not get into the chapel. The service was indeed memorable, singing such hymns as "High let us all our voices raise in sweet St Margaret's loving praise", "Great St Margaret, Pearl of Scotland", and "Great St Margaret, at thy feet, Christians past and present meet". The Host was offered to all who wished to take communion, incense wafted through the great building, the readings were those we have come to expect at our own patronal festival – "A perfect wife – who can find her?" – and beautiful solo singing complemented the whole service.

Afterwards, those who wished were offered individual and family blessings with the relic.

A wonderful occasion, hopefully to become the first of many.



communion wafers

Fife Pilgrim Way

Rev Thomas Brauer, the Diocesan Missioner writes:

Some time ago we sent out some information about the developing Fife Pilgrim way which will extend from Culross to St. Andrews through the centre of Fife. I thought you might be interested both in a little updated information, as well as a link to a survey about the route. The hope is that as many people as possible could fill in the survey and express their thoughts about the plan. The link to the survey is <http://tinyurl.com/pq5x9s4>.

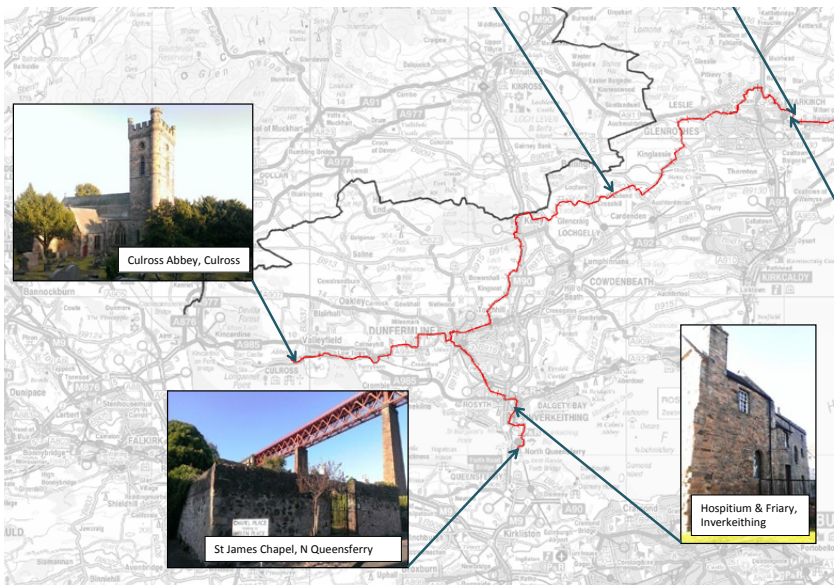
At this stage, the partnership between ACTS, Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, as well as Fife Council is awaiting the result of funding applications. They have received the positive feedback of the majority of landowners along the route, and are hoping to go ahead with construction and signposting in the next year or so. If you'd like to see the proposed route, you can find it at <http://tinyurl.com/ohepfj>.

At this stage, the Catholic churches along the route have been most enthusiastic about their support of the path, and have expressed great desire to be a presence for pilgrims once the route is built and finished. It would be great if our congregations closest to the route might express similar interest.

If you have any questions about how you might get further involved, then contact me at missioner@standrews.anglican.org.

Ed: Take a look at the route below.

Woodside Road, the road that runs alongside our church, is on the branch of the route that starts at St James' Chapel in North Queensferry, so the Fife Pilgrim Way presents an opportunity for our partnership!



Ship Visiting

Adrian Masson explains ...

In August, as we celebrate Sea Sunday, our focus will be on the sea and the challenges it faces to those whose livelihoods depend on it. Many of the seafarers who visit our shores come from the other side of the globe, particularly from the Philippines, Myanmar, India and Indonesia. However, countries from closer to home such as Russia, Ukraine, Germany and the Netherlands are also well represented, particularly amongst ships' officers. For the Master of a ship, contracts may be as short as six weeks and for deck hands and cooks, as long as nine months. Consequently separation from home and family is a significant issue, but ameliorated these days by the advent of the internet, Skype and mobile phone. This is where the ship visitor has a significant input to make.

The tradition of ship visiting stems from the earliest days of the principal nautical welfare societies, the Mission to Seafarers (Anglican), the Sailors Society (Free Church) and the Apostleship of the Sea (Roman Catholic), each of which were founded in Victorian times. Nowadays most ship visitors are either chaplains from the relevant denomination or volunteers. Volunteers have to attend a two-day course run by the Merchant Navy Welfare Board, and pass a simple test at the end. Locally, volunteers visit ships in Leith, Hound Point, Grangemouth, Inverkeithing, Rosyth and Kirkcaldy. We usually take with us the woolly hats and scarves knitted by local church members and at Christmas the Leith Churches make up 'goody bags' which we give out to each sailor. On a cruise ship, where the crew is large, a dustbin bag of hats and scarves will disappear within five minutes to eager crew members!

On container ships and tankers where crews may be no more than 20 there may be an opportunity to talk to sailors over a cup of coffee in their Mess. In Grangemouth we make sure they know about the recently reopened Sailors' Centre and sometimes provide a lift to the local ASDA store just outside the main port. However, on all the ships we visit, the provision of phone cards is our greatest contribution. We trade in pounds sterling, euros and dollars and try and provide the most popular cards to enable mobile phone and internet access.

Are there challenges? Yes of course. Language can be a barrier, as can the technical issues associated with an ever increasing diversity of phone cards to a continuously-growing spectrum of mobile devices. Most ships work on European time, so timing visits not to interfere with working patterns can also be an issue, particularly where crew sizes are very small. In Grangemouth, gangways are sometimes just too steep and slippery to climb, and in Rosyth security is paramount. This year there are thirty ships visiting and, for each of these, the ship's agent must first be notified, to ensure we receive the appropriate clearance before our visit.

The life of a 21st century ship visitor is very different from our Victorian predecessors, who frequently put their lives at risk to visit ships. However the rewards are unchanged. The sailors we visit are usually polite and very hospitable. They welcome our visits and are grateful for the hats and scarves we provide. The joy of enabling someone to see and talk to family on the far side of the world is even greater!

Property Matters

Over the last few weeks there have been some busy hands at work helping to keep our premises looking clean and tidy. Thanks to Stuart Fowell, Dave Ward and Howard Kirby for tidying up the flower beds and pruning the bushes at the front and side of the church. Mandy and Dave Ward and Suzie and Dougie Knight have transformed the former crèche room into a comfortable and welcoming room which is being used as the vestry and a small meeting room. Gone are the mermaid and creatures of the deep which used to adorn the walls. I came in one evening to find Mandy and Jean Hall giving the kitchen a good clean and just managed to resist their invitation to lend a hand. Alan Taylor and I have made an attempt to clean some of the slabs in the sanctuary area using the polisher/scrubber. It has made a difference but not as much as we had hoped. Mary Innes has helped me to do the same with the hall floor. Thanks to all these folk for these and other jobs they do for the church and my apologies if I have inadvertently omitted someone's name.

The busy programme of activities on our premises slackens off when the summer holidays arrive giving us an opportunity to catch up with some maintenance work. However, there are a number of groups who continue to meet through the holiday period. There are two Alcoholics Anonymous groups and Slimming World meeting each week. A new Messy Play group has started up on a Thursday and the Triangle Coffee Shop is still selling its wares and providing a social hub on a Friday. There have also been a wedding and three funerals in the last few weeks.

We have a new notice board to go in the back entrance room and, in August, we will be having a new window put in the kitchen. This continues our programme of replacing the wooden-framed windows in the premises.

Martin Rogers

Chairman of the Property Committee

Transformation of another kind

This picture shows Bishop Michael Curry with Bishop Barbara Harris, first woman bishop in the Anglican Communion.

For the story, go to page 14. As Bishop David says "Such moments are potentially transformative ..."

Ed: For inspiration and update, why not look at "Thinking aloud", Bishop David's blog at <http://www.bishopdavid.net/>. Or get a regular email feed of Pam Webster's "Pam's Perambulation" at <http://pamsperambulation.com/>. Pam is a Methodist Minister, currently unable to work in active ministry because of chronic illness, who has found this new way of continuing to interact with the world.



From the Diocese

Area Council News

On 3 July Alan Taylor and I attended the annual Area Council summer get together at Nan Kennedy's home – my first Area Council soirée. Nan lives in a really beautiful and very old house way out in the wilds of Kinross in superb countryside, but it is a bit tricky to get to. Luckily Alan has been before and he has a trusty sat nav, so we did not get lost!

It was a lovely evening. The weather stayed fair and we were able to take drinks on the lawn before going in to dinner, sitting at the largest table I have ever seen, which Nan advised was actually a table-tennis table! We did not play ping pong, but the chat bounced back and forth and was extremely enjoyable.

The food was lovely, with everyone bringing a little something to the table for the occasion. It is always nice to meet reps from the other churches round the diocese, and to hear some of their church stories whilst enjoying a glass of wine and some Mexican salad. The pudding was also delicious. Being lay rep definitely has its perks!

Thanks to Alan for driving me to Nan's house – being a non-driver I would otherwise never have been able to go – a big thank you to Nan for a wonderful evening, and thanks also to my fellow lay reps for their great company.

The next Area Council meeting will be the annual service on Sunday 6 September (see page 25). Dorissia, Erica and I went last year, and it was a lovely service. The service is open to everyone, and it would be good if others from the congregation could join us.

Valerie Leslie

Being Church with Children

Lucy Moore of Messy Church is coming to the diocese to lead a one-day workshop on **Saturday 26 September**. This workshop is *not* about Messy Church per se, but will explore how to be church for families with young children, and worship in all-age contexts. We will explore themes of children's spirituality, the unique ministry and worship needs of families, and how to think about making the experience of church welcoming to families with children. Lucy is an internationally-known presenter, worship leader, and author, and has influenced thousands of churches globally in their ministry with children and families. This really is not to be missed.

This session will be of interest to anyone who is concerned with the spiritual life of children and families. You should not feel as though you can only come if your church already has children. There will be plenty of food for thought around how we might reach out to families in our towns and communities, and how we might grow ministries for those families.

Time (expected to be approximately 10.00am until 4.30pm) and location are yet to be confirmed, but should be known by mid-August. If anyone is interested in coming, please let me know in the next few weeks. This will help determine where the event will be held.

Rev Thomas Brauer
Diocesan Missioner



Mexican dinner rolls

Serving the community

Val Leslie reports on the 2015 Casting the Net Gathering

This year's Gathering took place at the Cathedral on 30 May, when the topic was *Serving the community*. The day kicked off at 9.15 with registration and coffee. It was a lovely sunny day outside but inside the Cathedral it was freezing because the heating wasn't working due to burst pipes. Unfortunately, some of the day was spent inside the Cathedral, but thankfully the workshops were in the Chapter House, Elsie Loudon Room, or the Lady Chapel so I didn't freeze too much.

At the first plenary session of the day the key speaker was Thomas Brauer, Diocesan Missioner. Thomas did a little demonstration using wooden doweling rods to show how changes can be made if a congregation looks outward and moves together as one. As usual I had to get involved – never one to shrink from a dramatic challenge. Thomas's demonstration made people think! I was particularly reminded of our new venture with the Methodist congregation – Triangle Café – which is a real success and is really meeting the needs of the community! It is also outward looking!

Thomas then introduced the *Serving the community* posters. St Margaret's poster is excellent and I was very glad to see it up on the noticeboard along with the other churches in the diocese. I am really delighted to announce that our poster was bright, busy, informative and innovative. Thank you Martin for a great poster; it really showed that St Margaret's and Rosyth Methodist Church is doing a great deal to serve the community of Rosyth.

The first workshop I went to was *Serving the community: with children and young people*. The facilitator was the Rev Paddy Allen and the presenter was Lauren McKenzie from St James the Great, Dollar.

Lauren spoke with enthusiasm about what her church is doing to attract young people and their families back into the church. Lauren points out that a lot of people think of children as the church's future, but Lauren believes that children are the church's present and the challenge is to think of how the young church can be dynamic, up-to-date and attractive to its youngest members. I am reminded of our fantastic all-age service at Pentecost with the Methodist congregation. That certainly was dynamic: not everyone enjoyed it, and some of our older members felt it wasn't for them, but it did get everyone together, so well done!

Lauren gave us some suggestions on what to look for when planning long-term aims. She also gave some really good ideas for creating a sacred space for children in church. I especially liked her pop-up 'soul tent'. A really easy fold-away option which can be used to keep youngsters happy and content in church.

This session generated a very lively debate and those working with children all agreed that more needs to be done to include young people in the worship of the church.

At 11.45 we went back into the Cathedral for the second plenary session. Sadly, *On the sofa with the bishop* was a bit of a disappointment. Not because Bishop David isn't interesting to listen to: I could hear him; sadly, the people who were on the sofa with him could not easily be heard (even with a microphone).

After lunch I went to the second workshop, *Serving the community: with congregations shaped for mission*, which was facilitated by the Rev Nick Green and the speakers were the Rev Kerry Dixon and Captain Craig Dowling of the Dundee Centre for Mission,

The Great Tapestry of Scotland

and St Luke's, Downfield. This was a real eye-opener of a session. The presentation showed that St Luke's has completely revamped the way they "do services" on a Sunday. They have a café church every week, with a more traditional service offered for those who wish it at an earlier time. They have considerably increased their congregation: while the community were hardly beating a track to the church door, the church is always full now they are offering something that the community wants. The congregation took bold steps but have not looked back.

The discussion after the presentation was lively and gave everyone food for thought. It might not be everyone's cup of tea (or coffee) but I was thinking of the café church we had last summer, which everyone who came enjoyed and we are being asked when the next one is. Again we are not far off the mark when it comes to thinking out of the box!

The third plenary – *Getting off the sofa* – was interesting and I was able to hear it! I was very pleased that some of the young people who attended the day spoke up and told the Cathedral loud and clear what their needs were and how the church could retain them as they grow in faith.

At 3.00pm everyone joined in praising God in the closing service. I took away from the day the overriding impression that St Margaret's and the Methodist Church in Rosyth together are doing a lot right when it comes to serving the community. The poster proves it, but we must forge ahead and not rest on our laurels. So let's continue to pray that God will motivate us and keep us fresh and outward-looking in our approach to mission in 2015 and beyond.

As part of its tour of galleries and museums, the Great Tapestry of Scotland, which measures 143 metres in length and 1 metre in height, is currently on display at Kirkcaldy Galleries **until 20 September**. The tapestry is so big that it will take over most of the Galleries. Admission is free.

The Great Tapestry of Scotland is one of the most ambitious community arts projects in the world and was created by Scottish writer Alexander McCall Smith, artist Andrew Crummy, who also designed the Prestonpans Tapestry, and historical writer Alistair Moffat.

Working between Spring 2012 to September 2013, about 1,000 volunteer stitchers from all over Scotland spent more than 50,000 hours creating the embroidered exhibit of over 300 miles of woollen yarn – a spectacular 160-panel piece that depicts Scotland's history from the Ice Age to the present day. The completed tapestry was unveiled on 3 September 2013 in the Main Hall of the Scottish Parliament building, where it was on display during summer 2014.

Workshops and programmes centered on different aspects of the Tapestry are being offered throughout the summer, as well as talks and gallery tours by some of the people involved in the stitching. For further details and opening times visit www.onfine.com/tapestry.

This is an exhibition not to be missed. If you didn't see it at the Scottish Parliament, now is your opportunity. This is such a large work that it probably needs at least two visits to fully appreciate it – so don't delay!

Sandra Young

Working together in Rosyth – 1

Christian Aid

Jan Bervie writes: I'm afraid I don't have a final figure for Christian Aid week beyond the figures I gave in the last Contact, but around £1,200 was raised. I think we can all be very proud of Rosyth!

A highlight for me, and something for you to look out for next year, was the school's concert. A big thank you to all the teachers who gave their time, both in terms of rehearsals with the school choirs, and in giving up an evening to bring their choirs along to the concert.

Unfortunately, due to staff shortages and illness, St John's wasn't able to take part this year, but choirs from King's Road, Park Road and Camdean entertained us.

The evening began with a short Christian Aid film for children – although much of the money from Christian Aid Week went to the Nepal emergency earthquake appeal, Christian Aid supports local communities to support themselves. The film was about how Christian Aid helps to transform lives by giving women in Ethiopia cows, appropriately titled “Moove over Poverty”! The school choirs sang a variety of traditional and modern songs and we were entertained by young dancers and musicians as well. The evening closed with a joint choir performance of Gary Barlow's ‘Sing’.

There are many ways to support Christian Aid: why not visit their website at www.christianaid.org.uk. If you have any ideas for our local area please do let me know – I am at church most Sundays.

Summer – yes June, July and August are still summer, although with the weather you could be excused for not realising! – but, summer is a quiet time for planning meetings and events because people are away on holidays. I shall keep you posted of upcoming Christian Aid events in Rosyth.

Rosyth Parish Church update

Everyone will have seen the wonderful change in the external appearance of the Parish Church on Queensferry Road. The roof has been completely re-tiled, the walls have been painted white and the shutters have come off the windows – all very obvious!

But what of the inside? I was very lucky to have a look inside recently, along with Alison and some others – no hard hats needed! The new floor covering is down, the interior is painted almost dazzling white, the original windows have been re-furnished – unfortunately, as a B-Listed building, it was not permissible to upgrade the metal windows to modern uPVC – and limited structural work has been completed to make some areas more usable, particularly the former gallery.

The pews have gone (of course!) and this is where some of us might like to make a contribution, particularly if we want to remember one of our family who might have been a member of the parish church. Sponsoring a chair is the means, at a very reasonable charge of £50 for a chair without arms, or £65 for one with arms. Two hundred and twenty chairs are needed, 20 with arms, and all donors will have their names recorded in a memorial book. A new Communion table is also being donated.

The likely date for re-consecration of the church will be sometime in September, but if you want to keep up to date with what is going on look in www.rosyth.org. And remember, this is only one phase – albeit a most important one – of the Rosyth Community & Heritage Development Project.

As with so much which is going on around us in Rosyth, another new beginning!!

Alan Taylor

Working together in Rosyth – 2

Nativity 2015

We all get annoyed when shops start selling Christmas goods in the summer, but you know, we have to start planning for the Nativity in the early summer! Mainly because we need to get applications for funding in in good time. But we also need to start the planning process. And catch the teachers before they break up for the summer holidays!

So it was that we had our first planning meeting this year on 23 June. And what do we need to spend money on? Well, the Nativity figures we have used for the last five years – all designed by kids at Rosyth's four primary schools – are in urgent need of being replaced. Most have been damaged in some way – legs or arms broken off, that sort of thing – some have gone walkabout, and all need fresh paint! And we hope to have another tree in the grounds decorated with fairy lights. One very local source of funding is the owners and managers of shops in Rosyth – whom Alison and Gordon have already approached!

With the re-opening of the Parish Church in late summer, we hope to do things a little differently this year. The traditional pattern of the primary school kids singing well-known Christmas tunes will continue,

perhaps with music from other countries. We hope Rosyth Concert Band will again support us. We expect to have mince-pies donated again this year. And we know that the ministers of the various churches will lead us in the traditional Christmas stories.

What might be different? For a start, we hope to have a large Advent Calendar. The first door will be opened at the traditional Nativity Event which is planned for **Tuesday 1 December**. Thereafter, at 3.30pm each day, there will be an event in the church, lasting about 15 mins, during which Christmas stories from around the world will be told and the door for that day will be opened. Inside will be a small symbol representing the day or the story. And “hidden” nearby will be a box with about 50 more symbols which will be given to the kids who come along, which they can take home and hang on their own Christmas trees.

Another innovation taken from Mexico – the Posada tradition – is to take Mary and Joseph around the community, to schools, shops and libraries. So – exciting times! Watch this space!

Alan Taylor

Community survey

The Community Council believe it is really important for them to understand what Rosyth wants to make our town a better place to live, work and play, and have asked all those with an interest in Rosyth to complete an online survey. It's very straightforward, and asks questions like: “What would make Rosyth a better place for yourself, your family, friends and visitors?”

All you have to do is spend 5–10 minutes filling in the on-line form which you can find at <http://tinyurl.com/pn4l4e6>. Your views will help the Council to understand, shape and deliver a better community in Rosyth, and will be greatly appreciated.

More than just a foodstuff

a sermon given by the Rev Dr Helen Jenkins
at our joint communion service on Sunday 26 July 2015

The readings were 2 Kings 4.42–44 and John 6.1–21

What's your favourite sort of bread? Brown, white or wholemeal? Rolls, sliced, or chunks pulled off a huge baguette? Ciabbata, focaccia, naan or pitta? Plain or with olives, tomatoes, herbs or cheese baked in? The choices facing us in the supermarket are seemingly endless.

I remember as a child, mum used to buy whole loaves and slice them, and it was a complete revelation to me when one day my lunchbox contained sandwiches made from pre-sliced white bread. I think I went home and asked if I could always have that, which probably wasn't the reaction mum was looking for!

Whatever our preferences, bread is more than just a foodstuff. It's a symbol of provision, of having the basics that we need for life. When we pray "give us this day our daily bread" we're not just asking for a nice wholemeal loaf, we're asking for the essential things we need in order to survive. Of course bread isn't the only staple food, and in some parts of the world may be fairly uncommon if it's known at all, but for much of humanity bread of one form or another is a key part of the diet.

So in our readings today we have two stories of the provision of bread. I'm guessing you've probably all heard the feeding of the 5,000 many times before, but how many of you knew there was a similar story about Elisha? I certainly had never clocked it before!

So why are these stories in the Bible? What were they about for the people at the time, and why might they be important to us today?

Firstly, they are **miracles of provision**, where hungry people are given food through amazing works of God. Elisha declares that "the Lord says 'they will eat and have some left over'" and through his declaration of God's word it happens, Jesus took the loaves and gave thanks, as was his custom it seems whenever he ate, and they turn out to feed the multitudes. In both cases the provision is supernatural, although it is based on what has already been given rather than creating something from nothing (which as an aside might encourage us to give what we can of our time, talents and resources to God, trusting that God can do more with it than we can imagine in advance).

This isn't an answer to issues of starvation or food poverty – we're not excused from coming up with ways to address those issues in our world. These are one-off events, but remind us that all we have is provided by God. What questions does that leave you with this morning, about God's provision for you, or about how that provision can be for all people everywhere?

Connected to that, these miracles demonstrate **a power over natural things**. In Elisha's case this is linked to the need for him to be seen as at least as good as, if not better than, Elijah, whose mantle he has taken on. It has to be made known that God works through him too.

In Jesus' case it is about demonstrating who he is, that he can take the natural and use it for his own purposes. We see him perform this miracle of provision, and then afterwards the disciples see him walk on the water – power over the elements if ever it was seen.

Interestingly, when the disciples see him walking towards him and are afraid, his declaration to them 'it is I' is one we hear over and again in John's gospel – the Greek is *ego eimi* (ἐγώ εἰμι), and more often we hear it as 'I am' – how many of the seven I am statements Jesus declares in John's gospel can you name? (To save you spending the rest of the service thinking about it, they're the gate, the good shepherd, the bread of life, the vine, the resurrection and the life, the way the truth and the life, and the light of the world – that tells you the order they came to my mind, and I gave up and looked up the last one!)

That phrase, I am, has clear links to when Moses meets God at the burning bush, and asks who he should say has sent him. The reply is a Hebrew phrase which is hard to translate, but attempts include "I am who I am" "I will be that I will be" and "I am that I am". In using *ego eimi*, I am, Jesus is making a claim about himself, and who he is in relation to God.

What about us? Who do we see Jesus as? Do these stories have any impact on our faith?

And then these stories are about **the creation of community**. This isn't about Jesus or Elisha sitting down for a slap-up meal with one individual, or even a close group of friends – this is about enabling large numbers of people to eat together, and I guess we've all experienced the bonds which can be created as we share food with people who were previously strangers.

It is often said that loneliness is a growing issue in our communities, between ageing populations where more people are physically unable to get out, or have lost so many friends that there is no-one left to get out to see, and the technology which enables us to do so much without ever actually speaking to anyone, there are many in our society for whom loneliness is a daily reality and can be a major mental health issue.

Jesus and Elisha both created community as they shared bread – how might we do that here and now? The café on a Friday morning is certainly one way we as a church are working to meet that need (if you've not been along yet and are around on a Friday morning you really should come and test the cakes!) – are there others in each of our lives?

So we have stories that remind us of God's provision, of Jesus' power over the natural world, and of the need to create community, all coming from bread. It seems very appropriate therefore that this morning we gather to share bread and wine around this table. It is a place of provision, albeit in small amounts – no doubt we're all still going home to eat lunch! – a place where we celebrate God's power as we remember the circumstances in which this meal began and the fact that the following days held Jesus' death, but the power of his resurrection, and a place of community where all our welcome, no matter whether we're Episcopalian, Methodist or neither of the above, whether we're young or old, strong in faith or struggling, we all gather. It's a place where, as Jesus did, we give thanks, and meet God here.

So, as you come to the table this morning, which are you most in need of? Material provision, or God's power at work, or being part of a community? Whatever your need, come, and reach out your hands to receive God's grace in bread and wine as we share together.

Ed: In her introduction to the service, Evelyn expressed a preference for using dictionary rather than web to gain insight into the meanings of the word manna. The editor disagrees – he found <http://tinyurl.com/o69drb7>, with background to the Greek term Helen used and the Bible references for the seven "I am" statements, in under a minute. Get browsing!

Spare Wednesdays

or “... if you don’t weaken!” – Mary’s Kidd’s summer so far

After the AGM of our Wednesday Fellowship and the end-of-term lunch at the end of May, several people asked me what I would be doing with all the ‘free’ Wednesdays until we meet again in September. I probably answered at the time – ‘having a break, ‘chilling’, and pottering in my garden in warm summer sunshine’. It hasn’t worked out like that at all! It never does!

Like Samuel Pepys and Sir Arthur Sullivan, my day hasn’t ended until I’ve made an entry for the day in a diary. Out of curiosity I’ve referred to my diary to recall what I had actually achieved on those ‘free’ Wednesday afternoons.

Week 1: Had an SOS call from Alison, our Rector, to meet up at church for an informal meeting. Later that day, I went Carol Singing with Ann Duly and Gwyneth Kirby – yes, carol singing in June, rehearsing, in fact, with Dunfermline G&S Society for our Christmas concert.

Week 2: Another meeting with our Rector, a pastoral visit, followed by a visit to the Chaplaincy Department at Queen Margaret Hospital. I did manage some gardening, but not until 9.00pm when it was still sunny and warm!

Week 3: One fine day! More gardening achieved, since having been informed by my children that there is to be a BBQ here on the day after THE wedding! My only responsibility was to make sure the garden was looking good. No pressure ...! More carol singing at QMH!

Week 4: A time to get away from it all. Travelled by train to Wolverhampton to spend a weekend in my home town of Cannock which this year celebrates 900 years of having a place of worship in the town, and celebrating the 100th birthday of a very dear friend. Climate and welcome very warm!

Week 5: It was an honour to attend the Royal Garden Party at the Palace of Holyrood. Sorry not to get the chance to thank HM for my friend’s telegram! Again, the weather was ideal at the time, and only rained when it was all over. I wore the new outfit I would eventually wear to the wedding, but with comfortable shoes.

Week 6: Went to the surgery to give blood, just ‘a finger-full’, to ascertain whether my blood is blue, or just lacking in something! I slept more than 40 winks to wake up as Andy Murray won the Men’s Quarter-Finals at Wimbledon. Prepared for the arrival of the first family visitors (those from Ireland). On arrival, Jamie states “Your garden is a masterpiece, Grandma!” Feelin’ good! I’m going to spoil him when he and I are on our own while the others are among 80,000 at T in the Park in the mud!

Week 7: Another very busy day, which included some flower arranging in preparation for dear Olive McNee’s funeral service on Friday morning, lots of shopping, visiting Jack, and putting together the Autumn programme for Wednesday Fellowship.

Week 8: Visitors arrive from London, and Ecuador, who wonder why it’s so cold in Scotland. We try to make up for it by welcoming them warmly. It’s so good to meet some of Andrea’s close relatives and friends who have come to see her marry my beloved son on Saturday afternoon at our church. (This would be Deacon Sarah’s last service at Rosyth.)

Week 9: Oh, that’s tomorrow, and I know it will be a busy day now that I’m all on my own again after such an eventful summer. Seven loads of washing have appeared! My beautiful garden is under water! Please let me know when summer arrives – I don’t want to miss it!

Contact points and meeting times

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, St Margaret's Vestry, and by affiliated but independent organisations.

Church activities

Methodist Gift Aid enquiries to
Stuart Fowell 01383 823936
stuart.fowell@btinternet.com

Property matters and letting enquiries to
Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

St Margaret's Choir
Sue Masson 01383 824887
susan.masson@btinternet.com

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

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

Toddlers' Group (Wed/Fri 0930–1100)
Elaine Lambert 01383 417071
elaine.lambert1@sky.com

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

Wednesday Fellowship (Wed 1415–1600)
Mary Kidd 01383 872332
cmmarykidd@btinternet.com

Organisations meeting in our premises

Brambles Playgroup is no longer meeting.
All enquiries should be directed to
Howard Kirby (chair) 01383 624779
brambles@rosythmethodist.org.uk

CoolDowns (Sun 1400–1600)
Valerie Dowie 01383 820586
07554 000812

Parahandies Disabled Club (Mon 0930–1400)
Peter Merckel (sec) 01383 822940
peter.merckel@yahoo.co.uk

Scout Group

Group Scout Leader
see Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

Beaver Scouts (Tue 1730–1830)
David Sinclair 01383 410255
davidgraeme31@yahoo.co.uk

Cub Scouts (Tue 1830–2015)
Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

Scouts (Fri 1900–2115)
Alan Connery 01383 731391
scouts_13th_fife@btinternet.com

Explorer Scouts (Fri 1900–2115)
Terry O'Neill 01383 842695
terryoneill2003@yahoo.co.uk

Guide Unit

Rainbows (Mon 1800–1900)
Susan Warren 01383 414355
susarren@aol.com

Brownies (Mon 1800–1930)
Nicola Byrne 07956 005996
NicolaByr44ne86@hotmail.com

Guides (Mon 1800–2030)
Melissa Peel 07850 249911
6throsythguides@gmail.com

Please let the Editor know of any changes or additions to this list, preferably by email to editor@rosythmethodist.org.uk

From our website



Do you ever look at our website? There's a regular "Thought for the month" feature. In August, we have this extract from one of Alison's sermons, and a link to the whole thing.

Jesus said, 'Come away to a deserted place by yourselves and rest a while', for many were coming and going and they had no leisure even to eat. Mark 6:31 (New Revised Standard Version)

The desert or wilderness is the place where, in the scripture, God often tests his people, and it is also a place for spiritual renewal. Our picture represents the very early Christian impulse to follow Jesus away from the crowd and distraction of daily life into the silence of the desert. Humility is a characteristic of Christian monasticism and this painting shows the figures dwarfed by the wilderness around.

We too must learn like those first disciples to go away to a lonely place, to a deserted place, to rest for a while. We must learn to look after ourselves, in order that we can serve Christ in the world. Not just our physical selves but our spiritual lives.

So, whether you are going on retreat to a remote and cold monastic house, or whether you are planning a holiday in the sun with family or friends, make space and time to be with God, to rest in God's presence.

Know that because Jesus died on the Cross you are free, free to live life to the full, free to encounter God in the city and in the desert, and to live to the glory of God and for the well-being of all God's people.

The picture is "Landscape with St Anthony and St Paul the Hermit" by Salvator Rosa, painted in the first half of the 1660s, which is on display in the National Gallery of Scotland. There's more about it in the sermon link. Go to either of our church websites, and navigate to "Thought for the month" (next to the Home tab). Enjoy!

Contact on-line

You'll find this edition, and many previous issues of Contact, on the archive pages of both the church websites, where you'll get the benefits of colour without the extra printing cost!

To our contributors

Grateful thanks to all those who have contributed to this issue. The next issue will be published early in October, so please let us have your contributions by the end of play on **Thursday 24 September**, preferably by email to **editor@rosythmethodist.org.uk**.