

Rosyth  
Methodist Church



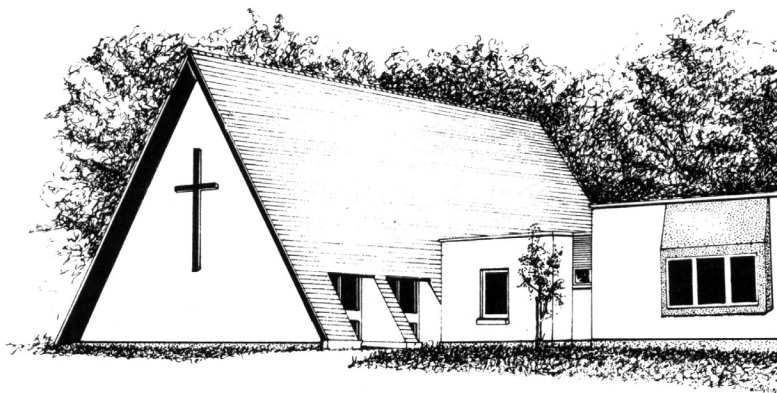
St Margaret's Scottish  
Episcopal Church



# Contact

the newsletter of the partnership between

Rosyth Methodist Church and  
St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church



Issue 96

April/May 2018

## Rosyth Methodist Church

Scottish Charity SC028559

[www.rosythmethodist.org.uk](http://www.rosythmethodist.org.uk)

## St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church

Scottish Charity SC028426

[www.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk](http://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

#### Minister:

Rev Dr Helen Jenkins

01506 842333

#### Co-ordinating Steward:

David Salthouse

01383 889212

#### Pastoral Secretary:

Gwyneth Kirby

01383 624779

#### Church Council Secretary:

Sandra Wilson

01383 415885

#### Treasurer:

Dave Ward

01383 414944

#### Rector:

vacant

#### Vestry Secretary:

Sandra Young

01383 415021

#### Treasurer:

Gordon Pryde

01383 249106

#### Pastoral Co-ordinator:

Myra Tarr

01383 723989

### **our regular pattern of worship**

#### **Sundays (except 4th)**

9.30am Sung Eucharist

11.00am Morning Worship  
(including Sunday School)

#### **1st Sundays:**

6.00pm "Sunday@Six"

#### **4th Sundays:**

Worship together

10.30am "Messy Church" (during term time)

11.00am Joint Communion Service

### **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.

# From the Editor's Desk

Martin Tarr talks about working together

Firstly, a word of thanks to all those who have contributed to the copy of Contact that you're reading. We try and include as much as we can, though the need to 'shoehorn' material to fit the page means that the editorial blue pencil sometimes has to work overtime. Having your contributions is really helpful in our task of creating a varied and interesting newsletter that reflects the life of our LEP. Keep them coming!

When Sandra and I sat down to think of a theme for this issue, we felt that "working together" was appropriate. This would follow up on the ways in which we can be more effective when we work together that Alan McCougan suggested (page 27 of our last issue). And it would reflect on the considerable impact that the February Joint Service had on those who were present.

Personally, as someone who comes from a strongly ecumenical background, I've no difficulty in taking communion however it's offered. [I'll pass on in a later issue the story one of my friends told of a Coptic mass when a huge Egyptian flat-bread was broken and given, one half to him and the other to his wife – a real meal] But I do understand some of the sensitivities about "the table that divides". So I found it very heartening that Helen and Michael had worked together to formulate a liturgy for our Lent joint services that reflected elements of both traditions, but was a fresh reminder of Christ's sacrifice and very feelingly and imaginatively presented in remembrance of Him.

Michael's reflection (pages 4–5; picture on page 6), ended with a visual aid on how we might heal the divide between churchiness and discipleship. And it's that digger icon that we'll be using from now on to draw your attention to articles on working together.




But there was actually a *second* visual aid, the communion set that Michael used. A Celtic design, made in pottery, this had been given to him at his ordination, but had become broken by accident during a house removal. It was an orthopaedic surgeon (using his skills in a rather different field!) who had repaired it and made it beautiful once more.

I usually opt for traditional four-part hymns, but this reminded me of Graham Kendrick's hymn "Beauty for brokenness". I'll leave you to read it (*Singing the Faith* 693) and think about the meaning of both visual aids ...

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## What's in this issue ...

Thoughts for Lent	pp4–9
Holy Week and Easter	pp10–12, p16
To cancel or to postpone	p22
Plus our regular items:	
Diary to early June	pp16–21
Fellowship News	pp23–24
Keeping the show on the road	p25
Invitations and requests	pp13–15
Making Music	p33
News from the Diocese	pp26–28
Puzzle Corner	p34
 The wider world	pp28–32



# Repairing the Great Disparity

The reflection by Michael Paterson shared with our congregations  
at the joint communion service on Lent 2

Our readings were Genesis 17.1–7, 15–16 and Mark 8.31–28

May the Word of God in all its richness find  
a home deep within us. **Amen.**

Hands up if you are a Methodist?

Hands up if you are a Piskie?

Hands up if you are a Christian?

Now that's encouraging ...

Hands up if you are a Disciple?

Did you know that the word 'disciple'  
occurs 269 times in the New Testament  
but the word 'Christian' only three?

And, believe it or not, the words Methodist  
or Piskie (which as you know is just Anglican  
with a tartan rinse) don't appear at all.

In today's Gospel we find Peter battling  
with what it means to be a disciple even to  
the point of correcting Jesus and giving him  
a piece of his mind.

"You've got it wrong Lord", he says. "All this  
talk of cross and resurrection is not in the  
plan. It simply won't do; and it certainly  
won't draw them in, and let's face it we  
could do with a few more round here. I  
mean, we're not exactly bursting at the  
seams are we?"

"Howsabout a fresh expression, Lord,  
something lighter, something more  
cheerful, something less intense than all  
this talk of cross and dying! Don't you  
think it's a bit heavy Lord?"

Oh dear, oh dear! Peter's gone too far this  
time and Jesus pulls no punches: "When  
you think like that Peter – you sound like a  
complete stranger to me not the intimate  
friend I thought you were.

"You used to be my Rock but these days  
you are more like quick sand and since  
you think you know better than God I'll  
call you Satan from now on!

"I had earmarked you for promotion, for  
taking my followers forward but now I  
discard you, and put you for recycling'.

Poor Peter, I bet he wished he had stuck to  
fishing and mending his nets (or at least to  
keeping his mouth shut!) as he sees Jesus  
turn his back on him and reveal to the  
ordinary punters the very things he had  
left everything in order to discover.

It's a gripping story and one I find so  
challenging because, if I am honest, over  
the years, I have been in Peter's shoes more  
often than I would like to admit: behaving  
as if God was supposed to leave everything  
and follow me rather than the other way  
round, preferring allegiance to my preferred  
branch of the Church than to enrolling as a  
disciple, a learner, a pupil an apprentice in  
the kingdom of heaven.

I have been thinking a lot about discipleship  
this Lent and reading a book called *The  
Great Omission* by Dallas Willard. Do any of  
you know it? I'll put it in the Church Library  
when I finish it.

The title is a play on 'The Great Commission',  
those final verses in Matthew 28 where  
Jesus says: "Go therefore and make disciples  
of all nations, baptizing them in the name  
of the Father and of the Son and of the  
Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey  
everything that I have commanded you.  
And remember, I am with you always, to  
the end of the age."

The great Commission – with a C – couldn't  
be clearer: we are to go, we are to make  
disciples, we are to immerse people in the  
life of God, we are to be a community of  
learning, and we are to know God's abiding  
presence with us.

But if that's the Great Commission, what many denominations have settled for is the Great *Omission*.

And when that happens the call of Jesus to get up and go becomes: "Let's just stay where we are", "Let's just do what we have always done", "We don't have the people or the energy", "We like the way things are and, anyway, we are a small church you can't expect much from us".

And when the Great Omission is adopted and the Great Commission put out with the recycling the call to make disciples gets translated into: "Let's get people into church, fill the pews on a Sunday, get people onto rotas, sign them up for planned giving schemes, and consume their lives with churchiness."

And what an Omission it is when God's people sit complacently in church on Sunday listening to preachers like me, when discipleship calls us to have itchy feet, and to be restless to go out in his name.

What an Omission it is when God's people spend hours in church meetings and committees losing the will to live, when discipleship calls us to immerse ourselves in soulful adventures which are invigorating enough to awaken the sleepy and even raise the dead.

And so, since I might never be asked to conduct a joint service again, I want to give you a visual reminder of how disciples may heal and repair the great Disparity between churchiness and discipleship.

And it's this JCB truck from Argos. (*shows congregation*) You will be pleased to know that it comes with stabilisers to help you find our feet in all the transitions that both congregations will have to make this year.

It also comes with hazard signals to warn the people of Rosyth that men and women are hard at work here.

It comes with a digger to enable us to dig deeper than the top soil of religion to unearth the rich wells of spirituality; and to chip away at the small-mindedness that divides God's people into *us* and *them*.

And it comes with a massive front scoop to collect up all the rubble and debris of old rivalries and petty squabbles within and between our congregations and to bury them once and for all.

It's a fun thing, but I hope you will give it a prominent visible home within this church so that, Sunday by Sunday, as we leave from worship, it will remind us of the choice before us: to hand back our hymn books and like Peter – put God back on the shelf where he belongs well out of harm's way until next Sunday – or to leave here having signed up as God's apprentices, God's pupils, learners in God's Kingdom.

So what's it to be St Margaret's? What's it to be Rosyth Methodists? The Great Commission? The Great Omission? Or the ongoing Great Disparity?

We may have started Lent as Christians, but just imagine what a difference it would make if on Easter Sunday morning each one of us here could put our hands up and say that this Lent we gave up divisions, we gave up self interests, we gave up looking out for our own put on our hard hats, our high visibility vests, got down and dirty, broke some new ground, and became disciples.

**Amen.**





The intercessions that Michael used later in the service reflected his sermon and are printed below at the request of one of the congregation:

Let us turn to God in prayer

Loving God  
we thank you for the faith we share  
and for all we hold in common:  
the gifts of Baptism, the Scriptures,  
a place at your Table.

Give us the grace  
to see beyond our differences  
to all that unites us.

Lord of unity, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

Challenging God  
we hear your call to die to ourselves  
take up our cross and follow you.  
Give us the grace we need  
not to repeat the past  
but to start again, this Lent,  
as your disciples.

Lord of new beginnings, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

Healing God  
we lay before you all that is  
broken in our world  
in our churches, in our communities.  
Bring healing where it is needed  
and anoint us to repair your  
world with love.

Lord of healing, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

Commissioning God  
we hear again your call  
to go out from here to break new ground  
and build with you a new future.  
Stand by us when we doubt our abilities,  
assure us of your presence  
and apprentice us to your service.  
Lord of the future, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

In silence  
we pour out our hearts to the Lord.

*Silent pause*

Loving, challenging, healing and  
commissioning God  
we thank you that you hear our prayer.

**Amen.**



# Mother's Day 2018

Louise Gilchrist's reflection was inspired by Susannah Wesley

When I realised that I had somehow foolishly left myself open to being Planned again for Mother's Day, for the second year running, I admit I may have mentally bashed my head against the wall a few times. Last year I managed to pull something out-of-the bag, sermon-wise – but could I do so again? Happily, I was informed that a sermon per se was not required for a Café Church service like this one, and a reflection or two would more than suffice – for which I breathed a sigh of relief.

The problem with Mother's Day for me is twofold. On the one hand there is my loving but not altogether easy relationship with my own mother. This leads me every year to an agony of indecision when it comes to choosing a card that expresses my love and gratitude to my Mum, without being overly sentimental and gushy, or pretending to feelings I cannot own.

Then on the other hand, there are my ambivalent feelings with regard to my own motherhood. These days I'm doing a bit better on this front; but unfortunately for my girls – particularly Heather, who is now nine – for the first five years or so of being a Mum, I usually felt more like an actress playing the role of Mum in a soap opera, than someone who actually inhabited the part.

Luckily for me I know that feelings similar to this are not at all uncommon among new parents. When my colleague Rad came back to work a few weeks after the birth of his first child, a son, one of the first things he said was "They lie to you!" We all (supportively) fell about laughing. Of course they lie. Becoming a parent effects so grand a transformation on your life and personhood, that only the most determined would go through with it otherwise.

For me, it was the effect on my personhood that was the most difficult thing to come to terms with. Being a person who requires both quietness and solitude was always going to make having babies a difficult prospect. In this respect I have come to feel that I have a certain affinity with Susannah Wesley – in respect only of her motherhood, I would not compare myself to her in any other way. Susannah was an intelligent, serious-minded, and pious (in the best possible sense) woman, who nevertheless had to cope with raising ten children; she gave birth to nineteen(!) in total, but lost nine of them in infancy, and almost lost another, John, in the second of two fires at the Rectory.

She also had a troubled relationship with her husband Samuel, who spent his entire life and most of the family's finances on what would become an instantly forgettable work about the book of Job. Moreover, he was twice in debtor's jail, and once left Susannah and the family alone for over a year because of a minor dispute. Whilst he was away, Susannah wrote to him saying:

"I am a woman, but I am also the mistress of a large family. And though the superior charge of the souls contained in it lies upon you, yet in your long absence I cannot but look upon every soul you leave under my charge as a talent committed to me under a trust. I am not a man nor a minister, yet as a mother and a mistress I felt I ought to do more than I had yet done. I resolved to begin with my own children; in which I observe the following method: I take such a proportion of my time as I can spare every night to discourse with each child apart. On Monday I talk with Molly, on Tuesday with Hetty, Wednesday with Nancy, Thursday with Jacky, Friday with Patty, Saturday with Charles."





What an inspired system! For all that we may look on it and smile to ourselves just a little – she was clearly a woman who liked everything to be in its proper order – we can't but admire the fact that she clearly wants to do right by every one of her children, and invests, in equal parts, her time in all of them as individuals. For all my organised, routine-loving existence, I have to admit that in failing to devise such a system myself, I may have inadvertently overlooked to spend adequate time with each of my two – just two(!) – girls.

And look at the language she uses when referring to them; she says “I cannot but look upon every soul in my charge as a talent committed to me under a trust”. She clearly sees value in each of her children, and is worried that these talents, if left to her husband's dubious care, may lie buried indefinitely; and so she takes it upon herself to make sure that they are nurtured in wisdom, and grown into the best souls they can possibly be.

And she did just that, in the best way she knew. Each of her children, from the day after their fifth birthday, spent six hours a day in her home school; boys and girls were both taught alike after the fashion of the day, instructed in the classics and taught to read both Latin and Greek.

Now I know \*I\* would not have the capacity to undertake such a mighty enterprise as the education of so many children of various ages; and if, as is rumoured, she did spend part of each day praying with her apron over her head, because that was the only way she could get a bit of peace, then good luck to her.

The example of Susannah Wesley gives me hope. A little like Moses, Susannah was faced with a task to which she perhaps felt she was not ideally suited. But, even without the dubious assistance of ‘Mumsnet’, she buckled down to it and, in the only way she knew how, by the grace of God got through it – in her own way. A way, let's remember, which produced John and Charles Wesley. Amen to that, I say.

## **A different Lenten read**

*No, I'm not afraid* by Irina Ratushinskaya

In a diversion from my usual Lent reading of meditation and prayers, I opted to read something different. A book with its theme based along the journey of Lent and Easter. A journey of suffering and hope.

Irina Ratushinskaya was born in Ukraine. She was a poet and a journalist who was passionate about human rights. This led to various protests which brought her into conflict with the authorities. She was eventually arrested in March 1983 and sentenced to a “strict regime” in a concentration camp in Mordovia. She went on repeated hunger strikes, which then resulted in increasingly harsh treatments.

She spent long periods of solitary confinement in an unheated cell. It was there that she wrote poetry in very small script on cigarette papers or bars of soap which she later dissolved in water after memorising the verses. She was released in October 1986 after intense international pressure on the authorities.

Her poem “I will live and survive” tells of resistance and strength, a cry for freedom from suffering and injustice, that hope and truth always prevails or as is the title of her follow-on book, *Grey is the colour of Hope*.

Dorissia Forsyth



## **“I will live and survive”**

Irina Ratushinskaya

I will live and survive and be asked:  
how they slammed my head against a trestle,  
how I had to freeze at nights,  
how my hair started to turn grey ...  
but I'll smile. And will crack some joke  
and brush away the encroaching shadow.  
And I will render homage to the dry September  
that became my second birth.  
And I'll be asked: "Doesn't it hurt you to remember?"  
Not being deceived by my outward flippancy.  
But the former names will detonate my memory –  
magnificent as old cannon.  
And I will tell of the best people in all the earth,  
the most tender, but also the most invincible:  
how they said farewell, how they went to be tortured,  
how they waited for letters from their loved ones.  
And I'll be asked: what helped us to live  
when there were neither letters nor any news – only walls,  
and the cold of the cell, and the blather of official lies,  
and the sickening promises made in exchange for betrayal.  
And I will tell of the first beauty  
I saw in captivity.  
A frost-covered window! No spy-holes, nor walls,  
nor cell-bars, nor the long endured pain –  
only a blue radiance on a tiny pane of glass,  
a cast pattern – none more beautiful could be dreamt!  
The more clearly you looked, the more powerfully blossomed  
those brigand forests, campfires and birds!  
And how many times there was bitter cold weather  
and how many windows sparkled after that one –  
but never was it repeated,  
that upheaval of rainbow ice!  
And anyway, what good would it be to me now,  
And what would be the pretext for that festival?  
Such a gift can only be received once,  
and perhaps is only needed once.



## Brother, sister, let me serve you ...

A reflection for Maundy Thursday by Jan Benvie

Throughout Lent I'm using a daily prayer resource from the Society of Saint John the Evangelist (an Anglican order in the US), *Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of St John*. It is in John's gospel, Chapter 13, that we read about Jesus washing his disciples' feet – an act enacted in some churches on Maundy Thursday.

Usually commentaries on John 13 focus on the message of being a servant, but I want to think about being willing to let others to serve us, as Jesus allowed Mary at Bethany, "Then Mary took a whole pint of a very expensive perfume made of pure nard, poured it on Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair." (John 12:3)

I wonder how many of you are like me, much better at giving than accepting help. I am, sometimes to a fault, fiercely independent. Like Peter in John's gospel saying to Jesus "Never at any time will you wash my feet!" (John 13:8), I have often refused help offered, even when it would have been wiser to accept.

My mum in her last illness taught me that letting go of pride and allowing others to serve us can deepen a relationship. That last year of her life was hard, but it was also a time when I was blessed to be able to serve her, to support her, just as she had supported me throughout my life.

Although, due to a lack of mobility, Mum had to move into a care home, I was able to visit every day after work. Mum had varicose eczema and my last task at bedtime was massaging cream on her legs and feet. It reminded me of Maundy Thursday services. It felt sacramental and all the more so because Mum accepted my help with grace and humility. Her graceful acceptance was such a blessing to me.

The Good News Bible translates Jesus' response to Peter as "If I do not wash your feet, you will no longer be my disciple.", but others translate it as "you have no part/share with me" "you won't belong to me" (John 13:8). Peter's acceptance of Jesus ministering to him, in the humble act of washing his feet, was fundamental to their deep, loving relationship.

It is right that we should seek to serve one another, "I have set an example for you so that you will do just as I have done for you." (John 13:15), but we should also remember the importance of allowing others to serve us.

"Brother, sister, let me serve you; let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too."

Bible references from Good News translation.



Who are these two ladies? You'll be able to meet them on Tuesday 24 April ... see Page 12 to solve the mystery.

# The meaning of Easter

**Edinburgh Easter Play  
– a different experience**

The Edinburgh

**Easter  
Play**

2018



Free &  
unticketed

Saturday

31st March, 2pm

Princes St Gardens West

For more info see [www.easterplay.org](http://www.easterplay.org)

[f](#) Easter Play Edinburgh [t](#) @Edineasterplay

**Explore the Easter story  
creatively at Viewfield**

**EXPERIENCE  
EASTER**

A creative discovery of the real events behind Easter  
for all the family from 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March

Viewfield Baptist Church give a warm invitation to a rather unusual way of focusing on Christ's sacrifice for us during Holy Week by discovering the real events behind Easter through art.

Anthony Luxton is a third-year student at the Scottish Baptist College, preparing for ministry, who has been on a ten-week placement at Viewfield, where his main project has been the preparation and implementation of an exhibition in the sanctuary to be open to the public during Easter week. Anthony is an artist himself, and has been working with Viewfield people who enjoy creating art, crafts and flower arranging.

You are invited to explore the Easter story at your own pace through interactive displays suitable for all the family. The exhibition is open at Viewfield Baptist Church in East Port from **27-31 March** at the following times:

Tuesday 12:00–16:00

Wednesday 13:30–16:00

Thursday 18:00–21:00

Friday 10:00–16:00 and  
18:00–20:00

with an Easter reflection 19:00–19:30

Saturday 10:00–16:00

If you are in Edinburgh on **Saturday 31 March** why not attend the Edinburgh Easter Play to be performed at **2.00pm** in Princes Street Gardens West? It's an imaginative retelling of the timeless story of Jesus. The Edinburgh Easter Play is created by a team of community performers drawn from all walks of life, working with a professional director and stage manager, and led by a professional actor, Duncan Rennie, playing Jesus. The Princes Street Easter Play Trust believes their performances will help people experience the character of Jesus in a stimulating and interesting way, and in recent years the productions have been given a contemporary edge.

The performance lasts about 75 minutes, admission is free, but note that no seating is available apart from provision for elderly or disabled.



# You reap what you sow

## Gardening God's way

Plant three rows of peas:

Peace of mind  
Peace of heart  
Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip  
Squash indifference  
Squash grumbling  
Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful  
Lettuce be kind  
Lettuce be obedient  
Lettuce really love one another

No garden is complete without turnips:

Turnip for meetings  
Turnip for service  
Turnip to help one another

To complete our garden  
we must have thyme:

Thyme for God  
Thyme for study  
Thyme for prayer

Water freely with patience and cultivate  
with love.

There will be much fruit in your garden,  
because you reap what you sow.

spotted by Sue and Adrian Masson  
in *Ancient Mariners News*

## Lent Appeal

The annual Diocesan Lent Appeal this year is for The Scottish Episcopal Institute (SEI), the SEC's training agency for those studying for authorised ministry as Deacons, Priests and Lay Readers.

The SEI Training Fund supports the full-time (incumbent status) students who opt to study for an MDiv degree at New College, Edinburgh, along with their formational studies in the SEI, and their future curacies. In this way you are not only supporting them, but also helping to build the future leadership of the Scottish Episcopal Church. Encouragingly, there are an increasing number of these younger stipendiary candidates. So there are indeed workers emerging for the harvest, which is good news – but expensive! The presence of a Training Fund is essential and gifts towards it are very welcome.

In previous years we have always been generous in our support for the Lent Appeal and invite contributions on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and the following Sundays. Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of the church so, if you haven't already done so, you may wish to donate now. Envelopes can be put in the open plate, or given to Gordon Pryde.

**Ed:** If you would like to hear more about the SEI, do attend the Area Council meeting at St Paul's Kinross on **24 May** (see Diary on page 20)

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## One minute, please

What did Jesus say?

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth,  
will draw all men unto me."

John 12:32 (KJV)

# Invitations and requests – 1



## Make your requests known ...

Suggestions of favourite hymns, Bible readings and prayers are invited for inclusion in Morning Worship on **Sunday 8 April**.

Please let Deacon Elizabeth Harfleet have any suggested items, with perhaps a few words about why your chosen item or items is special to you, no later than **Thursday 29 March**. (Telephone 01875 615208 or email [e.harfleet@gmail.com](mailto:e.harfleet@gmail.com))

Thank you very much!

## Visit of Methodist President

The President of the Methodist Conference, Rev Loraine Mellor, and the Vice-President, Rev Jill Baker, will be based in Strathclyde and Paisley for their visit to the Scotland District this year. They will visit churches in the area during the two days they are with us. On **Tuesday 24 April** at **7.00pm** members of the District are invited to join them at Pollokshaws Methodist Church G43 1NY for a celebration service.

## Our bookshelves

A big thank you to those who responded to our plea for more paperbacks in the last Contact. We received a good selection of current fiction, mystery and romance, all in excellent condition, which helped us to change around and spring-clean the shelves. Please keep them coming as there is a fast turnover at present which is encouraging. If a book doesn't seem to have tempted readers after several months, we pass it on to Lou Davidson, who sells books at the Charlestown Surgery for her Haiti Help Charity, so all the paperbacks we receive are put to good use!

**Ed:** Don't forget that Lou will be coming to our Sunday@Six in May (see page 15).

## Christian Aid Book sale

If you have good quality second-hand books at home on any subject and would like to pass them on, why not donate them to Central Methodist Church, Edinburgh (CEMC) for their second Christian Aid book sale, after last year's successful one. The final dates to hand in books to CEMC are **Friday 6 April** (12noon–4.00pm) and **Sunday 8 April** (2.00pm–4.00pm). If you have time on your hands, why not also stay to help receive and sort books? The kettle will be on for all the lovely volunteers!

The book sale will run from **Saturday 12 to Friday 18 May** and if you are in Edinburgh you might like to pop in and pick up a bargain or two. Also, if you are interested in helping out any day of the sale week, please contact 0131 662 8635 or email [cemc.office@gmail.com](mailto:cemc.office@gmail.com).

## GLEN 2018

The annual Glenalmond Youth Camp 2018 takes place from **22–28 July** at Glenalmond College, Perthshire. With the title this year of 'Yesterday, Today and Forever', the Youth Week is open to anyone in secondary education up to and including July 2018 and also those under 18 who have left full-time education.

If you want to do something different this summer, come and join a week filled with fun, fellowship, learning, and sharing and workshops! The days are also made up of activities, worship and evening events. There is plenty time to relax, make good friends, and generally have a great week.

If you know any young person interested, there are application forms on the Crush Hall table, or for more information visit <http://tinyurl.com/yawcy5wr>.



## Invitations and requests – 2

### Fife Forum User Panels

User Panels are small groups of older people, who meet monthly to discuss the community care and health services they use and have an opportunity to influence the way services are planned and provided at a local level. Panel members are encouraged to discuss and share experiences of growing older and being dependent on services, identifying good practices and highlighting issues of concern. Their experiences and comments are passed to service planners and providers so that they may be taken into account when services are reviewed and/or designed.

There are currently eight panels, spread geographically across Fife, with one in Rosyth. These meetings are informal and members are supported by Fife Forum staff. They do not represent other groups, only older people whose circumstances or situations are similar to their own. Free accessible transport is arranged to and from meetings and free refreshments provided. No charges are incurred by panel members.

John and Rosemary Cowell, together with John and Jean Shaw, joined the Panel in 2012. Fife Council will continue to support the Panel provided there is a quorum at the meeting. This is now becoming a difficulty, and new members are desperately needed! ***Please*** could we have a few more members to reflect the views of the 70+ age group in Rosyth – 1½ hours per month on the **second Wednesday of the month from 2.00pm–3.30pm** in Parkgate Community Centre. Thank you.

John Cowell

**Ed:** more information at  
[www.fifeforum.org.uk/](http://www.fifeforum.org.uk/)

### Solas Festival 2018 – Volunteers required

The annual Solas Festival takes place in The Bield at Blackruthven, Perthshire from **22–24 June**.

Solas Festival is for everyone. The programme is broad and inclusive; there really is something for all tastes and a space where everyone will feel comfortable. Regardless of age, ethnicity, sexuality, political stance, religious belief (or lack of), musical taste, dress sense or any of the other things which make human beings gloriously diverse, you are welcome.

Solas Festival couldn't happen without volunteers. Volunteering is the best way to get involved right at the heart of Solas – it means experiencing the festival from the inside; it gives you an opportunity to meet new people and make connections; to learn and develop skills; to do something new and different.

There is a range of different roles to suit everyone, whatever your skills or age (must be over 16). These include stewarding, driving, selling tickets and merchandise, and artist hospitality. Volunteers should expect to give a minimum of 12 hours of their time over the festival weekend. This normally means one four-hour shift per day and leaves you with lots of time to enjoy the festival. Solas Festival volunteers are entitled to a free weekend ticket, and access to the volunteer base: a cosy inside space with tea, coffee and biscuits.

Interested? Download the application form from [www.solasfestival.org.uk](http://www.solasfestival.org.uk).



# Invitations and requests – 3



## Christian Aid Week



## What is Heart and Soul?



Christian Aid Week is **13–19 May 2018**. The focus of this year's appeal is Haiti and providing new life-saving homes to poor communities at risk from disasters.

There are several ways in which you can support Christian Aid this year.

- We are always looking for people willing to help with the door to door collections. If you can help, either tell me at church or give me a call – 07535 757526.
- The annual Christian Aid Concert – with contributions from the choirs of the Primary Schools in Rosyth – will take place on **Thursday 17 May** in Rosyth Parish Church. Tickets are £3.
- Rosyth Parish Church will hold their annual Christian Aid Lunch after their service on **13 May**.
- Quiz sheets and children's colouring sheets will be for sale.

Our **Sunday@Six on 13 May** will be for Christian Aid. In our service we will hear from a Haitian woman Vilía (video) – you'll find a little of her story on page 30. And we'll get a first-hand account of Haiti Help from Lou Davidson.

Jan Benvie

In 2011, it was decided that not enough was being done to celebrate the life and work of the church, with those who very much keep it strong and vibrant in communities everywhere – the members, volunteers, ministers, and congregations alike! It was then that the first public celebration in Princes Street Gardens was hosted, called "Roll Away the Stone".

With live music, arts, exhibitions, and a massed open-air service in the gardens' Ross Theatre, the event proved itself successful in bringing our church family together for an afternoon of entertainment and praise.

It was in 2012 that Heart and Soul became the new incarnation of Roll Away the Stone, and has stuck with us each year since – building on the joyous and active atmosphere every time.

Heart and Soul will be returning on **Sunday 20 May**, in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, at a time to be announced later.

This great Church of Scotland event in Princes Street Gardens, which is open to all, will have a particular focus on children and young people. There will be a Family Village with stage events, a family picnic area and lots going on. There will also be an evening music event for young people. Do plan to come – it's for everyone!

For updates, subscribe at the website:  
<http://www.heartandsoul.org.uk/home>

# Diary for Holy Week 2018

Do join us if you can at events this Holy Week, and prepare to celebrate the joy of the resurrection on Easter Day. A lot of work has gone into our preparations for Easter, both liturgically and musically. Coming along is a poignant and meaningful way of reminding ourselves what it is to be a Christian in today's world.

## Sunday 25 March

- Palm Sunday**      10.30am Messy Church (see page 25)
- 11.00am Joint Communion Service  
and distribution of palms      Rev Dr Helen Jenkins  
Traidcraft goods on sale after the service
- 6.00pm Sunday@Six "Entering Holy Week", Taizé service led  
by Dr Margaret Dineley. All welcome. Refreshments  
afterwards.

## During the week

Rosyth Parish Church will be open for reflection and the Stations of the Cross:  
Monday 2.00pm–4.00pm  
Tuesday and Wednesday 1.30pm–4.00pm

- Monday 26 Mar      7.30pm Ecumenical Lent Study Group  
Lenten Meal at Rosyth Parish Church  
Also studying the last saying of Jesus from the Cross  
"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit"

- Wednesday 28 Mar      2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:  
Passover Meal in the Church  
led by the Rev Dr Michael Paterson

- Maundy Thursday**      7.00pm The Eucharist of the Lord's Supper,  
the Washing of Hands, the Stripping of the Altar  
and the Watching with Christ in Gethsemane  
led by the Rev Dr Michael Paterson.  
All welcome from both churches.

- Good Friday**      12.00noon "Love Hurts: Prayers around the Cross" –  
A meditative service that links the Passion of Christ  
to the contemporary world, led by the Rev Dr Michael  
Paterson. Followed by refreshments and hot cross buns.  
All invited from local churches.

**Note:** There will be no Triangle Coffee Shop today

- 7.00pm Evening service at Rosyth Parish Church
- Holy Saturday      8.00pm Easter Vigil and Lighting of the Easter Fire  
St Finnian's Church, Lochgelly  
Rev Dr Margaret Dineley. All welcome to attend

# Diary for April 2018

## Sunday 1 April

### On Easter Day we give thanks to our Risen Lord

9.30am Lighting of the Easter Fire, the Easter Candle,  
Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Easter Communion  
led by the Rev Dr Michael Paterson

To symbolise your acceptance of the new life that Christ's Resurrection offers us, you are invited to write old hurts, wounds, sins or things you simply want to let go of on a piece of paper, pop it into an envelope and watch it go up in flames in the Easter Fire to be transformed by Christ's conquering love.

10.00am Breakfast available in the Church Hall for those wishing to take part. There will be a selection of hot and cold food to share.

11.00am Easter Celebration with Holy Communion  
led by the Rev Dr Helen Jenkins

Tuesday 3 Apr 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at Limekilns  
7.00pm St Margaret's Vestry meets in small lounge  
7.30pm Coffee, Cake and Crafts - a monthly evening craft club run by Jean Hall and friends

Wednesday 4 Apr 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:  
Guest speaker George Beattie – Trams in Dunfermline

Friday 6 Apr 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall  
onwards tea, coffee and home baking  
7.00pm Choir practice  
7.30pm Praise Band practice with the choir

## Sunday 8 April

Easter 2 9.30am Lay Eastertide communion Adrian Masson  
(reserved sacrament)  
11.00am Morning worship  
– including favourite hymns and bible readings  
Deacon Elizabeth Harfleet (see page 13)  
7.00pm Taizé service at St Fillian's Church, Lochgelly led by  
Rev Dr Margaret Dineley and followed by refreshments  
in the hall. All welcome to attend.

Tuesday 10 Apr 7.30pm Methodist Church Council meets in Church Lounge  
7.30pm Local Preachers and Worship Leaders  
quarterly meeting at Granton

# Diary for April 2018

Wednesday 11 Apr 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:  
Guest speaker Barclay Macintosh – Hospital Radio

Friday 13 April 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall  
onwards tea, coffee and home baking  
7.00pm Choir practice

## Sunday 15 April

Easter 3 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Dr Michael Paterson  
11.00am Morning Worship Dr Anne Pennington  
6.00pm Sunday@Six – Easter Praise  
“Thoughts on the Easter journey” using hymns, songs,  
poems and readings, and all accompanied by the Praise  
Band and friends.

Tuesday 17 Apr 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd’s house at Limekilns

Wednesday 18 Apr 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:  
Guest speaker Martin Rogers  
5.00pm Meeting of St Margaret’s and Holy Trinity Vestries with  
Bishop Kevin at Holy Trinity, Dunfermline

Friday 20 Apr 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall  
onwards tea, coffee and home baking  
7.00pm Choir practice (please check it’s on!)

## Sunday 22 April

Easter 4 10.30am Messy Church  
11.00am Joint Communion Service Rev Dr Michael Paterson  
Traidcraft goods on sale after the service  
7.00pm Praise and Worship at St Finnian’s Church, Lochgelly  
followed by refreshments in the hall.  
All welcome to attend.

Tuesday 24 Apr 7.00pm Celebration service for the President and Vice-President  
of the Methodist Conference at Pollokshaws Methodist  
Church, Glasgow, G43 1NY (see page 13)

Wednesday 26 Apr 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:  
Speaker Dennis Cook

Friday 28 Apr 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall  
onwards tea, coffee and home baking  
7.00pm Choir practice

# Diary for May 2018

## Sunday 29 April

Easter 5	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Tim Tunley
		<b>Being celebrated as Sea Sunday</b>	
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Mr Donald Caldwell
Monday 30 April	tba	Rosyth Garden City Annual Exhibition Rosyth Parish Church	
to Saturday 5 May		Title not yet firmed up, but working title is "Rosyth Then and Now (1914–1918)". Full details later.	
Tuesday 1 May	10.00am	EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at Limekilns	
	7.30pm	Coffee, Cake and Crafts - a monthly evening craft club run by Jean Hall and friends	
Wednesday 2 May	2.15pm	Wednesday Fellowship: Guest speaker John Burrell – Stones in Orkney	
Friday 4 May	9.30am	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall	
	onwards	tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	Choir practice	
Saturday 5 May	3.00pm	Benita and Walter in Concert – jazz, folk and Scottish songs – St Finnian's Church, Lochgelly (see page 33)	

## Sunday 6 May

Easter 6	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Dr Michael Paterson
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Professor John Sawkins
Monday 7 May	7.30pm	Ecumenical Study Group monthly meeting Rosyth Parish Church	
Wednesday 9 May	2.15pm	Wednesday Fellowship: Guest speaker Lou Davidson – Haiti update	
Thursday 10 May	7.00pm	Sung Eucharist for Ascension Day Rev Dr Michael Paterson	
Friday 11 May	9.30am	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall	
	onwards	tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	Choir practice	
Saturday 12 May	11.00am	Christian Aid Book and Festival at CEMC	
to Friday 18 May	to 4.00pm	(see page 13)	

# Diary for May/June 2018

## Sunday 13 May

## Christian Aid Week until 19 May

Easter 7	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Dr Michael Paterson
	11.00am	All-Age Service	Locally led
	from 11.30am	Bread and Cheese Lunch (Christian Aid) at Rosyth Parish Church	
	6.00pm	Sunday@Six for Christian Aid led by Jan Benvie (see page 15)	
Tuesday 15 May	10.00am	EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at Limekilns	
	7.30pm	Joint Council/Vestry meeting in the Church Lounge (Chair – Rev Dr Helen Jenkins)	
Wednesday 16 May	2.15pm	Wednesday Fellowship: AGM and close of session	
Thursday 17 May	7.00pm	Rosyth's Got Talent Christian Aid Concert (ticketed event £3) Primary Schools Annual Concert, Rosyth Parish Church	
Friday 19 May	9.30am	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall onwards tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	Choir practice	

## Sunday 20 May

## Day of Pentecost

9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Tim Tunley

## Aldersgate Sunday

11.00am Morning Worship Mr Lyn Smallridge  
tba "Heart and Soul" 2018, Church of Scotland celebration  
of the life of the whole church in Princes Street Gardens,  
Edinburgh (see page 15)

Wednesday 23 May 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Afternoon Tea Party

**Note:** Autumn session begins on **Wednesday 5 September**

Thursday 24 May 7.30pm St Andrews West Area Council, St Paul's Kinross  
Speaker from Scottish Episcopal Institute (SEI);  
Nan Kennedy, St Andrews Diocesan Ambassador for SEI;  
Annie Hughes, 2nd year St Andrews Diocesan Ordinand,  
who we know from her time with us in early 2017.  
All welcome.

Friday 26 May 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall  
onwards tea, coffee and home baking  
7.00pm Choir practice



# Diary for June 2018

## Sunday 27 May

### Trinity Sunday

- 10.30am Messy Church  
11.00am Joint Communion Service      Rev Dr Helen Jenkins  
Traidcraft goods on sale after the service

### Tuesday 29 May

- 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at Limekilns

### Friday 1 June

- 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall  
onwards tea, coffee and home baking  
7.00pm Choir practice

### Saturday 2 June

- 13.30pm Rehearsal for RSCM Triennial Festival  
in St Andrew's Cathedral Dundee  
16.00pm Festival Service. All welcome to attend (see page 33)

## Sunday 3 June

### Pentecost 2

- 9.30am Sung Eucharist      Rev Dr Michael Paterson  
11.00am Morning Worship  
6.00pm Sunday@Six (tbc)  
6.00pm Scottish Chamber Choir concert in Crail Church  
(see page 33)

### Monday 4 June

- 7.30pm Monthly Ecumenical Study Group, Rosyth Parish Church

### Tuesday 5 June

- 7.30pm Coffee, Cake and Crafts – a monthly evening craft club  
run by Jean Hall and friends

### Friday 8 June

- 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall  
onwards tea, coffee and home baking  
7.00pm Choir practice

### Saturday 9 June

- 1.30pm Rehearsal Come and Sing Musicality  
4.00pm Concert at Mayfield Parish Church, Edinburgh  
(see page 33)  
7.30pm Scottish Chamber Choir concert in Rosslyn Chapel  
(see page 33)

## Wednesday Fellowship

**Go to Page 29 to see the remainder of  
Spring Programme 2018 'at a glance'**

# To cancel, or to postpone: that is the question

Mary Kidd tackles it ...

The month of March certainly “came in as a lion”, and wreaked havoc with my plans for two or three weeks. The ‘Beast from the East’ we had been warned about for days beforehand arrived with a vengeance, and not many people had taken the forecast quite seriously enough.

One of the first decisions I had to make was to cancel our World Day of Prayer service; by 2 March many of our would-be attenders were housebound and snowed in, and our churches inaccessible. Many of these services throughout Scotland were cancelled, but in our local district we were agreeable to postpone it and not waste all the hard work and resources that make the occasion what it is. By the time you read this it will have taken place on 23 March, in Inverkeithing.

Next, our Church Anniversary, when we were to celebrate 102 years of Methodism in Rosyth, and looked forward to welcoming Rev Christopher Shreeve and Deacon Elizabeth to lead us in our worship and thanksgiving. This, too, had to be cancelled because access to the church and car park was impossible on the day and travel was quite hazardous and ill-advised.

But I’m happy to say that it wasn’t cancelled altogether – just postponed to a Sunday on the new preaching plan when Chris and Elizabeth are agreeable and available. Watch this space!

Our Wednesday Fellowship was another casualty. We had been looking forward to a production of ‘Puppets for Jesus’. Yes, this had to be cancelled, but I promise it will be re-scheduled to a Wednesday in our Autumn Programme.

No Every Day with Jesus; no Triangle; no choir practice; no flowers – could anything else spoil my routine plans?

While some people complained of ‘cabin fever’ my week of solitude turned out to be an good opportunity to carry out so many things I’d been postponing for months, such as ‘de-cluttering’ and I felt good about that!

I also found myself truly blessed because neighbours called to see if I wanted any ‘messages’, they brought me meals, swept my drive and surrounding paths of snow. I think they thought I was ‘the little old lady who lived alone on the corner’. (I am!)

Things are getting back to normal now. No more cancellations, and many of the postponed events are still to look forward to.

I do hope March will “go out like a lamb” and not give us cause to sing “I’m dreaming of a white Easter”!

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For updates on what is planned – and for last-minute changes like the ones Mary talks about above – don’t forget that we have *two* websites, one for each part of our LEP, but a shared diary page that is mirrored in both. Why not bookmark one or both websites?

[www.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk](http://www.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk)

[www.rosythmethodist.org.uk](http://www.rosythmethodist.org.uk)

And don’t forget that we also have a Facebook page linked on both websites that you can use to give your own feedback on what’s happening (see our back cover).

# Fellowship news – 1

## Congratulations



We are delighted to introduce to you our grandson – **Miles Varun Kirby Anandaciva** – a very big name for a very little boy! Miles was born on 17 February in London, weighing 3.3 kilos (7lbs 8oz in old money!). Because of show and concert commitments we didn't get to meet him till he was 10 days old, but it was well worth the wait. And we will be getting reacquainted very soon, because we will be visiting again over Easter.

Alison, Siva and Miles are all doing really well and would like to say a big thank you for all the cards and gifts they have received.

I am pleased to report that the grandparents are not suffering any sleep deprivation. The same can't be said for Alison and Siva!

Gwyneth Kirby

## Wedding at St Finnian's



**Ross Stirling** is known to many at Rosyth, most recently as our speaker at the last Harvest Supper and for his support of the Arunmna Hospice (see page 32)

Saturday 17 March witnessed a very special celebration. With a huge sense of privilege and joy Rev Dr Margaret Dineley conducted the wedding of Ross and **Ray Young**, two highly-valued members of St Finnian's. It was indeed an historic occasion, the first wedding in the Church for ten years and the first same-sex Church wedding in Fife and probably in our Diocese.

There was a strong sense of warmth and Christian love and fellowship during the service and this was carried into the reception in the beautifully decorated and transformed hall.

A final, poignant cause for immense celebration came when Ross announced that, following the lengthy, traumatic treatment for cancer which he had so bravely endured, he had recently had a scan showing the all-clear! A fantastic conclusion to a truly wonderful day.

## Fellowship news – 2

### Moving home

Betty Terry recently moved to Henderson House, Link Road, Dalgety Bay, and has settled in.

She would love to see anyone who is in the vicinity, so any caller would be most welcome.

### Moving soon

Valley House, Cowdenbeath, where Jim and Jean Oliver, have been resident for a few years now, is to close soon. On 1 May, the residents will move to a brand new home – Lindsay House, 64 Cedar Avenue, Lumphinnans. They are joining with the Lochgelly Care Home and are both jointly to be known as Lindsay House.

Sandra, Pauline and Mary Kidd, who visit Jim regularly, find him so alert, interested in everything, and a delight to talk to – not bad for someone who will reach his century in July (DV)! Jean, unfortunately does not enjoy the same quality of life, and spends most of her time in bed and sleeping.

### Update on vacant Rector post

Bishop Kevin, Bishop of Argyll & The Isles, our Interim Bishop, will meet St Margaret's and Holy Trinity Vestries on 18 April to discuss the Vacancy.

In the meantime, we are most fortunate that Rev Dr Michael Paterson has offered to preside at the 9.30am service most Sunday mornings. On the occasions over the next few months that Michael is away – which includes a pilgrimage in May – Rev Tim Tunley, Chaplain of Scottish Ports, Mission to Seafarers, has kindly offered to officiate at two services. On the other Sunday (8 April) communion will be from the reserved sacrament, led by Adrian Masson.

### Raring to go again

We are delighted to learn that Andrew Wedge, a member at Holy Trinity, whom many of us know through his leadership of the Fife Cluster Youth Group and who has a special place in our hearts, has been given the 'all clear' after lengthy treatment. Andrew thanks us for our card, thoughts and prayers, which meant a great deal to him at a difficult time.

### 140+ years



Four of our members rehearsed for Dunfermline G&S Society's production of *The Mikado*. This picture of the three who made it on stage was taken by Ann Duly, who had to pull out due to illness and family commitments. Look at the web version to see the gorgeous colours of the ladies' wigs – far stronger than a blue rinse!

Service medals are given by the National Operatic and Dramatic Association to society members at certain milestones. With the awards Gwyneth and Martin received this year, our quartet have clocked up 140 official years of singing and acting!

### A different sort of Food Bank!

On the week the snows came to Rosyth, Ann and Tom Duly were surprised to find their cotoneaster covered, not just with its usual berries, but with at least ten mistle thrushes, birds that haven't visited their garden for years. Blown over from Scandinavia?!

# Keeping the show on the road



## Photocopier

The charges for using the Church photocopier have been increased – backdated to the beginning of the year. This is to reflect an increase in the payments we make to the firm maintaining the copier and also the increased cost of the paper. A note of the increased charges is in the front of the pale blue book beside the copier.

## Lost Property

We sometimes have folk asking if anyone has handed in keys, gloves, specs etc which they have mislaid. Sometimes they are lucky and sometimes not. There is quite a lot of clothing (mainly children's clothing) that is left hanging on the hooks in the corridor. Occasionally there is a name, but often there isn't. Please have a look and see if there are any items you recognise which can be reunited with their owners.

An unusual item which has been left lying in the front cloakroom area is an artist's easel. Does anyone know where this came from? Please speak to me if you do.

Martin Rogers

## Good home needed

One of the mums in the Toddlers Group has passed on a four-wheeled rollator which is free to a good home. (I found this term on the internet – I would call it a posh zimmer-type frame with a seat) It is in the back entrance room by the cupboards if you wish to inspect it. Please contact me if you are interested.

Martin Rogers

## Messy Church

Because the number of children coming along to Messy Church has dropped so much we decided that maybe it was time for a bit of a change. 9 o'clock on a Sunday morning is not the most appealing time for many parents, we know, so **our new look Messy Church will start at 10.30** – not with breakfast though because it's a bit late for that, but with a snack. This will be followed by a game related to the theme of the month and then the story. Then it's time for some messy crafts based on the story, aiming to finish in time to allow families to go into the last part of the Communion Service if they wish. Others may prefer to go straight home. (It will always be a joint Communion Service on that day)

We hope that this will be attractive to more young families. We are always open to suggestions about making Messy Church even better so please give me (01383 624779) a ring if you have any ideas or want any more information.

The new timing will start on Palm Sunday (**25 March**) and will continue each 4th Sunday of the month until the Summer break (July and August). Please invite any young families you know to come and join us.

Gwyneth Kirby

## Tea-bar giving

Homelessness Sunday (part of Scottish Churches Housing Action) was on 28 January. The Methodist Church collection for January was for SCHA, and during that month we collected £65.50 through our tea-bar, which will be sent to SCHA in due course.

Because of the bad weather the Methodist Church Anniversary Sunday Service was postponed (see page 22), but donations are coming in, and the March tea-bar gifts will be for the Anniversary Appeal.

# From the Diocese – 1

Val Leslie reports

## The Electoral Synod

On 24 February I attended the second round of the Diocesan Electoral Synod at St Ninian's Cathedral in Perth. The meeting started with Eucharist at 9.30am, after which we were split into groups to discuss what our congregations expected of a new bishop. I spoke about the need to recognise diversity and of St Margaret's unique standing in the diocese as the only congregation in a Local Ecumenical Partnership. We needed a bishop to be flexible and understand the diverse needs of very different congregations. Our group also felt that we needed a bishop who would not be afraid to meet us in our churches rather than remain within the cathedral. It was really interesting and a real privilege to hear other lay reps talk so frankly about the needs of their congregations and about some of the really interesting ways that individual churches are trying to look outward and work as disciples of God.

It has not been easy to select suitable names for nomination, especially for me as a novice to this process. The candidates I had thought suitable were thought to be quite strong candidates, but the preparatory committee had been unable to recommend sufficient suitable candidates the first time round – between three and five are required – so the process has had to start again.

Lay reps were asked to let the Diocesan Office know of any suitable candidates for the preparatory committee by 15 March, the closing date for applications. The preparatory committee will now have the task of selecting suitable candidates and produce a short list of candidates for interview, after which the Diocesan Electoral Synod will meet once more to listen to presentations from the candidates.

## Diocesan Synod

10 March, a very wet and miserable day, found me again in St Ninian's Cathedral in Perth this time for the Diocesan Synod. This started with Morning Prayer for the feast of St Kessog, a beautiful and short service. This year's Synod was not nearly as tense as last year's: there were no votes for any changes to Canon, and the business of discussing budgets and reports was swiftly and effectively dealt with by Bishop Kevin. He has such a light touch, but is very thorough.

I was particularly struck by Bishop Kevin's address about the **3M's**: **M**ission, **M**inistry and **M**oney. He suggested that, rather than seeing ourselves as church members and all that entails – becoming caught up in anxieties about matters such as the size of congregations and the lack of children – we should view ourselves as disciples, evidencing God's economy of abundance to the community. He recommended reading Exodus 16 as an example of God's love and abundance to the children of Israel.

Bishop Kevin spoke passionately about the church's role in the community, and in his address urged synod members to make good use of what we already have in our churches.

He encouraged us to leave behind anxiety and embarrassment about money, stating that "money is the sacrament of seriousness". He suggested that removing fear and stress about money will allow church congregations to focus more on God's abundance of love. This focus will allow us more time to experience the living God and to walk together as pilgrims, and the money would come.





# From the Diocese – 2

Val Leslie reports



I thought of Michael's JCB (see pages 4–6) and believe that this address had a similar theme, about digging deep to find the true meaning of discipleship.

The Eucharist took place after the business and reports were completed, and I was honoured to be asked to read the Epistle (Philippians 2:5–11).

Lunch as always was lovely: I really enjoyed meeting lay reps and clergy from around the diocese, and am really beginning to get to know many of them.



## Be constant in prayer

Members of the Electoral Synod were all urged and reminded to pray, and a prayer card with the following prayer, one that had frequently been used at St Margaret's services.

"Let us pray that a faithful pastor may be given to this diocese.

"Almighty God, the giver of every good gift, bestow at this time, we pray, your especial blessing upon the clergy and lay representatives of the Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane, and grant them in their deliberations the choice of a chief pastor who shall minister before you to the glory of your holy name, the good governance of your flock and the welfare of your whole church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

## Area Council

Well done St Margaret's congregation who again came out in a goodly number to represent St Margaret's at the Area Council meeting at St Peter's Kirkcaldy. It was noticed!

As usual the business end of the meeting took place first. One suggestion discussed was that every church should submit an overview of what they use their premises for, and how they advertise to the community what could be available for them.

Nerys Brown spoke eloquently about her role in the Diocese, and outlined plans for a pilgrim walk, labyrinth walks, and a photographic exhibition (see page 28).

We were split into groups and asked to represent in a drawing what our church family looks like. The five members from Rosyth got our heads together and came up with quite a good representation of who and what we are. The triangle was the focus, with the cross and a heart in its centre. All around were symbols of what we do in the community, our church-based activities, and our joint services. Encompassing the whole picture was love and a welcoming spirit.

There is no doubt that we are truly blessed as a congregation, but we cannot rest on our laurels – it would be nice to think that we could support some of our friends in the other churches of the West Fife Area Council.

Let's pray for the energy to remain as vibrant and faithful in service as we are at this time. As Michael's JCB reminds us, we have to dig deep to fully understand what it is to be a disciple of Christ. Nerys's talk filled me with a renewed energy and the resolve to try new things such as photography and walking the Pilgrim Way.

# Around the Diocese



## Journeying together

The annual Diocesan Gathering has been postponed, possibly until November, but there will be other opportunities for us to get together during the late spring and summer.

Those of us who had the pleasure of hearing Rev Nerys Brown, Diocesan Enabler and Resourcer of Mission and Ministry, talk to the recent Area Council meeting (see page 27) were given some advance information about these opportunities.

The most exciting one is that there will be a **Diocesan Pilgrimage** to St Andrews on **Saturday 28 July** along part of the Fife Pilgrim Way. Those of you who feel energetic can walk the 12-mile segment starting at Ceres Church and finishing at St Andrews for an act of worship and refreshments at All Saints Church close to the Cathedral. Alternatively there is a shorter 4-mile walk from Craigtown to St Andrews. A coach will take you back to your original starting point.

The leaders and organisers of the pilgrimage are Nick Cooke and Rev Alasdair Coles, Rector of All Saints, St Andrews. Nerys will be giving us further details after Easter for our notices and website. In the meantime please note the date in your diaries as this promises to be a memorable day.

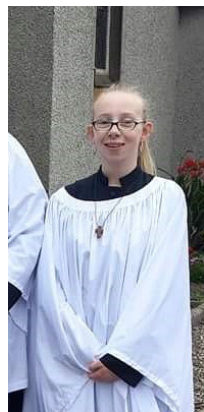
Apparently this will not be the first diocesan pilgrimage but that some were organised during the time of Bishop Hare Duke. If anyone has any memories or photographs of those pilgrimages please get in touch with Nerys (nerysannjones@aol.com).

Planning is also in hand for some **Labyrinth Walking Events**, led by the Rev Liz Baker and the Rev Andrew Frearson, using an indoor labyrinth donated to the diocese and some of the labyrinths in church grounds and our communities.

## Mission in the wider world

From 3 to 11 April a small group, including young people from across the Diocese, will be visiting the Diocese of Calcutta. They will be accompanied by Rev Liz Baker, Convenor Diocesan Overseas Committee and Rev Canon Bob Harley. One of the key purposes of this visit, as well as continuing to develop the relationship, is to introduce some of our young members to the work of the Diocese of Calcutta, to form the connections that will create links and friendships for the future, and to see the work of the church in another culture. The group will be visiting some of the Cathedral Relief Projects and working with them for several days. They intend to concentrate on children's work and projects.

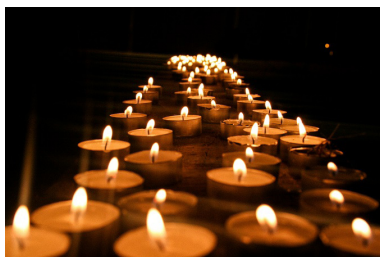
St Margaret's Vestry has taken up the request from the Overseas Committee to help towards the cost of the visit. We agreed to offer sponsorship to Leeanne Clark, from St Finnian's, Lochgelly, whom some of us know, mainly from her attendance at Sunday@Six. We wish Leeanne a safe and worthwhile visit and we look forward to hearing from her about it on her return.



**Photography and Prayer Events**, including an exhibition of photographs of the diocese taken by church members are also being arranged in each of the Areas, leading to the production of a Diocesan Calendar for 2019. Information about these events will be sent in due course.



# Thy Kingdom Come initiative



Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an invitation from the Archbishops' of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

Between Ascension Day (10 May) and Pentecost (20 May) St Finnian's will be displaying in the church a wooden cross on which to hang ribbons for our dear departed and a basket for prayers to be placed on the altar at Pentecost.

Also Ian Scott, Lay Reader from St. Margaret's, Leven, is bringing his "Thy Kingdom Come" stations to the church. He will be in attendance for a four-hour session, on a date to be confirmed. Otherwise, the stations will be available after the Sunday service on 13 May and during and after the service on Tuesday 15 May.

"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities." (Archbishop Justin Welby)

**Ed:** Further information on this initiative at [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global)

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## Wednesday Fellowship remainder of Spring Programme 2018 'at a glance'

### March

28 Holy Week Communion Rev Dr Michael Paterson

### April

- 4 Trams in Dunfermline Guest speaker George Beattie
- 11 Hospital Radio Guest speaker Barclay Macintosh
- 18 Guest speaker Martin Rogers
- 25 Speaker Dennis Cook

### May

- 2 Stones in Orkney Guest speaker John Burrell
- 9 Haiti Update Guest speaker Lou Davidson
- 16 AGM and close of session
- 23 Afternoon Tea Party

Meetings resume on **5 September 2018**



# Vilia's story



The tale of the video to be shown at Sunday@Six on 13 May

Thanks to the lessons she learnt from her mother, Vilia feels well rounded, strong and alive. **But sometimes strength isn't enough, and you need someone else in your corner too.**

Vilia lived in Port-au-Prince when the earthquake hit in 2010. She never found her mother and still doesn't know how she died. Bereaved and homeless, Vilia went back to her hometown with her husband and seven children. But life was a struggle, and she had nowhere safe to stay.

## A home as strong as Vilia

Christian Aid's partner KORAL reached out to help her. They built her a new home, safe and strong enough to stand up to natural disasters.

The new house made Vilia incredibly happy. When Hurricane Matthew hit in October 2016 her house lost only one roof panel and wasn't damaged in any other way. Many other homes in the area were totally destroyed.

After the hurricane KORAL also provided Vilia with crops that help soil retention, helping to protect her crops in the future. Sadly, not long after Hurricane Matthew, Vilia's husband passed away. This time, KORAL gave her the cash she urgently needed to keep sending her children to school.

## Vilia's neighbours

During Hurricane Matthew Vilia's house became a safe haven for dozens of people when they needed it most. As the storm raged on, Vilia shared food and a safe shelter for 54 people for several days.

Vilia is the president of her marching band, which plays music at weddings, funerals and during communal farming. But they do more than play music: as a group of



marginalised people, they pool their resources, forming something between a credit union and a community insurance policy. They work on each other's land and help out when someone is sick or dies.

Vilia is incredibly grateful for the help she's received, and she's used it to help others. But she knows there are still many others in her neighbourhood who are struggling. She wishes we could help them too.

## Like Vilia you can help others

The Super Soup in March (at the Parish Church) raised almost £150. With £210 Christian Aid's partners could train a local builder in Haiti to build homes as sturdy as Vilia's. That would give more of her neighbours a safe place to weather the next disaster, and a fighting chance to build a better life.

**Together, we're stronger than the storms.**

# An unexpected trip

Janet Murray remembers Florida



A middle of the night phone call from Gordon's cousin in America, told of them having accommodation with a spare room for a holiday in Florida.

This was too good an opportunity to miss, and so unexpected that there was little hesitation in deciding that a trip was a nice idea. Away with the warm clothes and out with sunhat and creams! Travel arrangements all came together easily and proved straightforward.

Accommodation was in a retirement complex, attractively laid out and with good facilities. There was a residents' gathering for a meal each week. It was a nice way for people to catch up with each other. People brought food for the meal and there was lots of variety. A thatched covered area housed the food. Many of the residents had homes elsewhere – they were keeping away from the cold weather at 'home'. It was a mixed and friendly gathering.

There was a Mission Week at the local Church. It is a modern building serving people who have had years in mainstream American business life. Christian people who owned their faith and lived it in surprising ways. Preachers included returning missionaries who gave colourful accounts of work in widely diverse areas.

The week-end included Bible study, stimulating worship and a flute concert, and ended with an ice-cream social. This I thought would be very odd, but it was a platform for showing the mission work of the previous year including knitting prayer shawls, and language classes for new arrivals, as well as bigger projects.

One of those bigger projects was the building of play areas for children in areas of need. Pictures showed the clearing of the site, the transport of to the equipment, its installation and eventual use by delighted children.

This mission work was very impressive, particularly as the average age of the people was high. It seemed a wonderful use of retirement and of the collected resources from years of working life. People were urged to sign up for the 2018 projects. Jobs could be found for anyone who was willing to take part, no matter what age. An excellent use of time and money.

Besides the Church part of the visit, there was a boat trip and lunch on the Gulf of Mexico. Lots of beautiful scenes, but also the considerable evidence of their fairly recent hurricanes. News of hurricanes will elicit stronger reactions from me in the future!

The local zoo had distinctive features which included the training of alligators to respond to commands and flags.

**Ed:** We had hoped to include a picture of Janet handling an alligator, if only a baby one ...

As airbus ride, travelling on very shallow water, took us to see alligators and lots of distinctive birds and small animals.

The sight of the setting sun from the pier in Naples attracted lots of people and was beautiful.

Memories of lots of good experiences, for which I am extremely grateful. They carried me through the following snowy days, helped by a warm welcome home. God is so good.





# Arunima Hospice Update

Ross Stirling reports



Throughout my illness I have made it my mission to remain in contact with the Arunima Hospice and continue with efforts to raise money for their much needed roof replacement.

Although I have been unable to do a lot leading up to and after my bone marrow transplant, I've been overwhelmed with the support of friends, family, colleagues and students who are raising both funds and awareness of the Arunima Hospice's plight.

This includes (to date):

- The 33rd Lochgelly Scouts Group organising a bake sale in the local cooperative and a sponsored walk. So far they have raised just over £400!
- A colleague from Fife College (Jim Dunstan, along with his friend Robin Pate) are taking on the challenge of the 'Highland Fling Ultra', a 53-mile trail with 7,500ft elevation. All money raised will be donated to the Arunima Hospice roof fund.
- Fife College Events Management students organised a 'Handbags & GladRags' event, selling pre-loved clothes and accessories.
- Cowdenbeath Rotary Club – Fiona and I are booked to attend as guest speakers in July, during which time the Rotary members have offered to donate an amount to assist.

I've been in regular contact with Mr Suvabrota Das (Hospice Manager) and his wife Mrs Bijoya Das ever since returning from Kolkata in April last year, continuing

to build our friendship and prayer circle. They are a wonderful couple and give so much of their time and energy to assisting in the Diocese of North India.

Both Fiona and I were delighted to attend the St Margaret's/Rosyth Methodist Harvest Supper last year and amazed by the generosity and support we received. The money donated has already been put to good use. Shortly after we came to speak, I received an urgent request from Suvabrota for funds to complete the renovation of the boy's dormitory. I was able to transfer £1,500 for this work to take place, allowing the boys the same comfort as the girls now have in their brand-new dormitory. In addition, the beautiful hand-made quilts were sent to the hospice recently. Although there has been some issues with the local delivery courier in Kolkata, it is hoped these will arrive soon.

So at present, I currently have £2,281 towards the new roof structure, not including all of the above fundraising efforts taking place. We are certainly on track to achieve the target of £4,500, but the fundraising doesn't stop there! The grand plan is to raise £10,000 for a bus. There are still vast issues of stigma and discrimination surrounding those afflicted by HIV/AIDS. In fact, it is unsafe for the children to venture out alone, and some hospitals are unwilling to treat them due to lack of understanding surrounding HIV. A bus would bring the assurance of safety as well as essential visits to hospitals (further away), school runs and outings.

If anyone has any ideas or would like to fundraise towards this cause, please contact me as I would be delighted to have others on-board!

rossstirling81@hotmail.co.uk  
07947 321687



# Making Music

## St Finnian's concert

At **7.00pm** on **Saturday 5 May** favourites Benita and Walter return in concert to **St Finnian's Lochgelly**, with jazz, folk and Scottish songs. Tickets are £5, preferably booked beforehand with Margaret Dineley by phone (01592 358933 or mobile 07931 483906) or email at [margaret.dineley@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.dineley@gmail.com). Otherwise available at the door. Do go and join them for an evening of enjoyment.



The **Royal School of Church Music** Scotland Triennial Festival, directed by Matthew Beetschen, Master of the Music at Dunfermline Abbey, will be held at St Andrew's Cathedral, Nethergate, Dundee DD1 4EA on the afternoon of **Saturday 2 June 2018**.

All are welcome to the service, which starts at **4.00pm**. If you want to sing with the choir, which starts rehearsing at 1.30pm, you need to make contact with Myra Tarr in order to book a place and get a copy of the music.

## Renaissance Splendour

The **Scottish Chamber Choir**, directed by Iain McLarty, are presenting two concerts of glorious *a cappella* music, including Dufay's *Missa L'homme armé*, at Crail Church, Marketgait, Crail, Fife KY10 3TL at **6.00pm** on **Sunday 3 June 2018**, and at Rosslyn Chapel, Chapel Loan, Roslin EH25 9PU at **7.30pm** on **Saturday 9 June**.

Tickets via <http://tinyurl.com/y97bl83s> or at the door (Crail only). Further information from Martin Tarr.

## Come and Sing Musicality



**Waverley Care**  
making a positive difference

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the recent Come and Sing ABBA event, at which Waverley Care raised the fantastic net sum of £8,750, which helps make such a massive difference to people who are living with HIV or hepatitis C.

Hot on the heels of this event, Ben Parry is returning to Edinburgh to conduct Musicality – a miscellany of musical showstoppers – on **Saturday 9 June** at Mayfield Salisbury Church, 18 West Mayfield, Edinburgh, EH9 1TQ. A musical tour around the world and across the decades, from Dickensian London to pre-war Austria, from Rydell High to Bali Ha'i, Musicality offers something for everyone.

The rehearsal is with a live band, followed by a late afternoon concert, which will send singers and audience on their way with a spring in their step!

**1.30pm** Rehearsal for everyone – whether you want to sing in parts or sing the tune. Please indicate your preference when you book.

**4:00pm** Concert

All music provided on the day.

To register as a singer or to buy audience ticket download a registration form at [www.waverleycare.org/musicality](http://www.waverleycare.org/musicality).

Musicality is being organised jointly with the Kevock Choir as part of their 50th anniversary season and with the kind support of Mayfield Salisbury Church.

# Puzzle page

with puzzles from Dave Ward

## New puzzles

### 1 What is the time?

If it were two hours later, it would be half as long until midnight as it would be if it were an hour later.

What is the time now?

### 2 Strange equation

How could you make this equation correct without changing it?

$$X1 + 1 = X$$

### 3 STUCK

Replace the letters with numbers in the following to make it correct

$$(S + T + U + C + K) \times (S + T + U + C + K) \\ \times (S + T + U + C + K) = \text{STUCK}$$

### 4 Turn of the Century

In the year 1900, a woman makes the following calculation: she adds the year she was born to the year her daughter was born, then adds her current age and her daughter's current age.

What number does she come up with?

### 5 What a choice!

A condemned man is allowed to choose his manner of death:

- A) Thrown into a deep river tied to a heavy rock
- B) Decapitated by an axe
- C) Eaten alive by a group of cannibals
- D) Thrown into a pit of lions that have not eaten for five months
- E) Hanged by the neck until he is dead
- F) Shot through the heart with a rifle
- G) Thrown into a pit of poisonous snakes

Which option should he choose?

## Answers to Feb/March puzzles

### 1 Card player needed!

40

### 2 Number-crazy cat

$$135 = (1+3+5) \times 1 \times 3 \times 5$$

### 3 Filling the pool

In 1 hour, the pool gets  $5/60 + 12/60 + 6/60 + 10/60$  full, which equals  $33/60$ .

It would completely full in  $60/33$  hours = 1 hour, 49 minutes and  $6 \frac{2}{3}$  seconds.

### 4 The manager's dilemma

He sits the clerks back to back.

### 5 What's on the menu?

This is one way:

They order ABCDD on night 1, thus finding what D is.

They order AEFGG on night 2, finding what A and G are (A from night 1).

They order BEHII on night 3, finding out what I, B and E are.

This leaves C, F and H, which they order once each: C the unknown dish from night 1, F from night 2 and H from night 3.

Let Dave know if you need extra clarification!

# 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  
Gordon Pryde 01383 249106  
gordonpryde@talktalk.net

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

Toddlers' Group  
(Tues/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

Coffee, Cake & Crafts (1st Tue 1930-2100)  
Jean Hall 01383 882221  
j.h.patall@btinternet.com

## Organisations meeting in our premises

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)  
Gary Dewar 01383 411938  
gary.dewar@sky.com

## Guide Unit

Rainbows (Mon 1800-1900)  
Skye Fraser 07565 531886  
skyefraser96@gmail.com

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

Guides (Thu 1800-2030)  
Linda Wallace 07455 213809  
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 Facebook page

Did you even know we *had* a Facebook page? Helen set this up last year, and it has since been converted to a page for both our fellowships. As it explains in the “sticky post” at the top of the page, which also has links to our websites:

The Rosyth Methodist Church building is home to two faith communities working together in Local Ecumenical Partnership, Rosyth Methodist Church and St Margaret’s Scottish Episcopal Church.

We welcome you to join us for worship on Sundays – come to Messy Church on the fourth Sunday of the month in term-time! – and to take part in our activities during the week.

Facebook is all about creating links, and sharing experiences, and we would encourage all of you who are Facebook users, or have children and grandchildren who use social media, both to “like” our page and to contribute posts and comments. Below is what Martin posted on 27 February:



Saturday Night and Sunday Morning! No, not the Alan Sillitoe novel, but an explanation of these pictures. On Saturday evening, three of our congregation were enjoying taking part in the Dunfermline G&S Society production of *The Mikado*; the next morning they were both enjoying and being challenged by the sermon at our joint service, where Michael Paterson used an unusual visual aid to make his point.

The post also had a link to our website “Thought for the Month”, which was an extract from Michael’s reflection that we’ve printed on pages 4–5. Creating links, and creating community is what Facebook tries to do. And creating community is also what Christ’s church is about ...

## 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 on 27 May. Please let us have your contributions by the end of play on **Sunday 20 May**, preferably by email to [editor@rosythmethodist.org.uk](mailto:editor@rosythmethodist.org.uk).