December 2010

Fundraising Fun - Ready Steady Cook

We are accustomed to the television format for this programme, but the St Andrew's version surpassed all expectations in terms of professional approach, expert cooking, clever banter and entertaining comedy.

The first contestant, Jim McLeod, made his entry with quiet dignity while the second, Martin Fair, showed his rampantly competitive and adversarial approach by entering like a boxer – albeit a little past his sell-by date! The smile was somewhat



wiped off his face when he was shown one of the ingredients – a live lobster! This proved to be a red herring and he was relieved to be given mince while Jim had chicken to prepare. Jenni Marr and Rachel Stewart were very able assistants who added to the humour with their comments. The cooks were very intent on producing well-flavoured food and this was achieved by chucking in as many hot spicy ingredients as possible so that the word 'bland' would not be appropriate in any circumstances. The compere, Naomi Dunphy, showed her skill in asking searching questions and responding to the



The 'real deal' cooks - Doris Bowie, Jane Stewart, Margaret Esplan and Sheila Dunphy

The audience were then treated to a wonderful two course meal, served by the Youth Group, while Doris and her team worked in the heat of the kitchen with calm efficiency. It is good that we have been able to bring these normally unseen workers to our front page! It was so good to have friends and family of our own members sharing fellowship with us. Well done to all.

contestants' answers which, at times, revealed very good knowledge of main courses and not so much about desserts. However, both contestants were able to flannel their way out of revealing ignorance! Melting chocolate and pouring it over fruit was as high as the haute cuisine got!!

The finished dishes were prepared and plated up in the allotted time and the results given the taste of approval. The voting by the audience resulted, not unsurprisingly, in a win for Jim McLeod. It is unlikely that this will be forgotten or forgiven by his opponent for years to come!



Naomi Dunphy was an excellent compere while Jenni Marr, Jim McLeod, Rachel Stewart and Martin Fair were cooking

CONTACTS

CHURCH OFFICE: 431135 Alison Davie

> Monday to Friday 9 am to noon

MINISTER

Rev Dr W Martin Fair, BA, BD 873238

MINISTER EMERITUS

David Searle

SESSION CLERK

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SUNDAY CLUB

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Alison Davie: 431135

MAGAZINE EDITOR/CDs

Ken Miller: 875235

ST ANDREW'S ARBROATH **REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

November 2010

Baptisms - Lucas Proctor, son of Kerry and Kevin

Weddings - None

Funerals - Jim Cameron

IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY EDITION

(NOTE - There is NO January Edition)

Please note that DEADLINE dates must mean exactly that. Information that needs to be Word Processed should be handed in to the office by the first date and not to the Editor.

Friday 21st January (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 25th January (Word-Processed file)

HELP NEEDED

Is there someone who takes occasional trips for a tea/coffee around the Brechin area and/or would like to do so at the end of each month?

We need a driver who can collect our QUEST magazines from the Brechin printers on a Thursday at the end of each month (except for December and August).

lan and Jean Scott have done this faithfully for many years and we extend our very grateful thanks to them on retiring from this service.

Please contact Ken Miller if you could help.

The DECLARATION 2011

A day of Challenge and Encouragement for Men

Saturday 15th January 2011

10am - 4pm, in the church With special guest speaker

Ian Coffey

Cost £10 includes tea/coffee and snack lunch. (£8 if booked by 30th November). Ask at the office for a registration form.

Organisations will alert members when changes to venues are made.

SUNDAY

10.15 am - Gathering for prayer.

10.30 am – Choir practice.

11.00 am – Morning service (with short communion on the third Sunday of each month. Tea/coffee after. Creche – up to age 3. Infants – ages 3 to 5. Juniors - ages 8 and 9. Seniors - ages 10 and 11 Sunday Club - Elaine Fair (873238). Teen Scene - S1 to S2

6.30 to 8.00 pm - Sunday evening ICE-BREAKERS - up to age 16

8.00 pm - Sunday evening Youth Group - age 16 plus

12.00 am – Havilah – Drop-in Centre – Church Office (431135)

2.00 pm - Dorothy Dobson Over 50s Exercise Class

6.00 pm - Rainbow Guides - L Hadden (875379)

7.30 pm – St Andrew's Guild : Fortnightly – Joyce Lownie (430053)

7.30 pm – Flower Club: Fortnightly – M McIntosh (876993)

10.30 am – Midweek Meeting Point – M Fair (873238)

12.00 am – Havilah – Drop-in Centre – Church Office (431135)

5.45 pm - Brownies - Morag Scorgie (01674 820721)

7.15 pm - Guides

7.30 pm – Women's Group – first Wednesdays – Elaine Fair (873238)

10.00 am – Parent and Toddler Group – Joan Archer (876522)

2.00 pm - Friend's Club: first Thursdays - L Smith - B Gerrard, secretary (434821)

6.00 pm – Anchor Boys – S Jamieson (431942)

6.00 pm - BB Junior Section - W Ewart (876114)

7.30 pm - BB Company Section - M Clark (437758)

FRIDAY

9.30 am - Coffee morning

12.00 am – Havilah – Drop-in Centre – Church Office (431135)

Intimations, changes of address, hall bookings etc., please contact Alison Davie at the Church office, Monday to Friday, 9 am to noon and for 15 minutes after Sunday Service, telephone 431135.

Please call 431135 in the event of corrections or omissions, and an updated sheet will be produced.

Martin Fair

December 2010

Dear friends,

Sometimes people ask me: "Are you keeping busy at the moment?" To be honest, I can't remember a time when it wasn't busy! So, it's always busy - the only question is HOW busy.

Lately it's been very busy. Partly that's to do with leading a vital, vibrant congregation like St. Andrew's when, most of the time, there are lots of things happening. That's as it should be but it underlines why we like to see things easing back during holiday periods – you can't keep going at full throttle all the time.

But over and above congregational life, there's so much more that ministers find themselves involved with. A couple of weeks back, I found myself with four funerals in four days. Only one of them was for a member of the congregation but, of course, we are a parish church and so called to care for ALL the people of the area, not just *oor ain folk!* Though it means more work, it's the way it should be.

Then there's work for the wider church, for example:

- O Twice a year, for the Ministries Council, I go to speak at their Enquirer's Conference aimed at those considering entering the ministry. I'm supposed to inspire them with a description of what being a minister is all about!
- O Annually, I lead sessions at the conference for Probationer Ministers and at the conference for ministers who are one year into their ministry
- O This year, I led an extra one through at St. Andrews for Deacons and Parish Workers
- O Also, by way of a one-off, I acted as chaplain at a conference of workplace chaplains (formerly, industrial chaplains.) Again, that was on a Saturday.
- O And just last weekend, I spent two days in Aberdeen on behalf of the Emerging Ministries Task Group of the Ministries Council, conducting a review into a church that was *planted* just ten years ago. The group, which I was charged with leading, was to ascertain whether or not the new church is ready to *go it alone*. Following the visit, I've got a ten page report to write!

Perhaps I should mention the Duncan Trust of which I am a trustee, by dint of being minister of St. Andrew's. Tomorrow, I need to travel to Glasgow to meet ministers in training – all of whom applied for grants from the Duncan Trust. Then two seeks ago, on the Saturday I was away from 8am – till 5pm working with the Kirk Session of Aberfeldy Parish Church – a congregation eager to become more involved with their community. Two weeks before that, I had done something similar with the Kirk Session of an Edinburgh Church.

And so it goes on. That's not to mention the three meetings in Forfar last week alone! Two of them were Presbytery committee meetings and one was a meeting regarding recovery from drug addiction, hosted by Angus Council – a group we're part of through our Havilah work.

I'm not sharing all of this with you to garner sympathy or to impress you with how busy I can be! Business means nothing in itself – you can be busy doing all manner of things and yet not make any difference. The marker is effectiveness, not business.

Rather, I'm sharing this with you to give a better idea of the range of things that I'm involved with in order that you might have some understanding of what I'm not able to do! Let me tell you, not a day goes by when I don't have a list of things that I would like to do – and in an ideal world would do. But there are only seven days in a week and twenty-four hours in a day, restricting as that might be! Last night, I finished preparing today's funeral at 11.20pm so unless I'm to start working the night shift as well as the daytime and late shifts then some things will need to remain undone.

It's about prioritising and I try to work hard at making sure I'm doing what I should be doing – that is, not things that other members of the congregation could be doing just as well, or better. I need to get better at that but, as is often said, necessity is the mother of invention.

Okay, I'll stop there. I've got TWO meetings to attend tonight – one in Forfar, at 7pm, the other back in Arbroath at 8.30pm. Better get going!

God bless,

Martin, Elaine, Callum, Andrew, Fraser and Flossie!

martin.fair@sky.com

Havilah Appointments

The Havilah Management Group has been able to advertise for two part-time project workers to help support and build on the excellent work that is being done by our Havilah volunteers. This has been made possible by funding from the Church of Scotland's Parish Development Fund, matched by funding from Angus Council. There was a good response to the advertisement and we interviewed 6 of the applicants, who all had great skills and experience. As part of our commitment to work in partnership with other organisations, we invited Eileen McArthur to join the interview panel; Eileen heads up the Focus on Alcohol project in Angus and, like us, is a member of the Angus Drug and Alcohol Partnership. Her insight and comments were very helpful and she is a great supporter of Havilah.

Malawi Update

We have recently sent away letters and Christmas cards to all the children involved in our Child Sponsorship Scheme at Thyolo, Malawi. Money has also been sent to enable Christina, our administrator, to buy a Christmas Gift for ALL the children and staff at St Andrews Day Care Centre.

We have recently received the photos of the remaining children at Thyolo who have yet to receive a sponsor. These should be ready for distribution in January so should you or someone you know be interested in this scheme please contact Sheila.

GUILD NEWS

At our meeting on the 1st November we heard about our current project. Some of our fundraising this year will support the work of the International Justice Mission. Alistair, one of their speakers, came all the way from Stirling on a horrible night and gave us a very interesting talk on the work being done in Cambodia. It was alarming to see how these young girls were trafficked, some even sold into this work by their own family but it was also good to see that the work IJM were doing was making some headway. Young girls were being looked after in safe houses after being rescued and learning a trade so they could fend for themselves.

On the 15th we were due to have the Jam Factory give us a talk, however they had to call off due to other commitments. We quickly organized a cinema night, showing 'Up' which is all about the relationships we have in life. Popcorn and nibbles were the order of the day - too bad we had no ice cream!!

Our busy Guild Week will be past by the time you read this but hopefully all will have gone well. Planning is coming together and we have heard from Glenrothes Guild who are so looking forward to their visit.

Our Christmas party on the 13th December will be in the Meadowbank. Laura Taylor will be providing the entertainment. Any one who would like to join us please feel free to ask any guild member. Price of ticket is £14.00.

We're delighted to announce that two excellent candidates have been selected who will both bring a wealth of experience to the work. However, we need to await formal clearance before we can reveal their names.

We're sure that these two accomplished and committed staff members will be instrumental in moving the project onwards, and we ask for your prayers for them both when they begin in their new posts and develop working relationships with each other, our volunteers, the Havilah users and our partner organisations. Please also pray for success in our ongoing search for suitable premises for the project; we continue to follow up every lead we can in finding a home for Havilah at a price we can afford.

Linda McDonald

For the Havilah Management Group

Storage urgently needed!

The good news is that we have found a group who send containers to Malawi and who are happy for us to send boxes out with them. – The Raven Trust. Unfortunately they will not be going till the New Year and presently the Dunphy's house is full of boxes. If anyone knows of any dry and secure place where these could be stored till the next container leaves please get in touch with Sheila. Sooner than later would be great as it would allow the Dunphys to get their spare room back before Christmas! Watch out for the next edition of Quest to find out the fundraisers planned for 2011! Thanks to all those who have supported us in 2010.

7th Arbroath B.B.

Our 50th Anniversary year has had some memorable moments so far. At our Enrolment Service on Thursday 21st October we had Presidents Badges awarded to **Rhys Cuthbert, Aaron Findlay and Dale Taylor**. These boys will now start on the work required to achieve their Queen's Badge.

We held a very successful Coffee Morning on Saturday 23rd of October at which we raised over £450. Thank you to all parents and friends who helped so willingly on the day and for all the lovely home baking donated. The 28th of October was our Halloween Party and we had some wonderful "guisers." The winners were Anchor Boys 1st - (Astronaut) Robert Thomson, 2nd - (Dracula) Mitchell Williams. Juniors 1st - (Michael Jackson) Gregor Milne, 2nd - (Werewolf) Kieran Young.

We are hosting a Potted Sports night on 25th of November with the 3rd/5th Arbroath Company when we hope to have great fun and fellowship with them.

It is getting near Panto time again and we still have seats available if anybody wants to join in with us on 16th of December at the Abbey Theatre for Jack and the Beanstalk. Price is £6. Please see Wilma Ewart to book your seat.

We would also like to hear from any former member of our B.B. company who has a story to tell or a photo to share from the past 50 years .We are putting a picture gallery together for our celebration weekend at the end of April 2011.

The Panto is our last meeting night of the year and we will restart on 13th of January, 2011.

The Bible in a Year

Lots of you use daily Bible reading notes of one kind or another and probably have done for years. But have you ever been through the whole Bible?

Well, how about this for a challenge: through the whole Bible in a year in 2011 with *Every Day With Jesus*.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to cover ALL of the scriptures in a year, with a daily system of both Old Testament and New testament readings, and to know that you'd be reading with others from St. Andrew's?

This challenge is being set down by the Christian publishing organisation, CWR. They have produced a hardback edition with the whole Bible broken into 365 daily portions – and alongside the readings, some commentary and devotional material. Wow! What a challenge.

These books retail at £15 but we can get them for less than £12 each if at least twenty of us sign up to take the challenge – which is a great price for a book nearly 1,600 pages long. Here's what CWR have to say about it:

To know God well, we must know His Word, yet a recent survey found that 45% of churchgoers have not read the Bible in its entirety. Many start well, but soon give up. But with a clear system to follow and the encouragement of others, the chances of Christians finishing the whole Bible greatly increase. The Every Day with Jesus Bible will motivate your congregation to read the entire Bible in a year by breaking it up into dated, daily portions — easily read in 15 minutes or less — and

accompanied by inspiring devotional writing to help them see its relevance and apply its principles to their own lives. Each day's reading contains a selection from the Old Testament, the New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs, so there is plenty of variety every day. A suggested prayer and a section for further study will enrich their experience and inspire them to dig deeper into God's Word.

Furthermore, we'll get our own mini-website on which any of us can post comments or reflections on that days readings – perhaps to encourage one another.

The deadline for signing up for the whole Bible challenge is Sunday 12th December – that will give us time to place our order and have all our books delivered in time for the beginning of the new year.

So, let's go for it!

Clerk's Corner 2020 Vision

In November Martin and I attended a consultation session on aspects of the Ministries Council's plans to 'move to a format of funding the equivalent of 1000 full-time ministry posts. This was done to accommodate creative, flexible and financially sustainable patterns of ministry whilst keeping a firm emphasis on the Church's mission.

2020 Vision involves refocusing the life and ministries of the church on mission'.

You will have been aware of the focus of comments in the press about the financial crisis in the Church of Scotland and the possibility of a reduced number of ministers. The regional meetings have begun the process to allow everyone in the church to have the opportunity to hear about the

much more wide-ranging plans and have the chance to comment on the way changes should be implemented. There are four components to this Vision.

The priority Areas Action Plan

planning for a more just and equitable society

A review of Training for Ministries

 equipping ministries personnel for the future

A Place for Hope

 transforming a culture of the Church from destructive conflict to reconciliation

Developing Sustainable Ministries

 planning for mission with purpose, variety and financial responsibility

In addition the Council is also working with the Panel on review and reform which has the task of the reform of Presbytery structures.

Further editions of Quest will bring you more specific detail.

FUNDRAISING

(Malawi) Saturday 11th December

Coffee Morning

Church Hall **10am – 12 noon**

Includes Cake and Candy Stall and special festive goodies!

Children's Murder Mystery

Church Hall **3 - 5pm**

A children's version of our Popular Murder Mystery Evening. This event also includes a meal. A chance too for you adults to leave the children and do some last minute Christmas Shopping!

Lives Saved

Through the help of God, Kevin and Kerry fell in love. Two souls looking for help from God Almighty. They joined a programme to help them find a way forward.

They got married in June, a big fancy wedding which gave them focus in life. And bonded the two together for

the birth of their son Lucas.

Lucas was born prematurely on the 5th August. Adorable, cute, very small. Needs special caring and loving. His parents Kerry and Kevin are very attentive, Kerry has never left his side. Kevin travelled daily to be with his wife and baby son Lucas in Ninewells hospital.

Janet Proctor (Kevin's mother)

Arbroath Academy Remembrance Service

As school chaplain, our minister led a Service of Remembrance at Arbroath Academy on 11th November, at 11am. Attended by pupils, staff and members of the community, the service was sombre and respectful and the two-minute silence was observed

immaculately. Along with the minister, our members, Derek Scott and Peggy Kyle, took part, reading poems and, in Derek's case, the famous words, *They shall not grow old*...

Sheila Dunphy, our youth worker, and some of young people, who are senior pupils at the Academy, were part of the planning group – again, an example of the excellent working relationship between church and school.

FAITH UNDER FIRE

"Christians everywhere are 'legitimate targets' – The killing sword will not be lifted." Thus proclaimed Al-Qaeda after the killing of Christians in a Baghdad church. This ultimatum against believers is not limited to Iraq, although the world was shocked by this event.

On the Sunday in November when churches throughout the UK were encouraged to remember their suffering brothers and sisters, members of the Persecuted Church group at St. Andrew's church, highlighted situations and areas of the world where it costs to acknowledge the Christian faith.

At the end of August, police entered a prayer centre in northern China and forcibly ejected 20 Christians from the building. The believers then watched helplessly as their prayer room, school building and training centre were demolished. In another district, in spite of legal registration with the authorities, the director of the province personally commanded the demolition of a church. Church officials who tried to remonstrate were ignored because they did not have certificates to identify themselves. Later in the year, two Indonesian pastors were stabbed on their way to conduct morning prayers.

Barnabas Fund reports on the appalling conditions in which prisoners in Eritrea are held; most are subject to regular beatings; some are kept in small underground cells where no light penetrates and others are subjected to the heat and cold of metal shipping containers. Those who survive

these conditions emerge with severely damaged health. Any Christian who dares to share his faith publicly is imprisoned indefinitely.

In nearby Somalia many Christians have been killed by Muslim extremists.

Christian girls in Pakistan are often given as workers to Muslim families where they are ill treated, abused and often raped by their employers. One teenager recently died from her injuries.

Another Christian nurse was critically injured after being gang raped and then thrown from the 4th floor of the post graduate medical school in Karachi. The doctor who was the ring leader of her attackers, is reported to have a history of attacking Christian nurses with impunity. So what can we do "to carry each other's burdens" as Paul exhorts us? Practise informed prayer. Normally a group meets in the Session Room at 10.15 am on the 3rd Thursday of the month, to pray for those who are facing trials such as those listed above. You could also take copies of Barnabas, Open Doors and Release Int., magazines or find their web sites on the internet.

Whilst thanking you all for your financial generosity on the "Highlighted" Sunday, the needs are ongoing and any of us in the Persecuted Church group would be happy to channel your further gifts in the right direction. Extra finance can provide food, shelter, education and often protection for those who otherwise would have no means to meet these requirements.

Sue Pritchard

(See picture on back page)

The Shack

We've made two attempts to hold a discussion night based on the bestseller, *The Shack*. Unfortunately, on both occasions circumstances conspired against us and the evening didn't take place.

Okay, one last attempt – maybe it will be a case of third time lucky! The night chosen is Tuesday 25th January, 7.30pm, at the Church. If you read *The Shack* and enjoyed it – or didn't – why not come along to share with others. Or, if you haven't read it – why not?!!? There's still time.

See you on the 25th January.

LOOKING AHEAD

DECEMBER

Sunday 5 11 am - Worship Service 2nd in Advent

Sunday 12 11 am - Worship Service 3rd in Advent

Sunday 19
11 am - Worship Service
4th in Advent
Main service followed by
short Communion

Friday 24
6.30 pm - Nativity and
Christingle Service
11.15 pm - Traditional
Watchnight Service

Saturday 25th
10.30 am - Christmas Day
Celebration for the
whole family

Sunday 26 11 am - Worship Service

JANUARY

Sunday 2 11 am - Worship Service

Sunday 9 11 am - Worship Service

Sunday 16
11 am - Worship Service
with guest preacher,
lan Coffey
Main service followed by
short Communion

Sunday 23 11 am - Worship Service

Monday 27 6.30 pm – Service of Memorial & Thanksgiving

Sunday 30 11 am - Worship Service 4-6 pm - **Messy Church**

N.B. As well as the services above there is the following:

- A 40 minute service every Wednesday morning at 10.30am.
- Messy Church, from 4-6pm, generally on the last Sunday of every month. Two hours for all the family with games, craft and worship and an all-together meal
- ♦ OFF the W.O.L. contemporary worship on the first Sunday of each month, 8 9pm (except January).

Dawn Centre Namisu village, Malawi

In August this year, I visited Malawi and had the great joy of seeing the "Dawn Centre" officially opened by the Government Minister for Disabilities. She was representing the President of Malawi.

The Dawn Centre for children with disabilities came into being because a lovely girl, Miriam, a young widow with 3 children approached my brother John and asked him if he could help her little boy, Blessings, who was severely handicapped due to cerebral malaria which he had had aged 4 months. He was now 4 years old, and Miriam and her 3 children lived in a little one roomed house in the bush just 2 minutes walk from our orphan village of Namisu.

John did some research and found that there were about 30 children with disabilities living close by and asked their mothers to make 1,000 bricks each and when he next visited Malawi would get the building work started for a day care centre for these children.

And so the work started. Miriam gave her little bit of land to build on and water was found very close by and a bore hole was sunk. Unfortunately funds ran out and the work stopped for a while but a lady in Cambridge whose mother died and left her £5000 gave it all to John for Malawi and so the building was finished. The lady who died was named "Dawn" and what a great name for the centre, a new dawn for these children, who all their lives had been hidden away.

At the official opening on 16th August, the government minister was so impressed, that she promised a qualified teacher for the children. He arrived early October and is

doing an amazing job.

Some of the children are both physically and mentally handicapped and some are only physically handicapped. 3 of the latter are being schooled in Namisu School. All the children are being lovingly cared for by the teacher and my niece, John's granddaughter. Natasha is working there full time and is greatly loved by the children.

There are now 24 residents, (beautiful dormitories were built and equipped with beds, toilets and showers) and 10 day care children, brought daily by lorry.

I have a very handicapped granddaughter myself and she attends a special school where she gets wonderful care and the best of teaching. There are 8 in her class with 5 staff. These little ones in Malawi have 1 teacher and a support worker for 40 children. However, they are far better off than they were, being hidden away in the dark.

While I was there, a little girl, about 8 years old was found abandoned, naked and starving in the bush quite close by. Her parents had died and because she was handicapped she was not wanted. She is now being lovingly cared for at the Dawn Centre.

At the end of May/the beginning of June, I am hoping to climb Ben Nevis to raise funds for the Dawn Centre. In the words of Graham Kendrick,

God of the poor
Friend of the weak,
Give us compassion we pray.
Melt our cold hearts,
Let tears fall like rain.
Come change our love from a spark - to a flame!

Mary Scott (See pictures on back page.)

Eco Corner

Presenting your Presents The Eco-friendly Way

We're about to enter the biggest consumption period of the year - the annual splurge of Christmas eating, drinking and present-giving. As members of an eco-congregation, this is a great opportunity to witness to our faith by adopting some different habits in the way we celebrate Christmas.

Over the next month you will make hundreds of purchasing decisions - get into the habit of asking yourself two questions: "Do I really need this thing to have a great Christmas?" and "Is there an alternative that is more ecofriendly?"

One area where you can make an impact is how you wrap your gifts, and what you do with the wrapping on the

gifts you receive. By using some of the tips below, you'll not only reduce waste, but also send a message to your family and friends. Who knows, they might catch the eco-habit too!

- use gift bags and boxes instead of giftwrap even better if they're made from recycled paper
- wrap a gift in fabric; even better if it's something useful like. a scarf, napkin or teatowel
- use ribbon, wool, thin cord or string instead of sellotape, and tie it in a way that it can be easily untied and reused next year
- use the front of recycled Christmas cards instead of tags to label the present
- have a competition amongst the family on Christmas
 Day to see who can open their presents with the least
 amount of damage to the wrapping paper award prizes and store the giftwrap to use next year

The Declaration



The weekend of 15-16th January promises to be a very special one for us as we welcome Ian Coffey to lead our first ever Men's Conference. Entitled, *New year, New You*, the Saturday will feature times of worship together with various sessions led by Ian, during which we will be both encouraged and challenged to think about the year ahead and, in particular, about our journey of

Christian discipleship. On the Sunday morning, Ian will be our guest preacher.

Ian Coffey is a keynote speaker of much-renown. He speaks regularly at large Christian conferences, such as Spring Harvest, and as well as writing for a number of magazines and journals, has several of his own books in print. What a treat, therefore, to have Ian coming to Arbroath. Men – you can pick up a booking form for the conference from the Church Office anytime now!



The Dawn Centre.



Miriam, mother of Blessings and founder of the Dawn Centre, writing a letter to Hannah's teacher in Lenzie.

Christmas at St. Andrew's

Elsewhere in this edition of QUEST you'll see the details of our services this Christmas season. Even now, it's possible to sense the stressfulness of Christmas kicking in! The shops are busier, the queues at the post office are getting a



little longer and children everywhere are preparing long wish lists!

It's because Christmas can be so busy that we need to be deliberate about setting time aside to focus on Jesus. So, whatever else you've got on in this coming month make sure that being in Church doesn't get squeezed out!



Judy Spink, Anne Matthew and Margaret McGill display posters of worldwide Christian persecution.



Shona Kemp, Jennifer Moore, Kirsten Hammond and Wilma Ewart are members of the Angus Minstrels who raise thousands of pounds for charity.