



Mission Rescue Holiday Club

Once more, our Easter Holiday Club proved to be a great success with over seventy children in attendance, two-thirds of them with no previous church connections. The P7 children, some of whom had been to every holiday club since their P1 days, declared it to be *"the best club ever!"*

Alongside the usual mix of fun and games, laughter and song, the children got to grips with the story of Moses and of how God used him to rescue his people from oppression in Egypt. The leaders were amazed at how eager the children were to learn and how well they did at remembering the various points of the story. Hopefully, some of the children will have learned lessons for life but even if they don't remember all of the story, we're sure that they'll remember the way in which they were welcomed and made to feel at home. If all they remember is that *Church can be great fun(!)* we'll have been successful.



Malawi 2011 Team

The Malawi 11 Team is now counting down to their departure on June 30th. Everyone is busy getting injections and buying the items off their kit list. Becky Dunphy will go out 2 weeks in advance to check up on our child sponsorship scheme as well as making sure that everything is in order for the arrival of the rest of the team. We will spend a month there dividing our time between Namisu

Orphan Village and our two Centres at Thyolo and Kambilonjo. As well as the usual activities of organising sport and arts and crafts, running our Sports Day and organising our School Trips our main two projects will be:

Build a playpark and paint murals on the walls of the Daycare and Residence at Kambilonjo.

Install solar lighting in the library at the Aquaid school at Namisu to allow the senior pupils to study for exams after it gets dark.

Twelve of us will return on July 28th. Becky and Charis Bowie will remain for a further 2 weeks with Naomi Dunphy who will remain at Namisu for a year.

Football Tops –

We would be grateful for anyone who has any football tops that they no longer need – any team would be appreciated. Please hand them into the office over the next month so that we can take them with us when we go out at the summer.



Jennie Marr, Jordan Tasker, Steven Lawrie, Naomi Dunphy, Jack Newth, Aaron Scott, Jill Finlayson
Kate Pannell, Rachel Stewart, Adele Ramsay, Becky Dunphy, Donna Munroe, Charis Bowie.

CONTACTS**CHURCH OFFICE : 431135****Alison Davie**Monday to Friday
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ST ANDREW'S ARBROATH**Parish Records****April 2011****Baptisms** - Ellin-Ann Forgie, daughter of Jan and Gavin; Jamie Reid, son of Alison and Ian**Blessings** - Emily daughter of Sarah & Richard Cowling**Weddings** - Gordon Brown & Isobel Copeland; Leanne Cullen & Stephen Mitchell**Funerals** - Tommy Laing, Joyce Petrie, Bill Burnett**A Big Thank You**

The response to the appeal for toiletries was very generous. Just before Easter, bags of toiletries were handed in to the Women's Refuge. Once again, the staff were delighted to receive the toiletries and asked that their thanks be expressed to the congregation of St Andrew's.

IMPORTANT DATES**JUNE 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 20th May (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 24th May (Word-Processed file)

Prayerline

UCB Prayerline operates a satellite service based in our church on a Monday afternoon/evening. We are looking for some new volunteers and full training will be provided. Anyone interested, please speak to Bill Marshall (873376).

Summer Services

As previously noted, morning services during the summer school holiday season will commence at the earlier time of 10am. This arrangement will run from Sunday 3rd July to Sunday 14th August 2011 inclusive.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**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

4.30 to 6.00 pm – Youth Group

8.00 pm – Senior Youth Group

MONDAY

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)

WEDNESDAY

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)

THURSDAY

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)

6.30 pm – Frenz Fun Club for P6 to S1 (870655)

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.

Martin Fair

May 2011

Dear friends,

By the time you're reading this, I'll be gone! That is to say that my sabbatical period will have started.

Some of you have been asking if I'm *looking forward to my holiday*? That got me thinking about the make-up of the word *holiday* and to the conclusion that my sabbatical is going to be something of a *holyday*. Do you see the difference? The word *holy* means *different* or *apart from* and that's what I'm going to be – doing something different and, for a while, apart from you.

Others of you have been asking if I'm worried about it – worried about how the church will get on without me. Not a bit of it! It might well turn out to be the best thing that happened to the church in twenty years!! In all seriousness, it wouldn't say much about our congregation if it was to somehow crumble just because the minister was away for a few months. The minister has an important part to play but any congregation is much more than the minister. Besides, in David Searle, we have someone known and loved by us all – much more than a *stand-in*.

Alongside David, we have Jane, our Session Clerk, the members of the Leadership Group and Core Groups, our Elders and the members of the Ministry Team. In those groups we have some of the most talented and committed people it's been my privilege to know and work with. In Jane and Alison alone, we have what it takes – not just to keep the show on the road but to oversee its forward movement.

So, for these next four months, I'm not going to worry about the church at all. I'm going to try my best not even to *think* about the Church – that's the whole point of a sabbatical. And for that time, I want to give myself every opportunity to get close to God – to be still for long enough to hear what He might be wanting to say to me. For twenty years since coming to St. Andrew's I've hardly stopped; I've been driving in top gear. To put it another way, I've been a human *doing*. It's time for me to take time to be a human *being*. It's time for me to be refreshed, to go to the springs of life-giving water and to drink deeply.

So, not so much a holiday as a *holyday*. Finally, I am hugely grateful to the Kirk Session for granting me this sabbatical and for all of their support for Elaine and me.

See you in September!

God bless,

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

martin.fair@sky.com

Summer Evening Services

In recent years, our young people (along with many others) have travelled to Dundee on Easter Sunday evening to attend the *Resurrection Day* services hosted by *Dundee For Christ* in the Caird Hall. For a number of reasons, no such event was being staged this year meaning that those people were going to be at a loss. Then someone suggested, "*Why don't we hold our own one?*"

And that's exactly what we did – we held a Sunday evening worship time, just right for Easter. Lots of you came along, young and not-so-young. Tim Mineard gave the talk while Michael Marr led the praise.

Some of you will remember when evening services were the norm, when every church would hold a morning and evening service. Then, gradually, over the years, as attendance at church declined, more and more churches discontinued their evening services – due to lack of interest.

Well, isn't it about time that we started to reclaim some

of that ground? Is the church going to go *quietly into the night* or is it going to stand tall again?

Here's the point. If Easter Sunday is a good occasion for evening worship then so is every other Sunday in the year! Why don't we *come back for more*?

Add Sunday evenings at 6.30pm, then, to the calendar of events of St. Andrew's Church. We're going to go for it – and what better way to show that St. Andrew's Church is much more than *the minister* than to do this while he's away! (Of course, he is very much in favour of this!)

Pastoral Care during the Sabbatical

Please note that there will be no changes to the current system in operation. If you are aware of someone in need, please contact the office on 431135 and the information will be passed on to Kim Marr, Pastoral Care Coordinator.

Clerk's Corner May 2011

Diary Date - 11th June !

The time is rapidly approaching for our second Summer Fair which will be held on 11th June from 10am – 4pm in the Community Centre. Our first venture into holding this event indoors last year was a great success – so much so that the team who were involved in the organisation have been persuaded to give of their time again.

This event is one for both the church community and our local community and there will be many opportunities for involvement by contributing items for sale, working on one of the stalls, and simply by attending. The cost of admission to the Fair will be £1 which will also allow you to have tea/coffee and a biscuit. In addition you will be able to have soup and crusty bread at lunch time - 12-2pm - for £1.50.

Please look at the details of all the stalls etc. which follow and contact the named person if you feel that you can help. In addition, there is a handout delivered with your Quest which gives particular details for catering and baking.

Books, CDs and DVDs – Tracey McLeod. Now is your chance to create some more room in your cupboards by donating these items which need to be in good condition.

Mystery Parcels – Liz Smith. Items for this stall should be new and at least £1 in value. It would be helpful if you could wrap these and mark them appropriately for Lady, Man, Boy or Girl.

Plants and flowers – Margaret McIntosh. The green-fingered among you can get busy potting cuttings etc. The Flower Club ladies may ask you for greenery to help them create flower baskets.

Cake and Candy – Shona Kemp. This popular stall will welcome your skills in baking and sweet-making. You can fill in the accompanying leaflet if you wish.

Guess the Weight/Name – It is likely that we will have an opportunity for you to use your skills in guessing the correct answers.

Tombola – Mary Nicol and Lena Whyte. Donations which should be at least £1 in value will be very welcome. You can hand these items to the ladies at any time from now on.

Raffle – Mary Nicol and Lena Whyte. Last year we had a magnificent selection of high quality items donated and we are hoping to have a similar display again this year. Like the tombola, items can now be given to the ladies.

Toys – Louise Smith. This stall acts as a magnet for the children and toys of good quality and in working order will be very welcome.

Children's Books, CDs and DVDs – Louise Smith. This year we have decided to have this as a separate stall from the adult one. Many of you will have items which your children have outgrown and these could be 'recycled' for other children.

Craft – Gaynor Scott and Morag Shaw. The 'crafty' people among you have been at work preparing goods for this stall. It would be helpful if you could let the ladies know what you might be making so that a variety of goods can be available.

Games for children – Wilma Ewart. Games on the Wii proved very popular and these will be repeated.

Face painting, hair braiding, nail painting etc.—Louise Smith. This is a popular stall for young girls and additional helpers would be welcome.

Teas, Coffees and Lunches – Doris Bowie. Please speak to Doris if you wish to help with these.

The stall holders will be organising a rota of people to ensure that each stall is staffed throughout the day. If you would like to volunteer an hour or two of your time please contact any of the named people.

We will also need volunteers to assist with the setting up of the stalls on the evening of Friday 10th and clearing away at the end of the day on the Saturday. Both of these are essential jobs which make the work of the main team a little lighter. If you can help in this way, please hand your name into the office.

Please note that there will be no bric-a-brac stall.

We would very much appreciate goods being brought to the Community Centre on either the Friday evening or between 9 and 10 am on the morning of the sale. However if this is not possible for you, then we will accept goods at the church in the week preceding the sale.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

GUILD NEWS

Our session ended on the 4th April with our AGM. Martin, a bit frazzled from the first day at the holiday club(!), joined us to officiate at the meeting. Office bearers gave their reports and then Martin thanked the committee and Guild members for all their hard work during this last year. He was delighted to see that the Guild had increased in numbers and also referred to a new Community Project, in which Guild Headquarters want St Andrew's to be part of a trial scheme. Finally the disbursement of funds for the year ended 31/12/10 was also agreed and the new committee duly elected for the year 2011/2012.

After completing a collage on Mercy issues with newspaper cuttings (to be on our display board over the summer)

our night was rounded off with a light supper of sandwiches and cakes, lots of chatting and then a hurried clear up to be out before the alarms!!!

The Guild box total was £850 for this year, another excellent collection and our Coffee morning on the 16th April raised around £650. What a brilliant amount. Thank you to all guild members for their parcels, baking, donations and coming along to man stalls. A big thank you to everyone who came along and supported our coffee morning and to the Arbroath Choral Society for boosting our numbers.

We are to meet informally over the summer months and our first night is at Angus College for a meal. Those who have their name down please meet at 6.45 for 7pm on the 4th May. Other nights will be intimated in the Sunday bulletin.

Doris Bowie

The Next Alpha

Our *Senior Alpha* course finished on Wednesday 6th April, almost thirty people completing the course along with the various group leaders who led the sessions. From the anecdotal evidence it would seem that the overwhelming response was positive and that participants enjoyed the talks and discussions in equal measure with the friendship shared around the tables. Some found themselves very much moved by the whole experience – moved in coming face to face with the truths about Jesus upon which *Alpha* is based. Some have decided to put *Church* into their weekly schedule – either for the first time or after a long break. Isn't that good news!

Equally so, in terms of good news, our next *Alpha* begins on the first Wednesday of September. This course will be open to all – more seniors or youngsters or anyone in between! Crucially, we'd love to see St. Andrew's members inviting friends who have no church connection.

Please note: **Do not invite someone who is already part of another church.** There's nothing worse than one church trying to poach members from another church and we want no part of that.

But there are thousands of people in Arbroath – known by you – not going to any church, with no particular Christian commitment. Why not take the opportunity that *Alpha* presents to do your very own bit of outreach?

Welcome

Of late, we've been welcoming lots of guests and visitors to St. Andrew's – both on Sunday mornings and to various conferences and events that we've staged. The good news is that we've picked up plenty of very positive feedback about how people have experienced our suite of buildings and concerning the welcome and hospitality they've received. One lady commented that in over forty years of attending churches across the country she had never known such a sense of welcome. And, when NHS Tayside hosted their *Long Term Conditions* event in our buildings, their staff couldn't speak highly enough of the warmth and professionalism of our host team.

This is in no small part due to the wonderful work that our Welcome Teams and Events Team put in. Of course, our hope is that *welcome* will happen automatically – that every member of the congregation will see themselves as a host and representative of St. Andrew's. But alongside that, it's crucial that we have effective ways of expressing our openness and that can't be done without lots of people being prepared, trained and ready to give of their time – on Sundays and at sometimes awkward times during the week.

UPDATE ON THE CAMPAIGN FOR A CHANGE IN PAKISTAN'S HARSH BLASPHEMY LAWS

Many of you kindly signed the petition concerning a change in Pakistan's blasphemy laws. You could be wondering what happened to all those signatures, did they count for anything? They were received by the Pakistan High Commissioner in London who expressed sadness over the death of Punjab Governor, Salman Taseer, killed by his bodyguard for supporting Asia Bibi, the first Christian woman to be sentenced to death in Pakistan on blasphemy charges.

As well as the 2,600 messages of support which were sent to the High Commissioner concerning Salman Taseer, Alastair Burt, the UK Foreign Office minister for Pakistan received over 1,400 messages of support and prayer after the death of Shahbaz Bhatti, the second high ranking official to die for his stance against the blasphemy laws in Pakistan. As a UK Foreign Minister, Mr. Burt paid tribute to Mr. Bhatti at a memorial service held in London on 17th March, 2011. He said he knew Shahbaz Bhatti personally and knew of his complete devotion to the reform of Pakistan's notorious blasphemy law which, in Mr. Bhatti's words "was used to victimise the innocent."

Speaking before his death Shahbaz Bhatti has said: "As a Christian I believe that Jesus is my strength. He has given me power and wisdom and motivation to serve a suffering humanity. I follow the principles of my conscience, and I am ready to die and sacrifice my life for the principles I believe." A month after these words, this Cabinet level Minister in Pakistan was assassinated by Islamic extremists from the Pakistan Taliban and al-Qaeda who left a note saying that those who try to change the country's blasphemy laws would also be killed.

The lady who was the major subject for concern to these two martyrs was Asia Bibi, a mother of five who is still in prison and presently unwell. Would you join with many around the world in praying for her release and the end to this victimisation of the Christian minority group in Pakistan. Two honourable men have given their lives for this cause, do not let their deaths be in vain.

Sue Pritchard for the "Persecuted Church" prayer group.

Please let us know if you would like to be part of this most important ministry.

At the same time, we can't afford to be complacent. Unfortunately it's still possible to come to St. Andrew's and get *lost* in the crowd – to feel yourself isolated and not *part of the family*. For as long as that is the case, we'll continue to strive to get it right and to make sure that everyone experiences the truth of what we sing – "*All are welcome in this place.*"

Why not keep an eye open during coffee time, or at other opportune moments, for people who might be feeling alone and uncomfortable? Maybe you could make all the difference in terms of their experience turning from a negative one to a memorable one!

Evangelism Core Group

The Evangelism Core Group's remit is to tell those in our community who don't know about the love God has for us and how He demonstrated this through His son Jesus.

The group is made up of Robert Matthew, Douglas Hamilton, Martin Fair, Ken Lownie, Jane Skea, May Smith, Lawrence Davie and David Cochrane. Our responsibility is to plan the best way to spread the good news.

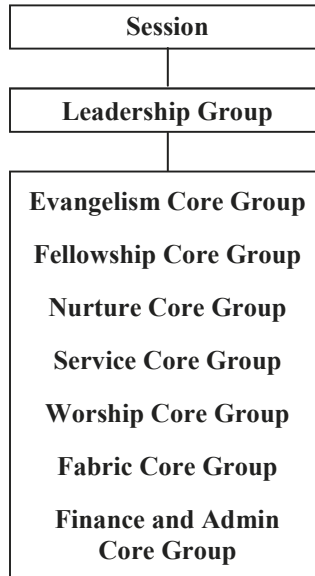
Our current focus is on groups who currently use the church facilities, and how best to engage with those who have little or no knowledge of the gospel.

Please pray for us as we start on this journey.

We also look forward to the Alpha course starting again in September.

David Cochrane

St Andrew's Structure



LOOKING AHEAD

MAY

Sunday 1
11 am - Service for all ages, featuring the Sacrament of Baptism and Thanksgiving for our Boys Brigade Company
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 8
11 am - Worship Service
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 15
11 am - Worship Service; main service followed by short celebration of Communion
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 22
11 am - Worship Service
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 29
11 am - Worship Service
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

JUNE

Sunday 5
11 am - Worship Service
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 12
11 am - Worship Service
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 19
11 am - Worship Service; main service followed by short celebration of Communion
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 26
11 am - Worship Service; Including Sunday Club Prizegiving
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

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

◆ A 40 minute service every Wednesday morning at 10.30am.

Eco tips for Gardeners

Now that the gardening season is here, how about doing an eco-audit of your green space? Here are ten top tips for gardening in a more eco-friendly way this year:

- Try your hand at a mini-vegetable plot. Tomatoes, beans, peas, lettuce and many other veg can thrive in pots and nothing beats picking them fresh and ripe! This is a great way to involve kids in the garden and might encourage a bit of healthy eating too.
- For rose-growers, try these alternatives to pesticide: treat aphids on by spraying with a weak mix of soapy water, and attract ladybirds and lacewings to take up residence to attack greenfly and blackfly. There are inexpensive little ladybird houses available for sale, or grow plants that they like, such as buddleia.
- Foil slugs and other seedling-eaters with non-chemical defences: create barriers around your plants with eggshells, sawdust, grit, sand or seashells. Put petroleum jelly or copper tape around the top and bottom of plant containers. Place beer in shallow dishes in strategic places around the garden and leave overnight; the resultant slug stew can be added to your compost bin!
- Leave a section of the garden to go wild. This saves on work and provides a refuge for local wildlife. You can buy meadow flower seed mix to make a colourful display and attract butterflies.
- Over 90% of Britain's peat bogs have been damaged or destroyed in the last 50 years. Use only peat free compost in your

garden and try to ensure that plants you buy are also in peat free compost.

- If your garden furniture is in need of repair or repainting, call the Furniture Recycling Project Angus (473-438)– they charge very reasonable rates and will collect and deliver for free. When buying new wooden garden furniture, check that it is made from wood from a sustainable source, which is shown by the FSC mark.
- Clean out your garden shed and donate any unwanted tools to Tools for Self Reliance who refurbish them and then send them to tradesmen in Africa. Look at www.tfsr.org for more information.
- Thinking of fitting security or decorative lighting in your garden? Check out solar options first.
- Reduce evaporation by mulching garden beds and pots, and water in the evening rather than during the day.
- Finally, having done all this good work, take time to relax in your garden and enjoy it! As you do, remember to give thanks to the Master Gardener who created all this beauty and variety.

Rainbows

Rainbows had an extremely busy Centenary Year taking part in the numerous events arranged by the Centenary Committee. They had an outing to Edinburgh Zoo and a Princess Party at Glamis Castle - an Extravaganza where the girls enjoyed a great fun day along with other Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and leaders.

We are looking forward to more fun and games over the coming term when the girls will be working on a new Rainbow Roundabout badge. We currently have places for 4 girls, aged 5 to 6. If you know of any girls who would like to join us, please contact Linda on 875379.

Frendz

As a follow on to the Easter Holiday Club we are going to launch a new club on Friday nights called FRENZ. This will be a

Fun Club for P6 to S1

with games, crafts and much more!

It will meet

**each Friday in the
Church Halls
from 6.30 to 8pm
Entry £1.**

We are going to promote this in the local schools but please encourage any young people you know of this age to come along.

Malawi Fundraisers

Our last fundraiser was our Music for Malawi Night. Thanks to all those who supported this event and to those who gifted their time to entertain us: Danny Laverty, James Hutcheson, Violet Thomson, Colette Dear, Eileen Robb, Josh Laverty, Josh Wright, Euan and Kerr Barrack and the skippers – Alec Lo and Joel Isaac who were ably assisted by Jacob Wright and Carolyn Hogg. We raised £2000!

The fundraisers coming up are:

Bad Taste Night - Saturday 7th May – Meadowbank

How badly can you dress? Come and let us see!

Bingo Night - Friday 13th May – British Legion

Ceilidh - Saturday 11th June – Meadowbank

Coffee Morning – Saturday 25th June – Church

Please remember to hand in any old mobile phones and ink cartridges as they can be recycled for Malawi. Also don't forget to give us your foreign coins when you return from your holidays!

Deuteronomy

This month's reading of Deuteronomy has really spoken to me of how the message of Jesus was being preached long before He walked on this earth, especially when you learn the translation for the name Deuteronomy is "repetition of the law". To me this echoes Jesus telling us "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them" (Matthew 5:17) and after His resurrection "This is what I told you while I was still with you: everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the law of Moses" (Luke 24:44).

Time and time again through the reading of Moses' ministry, there are direct relationships to that of Jesus and how the earthly end of their ministries were merely the beginning of new life for those who followed them. In fact there are many incidences where Deuteronomy really speaks of the Easter story.

Thinking of the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday there must have been similar celebrations when the Israelites realised their 40 year trek in the desert had come to an end. However, even with all this celebration and jubilation surrounding both Moses' and Jesus' achievements, both were well aware that their earthly lives were as good as over and they would not be on this

earth to see their followers' lives transformed. This must have been far harder for Jesus than Moses because Jesus knew exactly what was in store for Him as the sacrificial Lamb of God.

We would all agree that Jesus is our place of refuge and He will shelter and protect us through all the ups and downs of life giving us the ability to enter into the sanctuary of God. Moses called for there to be cities of sanctuary for the Israelites who were deserving of a trial due to the lack of evidence which may seem different to the sanctuary offered in Jesus. However we have to remember this was before the time that Jesus suffered and died as "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29) and now stands between us and the judgment we deserve making us undeservingly clean again and again.

Time and time again Moses reiterates to the Israelites the importance of keeping evil out of their cities through the perpetrator being "stoned to death" (Deuteronomy 21:21); however looking closer to what God is saying in the text we read "you must purge the evil from you" (Deuteronomy 21:21) making this a personal commandment for us individually. Is this not the reason that Jesus cleared the temple in a very violent, angry manner; "He made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area ..." and to those who sold doves He said "Get these out of here! How dare you

turn my Father's house into a market!" (John 2:24). This shows how important it is to kill off evil before it can grow like a cancer in each and every one of us.

Moses is determined to make sure that the Israelites remember the importance of the Lord's covenant and how they should make sure their descendants are fully aware of what is expected of them saying "Remember today that your children were not the ones who saw and experienced the discipline of the Lord your God." (Deuteronomy 11:2). To me this is a pointer toward the last supper where Jesus initiates the first communion. Through communion Jesus gives us the ability to be near Him, experiencing closeness through the symbolic eating of His body and drinking of His blood giving us the commission to be His body here on earth fuelled by the power of His blood through the blessing of the Holy Spirit. We are told how Jesus "took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." (Luke 22:19).

So with this in mind I must say again I am astounded how relevant writings from 1400B.C. are to the time of Jesus which in turn is so relevant to us today guiding the ways we should be living to achieve a true oneness with the Lord our God.

Jim McLeod.

More Holiday Club - Can You Name These Leaders?

(Answers at foot of page)



Men's Retreat

In how many gatherings would you find fourteen and fifteen year old boys mixing with men in their mid-seventies – eating together, laughing together, studying the Bible and praying together? This year, more than twenty guys journeyed to Kincaig (near Aviemore) for the annual retreat and, yes, every age group was represented. Ordinarily such a diverse group would find little common ground – but this group was rooted in Christ and that makes all the difference.

The studies were brilliantly led by Lawrence Davie, who had put a huge amount of preparation into a look at

one of the Old Testament greats, David. Lawrence made sure that the studies were of much more than historical interest and that those present were able to learn lessons for their own lives. Jim McLeod – *Ready, Steady, Cook* champion! – put his culinary skills to good use by acting as cook and quartermaster. Nobody went away hungry! Thanks, Jim.

The weekend was busy but there was still time for some to take a walk on Saturday afternoon and for others to enjoy a game of shinty, between the local team, Newtonmore and the visitors, Skye. The Saturday night culminated with a bonfire and with some late night hi-jinks that would have put the Youth Group to shame!

All in all, a great weekend. Here's to next year.



L to R : Kevin Trebilcock, Ray Reaney, Lawrence Davie, James Beale, Brian Cooper, Marcellus Larnyoh, Bill Marshall, Nige Grant, Kevin Proctor, David Tarrant, Michael Marr, David Cochrane, Jim McLeod, Michael Rennie, Martin Milloy, Jack Newth, Keith Scott, Scott Anderson, Tim Mineard, Tommy Reynolds



Watoto Concert

On the evening of Saturday 23rd April, the Watoto Children's Choir performed to a large appreciative audience as they sang and danced with immense exuberance and joy. Even when telling their individual sad stories of how they lost parents to the scourge of HIV and Aids, they still managed to give thanks for their new found lives and to praise their God with glad hearts. All those present had the opportunity to see glimpses of village life for the children and to see how they value the education they receive. The audience responded generously by the giving of 'love offerings'.

Answers to 'Name The Leaders' - Tracey McLeod, Amy Ramsay, Louise Smith and Adele Ramsay, Elaine Fair