



Associate Minister

Following some considerable time of reflection and, as was announced in Church on Sunday 23rd October, the congregation has launched a recruitment campaign to secure a new Associate Minister! It has been some time since Ruth left but many of us are still feeling the gap that was left by her departure.

The position that we are now looking to fill with bears some similarities to the one that Ruth filled although there will be important differences. The new Associate will work full time, alongside Martin and the other members of the Ministry Team, and though involved with a wide range of duties and tasks, will have a specific remit to work in the

area of children and families. This, we deem to be the key area for us at this time and as we look forward. These are extremely challenging times for all churches and, though we continue to enjoy the presence of a goodly number of children and young people, it is an area that clearly needs investment if we are to flourish further in our mission.

We will of course keep you informed as to how this business progresses but, for now, would call on you to pray for those charged with the search process. We sense, very much, our dependence on God in this matter and our collective prayer should be that he brings the right person to us, according to his will and purpose.

Evening Worship

One of the best things about our evening service is that it gives opportunity for other people within the congregation to exercise their ministry and musical gifts. One of our best nights was at the beginning of October. Our speaker was Gavin Berry from Scripture Union and Michael Marr was leading the music. Sheila Stewart takes up the story:

What had been a perfectly ordinary evening service was suffused with a magical ending. Jack and Michael played on and on as if the music had a life of its own. The congregation clapped and cheered – I'm sure there was even dancing in the aisles! The power of the Lord was almost a tangible presence among us that night.



Jenni and Michael Marr, Jack Newth, Ian Martin and Scott Anderson

Indeed it was. Bagpipes are not ordinarily thought of as being part of worship but they were that night! What we ended up with was somewhere between a praise party and a worship ceilidh. If you haven't tried the evening worship as yet, why not give it a try – you just might be surprised.



Thirty Years of Service

On Sunday 23rd October, Martin Fair presented Church of Scotland certificates to four of our lady elders who have given 30 years of dedicated service to St Andrew's Church.

Pictured are Mary Spink, Jennie Mill and Mary Nicol. Missing from the photo is Beatrice Gerrard.

CONTACTS**CHURCH OFFICE : 431135****Alison Davie**Monday to Friday
9 am to noon**MINISTER**

Rev Dr W Martin Fair, BA, BD

MINISTER EMERITUS

David Searle : 872794

SESSION CLERK

Jane Miller : 875235

TREASURER

Susan Godsall : 430862

FREEWILL ENVELOPES

Ian Robertson : 877519

CHURCH OFFICER

Janis Clark : 878594

PASTORAL CARE**CO-ORDINATOR**

Kim Marr : 430505

YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR

Sheila Dunphy : 873218

**HAVILAH PROJECT
WORKER**Tracey McLeod :
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Jane Miller : 875235

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Ray Reaney : 07803 235418

SUNDAY CLUB

Elaine Fair : 873238

**SAFEGUARDING
CO-ORDINATOR**

Eleanor Mands : 01382 477318

FLOWER CONVENOR

Margaret McIntosh : 876993

PRAYER CO-ORDINATORSJudy Spink : 872395
Anne Matthew : 876008**SUPPLIES CO-ORDINATOR**

Norma Beattie : 873442

**ADMINISTRATOR and
BOOKINGS / ROLLKEEPER**

Alison Davie : 431135

MAGAZINE EDITOR/CDs

Ken Miller : 875235

ST ANDREW'S ARBROATH**Parish Records****October 2011****Baptisms** - None**Blessings** - None**Weddings** - A service took place during which God's blessing was sought upon the marriage of Malcolm Glass and Wendy Lui.**Funerals** - None**CDs of Services**

These are available for any housebound members who are unable to attend either Sunday or Wednesday services. If interested, please contact Ken Miller.

For all other members, please note that the weekly sermons go on our website and are therefore accessible for those who may miss some due to being on holidays etc.

IMPORTANT DATES**DECEMBER 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 18th November (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 22nd November (Word-Processed file)

St Andrew's Parish Church : SC005478**Associate Minister****Open to both lay and ordained candidates**

This is an outstanding opportunity for a creative, innovative and committed Christian to work alongside our minister and share in the work associated with the congregation and its mission to the wider community.

There will be a particular focus on developing our existing work with Children and Families.

Salary : £22,000 - £25,000

Closing date : Wednesday 30th November**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 820736)

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 – Friends 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 (855333)

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

November 2011

Dear friends,

Well, this weekend (at the time of writing) is that point in the year at which we literally do turn back time, with the changing of the clock! I wonder how many of us will forget this year and turn up for Sunday morning worship at the wrong time!!

But of course, there's a deeper meaning behind the idea of *turning back time*. It's about much more than changing the clocks.

I'm not really a fan of *Strictly* but such is the level of coverage it receives, it's almost impossible to avoid it! I was doing something else last week while the results show was on but was drawn to it when I heard one of my favourite songs being sung as the accompaniment to the dance that was taking place – *Turn Back Time* by the pop diva, Cher. "*If I could turn back time*" the song wonders; "*If I could find a way...*" presumably to do things differently, is the sentiment.

I wonder if you've ever felt like that – wishing that you could turn back time? Perhaps you hanker after what you remember as the *good old days*, when everything seemed simpler and, perhaps, better? Maybe you've lost someone and you just wish that you could go back to that time when he or she was still in your life. Or is it that you made a terrible mistake in days gone by, something that you've regretted ever since, and you wish that you were able to go back and make amends. Maybe, you tell yourself, you would do it differently if you had another chance. Then again, maybe your wanting to *turn back time* is because you sense that you missed your chance? The opportunity presented itself to you and, for whatever reason, you didn't take it and the moment passed.

Perhaps it's inevitable that we have one or two regrets. Hopefully, with Frank Sinatra, though, they will be *too few to mention!* Even so, if you do find yourself in that place of wanting to turn the clocks back, maybe you need to remind yourself that God has all time in his hands; past, present and future. He deals with our pasts so that we can live for today and dream of tomorrow. Through Christ Jesus, he can break the shackles that lock us into some aspect of our pasts and free us to live life in all its fullness... today!

Almost inevitably the apostle Paul would have wanted to do some things differently. Even though he knew himself to be forgiven, one can imagine that from time to time he reflected on the way in which he had persecuted the church and wished that it had not been so. And, perhaps, he regretted that he had been so intransigent in relation to John Mark and that he had fallen out with Barnabas as a result (Acts 15:36-41). But still he was able to say, "*I keep my eyes on what lies ahead; I press on towards the goal.*"

Glancing back? We'll all do that from time to time. But let's not get stuck in our pasts so that we miss the blessings of today. Let's not try to turn our clocks back. Instead, let's try and keep our clocks synchronised with God's timing, which is always perfect in every way.

God bless,

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

martin.fair@sky.com

Love, actually

Beginning in January of 2012, we're launching a brand new opportunity for those who would like to reflect on what love actually is! The course is aimed primarily at those who are married (or in some equivalent kind of relationship) and at those who are planning to get married in St. Andrew's Church during 2012. There will be six sessions in all with the one taking place nearest to Saint Valentine's Day featuring a candlelit meal for you and your significant other!

While this course is required of those who are going to be getting married at St. Andrew's, there's little doubt that lots of other couples will find it to be both helpful and lots of fun. It might just be what you need if you feel that you're struggling a little at the moment but, equally so, you'll get a lot out of it even if, right now, your relationship is so hot

that it's burning you!!

Each session will feature some DVD input, honest interviews with couples who have helpful insights to share and time for you and your partner to chat on your own. Don't worry; you'll never be asked to speak out loud or be put on the spot about your own situation! On top of that, there'll be coffee and delicious home-baking with the whole evening hosted by Martin and Elaine, the perfect couple! (Which misguided fool wrote that????!!!!)

You can register for *Love, Actually* at the Church Office anytime now and certainly should do so in advance of the course beginning (25th January 2012).

Malawi 11 Report

So here is my Second Report and I have just had my Second Wedding so perfect timing! I would like to say I got there on time, but that would be wishful thinking in Malawi. Got to love them! We were a lot more on time than last time though, so that's always good. Anyway it was really good. It was Kiri's wedding who is one of the Aquaid staff – she is Administrator at Thyolo. She is sooo nice and she looked stunning.

Anyway since I last wrote I have started teaching. I am teaching Standard 6 Mathematics and Standard 7 Science. In Malawi they have 8 standards in Primary and 4 forms in Secondary. Anyway, its good and I think they understand. It's quite hard sometimes as all lessons from Standard 5 up are in English which is good for me but not really for them as they don't have great English at that age - but they are doing surprisingly well. They come out with some hilarious answers which I really shouldn't laugh at, but sometimes you can't help yourself! I like teaching both, but standard 6 are probably harder partly because they are younger but also because there are 67 in the class! - pretty hard work !

At the moment, other than teaching, I spend my time playing football with the girls who are coming on really well and are pretty fit since they spend their time running after the boys who have stolen their footballs! Seriously, boys are right annoying sometimes! When I'm not playing football I am leading devotions at the kids' houses which is actually hilarious sometimes – great fun! When I have nothing else to do I am most likely eating. Seriously, the Malawians only have one aim for my year here and that's to get me fat! I managed to have Malawian porridge one day which is the most filling breakfast ever. I then went to church and when I came home was cooked a huge lunch after which I visited a friend who stuffed me full of biscuits and then produced a huge plate of Nsima. By time I was finished there it was too late to tell the house I was supposed to be eating with that I wasn't eating. Unfortunately they had made too much and so gave me the biggest helping ever. Thankfully they hadn't eaten as much as me previously, so I didn't have to eat it all. I seriously thought I was going to explode! Anyway, when I last spoke, the Standard 8s, Form 2s, Form 4s, and the trainee teachers

were all waiting for exam results. The Standard 8s and Form 2s received theirs about three weeks ago so are now back at school. They did really well and some of the standard 8s were selected to some of the top schools in the country which is really good - the Standard 8s at the Government School nearby all failed so Aquaid did amazing. The teachers and Form 4s are still waiting so Modesta, my sister's friend, and a few of the others are helping out at Aquaid primary which is good as Malawians are often ill and, since they are waiting for ten students to come, they are sometimes a little short - so much so that I ended up teaching two classes one day, which is hard enough at the best of time but I happened to have a random cold and had pretty much no voice. It worked well enough – well they did their work! The whole day everyone kept asking why I had changed my voice! I had to explain that I hadn't quite chosen for my voice to go!

Anyway I am pretty shattered right now since I have to get up at 5 or earlier to clean the house before school - seriously it is so annoying I literally finish and turn round and it's all dusty again. Right now we have huge ant issues so much so that I think we have a nest somewhere in one of our settees but I just can't find it and so can't completely kill them. Whenever we have visitors they start wriggling around after about ten minutes - slightly embarrassing!

Had the first rains last week and although it's supposed to get super hot, it's actually gone quite cold- not too sure what's going on just now. It's also gone pretty windy. There have even been a couple of mini twisters going round - this really wouldn't be a problem in Scotland but, when you have to wear skirts here, there can be some pretty embarrassing moments especially when our porch is like a wind tunnel!

Anyway right now my Chichewa is improving but it seems to be so slow. I think it's because I so want it to come and, as they say, a watched pot never boils. I'm at the super annoying stage where I understand a bit but not enough to get what they actually want! Anyways, that's my second update over. Speak soon.

Love Naomi. x

PS. Meant to say that I have named my first Malawian Baby! I named her Chimwemwe which means Happiness.

7th Arbroath B.B. Report

Our company is well into their programme of winter events and we held our Rededication Service in the Church on Thursday evening 27th of October when all sections took part in reaffirming their vows of commitment to the B.B. All company boys who had attended our weekend camp in the summer received their Anniversary Badge. These badges were awarded to commemorate 125 years of B.B. Camps. The boys can wear them alongside their other badges.

Two boys also received their President's Badge being the second highest award in the Brigade movement. They were awarded to Struan Smith and Cameron Spink. Both boys are now working towards their Queen's Badge.

We have held a fund raising Coffee Morning to help pay for our annual subs and we are also looking forward to our Halloween Party on 3rd of November.

We have booked our Pantomime outing to the local Abbey Theatre on Thursday 15th of December. If any members of the Congregation would like to join us on that night please let me know. The Panto is "Nessie the Panto" written by Alan Christieson, the parent of one of our anchor boys.

World Vision have now finished their project in Cambodia and our sponsored child link has now finished also. We are delighted now to have a child to support in Malawi. His name is Grey Lewis and we look forward to hearing about him.

W. H. Ewart O.I.C. Junior Section

Clerk's Corner

First Forty Focus

You will have seen from earlier editions of Quest that plans were made for this research project and indeed the first set of interviews have already taken place.

Regretfully, our researcher has found it impossible to continue with this work and so we have taken the decision to review the process at a later stage. Thanks are due to those of you who participated in the interviews thus far.

Welcome Groups

As of 1st January 2012, the Welcome Groups will be organised by Joan Hainsworth, Deputy Session Clerk. Joan

will shortly be speaking to the group leaders to make sure that all the groups are complete for the New Year.

At St Andrew's we work very hard at welcoming all those who come to church, whether it be to worship or to any of the organisations. On Sunday morning this is carried out very efficiently by our Welcome Groups. In addition, we can all play our part by being alert to any visitors who join us for coffee in the Gallery after the service. It can be very tempting for us to talk only to those with whom we are most familiar. Let's work at making sure that all visitors and newcomers feel included during this time of fellowship.

Change of Location

Please note that owing to long-standing concert bookings, the evening services on both Sunday 4th and 11th of December will take place in an alternative venues, namely OBs on the West Port. Using OBs will mean that we are able to continue provide food ahead of the service which, nearly all of us agree, is such an important part of it!

As we discovered when worshipping in the Academy during the time of the refurbishment, a change of location can help us to keep things fresh and to see what we're doing from a different perspective. So, Church on the move? No problem – something to look forward to.

Home groups

We currently have 5 groups meeting at different times and venues through the week and we anticipate adding another couple of groups once the current *ALPHA* courses are complete.

Being part of a small group is a core part of the week for many Christians, who find that they enjoy the opportunity the groups afford for further worship, teaching and fellowship.

In the coming months, the groups will be looking at **what it means to be a disciple** today. This will run in parallel with the Sunday Morning teaching programme and offers the opportunity to unpick and apply Sunday's sermon. Of course, most often when we use the term *disciple* we're thinking about the original twelve. But it's never been more important than that we understand that, now, we are to be his disciples!!

If you would like to be part of a group please speak to the Home Group Coordinator, Lawrence Davie, or enquire at the Church Office.

Thank You

Many of you appreciated the artwork that Jean Scott painted for 'The Year of the Light.' Her painting was reproduced on cards and t-shirts and these were circulated widely. The boys of the manse family posed in front of the White House, resplendent in their t-shirts! But most important, nearly £900 was raised and this was split between supporting the lifeboat and our work in Malawi. What a marvellous effort! It just goes to show what can be done when someone puts their talent to good use - to God's use.

Thank you, Ian and Jean, for all the hard work.

The Returnof the Book Stall!

On the first Sunday of the month, starting 6th of November, there will be an opportunity to browse and buy books from the book stall. Also for these next two months we will have a selection of Christmas cards/gifts etc. In order for the book stall to be a useful service please let us know what books you would like us to bring to the stall and we can order them up for you or have them available for next month. Thank you.

The book review for this month is : "Too Busy Not to Pray" by Bill Hybels

What a great book! It's actually on the Alpha recommended list and having read it, I can understand why. This book

explains simply and clearly what prayer is, how we go about it and what happens when God answers. I think many of us will identify with the position in which the writer found himself - we know we ought to pray more - but how do we manage to find the time? As the writer says "God and I used to be rather casually acquainted with one another. We just didn't get together to chat all that often."

Through studying the Bible the author saw what happened when God's people prayed; how God acted through different people and different situations and the good news is - God does the same today because "I the Lord do not change". (Malachi 3: 6). God is our heavenly Father, He wants us to talk to Him, to tell Him how things are. This is a book that will encourage us to pray more.

Nurture Core Group

Jehovah's Witnesses

In the space of a couple of days, two members of our congregation asked for some information and advice con-

cerning the belief system of the Jehovah's Witnesses. Due to shortage of space, it has not been possible to include something on this topic this month. However, we intend to include what we hope will be a helpful article in QUEST in the very near future.

Guild News

Our Guild session is now in full swing and we have already enjoyed 2 evenings from our packed syllabus. On the 3rd October, Colin Easton from the Signal Tower Museum gave us a very informative talk on the special 200 year anniversary of the Bellrock Lighthouse. It was amazing to hear the stories of how it had been built and to imagine just how difficult a task it must have been with the weather, tides and sheer size of the building. It is no wonder that our light house is one of the 7 Industrial wonders of the World.

Our topic night, Let's talk about God's Creation, was held on the 17th. Members split into groups to discuss one of the articles suggested - the influence supermarkets have with farmers, which in turn affects our shopping habits today compared to around 30 - 40 years ago. There were good-going discussions on the disruption of the seasons with most produce available all year round now, concern that it was difficult to always be aware of what has been added to food stuffs and as we looked at the two different farms it was interesting to see how the larger of the farms with all the use of modern technology employed fewer folk compared

to the small organic farm, and how the supermarkets seem to dictate what we eat. A few funny points arose as we all thought back to our tattie and berry picking days – the funny shapes and sizes of the produce, not the perfect shaped store bought ones we are used to now, and how one member knew of someone throwing out vegetables that had come straight out the garden as they were all earth and dirty!

We had our Project night on 31st - a Place for Hope - which was an open evening so I do hope you managed to come along.

November is an extremely busy month with Guild Week running from 20th – 27th. This is a time when Guilds try to bring awareness to the work of the Guild and encourage people to come along and see if it is something they would enjoy. There are always many different events and ours consists of a Soup and Pudding lunch on 26th, 12-2pm, tickets £4, a visit to our Guildlink partners in Glenrothes and hopefully partaking in a church service. Other meetings in November are the 14th - Simply Food with Brian Anderson and Best Foot Forward with Leonie and Alex on the 28th. Please feel free to come along and join in at 7.30pm in the small halls.

Doris Bowie

Mum and Me

Our Thursday-morning *Parent & Toddler Group* has always been very popular, since its beginning in the early 1990s. Though those who come changes every year, the essential ingredients remain the same; good coffee, time with friends and the chance to make new friends and, most important, a wonderful safe space for children to play and to learn to socialize.

Beginning early in 2012, we're going to build on this work by opening up a new Tuesday morning stream. It will be specifically for mums (the Thursday group is open to dads and grandparents) and will be open to those who come to the Thursday group and to those who don't and, perhaps, never have. The only requirement is that one or more of your children must be under five.

Given that a crèche will operate throughout the whole time, this group will feel quite different from *Parent & Toddlers* with the focus being primarily on mums supporting

one another. There will be activities to take part in, opportunities to learn new skills and, most of all, plenty of time to share with one another about the joys and worries of being a mum. The group will be hosted by some of our own experienced, caring and understanding mums and our Guild, who are committed to find ways to encourage this work, will be important background supporters.

Though the emphasis described above is on *mums* that doesn't mean that the children will be an after-thought. On the contrary, the crèche will be well-staffed and a creative, engaging programme will be provided so that the children are both happy and suitably engaged throughout.

With one or two details still being worked out, the exact starting date for this new group, *Mum and Me*, is not yet known but will certainly be as early as possible in the new year. Appropriate advertising will take place in due course.

Frendz

Friday evening, between 6.30 – 8pm, is when *Frendz* meets in our halls. It's a group for children who are in either primary 5,6 or 7 and is open to those who come around

Church and to those who have never been in St. Andrew's or any other church ever! The programme is made up of games, crafts and, throughout, the emphasis is on having great fun with friends.

So, if you're in that age group, why not see for yourself that the weekend really does begin with *Frendz*!

LOOKING AHEAD

NOVEMBER

Sunday 6
11 am - Worship Service; inc. The Scarament of Baptism
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 13
11 am - Worship Service
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 20
11 am - Worship Service;
With a special feature on Street Pastors and prayers for the Suffering Church
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 27
11 am - Worship Service;
1st Sunday in Advent,
An All-age celebration and The Lord's Supper
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

DECEMBER

Sunday 4
11 am - Worship Service;
2nd Sunday in Advent
6.30 pm - Evening Worship in OBs

Sunday 11
11 am - Worship Service;
3rd Sunday in Advent
6.30 pm - Evening Worship in OBs

Sunday 18
11 am - Worship Service;
4th Sunday in Advent
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

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

Sunday 25
11 am - Christmas Day Worship Service
Suitable for all ages
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Wednesday 28
6.30 pm - Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving

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

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

The Jean Glen Legacy

As was published earlier this year, the congregation received a significant sum of money following the death of one of our much-loved members, Jean Glen. More or less right away, it was decided that this money should be spent! Though some might have thought about putting it away for a rainy day, the realization among most was that Jean wouldn't have wanted the money stuck in a vault and that, in terms of the position of the Church in Scotland today, NOW is the rainy day!!

So, charged by the Kirk Session, the Leadership Group went away and devoted much prayerful consideration as to how this money should be used – and about how that could be done to best reflect our priorities and purposes as a congregation. Suggestions were asked for and many were received and following that consultation, recommendations were made to the Kirk Session who, of course, hold ultimate authority within the congregation. These recommendations included much of what was suggested though, of course, not all. Much of the spending will take place over the coming months; you'll see evidence of it along the way. For instance, we are going to spend a significant sum of money on double glazing windows, this reflecting our eco-congregation agenda and the requirement that we don't waste any more energy

than is necessary. We're also looking at ways to develop the manse, ensuring that it is maintained and developed to a high standard for this manse family and for those who may in years to come move into it.

But beyond those pieces of essential and desirable fabric expenditure, the bulk of the money is being allocated to further the mission of the congregation. So, for example, a very significant sum has been set aside to underpin our *Havilah* project and, in particular, towards the securing of suitable stand-alone premises which will both allow the project to grow to the next level and free up some hall space for other ventures. And, in terms of our worldwide mission, we are going to put a significant sum of money towards the ongoing running costs of the centres that previously we've developed in Malawi.

While other projects under the headings of worship, service, nurture and outreach will also receive allocations, the other main thing decided was that we would pay off the remainder of the loan that we had secured from The Church of Scotland to do our refurbishment programme. Almost £40,000 had still to be paid but in September, we went ahead and cleared that sum meaning that we are in the clear – the project fully paid for several years ahead of schedule! Isn't that great? It really does mean that we can focus on the future and that's exactly what we intend to do.

Focus on Fairtrade

St Andrew's is working towards becoming a recognised Fairtrade Church, and Arbroath is working towards becoming a recognised Fairtrade Town. To be a Fairtrade Church, we need to:

- ◇ Use Fairtrade tea and coffee after services and in all meetings for which we have responsibility – we're doing this already
- ◇ Move forward on using other Fairtrade products such as sugar, biscuits and fruit
- ◇ Promote Fairtrade during Fairtrade Fortnight and during the year through events, worship and other activities whenever possible

As part of fulfilling the second and third requirements, you will see regular items about our Fairtrade commitment appearing in Quest. We'd like to hear from St Andrew's members about the Fairtrade products you're buying and using and where you get them, so we can create a "Fairtrade shopping list" on our website to help us become a Fairtrade church. Please join in! Email Linda McDonald (lmcDonald.au@gmail.com) or see her at church to add your items to the list. How big a collection can we create between now and Christmas?

Green Winter tips

The weather experts may be predicting another white Christmas, but we can still be green over the colder months. You can lose up to a quarter of your home heating through your roof, so with the fuel price hikes it makes financial as well as eco-sense to check that you have enough loft insulation, and top it up if you don't. Wrap up your boiler and pipes in snug jackets too, because a well-insulated house has a colder loft.

Don't "set and forget" your heating controls – check them each day and change the on-off times according to when you'll be in the house, because most of us vary our routine over the week. Think about the temperatures, too, room by room; use your individual radiator controls to fine-tune your heating. Remember that "a sweater looks sweeter and costs less than a heater!", and what could be nicer than snuggling up with someone you love under a cosy rug when you're watching TV?

Finally, if you're thinking of buying an appliance as a Christmas present, remember to look at its energy rating, and keep an eye out for Energy Savings Trust recommended products.

The Suffering Church

"When will they come to kill us, Daddy?" asked the children of a Christian leader during the recent uprising in Egypt. This question could be echoed by many around the world who are suffering either verbally or physically for their Christian faith. In a recent Sunday morning message, we were exhorted to love one another. This can find practical expression on two particular Sundays. Several organisations who support the Suffering Church have asked their fellow believers to especially remember in prayer on 6th

November, 2011, those who face discrimination, arrest or imprisonment for their faith.

As a church however, on 20th November 2011, we will further consider the plight of those whose daily lives are filled with fear and uncertainty because of their trust in Jesus. We will have with us on that occasion, an Iranian gentleman, Mr. Nozar Habibzadeh, who, although he has spent many years in this country, is well qualified to speak about his faith and that of his friends still in Iran. Please encourage him, and those whom he represents, by your presence at that Sunday morning service.

Graduation Day

Jacqui Reid left Arbroath in August 2009 to go to the Teen Challenge girls' centre, Hope House in Wales. She was the first of our female Havilah clients to go into rehabilitation. In February this year Jacqui completed the programme and entered the Teen Challenge School of Ministry along with John Wilson to take a six month course. On 7th October Jacqui officially graduated from the programme and both she and John graduated from the School of Ministry. The photographs are taken at the graduation service which was held in Swansea.

The service was a great occasion with 21 graduates from the rehab programme. However, the highlight

of the evening was when all past graduates from the programme who have stayed clean were invited on to the platform and it was an amazing sight to see well over 100 standing there. Jacqui is now a staff intern at Hope House and John is an intern at Sunnybrae. Both will complete their time at Teen Challenge in the spring so please remember them in prayer as they consider their next steps.



A radiant and happy Jacqui Reid



John Wilson receives his certificate

The Declaration

Last year, for the first time, we hosted a day retreat for men, calling it *The Declaration* – appropriately enough for Arbroath - and it was declared a great success. This year's event is taking place on Saturday 14th January, and will have as its theme "Let Your Light Shine" as we celebrate the Year of Light in Arbroath. Registration begins at 9.30am and the programme starts at 10am with worship led, as last year, by Michael Marr.

This year, the programme will feature an afternoon choice of three different seminars and the keynote speaker, Dave Richards.

Dave is the Rector of St. Paul's and St. George's Scottish Episcopal Church in central Edinburgh. He is married to Kathy and together they have three children. They've been in Edinburgh for some fifteen years, a city of which Dave says, 'I can get away with being English in Edinburgh!' In his time at *P's and G's*, as it usually referred to, Dave has

seen the congregation grow to become one of the biggest in Scotland. Here's how it is described in one particular write-up:

St Paul's and St George's (known as P's and G's) is a Scottish Episcopal church with a fascinating past, but even more importantly a lively and relevant present. Some of the words which people have used to describe us are evangelical, slightly charismatic, creative, varied, spirit filled, biblical, radical, fun, accepting, loving, sensitive (plus a few more we care not to mention!). Our aim is to seek under God, to build up a lively, culturally relevant and Christ centred church, worshipping and serving here in the centre of Edinburgh.



Dave will be a great lead speaker at this Men's Conference and so, now is the time for you to be getting the date in your diary and to be publicising it to other Christian men. Watch this space for further details as we get nearer to the big day.



President's Badges

Cameron Spink and Struan Smith received their President's Badges - the second highest award in the Brigade movement. Both boys are now working towards their Queen's Badge.

Also pictured are Michael Clark, Wilma Ewart and Martin Fair.