



A Sad And Fond Farewell



It is with much regret that we say goodbye to Alison and Lawrence as they leave us to move to Stamford where Lawrence will become Assistant Minister at St George's Church of England and Alison will be taking up a secretarial post in the Diocese of Peterborough. Since they came to Arbroath some fifteen years ago, both have committed themselves to all that is St Andrew's Church and we have been richly blessed by their involvement.

Alison first began using her administrative talents soon after she and Lawrence joined St Andrew's, and provided much needed secretarial help for Martin. This became official with the formation of the post of Administrator thirteen years ago. As this post has grown and developed, Alison has been at the hub of all the developments in the church encompassing the creation of organisational structures where it has been essential to have efficient communication, accompanied by the relevant record-keeping. She is thoroughly conversant

with the software packages that are expected in the running of a modern-day office. This might appear to be expected in administrative terms, but where the difference lies has been in the depth of Alison's commitment to the job coupled with her extensive knowledge of the people of the congregation. This knowledge adds a quite different dimension to the effectiveness of her work and has made it quite extraordinary and away beyond the call of duty. Anyone coming to the office is met with a calm and welcoming demeanour where she has been very willing to offer a listening ear to any difficulties being experienced. This has meant that on many occasions she has had to work beyond the contracted hours to finish tasks. She has voluntarily, therefore, added a pastoral element to her role and perhaps only those who have truly benefited from it, know the depth of love and concern shown.

We have been able to benefit from Lawrence's extensive biblical knowledge and expertise when he has led us in worship. Most recently he has been the driving force behind the Home Groups, both in organisation and in preparation of study materials. The establishment of Alpha courses required a considerable amount of planning and study and the work which Lawrence has achieved in this area has resulted in deepening understanding of the faith by many people. In the last few months, he has been the catalyst for the acquisition and work at Fisheracre for Havilah and for our continuing community outreach. He has backed up all this work by carrying out practical manual tasks in the building! Pastorally, he has supported Havilah clients and others – mostly in the background, but carried out with compassion and understanding. He has also been a valued member of the Leadership Group since its formation almost five years ago.

We wish Alison and Lawrence well in their new endeavours and seek God's richest blessing on them both.



Men's Retreat : Back - James Beal, Gary Brown, Tommy Reynolds, Alan Marr, Struan Smith, Ian Spink, David Aitken, Bill Marshall. Middle - David Kidd, Keith Scott, Ian Martin, David Cochrane, Tim Mineard, Callum Fair, David Tarrant McColgan, Jack Newth, Lawrence Davie, Ray Reaney. Front - Ryan Parcell, Martin Fair, Michael Rennie, Jim McLeod, Michael Marr, Scott Anderson, John Crompton.

CONTACTS**CHURCH OFFICE : 431135**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

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**ADMINISTRATOR and
BOOKINGS / ROLLKEEPER**
: 431135**MAGAZINE EDITOR/CDs**

Ken Miller : 875235

ST ANDREW'S ARBROATH**Parish Records****March 2012****Baptisms** - None**Blessings** - None**Weddings** - Richard Hannah and Mhairi Ross**Funerals** - None**IMPORTANT DATES****MAY 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 April (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 24th April (Word-Processed file)

Bicycle Racks

The Fabric Core Group, and others, continue to work hard at maintaining our premises. In this instance, thanks to our Church Officer, Janis Clark, and her husband Ian, and among the many other improvements they have made, we now have bicycle racks positioned outside just opposite our new halls noticeboard.

So, please do not bring bicycles inside where they present a safety hazard as well as causing damage. Bring a padlock and keep your bicycle safe in the racks!

Parking and Insurance

It is a condition of our insurance that the whole of the 'double-yellow lined' frontage to the church is left clear for emergency vehicles (Fire Tenders and Ambulances).

If members park on these lines then, in the event of a fire, **our insurance could be deemed to be invalid.** Please therefore ensure that you do not park on double yellow lines. Thank you.

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 – Margaret Stibbles (434075)

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)

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

Martin Fair

April 2012

Dear friends,

Elsewhere in this edition of QUEST, you will see a 'farewell and tribute' message to Alison and Lawrence Davie who, by the time you are reading this, will have taken their leave of us. We are all delighted for them and that, finally, things have fallen into place. A door has opened for them that will allow them to go on to the next chapter in their lives, still seeking to serve God in that *whole of life* way that has marked their time among us.

I cannot let this moment pass however without recording my own very heartfelt thanks to Alison who has been beside me in the Church Office for thirteen years. I can hardly begin to explain just how much she has been a support to me throughout that time. Never once was she unwilling or unable to do what was asked of her, even though that often meant her going way above and beyond what was contractually required of her. Throughout, she was utterly unflappable, always obliging and always able to bring a degree of order and organisation to everything that passed across her desk. Looking back, it's easy for me to see how her administrative ability contributed hugely to establishing the Office as THE place through which to conduct church business – and how the consequence of that was that the manse became much more a family home with far fewer calls and interruptions than had previously been the case. That it's been so through the years of our boys growing up has been a real blessing.

At times like this, it's easy to find yourself asking, '*How can we possibly replace....?*' Many of us felt the same when Derek retired as treasurer. But then Susan stepped up to take on that particular responsibility and in the same way we believe that the next Administrator is waiting in the wings. He or she will not be the new 'Alison.' She is a unique person. But so, too, will the new person be.

This is a time to trust in God's provision, believing that just as He has never let us down in days gone by so He won't let us down now. Continue to pray for those who have the responsibility of plotting the way forward, in this and all matters of staffing, that they might know God's leading in all they seek to do.

God bless,

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

martin.fair@sky.com

Clerk's Corner

EVERYBODY CAN HELP AT THE OFFICE!

This is a very earnest plea for your patience, consideration and understanding as we make the arrangements to have a new Administrator. It is very likely that we will have a transition period until the post is filled. During this time, which is likely to be at least for the month of April, we would ask you not to telephone the office unless it is absolutely essential. Equally, visits to the office should be kept to the absolute minimum. When you do come to the office, you will find the glass panel window open to enable you to make any request. Please do not bring materials with you and expect to be able to leave them in the office - it is an office and not a storage space. Either pass them directly yourself to the intended recipient, or store them at home until needed.

The use of emails would help us to make quick response to any requests. It is also important that Martin does not get burdened with additional phone calls and visits, because his ordinary work continues and, indeed, he has added responsibilities in other complex areas at this time. We will now be finding out just exactly how much work Alison did and the learning curve is likely to be somewhat steep! We will

all have to be very patient as we work out the best way forward.

Initially, it is likely that the office will be open for three mornings per week from 10am – 12 noon. Any changes to this will appear in the Bulletin. We hope to be able to announce who is the new administrator in as short a time as possible, but we shall be taking time to ensure that we find the right person. If you have any questions, please contact me on 875235.

OUR 'NEW' WEBSITE

On Sunday 25th March, the long-awaited updated version of the website for St Andrew's Church came on stream. The address is as before -

www.arbroathstandrews.org.uk

Please take time to visit our site and browse through the contents. It has been designed to be much more user friendly and will enable us, along with all the others out there who like to log on to the work of other churches, to access the information about us. There is always a challenge in the use of web sites in keeping them up to date. Arrangements are in hand to ensure that current details of events and people are relevant and a small band of communicators has been given the task of carrying out this work.

Malawi Update

How it feels like yesterday I was writing the last report - time flies so fast when you are having fun which isn't great! I was asked the other day when I was leaving and in my head I still have 7 months left, but the very nice man brought me to the very blunt realisation that it's actually only 4 months! Actually, I nearly sat down and cried. Anyway this month has been pretty bad for Aquaid as within about 2 weeks they had 6 deaths. The second last one was a young boy who was in one of my classes. I didn't realise until a few days later when I wanted to speak to him and found out it was him who had died. It was pretty hard to take as he was so nice and was actually really clever and worked really hard so I had super high hopes for him plus he was only 13 and I didn't even know he was sick. The last boy who died was killed walking to school in town when a lorry swerved to miss another lorry. I didn't know him at all but it is still so sad.

Anyway, sorry for starting off with such sad news. On a happier note for those who love football, the football league started this month and so there is a game every afternoon and two on Saturdays and Sundays; so we basically just sit at the ground every afternoon watching football. It is actually alright because we do all the work in the morning and as it's got really hot again you don't really want to be doing much in the afternoon; so sitting watching others working hard is a very good way to relax. The only problem with this is that sugar cane and fresh maize has also come into season this month. Fresh maize is making me fat and sugar cane is completely rotting my teeth and also turning me into a massive spot, so my resolution for next month is to cut back on both of these very lovely treats or I will return a 20 stone toothless spot which I feel will not be an 'awfy bonny sight.'

Ethel who is the nurse at the village is going for an interview so has been studying a lot. Therefore, the receptionist and I have quite often been left to attend to the patients. It is actually quite good because it has made me put into practice what she has been teaching me and she is al-

ways there to call on when I am not too sure and, since I spend a lot of my time dressing wounds, I don't need to call on her that often. The kids seem to like to wait until they have yellow pus oozing out of a wound that takes up half their shin before coming to have it attended to so that they are in tears and hitting my hands away whenever I try to clean it. This isn't great because it makes me feel really bad and yet at the same time it's the only way to make it better

This month I have been getting lessons on how to make nsima. I knew how, but it wasn't very good so one of the girls is now teaching me how to make good nsima. It's really weird because you stir it but it isn't the same action as stirring plus, by the end, it's so thick that its really hard to even move the stick. It's really embarrassing as we take turns to stir it as it's pretty tough on your arm muscles. Tomallie stirs it for a couple of minutes and then gets tired, but I can only stir it for about 20 seconds and I'm panting away, which is bad enough, but then some of the wee kids, who are about 10 years old, come to show off and really show me up. The house mother did tell me last week that I have much better technique than them although I think that was just to make me feel good! Feeling good about myself didn't last long after the other day when I got tired stirring and gave up and then one of the girls came and stirred it with one hand! She made it look like she was stirring water while I am using two hands and barely moving it! At least it brightens up their day as there is always a ready crowd of girls prepared to come and laugh at me and that's, after all, what I'm here for!!

Another change is that I'm now living on my own as everyone else has gone home which is actually quite nice and I'm surprisingly enjoying it, although the Malawians think it strange that I'm staying in by far the biggest house around here by myself - they can't quite get their heads round it. I can just chat to myself! Everyone here already thinks I'm crazy, so why not! I've had it pointed out to me several times recently that I'm 17 going on 18 not 7 going on 8!

Anyway, that's all from me for another month; hope you are all doing good because I sure am!

Naomi

Men's Retreat

A group of 26 men enjoyed a brilliant weekend together at the Cairngorm Christian Centre, Kincaig, near Aviemore, over the weekend of 9-11th March 2012. With the youngest being 15 and the oldest, 78, it really was a diverse group and yet everyone joined in and the fellowship enjoyed was fantastic.

The teaching and learning sessions were led by Tim Mineard, Jim McLeod and Lawrence Davie and the worship, by David Tarrant McColgan, Michael Marr, Scott Anderson and Ian Martin. All of them, without exception, did brilliantly well. Meanwhile, others of the group gave many hours in the kitchen, preparing the food and clearing up afterwards.

The sessions were all based on John's Gospel and in particular, the seven sayings of Jesus which begin with, 'I am...' Thereafter, through teaching and group discussion, the men considered how to take these sayings and make them *applications for life* to be put into practice.

In terms of social activities, Saturday afternoon saw the men heading in various directions - some to 'Tree Zone,' a high-wire ropes course running through the treetops of the ancient Scots Pine, Rothiemurchus Forest, others to watch Kingussie, the local premier league shinty team, some to the Highland Wildlife Park and others still for a gentle walk along the banks of the River Spey. Following that, everyone gathered to watch Scotland play Ireland in their Six Nations rugby match. Only Tommy Reynolds was left with a smile on his face after that!

But over and above those organised activities, the weekend was principally about men sharing time together in a wonderfully relaxed environment. It was great to see new friendships developing and existing ones strengthened.

The Centre has been booked for the same weekend next year and a deposit has been paid. Names can be given to Jim McLeod at any time. With numbers attending the Men's Retreat increasing every year, we are hopeful that we will be putting the 'waiting list' sign up for next year. Make sure that YOU don't miss out.

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN...

You will recognize this as the opening words of the Lord's prayer which the children have been learning.

J.B. Philips wrote a book called "Your God is too small" in which he extolled the greatness of our God, "The High King of Heaven" who threw the stars into space and who is before all things and by whom all things exist. The question which comes to mind is that if our Father is in Heaven, so far removed from us, is He really interested in the daily round and common task of his earthly creatures?

Yes, I am sure He is. Allow me to share with you the following series of events. For some time I hankered after possessing a microwave oven with a grill - the reason being that the grill on our gas stove always set off the smoke alarm. Any efforts we made to try and change this never seemed to work, so any recipe which entailed broiling things under the grill, just got ignored.

One day I went down to the High Street and I decided just to go and look in the Argos catalogue. Yes, there it was, a microwave oven with a grill which was on sale and there was only one of it left. Great, but as I walked out of the shop, I heard again my late husband's words: "If something is not working try and fix it; if it works, keep on using it." Basically, there was nothing wrong with our micro-

wave and the Holy Spirit's still small voice, joined Bob's in convincing me that to spend money in this way was not right and that I should be content with such things as I have. End of the matter.

Then a few days later, the gas inspector called to see if the British Gas installation in our flat was working correctly. He said that he had come to test the smoke alarm and proceeded to point out high on the wall a small box of which I had never taken too much notice as I wasn't sure of its function. Following the revelation about this box, I told him about the other alarm installed before we had our new heating system. He then said that we did not need that one; the British Gas alarm on the wall was much more effective and would only go off if there was a lot of smoke. In other words, I could take down the previous small alarm and use our stove to grill as many sardines on toast as I wanted! Well, well, well, fancy that!

Was this the end of the matter? No. Just to round off this story of the Lord's guidance and restraining Hand, something else happened. About 2 days after the gas man's visit, a bill arrived from the Council concerning a tree in our garden which we had had cut down. The amount was almost exactly the same as I would have paid for a new microwave oven. Is our Father in Heaven interested in his creatures? You decide.

Sue Pritchard

Summer Service Times

Whilst the overwhelming majority of people indicated that they were perfectly happy with 11am as our regular start time, a significant number suggested that they would prefer an earlier time during the summer months (Ref: our recent Worship Survey.) The Kirk Session gave consideration to this matter at its most recent meeting and decided to bring our summer services forward to 10.30am, this ar-

angement to run from Sunday 1st July until Sunday 7th August, inclusive. We are hopeful that the slightly earlier start will not cause undue inconvenience and that it may, indeed, be helpful to those who want to make worship part of their summer routine whilst also having the rest of the day free for family rest and recreation.

Those who use public transport and who find out that the earlier start time does not tie in with bus times etc. should contact the Church Office. Lifts will be offered to everyone who needs support in this way.

Ask Theophilus

I have often wondered why Jesus called himself 'Son of Man'. I looked up in an old Concordance to see if this title for him was used anywhere else in the New Testament, and found it was only used once outside the Gospels (in Acts 7:56). What does it mean?

Jesus said to them: 'The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected... and killed and on the third be raised' (Luke 9:22).

Theophilus answers:

This is a very good question and not many people think to ask it. First, in everyday language the term 'son of man' meant 'a certain person' or 'someone'. It was a vague expression and could have referred to anyone. Second, it was used in the Old Testament of God's specially chosen and anointed Servant: *'I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed'* (Daniel 7:13-14).

Daniel was writing about the struggles of powerful

nations to control the known world. He then went on to prophesy that someone he calls 'a son of man' would come, to whom God would commit 'dominion and glory and a kingdom'. That must be why Jesus adopted this everyday indeterminate term to refer to himself.

Third, from what I have written above it is clear that 'son of man' was ambiguous—it had two possible meanings: it could mean simply 'someone', or it could refer back to Daniel's dramatic prophecy. Therefore, Jesus used it to harmonize with his own deliberate 'hiddenness'. His divinity was cloaked (hidden) by his human nature, and realize that he was someone truly unique and special.

Peter, speaking for the rest of the disciples, made what we call the 'great confession'. Jesus had asked them, 'Who do you say that I am?' and Peter answered, 'You are the Christ [God's anointed Servant].' Jesus then answered, 'Blessed are you, Simon; flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven' (Matt. 16:15-17).

(Note: The title 'son of man' is used by Jesus in Matthew 28 times, in Mark 14 times, in Luke 26 times, in John 13 times.)

Have you a question for Theophilus? Hand it in and get his answer in the next issue of Quest.

Guild News

Our Guild year is drawing to a close with only our visit from Rev. Nelu Balaj of Knox's church on the 2nd April and our AGM on the 16th to conclude our syllabus.

Our 1st meeting in March was our Footprints evening, where we had a quiz on hymns on a walking theme, another with famous first steps in history, a quiet candle area for prayer and a challenge to create a new hymn for the Guild's 125 year anniversary. Hopefully we will have at least one submission to 121 George Street for consideration and the winning hymn will be sung at the Annual Meeting in August. So watch this space!!

We were delighted with the talk on the 19th March 'Whatever happened to the Jam-

my?' Paul Grant MBE came along and gave us an account of how Mackay's of Arbroath has been transformed and grown from a small company of 19 employees in Carnoustie to its current total of 135. The company now operates from Kirkton Industrial estate. He also came supplied with samples of jams, curds, chutneys and sweets which we all enjoyed. We were also delighted to have new members again this evening.

Our final fundraiser is our HERMAN Coffee Morning on 21st April. We will have the usual stalls but also a stall with Herman batter mix. This is a Friendship cake and details will be given out of how to make it. Samples will be available with your tea or coffee as well as the usual biscuits. Why not make a date in your diary to come along and check it out!

A New Flight Manual

This is the story of the poor lady flying in a two-seater airplane with just the pilot. He has a heart attack and dies. She frantically calls a May Day:

"May Day! May Day! Help me! Help me! My pilot had a heart attack and is dead. I don't know how to fly. Help me! Please help me!"

Suddenly she hears a voice over the radio. "This is the tower. I have received your message and I will talk you through it. I've had a lot of experience with this kind of problem, so just relax and everything will be fine! Give me your height and position." She says, "I'm 5'4" and I'm in the front seat."

"O.K." says the voice from the tower. "Repeat after me: Our Father. . . Who art in Heaven. . ."

Heart & Soul 2012

With our own minister heavily involved in the planning process, we're delighted to announce that we'll be running a trip to 'Heart & Soul 2012,' this event to take place on Sunday May 20th as part of the Church of Scotland's annual Edinburgh celebrations. Our morning service will begin thirty minutes earlier that day to allow for a prompt departure, meaning that we should arrive in Edinburgh not long after the gates open at the start of the event.

'Heart & Soul 2012' follows on from last year's 'Roll Away the Stone' event which was the first of its kind and to which around 5,000 people came. But with the venue being Princes Street Gardens, and with the stunning backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, this is an event which has a huge public profile. Organisers are hopeful that attendance this year will be even greater and that Christians from across the length and breadth of the country will descend on Edinburgh to join in.

Throughout the day, visitors can browse stands and displays featuring all of the big Christian organisations and exhibitors together with fifty or so local congregations who will be showcasing their ministry and mission. Or, if you enjoy performance you can choose from four different stages each of which will feature a range of Christian bands and musicians, stand-up comedians, story-tellers and the like – everything from jazz to the Edinburgh African Gospel Choir to FischyMusic! Running in other venues, there will be a choice of seminars and workshops along with options for children and youth, including a *Battle of the Bands* events and a mini football tournament. Really, then, something for everyone!

The day will conclude with closing worship at the Ross Bandstand, underneath the Castle, this service running from 5-6pm. Martin, our minister, is responsible for planning and arranging the closing worship service. He is delighted to have signed up internationally-renowned worship leader, Robin Mark, from Northern Ireland, to lead the praise. Robin travels widely across the world with his unique blend of *celtic* style traditional hymns and contemporary songs. Most recently, he has been leading worship in Chicago, at Willow Creek Community Church – one of the biggest churches in the world! So, he will be a very able and appropriate leader for this particular event with talent, expertise and experience in bucketfuls.

A coach has been booked and places on the bus will cost in the region of £6, very reasonable indeed for a return trip to Edinburgh! Places on the bus can be booked through the Church Office. Please don't delay. It's likely that members from other churches will be taking this opportunity as well.

Thereafter, 'Heart & Soul 2012' is a free event so participation certainly won't break the bank! Let's make it a day to remember.

For further information go to www.heartandsoul2012.org.uk

LOOKING AHEAD

APRIL

Sunday 1

11 am - **Worship Service, Palm Sunday**
6.30 pm - **Evening Worship**

Thursday 6th

7.30 pm - **Maundy Thursday Worship**
(with our Old & Abbey friends)

Sunday 8

8 am - **Sunrise Service, outdoors at Arbroath Abbey, followed by breakfast**
11 am - **Easter Sunday Celebration, for all the family - with all-age Communion**
6.30 pm - **Evening Worship**

Sunday 15

11 am - **Worship Service,**
6.30 pm - **Evening Worship**

Sunday 22

11 am - **Worship Service**
6.30 pm - **Evening Worship**

Saturday 29

11 am - **Worship Service**
4.30pm - **Messy Church**
6.30 pm - **Evening Worship**

MAY

Sunday 6

11 am - **Worship Service**
6.30 pm - **Evening Worship**

Sunday 13

11 am - **Worship Service**
6.30 pm - **Evening Worship**

Sunday 20

10.30 am - **Worship Service**
6.30 pm - **Evening Worship**

Sunday 27

11 am - **Worship Service; Pentecost Celebration**
4.30pm - **Messy Church**
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 10.30 am.**

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND MINISTRIES AND MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS 2012

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Thank you for supporting the worship, mission and service of the Church through the money you give in your offering. It is important that you know what happens to this money. This letter tells you how your congregation's Ministries and Mission Contribution is used to enable the work of the Church.

Congregation:	Contribution
ARBROATH: ST ANDREW'S	£76,434

Ministries (86%)	£65,733
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This provides over 1,000 ministers and other parish workers in communities throughout Scotland and in the Presbytery of England, and supports the costs of recruitment and training. The 2012 cost of a parish minister at the top of the stipend scale is **£39,895** (stipend plus employees national insurance and pension contributions).

Mission (14%)	£10,701
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This supports the Church's work in resourcing congregations for Christian education and outreach, in caring for the most vulnerable in society, in partnership with Churches in some of the poorest parts of the world, and in providing a Christian perspective on the issues of today. It also provides financial, legal, safeguarding and other services for congregations and committees, and supports the cost of the General Assembly and the Moderator.

Please note that Ministries and Mission Contributions only provide part of the total funding required for the work of the Church listed above. A fuller picture is given in the leaflet *Ministries and Mission 2012*, which is available free to all congregations.

I hope that this helps you to understand Ministries and Mission Contributions and shows you are enabling the sharing of the gospel through the money your congregation sends through the Church Offices to all parts of Scotland and beyond.

Yours sincerely

Gordon D Jamieson

Head of Stewardship

Editor Footnote - As well as supporting ministries elsewhere, the £65,733 shown above includes payment for our own minister stipend, national insurance and pension contributions.

Arbroath Fairtrade Action Group

I have a big thank you to say to the members of the congregation who baked and supported us at the coffee morning during Fairtrade Fortnight. It was a joint community event. Jane Stewart had her pupils from Arbroath High School Steering Group doing jobs before and on the day. Our church members worked in the kitchen and Old and Abbey members served coffee. The local supermarkets and catering outlets made posters or goods were on display on the day so that you would know where to get Fairtrade products.

It was worth all the hard work that went on in the back-

ground. As leader of the group I have also had meetings with Warddykes and Hayshead Primaries and it is good to see them take the steps with Fairtrade within their schools. Several businesses in the town have given support.

Our group will go on working towards Fairtrade Status for Arbroath. We will have different events in the near future. It is good we have four church members in the group taking this work forward. It is very helpful and reassuring that our own church Service Core Group led by Pam Drevier has worked with and supported our group. Our aims are the same; the products with the Fairtrade logo will give the producer a hand up not a handout. Please put one Fairtrade product in your trolley.

Missing Articles

I have recently has a few queries about 'missing' articles supposedly sent directly to me. Please note that -

**a) I always respond with an email to confirm receipt and
b) If I do not include an article that I have received, then I always contact the contributor to explain why.**

I changed my email two years ago and let everyone

know but, if you wish to check, then please contact the office who will supply you with same. (I do not wish to broadcast my email world-wide.) Also, do please check that you have actually given an attachment. Some emails appear to say that an article is to follow much later, but the sender meant to attach it at that point in time and did not. Lastly, for articles that come via the church office, I normally confirm receipt back to the office. **Ken Miller.**



Fraser Hunter was an unsuspecting volunteer when he helped Martin in the children's address - little knowing what lay ahead - but he acquitted himself very well!

Montrose Fairtrade Forum AGM

John McAllion who is on the board of the Scottish Fairtrade Forum gave a comprehensive presentation at Montrose Academy. Mr Khembo of Kasinthula Cane Growers in Malawi then gave an informative talk on sugar cane production and how Fairtrade has helped his local community. Mary Reid and Alice Dewar from Arbroath Fairtrade Action Group attended the AGM. Alice was introduced to Mr Khembo and he invited the St Andrew's Church group to visit when they were in Malawi.



Men's Retreat : Having a good time - or nervous laughs! Back on Terra Firma for a wee gossip?



Daunting - even with safety ropes Michael Marr flying high without safety ropes

