



## Moderator Visits St Andrew's Project

The Rt Rev David Arnott, Moderator of the Church of Scotland, along with his wife Rosemary visited the church's new premises at Fisheracre on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. He heard some of the plans for the new building and some staff and volunteers of Havilah were there to welcome him and show him round the new premises, which are well on the way to being ready to occupy. He was impressed to hear about the achievements Havilah has made so far and interested in the church's plans for the building for the future. He presented Tracey, on behalf of Havilah, with a personalised hand made candle holder, as a memento of his visit.



Rosemary Arnott, Rev. Martin Fair, Rt Rev David Arnott, Moderator's driver, Tracey McLeod, Jim MacLeod, Jacqui Reid, Karen Reaney, Liz Cameron

### 'On Your Marks' Holiday Club

Although our Easter Holiday Clubs for children have always been well attended, numbers in more recent years have been somewhat down. We were delighted, therefore, to see an over 20% increase this time around with almost ninety children in all taking part over the course of the week. But Holiday Clubs are not just about numbers and so, equally pleasing, this club - 'On Your Marks' - was as well-received by the children as any one that we've ever run.



Many parents took time to say 'thank you' to the team and to say how much their children had enjoyed it.

And because the good news just keeps on coming, we've been really pleased to see some of the children and families expressing interest in the ongoing life of the congregation! Several families came along to our April Messy Church, families who in the main have never had church involvement.

We want to express our thanks to everyone who helped in any way with 'On Your Marks.' As always, the Team was brilliant - loads of enthusiasm and energy and absolute commitment to making sure that the children knew themselves to be welcomed and valued. Thanks, too, to all those who supported the club financially, or who made soup, donated biscuits, craft materials, flags and all the other things we needed.

Many of you prayed for the success of the club, not least at our monthly prayer gathering, and we trust that you will continue to pray for the children and families that we were so privileged to work with throughout the week of the club.

### New Administrator : Lesley McColgan

It was with much delight that on Sunday 22nd April, we were able to announce the appointment of Lesley McColgan to the position of Church Administrator. We were grateful to those who kept the Office running from the time of Alison's departure but, naturally, were working hard to find a permanent solution to the pressing problem, 'Who do you get to replace Alison?'

Lesley has recently come to settle in Scotland, following her marriage to David Tarrant. She has been a committed Christian for as long as she can remember and that, together

with her experience and abilities and lovely personality, make her the ideal candidate for our position.

We take this opportunity to wish Lesley well in her new job and to assure her of our support as she finds out how everything works and, at the same time, tries her best to organise Martin!!

For a fuller write-up on Lesley, visit [www.arbroathstandrews.org.uk](http://www.arbroathstandrews.org.uk)



**CONTACTS****CHURCH OFFICE : 431135****ADMINISTRATOR**

Lesley McColgan

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 :

07906 275636

**ORGANIST**

Jane Miller : 875235

**FABRIC CONVENOR**

Ray Reaney : 07803 235418

**SUNDAY CLUB**

Elaine Fair : 873238

**SAFEGUARDING  
CO-ORDINATOR**

Eleanor Mands : 01382 477318

**FLOWER CONVENOR**

Margaret McIntosh : 876993

**PRAYER CO-ORDINATORS**

Judy Spink : 872395

Anne Matthew : 876008

**SUPPLIES CO-ORDINATOR**

Norma Beattie : 873442

**ADMINISTRATOR and  
BOOKINGS / ROLLKEEPER**

Lesley McColgan : 431135

**MAGAZINE EDITOR/CDs**

Ken Miller : 875235

**ST ANDREW'S ARBROATH****Parish Records****April 2012****Baptisms** - None**Blessings** - Leah, daughter of  
James and Jenna Borland**Weddings** - Amy Tough and Adam Lilkey**Funerals** - Alex Spink, Agnes Wilson,  
Mary Stuart**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 18th May (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 22nd May (Word-Processed file)

**Thank You**

Helen and Earl Matthew wish to thank the Kirk Session, friends and members of St. Andrew's Church for all the lovely cards and best wishes received on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding. God Bless You All.

**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).**

Please therefore ensure that you do not park on these double yellow lines. Thank you.

**Storage Space**

In order to stop clutter in the office and other areas, it is our intention to utilise the cupboards in the small halls for storage of 'temporary' collections (e.g. Easter eggs, coke cans, Malawi appeals, etc.) For parts of the year these will therefore be empty, but that has to be part of the solution to a perennial problem.

**Any group requesting new or additional longer term storage should take their request to Janis Clerk who will then consult with Fabric.**

**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)

**TUESDAY**

9.30 am – 1.00 pm - Mum and Me - G Scott (879615)

**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.**

**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

# Martin Fair

May 2012

Dear friends,

It was a delight for us to welcome the Moderator to Angus, and, in particular, to Arbroath during the last week of April. As mentioned elsewhere, he preached at a service held in the Abbey on the Sunday afternoon and, through his sermon, brought much encouragement to us.

On the Tuesday afternoon, he visited three projects which we run or with which we are associated. The tour started at StarterPacks Angus, an organisation that was started through the endeavours of our congregation and our colleagues at Old & Abbey Church. It's a project that has gone from strength to strength and which, through it's nine years, has helped hundreds of people move out of homelessness. The passion of staff and volunteers is obvious as soon as you walk in to their premises.

The next stop was at our new premises at 7a Fisheracre, and to meet with Havilah staff and volunteers. The Moderator spent about half an hour hearing about the beginnings of the project and about how things have developed since. He heard, too, from Jacqui Reid about how her life has been transformed and about how the start of her journey to recovery was the day she walked in to Havilah.

Speaking afterwards, both the Moderator and his wife, Rosemary, couldn't speak highly enough about the project. He talked about his sense of pride that this kind of work is taking place in the name of The Church of Scotland. The last stop on the tour was the Emergency Food Parcel Project which, again, we run jointly with Old & Abbey Church. And, again, Mr. Arnott was highly impressed by the project and by the scale of what is being done.

As he left, he said, *'All of this is music to my ears! This is exactly what it means to be the Church.'* Let's continue to ensure that St. Andrew's Church is in the business of making a difference in the community in which we are set. Let's make sure that our following of Jesus is as much about what we do during the week as it is about our worship on Sunday morning.

God bless,

[martin.fair@sky.com](mailto:martin.fair@sky.com)

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

## Clerk's Corner

### The Office

A huge thank you is due to Maureen Broomfield, Kay Fisher, Joan Hainsworth and Ken Miller who gave unstintingly of their time and expertise to ensure that the administration so essential to the smooth running of St Andrew's was maintained while the post of administrator was vacant.

Thank you also to all of you who were very considerate in keeping telephone calls and visits to a minimum. This, combined with having the internal area of the office reserved for staff only, contributes to allowing the work to continue as efficiently as possible.

### Messy Church

You will know that these two opportunities for young children take place, but if you do not have young children who might be directly involved, then here is a flavour of what goes on.

At a recent Messy Church, the theme was David and Goliath. After a short time at the beginning where parents and children played board games together, the children made a start to crafts related to the theme. Some painted a giant David and Goliath on material, while others decorated pebbles or made sheep sock puppets. The children were all so well-behaved and enjoying their tasks. A time of wor-

ship enabled the children to use their crafts to act out the story, sing a song and pray together. The final section involved a beautiful meal where I was told that I could not be at the 'cool table'! To enable all this to happen, a dedicated group of people give up their time in the preparation and carrying out of all these activities. As there are children there who do not come to church, the outreach potential is very important.

### Holiday Club

The opening day of this year's Holiday Club saw the hall full of excited children all eager to begin. Again there were many children present who have no regular church experience. The sport-related theme of On Your Marks enabled competitions to take place with the awarding of medals at the end of the day along with the ever-popular gunge time! The noise level was high, but so was the enthusiasm! The Christian message was presented in a sensitive and appropriate way. In the evening of the final day, parents had the opportunity to sample a flavour of what took place. This was an important opportunity to show them what goes on in a forward-thinking church and we hope that the invitation extended about all the opportunities for children might be taken up by many of them.

Those in charge gave up several hours each day for a week – we should all be so grateful for their commitment to our young people and, for them, this is a big THANK YOU.



## Malawi Update

The last three weeks have been Easter holidays so it been a pretty relaxing time although I ain't exactly very stressed - so yeah probably more just being lazy! The clinic was still open so I was there for my usual 3 mornings. It was actually pretty quiet as most people going there are the hypochondriac children and they were on holiday. The boarders didn't seem to notice their sore heads and stomach pains quite as much when they were playing as when they are sitting in class! On my other mornings I either played with the kids or visited people.

Every afternoon there have been 2 football games so for the last 3 weeks I have been at the football pitch from 2 till 6. This is actually really good because everyone goes to the football and Aquaid boarders have their own designated spot so it's really good for socialising. I think that is actually why most people are there as when I turn up late it takes me about 5 minutes, and after asking 10 people, before I can find out the score! I have also received several proposals of marriage due to these long hours of watching football. It's amazing how many people can't live the rest of their life without you, even though they only just met you 2 minutes before! If I was in Scotland or wasn't white I would honestly be the vainest person in all the world

Another positive of the football is that because of all these hours in the sun my hair is getting super, super blond and well streaked. It was also helped because I had my hair braided for two weeks. I must inform you that people have always said to me that white people don't suit braids and I never listened to them but, yeah, I was totally wrong and they were totally right! It makes you look bald! Not sure if it's the colour, texture or the fact that they use extensions but they pull it off so much better! Also for someone like me who washes their hair every day then not washing it for two weeks was disgusting, although when I took them out it was actually pretty clean. It seemed as though all my hair was falling out when I brushed it although what was left was a massive frizz that stuck way out and actually made me look like a lion which the kids thought was funny! Thankfully as soon as I washed it, it lost all its bushiness and is now back to its soft straight clean self.

We had two football games for the girl boarders last month which we won so we had a party with rice and cake -

the girls are now very set on winning their next games as it turns out that girls are just as easily persuaded with food as boys! Thought it was just me and always put that down to the fact that I'm sure there was a mistake and I was actually supposed to be born a boy.

This month I went to Thyolo to visit and stayed over for 3 days. It was really good to get to know all the boarders there as I don't actually know them that well and also Kiri who is in charge there is a super good cook! I was sharing a room with the boarders but as they go to sleep at about 8 and don't get up till 7 I really had nothing to complain about. I also went to visit Angus - who is in charge of Aquaid in Malawi - and his wife Lisa's church on Easter Sunday which was really kind of them as they have two young kids so enough stress without having to pick me up. The service was pretty much the same as home but it made me realise how little we actually worship when we are singing - Malawians dance and clap and sing out so much you can hardly hear yourself sing but we are so static and hardly even mumble the words out. Although I must say the 20 minute preach was much easier to concentrate on than the usual hour to an hour and a half! After the service we went to the pastor's house for lunch which was nice because I was able to chat away and know they were totally understanding and also not feel guilty that I was talking too much - I always feel bad that I'm speaking to Malawians in English as they are then having to work hard as I can't speak to them very much in Chichewa. It was so weird as everything was so like home in Scotland but I was in Malawi and the two seem weird together. It made me feel super selfish and greedy which I guess was good for me to realise but not the most enjoyable thing to discover.

I have had some trouble with the older boys regarding prayers. I think they actually really enjoy it as pretty much all of them eventually turn up - I think they just don't think it's cool to look like you want to go pray with the crazy white girl! Once you get a few, there is not a problem - it's just hard to convince some to be the first. Basically, I need a bit of prayer that I can find a way to inspire these boys, and in fact all the kids, because a bit of inspiration never hurt anyone!

Well that is all from me again so have another good month and I will sadly be seeing you all too soon!

**Naomi. x**

## Guild News

Our Guild session for 2011/12 concluded with 2 great evenings. With the Holiday Club in situ and flags adorning the walls of the halls, we welcomed the Rev. Nelu Balaj from Knox's and St. Vigean's. Appropriately his talk was on his 'Journey to Arbroath' and he was quick to point out, though many of the flags were of countries he had visited, we did not have the Romanian flag! He gave us a bit of his background and family life in Romania and how his spiritual journey had led him here to Arbroath. He was very enthusiastic about what lay ahead for Knox's/St. Vigean's and hoped to start a Youth Group after the summer.

Our final evening on the 16<sup>th</sup> was our AGM. Rev. Martin Fair joined us and officiated as accounts, reports and nominations for committee took place for the session 2012/2013. It was a little alarming as Martin was sure he had stepped back in time as some members were dressed in

50s and 60s attire! After the official business our memory night of the 50s and 60s took place with photos, snacks, music and memorabilia for everyone to look at and enjoy.

We held our annual coffee morning on the 21<sup>st</sup>. This was our special 'Herman' coffee morning and though a wet morning we raised a magnificent £610. Thanks to all who attended and donated. Anyone who still wishes to buy a frozen Herman mixture (£1 including recipe) or to find out more about it, please see me as we have some left.

This event brought my 3 years to a close as convenor of St. Andrew's Guild. It has been a real privilege to serve in this position and I would like to once again thank members, committee and everyone who has supported the Guild over those years. I wish Shona all the very best as convenor and encourage all ladies and gentlemen of St. Andrew's to come along and give the Guild a try. There is always a good speaker, nice cuppie and a very warm welcome.

**Doris Bowie**

## Moderator Visit

As part of the visit of David Arnott, Moderator of The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, a congregation of some sixty worshippers gathered in the grounds of Arbroath Abbey to share in a service during which David Arnott preached the sermon. This special service was part of a whole week of events to mark the visit of The Moderator to The Presbytery of Angus, the kind of visit that takes place once every seven or eight years.

Having just returned from an official visit to China, Mr. Arnott was able to encourage us with news of the phenomenal spread of the Christian Church in that vast nation. Though still a tiny minority, there are now reckoned to be 78 million Christians in China, with thousands more being added weekly - all this in a country which has systematically oppressed faith groups!

All in all, it was a very special occasion and, thankfully, the sun shone for the duration meaning that the stock of umbrellas which had been assembled were left unused!

### Worship Group Prayer

#### 'For the beauty of the Earth'

Father God,

We thank You for the beautiful world in which we live.  
Spring blossom, burgeoning buds, yellow gorse and green-  
ing fields -

Our eyes alight upon each sign of this new season – with a  
fresh appreciation of the loveliness and beauty of all crea-  
tion.

We thank You, Father God

For the beauty of every living creature upon the earth.

New lambs, piglets, calves, scampering rabbits and scurry-  
ing hedgehogs!

Our ears delight in the dawn chorus and the evening song  
of the birds.

A blackie's thrilling trills and the sparrows' noisy quarrel  
fills the air with JOY!

Our Father, we thank You for the beauty of every hue and  
colour tone!

Navy skies, pierced with a ray of strong sunshine –

Deep blue seas with frothy white edges –

Pink sunrise and scarlet sunset.

Such beauty!

Thank You Father for every person under heaven!

Awesome love shared twixt mum and baby,

Soft affection shared with friends and loved ones.

Heartbreak!

Disappointment!

Hug!

Forgiveness!

Love so amazing! So divine!

Jesus – King of Love, Prince of Peace, Saviour.

Amen

### Ask Theophilus

**Question :** *Jehovah Witnesses at my door have quoted Revelation 7:4 to prove that we can't be going to heaven when we die because there are only 144,000 redeemed souls there: And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel. Are they right?*

**Theophilus answers :** Of course they're not right. You only have to read two verses on in the same chapter: After this I looked, and behold a great number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb... (verse 9). A simple principle of understanding any difficult passage in the Bible is to look at the context—the verses before and after it.

The book of Revelation is full of highly pictorial language and lurid images. The reason is that it was written during fierce persecution of the Christians by the Roman Emperor, Domitian, who demanded to be worshipped as a god. Therefore Revelation contains messages to believers facing death if they refused to confess that the emperor was divine; these messages are deliberately written in a kind of code with symbolic numbers and metaphorical scary beasts, so that unbelievers could not use them as evidence in court against those who followed Jesus.

So the number 144,000 is obviously a symbolic number, 12 x 12 x 1000. It stands for the full number of the redeemed, right through from Old Testament days (twelve patriarchs and twelve tribes) to the New Testament church founded by twelve apostles, and that number multiplied by the symbolic number 1000.

It means therefore that heaven will be complete, not one of God's children will be missing.

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

## The Persecuted Church

I am sure that many of you have downed your coffee cup in the hall after church to sign a petition of some sort or other. You may then wonder whether your signature will make any difference to the people or situations targeted on the piece of paper presented to you.

Although we do not know the ultimate outcome, I can answer for the importance of one particular case. Last year some 52,000 people (including yourselves) signed a petition calling for more religious freedom in North Korea. In January, 2012, after an all night prayer vigil, a procession organised by members of Release Int. marched to the North Ko-

rean Embassy in West London and handed the petition to the officials. Their hope and prayers were that this petition with its many signatures would reach the authorities in Pyongyang and help those whose faith must be hidden or they face, labour camps, torture and often death. Will Kim Jong-un be more open to change than his father? May we follow up this petition with our prayers to that end.

We would also bring to your notice the plight of Syrian Christians who literally have no place to hide. Also, the murderous activities of the Bokom Haram Fulani extremists who are raping women and killing men in order to establish separate Islamic states in Nigeria and northern Mali.  
S. Pritchard.

## 7th Arbroath B. B.

The Company are coming to the end of another session. During the past couple of months the boys have been doing their badge work and are now almost ready to get their awards for the year. Our Parents Night will be on Thursday 24th of May in the Church Hall at 7pm. A warm welcome is extended to all the Church family.

We are currently involved with the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations at Glamis Castle when there will be a parade of youth down

the Grand Avenue at 1pm. We hope the weather will be favourable on the day. An information board will be set up in the Arbroath tent about our work of the B.B. in Arbroath.

On Saturday 26th of May we are holding a quiz night in the Green Street Halls. Tickets are £10 for a team of four. See any B.B. Officer to book your seats. Our trip to Edinburgh Zoo on Sunday 27th of May is fully booked and that will be our final event of the year.

From All Officers.

## Alison and Lawrence

We have been totally bowled over by the gifts, cards, good wishes, and the very generous financial gift that we have received from you all. Thanks too for all your prayers over the last few months – we have felt very loved and appreciated.

We are now settled in our new home and have both started our new jobs. Lawrence is spending most of his time meeting with other staff, visiting homegroups and generally getting to know folks at the church. Alison is working with Peterborough Diocese in the property office and although it has been a very steep learning curve, it has also been an enjoyable chal-

lenge.

The people in our new church, St Georges, have welcomed us with open arms. We were about last out of the building last Sunday – so nothing changed there then!

It is said that moving home and jobs comes high on stress lists, I'm not sure where moving church comes into that list – it should be pretty high too! At times over the last few weeks it has felt like almost everything has changed for us, apart from the One who is the same yesterday, today and forever. To God be the glory!

With our love

Lawrence and Alison

## Heart & Soul 2012

We are running a trip to 'Heart & Soul 2012,' this event to take place on Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup> as part of the Church of Scotland's annual Edinburgh celebrations.

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 with internationally-renowned worship leader, Robin Mark, from Northern Ireland, to lead the praise.

A coach has been booked and places on the bus will cost in the region of £6. Places on the bus can be booked through the Church Office.

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](http://www.heartandsoul2012.org.uk)

## Acts of Random Kindness

A few weeks back, a young woman walked into the church just in time for the Wednesday morning service. She sat at the back and was clearly upset. At the end of the service, she was offered a cup of tea and a shoulder to cry on.

It transpired that she was, at that time, living in the woman's refuge. That very morning, feeling herself to be at a real low ebb, she had picked up the special toiletries pack that our Service Core Group prepares for the women in the refuge. The cards attached to these packs give details of St. Andrew's Church and declare 'here to help.' This particular woman decided, there and then, that she needed some help and so came to visit.

The great news is that we were able to help - in a whole number of practical ways and by offering emotional and spiritual support. This is ongoing. This woman has been coming to church since and getting to know more and more people around the church - finding a family to support her through difficult times.

Perhaps you've wondered: what's the point of our Acts of Random Kindness? This story is the answer to the question. So, please, keep on collecting miniature toiletries etc. when opportunity arises. And let's keep up being kind.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### 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  
4.00pm - Messy Church  
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

### JUNE

#### Sunday 3

11 am - Worship Service,  
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

#### Sunday 10

11 am - Worship Service,  
incl. Sacrament of Baptism  
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

#### Sunday 17

11 am - Worship Service;  
'Walk to Church Sunday'  
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

#### Saturday 24

11 am - Worship Service  
incl. Sacrament of Baptism  
4.00pm - 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.



## Flowers

We are fortunate indeed to have a group within our church who are multi-talented and endlessly creative when it comes to flower arranging. Over the years, they've given us display after display of beautiful flowers and imaginative interpretations of biblical stories and sometimes tricky themes given to them by the Minister!

This year, our sanctuary was sensitively presented for Easter with the over-arching theme being 'Empty Cross,

Empty Grave' - a line taken from the modern-day classic, 'Happy Day.' As is our practice, everyone coming to the 11am service was given a daffodil to 'plant' in our Easter cross. And, at the centre of it all, was our set-piece cross, draped in material and dotted with red petals. It was a wonderful focus for our morning worship but, even more so, was stunningly effective during the evening service when, beautifully lit, it served as the centre of attention in the middle of the chancel area.

To our Flower Club members - 'thank you,' indeed.

## Malawi Fundraisers

Apologies for all of you who were waiting for the date of the next Murder Mystery. It has unfortunately had to be postponed – watch out for it after the Summer!

**18<sup>th</sup> May** – Cheese & Wine Event – Why not come along and find out about wines and take part in our 'Cheese and Wine' Quiz – a chance for you to show how much you know!

## St Andrews' Got Talent

Coming in June! Calling all young and old with talent within the Church or around about! Can you sing, dance, do impersonations or basically any other random talent? Then why not sign up to take part in our Show at the end of June. Should be a great night for young and old and whether you are a participant or spectator. If you would like to take part please give your name and details to Sheila –

sheila@finessecs.com or 01241 873218.

## Graham Kendrick

If there is one person who stands out from the crowd as being the 'Father' of what we now call contemporary praise and worship music, it's Graham Kendrick. His 'Shine, Jesus, shine,' 'The Servant King' and 'All I once held dear' are known and sung by congregations of God's people over the entire world. He's sold countless numbers of albums and continues to tour widely across the UK and beyond.

The wonderful news is that Graham will be performing in St. Andrew's Church on Friday 22nd June! This special evening concert, which is being sponsored by The Presbytery of Angus, is something that we've been looking to do for some time, until now unsuccessfully. All the more so, then, we're delighted that it's now going to happen.

Given that this concert is being publicised across Tayside, St. Andrew's members will want to ensure that they don't miss out and that they get hold of their tickets at the earliest possible opportunity. With the adult tickets being priced at only £10, it's an event about which in years to come, you'll want to say, 'Yes, I was there!' Tickets will be available from several sources, including our own Church Office for the convenience of our own members.

Though there will be some opportunities for participation, primarily this is to be a concert evening during which Graham will showcase some of his best material from across his career. Together with his band, he will take us through a wide and varied programme of songs, all of them combining to tell the story of what God has done in Jesus.

Whilst, undoubtedly, you'll want to be present yourself, perhaps this will be an evening to which you'll want to invite a friend. So, watch out for further information coming soon and, in particular, details of when tickets will go on sale.

## Stop The Drop

Unnecessary mail that comes through our doors each day is not only a nuisance in terms of its disposal, it's environmentally unfriendly in a number of ways. It costs resources and generates pollution to create the paper and print on it, to transport it to your door, then for you to get rid of it. Recycling is useful, but it's not as good as reducing the production of these unwanted piles of paper in the first place.

A website called Stop the Drop ([www.stop-the-drop.org.uk](http://www.stop-the-drop.org.uk)) gives you all the information you need to play your part in eliminating unwanted mail from your life. In summary, they describe 5 easy steps you can take:

Write to the sender - an organisation that receives written indication that you wish to be removed from their mailing list is legally obliged to stop sending you marketing materials, which you may consider to be junk mail, within a reasonable time.

Register with the Mail Preference Service (MPS) – this is a free service and you can register by phone, post or email.

Register with the Your Choice preference service and opt out of the Royal Mail's Door to Door service – again, both are free services and should stop the bulk of un-addressed mail.

Opt out of the edited version of the electoral register – this is the version that companies can buy to send marketing material.

Use online services rather than the post – as well as being more convenient, some companies also offer financial incentives to swap to receiving bills, notices etc via email.

Take a step today to stop the drop!

## Summer Service Times

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 arrangement to run from Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July until Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> 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 time 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.

# Easter Sunday

What a wonderful day of celebration Easter Sunday proved to be! First off, there was the Sunrise Service in the grounds of the Abbey. Actually, given that it was 8am, the sun was already up and thankfully it shone strongly throughout the service moving the 100-strong congregation to comment that it felt positively warm, even at that early hour. The service was followed by breakfast in the Old & Abbey Church Hall.

Our sanctuary, set up in the round, was full almost to capacity for the 11am service with the whole congregation, young and old, gathered to celebrate the good news of Jesus risen! With lively praise, an inspiring Easter message and an all-age Communion for everyone to share in, it really was an occasion where St. Andrew's Church was at its best. This was true, equally so, in the evening, when some 150 people, young and old, gathered for a special Easter evening celebration.. Our evening services have been running for a year now and have become very much an established part of our programme. Again, there was lively praise, prayers and preaching, and a dance piece presented by Arbroath Academy pupils to highlight the travesty of modern-day slavery and human trafficking.

So, a busy day by any standards but a day during which the Easter message of - empty cross, empty grave - was proclaimed loudly and clearly.

