



Volunteering Vocations

By the time you're reading this edition of QUEST, our three volunteers will have started their year in Arbroath, volunteering through St. Andrew's Church. They are coming to us under a new Church of Scotland scheme called 'Volunteering Vocations.' We're delighted that the Church has chosen our congregation to be the pilot for this scheme and we look forward with enormous anticipation to what the young people will bring to us and to the wider community.



Amy Duffin

They will be staying together at 29 Townhead Road in a three-bedroom apartment that is being rented from Angus Council. We're enormously grateful to the small team – principally made up of Linda Hunter (our Administrator), Ken and Jane Miller, Kenny Pannell, Blair Fletcher, Sandy Kay and Ian Clark – who have undertaken the considerable challenge of getting the flat (and garden) decorated and furnished and made ready for our volunteers arrival. We're grateful too to all those who have donated items of furniture etc., meaning that not every-

thing has had to be bought.

Some folks have asked about how this scheme is being financed. The simple answer is that the Church of Scotland nationally is paying for it – the rent of the flat, the decorating and furnishing of it, the utilities and the ongoing costs of the volunteers. We at St. Andrew's Church will be giving our time and energies and expertise to ensuring that the three volunteers have a hugely positive year - but it isn't going to cost us anything, financially speaking.



Matthew McKenzie



Chris Palmer

The three volunteers are Amy, from Mid-Lothian, Matthew, from Glasgow and Chris, from the USA. What a treat for us that we are getting the opportunity to play a part in their formation! Let's make sure that they are made to feel welcome and part of our family from the moment they arrive!

Welcome to Karen



St. Andrew's member, Tim Mineard, is currently working his way through the Church of Scotland's Discernment Process, through which he is taking time to consider his sense of call to full-time Ministry. We've been praying for Tim and Fiona and the girls over recent months and will continue to do so as

they seek to hear what God is asking of them.

While Tim has been assigned to Brechin Cathedral for this period of reflection, we are about to welcome Dr. Karen McGavock, from the Old Church in Kirriemuir, who is coming to us to do the very same thing! Most recently, Karen has been teaching at Dundee College but for some years she has been sensing God's call upon her life and so it is to further test that call to ministry that Karen will be with us over the coming months.

We welcome Karen at the beginning of September and look forward to supporting her as she listens, prays and reflects.

Psalm Project

Rarely can there have been better evenings of music in St. Andrew's Church than was enjoyed on 12th August with the visit of The Psalm Project from the Netherlands! What a lovely group of Christian people! Their music was of a professional quality but their skill was matched by their enthusiasm, passion and joy.



Nearly four hundred years ago, Geneva was at the centre of the Reformation – the re-birthing of the Church. As part of that, there was a re-focussing on Scripture, not least on

the Psalms. From that period, there emerged what is now known as 'The Geneva Psalter.'

It is that classic tradition that the modern-day Dutch group, The Psalm Project, has sought to revive – bringing those old Geneva melodies to a 21st Century audience. And didn't they do it well, that evening in St. Andrew's Church!! We wish them well as they progress their work and thank them that they agreed to come to Arbroath as part of their summer tour.

For those who missed the evening, some of their material can be downloaded from iTunes and their performances can be seen on YouTube.



Phil Mellstrom, Worship Development Worker with CofS, also performed during the evening

CHURCH OFFICE : 431135

ADMINISTRATOR

Linda Hunter

Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri : 9 -12noon

MINISTER

Rev Dr W Martin Fair, BA, BD

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Rev Stuart Irvin, BD

SESSION CLERK

Jane Miller : 875235

TREASURER

Susan Godsall : 430862

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LEADER

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HAVILAH SUPPORT

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Eleanor Mands : 01382 477318

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Margaret McIntosh : 876993

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Janis Clark : 878594

BOOKINGS / ROLLKEEPER

Linda Hunter : 431135

MAGAZINE EDITOR/CDs

Ken Miller : 875235

ST ANDREW'S ARBROATH

Parish Records

July/August 2015

Baptisms - Keivah Barnes, daughter of Ricky and Lisa;
Campbell Boyd, son of Graeme and Claire;
Anthony Dickson, son of Tony and Shona

Weddings - Angela Shand and David Walker;
Kate Reid and Ross Winter;
Jennifer Lamont and Cliff Reid;
Tracey Foreman and John Anderson

Funerals - Agnes Swankie, Una Stewart,
Edith Ness, Pamela Cassels,
Doris Henderson, Fred Mennie,
Isobel Prouse

IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER EDITION

Handwritten articles should be handed in to the office by the first date and not to the Editor.

Word Processed files, as attachments, can be sent directly to the Editor or via office by second date.

Please avoid embedding articles in an email as these then need additional formatting work.

Friday 18th September (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 22nd September (Word-Processed file)

Malawi Fundraising

Sunday 13th September – Soup Lunch
Friday 25th September – Beetle Drive
Sunday 11th October – Soup Lunch
Sunday 8th November – Soup Lunch
Saturday 21st November – Thanksgiving Meal
Sunday 13th December – Soup Lunch

BB

All sections start back on

Thursday 3rd of September

6 pm. for Anchor and Junior section and

7.45 pm for company Section

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Organisations will alert members when groups resume after holidays or 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

7.30 to 9.00 pm – Youth Group

Monday to Friday - 11.00 am – Havilah : Drop-in Centre – Community Spirit (434088)

MONDAY

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 – Shona Kemp (878526)

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

TUESDAY

9.30 am – 3.00 pm - Mum and Me - K Marr (430505)

WEDNESDAY

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

6.15 pm – Brownies – Rosie Hill (07977 790528)

7.30 pm – Guides - Rosie Hill (07977 790528)

THURSDAY

10.00 am – Parent and Toddler Group – L Clark (437758)

2.00 pm – Friends Club : first Thursdays – N Watson – B Gerrard, secretary (552727)

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

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

September 2015

Dear friends,

With what passed for 'summer' fast fading into soggy memories, we're ready to turn our attention to a new church year. And what a year it promises to be! We've got some great guest preachers lined up, a brand new teaching programme, E100, and a number of concerts and events which should prove to be real highlights along the way. See elsewhere in this QUEST for details of some of these.

But though we all appreciate 'highlights,' the real work of the church is done week by week in often less-than-glamorous circumstances. Or to put it another way, whilst we all enjoy mountain top experiences we know full well that large parts of life have to be lived out somewhere nearer the valley floor. So it is within the life of a congregation.

That's why, at the beginning of a new session, I call you all to faithful, week-by-week observance and obedience to Christ's calling. Often as not there will be little that's spectacular in that. Even so, it's the path that is set before us.

- It involves showing up on a Sunday morning when we're not feeling hugely inspired to be there; when we don't feel much like it or when we were out the night before and are feeling like a long lie
- It involves taking our part in the running of the church – whether that's being on a cleaning team, a welcome group, a kitchen squad or any number of other things
- It involves us serving wholeheartedly and with integrity in those groups, organisations and ministries that we have a part in; giving our best, not our left-overs
- It involves us taking our part in the family, which means rejoicing with those who rejoice, weeping with those who weep and generally putting up with one another – this, as opposed, to criticising and judging

I could go on but I'm sure you get the picture. For my own part, I'm really looking forward to our worship services, to our mission and outreach and to managing what will be our revamped pastoral care system. I can't wait to be inspired by guest preachers who will join us and for the big occasions that will punctuate the year. Most of all, I look forward to marvelling all over again at you, the members of this wonderful congregation of God's people – your commitment, your generosity, your fun-loving good nature, your devotion and faithfulness.

The years seem to pass ever more quickly and so, doubtless, before we know it we'll be looking forward to next summer! So let's make it a year to remember. Let's open ourselves to God's leading that we might really be all that he hopes for us to be.

With every blessing,

Martin and Elaine and family (inc. Flossie!)

martin.fair@sky.com

Making The Call

The good old fashioned phone with which you can only make and receive calls – what's its place in our society today? What's its place among believers as we share in the journey of faith together? My musing of late is that just picking up the phone could be one of our best tools for encouraging and blessing those for whom we care. I've had a few occasions of late where a short phone call has been really appreciated and likewise I've had some conversations of late where people have expressed how much they value the interaction and contact that a 'quick ring' can bring.

Could it be that it's the next best thing to meeting up in person? Paul – in his letter to the Philippians – longed to be with them, however, his circumstances did not permit. Yet

what and impassioned and encouraging letter came out of those circumstances; one that still encourages us to this day. For Paul a letter was the next best thing – and God used that.

Could there be a call in your life? Not the kind of call that is preceded by a generic ring tone, but rather the call of God to use that device that sits in your hallway to make contact with and bless those with whom we share in fellowship. Perhaps there is even a wee ministry that you could develop, right from the comfort of your own arm chair. Think about it; pray about it; perhaps chat to Martin or myself about it.

God Bless,

Your friend and Associate,

Stuart

Busy, Busy, Busy!

The life of a minister won't get any easier in the years that lie ahead.

The main problem at the moment is that the Church of Scotland is seriously short of ministers. The result of the shortage is that those who are in post are under increasing pressure. The work is ongoing but there are less ministers to do it!

Much more than in previous years, therefore, ministers are finding themselves with regional and national duties. Our own minister, Martin, carries heavy responsibilities in the national Church. He is part of the Mission & Discipleship Council and, as part of that, sits on the Church Without Walls Group and convenes the Why Believe? Group. All of these require regular trips to Edinburgh and plenty of work

between meetings. He also does work for the Ministries Council, mainly the reviewing of newly-started churches and being part of the effort to encourage more people to consider becoming ministers. Here in Angus, Martin has just been appointed to the Business Committee of Presbytery and will be in that position until summer 2019.

Also, by way of new challenges, Martin has been appointed to the board of 'Grasping the Nettle.' This is a newly-formed group – backed by John Chalmers, former Moderator of the Church of Scotland – whose aim is to bring the Christian message back into public view. Encouragingly, it is a thoroughly ecumenical grouping that has been brought together, with all of the major churches in Scotland represented.

These are not easy times but they are certainly exciting times! Continue to pray for Martin and all members of our Ministry Team as they serve God locally across the nation.

St. Andrew's Gift Day

For a congregation that serves some of the most disadvantaged communities in Angus, the financial 'performance' of St. Andrew's Church has, through the years, been thoroughly inspiring. Put another way, the generosity of our members has been fantastic. We support the ministry and mission of our own congregation, we contribute heavily to the work of the national Church and over and above that, we invest heavily in work among the world's very poorest people, in Malawi.

To make sure that we continue not just to survive but to thrive, the Leadership Group has decided to inaugurate an annual St. Andrew's Gift day, to take place on or around St. Andrew's Day, 30th November, every year. Many congregations run such schemes to great effect and we are confident that it will help us to continue to develop our work, as we believe God is asking of us.

Of course, many of you engage in regular giving, through weekly offerings or bank standing orders etc. Of the total membership of the congregation, we are able to say that one third give very faithfully, one third give reasonably frequently and, sadly, that one third give very rarely or not at all. But here's an opportunity for ALL OF US to say 'YES' to our Church and 'YES' to the God who has given everything for us.

Watch out for further promotion of this new venture as we get nearer the time. In the meantime, we offer you our sincere thanks as you continue to support your church as positively as you do.

E100

St. Andrew's members have, through the years, appreciated the teaching programmes that have been offered – by way of Sunday morning themes and personal and group studies. We're delighted to announce that, for this session, we're going to follow Scripture Union's E100 programme. The 'E' stands for 'essential' and the programme covers the 100 key Bible passages which, when taken together, give participants a wonderful overview of who God is and of what he has done in his creation and salvation plan. Of course people might argue over what passages should be included in the 'essential 100' but we can happily trust the Scripture Union team to have selected carefully and prayerfully.

Of the 100 Bible readings, 50 are from the Old Testament and 50 are from the New Testament. We'll focus on the Old Testament readings this side of Christmas and will look to the New Testament ones in the New Year. We'll start on Sunday 13th September and, all being well, will finish in time for Easter 2016.

Here's how it works. Following the set timetable, indi-

viduals set themselves the challenge of reading all hundred passages. These are grouped in blocks of five, to be read Monday to Friday. On the Sunday at the start of each week, our ministers will help us by setting the scene for the readings we're about to encounter. Additionally, those who opt in to our small group programme will use the home group gatherings to share together insights, questions and reflections as part of the E100 study programme.

Put together, here we have an excellent scheme that combines personal devotion with group reflection and Sunday worship. We are confident that, for all of us, it will help us journey further on the life-long calling of seeking after God – to know him more nearly and to love him more dearly.

The study guides intended for individual use are available from the Church Office at the discounted price of £5. Those who prefer digital versions (Kindle etc.) should download these directly from the Scripture Union website.

There's nothing like a challenge! Let's go for it together and see the ways in which God will speak to us as we throw ourselves into a journey through his Word.

Clerk's Corner

DATA PROTECTION 2

In the last edition of Quest, there was an article on Data protection and the various aspects with which we need to comply to be within the law. I am pleased to say that we are in the fortunate position now of having completed most of the necessary paper work. The one major thing still to be done is to seek your permission for your name address, telephone number and, where possible, email address to be held on our Congregational Roll.

The following is quoted from an updated guidance to Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries:

'The purpose of the Data protection legislation is to ensure that any personal data an organisation holds about an individual is stored and used in an appropriate way. St Andrew's Church is committed to protecting your privacy and safeguarding your personal data. We shall use the information you have provided us with for the Congregational Roll which includes your name, address, telephone number and email address.'

Within the next few months we shall be asking for your signed consent for this information. It is likely that this will come to you via your Contact team member – the person who delivers your Quest. They will be able to answer any questions you might have, but basically, it is very straight forward.

We thank you in anticipation.

Jane Miller Session Clerk.

The faithful volunteers of St Andrew's

1. Townhead Road

A small band of willing volunteers has been transforming the flat for our three young people who have joined us under the Volunteering Vocations scheme. The scraping off of multiple layers of wall paper, the reclaiming of the garden area, cleaning, the acquisition of estimates for decorating, carpets, furnishing all the rooms, white goods for the kitchen, arranging for power, telephone etc are all things which need arrangement in getting an empty property ready.

Masterminding all this, armed with very efficient lists to co-ordinate each aspect, has been our Administrator, Linda Hunter, who has committed a considerable amount of time beyond her working hours. Thank you Linda and all others!

2. The Fabric Core Group

The ongoing maintenance never stops and you will probably be totally unaware of all these repairs:

Garden gate leading to the sheds repaired, toilet doors rehung with longer screws, alarm fitted to small hall fire door (as it has been found **left open overnight** on a number of occasions!), additional blinds erected in balcony rear window to aid sight of rear projector, repairs to guttering of small halls, kitchen fire door mechanism serviced, new pipework above gallery door completed, servery cupboard sliding doors repaired etc., etc..... and multiple jobs in relation to Townhead Road flat as above. Thank you!

Glasgow Next Term and National Youth Assembly

As many of you will know, the Youth Group spent a weekend in Glasgow, bowling, swimming and creating some wonderful graffiti, whilst exploring the theme of "Identity". After some consultation, the young people expressed how much they enjoyed spending a whole weekend with their friends. Having a chance to socialise is a key aspect of youth work and, therefore, I intend to plan more regular retreat weekends into the yearly programme. The next one is already in the pipeline!

As the new school year begins, I am excited to reveal from 4th September we will be starting 6 to 7 club. As the name suggests, it is for young people in P6 and P7, running from 6pm til 7pm, on Friday evenings. We will be serving food from 5.45pm, followed by games, activities and faith-based discussions. We hope this club will make the transition to our Sunday evening youth group easier, especially as some of our young people will be helping out as young

leaders. Flyers will be given to the schools in our parish but please spread the word as any children that for the age bracket are welcome!

On a more personal note, I spent a jam packed long weekend (14th - 17th August) at the National Youth Assembly guiding my group through discussions surrounding three topics: Confessions of Faith, Climate Change and Child Exploitation. We then came together with the other delegates for feedback and debate sessions, taking a similar form to that of the General Assembly. A particularly interesting aspect of the weekend was hearing Gordon Brown talking about the Up For a School campaign, demanding every child in the world should be able to go to school safely, linking in to our child exploitation discussion. Some of the debates were uncomfortable with delegates holding opposing views, whilst others were inspiring and encouraging. In summary, the ability to join together with other young people and share our ideas for the future of the Church of Scotland was an invaluable experience.

Thank you for your continued prayers,

Adele

Guild Update

Summer this year seems to have flown past! We have had quite a bit of rain, sometimes chilly and then quite unexpected we have a lovely warm day so I think the old saying "make hay when the sun shines" is quite appropriate for this summer. Let's hope we all managed to enjoy some of the nice days.

We visited the Air Museum in Montrose at the end of July. This was a very enjoyable evening (despite it being one of the chilly nights). We were divided into 2 groups and shown round the museum by guides, who are volunteers. They made the visit very interesting and brought back memories of the war to some of our members who told us about some of their experiences. Our ladies got the chance to try on old hats and fox furs, and sit in vehicles I have only seen in the films before. Personally I did not know that there was such an interesting place so close to home. I definitely intend taking my grandchildren when they visit. Thanks to Joyce who organised the outing and sent us home with cookies for our "cuppie".

Our Guild Trip is on Saturday 12th September, 2015. I am sure everyone going will have all the relevant information by the time this magazine is delivered.

I cannot write this article without mentioning the very sad passing of our very dear member and friend, Isobel Prouse. Isobel has worked very hard for the Guild throughout the years and will be very much missed.

Our first meeting for the new session is on Monday, 14th September, 2015, at 7.30pm. We will meet in the church for a Dedication and Communion Service, after which there will be a cup of tea in the hall and a chance to chat with friends.

Always remembering our Guild Motto "whose we are and whom we serve"

Friends Club

As the Friends Club starts into its 54th year we would like to invite anyone who is interested to come along and see for yourself if it is for you or not. Currently we have over 70 members and we meet on the first Thursday of each month at 2pm in the main Church hall till around 4pm. We have a varied syllabus of entertainment, singing,

music and demonstrations. We also have a bus trip once a year and a Christmas party. Our catering team make sure at the monthly meetings that we have a nice selection of eats with our cuppie.

We look forward to seeing you on the 3rd of September.

Noela (president).

Tearfund - 'No Child Taken'

The evil of human trafficking is ever before us these days, not least with the trafficking of desperate people from places such as Syria and Iraq to North Africa – and from there, via perilous voyages, across the Mediterranean to Europe. These poor people are paying their last pennies to traffickers with absolutely no guarantees of ever getting to the places promised to them.

But at the same time, the trafficking of children goes on across the developing world. We are delighted that organisations such as Tearfund have committed themselves to highlighting the problem, to tackling it and to supporting affected children.

Fiona Morrison is one of tearfund's key Scottish workers. Fiona has travelled widely across the globe and has seen the problem of trafficking first hand. But, so too, she's seen the response that Christian organisations are making.

On September 27th, Fiona is coming to St. Andrew's to share her experiences and to encourage us to take this problem seriously. Yet another 'date for your diary' occasion that you will not want to miss.

LOOKING AHEAD

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 6

9.30 am - Traditional Worship
11 am - Worship Service; with special guest, Rev. Doug Gay
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 13

11 am - Worship Service;
Week 1 of E100
6.30 pm - Evening Worship;
with worship leader, Malcolm Gordon, from New Zealand.

Sunday 20

11 am - Worship Service;
Harvest Thanksgiving
Week 2 of E100
Main service followed by short Communion
6.30 pm - Evening Worship at Stonehaven, Fetteresso

Sunday 27

11 am - Worship Service; with special guest, Fiona Morrison (Tearfund 'No Child Taken')
4pm - Messy Church
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

OCTOBER

Sunday 4

9.30 am - Traditional Worship
Week 3 of E100
11 am - Worship Service
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 11

11 am - Worship Service
Week 4 of E100
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 18

11 am - Worship Service
Week 5 of E100
6.30 pm - Evening Worship

Sunday 25

11 am - Great Communion Service. Week 6 of E100
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.

Well Done Martin!

Martin Farquhar, son of our own Caroline Farquhar, took part in Arbroath's annual charity boxing night – and he chose to nominate St. Andrew's Church as the beneficiary of his sponsorship efforts! Not only did Martin win his bout but he raised £500 for the church in the process!

Well done and a huge 'thank you' to Martin. On top of that, congratulations to Martin and Gemma who were married during the summer. We wish Mr and Mrs Farquhar well in the times ahead!

Isobel Prouse

In mid-August, we lost one of our elders, one of our true servants – Isobel Prouse. Never one for the limelight, Isobel preferred being in the background and was never ‘hidden’ when jobs needed done. She was a committed Guild member and one of the key volunteers at our Mum’n’Me project. She’s been sorely missed there since the time when her ill-health made it impossible for her to continue. In that regard,

might there be others who would think that they could take up where Isobel left off?

Given Isobel’s commitment to St. Andrew’s Church, the family decided that the offering taken up at the funeral service would be to support the ministry and mission of the congregation. We were delighted – and grateful – that the offering amounted to almost £600. What a great idea, on the family’s part, to think about doing that as a way of recognising Isobel’s commitment. We say thanks to them as we give thanks to God for Isobel’s life and faith.

Update on Malawi

As usual as a family we spent the month of June in Malawi. We stayed at each of the projects for a week, spending time with staff and children, meeting representatives from the communities around, checking expenditure for the last year and setting budgets for this coming year and getting updates on our sponsored children. It is always a very busy time but really enjoyable as we meet up with friends and are encouraged by seeing what the money from St Andrew’s Church is achieving - probably never more so than this year. This year had to be the most emotionally draining that we have ever been on. The devastation from the floods at the beginning of the year was often overwhelming - so many people living in the midst of collapsed houses held together with some plastic, and some living under trees. No-one we know has enough food to keep them going until they next harvest around Easter 2016. Never have we felt so much the great divide between what we and they have! Never before have we felt so overwhelmed with such need and our responsibility to help.

And yet in the midst of all this we were so struck with what we as a church have achieved! The 300 children under our care will have enough food for the coming year. We will ensure that their carers also receive maize relief. Our buildings that they meet in and the resident children live in have been built in a way that they were able to withstand the floods and we are now helping to rebuild the homes of

those who live in the community. We are beginning to see children leaving school and being supported to go on to further education. When we were there we saw children receiving the medical care that they need – including those HIV positive receiving regularly the medication that they need to keep them healthy and strong. At Thyolo the hospital are sending the families of babies whose mothers have died in childbirth to our centre to be included on our baby support programme where they regularly receive the powdered milk and other supplies that they need. At Kambilonjo we are more than half way through the building of a clinic that will not only provide emergency care for the children under our care but the community as a whole. We now have 155 of the children under our care linked to a sponsor. If you are part of our Child sponsorship Programme, support our fundraisers or have given to any of our special appeals then you are part of what has been achieved! Well done!

Please can we encourage you to keep up all the good work. Please keep supporting all our fundraisers and if you know of anyone who would be interested in being part of our child sponsorship programme then please put them in touch as we have another 145 children who would love to be linked with a sponsor!

We bring greetings from all the staff, children and extended families at our 2 centres and a HUGE THANK YOU!

Sheila

An Evening with C.S. Lewis

Over the last few years, we’ve staged some wonderful concerts and events, bringing to Arbroath some of the best known and top performers in the Christian world.

Well, get ready for another cracker coming up this session! On Tuesday 8th December, we’re hosting the ONLY Scottish date of the ‘An Evening with C.S. Lewis’ tour.

C.S. Lewis is widely recognised as being among the key Christian figures of the 20th Century – as a brilliant academic and as someone who helped ordinary people understand the Gospel. It was the excellent ‘Shadowlands’ film,

starring Anthony Hopkins as C.S. Lewis, which brought his life story – not least his marriage to American, Joy Davidman – to more recent audiences. Following her tragic death, he wrote the hugely moving ‘A Grief Observed’ in which he documents his own journey through bereavement. In this one-man theatrical performance, the role of Lewis is played by British actor, David Payne. He has performed the role over five hundred times to critical acclaim and to appreciative audiences the world over.

What a treat, then, that this show is coming to St. Andrew’s Church. Put the date in your diary NOW and watch for the ‘tickets on sale’ notices coming soon!

Bellshill Salvation Army Band

Two years ago, one of the highlights of our Christmas festivities was the visit of the wonderful Bellshill Salvation Army Band. Good news – they’re coming back this Christmas and will join us for our morning worship on Sunday 6th December! Given the size of the band and the space required for them at the front of the church, this is one Sunday when the ‘get there early!’ message will be ringing out!

And what a wonderful opportunity to invite a friend? There’s nothing quite like the strains of a Sally Army band to get you in the mood for Christmas so even folk who aren’t in the habit of coming to church will be open to such an invitation. Exciting times!

Presentation of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services

At a morning service in June, the Queen's Award was presented to the St Andrew's Church Havilah Project by Georgiana Osborne, Lord Lieutenant of Angus, pictured in front row, 3rd from right, with Jim and Tracey McLeod who were, and still are, the prime movers of the project. Also

pictured are many of the volunteers, past and present, with Andrew Welsh, Deputy Lieutenant (second back row, 6th from left) who first proposed Havilah for consideration. It is a very high honour indeed, as it is considered to be the equivalent of an MBE for voluntary organisations.



Recent Baptisms

Our picture (right) shows the gifts that each parent and child receives at the time of baptism. These serve as a reminder to the parents that, in having their child baptised, they're taking on an important responsibility - to raise their child 'in the truths and duties of the Christian faith.'

But as all St. Andrew's members know, we too carry a responsibility. It is for us to make sure that our church is a place where children are welcomed and valued. It is for us to create a positive, nurturing environment in which every child can flourish and become the person we believe God intends them to be. Let's never fall short of this high calling.

