SC005478 April 2017

# **Easter Code Success**

We had 180 children in the church learning about Jesus and having fun! Need I say any more?

The Easter Code event was a fantastic week of partnership work with other churches and the local primary schools. The questions the children write to Jesus as a response to the event always surprise me as they are so honest and brave.

Whilst this is one of the busiest weeks in my work calendar, it is one of the most enjoyable since we get to guide so many children through the last days of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. Adele Marr.

Right - Leaders Adele Marr and Gavin Berry (Old & Abbey), and the large cross with the responses of the pupils placed on small crosses

**Below** - Pupil craft **Bottom** - Lunch Club work (see inside)





# Thank You

Earl and Helen Matthew wish to thank the Church and congregation members for the lovely flowers, cards, e-mail and best wishes received on the occasion of their 65th wedding Anniversary.

We have been overwhelmed with all the kindness received. God bless you all.









#### CHURCH OFFICE : 431135 ADMINISTRATOR

Linda Hunter : 431134 Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri : 9 -12noon

#### **MINISTER**

Rev Dr W Martin Fair, BA, BD

#### **PASTORAL ASSISTANT**

lan Gray: 01674 677 126

#### **SESSION CLERK**

Jane Miller: 875235

#### TREASURER

Susan Godsall: 430862

#### **CHURCH OFFICER**

Janis Clark: 878594

#### YOUTH WORKER

Adele Marr: 07762 740 317

#### HAVILAH PROJECT LEADER

Tracey McLeod: 434088

#### HAVILAH SUPPORT WORKER

Karen Reaney: 434088

#### **ORGANIST**

Jane Miller: 875235

#### FABRIC CONVENOR

Ray Reaney: 07803 235 418

#### **SUNDAY CLUB**

Elaine Fair: 873238

#### **FREEWILL ENVELOPES**

Iain Roberton: 877519

#### SAFEGUARDING

Eleanor Jakobsen: 01382 477318

#### FLOWER CONVENOR

Margaret McIntosh: 876993

#### **PRAYER PROMOTERS**

Judy Spink: 872395 Anne Matthew: 876008

#### SUPPLIES CO-ORDINATOR

Janis Clark: 878594

#### BOOKINGS / ROLLKEEPER

Linda Hunter: 431135

#### **MAGAZINE EDITOR**

Ken Miller: 875235

#### ST ANDREW'S ARBROATH

Parish Records March 2017

Baptisms and Blessings - None

Weddings - None

Funerals - George Christie, Jean Martin

Martin and Ian, our pastoral assistant, conducted several funerals in March though none were of members of our congregation. Nonetheless, we remember the bereaved families in our prayers.)

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

#### **MAY EDITION**

Handwritten/typed articles should be handed in to the <u>OFFICE</u> by the <u>FIRST</u> date and <u>NOT</u> to Editor.

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

Please <u>avoid</u> embedding articles in an email as these then need additional formatting work.

Friday 21st April (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 25th April (Word-Processed file)

### Service Core Group Eco tips

#### Cook with residual heat

Turning off the oven five minutes before the meal is ready will allow the food to continue cooking while also saving some energy. It's even easier with pasta: once the pot has been boiling for five minutes, cover the pot, switch off the stove, and let it sit for five more minutes. This will free up the stovetop and the pasta will be cooked perfectly al dente in less than 10 minutes.

### ST ANDREW'S CHURCH GUILD

#### **COFFEE MORNING**

In Church Halls

Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 10am - 12 noon

Usual Stalls - Tickets £1.50

# 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 - Adele Marr (07762 740 317)

Monday to Friday - 12.00 - Havilah : Drop-in Centre - Community Spirit (434088)

#### MONDAY

OMETHING FOR EVERYONE

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)

#### **WEDNESDAY**

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

6.15 pm - Brownies - Rosie Hill (07977 790 528)

#### **THURSDAY**

9.30 am - Parent and Toddler Group - M Laidlaw (07840 966 438)

2.00 pm - Friends Club: first Thursdays - N Watson - J Lownie secretary (430053)

6.00 pm – Anchor Boys – S Jamieson (431942)

6.00 pm - BB Junior Section - W Ewart (876114)

7.00 pm - Church Prayer Group - D McColgan (07896 489 282)

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

April 2017

Dear Friends,

I've recently completed a six week stint at Dundee & Angus College (Arbroath Campus) with the Sociology of Religion students – and what a joy it has been! This came about following a visit that the students and their lecturer made to the church towards the end of last year. A discussion followed and from that came an invitation for me to go into the college every Wednesday afternoon for six weeks to meet with the students to discuss faith in all its aspects. What a wonderful opportunity! The meetings were never less than two hours in duration and could have been longer if I had had more time!

But here's the thing. With one exception (a young man who has dipped in and out of a church in Forfar,) none of the students were, or had been, involved in church – and none of them (including the young man from Forfar) described themselves as having anything like a religious faith, let alone a Christian faith.

This would be the norm today among this age group (the students in the class being mostly from early twenties to early thirties.) We debated back and forth for hour after hour, covering every topic under the sun – everything from theories of creation and evolution to the question of who Jesus is and why he died and, as Christians believe, rose again. But though they were hugely interested to hear my expression of the Christian viewpoint – and though on some occasions there seemed to be a slight softening – in the main they continued to ask, 'But why does any of this matter?'

These young people have not been raised in church. They know little or nothing of the shared life of Christians and most of them would say something like, 'I'm fine without religious faith, thanks very much.' In a nutshell, there is a huge gap between whole generations of people in our country – particularly the young – and the church. Few have anything against us – there were no expressions of bitterness or anger towards the Church; it's just that they don't see the point.

Across Scotland, we have a long way to go if we are ever to reconnect with these 'missing generations.' Unless the Church in all its parts becomes intentionally and wholeheartedly MISSIONAL this is how things will remain.

Over 150 years ago, Christians in Scotland became increasingly aware that people in 'darkest Africa' and other such far-flung parts of the world had heard nothing of Jesus. Missionary societies came into being and along with denominations such as our own, thousands of missionaries were called, trained and sent to what was called the 'mission field.' In Scotland in 2017, the mission field starts on our doorstep; no need to travel anywhere but out of the front door!

Will history show that we cared as much as our nineteenth century forebears did?

With every blessing,

Martin and Elaine and family (inc. Flossie!)

mfair@churchofscotland.org.uk

# **Guest Preacher**

We are delighted to announce that on Sunday 7th May, our guest at the morning service is to be the Rev. Kenny Borthwick. Kenny was the minister at Holy Trinity, Wester Hailes, Edinburgh but towards the end of 2016 he had to retire from full-time ministry due to a persistent and chronic health problem. Given that Kenny was undoubtedly one of the leading and most exciting ministers in the whole of the Church across Scotland, this was a severe blow – to him, of course, and to all of us who care about the Church.

Kenny was delighted to be invited to come to Arbroath, given that he has not preached or done any ministry since his enforced retirement – but he is coming on the basis that, if

his health is poor at the time, he will have to cancel. That, he has been assured, we perfectly understand.

Assuming he is able to come, Kenny is going to reflect on what has happened in his life due to ill health and to try to work out what God might be doing in his life through this chapter. The question, 'Why, Lord?' is one that many of us face at one time or another and it should prove, therefore, to be a very powerful morning to have Kenny reflect on this subject.

You'll want to make a special note in your diary of this occasion – and be praying that Kenny is well enough to come and well enough to get on with life, even if now in retirement.

# **Ask Theophilus**

#### **Question:**

Why in the Gospels does Jesus often use the term 'Son of Man'?

#### Theophilus answers:

I'm tempted to quote Jesus when he said to James and John, 'You do not know what you are asking!' The title 'son of man' is a vast subject and many, many whole books have been written about it. But I will try and simplify my answer to your question.

First, we have to look at the way it is used in the Old Testament. It occurs in Psalm 8, where it clearly means human beings. It is the characteristic title for the prophet Ezekiel and is used of him over 90 times: God is addressing a man. But then there is the unexpected use of the term in Daniel 7:13: I saw in the night visions, and behold, in 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... As I shall point out shortly, Jesus quoted from those words during his trial by Caiaphas the High Priest, shortly before his death.

Coming then to the New Testament, we find 'son of man' used 29 times by Matthew, 14 times by Mark, 24 times by Luke and 14 times by John, over 80 times in the Gospels. If you take time to read each of them (using a concordance), you will find that they fall neatly into two categories. There are those that conceal Christ's true identity, and those that reveal who he is. Careful study of them shows that the concealing uses speak of his humiliation and the revealing uses of his exaltation.

Here are a few that conceal Jesus' identity, in that those listening to his words would not necessarily think he was speaking of himself. Foxes have their dens, and birds have their nests, but the son of man has nowhere to lay his head (Matt. 8:20). Just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth (Matt. 9:40). The one who sows the good seed is the son of man (Matt. 11:37). Translators tend to put a capital 'S' for Son and a capital 'M' for Man—Son of Man—so readers immediately think of Jesus. But the Lord's hearers could have assumed he was speaking about a homeless person, or someone laid to rest in a cemetery, or a farmer sowing crops. So why did Jesus use this (almost) anonymous title? Simply because he was looking for faith.

The second category I mentioned, those sayings that reveal who he was, were spoken for the benefit of those who had come to believe in him. They also point away from his humiliation and towards his exaltation. I have already mentioned Jesus' quotation from Daniel 7:13; he had been challenged by Caiaphas, 'I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.' His answer then was unambiguous. Here are a couple more quotations in this second category. Then will appear in heaven the sign of the son of man... they will see the son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory (Matt. 24:30). When the son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne (Matt. 25:31).

In other words, the Nazarene Carpenter can only be seen as he is really is by simple faith. As the disciples prayed, so we should also pray, 'Lord, increase our faith!'

David Searle.

# Youth Work Update

#### **Easter Code**

This was a great success - please see the report on the front page.

#### Lunch Club

These groups are going very well with many children attending the two sessions each week. We have heard stories of missionaries such as Hudson Taylor, David Livingston and Mary Slessor. In the half hour sessions, Susan and I have seen so much enthusiasm and wonder from the pupils when they hear about the amazing actions of the missionaries. Due to the good relationships we have built up, we hope to see some of the children at our holiday club, Rock Hero, and also, we hope the group will continue after the holidays.

### **Youth Group**

Our teens recently engaged with the Bible (Exodus 12:1-32) by writing their own haiku poems. I'd like to share just a few with you.

'The Lord shall save you, He will never forsake you, Through Moses you're free.'

'Traumatising fear, Poor innocent animals, Why kill these creatures?'

'Lambs blood over doors, Eat and I will pass over, They'll die, you'll survive.'

Blessings, Adele Marr

# **Big Day Out**

This year, our Presbytery is holding their 'Big Day Out' in the East and Old Parish Church in Forfar.

This great event is to be held on Saturday 6th May and tickets can be obtained by enquiring through our Church Office.

Don't miss out - book your place early!

### **GUILD NEWS**

It would appear that March is living up to its name. We have had some really cold, wet and windy weather at the start of the month (like a lion) but as the month is coming to an end we have had a glimpse of what hopefully is to come in the Spring. As I write this article the snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils are a joy to see each day. Let's hope March has gone out like a lamb.

We are nearing the end of this Guild session already! We had 2 very different meetings in March - We had a talk on our Guild Project "Let's Stick Together" This project helps families in this country through difficult times. Then we had Hoola Hoops! A lovely young girl gave us a demonstration showing us her superb skills - at one time she had 3 hoops, yes 3 hoops, going at once. Afterwards, some of our members had a go, admittedly not quite as good, but a few managed to keep the hoop going! Well done Irene for winning the chocolate for keeping the hoop going the longest.

There are two meetings in April:

### 7th Arbroath B.B.

As I write this we have two meetings left before the Easter Break.

The boys have almost completed their achievements to gain their next badge which will be presented at our Display Night in May.

We apologise for the error in the last Quest regarding our Beetle Drive Night. We changed the date after a staff meeting which took place after the editorial deadline. However on that note we did have a successful weekend between our Beetle Drive and Soup Lunch raising £435 . We thank all parents and friends of St Andrew's Church for their continued support to both projects. Many thanks to Doris, Sheila and Charis for their guidance in the soup making and to all the helpers in the kitchen who helped to clear up.

We resume on 20th of April when we will begin our rehearsals for our Display and Awards Night on 11th of May.

Captain Wilma H. Ewart

# **TearFund Concert**

We have always tried to make sure that the very best events and concerts are held in our own church, meaning that members don't always have to travel to the major cities to enjoy such occasions!

To that end, we are thrilled to be hosting a leg of the 2017 Tearfund Musical Tour – coming to St. Andrew's Church on Friday 12th May.

# 3rd April Presentation on "Semas Children" 17th April Our AGM

Please do not be put off by the dreaded words "AGM". Members who have attended these meetings in past years know that we do have some necessary business to attend to but it is always short, followed by a nice "cuppie" and the usual fun and fellowship.

Our second fund raiser for the year is on 22nd April when we are holding a coffee morning in the church halls. Money raised will go toward Guild Projects. Please come along if you are free on that date.

I expect that although the official syllabus ends in April that the committee will be organising an outing and hopefully get togethers in the summer months.

Hopefully all our members have found this year interesting, educational and fun. Thank you for coming along to our meetings and supporting the fund raisers.

"Whose we are and whom we serve"

# Why Pray

Why Pray? That is a strange question you may be thinking. Never underestimate the power of prayer!

But sadly I sit alone praying on Sunday mornings in the McLeod Room at Church. We pray from 10.15 to 10.45am.

I would love it if you were to come and join in prayer with me. Occasionally one or two other people come in. No need to worry about praying out loud. I know some of us don't feel confident to do that.

I'm not an eloquent speaker or an academic person - when we pray it is God who hears us!

There is also a prayer meeting on Thursday evenings, 7-8pm in the Session Room. This too is dwindling away with people unable to attend because of age or ill health. Would another day or time help?

I look forward with hope (and prayer) that many more people will join us to pray on Sundays, Thursdays or both!

Anne Burnett

The evening is titled, 'Spring Sessions – with the new Scottish Hymns Band' and is set to feature some of Scotland's leading Christian hymn-writers and musicians and singers. In what should prove to be an evening that has something for everyone, both traditionally-styled hymns and contemporary songs will feature. And, by coming, you'll be supporting Tearfund's work across the developing world!

Their slogan, 'We're Christians passionate about ending poverty' is one that everyone should share!

### **David Bradwell**

On Tuesday 2nd May, the Presbytery of Angus is looking forward to welcoming David Bradwell as guest speaker. David is employed by the churches across Scotland to coordinate our efforts in responding to the refugee crisis that has so troubled Europe in recent years. Not least, his role is to help churches respond to local need where refugee families have been settled in Scottish towns and cities.

The good news is that David is also going to lead a session on a Christian response

to refugees on the afternoon of that day – and that that event will take place in our own church! It was agreed that it was hardly worth asking David to drive a long way for a fifteen minute slot at the Presbytery meeting and so this additional session was arranged.

This afternoon session is open to everyone – members of churches from across Angus and people not connected with churches. With apologies to those who have 'day jobs,' please put the date in your diary and make sure that you are present to welcome David and to hear his talk.

# **Participatory Budgeting**

By the time you read this, our 'Your Voice, Your Choice' event will have come and gone. This initiative came about as the result of some joint working between the Scottish Government and the Church of Scotland. Essentially, it is an attempt to give local people more say in how public money is spent in their communities; it's an acknowledgment that the people who know best are usually the people who live there!

This particular scheme was only a tiny pilot project but it may well give way to more ambitious projects in time to come. In our case, we had £5,000 allocated by the government and our job was to encourage

as many local community groups as possible to apply for the money by telling us what they would do with it, if successful, to improve life for as many people as possible living in our town. In the end, thirteen community groups applied and after presentations, members of the public who had gathered were given the chance to ask questions then to vote for the projects they thought would be best.

It's great that our congregation was able to be a part of this process and we are very grateful to Susan McFarlane, our gap-year volunteer, who did most of the hard work and organising.

Well done, Susan on a job well done!

# Free Carpet Mat and Bowls

We have an unused full-size carpet bowls padded mat, end stopper and set of bowls.

If anyone can think of a good home for this equipment then please let our church office know as soon as possible as, otherwise, it is headed for the recycle centre.

Free to any good home!

# **Heart and Soul**

We are once again running a bus to Edinburgh for the national Heart & Soul event in Princes Street Gardens. Coinciding with the General Assembly, the event takes place this year on May 21st, from 1pm – 6pm. To allow for a timely arrival, our morning service shall be shorter than normal on that day and shall commence at 10.30am. The event itself is free meaning that the only cost is for the transport. Seats on the bus can be booked now through the Church Office.

Heart & Soul is essentially a day when people come together to celebrate the life of the Church of Scotland in all its parts. There are bands and all different kinds of entertainment, stalls and displays, seminars and activities for children and young people, places to get tea and coffee and

soup lunches and the whole day culminates with closing worship – attended by several thousand people with the magnificent backdrop of Edinburgh Castle framing the scene.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

#### **APRIL**

Sunday 2
9.30 am - Traditional Worship
11 am - Worship Service
6.30 pm - Café Church in
Community Spirit

Sunday 9 11 am - Palm Sunday Worship Service 6.30 pm - Praise and Worship Evening

Sunday 16 8 am - Sunrise Service (in front of the Abbey) 11 am - Easter Morning Celebration for the whole family 6.30 pm - Easter Evening Resurrection Special!

Sunday 23 11 am - Worship Service 6.30 pm - Trip to Craigiebuckler (Aberdeen) Worshipzone

Sunday 30
11 am - Worship Service
4pm - Messy Church
6.30 pm - Service of Prayers
for Healing and Wholeness

#### MAY

Sunday 7
9.30 am - Traditional Worship
11 am - Worship Service
with special guest,
Rev. Kenny Borthwick
6.30 pm - Café Church in
Community Spirit

Sunday 14 11 am - Worship Service 6.30 pm - Praise and Worship Evening

Sunday 21 10.30 am - Worship Service NO EVENING WORSHIP due to Heart & Soul event

Sunday 28
11 am - Worship Service
4pm - Messy Church
6.30 pm - Service of Prayers
for Healing and Wholeness

N.B. As well as the services above there is a 40 minute service every Wednesday morning at 10.30 am

(And, as a special note to those who remember last year, the bus will pick us up AT THE GATE this year and we will not be required to walk and climb hundreds of steps!!)

Come and be a part of it.

(As well as the morning service being earlier that day, there will be no evening service.)

# Clerk's Corner

#### The Annual Inspection of the Records by the Presbytery

I expect many of you will be wondering what this is about because, unless you are involved in the presentation of specific records, you have no real need to be aware of it.

However, at our Annual Stated Meeting in March, you all had the opportunity to see one aspect - the presentation of the accounts of St Andrew's Church for 2016. This internal presentation of the accounts precedes the official Presbytery Inspection of the Records.

Here is the detail of the process by which just one aspect of our internal work is eventually looked at by Presbytery – the accounts. After painstaking work throughout the year, these are prepared by our Treasurer Susan Godsall, and Assistant Treasurer Heather Black. They present quarterly accounts at the meetings of the Finance and Administration Core Group whose members also scrutinise the final accounts in January/February, after which they are sent to an external and independent auditor. Approval of these important financial affairs is then given by the Session. All of this has to be done in a very tight time scale.

At the Inspection of the Records, various officials from Angus Presbytery are seated at tables around the hall and each one deals with a specific part of record keeping. A motley assortment of ministers and Session Clerks arrive, weighed down with armfuls of documents to be inspected as they move round the tables. There is a little bit of jostling for position and I might even say queue jumping!

It is at this point that three copies of the accounts mentioned above are handed over and taken away to be looked

at in detail. There is far too much in these for a quick look! We will have to wait for final approval.

The minutes of the Kirk Session are looked at and checks made to make sure that they have been signed properly, that the margins are the designated size, pages correctly numbered, that we have appointed a Presbytery Elder, that we have stated the number on the roll etc., etc. - mindblowing stuff!! It is interesting that the content is not looked at. Maybe I could write something outrageous next year and get away with it!

The details of property are very extensive and you can be assured that all recorded aspects of the safety of our buildings, their insurance and assets are looked at in detail.

Even the Baptismal Register is looked at and those present were commenting on how the number of entries in this book gets fewer every year. Newer requirements are the Data Protection Declaration and the Safeguarding checklist and these are handed in for recording and storage in the Presbytery Office in Forfar. Finally, if all is well, the checklist is stamped and initialled.

You will see from all this that there are a number of office bearers who work away in the background ensuring that our record-keeping is correct and we are grateful to them for all their work, unseen in its preparation, but very much appreciated in its result.

As financial affairs are prominent at this time of year, it is appropriate for us to thank the members of the Finance and Administration Core Group.

They are Scott Anderson, leader of the group, Susan Godsall, Treasurer, Heather Black Assistant Treasurer, Iain Roberton, WFO organiser, and members Derek Scott, Morag Shaw, Alan Marr and Linda Hunter, Administrator.

# **Dalitso News**

March saw us host one of our big fundraising events in the church halls - our annual Murder Mystery Evening this time with a Mediterranean twist. If you were not there, Scott Anderson and Martin Fair looked like they had been on the sunbeds a few too many hours and a few of the shirts worn left a lot to be desired!!

With over 70 people attending it was an excellent evening of entertainment, directed by Sheila Stewart where the audience had to work out from the clues from the 14 characters who had carried out the murder. Well done to 'Sarah's Team' who were able to use their detective skills to correctly identify the criminal was Bernie, played by Scott.

The evening was a great success with the Mediterranean meal being enjoyed by all. A total of £1119 was raised. Thanks to all who supported this event.

The next fundraiser is a soup lunch after the service on the 30th April.

Those who sponsor a child will have received their newsletter which gave up to date information on our projects. (See newsletter below.) There are still children that require to be sponsored and there is still time to get involved for sending this summer, so please see Sheila or email me at info@dalitso.org for more information on our Sponsorship Programme.

Charis Bowie

# Malawi Update

Hi everyone,

Sheila and Fraser Dunphy returned last weekend from Malawi where they had been on business but managed to pop into both our centres to see how things are progressing. They had the opportunity to see the development of the new

clinic in Kambilonjo which is now partially up and running as a post natal clinic. Here, mothers bring their children to be weighed and checked up on by local health visitors. At the moment we are drawing up a Memorandum of Understanding with the government to agree who will be responsible for what. The cogs of the Malawian government turn very slowly but we are still hopeful that we can get it fully up and running by the summer.

Continued overleaf



In Kambilonjo the house mother-Memoy - has been teaching some of the boarders how to knit with a knitting machine and how to sew. One of the young boarders-Chikumbutso has shown real potential as a tailor and has begun making some clothes.

As usual the maize is growing well at Kambilonjo so this year the decision has been taken to grow most of the Thyolo Centre's maize at Kambilonjo too. Unfortunately what promised to be a bumper harvest could be devastat-

ed by an attack of the American Army worm which has been spreading over the whole of the southern part of Africa. Our centres are treating this and presently this seems to be keeping it at bay but please keep this situation in your prayers.

The centres continue to go well and the extra lessons at Thyolo appear to be going well with the students improving in their test scores week on week. The teacher has not only been helping the children but giving help and advice to our two nursery teachers.

We have had 30 new babies added to our Baby Rescue Programme at Thyolo over the last month. Sheila was present when a granny arrived with her little orphaned grandson. She was thrilled to receive the baby milk, clothes and blankets which she was given. (The clothes and blankets came from the container.) This is such a needed and worthwhile part of our work at Thyolo.

Please remember our cook at Thyolo, Jane Andrews. Her husband is seriously ill with skin cancer on his legs. Sheila visited him in the local hospital. They had run out of clean dressings and pain killers! Please never take the National Health Service for granted!!! We were able to afterwards access some pain killers for him.

All the contents of the container have been distributed and everyone is so grateful for all the items they have received so thank you to all who provided gifts for their sponsored children and/or provided items for the container. We are presently filling our next container. We especially need children and teenage clothes but are happy to also take adult clothes for our staff and carers. We have been asked to only take clothes up to size 16 for women and XL for Men – Malawians are quite small.

Looking forward to our visit at the summer we would ask that all who have a Sponsored Child could get organised to provide a parcel for us to take.

Please could you buy the following?



- Smart Shirt/ Blouse or Dressy Top
- Small packet of Haribo
- Small toy to the value of £1 to £2.
- Letter for your child

Please could you restrict yourself to these items – if you find it difficult to get any of them please speak to Sheila who will be happy to help. We try to make every child the same as they all check to see what each other receives. I know some of you like to slip in extra things for your child but maybe instead you could buy some for another child – we have always to buy extra gifts for the children who still have to receive a sponsor. (Yes we make sure EVERY child receives a gift!) The gift should be either sent or dropped off with my mum Sheila at 4 Princes Street, Arbroath DD11 2BL by Sunday 21st May.

Friday 28th April – Our 1st AGM – to be held at OBs, 19 Westport, Arbroath. Please come along and hear how your money has been spent, get an update on the work and enjoy some food and chat with fellow supporters. Feel free to bring others along to hear about the work of The Dalitso Project.

Thanks again for your continued support.

Becky

# More in Pictures Youth Group playing Ninja / Full size cross with pupil responses from Easter Code





Welcome ■ Worship ■ Witness