



Proud to be BB!



Ian and Celia Gray at the presentation of the awards to our BB boys - see the full report on page 4



Our Men's Group organised a walk in Glen Clova which was enjoyed by them all in great weather

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ST ANDREW'S ARBROATH**Member Records - May 2017**

Baptisms and Blessings - None

Weddings - None

Funerals - Barbara Greenhowe

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

**Service Core Group
Eco tips****Bulk Purchasing**

Avoid products that are packaged for single use (i.e., drinks, school lunches, candy, cat and dog food, salad mixings, etc.). Instead, buy in bulk and transfer the products to your own reusable containers. Many health food stores have bulk bins where they sell everything from grains to cereal to cleaning products.

IMPORTANT DATES**JULY EDITION**

Handwritten/typed articles should be handed in to the **OFFICE** by the **FIRST** date and **NOT** to 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 16th June (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 20th June (Word-Processed file)

Summer Evenings

As previously advertised - and now to confirm - we'll be taking a well-earned break from evening services through the summer period. This will allow everyone who is involved in arranging and leading these services to take a much-needed breather.

To that end, the last service of this session will be on 18th June and the first of the new session will be on 3rd September.

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 - Adele Marr (07762 740 317)

Monday to Friday - 12.00 – 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)

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

June 2017

Dear friends,

At the time of writing, it has just been announced that the young American pop star, Ariana Grande, is to sing at a benefit concert in Manchester this weekend – not two weeks after her concert at the Manchester Arena was targeted by a suicide bomber, resulting in the deaths of 22 people, among them many children and teenagers. Proceeds from this show will go to the ‘We Love Manchester’ emergency fund.

Here we have a classic example of ‘the show must go on.’ But it’s more than that; it’s an expression of courage and steadfastness and it’s a defiant statement of, ‘we will not be bowed!’ Along with our prayers for the bereaved families, we should pray for Ariana Grande that, at such a young age, she would be able to come to terms with the fact that this tragedy happened at HER show. Inevitably, she’ll feel that somehow she is to blame.

Just a couple of days after the Manchester bombing, a group of Coptic Christians was attacked by ISIS extremists while travelling through Egypt. 29 died and many more were left badly injured. As in Manchester, women and children were among the dead.

A couple of days later, while preparing for the upcoming Sunday service, I went to the BBC website to find more details about this particular tragedy. Sadly, there was almost nothing and that which there was took some finding. Of course it’s inevitable that events happening ‘elsewhere’ will feature less prominently in news bulletins but we should never allow that to lead us into thinking that life is somehow cheaper elsewhere. The grief of an Egyptian mother at the violent death of her son or daughter is no different to that of a mother in this country. We should share their pain all the same and commit to pray for comfort all the same.

Perhaps the other link between these two atrocities is that they were both carried out by radicalised Islamists. The danger facing us at this time is from such groups AND from those who will use such occasions to blanket all Muslims as dangerous, violent and evil. I would be appalled to think that I was being lumped in with Christians who, for instance, have bombed abortion clinics in the USA so, for the same reason, we shouldn’t generalise about Muslims.

We live in a complex, diverse, multicultural and multi-faith world – not to say, country. It’s very different to ‘the way things were.’ In the midst of it, there should be Christians who exemplify Christ-like compassion, grace and love. In a troubled world, we should be to the fore in being lovers of mercy and in exhibiting humility. While some are in the business of building barricades, we Christians should give ourselves to the building of bridges.

In hope, never despair,

With every blessing,

Martin and Elaine

mfair@churchofscotland.org.uk

Marjorie Gourlay and Fiona Morrison

Well, have we got some treats in store for you this June!! Following the visit of Rev Andrea Boyes on 4th June (already past by the time you’ll be reading QUEST,) we’re going to be welcoming Marjorie Gourlay and Fiona Morrison.

Marjorie is to be our guest at the evening service on Sunday 11th June. What a powerful and inspirational person Marjorie is! Her story will have you sitting at the edge of your seat and you’ll be inspired by what God can do in the life of ‘just an ordinary person.’

Then at the morning service on 18th June, we welcome back to St. Andrew’s, Fiona Morrison. Fiona came a couple

of years ago to tell us about Tearfund’s ‘No Child Taken’ anti-trafficking campaign.

Since then, with a diagnosis of breast cancer, Fiona’s world has been turned upside down. She is just coming to the end of an intensive chemotherapy programme and awaits news of what it to happen next. But through it all, Fiona has remained bright and positive. And beyond that, she has had to work out what it means to trust in God when the sun has stopped shining and when the BIG questions are no longer theoretical but have become entirely REAL. Fiona won’t pretend that it’s been easy and she won’t rely on religious platitudes. She will be honest and upfront about the struggle and that, of course, is where faith is to be found.

Make sure that these two dates are in your diary and that you’re there to welcome both Marjorie and Fiona to St. Andrew’s.

Ask Theophilus

Question :

Your last article puzzled me. Martin has been encouraging us to witness to our faith. What you wrote in May Quest seems to be discouraging us from speaking to others about Christ. So who's right, you or Martin?

Theophilus answers :

My wife said exactly the same as you have written! Of course we are both right. So I need to explain myself. Broadly speaking, there are two kinds of witnessing to our faith: there is 'defensive witnessing' and there is 'aggressive witnessing'. Take 'defensive witnessing' first.

This kind of witnessing consists in responding to other people's questions. In 'defensive witnessing', the Christian does not make the first move, but reacts to what someone else is asking them. There is a famous international Christian Conference, 'The Lausanne Conference', so called because it was first convened in Lausanne. Several years ago it was held in the Philippines. The 5000 delegates present were asked to fill in a questionnaire and one of the questions asked, 'How did you become a Christian?' Over 80% answered that their interest in the Christian faith was first aroused through a friend at work who was clearly different in some way. So they asked what it was that made that workmate 'tick'. The answer their colleague gave was the beginning of their journey to faith in Christ.

This kind of witnessing is referred to by Peter in his First Letter: 'Always be prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks for a reason for the hope that is within you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.' He adopts the same approach regarding wives whose husbands are not believers: 'Wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by your conduct when they see your respectful and pure conduct.' (1 Peter 3:1-2; 15-16.) Witnessing ought to be by our lives, our standards, our attitudes—in short, by what we are, long before anything we say.

Second, 'aggressive witnessing'. The example of this is given in the Gospels. Jesus sent out his twelve disciples to witness to the good news of the kingdom. He also sent out in two seventy of his followers to take the initiative in witnessing. Today we call this, 'Going out on Mission'. (Luke 9:1-6; 10:1-12.) The fledgling church engaged in mission at Christ's command.

If you have a concordance and look up the words 'witness' and 'witnessing', you will find that all witnessing falls into one or other of these two categories. I am excluding of course passages where the word 'witness' is used of someone in a court of law, though that use of the word 'witness' has exactly the same meaning as Christian 'witnessing'. Christ is in the dock, the world is the jury, and we are called upon to act as witnesses to his power and love and grace! What a privilege!

David Searle.

7th Arbroath B.B.

Display and Awards Night - 11th May 2017

The Display and Awards night of the 7th Arbroath B.B. was held in St. Andrew's Church on Thursday night 11th May. The Inspecting Officer was Mr Ian Gray, Pastoral Assistant at the church. Mrs Celia Gray presented the awards to the boys.

Opening devotions were led by the Company Chaplain, Rev Dr W Martin Fair BA BD. Captain Wilma H. Ewart thanked Rev Fair for his 25 years service to the Company and presented a small gift from the Officers and boys.

After the Inspection the Anchor Boys entertained the parents with a game. Junior Section did a small drama about how the church began, which was one of their badge activities. Company Section were involved with a quiz regarding the Company history.

Mrs Sharon Jamieson, O.I.C. Anchor Boys, gave her report of the boy's work and activities for the year. Best Boy Trophy was awarded to Jaden Deas.

Mrs Wilma H. Ewart, O.I.C. Junior Section, reported on the work of the section and announced the awards for the year. Best boy - 1st Year: John Webster, 2nd year: Ben Garden, 3rd Year: Alistair Mullet, Marshall Shield: Lewis

Robb. Best Team for the year was Super Sports - Aiden Merryweather, John Webster, Ben Garden and Alistair Mullet each received a Medal.

Mr Michael Clark, O.I.C. Company section, reported on the work of the section before announcing the awards. Recruit Trophy and Attendance Cup: Robert Thomson, Ewan Findlay Memorial Trophy: Keiran Simmers.

Mrs Ewart announced the recipient of the highest award in the Brigade, the Queen's Badge, and the Rev Fair made the presentation to Keiran Simmers.

The Inspecting Officer's remarks to the Officers and Boys gave each and every one of them encouragement to be in a Uniform Organisation and to enjoy being part of the team. A small gift and flowers were presented to Mr and Mrs Gray for giving of their time to attend the evening.

The evening closed with the Benediction.

PS I would like to thank the Officers and Boys of the Company for the flowers and card received on the night for my special birthday. To the Church family I would like to thank you for the many good wishes and cards received. Thank you all.

God Bless.

Wilma H. Ewart

GUILD NEWS

Although our guild year has finished, planning is well ahead for the 2017/2018 session 'Go in Love'. It's shaping up to be a great year with a good mix of serious and fun evenings in store.

Love is a big topic –

- Thinking about our heart, how to keep it healthy through our eating and exercise.
- Love in what we do – being passionate about your job or hobby.
- Love of one another - The fellowship we have as Guild members, with our families and friends all to be explored.

So why not come along to one of our evenings? They will be detailed in due course in the Quest and the bulletin.

Our summer programme is a bus trip to Banchory, stopping at Stonehaven for high tea on June 10th. If you want to join us call Doris Bowie 01241 872690 to see if any tickets are still available. Approx. £25. We are hoping the sun shine!

We will have a well-deserved break in July, and then in August, our now famous fish tea and video night. The date will be announced in the Bulletin. If you are thinking about the Guild, then this is a good night to join us informally.

We start on 11/09/17 with our Dedication and Communion Service in the sanctuary at 7.30pm Any other Guild information will be in the bulletin or on the Guild board in the large hall over the summer.

Have a super break whether at home or away. Always remembering –

“Whose we are and whom we serve”

Youth Work Update

Since April, the Youth Group has welcomed several new members, both secondary school age and those who will be moving to S1 after the summer. It is great to have new faces on a Sunday night and should be a great encouragement to St Andrew's to know our youth group is growing! As always, if you know of any S1+ young people who would like to join us, we would love to welcome them.

Since this term of school is so busy and stressful for many young people, with exams and the change of timetable, I and the other leaders, have tried to create a relaxing atmosphere at youth group, with reflections of encourage-

ment rather than Bible studies and games to help them run off steam. Please keep praying for our teens as they finish exams and look towards August when they will receive their results.

As usual, we are going to the Skea's farm near Forfar on 17th - 18th June for our annual camping trip. This is one of the highlights of the year for us and the young people look forward to this trip with great enthusiasm. Look out for pictures and information about our fun-packed weekend in the next issue of Quest.

Blessings,

Adele

Dalitso News

The 28th April marked The Dalitso Project's first birthday and the first AGM of the charity. It was well attended by members of St. Andrew's church and people from across Arbroath. The business of the meeting was broken up by the serving of a meal which allowed supporters to chat to the trustees and management committee. As Chairperson it was great to be able to share with everyone good news stories of the past 12 months and to also give updates on what is on the agenda for the coming year.

Much of our focus in Kambilonjo over the past year has been the health clinic named Dochas, which means Hope in Gaelic, and the great news is, it is ready to go! However, as we found when opening the centres, things take much longer in Malawi and we are in discussions with the government about what we are to offer. It is the plan to start small and do things well. Medical care in Malawi is often very poor. We want our clinic to be different so the roll out of the services will be done with care and attention and under the watchful eye of our medical experts Becky and Naomi. Please pray that these discussions go smoothly and that the centre can be opened soon and that it will make a real dif-

ference to the community there.

Looking forward, our main building project is our planned skills centre, where our children as well as our staff and members of the community will be able to be trained in welding, knitting, sewing and computer skills. With not all children being able to continue their education after secondary school, this centre will give them the much-needed skills that they can then use to find work in order to provide for their families. The centre will be called the Mary Spink Centre, as it will be partly funded by the Spink family and by the money given at Mary's funeral. We look forward to sharing progress of this build with her family and the rest of the Malawi supporters.

I could go on for pages and pages about what has happened over the past 12 months and what is to happen over the next year. If you haven't received a copy of my report and you would like one, please speak to Sheila or Doris or email me at info@dalitso.org and I will send it out. Thanks to you all for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you at our next fundraiser.

Charis Bowie

SOAP SUNDAY

**in aid of Dalitso -
and a big thank you!**

An impressive fifteen boxes (back page picture), consisting mainly of toilet soaps, were filled in the wake of our Soap Sunday appeal and are now ready for shipping to Malawi later in the year. So thank you to all who donated so generously once more.

On the downside, in recent months, a number of regular donors have signally failed in their searches for good old-fashioned household soap bars in local retail outlets. Regular checks at the formerly reliable "go to" shelf in one of our local supermarkets drew a complete blank.

However, an internet search has re-

vealed that there are still ample supplies and various brands of household soap still being manufactured and available to purchase online, including "carbolic soap" of fond memory, guaranteed to eradicate bugs and dirt.

If anyone would like to continue to make occasional donations of both toilet and household soaps over the year, then these can be passed on to Pat (Clegg) or a member of the Service Core Group for packing and passing on, ready boxed, to the Dalitso Project.

Someone recently commented that it is hard to believe that there are people in our world who are so poor that they can't even afford a bar of soap. Well there are many such - and the humble bar of soap is their first line of defence against all sorts of infection.

Tear Fund Concert and Wardrobes and Rings

Due to poor ticket sales, we found ourselves having to cancel the concert that the New Scottish Hymns band was to have staged at St. Andrew's in conjunction with Tearfund. While this was regrettable, we were left with no other option. Some people subsequently said that they were planning to turn up on the night but, of course, that's of no help to us when having to make earlier decisions based on what we knew! Others mentioned that times are tight financially-speaking, but a £6 ticket in today's economy hardly seems steep.

Based on this experience and other occasions on which we've had to work really hard to generate interest in such events, we've decided to cancel the 'Wardrobes & Rings' event which had been planned for September. This is a great shame as it would undoubtedly have been a wonderful show (focusing on the friendship between C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien) but with over 100 ticket sales required to break even, we didn't feel able to take such a risk.

It has been our policy for some time to try to bring Christian concerts, shows and events right here to Arbroath, based on the beliefs that 1) we can be built up in faith and fellowship through such occasions and 2) you shouldn't always have to go all the way to Edinburgh or Glasgow to enjoy such evenings! With insufficient interest, it would seem that we need to re-think.

The good news is that we still have one special weekend to look forward to, organized by our Worship Core Group. This is to be a Friday evening concert of worship music led by Allan McKinlay and a Saturday day session featuring 'conversations in worship' and seminars led by noted speakers from across Scotland. Of course, there will be fuller information to come but for now we'd be delighted if you would pop the dates in your diary - 22nd and 23rd September - and plan to join us for what we hope will be a thoroughly enlivening and enlightening weekend.

Thank you, in advance, for your support.

Rev Kenny Borthwick

Many of us were very much looking forward to the visit of Kenny Borthwick which had been scheduled for the beginning of May. Sadly, Kenny's poor health - which had forced him to retire early - meant that he had to cancel his

visit to us.

We very much hope that things will improve for him and that he will be able to reschedule his visit to us in the not too distant future. Please keep Kenny in your prayers in the meantime.

LOOKING AHEAD

JUNE

Sunday 4

9.30 am - Traditional Worship
11 am - Worship Service

Sunday 11

11 am - Worship Service

Sunday 18

11 am - Worship Service
(with guest, Fiona Morrison)
Main service followed by
Communion

Sunday 25

11 am - Worship Service;
Including Prize-giving

JULY

Sunday 2

9.30 am - Traditional Worship
11 am - Worship Service

Sunday 9

11 am - Worship Service

Sunday 16

11 am - Worship Service

Sunday 23

11 am - Worship Service

Sunday 30

11 am - Worship Service

**N.B. As well as the services
above there are -**

**Midweek services every
Wednesday at 10.30 am**

**Evening services at 6.30pm
every Sunday.**

**PLEASE NOTE
that the final evening service
of the session is on
18th JUNE.**

**After a 'summer holiday'
break, they will resume on
3rd SEPTEMBER.**

Church Family Trip (Edzell)

As last year, our church family trip is to Edzell and takes place on the afternoon of 25th June. Seats on the bus, which departs at 1.30pm sharp, can be booked at the Church Office; others may choose to go by car. A family ticket (up to two adults and three children) costs £10 with adult tickets

are £3 and child tickets £2. Tickets cover bus, BBQ and prizes etc. Folks should bring their own packed lunch and refreshments.

Our trip has always been a great fun day out and is open to everyone in the Church - and beyond - not just those in Sunday Club!

Make it a date - see you there!

Clerk's Corner

Ministries and Mission

Below you will find the detail of our financial commitment to Ministries and Mission for 2017. This detail has been received from the Stewardship and Finance Department of the national church.

Angus : Arbroath St Andrew's

The total contribution to Ministries and Mission for 2017 is £83,549. This is divided as follows -

Ministries (84%)

£70,181 of our total contribution will go towards the costs of providing over 1,000 ministers and other parish works in communities throughout Scotland. (Our own minister's stipend etc., is paid from this fund.) The 2017 cost of a parish minister at the top of the stipend scale is £41,866 (stipend plus employer's national insurance and pension

contributions.)

Mission (16%)

£13,368 of our total contribution will be used to support the Church's work in:

- Resourcing congregations for Christian education and outreach
- Providing social care serviced in Christ's name to further the caring work of the church to people in need
- Accompanying partners around the world on our shared Christian journey
- Contributing to the Church's opinion in public debate and on issues affecting Scotland and the World
- Providing central day-to-day service work in administrative, financial and legal matters
- Planning the General Assembly and ensuring the Moderator represents the Church.

Susan our Vocations Volunteer

In the next edition of QUEST, you'll be able to read a piece by Susan, our volunteer, as she reflects on her year with us at St. Andrew's - sadly, a year that is almost complete. Susan's last Sunday with us will be 25th June. Thereafter, she has a trip to Ghana and then a time of discernment, arranged through the Church of Scotland, through which she hopes to build on her experiences here to better understand what God is calling her to. One thing is for sure; this year has confirmed for her that God IS CALLING!

Susan has been an absolute delight from start to finish. Nothing has even been too much trouble for her. She has got so much to offer and has never been less than willing to get involved, wherever and whenever the need arose. She's had a taste of everything - from supporting the Toddlers Group and volunteering every week among the PIs at Ladyloan Primary School to doing a daily shift at Havilah and visiting some of our more elderly members. Whatever comes next, we wish Susan God's richest blessing as she journeys further into his purpose for her life.

(Our minister, Martin, will be going with Susan to Iona for a three day retreat in mid-June. They'll be joining up there with other volunteers from the Glasgow area. What better place than Iona for Susan to spend a few days reflecting on and giving thanks for her year as a volunteer at St. Andrew's.)

Scammers

It is very worrying to hear about the continuing frequency with which the scammers manage to fool people either into given out bank details, credit card details, or parting with money for work that does not need to be done (and never gets done if they get the money in advance).

Of course, what is even more despicable is that they tend to deliberately target our older folks, and this is where we can all try to play our part -

- Perhaps we can speak to some of our older folks more often about what to look out for.
- Suggest to them that if they have any doubts, then they contact you for advice.
- Or, if you prefer, give them my phone number to call (875235)

Principally, advise them that Banks etc. NEVER send out emails telling people that their accounts have been hijacked and that they must click on a link to log in and change passwords. NEVER click on a link in a suspicious email.

Also, beware of any phone calls purporting to be from a Bank etc. and telling you that if you are not sure, you should put the phone down and then ring your bank - the scammers do not put their phone down and, when you redial, they give a mock ring tone, and then speak, so that you think you are speaking to a different person!

More In Pictures

Top left - Keiran Simmers is presented with his Queen's Badge and (below) the company on parade.
Top right - The soap collection



Our Church Officer, Janis Clark, has celebrated a 'special birthday'!

At the 'Heart and Soul' event in Edinburgh



'Merry Church' definitely lives up to its name!



Arbroath are the champions