



## Easter Code Reaches Many

Once again we have had great success in taking the Easter Code to many of our children in the town. From a starting point in St Andrew's Church, with the school children in its parish, it has grown to include many more of the children in the town.

While it is still held in St Andrew's sanctuary, the ministers and members from the other churches all make invaluable contribution to running this wonderful outreach. Pictured below, is Gavin Berry, Assistant Minister of Old and Abbey Church, and some of the children's thoughts and artwork.



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

Linda Hunter : 431135

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

**MINISTER**

Rev Dr W Martin Fair, BA, BD

**PASTORAL ASSISTANT**

Ian 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 Robertson : 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****Member Records - March 2018****Baptisms and Blessings** - None**Weddings** - None**Funerals** - None

Martin and Ian, our pastoral assistant, conducted other funerals 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 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 DO NOT embed articles in an email as these then need additional formatting work.**

Friday 20th April (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 24th 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's 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.

**Soup Lunches**

The following are planned for this year -

- 22 Apr Dementia Drop-in Café
- 27 May Havilah
- 23 Sept Dementia Drop-in Café
- 28 Oct Dalitso Project
- 25 Nov Havilah

**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)

**THURSDAY**

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

2.00 pm – Friends Club : first Thursdays – J Lonie secretary (07712 538 306)

6.00 pm – Anchor Boys – S Jamieson (431942)

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

7.00 pm – Church Prayer Group

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 2018

Dear Friends,

It's been a while! Some of you will perhaps have forgotten that you even have a minister!! Then again, the discerning among you will have noticed that in fact we have lots of 'ministers' at St. Andrew's and that just because 'the boss' is away, the ministry and mission of the church doesn't grind to a shuddering halt.

Although I'm not in the clear yet, it has been great to be able to lead Sunday worship through March and over the Easter season. I'll be able to continue with this until my next round of operations, the timing of those being in the hands of my surgeon.

And so, for as long as I'm around, let me take the opportunity to say a huge 'thank you' to those who have done most to cover my absence. Few of us have been surprised that Jane, our Session Clerk, and Linda, our Administrator, and Janis, our Church Officer, have so ably ensured that, organisationally-speaking, it's been business as usual. (Certain people never think twice about going the extra mile when duty calls.) But these three have been well supported by many others, each of whom has risen to the challenges put before them. Thanks, too, to Keith and Ian who have carried most of the responsibility for worship, on Sundays and Wednesdays, and to a small team of our worship leaders who have ensured that our Sunday evening worship has continued. Ian and our pastoral care team have done their best to offer care when needs have arisen – and to do so when more stretched than is usually the case. And what about our volunteers? Andrew and Euan have done wonderfully well and have just got on with it (though they had come fully expecting to be working much more closely with me than has been possible.)

While many have been involved practically, others – being less able physically-speaking or in terms of availability of time – have faithfully been praying for my recovery and for the well-being of the congregation more generally. Sometimes, in respect of prayer, someone will say, 'It's the least that I could do.' In truth, prayer is very often 'the most that we can do.'

I'm writing this just a few days before Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week. Then will come Easter Sunday, the day of rejoicing. But between Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and his even more triumphant resurrection, there's the not-so-small matter of the cross. Indeed we might rightly say, the cross stands above it all. By Jesus' death we are put right with God, freed to live life in all its fullness. And wonderfully so, by his death, death is beaten.

Thanks be to God. And all the people said, AMEN!

Wishing you every blessing,

Martin

[mfair@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:mfair@churchofscotland.org.uk)

## The Importance Of Prayer

When the congregation was hit by the accident involving Martin it was asked how a caring congregation would respond to this situation not knowing how it might affect the services and devotion within our church for many years. We are assured that many prayers were offered up to our Father God to help Martin in his difficult task of dealing with all the problems he found as a result of his accident.

Within our congregation a group formed to pray for the situation including prayers for dealing with the pain and the healing time required to bring our minister back as soon as God could allow.

Having been involved in the twice weekly prayer meetings we realise the passion put out with the aid of the Holy

Spirit that was sent up to our Father God. While we continue to pray we await the eventual outcome of these prayers and how it will help Martin to recover from this accident. It is so important to recognize the need for prayer time to give thanks to our Father God for all that he can do to help Martin recover from his accident and pray that he will be healed and helped through the pain and healing required to bring him and his family through the rocky road he has encountered.

Surely in our lives as Christians within our church we uphold any situation that affects both our own personal lives and all other families within and outwith the St Andrew's Church congregation.



## Easter Reflection

In the week leading up to Easter, I read a hilarious article on the BBC website which probably seemed much less funny to those involved! A Yorkshire-based Baptist church had ordered a number of large banners intended for hanging outside their buildings in the lead up to Easter. The banners carried the simple but striking declaration: 'Christ is risen!' Only one problem. Someone at the printers had made a terrible mistake – and presumably the proof-reader had taken an early lunch that day – resulting in the 't' of Christ being missed from the banners. 'Chris is risen!' was the result!!

Given that the minister of the church in question is called Chris, no doubt there will be plenty of laughs about this particular fiasco in time to come! But beyond the hilarity, there lies a theological truth which we should take notice off, remember and treasure in our hearts.

It's this. You could take any name and put it where 'Chris' is. You could put your own name there! You'll find this truth wrapped up in the fourteenth chapter of John's Gospel. It's put this way: **'Because Christ lives, you also shall live.'** John 14:19.

The bedrock of the Christian faith is that Christ died AND rose again. Death, the final enemy, is beaten! But if this was no more than some kind of historical discrepancy then it wouldn't necessarily mean that much to us now. We rejoice, though, that Christ rose so that we too might live. The Apostle Paul puts it beautifully: **'For just as all people die because of their union with Adam, in the same way all will be raised to life because of their union with Christ. 23 But each one will be raised in proper order: Christ, first of all; then, at the time of his coming, those who belong to him.'**

And we belong to him when we do... well, nothing. We don't have to DO anything! We belong to him when we receive his love, when we hear him knocking and invite him into our lives as Saviour and Lord. At that point, we too are alive as risen people. Yes, Christ is risen. Yes, Chris the minister of that Baptist Church is risen! And we, too, are risen with Christ – risen to a new life in the here and now and risen for eternity.

That's our Easter faith, that offers us light in dark places and hope in the midst of despair. May it sustain each of us this and every day.

**Martin.**

## Ask Theophilus

### Question :

What does Jesus mean when he says, 'Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you... My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me and I in him.' (John 6:53, 55-56.)

### Theophilus answers :

The first point we should notice is that while the Last Supper (it was originally the Passover Feast) is recorded in Matthew, Mark and Luke, there is no record of it in John's Gospel. We must ask why. A very likely reason is that, as the young Church came under severe persecution throughout the Roman Empire, one of the allegations made against believers was that they practised cannibalism, for they gathered together on the first day of the week to eat human flesh and drink human blood. This appalling accusation obviously was a reference to the bread and wine of Communion.

It is generally agreed that John wrote his Gospel around 95AD, by which time the lurid tales of the believers' 'cannibalism' had spread far and wide. So to avoid giving the church's enemies more evidence for their slander, so to speak, John did not include at the end of his Gospel any account of Jesus instituting the Lord's Supper. The opponents of the church would hardly bother to read through his whole Gospel, but would search the final section immediately before the record of his arrest and crucifixion. But in John's Gospel they would find no 'incriminating evidence' they could use. Instead, John tucked away all mention of the flesh and blood of Christ somewhere in the middle of

his story of Christ's ministry.

So what, then, did Jesus mean in the words quoted in the question? In other words, what is the true meaning of the bread and wine in the Communion Service? A simple way to explain this is to go back to the Passover in Exodus 12. The final plague visited upon the Egyptians was when the Angel of Death 'passed over' the land of Egypt. The Hebrew slaves were instructed to prepare a meal of roast lamb, and in the preparation they were told to take some of the lamb's blood and sprinkle it on the lintels and doorposts of their houses. When the destroying Angel passed over, seeing the blood it would not inflict the tenth plague on that household.

Two things were needed for this to work for each slave family. First, they must believe the instructions Moses gave them. Second, they must obey them. Faith and obedience were absolutely essential for their redemption from slavery.

Transfer those two conditions across to the Lord's Supper. First, faith: the promise of life through the bread (symbol of Christ's flesh and body), and cleansing through the wine (symbol of his life-blood poured out for us) must be believed and actively embraced as the living word of God. Second, obedience: we must avail ourselves of the Lord's Supper and not walk away from it, for whatever reasons. To despise or ignore Communion is to despise and ignore God himself. For by faith and obedience, spiritually we eat his flesh and drink his blood. Note 'spiritually', for Jesus himself added in verse 63, 'It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no avail.'

That was a good question, whoever sent it to me. I hope you find the answer helpful.

**David Searle**

## GUILD NEWS

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March our guild enjoyed a very interesting talk by Marjori Clark on Solar Powered Ovens. Using the information from the guild reports it informs us about the project.

Bolivia is one of the poorest and most unequal countries in South America. Millions of people live in difficult conditions, struggling to survive. The Bolivian Amazon is one of the most bio-diverse regions in the world, yet it is increasingly under threat from deforestation. Deforestation coupled with climate change has left communities who rely on the forest for survival vulnerable, as crops flood and livelihoods are lost. Women very often have to spend hours every day collecting firewood for cooking. Not only does this prevent them from engaging in other activities, but when the forest is under water it becomes difficult to get wood for cooking and families are unable to even boil water.

Through Christian Aid partners, this project will work with over 700 families to educate them about climate change and support them to build and use solar powered ovens enabling families to eat year round. Partnering with the Church of Scotland in Bolivia, Christian Aid Scotland will use this story to link Guilds to our current work on climate change and give practical ways to get involved.

The total from the end of January 2018 that our Guilds have raised towards this project over the past 3 years is £89,785.39

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March we had our Topic Night where we explored issues around the “other side” of Going in Love. As Christians, the Bible tells us that love is unconditional, but even Christians have people in their lives they don't like and find it hard to love. In small groups we asked ourselves questions - for example, ‘How did the dislike come about?’ ‘How did you overcome the dislike and turn it around to show your love and if the situation was not resolved how have you coped with this?’ Thanks to Pat Jackson who lead this evening.

By the time the magazines comes out we will have had our film night and paraded our Easter Bonnets.

To finish our 2017/2018 session of the Guild our AGM is on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April. All are welcome.

Finally our Coffee Morning this year is on Saturday 21st April 2018, tickets are available from guild members or on the day. Please come along and support us.

Always remembering -

**“Whose we are and whom we serve”**

## 7th Arbroath B.B.

It will soon be time to make plans for our Display night which will be held on 17th of May at 7pm. More details will come in the next magazine and church bulletin.

We are taking a break for the Easter Holidays and will resume back on 19th April. We have two Company boys who will be at Carronvale House during that time off to complete their Queen's Badge. This will be a great occasion

for us when we present the awards at Display night and in the church.

Thank you to all who supported our soup lunch on 25th of March. We raised £240 for our ongoing work in our company and our sponsored child Grey Lewis. Thank you to all the soup makers for your donation and help on the day. A great effort by all.

Captain Wilma H. Ewart

## Youth Work Update

As I write this, the team and I have just finished and packed away Easter Code for 2018! We shared the story of Easter with around 200 children from five of our local schools in partnership with Old and Abbey, West Kirk and the Mission. This is always a full-on week filled with games, discussion and activities but when reading through the reflection crosses and seeing the completed craft it is clear the effort is worth it (see photos). We always receive such wonderful feedback from the teachers and children which is reflected in their willingness to return each year for the programmes we run.

I want to thank the team of people who make this week possible from the volunteers on the day to the people in the background who often go unnoticed. I couldn't do my job without you all!

Meanwhile, plans for Holiday Club are well underway and we are excited to be writing our own programme again. Sign your children up at the office, via Eventbrite or at the sign-up day, 31st March 10am-12noon. As we did last year, we have partnered with Arbroath Academy for the different pieces of artwork use on the flyers, children's booklets and Facebook event page. They were each created by an S2 pupil who will be given a prize next week so look out for the photos.

In this age, engaging children in the Bible and the life of the church is becoming increasingly difficult but I'd encourage you that we, at St. Andrew's Church, are always trying to find innovative ways to do this. If you could pray for this aspect of our ministry at this time, I'd be very grateful.

Blessings,  
Adele

## The Way Back Down.

We're now firmly into the second half of our placement. The last couple of months are firmly approaching. The more I start to try and plan my time until June the more I see how few weeks, how few Sundays I have left to share with you all as one of your volunteers. So, I'm becoming more and more aware of just how quickly this time is passing. More aware of just how rapidly these few months are running away from me. It's becoming painfully obvious that we, without realising, have done most of the walk. In theory we've climbed the mountain, and now we're on the way back down.

On Palm Sunday I was lucky enough to have my mum come and join us during worship. And actually, through that moment of having a relative visit our congre-

gation that I had encouraged to come, I've realised just how comfortable I am in the sanctuary with you all. There's something wonderful about the fact that in the past months, you have all made me so welcome, so comfortable to the point that now I just feel at home amongst you.

It's been a challenging 7 months, with lots of names and faces, and a lot of firsts. The next few months though, it's not about winding down. In the past few weeks we've participated in the Easter Code programme. We're set to take part in the Holiday Club, School assemblies, youth group trips, and everything we've been doing up until this point.

So even though it might seem that we're in the tail end of our year, we aren't getting the chance to slow down. The way back down isn't a rest, it's part of the walk.

**Euan.**

## Blowing Hot and Cold!

Those members who heard the intimation about the installation of thermostats can now skip this article - or can they???? We really don't know!

A few Sundays ago the weather, very temporarily, turned milder and we actually had members complaining that they were too warm during the service - and we agreed, it was very warm indeed - why?

The answer came in a text from Janis Clark in the afternoon - THE THERMOSTAT HAD BEEN TURNED **FULL UP!**

Therefore, when the sanctuary reached a very agreeable temperature, and the thermostat should have automatically maintained that temperature., the heating continued on, and on, and on .... thereby wasting valuable resources as well as church money.

Did someone find the church to be on the cool side one day and actually thought that by turning the thermostat full up it would raise the temperature more quickly? - surely not! Did small fingers get to play with the dial? - who knows!

Anonymous answers to this wasteful puzzle on a postcard please. We would love to know!

## LOOKING AHEAD

### APRIL

- Sunday 1**  
11 am - Easter Worship Service  
with all-age  
Holy Communion
- Sunday 8**  
11 am - Worship Service
- Sunday 15**  
11 am - Worship Service;
- Sunday 22**  
11 am - Worship Service
- Sunday 29**  
11 am - Worship Service  
Messy Church

### MAY

- Sunday 6**  
11 am - Worship Service
- Sunday 13**  
11 am - Worship Service
- Sunday 20**  
11 am - Pentecost Worship Service
- Sunday 27**  
11 am - Worship Service  
Messy Church

**N.B. As well as the services above there are -  
Sunday evening  
services at 6.30 pm**

**And**

**Midweek services every  
Wednesday at 10.30 am**

## Dalitso Project News

March saw us hold our AGM in OBs. The meeting was well attended and allowed us to share with supporters the progress made at our centres over the last 12 months. My report and the accounts will be sent out to our mailing list for those that were unable to attend or please see one of the team if you are interested in getting a copy.

Dates of fundraisers are starting to be confirmed. A quiz night will be held on 1st June at Dishlandtown Street Bowling Club and Jonathan Milne's concert will take place on 7th July at the British Legion. Please do put these dates in your diary as they are both sure to be great nights. We will also be doing a coffee morning in May and to allow you to plan ahead, in July we are holding a Teddy Bear's Afternoon Tea. This will be similar to the Wedding Dress display we did a few years ago but instead we are hoping people will display their childhood teddy bears along with stories of what they have been up to and where they have been

over the years. Pinky my first teddy is ready to tell his story of why his neck is able to do a 360 and how he is actually married to teddy in Malawi!! There is lots going on over the next few months with something for everyone. We look forward to welcoming you all to some or all of these events.

It is exciting to report again this year that the sponsor child programme continues to grow. Currently we have 285 children between the 2 centres and amazingly 194 are now sponsored. What has been clear over the last year is that new sponsors come from current sponsors sharing their experiences of the project. I challenged those that attended the AGM to think of someone they knew that may be interested in sponsoring a child. If half of our current sponsors found 1 new person we will have all of our current children sponsored for the first time. How amazing would that be!

On behalf of the children in Malawi, we thank you all for your continued support.

Charis

## And Now Those Tricky Quiz Answers!

I'd just like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part in the quiz, over £240 was raised! - A really good job from everyone who handed one in. Congratulations to Peggy Kyle who was chosen as the winner, but there wasn't much in it. It came down to a draw between three entries! The answers I had are below. However, if there was an answer which made sense with the clue it was accepted as correct.

Unfortunately, I have had to delay going to South Africa due to the increasing cost of flights. However, in 2019 I should be able to go! Once again a massive thank you to everyone who took part or donated!

### Andrew

Angry Fruit .....	Applecross
Conflagration surrounded by water! .....	Burntisland
Elizabeth's mountain .....	Bettyhill
Hot meal .....	Currie
Shetland's shout .....	Yell
Trim this for the paraffin lamp .....	Wick
Where the grizzly lives .....	Bearsden
Grumpy stream .....	Moodiesburn
Overcooked oatcake .....	Bannockburn
Not smaller .....	Biggar
Harbour for an Irish Saint .....	Portpatrick
Silent Chips .....	Dumfries
The village where Archibald stays .....	Archiestown
Its ripped apart .....	Stornoway
A linear measurement .....	Insch
A wide river crossing .....	Broadford
Wow! Look at that lake! .....	Loch Awe
Needed for life .....	Ayr
Nice with bacon .....	Eigg
Toupees worn here .....	Wigtown
Billy's stronghold .....	Fort William
Sailor's drink .....	Rhum
Mum is okay .....	Motherwell
Exclamation prohibited here .....	Oban
Where the church collapsed .....	Falkirk
A crafty lot in this village .....	Cunningsburgh
Freezing river .....	Coldstream
Find the days here .....	Callander
Would you find J. R. Ewing here? .....	Dallas
A Scottish whelk .....	Buckie



## More in pictures

In recent weeks Havilah has been holding skills development days each Friday which has been well attended by the men and women who use the project. In the main we are teaching basic cooking skills and have helped the folks make cottage pie, cookies and Belgium biscuits. We also had a day of clock making which was enjoyed by everyone. We are planning to renovate our kitchen to better accommodate these classes enabling more people to join the group and learn some essential new life skills. This is another of the many and varied ways in which St Andrew's Church is reaching out to those in our community who are most in need.



During the service on Palm Sunday, Lawrie Harris painted the crucifixion.

