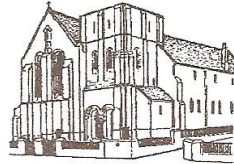


CONTACT



The Parish Magazine
of
CARNOUSTIE CHURCH



No 458

Apr 2016

From the Minister's Desk

**“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
and are justified freely by His grace through the
redemption that came by Christ Jesus”**

Romans 3: 23-24

Dear Friends,

So much can change in the course of a week in our inter-connected world. One week, the talk was all about the Budget, of cuts and resignations. And then the following week the focus of the eyes of the world was on Brussels.

More than thirty died, almost ten times that number were injured, and the headquarters of the European Union was caught up in the horror of the unholy jihad of the so-called Islamic State terrorists. My friend Andrew Gardner is the Minister of the Church of Scotland congregation in Brussels and will be glad of our continued prayers.

Belgium of course seems so much closer to us than the Middle East – not least because we could recently get a ferry from Rosyth to Zeebrugge, so it seems to be almost next door to Scotland. And we must also be aware that the scale of the horror in Syria is far greater than the violence visited on Brussels.

(continued)

In a week, so much has changed. And yet, so little has changed. In September it will be fifteen years since the World Trade Centre towers in New York were brought down. The struggle against terrorism in the West is not new; the evils of war and violence are age-old.

These most recent attacks took place as we were sharing our annual journey through Holy Week, with the joint services in our various town Churches. The reminder of the worst that man's evil could do in the death of the Son of God, and of the triumph of God's grace through Sacrifice and glorious Resurrection of His Son.

For this surely must be our continuing response to all that is wrong with our world – the greed that led to financial disaster, the wickedness of terrorism and genocide, and the banality of every day evil and sin around and within our own lives.

Even as the news of the attacks in Brussels was broadcast, I heard news of a smaller attack in a Middle-Eastern country which saw four Wycliff Bible Translators murdered. Their colleagues are continuing the work with renewed resolve to see God's Word reach the hearts of these people.

Yours in the Grace and Peace of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Mike Goss.

OPEN DOORS

OPEN DOORS is an international charity which serves persecuted Christians world- wide. Publishing its annual list of the 50 countries with the worst persecution rates, it warns that persecution levels are rising.

North Korea remains top of the list of shame, followed by Iraq, Eritrea, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikstan, Azerbaijan and Eritrea. Persecution in India, 17th on the list, has increased steeply in the wake of Hindu electoral success.

“The persecution of Christians is getting g worse in every region in which we work,” says Lisa Pearce, CEO of Open Doors, “and it's getting worse fast. We should not expect that to change unless we are part of the changing situation.”

THE GUILD

Our Annual Business meeting was held on Wednesday March 16 and the committee has been tasked with preparing next year's syllabus, which will take in some suggested changes. Watch this space.

The committee, as agreed at the meeting, is as follows: Treasurer - Evelyn Baker, Secretary and contact person - Irene Hoar, Committee members - Allison Edwards, Prudence Milne, Norma Murdoch, Gwen Pyne and Christine Roger.

Meantime, the current session continues on April 6 with Rev Dougal Edwards telling us of his trip to Cuba last year.

On April 13 we again join with the rest of Angus East at the Spring Council meeting in Arbroath's Knox's Church, where the speaker is from the National Youth Assembly.

April 20 is a surprise entertainment evening; that's all I can say about that!

On Sunday May 1 Barry Church Guild is hosting Angus East's Songs of Praise evening at 6.30pm.

This brings to a close our Guild session for 2015/16. We have enjoyed a good session, managed to give away hundreds of pounds to projects, charity's and our own church and learned so much from various speakers. We now look forward to "Going in Joy" next session. Keep reading Contact over the summer as there will probably be some meetings or outings arranged. *Irene.*

ANGUS FOOD BANK

Giving up the odd piece of chocolate or cake for Lent is admirable, but it should also remind us all of the struggle some families have to afford even the most basic of food all year round.

Our congregation's donations to the Angus Food Bank are helping greatly to feed these families in times of need.

Thanks to everyone for their kindness and generosity, especially at Easter.

Graham and Kay Landsburgh.

THE CHAS COFFEE MORNING

The Funday Club thanks everyone who supported their CHAS Coffee Morning by baking, donating goods helping, or simply by attending and creating a cheerful, happy atmosphere in the Philip Hall on Saturday March 19. As we go to Press just over £550 has been raised and this will all go to CHAS, Children's Hospice Association Scotland. Any unsold goods will be taken to Kinross to be sold in the CHAS shops. Your efforts and support are greatly appreciated not only by the Funday Club but also by everyone who works for CHAS. *Jean Reid.*

TAIWAN EARTHQUAKE

The Presbyterian Church in Taiwan (PCT) went quickly into action when an earthquake hit the island in the early morning of Saturday February 6.

The main centre of damage was the Tainan area, where there are several Presbyterian congregations and a theological school.

Liaising with the local authorities and in co-operation with Taiwan Christian Service, Hunger International Alliance and Christian Council Assistance Association PCT quickly arranged temporary housing and food distribution..

PCT says that it was grateful and "deeply moved" by the many messages of support and concern received from partner churches and former missionaries.

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YOUR MINISTRY OF FLOWERS

Sun Apr 3	Mrs S. Dow, Mrs E. Duffus and the Taylor Family..
Sun Apr 10	Mrs A. Fenton and Mrs S. Lindsay.
Sun Apr 17	Mrs H. Thomson and The Vardy Family.
Sun Apr 24	Mrs D. Taylor and Mrs P. Thornton.
Sun May 1	Mrs J. Robertson and Mrs A. Thornton.
Sun May 8	Mrs E. Oswald and Mrs G Stirling.
Sun May 15	Mrs E. Baker and Mrs S. Swinton.
Sun May 22	Mrs A. Ferguson and Mrs K. Morrison.
Sun May 29	Mrs J. Hoar and Mrs P. Simpson.

**PRAYER FOCUS**

We offer these thoughts to add to your own prayers:

- 1. Belgium** – Pray for Brussels after the horrors of the terror attacks in Holy Week, seeking peace and unity among the people of the city and of the whole nation. Remember Rev Andrew Gardner and his congregation in Brussels, and all caught up in the devastation.
- 2. Mission Aviation Fellowship** – Pray for the Bake-off to Take-off event and especially the film showing of *End of the Spear* in April, that we would make the most of the opportunities for Christian witness
- 3. Prayer Spaces in Schools** – Give thanks for new opportunities to share in the life of our local schools and pray for wisdom to use these opportunities wisely and with grace.

READING FROM THE BIBLE

Sun Apr 10	Gwen Pyne.	Sun May 1	Mike Richardson.
Sun Apr 17	Kirsten Mann.	Sun May 8	Rhona Goss.
Sun Apr 24	Ian Johnston.	Sun May 15	Gordon Hampton.

"At its best prayer moves beyond words into a stillness. Imperceptibly silence fills the soul with a peace and intimacy in a way which words will never do."

Rev Scott McKenna.

BAKE OFF TO TAKE OFF

The next event to raise awareness of Barry linked with Carnoustie Church's partnership with Mission Aviation Fellowship will be a special Coffee Morning in the Philip Hall on Saturday April 23. There will be a special cake-decorating competition for children (entry fee 50p to cover the cost of the cakes provided) so bring along your children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews – the more the merrier!

Stalls will include the ever popular cake and candy, bric-a-brac and wrapped gifts to the value of at least £1. Boxes to receive those gifts will be in both churches over the next couple of weeks.

Our local Boys Brigade Company will be helping on the day so please come along and support them and everyone organising the event

Information about Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) will be in the hall and all money raised will go to funding their work in Madagascar.

StARS

No, CONTACT'S typewriter hasn't had a little blip; StARS is the St Andrews Refugee Service which operates in Cairo.

Its building was erected by the Church of Scotland over 100 years ago as a Kirk. Today it caters for 10,000 refugees a year, Syrians, Somalians, Sudanese, Ethiopians, Eritreans – Christians, most of them, who have been driven to flee from their homelands into Egypt.

The services StARS provides include legal aid, counselling for torture victims, aid for those whose experiences have led to mental health problems and, very importantly, education for children.

Education opens an escape route for many of them from child labour, child trafficking or child marriage; it can be literally life-changing.

In one year since the Syrian conflict started it is calculated that StARS helps more refugees than have been helped by the whole of the UK during the whole five years of the conflict.



STAMP CORNER



This week Royal Mail has issued a set of six stamps featuring six individuals who devoted their energies to helping and protecting other people, both in the UK and abroad.

The three men and three women, active in the 19th and 20th centuries, shared an innate concern for their fellow human beings struggling against illness, poverty, violence or hypocrisy. They also shared a single-minded desire to help them in practical ways.

I found a stamp from this issue in the stamp box last Sunday. It featured a photo portrait of Nicholas Winton who was responsible for saving the lives of 669 children in 1939.

The children were mostly Jewish and they were saved almost certain death in Nazi concentration camps when Winton organized their evacuation from Czechoslovakia to Britain or Sweden on the eve of World War II. He visited refugee camps compiling lists of eligible children, found foster parents for them and organized their safe passage across Europe in his Kindertransport trains.

Nicholas Winton's parents were German Jews who moved to London in 1907. The family name was Wertheim but they changed it to Winton in an effort at integration. They also converted to Christianity and Nicholas was baptized.

In 1983 Winton received an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for his work in establishing the Abbeyfield Homes for the elderly in Britain and in 2003 he was knighted in recognition of his work on the Czech Kindertransport. He died in 2005 aged 106.

The box at the back of the Kirk is always available to receive your contributions of used postage stamps whatever their theme or country of origin and also unwanted spectacles.

Allan MacLaren.



This year Heart and Soul is on **SUNDAY 22ND MAY 2016**, and once again people from Churches all over Scotland will be gathering to celebrate our common Christian faith in Princes Street Gardens in Edinburgh.

There will be tented booths all along the central way with displays and people from various congregations, from the central committees of the Church, and from outside Christian organisations. Once again MAF are promising to bring one of their planes for you to explore (on the ground!).

We'll also be joined by a swing band and a children's choir, and the closing service is not to be missed as thousands join together to sing praise in the gardens.

While the programme starts at 1 pm, it's easy to join in later on in the afternoon, so why not come along after Sunday morning service? Things will be finished by 6 pm, so there's time to go for a meal before heading home.

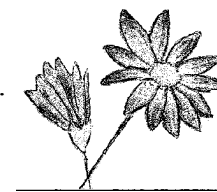
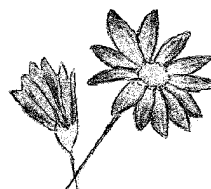
If you've never been before, it's one of the best things the National Church does for bringing us all together and celebrating our common life!

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MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP

The last couple of months I have described the planes MAF uses in Madagascar. Here are some stories about Becki Dillingham, one of the pilots working there and MAF's partnership with Mercy Ships.

It was the clear medical need that bought the vessel, Africa Mercy, to Madagascar and, once in the country, brought her crew to extend their stay. A close partnership has built up between MAF and Mercy Ships. Both organisations are clearly encouraged by the amazing ways they have seen God at work.

MAF planes have flown patients, to the ship's surgical wards from areas like Bekodoka, where MAF supports long-term medical outreaches by another partner, Philadelphie.

Last November Becki flew two grateful patients, home to Bekodoka, after successful surgical procedures aboard the Mercy Ship. .

“Mercy Ships aims to leave a legacy in the countries they visit, not only by changing peoples' lives through free surgery, but by also providing basic equipment and training in hospitals throughout the country,” Becki explains.

Among the interventions she has seen are the distribution of “Lifeboxes” which she explains are pulse oximeters that clip on to a patient's finger during surgery and warn the doctors if the blood oxygen level falls.

“The Africa Mercy's Medical Capacity Team will visit each of 16 regional hospitals twice while the ship is in Madagascar,” Becki explains. They have completed their initial training visits and now she is flying the team around the country for follow-up visits to complete staff training and to deliver Lifeboxes.

The flights themselves have not always gone smoothly. Becki was stranded in Mandritsara for several nights on a recent trip flying a partner from Medical Aid International (MAI) to a hospital in Sambava, a remote coastal town accessible only by boat or plane.

About 20 miles into the flight she realised she was flying into thunderstorms that were too big to fly over, under or around and had to return to Mandritsara.

“After a night listening to the heavy rain,” Becki reflects, “I pulled up the satellite picture on my phone to see a tropical depression sitting over us. Our departure would have to be delayed by another day.”

They finally arrived in a very hot Sambava two days later than expected and started a survey of medical equipment, putting Becki's skill in translating French into English to good use. *Irene.*



COFFEE BREAK



Welcomed by May Duffus and her helpers, regular Coffee Breakers and not a few first time visitors to the March Coffee Breaks in the Philip Hall enthusiastically sampled the home baking on offer along with their cups of coffee or tea. Overheard as they departed were a good many remarks about not needing any lunch after the experience.

By the time this copy of CONTACT reaches you the first of the April Coffee Breaks will have been held, but do make a date in your diary to come along to the second, which will be on Friday April 15 — usual place, the Philip Hall, usual time, 10.00 -11.30 am. And don't bargain on a big lunch afterwards! *Evelyn Baker.*

FUNDAY CLUB DIARY

Sun Mar 27	Easter Day No Funday Club.
Sun April 3	No Funday Club.
Sun April 10	Funday Club resumes.
Sun May 1	No Funday Club.
Sun June 19	Prize Giving.

DOOR DUTY TEAMS – A PRIL

- Sun Apr 3** Ian Johnston, Jennifer Craib, Johann Stevenson, Jim Patterson, Kay Landsburgh, Graham Landsburgh and Pru Milne.
- Sun Apr 10** Kirsty Mann, Neill Russell, Allan MacLaren, Jenny MacLaren, Jane Ower, Irene Morrison, Evelyn Baker and Irene Hoar.
- Sun Apr 17** Sandy Thornton, David Blair, Audrey Duncan, Audrey Doherty, George Roger. Mairi Allan and Sandra Armit..
- Sun Apr 24** Allan Gall, Mike Richardson, Ann Green, Sandra Dow, Jacqui Armstrong, Norma Murdoch and Jean Brown.
- Sun May 1** Alex McGill, Ann Banks, Allison Edwards, Alan Fergusson, Alan Lindsay, Val Russell and Gavin Allan.

STEWARDSHIP

Each year the Church of Scotland requires us to consider a stewardship campaign on one of the three topics in our promise when we joined the church. These topics are **time, talents and money**.

This year it's the turn of the last one so the finance team are calling a meeting on April 11 to consider how we are to raise some much needed funds this year.

We have had some volunteers from the Kirk Session but would like some more people to come forward with ideas and in particular someone with IT skills.

This first meeting will be at 1 Caesar Avenue at 7.30pm and we hope to conclude this campaign by the middle of June.

Contact Sandra Dow on 852823 for more information.

End of the Spear

thrilling action film brought to the Philip Hall by

Mission Aviation Fellowship

Successful American businessman Steve Saint flies back to Ecuador and the jungle where savage tribesmen speared his missionary father to death

Philip Hall, Friday April 29

at 7.30pm.

I & M MacDOUGALL

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THE CHURCH PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT FOCUS GROUP

The Property Focus Group was greatly encouraged by the positive response from the Congregation and the Community to the proposed plans that we and our Architect presented last year for reconfiguration of the church interior, entrance and tower.

However, when figures for indicative costs were received from the Quantity Surveyor it became clear that it is beyond the Congregation's present ability to raise funds to realise the full scheme as a single venture. We have therefore been working with the Architect on a "first phase" that would be practicable and possible to implement.

The work that is envisaged involves the transformation of the worship area into a flexible space, with a new effective and efficient heating system. The chapel would be enclosed so that it can be used independently from, and concurrently with, activities in the main sanctuary. There would be a new door from the vestibule directly into the east aisle area under the gallery, where a meeting room, kitchen and toilet facilities would be created. The upstairs area within the gallery itself would not be developed at this time, but nothing would be done that would prevent the formation of accessible first floor rooms in future.

Completion of this phase would allow the activities that currently take place in the Philip Hall to be transferred in to the church building, with the value of the Hall being realised to assist with funding.

Among other issues that have been considered are whether we should apply for the church to become a listed building (which may help to secure some grants and permit reclaim of VAT, but could also have some disadvantages) and whether or not we would accept any Lottery funding. At present, the Kirk Session has left both of these questions open. When we know all the practical and financial implications of our revised plans, the Kirk Session and Congregation will be involved fully in decision making so that we can move forward to the next steps and ultimately achieve our vision.

Peter Thornton.

2016 COMMUNION ROTA

Communion is held on the 4th Sunday of all months stated
BOLD are card communions

Team A

Sept, **Oct**, Nov

Evelyn Baker

Ann Banks

David Blair

Ian Johnston

Kirsten Mann

Margaret Rmsay

Mike Richardson

Peter Thornton

Team B

Feb, **Apr**, May

Sandra Dow

Allison Edwards

Alan Ferguson

Allan Gall

Ann Green

Norma Murdoch

Sandy Thornton

Team C

Jan, June, Aug

Audrey Duncan

Mandy Ferguson

Gordon Hampton

Irene Hoar

Alan Lindsay

Alex McGill

Gwen Pyne

Pat Thorntom/

Rhona Goss

Additional Volunteers for communion duties

Audrey Doherty

Susan Turner

Additional Volunteers for washing glasses

Sheila Blair

Jenny Maclaren (Not January)

Each team will be responsible, when they are on duty, for getting the church ready for communion, serving the elements and tidying up afterwards i.e. washing the glasses and putting everything away including the communion table and chairs.

If you arrange a swap please let your team leader (in bold italics) know as soon as possible.

THE NEXT CONTACT

The next issue of CONTACT will appear on Sunday May 1.
All items for inclusion are required by Sunday April 17.

*Carnoustie Church is a registered charity.
Registered as Carnoustie Church of Scotland.
Charity Number SCO15146.*

CARNOUSTIE CHURCH

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e-mail: michaelgoss@blueyonder.co.uk

LOCAL ORDAINED MINISTER

Rev Dougal Edwards Tel 852666

OTHER USEFUL 'PHONE NUMBERS

SESSION CLERK

Mrs Irene Hoar 859405

DEPUTE SESSION CLERK

Vacant

ACTING TREASURER

Mrs Sandra Dow 852823

ROLL KEEPER

Miss Kirsten Mann 853874

PROPERTY CONVENER

Mr Alan Ferguson 856088

FUNDAY CLUB LEADER

Miss Jean Reid 853218

YOUTH GROUP CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Mandy Ferguson 856088

HALL KEEPER

Mr Colin Roberts 853435

CONGREGATIONAL VISITATION CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Effie Bruce 411078

FLOWERS CONVENER

Mrs Sandra Penman 852204

GUILD SECRETARY

Mrs Irene Hoar 859405

CONTACT EDITOR

Mr David Blair 853663

FORTHCOMING DATES

- Mon Mar 28 – Sun April 10** Minister's holiday.
- Sun Apr 3** 11 00 am: Morning Service in Church. No Funday Club.
- Mon Apr 4** 12.15 – 1.00 pm: Prayer Group meets in Duthie Room.
- Wed Apr 6** 7.30 pm: Guild meets in Philip Hall.
- Sun Apr 10** 11.00 am: Morning Service in Church. Funday Club leaves during Service.
- Mon Apr 11** 12.15 – 1.00 pm: Prayer Group meets in Duthie Room. 7.30 pm: Finance Team meets at Caesar Avenue.
- Wed Apr 13** Angus East Guild Spring Council Meeting in Knox's Church, Arbroath.
- Thur Apr 14** 10.00 am -12.30 pm: Study and Fellowship Group meets in Duthie Room.
- Fri Apr 15** 10.00 am - 11.30 am: Friday Coffee Break in Philip Hall.
- Sun Apr 17** 11.00 am: Morning Service in Church. Funday Club leaves Church during Service.
- Mon Apr 18** 12.15 – 1.00 pm: Prayer Group meets in Duthie Room.
- Sat Apr 23** 10.00 - 11.30am: MAF Bake-off to Take-off in Philip Hall.
- Sun Apr 24** 11.00 am: Communion Service in Church. Funday Club leaves during service. 6.30pm: Communion Service in St Stephen's Chapel.
- Mon Apr 25** 12.15 – 1.00 pm: Prayer Group meets in Duthie Room. 7.30pm: Kirk Session Executive meets in Duthie Room.
- Tues Apr 26** 7.30pm: Mission and Discipleship team meets in Duthie Room.
- Thur Apr 28** 10.00 am -12.30 pm: Study and Fellowship Group meets in Duthie Room.
- Fri Apr 29** 7.00pm : 'End of the Spear' film show in Philip Hall.
- Sun May 1** 11.00 am: Morning Service in Church. Funday Club leaves during Service. 6.30 pm: Barry Church Guild hosts Angus Easts Songs of Praise.
- Mon May 2** 12.15 – 1.00 pm: Prayer Group meets in Duthie Room.
- Wed May 11** 7.30pm: Youth and Children team meets in Duthie Room.

**"There is no eloquence greater than
the silence of God."**

Rev Scott McKenna.