

# By the Way Together

The Magazine of:  
St Augustine's Scottish Episcopal Church, Dumbarton  
and  
St Mungo's Scottish Episcopal Church, Alexandria

Issue No 43 March 2019



## Liz bids us a fond “farewell” as she heads to Haddington



Cards and gifts received



A final word with gifts on display



Walking down the aisle for the  
last time on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb

Kenny delivers “eulogy” to joint congregations and URC friends

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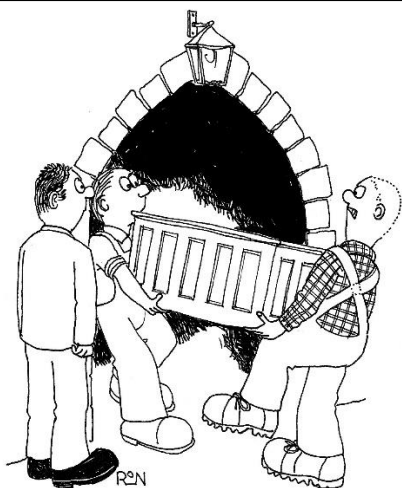
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*It was Lent, so they took it back*

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## From Kenny....

Today is special for me. For today I saw an icon which had been painted by Revd Kirsten Freeman, and it touched my soul to the point I wept.

Kirsten will explain.

“Lent is nearly upon us once

more. Once more we will daub the ash, before heading into the wilderness for a season of reflection and contemplation, of taking stock and healing

It was back in late summer last year that I saw a slice of wood and thought; how wonderful it would be to paint an icon on it. The slice of beech, with a slither of bark still on it, was part dried so before I could do anything more with it I had to let it finish drying. As it finished drying two things happened, first the bark that was on it fell off, which I had expected and wasn't particularly bothered by, it saved me having to decide if I should take it off myself or not. The second thing was it curved and split. The bowing was to my advantage as it had bowed the right way – that is the curving towards the side I wished to paint on – for it to stand more securely, and the splitting, well.

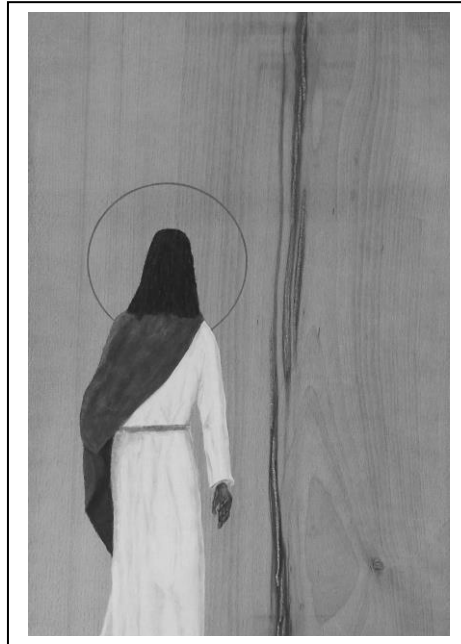
I knew when I bought the wood I wanted to paint an icon on it, but I wasn't sure what icon, until I saw the splits. I have always warmed to the Japanese art of Kintsugi, indeed I used it as the inspiration for a response on Psalm 123, now it was not just going to inspire me but I was going to have a go at it as three things were planted in my mind. I wanted to Kintsugi the cracks; I didn't want to cover up the wood – once I saw it sanded; and it was going to be an icon for Lent. The Kintsugi was to be a reflection of how, in our Lenten journey, we purposefully take the time to fill up the cracked parts of our spiritual journey. Not with the ash that begins Lent, but rather with the glory of Easter which ends it. Kintsugi is a slow and painstaking task, one that beautifies our future by honouring our past. To make those cracks beautiful rather than merely papered over them and pretend they never existed. Instead we own them, not as something to wallow in but rather to help us learn and grow, to help us in moving forward rather than holding us back.

But a crack and Kintsugi doesn't an icon make.

As soon as I had dismissed the idea of painting the whole board the idea of Jesus walking into the wilderness, into an empty scene, not a scene rich with colour and imagery, seemed the only thing to do. However, icons are usually of faces, and the face of someone walking away from you cannot be seen. I had a quandary, without a face, without other imagery, just what was the focus of the icon going to be. It couldn't be the Kintsugi that

wouldn't work and the back of a head, even Jesus' head, wasn't going to work either. I was stuck for a long time.

Then one day as I collected the Godchildren from school one of them, slightly ahead of me, held out their hand for me to take. In that moment I knew this was the answer I had been searching for.



No face to gaze upon but rather a hand. A hand of invitation. In his hand of invitation Jesus says; Come join me in the wilderness. You won't be alone, I will be with you. Come let me help you fill in those cracks, for you are precious and beloved.

To walk with Jesus is to change how we see the world and to change ourselves, not by a process of denial and putting on blinkers, but rather by a process of acceptance of the cracks which are around us and within us and letting God guide us into ways of dealing with those cracks so they don't become chasms for us to trip up and fall into, but things to beautify our journeys.”

It goes along with a poem from a great spiritual friend of mine.

One pale, quiet morning,  
I open my soul's eyes  
unarmed with faith or company,  
responsibility or joy,  
and see quite plain  
the vastness of it all, the loneliness,  
the very impossibility of life.  
A hand in the desert -  
will there be a hand?  
Someone who knows the way  
to travel this grey distance  
and find the distant hills?

The question hangs  
in the still air. But  
in the birdless silence  
is that the gentle ripple  
not mocking or sardonic  
but inviting, is that -  
oh please, is that -  
a companionable laugh?

© C.M. 03/13

The crack is Lent, the crack between the now and the unknowing, journeying through your wilderness or the rest of your life. The hand is faith, and will you take that hand. Will you dare to take his hand to lead you through the wilderness to the Easter morning? The whole thing is where I am in depression and anxiety, reaching out for this hand that will lead me through the wilderness. You are invited to take this or to take mine as we struggle together.

*Kenny*



So here it is! My first magazine! I have a hard act to follow, but I'm sure that together we can make it work.

I suppose the main thing is for the magazine to reflect the life and interests of the congregations and perhaps others involved with the organisations that operate in and around St. Augustine's and St. Mungo's. Working in Glasgow, my daily exposure to the regular activities that take place in and around the church is limited, so I need you all to become part-time reporters. To do this, you need to look at what goes on with a fresh eye and see if you can put a few words together to describe what it means to you and how you came to be involved. Without involvement, people often come to feel that they don't belong or are not welcome, but nothing could be further from the truth. My personal experiences of both churches is that there is a warmth and depth of welcome that is second to none (and more than makes up for the inadequacies of the heating systems). It is what happens beyond that welcome that makes the difference and that is what determines whether people stay or go somewhere else.

We all need an outlet to express who we are both socially and spiritually and there is opportunity in bucketloads in and around our worshipping community. We need to be openhearted to see the needs of those in our midst and to recognise and provide opportunities for others to bring and use our diverse talents in the team so that we can grow in fellowship and community together.



The magazine is one way to communicate what we do and what our needs are. Not everyone knows how things operate and, when there are very capable people running things, it can be hard to break in from the outside, so the action really needs to come from within if we want to grow our mission and ministries. Ministries, eh, I don't have a ministry, I hear you say! Personally, I think we all have a ministry. Perhaps not formal Priestly or Pastoral ministry (it would get a bit crowded if we all did that), but we all have opportunity to minister to one another, to encourage and support one another. One-man-band type ministries are not the way forward. In reality, most high profile ministries have a team of unsung heroes in the background and we all know who they are here.

We have lots of heroes that are critical for the day to day practicalities of church and community life. We need to recognise and celebrate these things more, so that others will see what is happening and perhaps become interested in getting involved. With a few more willing volunteers, it is amazing what could be achieved. So get your thinking caps on and put a few ideas down - if you don't have the means to type them (even a text message would help), then write them on paper and I will include them as soon as I can. Don't wait around for magazine deadlines, any time will do. If I have a glut of things then I can either edit or hold it for the next issue. So give it a go!

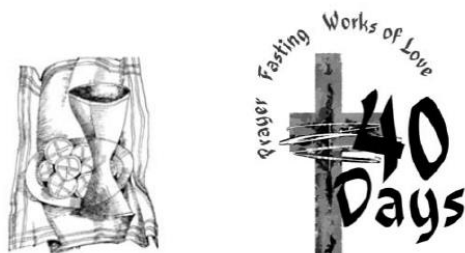
*John*

*Incidentally, if you need to change your address, or no longer want to receive the magazine, please let me know by email to: [john-wiggins@outlook.com](mailto:john-wiggins@outlook.com), or text or call 07905 177 246*

## News & Muses?

**Ann Bardsley**

is working on some fund-raisers for St Mungo's over the next few weeks, so please do what you can to help when asked.



## Lent 2019

Our Lent group this year begins on Wednesday, 13/03, 7.30pm at the Rectory. All are welcome to attend for one or all of the sessions. Indeed, some folks consider this sacrifice of time to be a valuable part of their personal preparation for Easter!

This is a group open to and supported by people from both St Mungo's and St Aug's so it is a good opportunity to get to know one another a little better too!

Our theme is "The Way of the Cross" and we shall be exploring the events of Jesus journey from the Last Supper to the tomb, by way of the cross using visuals to help us. Kirsten shall be leading the sessions with help from Dot.

It would be lovely to see you there.

Kind regards, Kirsten x



## World Water Day is 22nd March

Clean water is one thing we take completely for granted. After all, when did you last turn on the tap and expect filthy water to come out?

But sadly, bad water is still a daily reality for billions of people. The United Nations wants to help them by ensuring that everyone can access clean water by 2030. It is part of the so-called '2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development', and an enormous challenge.

Meanwhile, this year each one of us can do at least something to help on 22nd March. A donation to Water Aid will help provide safe water to marginalised communities worldwide. Simply go to:

[www.wateraid.org/uk](http://www.wateraid.org/uk)



**Solve for Happy** by Mo Gawdat.

I have been listening to this as an audiobook and found it fascinating. Mo is an engineer who has both a practical and investigative approach to all of life's issues. Successful in business and a millionaire, he was not satisfied with what life had to offer and set about finding out the secret of happiness, not as a single event but as a formula that could be applied again and again in every circumstance. He faced the ultimate test when his 21 year old son died as a result of a series of medical blunders during a routine operation. He came through it and his response was to write down his experience and share it with others so that from that personal tragedy, millions could benefit from his insight and banish unhappiness regardless of circumstance.

*John*

***If you have read or listened to a good book, please write a short review to inspire others - write it now and send, don't wait for mag deadlines!***

## Kids Corner So what is Lent?

Can you count to forty yet? Give it a go....well Lent is the forty days before Easter, when Christians think about how they are living. It starts on Ash Wednesday (look out for dirty dots on foreheads!), just after Pancake Tuesday. Many give a bit more to help the needy - that's why we have Lent boxes at the back of the church! Others make a new effort to get to church, be kind and say sorry where they have hurt someone...talk to your family about what they do and think about how you could get involved. Could you think of one kind thing to do each week between now and Easter?

This is what it says on **Topmarks** webpage!

"Lent lasts for 40 days (not including Sundays). It is the time when Christians prepare for Easter by thinking of the things they have done wrong. It is a solemn time which reminds them of the time in Jesus' life when, after giving up his work as a carpenter, he began to teach people about God. Jesus prepared for this by spending 40 days without food alone in the desert.

Lent used to be a time for fasting or going without food as Jesus had done. Nowadays many people give up a favourite thing they enjoy like sweets and often give money to charity.

The colour purple is linked to Lent. In some churches the altar is covered with a purple cloth, the pulpit has a purple 'fall' and the priest's garments are purple."

Now try the puzzle/colour page!

### Dolly Goes on a Trip

It was a lovely warm afternoon as Dolly, the church mouse, popped her nose out of her hole in the wall to be greeted by lovely sunshine. She had lots of worries on her little mind and was not sleeping well. It was a short journey to cousin Dominic's, just across the field to his church and he had said she could pop in any time at all.

Dolly preened her white shining whiskers until they were as sparkly as the sun and as beautiful as her white fur and as bright as her little pink eyes. She made her way into the long grass keeping an eye out for cats that would see her as a nice snack, and schoolboys looking for a pet mouse.

It is a nice journey to Dominic's church she thought as she enjoyed the smell of the damp soil, topping for the occasional nibble here and there. The wild flowers were really nice to look at and sniff (as mice do!)

At Dominic's church she could hear the organ's rumbling tones filling the air and vibrating the building. She knew where he would be, and sure enough, there he was under the stage lying on fresh bedding listening.

"Hello cousin" Dominic said as she walked in. "How are you Dolly?. Dominic was a big chocolate brown mouse with shiny black eyes and glossy coat and he was easy to talk to. "Oh Dominic, I have so many things to talk to you about, so many worries".

The two mice cousins rubbed noses and settled down to listen to the concert above and it made them happy. "What is worrying you Dolly? Tell me, I might be able to help." said Dominic. "You see Dominic I am so worried about my church, so few people come now and the vicar isn't keeping very well. Where will I go if the humans are not there to drop scraps for me to eat ... and that church CAT!" "Is he trying to hurt you Dolly?" asked Dominic with a frown. "Oh no - he snores a lot and keeps me awake!" "Hmm let me see, let's sleep on it!" Dolly slept happily that night and kept Dominic awake with her snoring!

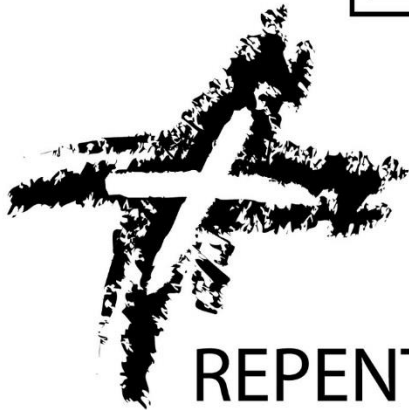
In the morning as Dominic and Dolly sat munching on a custard cream he said, "Well, I have an idea Dolly and I think, if you like, you could move in with me here. There are plenty of places to sit and enjoy the music and listen to the choir, and there are no CATS! Its always warm and there are plenty of scraps to eat." "Can I really!" exclaimed Dolly as she jumped up and down with joy.

"Dolly, my home is your home. God always provides for his family and I could do with the company." This made Dolly very happy and they went outside together in the sun to munch on another custard cream. Dominic had always fancied being a Priest Dolly thought.

A Nony Mouse

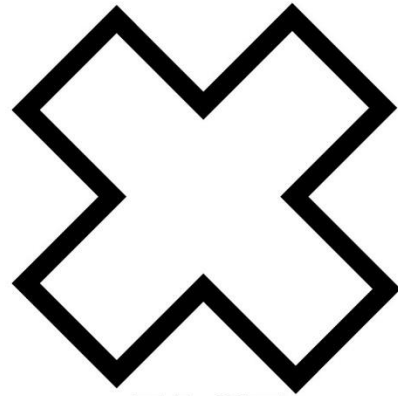


# LENT



**REPENT**

- say sorry to God  
for the wrong  
things you have said,  
thought or done



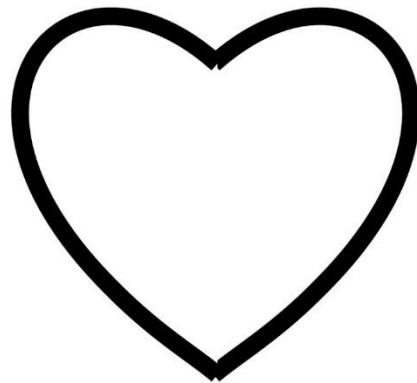
**FAST**

- go without



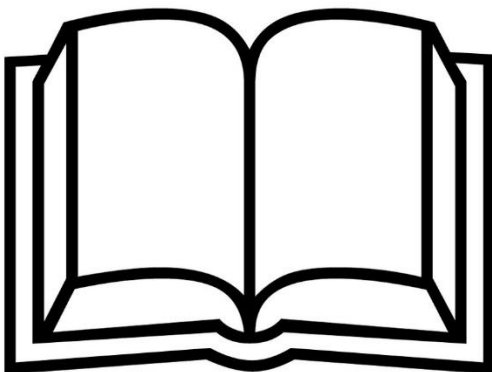
**REFLECT**

- think about God



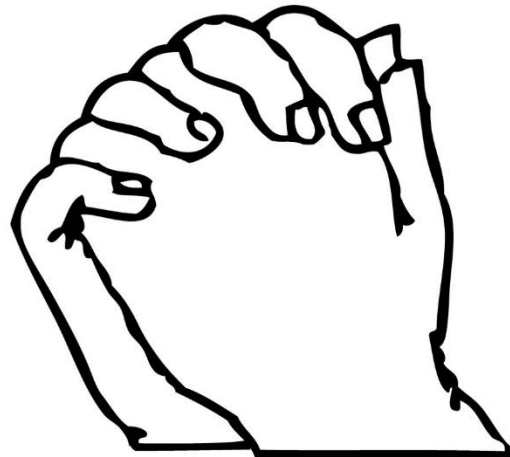
**FORGIVE**

other people



**READ**

the Bible



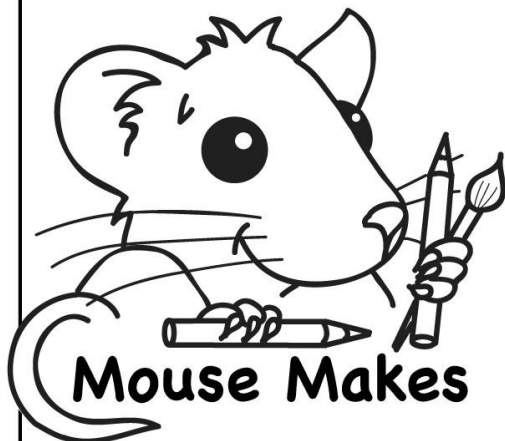
**PRAY**





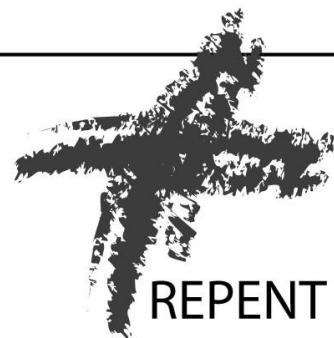






During Lent read through the Gospel of Luke and each day pray for God to help you become more like Jesus

**Lent** is the name given to the **40 days** before Easter and is a time to *pray*, to *read* the bible and to *turn* to God. The first day of Lent is **Ash Wednesday**, a day to *repent* and say *sorry* to God for the wrong things we have *said* or *thought* or *done*.



P W R P W O R D O R G F  
I S C R I P T U R E O O  
T O O A L R E A D F D R  
E R K Y D I T H E L P T  
M R E M E M B E R E R Y  
P Y F O R G I V E C E D  
T S L E N T N R J T P A  
A S H W E D N E S D A Y  
T W O R S H I P U E R S  
I E J E S U S E S N E D  
O F A S T H I N K Y E Y  
N I B I B L E T G I V E

Can you find these words in the word search above?

LENT • ASH WEDNESDAY • FORTY DAYS  
JESUS • WILDERNESS • TEMPTATION • PRAY • FAST  
DENY • REPENT • SORRY • FORGIVE • GIVE • HELP  
PREPARE • REFLECT • THINK • READ • SCRIPTURE  
BIBLE • WORD • REMEMBER • WORSHIP • GOD



## Seek Justice, love Mercy and walk Humbly with your God.

That is what we are called to do, but how often do we put it into practice? It is difficult not to go along with the prevailing view. Recently I wrote an article for the magazine entitled "Societal Sepsis" reflecting on the current trend to want "heads to roll" for some failing or transgression of public figures, pointing out that we, the church should approach things differently. It is hard to swim against the tide. Take the current example of Sharmeena Begum, the 19-year-old "jihadi bride" stripped of her citizenship by the Home Secretary. Did you think "she got what she deserves" as the press appears to be advocating, or did you think "she was a misguided, traumatised teenager who needs to be shown mercy?"

What wins, justice or mercy? Perhaps both? Personally, I cannot conceive of why a 15-year-old would do such a thing, but it is not so unusual for teenagers to do or say ridiculous things (I'm sure I did) and mostly we think "they will grow out of it" and mostly they do. Sometimes the consequences hit them before they get a chance to "grow out of it" and in those cases, I think mercy needs to prevail. Sure, they do have to "face the music" and take responsibility for their actions, but we need to show them mercy too.

What type of society do we want - vengeful and vindictive or merciful, willing to rehabilitate? Mercy is not about soft-soaping things, it is holding to account but choosing restorative justice rather than raw punishment. Mercy is about the possibility of repentance and rehabilitation in a damaged scrap of humanity.

I am reminded of the time Jesus wrote on the ground when the crowd, led by Scribes

and Pharisees, was baying for blood, waiting to stone the woman caught in adultery. Why did the crowd melt away when he states: "he who is without sin, cast the first stone"? Perhaps he wrote something that reminded them of their own failures? Left alone with the woman, Jesus, having dealt with her accusers, shows grace and mercy "neither do I condemn you", with justice following "go and sin no more."

Perhaps we should argue for mercy by Sajid Javid, so that instead of apparent political expediency (not to appear soft) he would show statesmanship and the moral high ground? Otherwise we are lifting the stone and perpetuating violence, just like the jihadis we repudiate.

*John*

### Notx to Mxmbxrs

Xvxn though this typewriter is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll except for onx of thx kxys. It is trux that thxrx arx 46 kxys that function wxll xnough, but onx kxy not working makxs thx diffxrxncx.

You may say to yoursxlf, "Wxll, I am only onx pxrson, I won't makx or brxak any plans." But it doxs makx a difference! A parish to be xffxctivx nxxds thx work and prayxrs of vxvry mxmbxr.

So thx next timx you think you arx only onx pxrson and that your xfforts arx not nxxdx, remember this old typxwritx and say to yourself, "I am a kxy pxrson in this parish of God's Church and my support is nxxdx vxry much."

Author Unknown

Submitted by John Russell

### .....*Smile Lines*.....

**Signs** - The new curate had put some signs around the church. They read:  
Keep your eyes on me preaching! Stop reading these signs!

**Experience** is something you don't get until just after you need it.

**Don't lie** - If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

**Moses and IT** - When you think about it, Moses was the first one to download files from the cloud, using a tablet.







## Such Sweet Sorrow

What a bitter-sweet celebration we had on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February as both congregations, joined by the URC came together to bid farewell to the now Rector Reverend Liz...or as our young Lewis put it...Prime Minister! There was hardly a dry eye in the house as, drying her own eyes and breathing deeply, Liz preached from Exodus 33, where Moses is hidden in a cleft of a rock and graced to see the back of God as He passes by. She assured us all that as she looked back on her time here, she could indeed see God at work. She will miss the laughter and love she experienced among us and of course she in turn will be missed by Kenny who famously described her as the shiny faced one (that's Moses too by the way!) and both of his congregations who have benefited tremendously from her warmth, grace, love and dedication.

The roof was raised as the praise band gave it lalady with Liz's extensive choice of favourite hymns. The children shared their ideas on what the best gift you can give somebody is...apparently not the lovely basket of gardening things she was presented with but CHOCOLATE HEARTS....out of the mouths of babes and infants... The adults also passed over tokens of gratitude - an iconic painting of Madonna and child, a painting of Dumbarton...just as well she has plenty wall space in that new rectory, a cotter with intricate embroidery, jewellery to add to her collection, some money and an M&S voucher. Curtains shouted Phil...but I don't think so...

Kenny spoke eloquently and from the heart as he thanked Liz for the support she had given and all she had taught him as they ministered together...then went on to spill the beans on priestly goings on.... Discussions about "us lot" fuelled by eclairs, coffee and cigarettes! Well I never!

The Friends as ever stepped up and provided a sumptuous lunch, augmented by left-overs from the Synod feast...was it them who supplied the champagne? A cake was cut and many conversations enjoyed before we all went our separate ways.

We will miss you, Liz but God speed- Haddington will be blessed! For now, we hold you prayerfully in our hearts knowing we WILL see you again. Until then keep smiling!

**Kirsten**

## Lent boxes 2019

LENT  2019

Last Sunday at St Augustine's you may have received a wee cardboard box, in the shape of a house. Instead of a house think of a church. This year there is no Bishop's charity to support, so St Augustine's have decided that their Lent collection will go to help St Andrew's Church in The Gambia.

You will have read about St Andrew's already, many times, in the magazine and from Kenny. It's a small, very poor church with enormous heart and determination. It's also where Kenny spent several months of his sabbatical and where he and Linda, with Liz sometimes, still worship when they visit The Gambia. As it happens it's also my local Anglican church.

Over the years we have watched the roof of the existing hut show more and more signs of water ingress, we have seen the struggle for space in the altar area and we have been part of a congregation that has welcomed us and made us feel part of the world-wide Anglican Communion.

Now St Andrew's congregation are trying to create a more suitable church building. They have laid the foundations and made the floor. Thousands of bricks have been made on site but progress is limited by cash flow. Every dalasi (£1 = about 60 dalasi) counts. Every bag of cement costs about £5, every lorry load of sand about £120. And lots of cement and sand are still needed.

So every penny and pound that you are able to put in your Lent box will make a real difference and demonstrate our support for a church in a much poorer part of the world.

**Fran**



## *Wait Till I Tell You.....'*

*Janette, with Spring finally in the air, looks forward to lighter nights, saying goodbye to the gloves and paying the summer holiday – makes it seem closer! There's a quick recollection of seeing Liz off to the East and the never ending challenge of Brexit.*

### **WHAT HAPPENED TO FEBRUARY?**

The 'little month' as the Welsh call it seemed shorter than ever this year as we anxiously awaited another 'Beast from the East'. No one was going to be caught out with empty shelves (or gin bottles) this year. So we prudently stocked up .....and what happened? In February's closing weeks record breaking temperatures brought the sighting of at least one '*strappy tap*' on the Westcliff bus to say nothing of a wee backless number at the Civic!

Oh, the smug were out cutting their grass, Spring cleaning began in earnest and we started counting the '*number of sleeps*' till Brexit Day – currently 29<sup>th</sup> March but watch this space. I wonder if big Theresa sleeps? She certainly produces insomnia in others.

Suddenly, it was March which is supposed to '*come in like a lion*' but Leo arrived late on the 2<sup>nd</sup> so let's hope that it still goes '*out like a lamb*' for April and a joyous Easter.

### **THE LEAVING OF LIZ.**

On 24<sup>th</sup> February we said our goodbyes to Liz at St. Augustine's in what was a memorable though tearful service. But we'll follow her career with interest now that she's off to a posh area, an upmarket rectory and all the excitement of being her own boss. St. Aug's was busy that Sunday and Liz was presented with many gifts to remind her of her days with us in the West. We enjoyed a delicious buffet served with a glass of 'bubbly' to drink to the future of all the O'Ryan family in Haddington. We shall see Liz once more at her Institution on the 12<sup>th</sup> March if our bus makes it through the rush hour traffic of Scotland's two major cities. All will be revealed in the April magazine. Yes, we are grateful to Liz for making such a major contribution to our history. She has assured us that if we're ever lost when trying to find the Portobello shore or even the Bass Rock, she will put the kettle on and never ever welcome us with that well known Edinburgh greeting '*You'll have had your tea?*'

### **BREXIT'S LAST STAND – OR IS IT?**

Well, here we are again! It's going to be another big week for Brexit. The meaningful vote will be held and further challenges will no doubt emerge. The meaningful vote? Surely all votes should be meaningful votes and we're not paying politicians generous wages and ridiculous expenses to indulge in trivial, insignificant or unimportant votes?

These Westminster shenanigans certainly make the mad March hares seem almost sensible!

And February was a very dodgy month for our political elite with some of them not knowing which party they wanted to belong to. Jeremy's too busy for Brexit. He's reading the Old Testament for Lent and struggling to understand the momentum that's being gained by his disintegrating Labour Party.

Nobody's listening to Vince who longs for a 'People's Vote' to solve the whole crisis – or even make things worse. What does he mean by a 'People's Vote?' Are there other kinds? I don't think my cat is on the electoral roll. Battling for Scotland we have SNP's Wee Ian, always encased in his waistcoat. He keeps repeating himself and for all the interest he generates amongst the English members, he would be better off cheering them up with the first verse of '*Oh ye canny shove yer Granny aff the bus!*' But there was good news recently for the Prime Minister with Jacob Leap Frog rumoured to be jumping over to support her sacred deal - with just a tweak or two! We'll see! TBag O'Neill's taking no chances – she's been stockpiling the Tetley's since Christmas!

Big Theresa is so busy running backwards and forwards to Brussels that she doesn't have time to go for her messages and admits to scraping the mould off her jam when making up her man's pieces. That's terrible! Thank goodness she's not on the St. Auggie's tea rota! Oh, and she swears she had nothing to do with that sticking plaster on Jean - Claude Juncker's face. She'd have preferred to have seen it stuck it over his mouth!

Also, March is the wrong time to be making big important decisions. The month was called after the Roman god of war so quarrels are commonplace. And we're heading right into the Ides of March – bad time for the powerful! Remember what happened to Julius Caesar and '*Et tu, Brute*' on the 15<sup>th</sup> and beware!

Just think – by next month's magazine it could be '*deal or no deal that is the question*', maybe!

## A HOOK IN THE PARK.

### Scene 1

**Outside the new Pavilion Café at Levensgrove. Rover, a Brucehill mixed breed and Spot, a Bellsmyre Jack Russell are securely hooked up on the decking.**

Spot Woof, woof. Ur ye awright, Rover?

Rover Naw, it's ridiculous, so it is! I canny get aff this hook.

Spot It's terrible – I've jist learned tae walk aff the lead but noo I'm hooked tae this café wall.

Rover And aw the humans are inside bletherin' and eatin' scones.

Spot We'll never get a walk the day – mine is away fur another cup o' coffee.

Rover They got a £2.64 million lottery grant fur this place.

Spot An aw we get is a hook oan the wa'! D'ye think we should phone the RSPCA?

Rover Naw, but I'm fed up. Woof, Woof! Oh, ur you gaun tae sign the petition?

Spot Whit fur?

Rover The wan in the Lennox – tae get a statue built for Robert the Bruce.  
His entrails ur buried jist ower there in St. Serf's Chapel.

Spot Jings, you're a right clever dug! Naw, I don't fancy entrails. Where ur his bones?

Rover Whit an eejit! He died here in 1329.

Spot Ur you goin' tae Crufts at the end o' the week?

Rover Don't be stupit! It's no' fur the likes o' us. It's full o' pedigree posers! Here, dae you see who I see? Woof, Woof!

Spot Oh aye – that bitch can hook up wi' me any time! Woof, Woof!

Rover She's oot o' your league, Spot, - she's wan o'thae designer dugs. She steys in Bonhill Road and hur name is Joules Hardie.

Spot Joules? That's no' a name fur a dug.  
Woof, Woof– she's lookin' ower here.

Rover She wis called efter her mistress's jumper! Hi Joules!

Spot She's bein' cleaned and shoved in her big automatic car wi' the personalised number plate.

Rover They never stop fur a coffee – (**enter 2 humans**) - oh, here come oor owners.

Spot An here comes the rain – it'll be a short walk this mornin'. See you the morra, Rover. Woof, Woof.

**Exit Spot and Rover with their owners.**

### PAN OR PACKET – HOW WAS IT FOR YOU?

Last week we celebrated Pancake or Shrove Tuesday. That's the day before Ash Wednesday when we eat up all our fat, eggs and sugar before embarking on the sombre season of Lent. But today we have a choice. We can go to a lot of bother and have to wash up the mess or simply walk into the supermarket and buy them in a packet. That's what I did and I noticed Ghislaine had some in her trolley! Into the microwave, cover in Nutella, Maple Syrup, Brown Sugar and Lemon – delicious every time!

### CASHLESS SOCIETY – HOW WOULD YOU COPE?

Aye, the banks are closing, technology is on the rise and there are those who would prefer us to carry no cash in our pockets. Just think. No Lent Boxes, no Church Collection Plates and no Parking Meters. And how would we get into a public toilet? OK – there are contactless cards! But if you dropped that ubiquitous card down the pan you could have a miserable day out and maybe have to phone a friend to get you home. Oh, the government is trying to do something about it. That'll be right! It could be the Brexit of the next decade.

### BACK NEXT MONTH WITH THE EASTER EDITION.

Make sure of your copy by coming along to St. Aug's or St. Mungo's. We might even have a new Bishop – let's hope he's as good an actor as Bishop Gregor!

*Janette*



## ROTAS FOR ST MUNGO'S

**Sunday March 3rd**

**Reader/Intercessions**

**Sidesperson**

**Music**

**Pat Brooks**

**Ian Marshall**

**Carol Meacham**

**Sunday March 10th**

**Reader/Intercessions**

**Sidesperson**

**Music**

**Carol Meacham**

**Ian Marshall**

**Andrew Baxter**

**Sunday March 17th**

**Reader/Intercessions**

**Sidesperson**

**Music**

**Lynne McWhinnie**

**Ian Marshall**

**Andrew Baxter**

**Sunday March 24th**

**Reader/Intercessions**

**Sidesperson**

**Music**

**Anne Bardsley**

**Ian Marshall**

**Carol Meacham**

**Sunday March 31st**

**Reader/intercessions**

**Sidesperson**

**Music**

**Pat Brooks**

**Ian Marshall**

**Carol Meacham**

## CLEANING

**March 3rd**

**March 17th**

**March 24<sup>th</sup>**

**March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Iona and Mary**

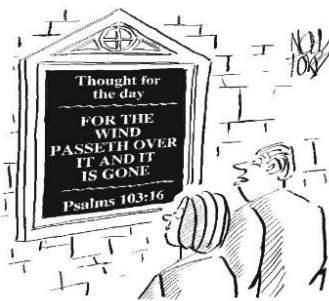
**Margaret**

**Jean**

**Finella**



I am stockpiling, just in case...



"The vicar's looked at the weather forecast and is preparing us for appeal."

Wife texts husband on a cold winter morning:

"Windows frozen, won't open."

Husband texts bac: "Gently pour some lukewarm water over it and then gently tap edges with hammer."

Wife texts back 10 mins later:

"Computer really messed up now."

## ROTAS FOR ST AUGUSTINE'S

**Sunday March 3rd**

**Readers**

**Intercessions**

**Chalice**

**Sidespersons**

**Sharon Rowatt & Roddy Dyer**

**Linda Macauley**

**Fran Walker & Barbara Barnes**

**Maggie Wallace**

**& Cathie Hoatsen**

**Sunday March 10th**

**Readers**

**Intercessions**

**Chalice**

**Sidespersons**

**Ghislaine Kennedy**

**& Margaret Hardie**

**Dot Russell**

**Sharon Rowatt & Janet Barnes**

**Lorraine McCulloch**

**& Margaret Swan**

**Sunday March 17th**

**Readers**

**Intercessions**

**Chalice**

**Sidespersons**

**Janette Barnes & Evelyn O'Neil**

**David Rowatt**

**Margaret Hardie**

**& Maggie Wallace**

**Linda Jenkinson**

**& Barbara Barnes**

**Sunday March 24th**

**Readers**

**Intercessions**

**Chalice**

**Sidespersons**

**Maggie Wallace & Fran Walker**

**Margaret Hardie**

**David Rowatt & Kirsten Wiggins**

**David Ansell & Roddy Dyer**

**Sunday March 31st**

**Readers**

**Intercessions**

**Chalice**

**Sidespersons**

**Morag O'Neill & Linda Macauley**

**Fran Walker**

**Janet Barnes & Barbara Barnes**

**Chrissie Ashman**

**& Roberta Mailley**

**Flowers**

**No Flowers during Lent**

## Cursillo

### Change of date

The next meeting will be held in  
St Aug's on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30.  
It will be led by Dot and John and  
everyone is welcome.



Neil Heavisides  
gets down to  
listen and learn



## Sunday School Report



Flower basket and  
pictures for Liz



### Bible Study Bits



A hug is the best  
gift of all,  
although chocolate  
hearts are close!



And so another session of the bible study group has drawn to a close and as you can see from the pictures, we finished as is our want with a night of feasting and fellowship. Various members from the group shared their favourite psalm, in a variety of ways, some opting to talk us through what the verses meant to them, others using downloads of musician renditions of their favourite and one bold member even bringing along a guitar and singing for us. Wonderful! We discussed the highs and lows of the human experience common to us all and saw how we could indeed find solace within these carefully crafted songs, a solace which always led us back into the Father's heart and a place where we could laugh or cry, rage or simply rest. What a gift they are!

Kirsten Googled to see if she could find what the nation's favourite psalm is but there are oodles of lists....not surprisingly psalm 23 is a common front runner, but no definite answer on that one! Maybe our next venture will be to add images to our favourites and turn them into bookmarks or cards so we can pass them on to others to bring them a little comfort when they are going through tough times...watch this space! Love from all the regulars x

Please remember that **everyone** is welcome to come along on to the bible study. We usually run for a block of six-eight weeks max but there is no need to attend every session. We are not particularly academic...our focus is on exploring how we might put the scriptures we read into practice in our everyday lives and on building fellowship between us. As we get to know one-another better, we build friendships and support circles. There is often a lift available if transport is an issue and we make sure everyone gets home safe and sound! If you fancy giving it a go, speak to Kirsten or one of the other "regulars".

