

# By the Way Together

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

Issue No 13 October 2015



**'My other  
car's a  
Porsche'**

*Car expert baptised  
at St Aug's!*

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*Garden Project News*

*Gambia Report*

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*Chuckles Galore!*

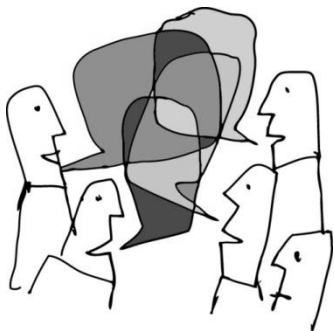
*Future Events*

*Photos of Young and Old!*

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## A Right Good Wednesday Get-together!



First of all, many thanks to Kirsten and John for hosting the weekly House Group. It means we have a warm, comfortable meeting place in which we are all made welcome. At the moment there are 10 of us – 3 men and 7 women. We are discussing the Gospel according to St Mark and many and varied are the opinions thereof. We are talking about each chapter at a time – one chapter per evening - and by tomorrow night we will have reached chapter 10. This gives us the chance to follow the development of Jesus' ministry and His relations with the people of the area – not just the “posh” folk like the Scribes and the

Pharisees – or the important folk like the High Priests, Herod Antipas and Pontius Pilate – but also the ordinary folk with problems like blind Bartimaeus and the “woman with an issue of the blood”.

We are getting an overall picture of the times, the area and how Jesus copes with it all. Gospel readings in the church service tend to cover a very small topic, rather than giving a broad overview.

When we have finished airing our opinions, we then settle down to enjoy Kirsten's home baking, tea and coffee, and settle the affairs of the nation. Many thanks Kirsten. We don't just come for the food!

Come and join us sometime – Its fun!



*Evelyn O'Neill*

## One Liners!

### **Lend**

If you lend someone £20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

### **Truth**

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

### **Bug**

Some days you are the bug; some days you are the windscreen.



### **Judge**

Good judgement comes from bad experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgement.

### **Quick**

The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket.

### **Mouth**

A closed mouth gathers no foot.

### **Duct tape**

Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side and a dark side, and it holds the universe together.

### **Women**

There are two theories to arguing with women. Neither one works.

### **Lips**

Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.

### **Experience**

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





## From Kenny

### **Dumbarton Gambia Education Association Chairman's Report 2015**

Linda and I have not visited the school since November 2014, although Fran Walker and Faye Suso have made fairly regular visits since then, and they report that the school is flourishing and going from strength to strength. This would echo our experience last November, and although I have not witnessed the many activities, I am in receipt of excellent feedback from our Headmaster Sulayman Saidy, including regular reports and photographs. The latest reports and photographs have not been shared widely enough, and it is my priority that these things should be updated regularly on the St Augustine's website in future, and distributed to all on our email list.

We are extremely blessed by such a talented and much admired Head, and he takes his role as being the main communicator between us in a highly competent fashion. He is backed by an excellent teaching staff and we have no worries that the school attains an excellence which is remarked on, very favourably, by Officials from the Gambian Education Inspectors. We are now officially Certificated!

Our visit in November gave the green light to a number of things which needed to be done, including the building of a shed to accommodate play equipment and bikes and scooters which had been purchased and were in full use, but taking up too much space in the school building itself. That shed is now being built, it's Gambia Time, but other improvements like the repainting of the school are scheduled to take place at the end of the rainy season.

Our wage rises reflected the incredible rate of inflation in The Gambia at the time, and although it was a fairly hefty rise for the employees, we could easily cover it since we were, at that point, getting an amazing rate of Dalasis to our Pound Sterling. In effect the wage rise cost us nothing in sterling, but made a huge improvement to the

lives of our staff. Each employee was given a bag of rice for their compound as a Christmas gift from us, and in recognition of the effort they had put in during the calendar year.

We are giving teaching experience to a young girl, at the moment, free of charge, as her sponsor is paying for her to go on to higher education. She has been an excellent addition to our staff and comes free of wages! In February, her sponsor invited a large group of our children to visit their compound in Brufut, which has a swimming pool, and the children had a wonderful day.

February, too, saw First Aid Training along with the staff from Sunrise, and this is thanks to the Scottish Charity, First Aid for The Gambia, run by Bill Nelson. Our First Aid kit was topped up accordingly. In this busy month, new metal storage cupboards were supplied and this tidies our classrooms and locks away that which is needed to be securely stored.

These are all manifestations of Sulayman's Action Plan for 2014-15, which included regular meetings with the Parent/Teacher Association, Excursions, monthly assessments with pupils, a Sports Day including Sunrise, and the inevitable Graduation Ceremony when we were represented by Helen Touray, our Administrator. Sulayman had diaried in what needed to be done up until the new term which begins on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2015.



The excursion this year was a valuable one, visiting the Model Horticultural Garden, where children learned how to grow what they eat and eat what they grow. The children were shown how to make compost and manure and a variety of crops and plants. This is mirrored by what St Mungo's Alexandria in doing in Scotland at present, and it was most encouraging that our pupils were being taught what the land could do for them in their poverty. A visit to the Holy Shrine at Sanehmentering, then off to the beach to lunch and play. A very successful day indeed. Of course, the Academic Year was rounded up with a big open Graduation day where the children put on an excellent display of what they had learned during the year to parents and invited guests. I find it overwhelming that so many parents are interested in their children's education and in the way they support their children and their teachers. I am constantly getting feedback from them with gratitude for what we are providing and they do not take it for granted. If our school was not there, very few of our 90 children would be in any sort of education. The Feeding Programme feeds empty bellies and medical care is provided where necessary. The Staff are to be commended for building a community, almost a family of learning, support and excellence and that can't be a bad thing! Our gratitude goes out to them all for working so hard to get where we are now. There seems to be sufficient funds to keep going for now, but we are always in need of more sponsors.

A note on Fatou Mbye has to be recorded. You may be aware that Fatou was initially sponsored by Peter McMartin a number of years ago, and in Peter's memory, some family members and others have continued to support this young woman through her educational life. She is nearing the end of how far we can go with her, but she has turned into a well-rounded, highly

articulate young lady, and we are sure that with the foundation we have given her, she will go on to succeed in whatever she decides to do. We have given her a wonderful opportunity to do well in life, despite the fact that she comes from the poorest compound I have witnessed in Serrekunda. Thank you to all who have helped us achieve this.

There are many people to thank besides the staff and sponsors. Our Administrator, Helen Touray, despite having had a year of poor health, has run the school on a weekly basis with tact, diplomacy and competence. Without her we would be in real trouble. Food is always supplied as needed, and wages are paid on time with the appropriate deductions, keeping everyone, including the tax and social security people happy. Again, Helen is in constant contact, and accounts for every Dalasi spent within the project. She is indeed a star, and perhaps should be rewarded rather more than we do at present. She has a little band of helpers, not least within the Sunrise Centre who have been able to fill in when she underwent surgery this year, but even in her convalescence she was totally on top of matters and provided us with monthly balance sheets.

OSCR are happy with our returns and accounts, and we pride ourselves that the vast amount of money given, probably about 95%, goes directly to the children and staff in one way or another. We are keeping around eight families who are employed away from the ravages of poverty and low income.

I want to thank you all for your input, and pray that you will continue to support us in the coming year.

**Revd Kenneth Macaulay (Chair) September 2015.**

WELCOME, INTEGRATION AND NUMERICAL GROWTH DEVELOPMENT TEAM

## **CHURCH GROWTH – THE TASK AND THE CHALLENGE**

**Speaker – Bob Jackson**

St Silas, Glasgow

**Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

10am – 3pm

All clergy and laity encouraged to attend

If interested  
please see Liz



I have a love/hate relationship with my daily commute to work. It takes me an hour each way and I sometimes resent the time it takes up – time which I would far rather be spending doing something more useful. On the other hand I

love it because it gives me 2 hours a day which are all mine in which I can think, reflect and (more often) sing! But it is also a time in which I can watch our beautiful landscape change over the weeks and months of driving... at the moment the trees are beginning to turn and the patches of orange and red against the prevailing green are stunning. The autumn mists are beginning to come down too and I often cross the Erskine Bridge seemingly floating above a sea of cloud. Autumn is here, and 2015 seems to be passing at the rate of knots!

The passing of time was very much brought home to our family recently with the death of my lovely mother-in-law. At her funeral we were surrounded by her legacy (and dynasty!) of 7 children, 24 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren - all of whom helped to either carry the coffin or say readings and prayers. As the family caught up with each other the phrase that was often said and heard through snippets of conversation was "Where have all those years gone?" The years certainly seem to have flashed past. I remember so well travelling with Phil to Ireland for the first time, nervous as anything, to meet Breda 27 years ago – and now, in so many ways, it seems like only yesterday.

The passing of time appears on the surface to be simple.... it existed in the past... it is happening now in the present...and stretches into the future.... How difficult is that to understand? Well, if you're a physicist apparently it's not that straightforward. Recently I watched a programme presented by Brian Cox called 'Do you know what time it is?' and it was utterly mind blowing. To be honest I only lasted 15 minutes into the programme because by that time my brain cell had already gone into meltdown with the suggestion that a day is never 24 hours (huh?)... that we are moving through time at the speed of light (yipes!) ... and that the feeling of time passing is actually an illusion (oh, yeah?). See what I mean? Apparently time is not straightforward at all.

All of these thoughts and musings were placed into a much more theological framework for me with the readings that were chosen for Breda's funeral. The first was from Ecclesiastes 3: 'There is a time for everything... and a season for every activity under the heavens.... A time to be born, a time to die... a time to weep and a time to laugh' – and so it goes on with a list of all the ups and downs which happen to us all in life. The second reading was from 2 Timothy where the writer says 'I have completed well. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. The crown of righteousness now awaits me'.

Time and God. God and time. I am sure that there could be (and probably have been) books and books written on the subject. But at the moment I have just a few thoughts floating around my head on the subject. First and foremost we believe that God is eternal... the same yesterday, today and forever, as the writer of Hebrews says. God does not change... has never changed... and will never change. Our understanding of him (which is always incomplete) *has* changed over the years – but God does not. This means that there has never been a time without God – and there never will be. God has been with us in the past, is with us now in all our ups and downs, in all our crying and rejoicing, in our living and our dying – but he is also ahead of us... already in our future... calling us on into the possibilities of tomorrow. That reality I find very comforting and also full of hope.

If we take God's eternity seriously it puts the time of our lives into perspective. In one sense it means that our lives are no more than a blink of an eye – but in another, looking from the perspective of eternity, it means we have all the time in the world to take all the time we could ask for... we can take time to *saunter* with God... to appreciate the wee things in life... to take time to listen, to care, to value each other. 'Eliminate hurry from your life' I read in a book recently. Yes, if we give our time and our life over to God, where is the rush, where is the urgency? For we have eternity with our God.

Enough of the musings.... I think it's time to get on with my 'not-so busy' day....

*with love, Liz*





## Food for Thought

**September has been, in a lot of ways, a quieter month for Food for Thought... but we have still given out food to 115 people, 52 of them being kids.**

In amongst the usual day-to-day run of things we did have a particularly manic Friday: 100 frozen turkey dinners were delivered for us give out to any who needed a right good feed! The dinners had been donated by a restaurant at Braehead, who, having ordered too many, were going to throw the extra out. A very thoughtful chef, Ian, thought that to throw perfectly good food was terribly wasteful and called Food For Thought to see if we could use them! We, of course, were happy to help out... so early Friday morning saw Morag, Matthew & Lindsay emptying the van and sorting 100 very cold packages!

I had a few anxious moments (in fact a recurring nightmare) as I worried what I would do if we were left with tons of frozen turkeys.... or that a large proportion of Dumbarton's population would go down with food poisoning! But all was well, and everyone who took the food said it was of 5 star standard!

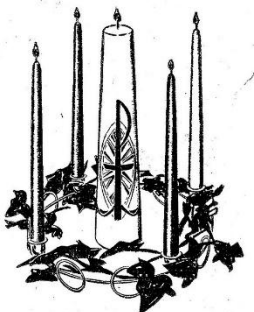
Financially Food For Thought is coping, but is now having to spend money on food on a regular basis. In one sense this is fantastic because it means that up until now we have managed to feed those in need without using our reserves but it is still worrying that with demand going up we are now dipping into it.

One highlight for this month is that we have finally sent our application to OSCR for charity status - so watch this space. This will mean that we are able to apply for funding for all the services we provide as well as securing the emergency food aid part of Food for Thought into next year and beyond.

I am so looking forward to Harvest when I hope God is good to us again. Old Kilpatrick Bowling Parish Church have started us off with a huge donation of food. Many thanks to them for thinking of us.

Without the support we are given by the congregation and the Church, this vital community support would not be possible so a sincere thank you to all who help and donate.

*Caroline Marsland*



### Diocesan Advent Quiet Day

05/12/15 from 10 for 10.30 am - 3pm

at

**HOLY TRINITY & ST BARNABAS, PAISLEY.**

"The Advent Season:

its nature and purpose"

Led by Bishop Gregor Duncan

*Participants are asked to bring their own lunch, but tea and coffee will be provided from 10am.*

*Please apply to Jennifer FitzGibbon (secretary), e-mail [j2fg@aol.com](mailto:j2fg@aol.com);*

*phone 01294823992 ( before 21<sup>st</sup> Nov if possible)*

## 'Oh Dear Silvia' by Dawn French



**Silvia Shute lies in hospital in a coma. Family and friends gather at her bedside, each thinking they know the real Silvia. But do they?**

Silvia has fallen three floors from a balcony and is in intensive care in a coma on life-support including mechanical ventilation. She is the younger sister of the eccentric Jo. They lost their mother at a young age and their army-trained father went off the rails. Sylvia divorced dependable Ed after showing little love for him or their two children, Jamie and Cassie who after leaving home had no love or respect for their mother.

This background is the canvas on which the author paints the past and mysteries of Silvia through a series of monologues delivered by family and friends. She is inert and unresponsive 'like a marble sarcophagus'. The content of the monologues alternate between love and hatred, sibling rivalry and jealousy with Ed in particular, 'dead inside'. The dismal outlook and depressing medical predicament of this tragedy are broken by episodes of humour. The Indonesian Tia (Silvia's cleaner) spends her moments relating the contents of current gossip magazines in an amusing format. Jo refuses to give up hope and reality of waking her 'frozen sister' with a series of bizarre, funny and hilarious attempts to stimulate some response.

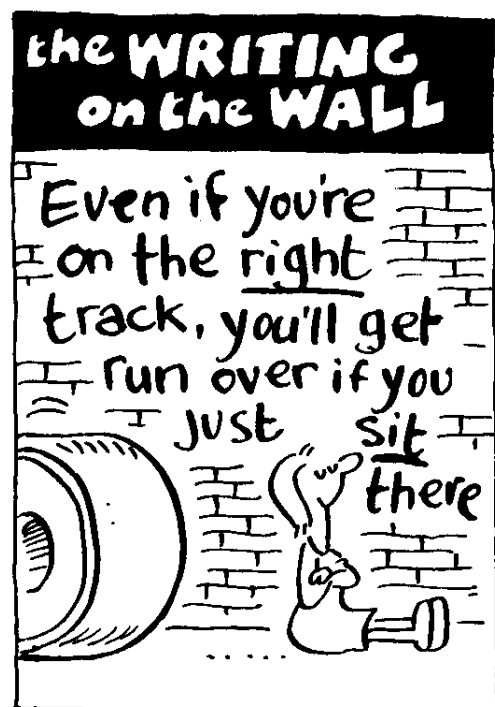
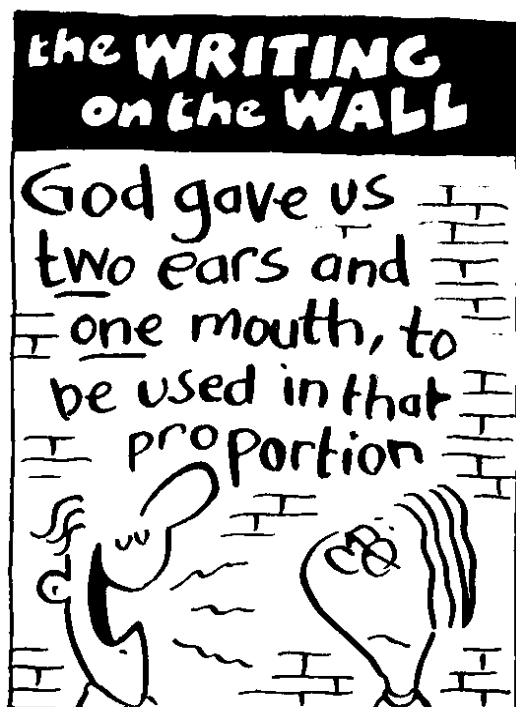
The novel is held together by Silvia's Jamaican nurse, Winnie. She treats Silvia with the respect she gives all her patients and is the only one with no axe to grind, no anger, hate or questions but only wishes good things for Silvia.

So what is Silvia's big secret? Well to find out you have to read the book for yourself!!

Everyone in the book club enjoyed this novel by comedian and actor, Dawn French. While Silvia never says a word in the book, she is very much the centre of the story as all the characters relate to her in very different ways.

The book club meets again on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 pm in The Haven. We are looking at "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time" by Mark Haddon. Anyone who is interested in finding out more is welcome to come along and join us, whether they've read the book or not.

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**Congratulations to Lewis (our resident car key expert) and Mirrin McCullough on their baptism 20<sup>th</sup> September**  
 You are now part of the body of Christ, and our St Augustine family!  
**Welcome to the church!**



Chelsi turns the grand age of three!



Members of the joint Pastoral Care Team attend a Ministry Celebration Service at Newlands to receive their licenses from the Bishop.



Countryside broadcaster, Tom Weir, given plenty of attention on Parish walk!



# Love Food, Hate Waste!



**The leamy  
foundation**

**September has been an exciting and very busy month for all those involved in the work of the Leamy Foundation and Garden Project based at St Mungo's!**

The very enjoyable cooking sessions, which began in the summer, have continued apace and those attending are now able to use the food which has been grown through their very own hard work! The sessions have continued to be well attended and there has been a developing emphasis on what happens to the waste

which is produced by harvesting and the using of fresh food. The amount of food waste has begun to be recorded and composting has begun.



The Guides have continued their involvement as they happily harvested a bumper crop of beetroot which they had planted in April... They also had fun gathering kilograms and kilograms of apples from the Rectory garden which they have enthusiastically made into apple chutney and apple crumble!

The Brownies who meet at St Mungo's are also beginning to get on board and are planning on painting some beautiful bird nest boxes which have been made by a local, willing and nature loving volunteer!

We look forward to seeing their designs and also encouraging the feathery inhabitants who will hopefully benefit from such a venture!

Outreach with the Haldane Youth Group has continued as the creation of a community herb garden comes ever closer. The youngsters have also been learning about their carbon footprint and the possible steps to reduce it. They have been taking note of their food wastage and learning how to recycle it and re-use it.



The commitment of our Social Gardening Group to help out at the Lomond Foodbank Community Greenhouse has remained high and the plants have been well tended and watered throughout this month and summer season.

Lomond Foodbank have asked for training for their volunteers and a 4-6 week programme is being planned.



FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE'S PRESENT

# **'OOR TOON – OOR TIMES – OOR TEA'**

## **A special Dumbarton evening!**



Look and Listen –

Dumbarton as it used to be.

'Guess where' competition

Go back to the 50s and 60s with memory boxes, readings, displays and reminiscences – with the Glasgow Libraries project team.

Enjoy a meal like your Mammy made – Hot steaming Stovies with Cloutie Dumpling for dessert – and if you're still hungry there's plain bread!

**Sunday October 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**6pm**

**Fully inclusive cost**  
**£7 10s 0d (£6 10s 0d with Friends discount)**

### **Prayer of an Aging Woman**

Lord, you know better than I know myself that I am growing older and will someday be [really] old. Keep me from being talkative and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but you know, Lord, that I want few friends at the end. Keep my mind from the recital of endless details – give me wings to come to the point.

I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others pain, but seal my lips on my own aches and pains - they are increasing, and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. Help me endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memory of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint - some of them are too hard to live with - but a sour old woman is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

*AMEN*



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

*Janette enjoys our surprise September summer while looking forward to 'the wine month' of October and the start of some serious winter activities*

### **SEPTEMBER – AND SUMMER AT LAST!**

Who would have believed it? Just when we'd given up on summer 2015 and 'mothballed' our sandals, along come days of wall to wall sunshine and a September weekend we could only have dreamt of! And down at St. Aug's with the advent of the heating on the 27<sup>th</sup> several middle aged ladies were throwing off their layers .....or had that something to do with Kenny's exhilarating exhortation about giving up body parts for the faith? Just when we thought that putting our money in the plate would suffice!

### **THE HIGH STREET SAND SCULPTOR.**

Well, you can't beat Dumbarton for producing unusual entrepreneurs in the unlikeliest of places. More reminiscent of evening strolls along the prom at Puerto Pollensa than catching a Silverton bus to go home for your tea, these artistic creations can be admired on the pavement. Writhing about alarmingly outside Poundland, he produces studies of various animals – all from a wee poly bag of supermarket sand. Who needs to go to the Med? And what next - flamenco dancing at the Lennox Bar or paragliding at Posties?

### **STRICTLY COME WALKING.**

Following the success of Walking Football and now the introduction of Walking Rugby, perhaps someone with vision will introduce the world to 'Strictly - Come Walking'. It would be the perfect answer for those of us with '*nae pech*' for the Paso Doble and no memory for the intricate dance steps of the jive. This slower pace would give time to think while still allowing one to strut one's sequins on the telly. And the more relaxed atmosphere might just persuade 'dear old Brucie' to come out of retirement!

### **IT'S THE NEW 'NICE TO BE NICE' POLITICS.**

It seems to me that, as long as you intend putting your Xs in their candidates' boxes, it doesn't really matter what you actually think or believe in.

The Holyrood set started it all when two of the Party Leaders there announced that we could still be in 'their gang' and vote 'Yes' in future referenda. And only last year they were warning us that a 'No' vote was crucial to our national survival. *Whit?* Now it's smiles all round and 'let's talk about it! *Aye!*

And a kinder kind of politics is also being touted down at Westminster by Labour's new user friendly team with Jeremy Corbyn, wearing a tie and pretending to be Jeremy Kyle without the lie detector! He says '*I'll listen to anyone*' and '*I want open discussion*' when faced with any obstacles or 'rocks on the runway' as they say in business-speak. Meanwhile, his affable chancellor is preaching universal forgiveness and inviting all Scots to '*come home to Labour.*' '*You'se wid think he hud a Heilan*' *Granny!*

Oh it's all terribly inspiring with 160,000 energetic new members to activate the new kinder politics and caring society. But what about us – the man (*or wumman*) in the street at whom those meaningful discussions will be aimed? We may get fed up and wearied of constantly seeking consensus. We pay politicians to do that for us - to make decisions, find solutions and get results. We have more important tasks to fill our lives – like doing the washing, going the messages, manning the tea rotas and following the soaps. And five years is a very long time to be nice in politics. How will we vote when faced, at last, with the ballot papers? It's exhausting just to think about all that campaigning. And having a discussion before deciding? Well, as long as it's not during 'Neighbours'. Of course, we're delighted with the conference slogan – straight talking, honest politics –that'll certainly be a change! And the winners will be.....who knows?

Yes, the current enthusiasm is uplifting so let's hope the kinder politics will prevail until 2020. What's that? '*Pigs might fly*' – don't mention the unmentionable!

### **'OOR TOON – OOR TIMES – OOR TEA!'**

Nostalgia by the bucket load is on offer at this - the October Friends' event – scheduled for Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October starting at 6pm. We shall start the evening with a typical tea of the '50s – a washing day tea - steaming hot 'stovies' and for dessert a 'daud of 'cloodie dumpling'. We'll have some local tunes and some Dumbarton views to identify – always good talking points. Then it's on to 'OOR TIMES' with the help of Lorna Stevenson and her team from the West Dunbartonshire Women's History Group who

have just completed a project on life in the '50s and '60s. Using film, readings and some wonderful items from their memory boxes we can relive life without iPads and Facebook. If you weren't there it will make a great history lesson. The fully inclusive cost of this event is £7:10:00 or £6:10:00 with Friends' discount! If you wish to attend please put your name on the Community Hall noticeboard to facilitate catering. Thank you.

### **THE CHANGING (FALSE) FACE OF HALLOWE'EN.**

It's quite an effort, these days, to squeeze in some Halloween celebrations before the shops overwhelm us with Christmas. It used to be unthinkable to do your Christmas shopping before the 31<sup>st</sup> October but the retail world is 'champing at the bit'. You'd think they'd be happy that today's children look at the fancy dress costumes on sale and pester their Mums to buy them. In the olden days we thought of a character first and then moved heaven and earth, as well as the rag bag, to create the look with the help of a bit of burnt cork and an unwanted lipstick. Then, clutching our artistically carved turnip lanterns, we'd hit the closes in the High Street. '*Oot guisin*' it was called or '*oot in the galoshins*'. Trick or Treat is an American import along with the more aesthetically pleasing pumpkins.

It was all to do with good luck and warding off evil spirits but we knocked all the doors and were rewarded with an apple or a handful of nuts in return for a party piece. These were pre TV days so no one was trying to follow Coronation Street – we had no competition. Spare a thought for the children of the 21<sup>st</sup> century who have been warned not to approach strangers or enter their homes without an anxious parent kerb crawling outside. So let's hope, whatever happens, our Scottish Halloween customs will not become extinct or we'll be singing carols in September.

### **IT'S DAM, AGM AND FRIENDS IN NOVEMBER.**

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November there will be an acoustic night in the Church at which Friends will be serving a supper of delicious burgers and hot dogs. The event will start at 6pm which means that everyone can get down while the buses are still running. It promises to be an excellent event and the proceeds are all for St. Augustine's. So B.Y.O.B, enjoy some great music in good company and book a taxi home!

### **'OUT OF AFRICA' – INTO ST. AUG'S.**

November is usually known as the 'No' month but this year Friends are having two events to brighten up our social lives. On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November we shall welcome some friends, originally from Africa, who will cook an African meal and entertain with music, dancing and drumming. There will be some great value items for sale which will be ideal for Christmas gifts. The exact details are still being discussed so watch out for further information in next month's magazine and on the Community Hall noticeboard. This will be a really lively event!

### **WERE YOU INFLUENCED BY THE TV ADS?**

During September we marked the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our television advertising and, of course, were reminded of all the influences we faced in between programmes. My favourite was the coca cola advert featuring '*I'd like to teach the world to sing*' which got a generation ruining its teeth with copious quantities of the stuff. No wonder they had to introduce all the toothpaste ads to ensure that we remembered to brush before going off to bed! If not, those obnoxious little creatures would invade our mouths with hammers and picks calling '*Ha, Ha – here's a nice fat sticky tooth*'. And how many teenagers pestered their mothers to put Camay on the bathroom shelves after incessantly hearing '*You'll be a little lovelier each day – with fabulous pink Camay*'. We would have believed anything to get rid of the spots! Today's ads are much more basic. Who can get excited about someone exiting from the loo and being asked '*How Andrex do you feel*'. Pass .....and bring back the puppy!

### **AND ONWARDS TO OCTOBER.**

This is the month when invitations are sent to the 'oldies' to join in the festival of the flu vaccines at the Masonic. There they will meet those school chums who are still above ground and take home some fruit for good health during the coming winter. For some this will be their final day out until Spring! But not for St. Aug's folk – they are party animals!

After a Friends' event on the 11<sup>th</sup> followed by two more in November it'll be time for the annual pantomime visit to DPT – it's Aladdin this year - at the Civic starting on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December. Yes, you can make this winter fun by keeping in touch with 'By the Way Together.'

*Janette*



## Smile Lines...

### The gift

After the Sunday service the minister stood by the door to greet the congregation as they left the church. Soon one of the younger children filed by. "Good morning, Jonathan," the minister said, as the little boy reached out and handed him something. "What's this?"

"Money," said the boy, with a big smile. "It's for you!" When the minister protested in surprise, the little boy continued: "But I want you to have it. My daddy says you're the poorest preacher we ever had, and I want to help you."

### Halloween costumes

My six-year-old son was excited about choosing his Halloween costume. "I'm going to be the Pope," he announced proudly.

"But Ian, you can't be the Pope. You're not Catholic," I explained. "You're Church of England."

My son was silent for a few moments, while he considered his alternatives. "Well, is Dracula Church of England?"

### Signs of our times? When you know what they meant, but...!

Toilet out of order. Please use floor below.

In a Laundromat: Automatic Washing Machines. Please remove all your clothes when the light goes out.

In a London department store: Bargain Basement upstairs.

In an office: Would the person who took the step ladder yesterday please bring it back, or further steps will be taken.

In an office: After the tea break, staff should empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board.

Notice in health food shop window: Closed due to illness.

Spotted in a safari park: Elephants, please stay in your car.

### When children meet liturgy ...

"Give us this steak and daily bread, and forgive us our mattresses."

"Hail, Mary, full of grapes."

"He suffered under a bunch of violets." (Pontius Pilate)

### Growing up

Your child has started growing up when he stops asking you where he came from and starts refusing to tell you where he's going.

### Definitions

HYMN: A song of praise usually sung in a key two octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: The last song at a church service, often sung a little more quietly, since most of the people have already left.

JONAH: The original 'Jaws' story.

AMEN: The only part of a prayer that everyone knows.

### Fish

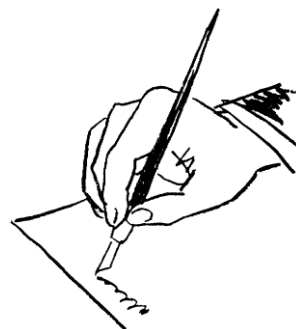
Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

**David Dyer**  
**Remembrance Service**  
**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October**  
**11am St Augustine's Church**  
All are welcome to join us to remember and  
celebrate David and his life

## The Rectory St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

So, you are being encouraged to look at adverts for parishes for that happy day when you will have charge of your own church. You wonder if you should look to moving to another part of the country; I suspect it may be better if you look to moving to another planet, as your reputation may not yet have travelled that far.



Reading the specifications that parishes provide, giving a picture of life in their community, need to be read in the same way as estate agents' specifications for houses for sale. Both demonstrate a triumph of optimism over reality. Let me help you decode some of the statements you will find:

"We look to grow our Sunday School" – We do not have a Sunday School.

"We have an enthusiastic choir" – We have a choir totally out of control.

"Our youth group is always eager to learn." - Our youth group experiments with some strange substances.

"The new incumbent should be sympathetic to our musical tradition"- The new incumbent must be able to play the organ as well as lead the Services.

"While cherishing our traditions, we see the need for change" – We always see the need for change, but alter anything at your peril.

"Plans for church renovations are in hand" – The building is in imminent danger of collapse.

"We have a large range of church groups" – You will have to run a large range of church groups singlehandedly.

"The vicarage is being refurbished" – The vicarage is a death trap. Its rising damp and dangerous electrics will not be fixed for many months yet.

"There is opportunity for developing ecumenical relations" – No one in living memory has ever spoken to clergy of other denominations in our town.

"The new incumbent should have a sense of humour" – He or she will need it when reading this specification.

My dear nephew, caveat emptor. Let the buyer beware!

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace



"Basically, we're looking for an innovative pastor with a fresh vision who will inspire our church to remain exactly the same."

## ROTAS FOR ST MUNGO'S

### Sunday October 4th

Reader/Intercessions Jean Brown  
Chalice Tom Marshall  
Sidesperson Alicia Steele

### Sunday October 11th

Reader/Intercessions Pauline Dow  
Chalice Tom Marshall  
Sidesperson Tom & Ian Marshall

### Sunday October 18th

Reader/Intercessions Pat Brooks  
Chalice Tom Marshall  
Sidesperson Alicia Steele

### Sunday October 25th

Reader/Intercessions Jean Brown  
Chalice Tom Marshall  
Sidesperson Tom & Ian Marshall

### Sunday November 1st

Reader/Intercessions Pauline Dow  
Chalice Tom Marshall  
Sideperson Tom & Ian Marshall

## CLEANING

4th Oct Jean  
11th Oct Eveline  
18th Oct Finella  
25th Oct Iona and Mary  
1st Nov Margaret

## FLOWERS

Finella and Pauline

## ROTAS FOR ST AUGUSTINE'S

### Sunday October 4th

Readers Janette Barnes & David Rowatt  
Intercessions Maggie Wallace  
Chalice Sharon Rowatt & Barbara Barnes  
Sidespersons Lyndsey Spencer & Linda J  
Flowers Maggie Wallace

### Sunday October 11th

Readers Ghislaine Kennedy & Sharon R  
Intercessions Fran Walker  
Chalice Janette Barnes & David Rowatt  
Sidespersons Ronnie Blaney & Roberta Mailley  
Flowers Barbara Barnes

### Sunday October 18th

Readers Evelyn O'Neill & Morag O'Neill  
Intercessions Margaret Hardie  
Chalice Maggie Wallace & Fran Walker  
Sidespersons Linda Jenkinson & David Ansell  
Flowers Fran Walker

### Sunday October 25th

Readers Margaret Hardie & Kirstin Wiggins  
Intercessions Linda Macaulay  
Chalice Sharon Rowatt & Barbara Barnes  
Sidespersons Lyndsey Spencer & Maggie W  
Flowers Linda Macaulay

### Sunday November 1st

Readers Barbara Barnes & Maggie Wallace  
Intercessions David Rowatt  
Chalice Margaret Hardie & Janette Barnes  
Sidespersons Margaret Swan & Chrissie A  
Flowers Margaret Hardie

Alistair Brown  
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Liam McLarnon; Gavin Elder;

Freewill Offering: Margaret Hardie

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