

By the Way Together

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

Issue No 36 May 2018



EASTER GARDENS – 'GARDENING SCOTLAND' CONTENDERS GET FIRST PUBLIC VIEWING!

In this issue.... Dates for
your Diary; cartoons and
witticisms; Bible Study
Banter; Photos galore!

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Put it in Your Diary!



**Join in with
Meghan's Boattlin'!!
(Royal Hen Party!)**

**Tuesday 8th May
7.30pm**

£7 (£6 for Friends)

St Augustine's Hall

*Food and entertainment
provided*

*Dress: Hen-Night Garb or
come as you are!*



**Are you fit enough to climb
Dumbarton Castle?
Can you help escort 200
primary 7s on
Thursday June 7th
in the morning?**

**It's the annual St Columba
Day visit to the castle and
volunteers
are urgently needed.**

**If you can help please let Fran @ St
Aug's know. Thanks!**



Tickets from the office or
Ghislaine

**An Evening of brilliant
music and entertainment**

Hughie and Shane

Friday 18th May

7.30pm £5

St Augustine's Church

**Friends of St Augustine's
AGM**

**June 3rd after 11am service
St Augustine's Community Hall
All welcome!**



***Ever fancied sailing
round the world?***

Come and hear what's like!



**An evening with Sheila Anderson who sailed to
and around Australia!**

June 3rd St Augustine's Hall

For exact cost and time see posters

***Summer Trip
to
New Lanark
with the
Anne MacLoed***



Experience and Valario's Famous Fish and Chips!!

August 12th

**For more details please watch out for posters and
a list to sign up!**



***'A Fabulous
friendship
multiplies the
good in life'***



The first time I went into a Greek Orthodox Church it was during a pilgrimage visiting different churches in Glasgow for the day. St Luke's Cathedral is in the West End and was the last

place on our schedule. As I entered the worshipping space I was completely unprepared by the sheer colour and abundant visual richness of the inside of the church. Everywhere I looked faces from the many icons were looking back at me... faces of the saints, of Mary, of holy people from times gone past. It was as if I had walked into heaven itself and was now surrounded by the faithful departed throughout the ages. The light from the shining gold, red and blue reflected down on me. It literally took my breath away.



I carried the memory of this experience with me as I travelled to Cyprus this year. Knowing we were going at the time of their Easter celebrations and I was keen to visit Greek

Orthodox churches in situ. I was not disappointed!! I managed to squeeze in many places of worship – from the wee tiny church in the back streets of Paphos no bigger than our Lady Chapels, to the magnificence of the Kykkos Monastery which was established in the 11th century and looked as fresh as if it had been built last year! In all of these churches the icons were prominent - you couldn't miss them as you stepped inside – many adorning the screen (iconostasis) which divided the nave from the Holy of Holies where only priests could go. To the right there was always an icon of Christ and on the left an icon of Mary - whilst above there was always an image of Christ adorned in glory.

An icon, for a member of the Orthodox traditions (and also many Western,) is pivotal. For them icons are not just religious paintings... not just church decoration. They are known as 'windows of heaven' and are believed to be places where heaven and earth touch, a tangible, visible bridge to Christ and the saints, an important aid to prayer. When I was in a church I frequently saw many of the faithful approaching a particular icon pressing their foreheads against it and saying their prayers with transparent fervour. On Good Friday I sat at the back of a church and watched a constant stream of people enter and quietly queue up to an



elaborately decorated canopy of flowers set up near the front of the church. Under the canopy was an embroidered icon of the dead body of Christ, and reverently the people would kiss it and take a moment to say a prayer on such a holy day.

Original icons are always hand painted. The artists making them fast and immerse themselves in prayer before even beginning to create them. The colours all have meaning (eg. white for eternal life; red for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit). Icons are described as being written not painted and the artist is an icon author not painter. This is a process which has remained unchanged throughout the years.

Some people think that the use of icons is wrong because they think the Icons themselves are being worshipped - pointing to the second Commandment to condemn such practices. But that is to misunderstand what is happening. Just as Christ is described as the image and exact representative of God, making the invisible God visible, so these icons are held to be pointers towards the eternal mysterious reality which is beyond our seeing and comprehension. The believer will pray *through* the icon to the heavenly reality which is beyond...only revering the icon because of the holiness to which it draws the believer.

I have quite a few icons at home, many having been given me – and I find them helpful to concentrate the mind in prayer. Seeing them in such a setting was a privilege and a joy. If this is just a glimpse of heaven how wonderful will the real thing be!



The iconostasis in Kykkos Monastery

with love, Liz



As the Easter season moves through to Pentecost it is a good time to hold joint services in celebration of our unity in the Spirit. Having spent the past ten years as a national ecumenical officer and having been part of ecumenical partnerships in London, Birmingham, Israel/Palestine and then Edinburgh before that I am keen to encourage partnership whenever possible.

The Dumbarton URC congregation have from time to time travelled to Helensburgh to join the larger URC congregation there. Since closing the Dumbarton URC church building I don't think, however, that Helensburgh URC have come to Dumbarton URC. Now several months into being minister of this joint pastorate the time seemed right to explore a joint service in Dumbarton. The logistics quickly highlighted the lack of space in the St Aug's church hall so an approach was made to Kenny and we agreed a three way joint service would be a delight. And so, as you read this we will have worshipped together. I hope this experience will deepen the friendship and co-operation that already exists and maybe one day we'll look at something more formal (the sort of work I did as an ecumenical officer, especially through the EMU Partnership, signed in 2010 bringing closer together Episcopal, Methodist & URC in Scotland). Meanwhile Helensburgh URC continue links with St Michael's and have a joint service planned for 3rd June.

To add to this, through the wider church in Dumbarton, St Augustine will host a united service for Pentecost at 7:00pm on Sunday 20th May which I'm helping put together.

Bungie, Rev Mitchell Bunting

Services April/June

28th April	Jt service with Helensburgh at St Augs
6th May	Rev Alan Paterson
13th May	Minister (Communion)
20th May	Rev Jim Binnie
27th May	To be arranged
3 June	Visit to Helensburgh
10th June	Minister (Communion)
17th June	Rev Alan Paterson
24th June	Rev David Laing

Candidates short-listed in vacancies for new Bishops of Brechin and St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

Four candidates have been short-listed for the office of Bishop of Brechin which became vacant in July 2017 following the retirement of the Rt Rev Dr Nigel Peyton.

The candidates have been selected by a Preparatory Committee (chaired by the Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church) and members of the Electoral Synod will meet each of the candidates on Saturday 26 May, with the election of the new Bishop taking place on Saturday 2 June 2018.

The candidates are:

The **Very Rev Dr Francis Bridger**, Rector, St Mary's Church, Broughty Ferry and Priest in Charge St Martin's Church, Dundee and Dean of the Diocese of Brechin

The **Rev Markus Dünzkofer**, Rector, St John the Evangelist Church, Edinburgh

The **Very Rev Jeffrey John**, Dean of St Albans

The **Very Rev Andrew Swift**, Rector, Holy Trinity Church, Dunoon and St Paul's Church, Rothesay and Dean of the Diocese of Argyll and The Isles

Three candidates have been short-listed for the office of Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane which became vacant in July 2017 following the retirement of the Most Rev David Chillingworth.

The candidates have been selected by a Preparatory Committee (chaired by the Rt Rev Dr John Armes, Bishop of Edinburgh) and members of the Electoral Synod will meet each of the candidates on Saturday 26 May, with the election of the new Bishop taking place on Saturday 2 June 2018.

The candidates are:

Rev Canon Dr Charlotte Methuen, Prof of Church History at Glasgow University and Honorary Asst Priest, St Margaret's Newlands
Rev Christopher Newlands, Vicar of Lancaster
Rev Canon Ian Paton, Rector of Old St Paul's, Edinburgh

Please hold the candidates and the Dioceses in your prayers at this time of change.

Smile Lines

Canterbury monks

My boyfriend was working as an attendant in Canterbury Cathedral when one afternoon he was approached by two American tourists. "Are you a monk?" one of the women asked eagerly.

"No," he replied, "I wear this robe as part of my job, but I'm not a member of any religious order."

"Then where are the monks?" asked the woman, looking around.

My boyfriend explained: 'Oh, there haven't been any monks here since 1415.'

Hearing this, the woman looked at her watch and announced to her friend, 'Betty, we missed the monks.'

Signs of the times

My 10 year-old niece says her prayers every night and instead of 'amen', she says 'click, send.'

Applied Law

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six-year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honour thy father and thy mother," she asked 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?'

Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'

Telly trouble

A woman summoned a TV repairman to fix her set. After spreading his tools out, the serviceman inquired: 'What seems to be the trouble?'

Replied the woman: 'Well, for starters, the programmes are appalling.'

You asked for it

The student, when asked by the teacher to write an essay on 'The Effects of Laziness', turned in a blank sheet of paper.

As good as it gets

A shipwrecked man spent five years on a deserted island. One day he was overjoyed to see a ship drop anchor in the bay. A dinghy approached, and a ship's officer handed the sailor The Times, The Financial Times and The Daily Telegraph. "The captain suggests," said the officer, "that you read what's going on in the world before you decide if you wish to be rescued."

Oh dear

The clergyman shuffled along, bent over at the waist, as his wife helped him into the doctor's waiting room. He groaned at every step, and the receptionist eyed the scene with sympathy. "Arthritis in the back with complications?" she finally ventured.

The wife shook her head briskly. 'Do-it-yourself in the garden,' she replied, 'with concrete blocks.'

Bank Holiday break

It's always nice to see people with plenty of get-up-and-go, especially if some of them are visiting you.

Dudley

Women can do a much better Black Country accent than men. That's because the female of the species is more Dudley than the male.

Some miscellaneous one-liners ...

In democracy your vote counts. In feudalism your count votes.

The best vitamin for a Christian is B1.

The Church: under the same management for over 2000 years.

Soul food served here.

Don't give up on yourself. Even Moses was once a basket case.

Satan subtracts and divides. God adds and multiplies.

Was Noah's wife called Joan of Ark?

Lead me not into temptation. I can find it myself.

The things that come to those that wait may be the things left by those who got there first.

Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.

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

Birds of a feather flock together and mess on your car.



A book for Mental Health Week (14th – 20th May)

The last 10 years have seen an upturn in the number of people reporting difficulties with emotional and mental health issues, particularly anxiety and depression. And, it is often the strongest who struggle under the weight of all they have nobly tried to shoulder.

Turn to the Bible, and this truth is played out in the lives of some of its greatest characters. King David led a nation – yet wrote some of the Bible's bleakest laments. Elijah worked outlandish public miracles – and later pleaded God to take his life. Dedicated, hardworking mother and woman of God Naomi acknowledged that she had become characterised by bitterness. And lifelong God follower Job found himself longing for a death that would not come.

Tim Cantopher, in his best-selling book, *Depressive Illness – The Curse of the Strong (SPCK/IVP)*, affirms that depressive illness can strike anyone – not least the capable, busy people with the 'can-do' attitude of the title. His aim is to de-stigmatise depression and to suggest ways in which people can find ways of acknowledging it - and doing something about it.

Chinese church growing – despite persecution

A former house church leader, prisoner of faith, and one of the leading voices for the persecuted Church in China, Bob Fu has recently warned that the persecution of Christians in China is worsening and is now as severe as at any time since the Cultural Revolution.

Bob Fu was one of the original Chinese pro-democracy campaigners and founder of China Aid. On a recent visit to London, through the help of Release International, he said that despite the increasingly open persecution of Christians in China, the growth of Christianity there seems unstoppable. 'Under communism, Christianity has grown from one million Christians in China to an estimated 100 million today.'

Some sociologists project that the number of Chinese Christians will exceed 220 million by 2030 – making China the largest Christianised nation in the world. Meanwhile, China is arresting pastors, pulling down crosses and demolishing churches. Christian human rights lawyers claim they are being intimidated and tortured, and lawyer Li Baiguang, who had been an outspoken

campaigner for religious freedom, died in suspicious circumstances this Spring.

.....
Canon David Winter wonders whether he wants even more time

Telling the Time

I was having a little button problem with the ATM. A message appeared on the screen. 'Would you like more time?' I clicked the 'yes' button, eventually collected my cash, and spent the rest of the afternoon thinking about that profound question. Well, would I? As an elderly man, do I really want more time, or am I content to face the fact that time is the raw material of our lives and eventually it runs out?

We exist within a framework of time: days, weeks, months, years. We can't imagine life without it, and yet God, the Creator, is eternal, He simply and gloriously exists. That's his Name – 'I AM'. So if the end of time for us is to be with him, will we at last be free from its tyranny?

Most of my working life was dominated by time, so that seems a pleasant prospect. But in an unpredictable world our hearts break for those who lose a child or who die as we say 'prematurely'. Sometimes those of us of riper years feel a kind of guilt: why not us? Thankfully, age will not be an issue in heaven. God doesn't grow old. There will be no more dying, young or old. Like Him, we shall just sublimely be.

All of that, of course, is a matter of faith, and may seem irrelevant to those whose immediate concern is living in the here and now. But time simply ticks on, and one day that question may arise: Would you like more time? It's easy to answer when life is full of promise, or as yet unfulfilled goals. It's not quite so simple when early onset decrepitude threatens. For me, every hour of life is a gift of God, so it's still the 'yes' button until a wiser hand intervenes: 'your time is up'.

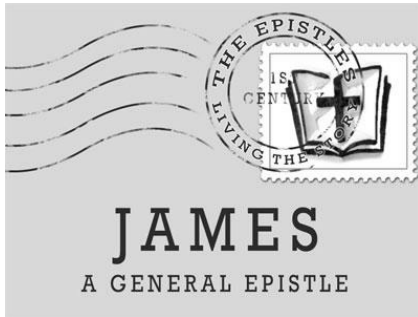
Some observations on our walk with God

Life can become once more a grand adventure if we will surrender it to God.... He brings one adventure to an end, only to open another to us. ...with Him we must be ready for anything. *Paul Tournier*

Humility is the beginning of true intelligence. *John Calvin*

A Christian is never in a state of completion but always in a process of becoming. *Martin Luther*
God never put anyone in a place too small to grow in. *Henrietta Mears*

Bible Study Banter



Ohstrawy epistle!
The Bible study is up and running again as this magazine goes to print and we are cheerfully

working our way through the letter of James. But why do we bother? Why a bible study at all? Well, it is NOT to improve our ability to quote scripture willy-nilly, although familiarising ourselves with what the bible says can only be helpful. It is not to puff us up with head knowledge or fill in the gaps left from our religious instruction at school. It is not even dare I say it about “getting at the truth” of what the passages say. This will remain a matter of some debate and opinion.

So what is it?

It is about setting some time aside to look at the bible in a bit more depth, sharing insights and exploring together how we might live out our faith in the 21st century- how to walk the walk NOT talk the talk, as we see it here in Dumbarton!

But why a study group? Can't I just do this on my own using one of countless printed or even on-line resources available?

It is about the **together** bit. Personally, I would prefer to call us a house group rather than a study group because for me, the most important bit is simply our being together. As we spend time round the word, we learn to listen to each other. We grow closer as we discover how the other “ticks”-those things that concern or delight us, our hopes and fears. We offer emotional, social and practical help as each other's needs come to the fore. The study is good and well structured-interesting but not overly academic but in many ways the best stuff happens as we chat together over a cuppa at the end.

Yes I do hope we get to grips with the challenges of James- getting our consciences pricked from time to time by those needles in that haystack giving hints on how to live for Christ.

But most of all I hope we love each other well...because that is when the Kingdom grows among us.

Greetings!

Kirsten and John

Space for Prayer



Prayer: there are no end of self help type books giving hints and tips on this important spiritual discipline. Indeed, it is a “given” within the New Testament which is crammed full of whens, whys, hows and wherefores regarding prayer as well as numerous examples of the early church engaged TOGETHER in this activity. Jesus Himself is often seen praying... alone on a hillside, early in the morning, at times of stress or big decisions, over food, in thanks, over the sick or even dead and of course through the agonies of Gethsemane and from the cross. But what about us? I have no doubt that prayer is an important part of most of our lives in God... or at least something we turn to when the going gets tough! And, of course we pray together on a Sunday morning through our liturgy and intercessions.

So why a Sunday night meeting and why now? Concerns regarding falling numbers and the impact of this on the church's future were coming to my ears from a variety of sources. It got me thinking.... thinking of the small band of frightened disciples which met behind locked doors and to whom Jesus had made Himself known. What were they doing there? Possibly eating together, no doubt talking about recent events, maybe discussing survival plans but I imagine that they would most definitely have been praying! They would continue meeting together and were together when the promised Holy Spirit arrived in glorious power at Pentecost. Praying together. Drawing strength from one another and calling out together to God for help and guidance. Pentecost. 50 days from Easter. What an ideal opportunity for us to get together and pray just a bit more than usual. Surely we could commit to a little extra for that length of time?

So what is happening? Each week we are taking a topic and integrating it with the Episcopal evening prayers format to provide a familiar structure to enable us to pray specifically for our little bit of the body here in Dumbarton and for other pertinent issues as they arise.

Can't commit to come along? You can still join with us using one of the prompt sheets which are made available each week for use at home. Go on- give it a go! “Be joyful always: pray continually: give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1Thes 5:16-17)

KW



Passover Supper



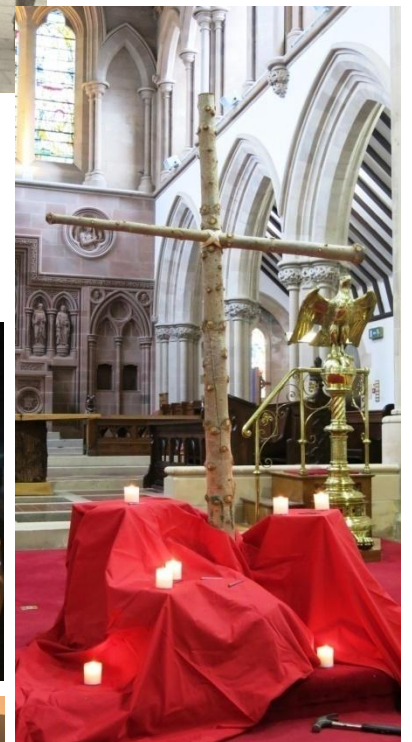
The journey of the three days of Easter



Walk of Witness in the Vale and Dumbarton town centre



Easter Vigil on Saturday night



The Last Hour + Easter Day





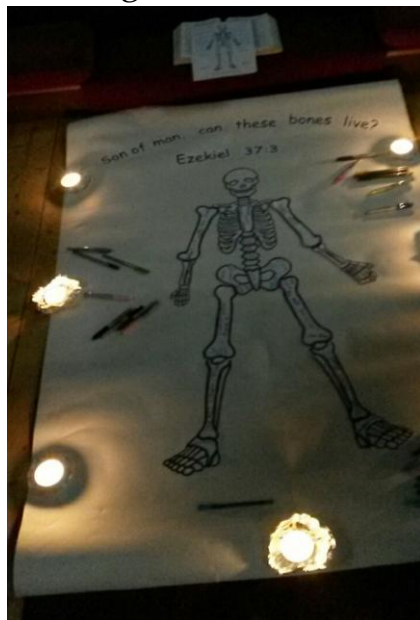
Easter Ecological challenge for resident spiders!



Cutsey corner with a growing Islay and a new born Ethan who arrived surprisingly early! And of course a doting great Grandma!



(Below) Prayerful goings on in St Augustine's on Sunday evenings



Bare eagle – on Holy Saturday - not often we see it's feathers!

Kingdom Builders

Looking through a daily devotional, I stumbled on this description of what we are about as church."...we can take comfort in establishing small oases of calm that reveal the character of God and of a social order that demonstrates the viability of God's way in the earth. It takes effort and courage. It's impact may not make headline news but it will practically and positively influence lives for good and God."

With that in mind may I say a big thank you to all you unsung heroes ,those true servant hearts who work tirelessly feeding the hungry, serving in the café, cleaning the toilets, floor, kitchen as well as the church itself, working behind the scenes in the office and simply taking the time to welcome the stranger in our midst. What a privilege to be part of this faith community!

KW

Lenten confessions of a butter addict

I am addicted to butter (and its substitutes) and have been since I was about 7. No piece of bread or oatcake is worth eating unless the butter is thick enough to show teeth marks at every bite.



So it was hard to give it up for a full forty days for Lent. Each time I opened the fridge door (usually in a time of stress) to take out the butter I had to think to myself: Jesus made it through the forty days in the desert and eventually gave up his life for us. Why can't I give up a bit of butter? Yet even with those thoughts in mind it was not easy despite there being plenty of other food in the house!

Easter morning was not a time of indulgence in chocolate eggs for me. It was a well buttered binge of hot cross buns, two days late. And I was able to hand in my Lent box with the full amount I had promised myself – I hadn't let butter touch my lips for the full forty days.

Fran@St Aug's

Post script for those like me who didn't know:

Why 40 days?

Although in the context of Lent the most significant reason is that Jesus spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness in preparation for his ministry, 40 is a significant number in Jewish-Christian scripture:

- In Genesis, the flood which destroyed the earth was brought about by 40 days and nights of rain.
- The Hebrews spent 40 years in the wilderness before reaching the land promised to them by God.
- Moses fasted for 40 days before receiving the ten commandments on Mount Sinai.

Why is it called Lent?

Lent is an old English word meaning 'lengthen'. Lent is observed in spring, when the days begin to get longer.

On praying for others.

I read recently that when we are praying for others, we should really just be lifting them before God, kind of like the women who brought their little children to Jesus to be blessed. After all, the logic ran, God actually knows what they need...we just think we do! It got me thinking.

I sat down to pray this morning and was overwhelmed by a sense of gratitude for my husband- his patience, his faithful support, the security he has brought to my life.. and I thought- that's it! I can and should be praying in gratitude for the people, both lovely and tricky that God sets before me. I can thank God for the positives they have brought and the opportunities to develop or grow that come from the encounter. An attitude of gratitude that helps me to see the face of Jesus in each and every one. Pollyanna? Perhaps...This is what Paul writes in Philippians "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, **whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy- think about such things.**"

Let's apply this to the people we live among and create a positive, nurturing environment, bringing in the Kingdom of God.

KW



'Wait Till I Tell You.....'

Janette welcomes the arrival of spring, albeit a little late this year, and eagerly awaits the 'merry, merry month of May' having recently waved goodbye to her winter gloves on the Helensburgh bus!

MAY –THE JOYOUS MONTH.

Well, it's got to be better than April with its unseasonable weather, unexpected air strikes, unexplained government blunders, unwanted council tax hikes and the seemingly unresolvable Brexit – to name but a few! Of May, John Milton wrote '*Hail, bounteous May that dost inspire mirth and youth and strong desire.*' So bring it on! And there's magic from the very first day when all self-respecting ladies will be awake early to dab their *winter ravaged fizzogs with a daud of the May dew*. This, according to folklore, guarantees beauty and no more visits to the Estee Lauder counter to seek the aid of cosmetic science. Remember when you believed in all that stuff? Oh yes I did! One year on Arthur's Seat, Edinburgh's iconic hill, I tried it. What do you mean it didn't work?

Just get out to your washing green early, before the dog gets there, and bend down surreptitiously to wet your hands. Your neighbour will possibly be doing the same. Go on, these dewdrops are worth a try! Forget the words of Paisley poet Walter McCorrisken who wrote:

*How pretty is the dewdrop
When it hangs upon the rose
How come it's not so pretty
When it hangs upon your nose!*

More beauty tips in next month's 'By the Way Together' with news of another May alert – '*don't cast a cloot, till May be oot!*' That was one of my Mother's favourite mantras. She kept us in scarves and winter socks till July! Today people are much more adventurous. On the second last week of April, on the day the BBC promised that summer would arrive, we were greeted with a rash of West of Scotland lilywhite legs in baggy shorts rushing to the supermarket shelves for their barbecue accoutrements. How people long for the summer, particularly after such a long winter.

MARRY IN MAY, AND RUE THE DAY!

Another popular Scottish May adage. With the state of marriage today you'd think couples would be just a little apprehensive when choosing the date. But here we are - a nation obsessed by Prince Harry and Meghan's big bash for six hundred on the 19th at Windsor. And there are problems already. The media are digging up extraordinary gossip about poor Meghan's supposedly dysfunctional family and previous relationships. Suffice to say that the Windsors are not the epitome of family harmony either so let's stick to speculation about the frock and the guest list. Have you got your invitation yet? I quote my Dumfriesshire uncle's comforting remark that he had prepared for an acquaintance of mine who mistakenly thought she was going to a certain wedding in fur coat and cocktail hat (fascinator in today's language). '*It's an awfy peety you're wearin' yer cocktail hat when you're no' gaun tae be gettin' ony cocktails*'. Tact by the bucketful!



Aye, there's nothing like a wedding to bring out the worst in us! But never fear, while many of the good and the great have been disappointed, you can settle for a good wee night organised by Friends on 8th May at 7.30pm in the Community Hall. It's entitled 'Meghan's Boattlin' and it's a West of Scotland pre-nuptial Hen Night for the bride. This is an exclusive event, there will not be a '*boattlin*' at Windsor, they have orders to keep the streets tidy there, but everyone is welcome at ours. Just put your name on the notice in the Community Hall, look out a really gallus outfit and learn the words of '*Hard up, tin can. Meghan Markle's goat a man!*' Other gems of this unique custom will be revisited and Roberta and Chrissie have first-hand experience. The cost is £7 (£6 with Friends' discount) and will include cocktails and a California meets Castlehill style buffet!

SAILING – WE ARE SAILING!

On Sunday 3rd June Friends are going 'Sailing with Sheila' – and this will be no '*doon the watter*' reminiscence by the Granny Club from the Forties. Oh no, Sheila Anderson enjoyed a life on the ocean wave halfway round the world and she is coming along to share her adventures on the high seas and her meetings with folks in strange lands when she parked her boat far away from Balloch. Embarkation is at 7pm. The whole evening will be organised on a nautical theme

with something delicious from the sea – a fish supper! We are, of course, dressing up – sailor hats and mermaids' tails have been suggested – and all plastic waste will be ecologically disposed of. Watch out for the notice giving details of our June event.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, YOUR MAJ.

Do you think the Queen had a blast at her 92nd Birthday Party shown 'live' on TV on 21st April? From the acts appearing at the Albert Hall it would seem she has some very lively, upbeat ideas of entertainment. Sting and Shaggy? Who would have thought it! If the organisers by royal appointment had only spoken to Ghislaine she could have organised a wee spot with Shuggie and Shane who have been snapped up for a St. Auggie's concert on May 18th. Tickets will be mandatory and available from Ghislaine soon. But, well done to the birthday girl who managed to stay awake after having spent a tiring few days trying to get a job for her son, now in his 70th year! Over on the other channel we were assured that Britain had talent there as well though they had buzzers to silence those who only thought they had. Good job Her Maj. wasn't given the buzzer till the next morning and that was to start the London Marathon!

DONALD'S NEW BEST PAL.

Little Rocket Man better known as Kim Jong-un looks really chuffed now that he's got 'the Donald' as his new bestie! And it'll be really good news for the world if these two tempestuous tyrants can hit it off without blowing anything up! Both have wives, Melania and Ri Sol-ju, who would appear to know their places with such masterful husbands. Will they be attending the much hyped meeting and be left in the background to indulge in the usual 'wifey, wifey' small talk? They would need interpreters, of course, but the conversation could go like this:

Melania: Oh no, I do not let my Donald come home to me 'with a broken pey!'

Ri Sol-ju: My Kim – he likes to spend, spend, spend in all the nuclear shops and forgets when I ask him to bring home a loaf. These can be 'Stormy' times, I'm telling you!

Melania: Stormy? Do you mean Stormy Daniels? Don't tell me she's been after your man as well?

Oh dear – let's just hope the wives don't turn up wearing the same hats!

THE GLORIOUS TWELFTH.

And this August the grouse will be really happy. Friends will not be heading for the moors to start the shooting season. Instead they will be off down the meadows of Lanark so fair to the New Lanark Visitor Centre where they will experience how Annie McLeod, a cotton mill worker lived and worked in the eighteenth century. Arrangements for the outing are still in the early stages but we've booked our favourite coach company and are currently exploring menus for that ubiquitous High Tea. The day will include a trip in a time pod and a browse round some craft stalls and some charity shops. Notices will shortly be appearing and remember that places are limited so make sure your name is on the list. Further details in next month's magazine.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Quoting from Shakespeare since it's the bard's birthday month, I note that the public has been asked to help choose the name for the first bear cub to have been born in the UK for twenty five years. Favourites are Hamish, Poulsen, Artor and MacKinnon. It is understood that none of the aforementioned names were considered for that of the new royal baby born on 23rd April, St. George's Day. It's strange that the baby bear, born in December did not face the public until March



while the baby Prince was born in the morning and later photographed by the world's media going home with his immaculately made up Mammy for his tea!

COMING SOON – THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS!

In next month's June issue we'll be looking forward to the summer holidays. It can't come quickly enough. And then there's Wimbledon – will Andy play? So much excitement! Just make sure you keep up to date with 'the ongauns' at St. Auggie's and St. Mungo's – only in 'By the Way Together'.

Janette

New Dog Breeds....?



Collie + Lhaso Apso =
Collapso, a dog that
folds up for easy
transport

Pointer + Setter =
Poinsetter, the
traditional Christmas
pet

Pekinese + Lhaso Apso =
Peekasso, an abstract dog

Irish Water Spaniel + English Springer Spaniel =
Irish Springer, a dog as fresh and clean as the
mountain air

Terrier + Bulldog =
Terribull, not a good dog

Bloodhound + Labrador =
Blabador, a dog that barks incessantly

Malamute + Pointer =
Moot Point, owned by... well, it doesn't matter
anyway

Collie + Malamute =
Commute, a dog that travels to work

Deerhound + Terrier =
Derriere, a dog that is true to the end

Bulldog + Shitzu =
You work this one out!

The very Definition of "OLD" . . .

I very quietly confided to my best friend that I was
having an affair. She turned to me and asked, "Are
you having it catered?"
And that, my friend, is the sad definition of
"OLD".

Just before the funeral services, the undertaker
came up to the very elderly widow and asked,
"How old was your husband?"
"98," she replied: "Two years older than me"
"So you're 96," the undertaker commented.
She responded, "Hardly worth going home, is it?"

I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape,
So I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness
club and start exercising. I decided to take an
aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated,
jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour.
But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class
was over.

An elderly woman decided to prepare her will and
told her preacher she had two final requests.
First, she wanted to be cremated, and second,
She wanted her ashes scattered over Lidl.
"Lidl?" the preacher exclaimed.
"Why Lidl?"
"Then I'll be sure my daughters visits me twice a
week"

My memory's not as sharp as it used to be...
Also, my memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

Know how to prevent sagging? Just eat till the
wrinkles fill out.

It's scary when you start making the same noises
as your coffee maker.

THE SENILITY PRAYER :

Grant me the senility to forget the people I never
liked anyway,
The good fortune to run into the ones I do, and
the eyesight to tell the difference.

Psalm 23 for busy people

Contributed by John Clark

The Lord is my pacemaker, I shall not rush,
He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.
He provides me with images of stillness
which restore my serenity.
He leads me in the way of efficiency
Through calmness of mind and
His guidance is peace.
Even though I have a great many things
to accomplish each day,
I will not fret, for His presence is here.
His timelessness, His all-importance
will keep me in balance.
He prepares refreshment and renewal
in the midst of activity.
By anointing my mind with the oils of tranquillity,
my cup of joyous energy overflows.
Surely harmony and effectiveness
shall be the fruits of my hours
For I shall walk at the pace of my Lord,
and dwell in His house for ever AMEN

ROTAS FOR STMUNGO'S

Sunday May 6th

Reader/Intercessions	Clergy
Sidesperson	Ian Marshall
Music	Carol Meacham

Sunday May 13th

Reader/Intercessions	Lynne Harvey
Sidesperson	Ian Marshall
Music	Andrew Baxter

Sunday May 20th

Reader/Intercessions	Lewis Kennedy
Sidesperson	Ian Marshall
Music	Andrew Baxter

Sunday May 27th

Reader/Intercessions	Anne Bardsley
Sidesperson	Ian Marshall
Music	Phil O'Ryan

Sunday June 3rd

Reader/Intercessions	Pat Brooks
Sidesperson	Ian Marshall
Music	Carol Meacham

Sunday June 10th

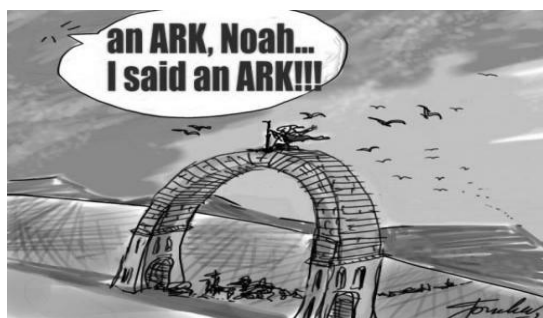
Reader/Intercessions	Clergy
Sidesperson	Ian Marshall
Music	Andrew Baxter

CLEANING

May 6 th /June 3 rd	Iona and Mary
May 13 th /June 10 th	Margaret
May 20 th /June 17 th	Jean
May 27 th /June 24 th	Finella (flowers)



(See Mark 10:25) 06-27-2007
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT, IT PROBABLY IS "CAMEL THROUGH NEEDLE" ... SORRY ABOUT YOUR CAMEL



ROTA FOR ST AUGUSTINE'S

Sunday May 6th

Readers	Ghislaine K & Swaran Rakhra
Intercessions	Linda Macaulay
Chalice	Fran Walker & Barbara B
Sidespersons	David Ansell & Margaret S

Sunday May 13th

Readers	Evelyn O'Neill & Maggie W
Intercessions	Fran Walker
Chalice	Margaret H & Janette B
Sidespersons	Maggie W & Lorraine McC

Sunday May 20th

Readers	Janette B & Barbara Barnes
Intercessions	Swaran Rakhra
Chalice	Maggie W & Kirsten W
Sidespersons	Linda J & Barbara Barnes

Sunday May 27th

Readers	Morag O'Neill & Kirsten W
Intercessions	Margaret Hardie
Chalice	Barbara B & Janette B
Sidespersons	Cathy H & Roddy Dyer

Flowers

May 6 th	Maggie Wallace
May 13 th	Moiria McGown
May 20 th	Barbara Barnes
May 27 th	Fran Walker



Thanks to Ondrej Paska (See Matthew 14:24-33) 01-04-2008
PETER FINDS HIS FAITH TO BE MUCH STRONGER IN THE WINTER



10-27-2006
WHAT ME? ... OH NO, I'M DONE PRAYING ... I THOUGHT YOU WERE STILL PRAYING!

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about running with scissors!"

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Caroline Marsland
Freewill Offering: Margaret Hardie



Support comes in many guises!

Food for Thought update April 2018

We are very busy as usual this month as we continue to supply emergency food aid and welcome folk to Community Soup. All is well behind the scenes too as, after the departure of Roddy Dyer due to him getting a job, we have now welcomed a new volunteer to help support the project. Welcome Jo! It is a joy and a pleasure to have you with us.

On Friday four of us (two from Food for Thought and two from the Church) completed First Aid training which is both good for the Church as well as the project. It also ensures that there is now someone around with some knowledge to come to the rescue to any wee calamity!

Support for Food for Thought comes in many guises and I thought this month I would share some of the ways this Community and others support us...

Very generously a couple of members of our congregation give a regular monthly donation. This can easily be done by standing order – and is money upon which we can rely. (Do ask for details if ever you fancy doing likewise!) Others in the community pop by on a regular basis to hand us a wee note or two and we appreciate this as well. Such committed giving is wonderful to behold and is the backbone of our financial stability.

But that's not the only way people support us – sometimes the support comes in very imaginative ways!

A few Saturdays ago, Duncan Shaw and his friends arranged a sponsored walk in aid of Food For Thought. They called during their epic walk to the Community Centre where Roberta and myself were pleased to offer them a well deserved

roll'n'sausage and a coffee to see them on the last lap of their walk! As they walked from Clydebank to Balloch they were all dressed up (of course!) and must have turned some heads and started some conversations as they trooped along. Even the

dug was dressed up as a frog! These were a group whom I had never met before – but here they were giving of their time and energy to raise money for our wee charity, amazing really!

Then the Dowager Duchess of Argyll decided very kindly to send us fresh eggs laid by her chickens (and



not one variety of chicken either!). Morag and her daughter brought them along with all the Harvest Festival food that was donated by the Church of Scotland in Inverary. How posh were we that our scrambled eggs that week were aristocratic!

Every Friday W visits me for a 5 minute blether and always brings the project something. 52 times a year she comes and always asks what we need for the next week. If she misses a week because she is on holiday she brings me double.



Christmas and Harvest bring the best out of people and each year we are

literally inundated with food, gifts and money. This enables us to provide the fantastic Christmas giving marathon that we pull off every year. Local schools and kids football teams and business' and individuals, thank you all. Whether its money, groceries, gifts or time, the beneficiaries are not only the people that we help – but also ourselves. Seeing the goodness and the kindness in people is such a privilege and makes me feel very humble. I am truly blessed to be part of it all.

Caroline x