



Steeple News

www.oldandstandrews.com

BREAKFAST ON EASTER SUNDAY!



Gail Clark cheerfully spreads buns for the bacon butties as part of the Mission Task Group team.



Elaine Allan sees to some happy customers l-r. Jean Cameron, Doug Blacklaws, Mona McLean, Linda Watt, Avila (hidden) and Colin Murray at the next table.

The Mission Task Group served an Easter Breakfast before the church service on Easter Sunday. This was the first time it had been tried and a willing team got the church hall ready in time for the arrival of hungry people. About 20 people came to sample the menu of orange juice/tea/coffee/croissants and bacon rolls. It is clear from the photos that those who did come along enjoyed their breakfast together with the fellowship. The Mission Task Group hope to

learn from this experience and change things for another time to make improvements. It is hoped that as people hear about the success more will be encouraged to come along. As everyone said, baby steps and it was something new so we can re-look at doing something again another time. Perhaps an early service followed by lunch? Watch this space, as they say, but do come along to whatever is arranged!

Volunteers Required

The Mission Task Group is looking for help to open the Church on the following days during Montrose Music Festival.

Saturday 23rd May 12 - 4pm & Sunday 24th May 1- 4pm

If you think you could assist please contact Willie Sinclair:- 01674 675671

Quiz Night/Pudding Night

The Summer Mission Team are planning a Quiz and Pudding Night on Friday 29 May at 7pm to raise funds for this year's Summer Mission. The evening will follow the format of a quiz with a break in the middle for tasting lots of puddings (tea and coffee will also be served).

Entry is £3 pay at the door.

Contacts

Minister

The Rev. Dr. Ian A McLean
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Montrose
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Session Clerks

Mrs Thelma Robb
Tel. 672263
Mr Ron Campbell
Tel. 673667

Treasurer

Susan Henderson
Tel. 676383

Beadle

Mrs Linda Watt
Tel. 672143

Church Secretary

Mrs Aileen Smith
Office hours:-
Thursdays 10-12am
Tel. 676270

Roll Keeper

Hazel Ritchie
Tel. 671757

Organists/Accompanists

Beth Wyllie
Ann Stewart
Marjory Sutton
Evan Cruickshank
Fraser McGlynn
Shona Macfarlane

Flower Convener

Willie Sinclair
Tel. 675671

Tea Convener

Jennifer Nicoll
Tel. 672558

Task Groups

Administration - Thelma Robb
Fabric - Elaine McLean
Finance - Forbes Inglis
Mission - Elaine Allan
Pastoral - Jean Cameron
Worship - Elaine McLean
Youth - Aileen Scott

Messy Church

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The Deadline for the June Steeple News is Monday 18th May 2015

News can be emailed to steeplenews@oldandstandrews.com
or given to the editors



There is to be no house collection this year, instead we are to be having envelopes available to make a donation. There will be collection boxes in the church on 17th May or envelopes may be handed to anyone on duty.

There is a **Sponsored Walk** from our hall on **Sunday 10th May at**

2pm. Sponsor forms may be had from me.

Also an **Evening of Music and Song**, with Redeemed Christian Church of God in the Baptist Church on **Wednesday 13th May at 7.30pm.** (there are notices in church)

Thank you for your continuing support. *Helen Campbell*

www.christianaid.org.uk

More information on the website.

May Diary

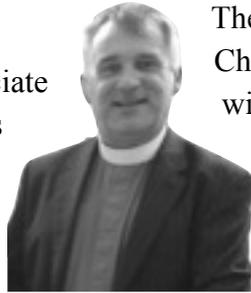
- Sat 2 Scottish Wildlife Trust Coffee Morning 10-12pm
Macmillan Nurses Afternoon Tea 2-4pm
- Sun 3 Communion Sunday
- Wed 6 Service at Montrose Care Home 2.30pm
- Thu 7 General Election
- Sat 9 Rotary Club Coffee Morning 10-12pm
- Sat 9 Big Day Out in Arbroath
- Sun 10 Christian Aid week begins. Sponsored Walk starts 2pm Church Hall
Messy Adventure 4pm in the Halls. All welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Mon 11 Kirk Session Keir Room 7.15pm
- Wed 13 Evening of Music & Song for Christian Aid. Baptist church 7.30pm
- Thu 14 Guild: Talk on Foodbanks
- Sat 16 Sunday School Coffee Morning 10-12pm
Floral Art Club Afternoon Tea 2-4pm
- Sat 16 General Assembly begins
- Sun 17 Heart & Soul in Edinburgh and online
- Mon 18 Deadline for June Steeple News articles
- Sat 23 Montrose & District Athletics Club Coffee Morning 10-12pm
Breakthrough Breast Cancer Afternoon Tea 2-4pm
- Sun 24 MCT Pentecost Service in Old & St Andrew's 6.30pm
with speaker from the Scottish Bible Society
- Tue 26 Church Coffee Morning 10am – 11.30am in the Church Halls
- Wed 27 Gordon Town Mission Swanson Rooms 7pm
- Fri 29 Quiz & Pudding Night for the Wild West Summer Mission 7pm
- Sat 30 St Mary's & St Peter's Coffee Morning 10-12pm
- Sun 31 June Steeple News issued

Please note opportunities for Summer Mission planning and preparation. Dates will be announced in Church at shorter notice but tend to be Sunday evenings at 6.30pm.

On the bright side

It has been comforting to appreciate some brighter weather, longer days and some colour in the garden recently – giving a lighter and more positive tone to several conversations! Now I would like you to hold on to that because there is a marked tendency for us to home in on the negatives. For example, the other Sunday we were looking again at Thomas – for centuries he has been maligned as “Doubting Thomas” whereas though he was honest about his doubts when he actually met with the risen Jesus the following week he didn't require to put his hands in Jesus' wounds – rather full of faith he declared in unwavering terms “My Lord and my God!” Looking on the bright side would lead us to name him “Faithful Thomas.”

The General Assembly will be held in Edinburgh later in the month. There is bound to be disagreement and some controversy – these will, I'm sure, be front and centre in what the press report but without ignoring them (or taking them at face value without seeking to understand the full story) might I suggest that we give more credence to the positive messages that will be shared?



There is much good work going on in the Church around the country – some of that will be shared in the Assembly Hall but more of it also in *Heart & Soul* in Princes Street Gardens on the afternoon of Sunday 17 May. It's a bit far perhaps to go down specially though this year it is to be web-casted.

(Details to follow but there will certainly be a link from www.churchofscotland.org.uk).

While many people may wish to talk about the shortage of ministers (and that is a challenge) I would like to emphasise the positives about the “Decade for Ministry” that is being launched – with a focus on praying for, encouraging and supporting ministries of all kinds in the Church of Scotland – lay and ordained and building upon the strengths we have. Since this was flagged up last May there has been an upturn in those wishing to attend Vocation Conferences (including young people) – indeed they have had to run extra ones and in more local venues. The Church is not dead and there are definite signs of life. Without ignoring the challenges let's look on the bright side and see where God is at work and get behind it – and talk about it.

Your minister

Ian A McLean

Prayer Walk

May 3 Broomfield Ind Estate
May 10 North Esk Road
May 17 Western/Mill Rds, Milnamair, Tesco
May 24 Station, Co-op, Blythwood
May 31 Murray Street & Lane
Jun 7 Victoria St, St John's Pl & Cottages

Congregational Bible Passage (provisional)

May 3 Joshua 24:14-28
May 10 John 15:9-17
May 17 John 17:6-19
May 24 Acts 2:1 - 8
May 31 Isaiah 6:1-8
Jun 7 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

MONTROSE YOUNG MUSICIANS SHINE



March may have come in like a lamb but it certainly went out roaring like a lion! On March 31st Beth Wyllie, assisted by fellow music teachers, gathered together their pupils from the Montrose Primary Schools and Academy to give a concert of their talents. Almost 100 youngsters - brass, string, woodwind and percussion players - performed in the church to a large, appreciative audience.

The evening had a 1980's theme and we were delighted with pieces that ranged from 'Bolero' to 'Another One bites the Dust' from

'Fame' to 'Ghostbusters'! Memories were certainly relived by some of the audience!

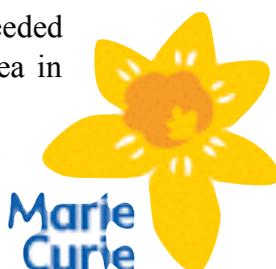
Here we see most of the pupils performing their finale. The church was packed full of children, their parents, relations and friends giving a lively, vibrant atmosphere to the evening.

Beth is a wonderfully talented musician who manages to impart her enthusiasm to the children under her care. This was clearly evident judging by the enjoyment that was had by the children and audience alike.

Another Booking for an Afternoon Tea

It is so rewarding to be able to offer charities the opportunity to raise much needed funds by way of hosting an afternoon tea in the Main Hall of our Church.

As well as the May bookings listed in last month's newsletter we have another on Saturday June 6th running as always from 2 - 4pm. This time it is for the wonderful



Marie Curie Nurses. Helen Thomson and her team are delighted to be holding their event for continued dedicated fund raising. We are all getting used to the idea of coming to the hall on a Saturday afternoon so hopefully we will see you there to enjoy the welcoming atmosphere for yet another worthy cause - so thank you.

Hilary Murdoch