

Steeple News



www.oldandstandrews.com

Wild West Week

This year's Summer Mission runs from Saturday 27 June right through till Sunday 5 July. The name of the Holiday Club is "Wild West Week" for primary school aged children and "Wee Wildies" for Nursery Aged Children (3 years and upwards). Several planning meetings have taken place and we have now moved to the final preparations as we gear up for a busy week..... Yeehaw!

Over the past years our Summer Mission has grown and has become firmly established in the calendar of the many

children who come along year after year and we look forward to welcoming them and their families again this year. Throughout the week there is a lot going on, there is something for everyone so please do come along and join in.

Registration forms for the Holiday Club will soon be going out to the schools and Nurseries in the town and there will be an online facility to register on the church website at www.oldandstandrews.com



Saturday 27th June – Coffee Morning in the church hall 10am – 12 noon.

Sunday 28th June – 11am Church Service to mark the beginning of Summer Mission.

Monday 29th June – Friday 3rd July

- 10.30am – 12.30pm – Wild West Week Holiday Club for all Primary School age children
- 10.30am – 11.30am – Wee Wildies for all Nursery aged children (3 years upwards)
- 10.30am – 12.30pm – Teas and coffees for parents and visitors (toys for toddlers) in the Tom Long Gallery
- 10.30am – 12.30pm – Bookstall in Tom Long Gallery

Other Activities:

Tuesday 30th June 2-3pm – Games afternoon for all Primary school children

Wednesday 1st July – 7-9pm – Messy Friends (Messy Church Taster Evening) – All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Thursday 2nd July – 2.30-4.30pm – Pancake Tea Party (All children must be accompanied by an adult)

Friday 3rd July 7-9pm – Pizza and Activities for Teenage Helpers (Swanson Rooms)

Saturday 4th July 10.30am – 12.30pm – Family Fun Day with BBQ

Sunday 5th July -11am Church Service led by Holiday Club followed by lunch in the hall for all.

Minister

The Rev. Dr. Ian A McLean
The Manse
2 Rosehill Road,
Montrose
Tel. 672447

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

Hall Bookings

Hilary Murdoch
Tel. 830301

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

Elaine Allan
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**The Deadline for the July Steeple News is
Friday 19th June 2015**

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

There will be NO August Steeple News published at the end of July.
The next Steeple News will be the September edition.
The deadline for the September edition is Friday 21st August and it will
be available for distribution on Sunday 30th August

Guild is Not Just Cups of Tea

A number of years ago I was invited to take on a roll which I thought was way beyond my capabilities but after coercion I agreed to give it my best shot. I was to serve as Educational Representative for Angus East Presbyterial Council. It did not require me to be a teacher but to simply convey information on themes and topics to the Guild members. It never fails to amaze me how quickly time passes but I have now completed five sessions in the office. Five years of hard, exciting and enjoyable learning. I will always remember being told that all Ed Reps were required to do was go to a meeting once a year and that was it. Well not quite the case once I started down the line.

To carry out this position I was not left alone, I have attended a number of conferences in both Edinburgh and Stirling. I have been tested with the topics which have been put forward and enjoyed my time getting to grips with some very hard and perplexing subjects. Last year saw me once again joining with other Ed Reps for an enjoyable day of fellowship, education and hard work interspersed with very interesting, stimulating and thought provoking deliberations and presentations.

I have also had to face presenting the topic and theme to a number of Guilds, who had invited me along.

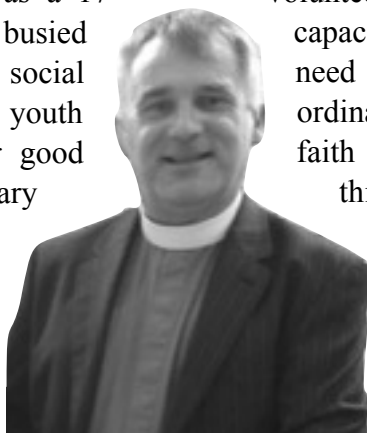
The Guild functions each year on a theme, around which the year's syllabus is to some degree based. The topics are subjects related to the themes, which require the membership to discuss. To give you some idea we are about to enter into our new strategy which will last for three years. This will be '**Be Bold, Be Strong!**' and the first of the themes to fit in with this is '**Go in Peace**', whilst the topic for discussion is '**working through conflict**'. This is going to cause quite a bit of thought in structuring our year.

The time has come for me to step down from this position and take up a very new challenge to be Convener of the Presbyterial Council for Angus East. I face this with the same trepidation that I did five years ago, but, look forward to the encounter before me. As in the past my trust in God will ensure a safe path forward.

From my time of joining the Guild I have found my membership has always been a route of enjoyable challenges. I would encourage readers both men and women to come forward and taste what is really on offer.

Tomorrow's Calling

Once upon a time there was a 17 year old lad in Edinburgh. He busied himself at school, in numerous social activities, a Saturday job and in the youth group at Church. It was a rather good group run by a widowed missionary with a young family for neighbours' children and their friends and it provided the space for young people to be themselves, to explore faith in a relaxed way – and to have fun. Along with others the lad gave thought to how he might spend his life – and because of that space the question of calling to the ministry came up. But for that group it might never have had a look in – but without pressure he explored it. At 19 he was accepted for training for the ministry, beginning divinity the following year. At 24 he became the youngest parish minister in Scotland. In 2008 he became minister of Old & St Andrew's, Montrose. And I wasn't the only one called from that fairly ordinary Edinburgh youth group.



volunteers – and for folks to serve in other capacities – young and not so young. We need to create space for people from ordinary congregations like ours to explore faith and calling – to ask the question “Is this something that God might be speaking to me about?” To let people see that you don't have to have two heads to serve God – that you don't need to be grey headed on the one hand or under 30 on the other – but you could be either or neither. To help people see that God is calling people with a range of gifts and talents, from a variety of backgrounds and experience but all with a love for Jesus and people and a deep sense that he wants them to play a part in moving the Church forward, to make it a spiritual force for the future. Tomorrow's Calling is the campaign beginning the Decade for Ministry. I showed a video clip in the Church but if you missed it you can view it (and get other information) at www.tomorrowcalling.org.uk It may be of interest to you personally but if not, it is important that we get this message out to others – and do pray! Past put behind us, for the future take us!

Ian A McLean

Prayer Walk

Jun 7 Victoria St, St John's Pl/ Cottages
Jun 14 Lower Hall Street
Blackfriars Court
Strathmore Place
York Place & Terrace
Jun 21 Blackfriars Court
Jun 28 Strathmore Place
Jul 5 York Place & Terrace

Congregational Bible Passage (provisional)

Jun 7 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
Jun 14 Mark 4:26-34
Jun 21 Mark 4:35-41
Jun 28 Mark 5:21-24;35-43
Jul 5 Mark 6:1-13

Songs of Praise

The Church of Scotland congregations in the town are holding a Songs of Praise in September. In preparation for this please choose your favourite hymn or praise item and give a note of it with your name and brief reason why it is to the Minister or one of the Session Clerks by 21st June.



Summer Mission Painting team hard at work in the Tom Long Gallery

Bob Smith, Hall Keeper

Our new hall keeper started work at the beginning of April and has been learning the requirements of all the groups who use the halls. He is enjoying working with everyone and has been rewarded with kindness and understanding while he learns his new role.



Thank you to Sandy Henderson for his time as hall keeper. We wish him well in the future and hope his health improves.



Nyumbani Team photo.

Although depleted from the usual 10 or 12 in number I recruited 8 members, three old timers, five newbies, and what a team they were! We worked hard and laughed hard.

Rotarians Alison Stedman, Arbroath

AG John Anderson, Auchterarder

Jeremy Richardson, Orkney

Moira Hogg, Portlethen & District

Barry Davies, Kinross & District

Rotarian John Hay's wife Beth, Spey Valley

Rotarian Rose Logan's husband Jock, Turriff

Last but not least, Alex Thomson, Inverkeilor.

see report on page 5



Gossip - a good word much maligned.

“Gossip isn't scandal and it's not merely malicious. It's chatter about the Human race by lovers of the same. Gossip is the tool of the poet, the shoptalk of the scientist, and the consolation of the housewife, wit, tycoon and intellectual. It begins in the Nursery and ends when speech is past.”

Phyllis McGinley - American Author.

Nyumbani Report 2015

Until our District1010 conference in Dunblane I was struggling to fill spaces on my Team for 2015, due in no small part to the outbreak of Ebola in West Africa. Of course this terrible outbreak was thousands of miles away from Kenya but nevertheless it certainly had an impact on the volunteering front.

Although depleted from the usual 10 or 12 in number I recruited 8 members, and what a team they were! We worked and laughed hard.

£10,000 was raised beforehand to present to Sr Mary for tertiary education. Because Nyumbani cares for its orphans so well they are now growing into young adults achieving their academic goals (mostly) and moving onwards and upwards with confidence and a real hope for the future. College and University are now a possibility for many and this money will help those wishing to go on to further education without a doubt.

£6000 is being held in Arbroath's account in readiness for a global grant planned for the coming Rotary year.

A further £3495 raised from the sales of my African crafts was used to purchase materials for the projects in hand and the surplus left with Sr Mary to be used how she sees fit.

Every year Sr Mary identifies maintenance projects which our "Service Above Self" teams can fulfil and this February she asked that she and her offices benefit from a little tlc. This meant prepping and giving the whole building - an old colonial bungalow which hadn't been maintained properly for years and houses her offices and all the accounts staff - a facelift. My goodness what a beautiful job Moira and the guys did, it's now like a new build. A wall was built to stem the flow of water in the big rains, new steps constructed and the garage also given an overhaul.

Drains are an eternal problem in Nyumbani home. I guess the property wasn't built to house over 120 children, plus staff and volunteers from time to time and the quality of

the original drains not sufficient to cope with today's usage. So - here we go again. Because the water from the guest house was always backing up we investigated and found that huge tree roots had grown through the main pipe, a job for two locals who cost us £7 for a skilled chap and half of that for his mate. This was completed and we paid them another £7 to put in another lead from a gutter into a main drain, job done, should make a difference. Meanwhile the cook managed to guide us to the kitchen drain which was also backing up but we decided we needed a contractor to come in to do that job. I have a feeling drains will be an issue until money can be found to redo the whole compound.

Over the past couple of trips we have been repainting the cottages the children live in and on making a new set of curtains for the first cottage I realised that they looked awful because the old curtain rails were rusted, bent and of inferior quality. An appeal at conference went out for donations of rails and one wonderful chap offered as many rails as I needed. In all he donated 40 very strong "Swish" rails which have proved to be fabulous and our curtains are now hanging beautifully, only one cottageful to be made now. Moira's comment on seeing that job completed was "now all we need are nice colourful bedcovers to complete the new look!) Over to you Moira!

Kawangware slum clinic has become Beth's baby and over four years or so she has managed to completely refurbish it to a high standard. She first visited just to see if she could help in some way and boy has she! It all started with a wee bit of a repair and a paint, she got husband John to give her a hand and together they worked away over a couple of trips. She then started raising more money each time and has made an amazing job even to the extent of tiling the floors. To say the manager was pleased is an understatement, she is now being nudged by everyone else to "do their clinic next"! Well done Beth.

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New tools were donated also which helps enormously and I have found a "safe" storage place so that we will have them for next time. We did a few tweaks to Cottage D which is the last in line for upgrading to be done by Frances Wilson's young group going out in July (this is following the success of last year's Interact group) so they can go ahead and paint.

Nyumbani Village in Kitui District also benefited from our help, the last 19 (of 100) cooking shelters were built by locals and funded by us. Hooray! We need a new village project

now as that one has lasted a good few trips, wonder what that will be.

As ever I was very proud of my team, we had lots of fun, they worked very hard in the hottest weather I have experienced in Nairobi, learned an enormous amount about Nyumbani, HIV/AIDS, how Africa works (vastly different from home) and most importantly themselves. Thanks to one and all.

Alison Stedman
Chair & Volunteer Teams Leader
The COGRI-Nyumbani (Scotland) Trust

June Diary

Mon 1 Jun Mission Task Group Swanson Rooms 7pm
Tue 2 Jun Presbytery Communion Kilry (All welcome) 7.30pm
Sat 6 Enable Coffee Morning 10-12am
Wed 10 Jun MCT AGM Melville South 7.30pm
Sat 13 Angus Cardiac Coffee Morning 10-12am
Sat 13 Jun Messy Church – Messy Picnic (nr Seaside Splash) 11am
Mon 15 Pastoral Team - Session Room 2pm
Sat 20 Twinning association Coffee Morning 10-12am
Sat 27 Jun Holiday Club Coffee Morning 10-12am
Sun 28 Jun Informal Communion after service
Mon 29 Jun Holiday Club week begins 1030 in the Halls
Wild West Week (www) See leaflet with further details
Tue 30 Church Coffee Morning is in the Tom Long Gallery 10-11.30am

July

Sat 4 Jul Holiday Club BBQ and games in the Church Hall – No Church Coffee Morning
Sun 5 Jul Summer Mission Service 11am (children meet in hall at 1030)

Summer Mission painting and props preparation continues most Sunday evenings at 6.30pm in the Tom Long Gallery.