

# Steeple News



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## Messy Picnic

Saturday 19 May 2018 - 10am - 12 noon  
Seafront Splash Park, Montrose  
(Children must be accompanied by an adult)  
Please bring your own picnic



## Christian Aid Week 13 – 20<sup>th</sup> May Big Brekkie

All over the country, hundreds of people are joining in the "Christian Aid Big Brekkie Event".

We are joining in and hosting a fundraising breakfast on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May from 9.30am onwards in the church halls.

Please come along and support this event and by doing so, you will be helping some of the world's poorest people.

### GSK Angus Community Awards.

The summer Mission was successful in being awarded £200 from Glaxo towards the work done at the Summer Mission. The Church is very pleased that Glaxo recognises the valuable work we do in helping the children of Montrose gain experience working and playing together and learning about Jesus. The picture



do more  
feel better  
live longer

shows Peter and Kathleen Strachan receiving the cheque from Chris Barbour on behalf of the church at the Glaxo reception.

**The Deadline for the June Steeple News is  
18th May 2018**

News can be emailed to [steeplenews@oldandstandrews.com](mailto:steeplenews@oldandstandrews.com)

**Contacts**

**Minister**

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

**Ordained Local Minister**

Rev Ian Gray

**Session Clerk**

Mrs Thelma Robb  
Tel. 672263

**Assistant Session Clerks**

Elaine Allan & Willie Sinclair

**Treasurer**

Susan Henderson  
Tel. 676383

**Beadle**

Mrs Linda Watt  
Tel. 672143

**Safeguarding Co-ordinator**

Elaine Allan  
Tel. 676764

**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

**Hall Bookings**

Valerie Morris  
Tel. 671343

**Task Groups**

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

**Messy Church**

Elaine Allan  
Tel. 675764

**Steeple News Editors**

Peter & Kathleen Strachan  
Tel. 675537

**Diary**

Sun 29 Apr Communion Sunday 11am

**May**

Tue 1 Church Coffee Morning 10am – 1130am in Halls  
Presbytery Communion Letham Church 7.30pm All  
welcome.

Sat 5 Rotary Coffee Morning 10-12

Sun 6 Guild Songs of Praise Old & St Andrew's 6.30pm

Sat 12 Sunday School Coffee Morning 10-12

Sun 13 Summer Mission Painting begins Tom Long Gallery  
6.30pm

13 – 19 Christian Aid week – envelopes available – watch out  
for events

Mon 14 Mission Task Group – Session Room 7pm

Wed 16 Gordon Town Mission – Session Room 7pm

Sat 19 Congregational Church Coffee Morning 10-12

Sat 19 Messy Picnic 10am

General Assembly begins

Sat 26 – Sun 27 Church open during afternoons for MoFest

Sat 29 St Marys & St Peters Coffee Morning 10-12

Sun 27 Montrose Churches Together Pentecost Service 6.30pm  
St Margaret's Church

Tue 29 Church Coffee Morning 10am – 1130am in Halls

**June**

Fri 1 Jun Fundraiser for Summer Mission 7pm

Sat 2 Enable Coffee Morning 10-12

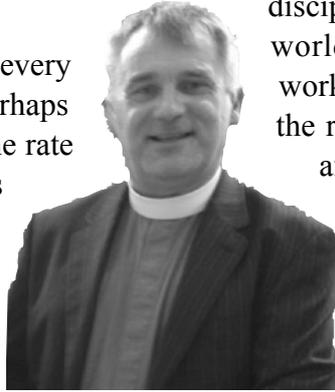
The Stand Up to Cancer Concert has had to be postponed but will take  
place later in the year.

Plans are currently being made to take part in the Christian Aid Big  
Brekkie.

## Change everywhere

Change is very much to the fore in every area of life these days. What perhaps makes it harder to deal with is that the rate of change that we are facing appears to be increasing so that even those of us who are open to change can be taken aback at the pace and scale of the changes we have to contend with. Also there is change afoot in areas that we might have seen as fixed for ever. Bank and shop closures; health services changing and the closure of the Infirmary; charging for parking in the offing are some examples of recent changes in Montrose – all on top of numerous changes we have already had to face.

There are those who take the view that the Church ought to be resistant to change and be a bastion of the status quo. However, that runs counter to the gospel imperative to seek to transform society with the love and grace of God. The line from Abide with me that says “Change and decay in all around I see, O Thou who changest not, abide with me” does not mean that we are committed to retaining everything as it is, or was. God remains faithful - but his love is “new every morning”. The early



disciples were accused of “turning the world upside down”. God’s Spirit is working in our midst to transform us by the renewal of our minds, to set our hearts aflame with the love of Christ. We are not to be conditioned or moulded by the spirit of the age or have our life and work determined by society’s standards (which sadly are often a far cry from God’s) but we can’t shut our eyes to the way society is changing and it will almost certainly mean that we need to be open to innovative and imaginative ways of reaching out the people of Montrose with the unchanging truth of the gospel of Jesus. The ultimate content of the good news remains the same, however how we convey it may need to be radically different.

I pray that we might be bold and imaginative in our outreach and together be understanding and committed to supporting the various aspects of modern mission even if at times they seem far removed from that to which we have been accustomed. By all means, win some. For my sake and the gospel’s go and tell...

With every blessing

*Ian A McLean*

### **Tearfund Scotland**

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jubilee Concert Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May  
Montrose South and Ferryden Church  
Church Road Ferryden  
Doors Open 7pm Start 7.30pm  
Tickets priced £6.00 available from Alan Fraser  
on 01674 671879 or Ian McLean  
email [alan.fraser12@gmail.com](mailto:alan.fraser12@gmail.com)

### **Church Open Mofest**

The Church will again be open during the Mo Fest on Saturday and Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of May between 12 & 4pm  
If anyone would like to volunteer to help keep the Church open please contact Willie Sinclair. Tel; 675671

### **Prayer Walk**

May 6 North to the Esk and beyond  
May 13 Dun & Hillside and to west  
May 20 South & Ferryden and to south  
May 27 The Parish to the East – offshore  
Jun 6 The Church of Scotland

### **Congregational Bible Passage (prov)**

May 6 1 John 5:1-6  
May 13 Acts 1:1-11  
May 20 Acts 2:1-21  
May 27 Psalm 29  
Jun 3 1 Samuel 8:4-11,16-20

**Scenes from the Easter service and the very successful Café Church held in the hall**



**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2018  
13 – 19 MAY**

We seem to face endless regulations and intrusion into our lives, as a result of a few people breaking the rules. The previously simple steps to open a bank account are a prime example of this. Safeguarding, the means by which we try to protect our children and vulnerable people, often results in hours spent on training and completing forms, contributing to a shortage of volunteers to work with young people. Now recent cases of abuse experienced by some development agencies, means that they have to spend more resources, increasing the checks and training to safeguard those vulnerable people they serve.

Christian Aid has also experienced the problem of sexual abuse, but none of the cases in the past ten years have involved any of the beneficiaries of aid. But still they will have to work harder to ensure that remains the case in future.

Christian Aid operates through partner organisations rather than sending large numbers of international aid workers into poor countries, where they are far from home and hold large amounts of power and wealth. Local organisations are not immune to safeguarding

problems, but working through partners at least ensures that people have a deeper relationship with staff, who are from – and accountable to – the very communities they are serving. Such organisations are first on hand when disaster strikes, they know the needs of the affected communities best and they will be there long after the world's attention has moved elsewhere.

It is even more essential today, that we try to support this work. The calls for help are endless. The huge displacement of the Rohingya people to Bangladesh, the hunger and malnutrition faced in South Sudan, the drought in Kenya forcing thousands to travel far from home in search of pasture for their livestock, resulting in families lacking both water, food and income, and the never-ending war in Syria.

Yes – we are all a bit worse off with rising council tax and prices of food and heating costs.

Yet, we are richer by far than those who cannot find food for their children or afford to have light in their homes. Envelopes will be available at the Church in the weeks leading up to Christian Aid week - please be as generous as you can.

Jean S. Stevenson and Helen Campbell  
Montrose Christian Aid committee members.