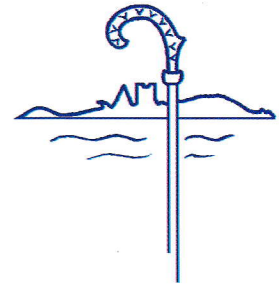

ST. FILLAN'S CROSIER



St. Fillan's Church News

Autumn 2006 Edition

Pilgrimage to Inchcolm



Over 200 persons enjoyed the annual pilgrimage to Inchcolm on a glorious sunny day in September. The pilgrimage included an opportunity to tour the abbey, picnic and join in a service led by the minister.

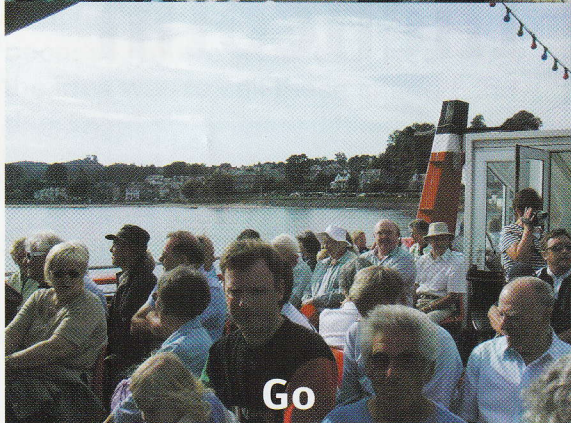
A selection of photos from the September trip



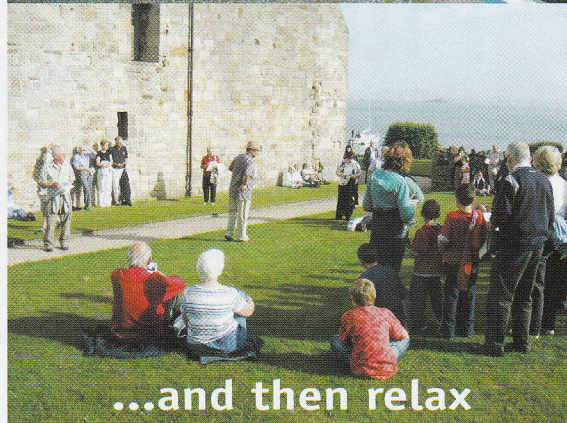
Ready



Steady



Go



...and then relax

...and some other events in the parish of St. Fillan's



Top left and then clockwise - very early on Easter Sunday; the crowning moment for the Minister during the Aberdour Festival; the Alma College Choir; and Harry Cunningham at the Mercy Ships stall during the Festival.



Letter from the Manse

BY NOW OUR MARVELLOUS summer is a dim and distant memory. Gone are the long sunny days, the weeks of unending sunshine – it was bliss!

The news from across the world was less than blissful, though. Rising death-tolls among our Armed Forces serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, and many civilian deaths in those countries, too. The tragic decision by the Government of Sudan to allow no more UN Peacekeepers into the Darfur region is resulting in more suffering for the refugees in that area.

And who can forget the images of Israeli and Lebanese towns disfigured by bombing raids and rocket-attacks, resulting in many deaths, and the mass-evacuation of expatriates, including Aberdour's own Kelly Family?

Within our own country the tensions between the large Muslim population and the rest of us have increased, too. Amid rumours of terrorist plots and security raids, tempers flare, and the emotions boil over.

Tensions in the community or between nations in nothing new. Read any history-book, and you will find much the same. The Bible, too, contains many examples of conflict and tension, between religions, between nations, and within communities.

Part of the earthly Ministry of Jesus was a ministry of healing. His healing came in many shapes and sizes. At times, Jesus healed those who were physically ill, like the blind Syrian, the lame man lowered into a house in Capernaum, and the Roman centurion's servant. On other occasions, Jesus healed people in mental turmoil, who were frightened and tormented by forces beyond their control.

Jesus spent part of His Ministry bringing healing in a very different way. Through listening to others, through explaining the meaning of Scripture, through reminding His listeners of the love of God for all humanity, Jesus sought to bring people of different backgrounds and outlooks closer together. Jesus was 'big' on reconciliation, and on healing broken human relationships.

The "Mercy Ships" charity is living out part of the healing Ministry of Jesus. Through sailing

to areas of the world where the need is greatest, the technicians and medical staff bring physical healing to the sick, irrespective of nationality or race or creed. The international medical organisation, "Doctors without Borders" does similar work, in sending doctors to war-zones and refugee camps.

Christians and others can make a real contribution to the healing process between different religions and races, in our own country, and further afield. It begins by recognising that all people are created in the image of God, male and female. We all bear the spark of God's Divinity in our hearts and our minds.

It continues with a willingness to listen, and share stories. The roots of human conflicts and misunderstandings between peoples and religions lie buried in years of history, myths and legends, and all these need to be shared and unwrapped, for understanding to develop.

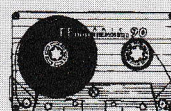
If your only image of Christianity is based on stories about the Crusades or the Inquisition, you will have a different view of the Church from someone whose image of the Church is based on being cared for by Christian doctors in the middle of a war-zone. Both views are valid, but need to be understood in context.

It is only through sharing our stories, personal, national and religious, that we can begin to understand other people, who may have different life-experiences and a different outlook on life and religion.

Come, and share the story of Jesus of Nazareth, the world's Redeemer, in worship and in fellowship at St Fillan's.

Peter Gerbrandy-Baird

WEEKLY TAPE MINISTRY



IF YOU ARE UNABLE to come to our services and would like to receive a tape either on a regular basis or as a "one off" please speak with Norman Macdonald 860585.

CHERNOBYL CHILDREN LIFE LINE

From Eileen Harper

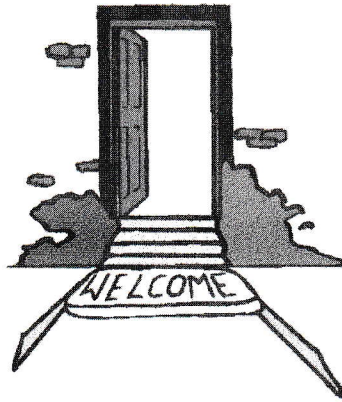
I AM STILL COLLECTING one and two pences for the Chernobyl Children who visit our community every summer. I am delighted that so many people regularly give me their pennies. It is amazing how the money mounts up and so far this year I have sent the local branch £160.

It is over 20 years since Chernobyl and there is no sign of an end to the suffering for those who live/lived in that area. In such circumstances we can feel quite helpless but there is always something we can do to make things a little better. The people who started this charity brought hope to families who felt they had been forgotten by their countrymen and the wider world. Hope can comfort, encourage and inspire. It is not simply our money we are giving, it is a little bit of hope.

There is a great crowd of people all over Britain who open their homes to the Chernobyl children each year. Maybe you would like to be one of them? The money we donate pays for airfares and outings and our regular giving helps to ensure the children's annual visits.

Please give your collections of one and two pences to me, or to one of the church officers, on a Sunday, or give me a call on 860151 and I shall collect.

Thank you.



OPEN DOOR 2006/2007

Open Door begins again on Thursday 12th October at 10.30am

St Fillan's Church Hall Everyone welcome

A fun programme is ready to be enjoyed . . . so come on in enjoy each month's event . . . bring friends . . . make new ones . . . enjoy tea, coffee and home baking

- 12th October **Crime against Wildlife** - the protection of Fife's wild flora and fauna with Mike King of Fife Police
- 9th November **Mercy Ships** - bringing medical treatment to the third world with the Reverend Tom Findlay
- 14th December **Joy at Christmas in Story and Music** with Frank and Margaret Tollick
- 11th January **Robert Burns** - The Boy from the Deep South with Ronnie Kerr
- 8th February **Joys and Travels by Steam Trains** with Gordon and Kenneth McCrae
- 8th March **The Pancake Party** with Richard Lloyd

...there will again be a Fairtrade stall each month...tea, coffee, chocolate, biscuits and gifts can be purchased in support of this worthy cause



Crèche facilities at Church Services



A CRÈCHE FACILITY is provided in the Primary School each Sunday during Service time, and parents attending worship are welcome to leave children under 5 there.

Regulations require that we have two people on crèche duty each Sunday. Our team is now up to 18 and is therefore on duty about 5 times a year. Obviously as our team grows so the number of duties reduces. If you would like to become a crèche helper, please contact Eileen Harper on 860151



ST. FILLAN'S LUNCHESES

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all who give of their time to help with food preparation, serving and washing dishes.

A Special THANK YOU too to all who give us their support by coming along to dine. From January to August this year we have already served 585 lunches and banked £890!

Our "sitting" in September saw the start of our tenth year of "St. Fillan's Lunches" which we started, not as a fundraiser, but as a meeting place where all could come and enjoy fellowship – an opportunity to meet up and chat with "old" friends and acquaintances, and hopefully meet some "new" folk too, while savouring a plate of home-made soup, filled roll and tea or coffee.

Over the years there has been an amazing variety of soups served – hot, cold, spicy, creamy, cheesy, smooth and "lumpy", well known tried and tested recipes and some really new adventurous creations – so it is not surprising we have often been asked for "the recipe". So much so, early in 2003 (!) we decided to collect the soup recipes and produce the "St. Fillan's Soup Book". While some have kindly provided a copy of their own recipe, we have not yet received sufficient for Ewart and Catherine to compile the longed for copies. We therefore again invite you to let us have "your" soup recipe as soon as possible to enable us complete the much requested publication.

PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE! Help us "put this one to bed" as the saying goes!

Whilst we were very happy to welcome some "new names" to our team of volunteers this year, more are always appreciated (3 times per year for 2 hours or so an apron is provided!)

Sandra (and Ewart) 823454
Catherine 860611.

Aberdour Scottish Country Dance Club

WHY NOT TRY something new this winter?

The 31st year of Scottish Country Dancing in St. Fillan's Church Hall, Aberdour, starts again on Wednesday 13th September at 7.45pm.

This is essentially a fun class for adults to the age of 80 and beyond! We have live music and the price of £2.00 includes tea and biscuits.

Look out your dancing pumps and come along and give it a try – you will be made most welcome. For further information call Sandra McSkimming (823454).

Christmas in St. Fillan's

Sunday 17 December

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 10.30am | Festival of Lessons and Carols |
| 3.30pm | Nativity Play and Carol Singing with the Junior Church and Sunday School followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Church Hall |

Christmas Eve

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 10.30am | Reflective Advent Service |
| 6.30pm | Family Christmas Eve Service
Will Santa get to Aberdour this year? |
| 11.00pm | Carol Singing followed by Watch night Service at 11.30pm |

Christmas Day

- | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| 10.00am | Family Christmas Communion Service |
|---------|------------------------------------|

Mercy Ships

HARRY CUNNINGHAM gave a very moving children's address on the Mercy Ship project in Scotland during one of the September services. Here he talks more about the project.

Over the last few years, the members of St. Fillan's have raised a large sum of money to repair the church roof. Now that this project has been completed, the Kirk Session felt that we should look further afield to less fortunate people than ourselves in the underdeveloped world. It was decided that an appropriate charity would be the African Mercy Appeal, run by the Mercy Ships Charity. The aim would be to raise £6,000 which would pay for 1,000 cataract operations.

Mercy Ships is a Christian charity, operating world wide. They have three hospital ships all converted from merchant ships. We in Scotland are particularly interested in M. V. African Mercy which was purchased by Anna Gloag and which is managed from the Mercy Ship's Scottish HQ in Perth.

M. V. African Mercy is 500 feet long, has six operating theatres, dental surgeries, two hospital wards and requires a crew including doctors, surgeons, dentists, nurses, cooks, cleaners etc. of 484. Remarkably, the vast majority of the crew are unpaid volunteers who give up their holidays or longer to work on the hospital ship. The operating theatres are fully equipped and even difficult operations can be carried out.

In the underdeveloped African countries few, if any, have access to skilled medical and dental assistance. Cataracts in young children are endemic and most sufferers completely blind. Because doctors and nurses give their services free, a cataract operation can be carried out for only £6. So for £12 you can completely restore a child's sight.

Members of the congregation and others within Aberdour have been so touched by this project to restore the sight of those who are urgently need it, that they have started a campaign to raise £6,000 and pay for 1,000 cataract operations.

So far £2,073 has been raised through a number of different events. Plans for further fund raising include:

- Pushing the Minister in a hospital bed from Aberdour to Dalgety Bay (8th October)
- Open Door talk about Mercy Ships (9th November)
- Christmas Concert using local talent
- Burns Supper
- Musical Supper
- Gift Day
- Concert by local Choral Union members
- Evening Songs of Praise with sponsored hymns
- Beating the Retreat by Dollar Academy Pipe Band in the Aberdour Castle grounds

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE EVENTS. Buy a Mercy Ships Teddy Bear costing £6 and pay for a cataract operation. Between now and Christmas display the bear on the rear parcel shelf of your car and show everyone that we do really care about those so much less fortunate than ourselves,

For further information on the Teddy Bears contact Harry Cunningham on 860245.



Contact details

Moderator	Reverend Peter Gerbrandy-Baird	861 522
Session Clerk	Mrs Catherine Duncan	860 611
Clerk to the Board	Mrs Karyn Crowe	860 721
Treasurer	Simon Fraser	860 361
Hall Convener	Bruce Drever	860 353
Roll Keeper	Bill Cochrane	860 786
Magazine Editor	Colin Campbell	860 085

Kirk Session Working Group Leaders

Focus Group	Ewart McSkimming	823 454
Link Group (Ecumenical Activities)	Mrs Eileen Harper	860 151
Pastoral	Norman MacDonald	860 585
Social	David Robertson	860 297
Stewardship	Ewart McSkimming	823 454
Youth Education Group	Mrs Kathleen Fergus	860 804

Board Committees

Finance Convener	Ewart McSkimming	823 454
Property Convener	Graeme Stevens	860 238

**St. Fillan's
Sunday School
and Junior Church**

Calling all young people from Nursery/P1 ages to Senior Secondary School ages to come along to come along to Sunday School and Junior Church!

There you will find a very warm welcome from Mrs. Barbara Williamson the Sunday School leader, all the other adults who help, and a group teaching activities to suit your age.

Among the activities you can enjoy are stories, drawing, games, discussions, thinking of others, singing, making things, making new friends... and lots of others.

Come and find out how you can have an enjoyable time while also finding out wonderful things about God's love.

We look forward to seeing you.

Sale of Work

Church Hall

Saturday ²⁵~~18~~ November at 2pm

Christian Aid

Thank you, to everyone who supported Christian Aid this year. The coffee Morning in May raised £1384.

In June the sponsored golf competition raised £774.

**Nativity Play and Carol Singing
with the Junior Church
and Sunday School**

**Sunday 17 December at 3.30pm
followed by mulled wine and
mince pies in the Church Hall**

A Brief Theological Reflection - Rethinking Transubstantiation

YOU MAY THINK that I am going mad, writing about transubstantiation in a Presbyterian Church magazine! But please bear with me. I'm going to suggest that it might not be as dangerous as you think. First, though, I will explain what transubstantiation is, for those of you who don't know.

Transubstantiation is a Roman Catholic doctrine describing what happens to the bread and wine during Holy Communion. It is based on the philosophy of an ancient Greek called Aristotle, who described all things as having a substance and accidents. Simply put, the substance of something is what it *is*, insofar as it can exist independently (for example, I am a human being), and accidents are qualities which are dependent upon a substance for their existence (for example, I have brown hair, I'm five feet six inches tall and I'm sitting on a chair). According to the doctrine of transubstantiation, at the words of consecration in a Communion service, the substances of the bread and the wine change into the body and blood of Christ, but their accidents stay the same. So Christ is really present in the bread and the wine, but they still look like bread and wine.

During the Reformations in the 16th Century, this doctrine was rejected by most of the Reformation leaders, the two most famous being Luther and Calvin. Luther suggested a possible compromise and this he called consubstantiation, which is the idea that the bread and wine are really bread and wine but, at the same time, also the real body and blood of Christ (i.e. their substances co-exist). Calvin, however, described the bread and wine as symbolic of Christ's body and blood. To understand what he means it is important to recognise the distinction between symbols and signs.

Signs point to something other than themselves – for example, a road sign warns us of an upcoming hazard. Symbols, however, contain within them that which they confer. The St. Andrew's flag doesn't just point to Scotland; it is an embodiment of it. As such, the flag is more than just a sign, because it stirs up passionate patriotic feelings of love and loyalty in a way that a 30 miles-an-hour sign cannot (although the latter may be scowled at by some!). In other words, the St. Andrew's flag contains, *in its very being*, Scotland and all that Scotland stands for.

So when Calvin described the bread and wine used at Holy Communion as *symbols* of the body and blood of Christ, he was saying that the bread and wine are more than mere pointers to Christ, because, by virtue of being symbols, they contain Christ within them. This is not to say that Christ can be contained in any one place at any one time, but that Christ is *present* in the bread and the wine – much like what is taught in the doctrine of transubstantiation. And although Calvin would have described Christ's presence as spiritual, rather than substantial, it is no less *real*.

This is why transubstantiation may not be as dangerous as you think. For though the *philosophical* explanation for Christ's presence in the bread and wine is quite different between Reformed Protestantism and Roman Catholicism, both accept the *theological* reality that Christ is really present. It is this theological reality – the presence of Christ – that we should concentrate on when we share bread and wine, as it is far more important for our faith than philosophical speculation.

Caroline Gerbrandy-Baird

ST. COLUMBA EPISCOPAL CHURCH COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER 10am to 12 noon

CHURCH HALL

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

BRAIN TEASER

1	S	H	A	C	H	*	N	E	B	U	C	H	*	D	A	N	B	E	Z	Z	A
2	E	P	Q	J	A	H	B	X	S	H	K	A	J	F	P	I	F	L	A	P	R
3	M	K	N	A	N	O	*	*	P	A	T	D	B	Q	L	E	J	T	H	F	*
4	*	T	I	A	H	Y	*	*	F	D	F	N	A	W	H	A	W	E	S	K	O
5	P	F	J	K	*	P	Q	K	T	R	T	E	B	F	S	Z	F	K	P	J	G
6	R	T	S	I	M	Q	*	D	W	A	F	Z	Y	P	L	Z	K	D	O	Q	E
7	O	F	H	A	E	B	H	A	J	C	J	Z	L	T	E	A	W	G	M	T	N
8	P	W	*	A	L	J	A	R	F	H	P	A	O	F	B	R	Q	N	*	F	D
9	H	E	T	Z	A	R	I	I	U	S	*	R	N	I	A	N	K	I	A	B	E
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U

Find the square on the grid above by using the reference points to locate the first letter of each name shown below. For example, the first letter of the name Meshach "M" is in square A3. Start from A3 and go up, down, left and right to an adjacent square to find the next letter of the name. Carefully and completely shade in each square containing letters for all the names shown. Then shade in the squares with a * symbol to find the hidden message.

What did Daniel take to survive when he was in Babylon?

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------|
| A3 Meshach | M3 Babylonian Kingdom | H9 Darius | A5 Prophet |
| I2 Shadrach | Q1 Belteshazzar | O8 Belshazzar | E6 Mishael |
| S9 Abednego | F2 Hananiah | G1 Nebuchadnezzar | D8 Azariah |
| N1 Daniel | | | |

HOW MANY APPLES?

How many apples did Adam and Eve eat in the Garden of Eden?

Was it just one?

Perhaps it was ten apples, Adam 8 and Eve 2!

Or maybe sixteen! Eve 8 and Adam 8 also!

Or if Eve 8 and Adam 82, that would be 90 apples!

But according to history Eve 81 and Adam 82

That would be 163 apples.

Although if Eve 81 and Adam 812, that would make a total of 893 apples.

Having said that... if Eve 814 Adam and Adam 8124 Eve that would be a total of 8938 apples in The Garden of Eden.

I give up!!!!!!!!!!!!

BOOM BOOM

Q: What kind of lights were on the ark?

A: Floodlights.

Q: Did all the animals on the ark come in pairs?

A: No the worms came in apples.

TWO THOUGHTS from a school church service at which a screen was being used for the hymns:

None of us knows what is written on our life screen – we do not see the picture in advance. This is better for us – since we should live with hope and not fear and since we should live humbly not proudly.

When the world seems out of focus, try using the lens of the Bible to get a clear picture.

Parish and congregational register

Bereavements

March	10	Mrs. Jane Russell
March	27	Mrs. Ellen Gordon
April	3	Mrs. Moyra McClelland
April	14	Mrs. Charlotte S. Stodart
May	18	Mr. George Coltart
June	10	Mr. William Sime
June	18	Miss Carleen Simmers

*Things beyond our seeing, things beyond our hearing, things beyond our imagining have all been prepared by God for those who love Him
Corinthians 2: 9*

Marriages

April	30	Alastair Thirsk and Rachel Martin
June	24	Jonathan Tidswell and Alison Low
August	25	Gary Lister and Susan Henderson
September	1	Daniel Bunnag and Jane Adamson

God is love and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them

Baptisms

March	5	Ralf Carl Gonnella
April	9	Jackson Bell McKnight
June	11	Alexandra Spillane
June	25	Eva Alexandra Marie Tidswell

Jesus said "Let the children come to me"

Joining by Transference Certificate

Mrs. Lynn Bastow,
West Stell, Kilmundy Steading, Burntisland

Joining by Resolution of the Kirk Session

Mrs. Anne Arneil, 8 Livingstone Lane
Andrew Bastow,
West Stell, Kilmundy Steading, Burntisland
Richard Lloyd, 6 Inchmickery Avenue, Dalgety Bay
Dr. J and Mrs. Kate Lyall, 10 McLauchlan Rise
Mrs. Catherine Wheaton,
Grangehill House, Kinghorn
Jonathan Tidswell

We welcome and hope you enjoy your fellowship here

Please advise editor of any omissions from above – these will be included next time

A Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance

All Saints and All Souls 2006

ON SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER, the nearest Sunday to the Christian days of All Saints and All Souls, there will be an Evening Service at St. Fillan's to remember those who have died in the past year, and in previous years. This Service, which begins at 6.30pm, will be an occasion for quiet reflection with music, Bible Readings and poetry. There will also be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one.

Please join us to remember, and to give thanks to the lives of those who we have loved, and who now rest in peace with God.

Remembrance Sunday 2006

THE ANNUAL SERVICE to remember the dead of the two World Wars and the other military conflicts in which the United Kingdom has been involved since then, will take place on **Sunday 12 November** at the Church Hall at 10.00am.

After the Service in the Hall, there will be a brief Act of Worship at the War Memorial at 10.50am, during which the Two Minutes' Silence will be observed.

*At the going down of the sun
and in the morning:
We will remember them.*

CH4 EVENING

THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER at 7.30pm

DALGETY PARISH CHURCH

Geoffrey Keyes of the Rommel Raid

Contributed by David Graham

THE PLAQUE ON THE WALL of the church hall has always intrigued me. I wanted to know more of the story - the Internet revealed a little.

Recently I came across the book **Get Rommel** by **Michael Asher** which has just been released in paperback. As it says on the cover "He reveals the truth behind the brave but impractical plan to send a Scottish commando team deep into the desert to assassinate General Rommel. It made for a fantastic adventure story, but was only rescued from utter disaster by the valour of the men involved: Few of them escaped."



It is a fantastic story but the book did not mention Aberdour. His father though was Sir Roger Keyes, a hero of the First World War and an Admiral of the Fleet. I wonder where he lived and for how long he lived in Aberdour? **Does anybody know?**

Geoffrey Keyes is mentioned in books available in the Dunfermline Library and on the Internet at such sites as http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geoffrey_Charles_Tasker_Keyes

We would be happy to print any further details in the next edition of the magazine regarding his time in Aberdour.

Service of Thanksgiving



A service of thanksgiving was held on 9 July 2006 to dedicate the new church roof and the CH4 hymn books.

Among those present in a packed church were Mrs. Rutherford and her daughter and the Reverend John Scott and his wife Kath. Marjory and Margaret, daughters of Norman McLelland and Bill Armit respectively, whose legacies helped pay for the CH4 hymn books, also attended the service.

The organ was also brought back into use for the first time since completion of the new roof.

The service was followed by a buffet lunch in the church hall.

Treasure in a skip

Early one autumn morning last year, as work on our Church roof began, the minister and two church members were to be found salvaging broken roof slates from the skip! Why? One of the members had had an idea! Would the idea work? Support and encouragement was given aplenty one to the other and 'Let's give it a try' was the resolve.

Several trips later, to and from Church, there was a large heap of broken slates in a back garden shed! Much time was spent knapping the sharp corners and shaping these broken pieces prior to painting, varnishing, labeling, and gluing on a soft pad to save furniture being scratched ... because, you've guessed it I feel sure, the idea was to sell these shaped and decorated slates each 'little piece of history' as a coaster, to raise funds for the new Church roof.

The painting stage became a rewarding phase thanks to the enthusiasm and wonderful painting skills of Sadie and Wallace. With Sandra's attractive notice on the coffee morning stall and Sadie's considerable selling skill, the funds for the roof fund began to grow. Since then the fund has grown and grown and grown!



Kathleen and Sadie selling the roof tiles at the coffee morning

Now that the last coaster has been sold we are delighted to let you all know that with your help the roof fund from these coasters grew by £540!

Each one of us who was involved would like to thank you for your support in buying so willingly. Well done everyone!

Sponsored Golf



THE FIRST SPONSORED GOLF MATCH took place in 1980 when Dalgety Parish Church invited St. Fillan's to join them in a fun match.

The David Rutherford Trophy has been keenly contested since then with Dalgety winning 14 times to St. Fillan's 11. St. Fillan's won again this year by a comfortable margin of 250 to 237 points.

The money raised in sponsorship and donations by St. Fillan's members and friends was £1470 divided between the Christian Aid and the Macmillan Fife Appeal.

Special thanks to Lois Hutchison who has been at the forefront of organising this event for many years. Jim Wyse volunteered to help this year and has now taken over Lois's role.