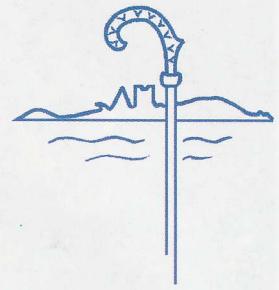


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# ST. FILLAN'S CROSIER



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St. Fillan's Church News

Spring 2009 Edition

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## St Fillan's in the Snow

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Gladys surrounded by cards and flowers  
On her 99th birthday.

Gladys Hunter was asked to write the Profile printed below sometime earlier this year. She died unexpectedly on Wednesday 18 February, mourned by her Family, the Congregation of St Fillan's, and her many other friends. This profile gives a wonderful insight into the life and thoughts of a never-to-be-forgotten live-wire of a woman, who proved to us all that advancing age does not need to mean doing less than you did while younger. Knowing Gladys was a blessing to all of us!

### Parish Profile

#### **Gladys Hunter**

**Eldest congregational member**

**Q. Are you a morning person or a night time person?**

A. I am more inclined to tackle jobs needing done in a morning and relax at night with a book.

**Q. What was the happiest moment in your life?**

A. When I got a letter from my daughter, saying I was her best friend and had always been so, even though we are 7000 miles apart.

**Q. What is your favourite book?**

A. Billy Grahams 'Unto The Hills' I think he is the greatest evangelist.

**Q. Which is your favourite film?**

A. The Sound Of Music

**Q. Which four guests (past or present) would you like to invite to dinner?**

A. With due respect, no one, as at my age I get all uptight at the thought!

**Q. Where did you spend your childhood?**

A. Southport, where I was so happy.

**Q. Do you remember the first Armistice Day?**

A. Yes, I was 9 years old playing with my skipping ropes when the news came that the war was over.

**Q. Where would you like to visit where you haven't been before?**

A. Cornwall and Ambleside, father's birth place.

**Q. Any phobias?**

A. The automated voice on the phone, that says 'Try again'....could strangle her...ha ha!

**Q. Any hobbies?**

A. In the past knitting, gardening and embroidery too much now for me. In my younger days, swimming, riding my bicycle plus walking over the sand dunes at 6am.

**Q. What is your favourite meal?**

Roast lamb with all the trimmings.

**Q. What would you do if you were prime minister?**

A. I don't know? The worlds too troubled wouldn't like that job for all the tea in china!

**Q. What word do you use too much?**

A. I'm tired, but I must do it!

**Q. What would you do if you won the lottery?**

A. Give it all away, as it would be a worry to me.

**Q. What do you enjoy most about living in Aberdour?**

A. The church. Friendship plus the lovely work. Wouldn't care to live anywhere else.

### Retirement of Jim Fairlie

After many years of faithful service to St Fillan's Jim Fairlie retired at the end of 2008 due to illness. The determination and courage with which Jim faced illness are characteristic of the man. At the time of writing, Jim is out and about, and getting on with his life as best he can.

Organ-music is part of Jim's very being; after all, he's played in churches since the age of 16! In that time Jim has gained a wealth of experience, in music, in Ministers, in Kirk Sessions, in Congregations! Spending time with Jim means constant entertainment through stories related to church-occasions.

From being told: "Mr Fairlie, I think your playing is improving" (when he was already of advanced years!), to "We don't need to pay the Organist for a wedding – look at the car he drives"! And the latter from a Church Elder in the West! Charming!

Jim's main passion in life, next to his lovely wife, Pat, and their children and grand-children, is Scotland's national bard, Robert Burns. Books and more books fill his shelves, and he has an excellent store of Robbie Burns related stories and facts. One of the places where the Bard was 'scolded' by the Kirk Session for his behaviour was Terbolton Kirk, a place where Jim was organist for many years!

Jim's final Service at St Fillan's was on 25 January of this year, the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Burn's birth. All hymns were set to Scottish folk-tunes by Jim, and our three readings included part of Burns' "Epistle to the Reverend McMahon", an appropriate choice.

Jim played the tune Burns himself had preferred to "Auld lang syne", and the Service was closed with a hymn set to the present 'Auld lang syne' tune.

His farewell gift from the Congregation was a 1911 set of Burns poems and songs, together with some Burns anniversary whisky and a bottle of Fairlie's Liqueur.

Jim's skill as an organist, his care towards church-music, his kindness to wedding couples and bereaved families, his advice and guidance to Ministers, and his dedication to all he took on, made him a great colleague and a good friend.

All of us at St Fillan's will miss his contribution to our worship, and we wish Jim and Pat many years together in good health and happiness!

PG-B

"GOOD MORNING MR FAIRLIEEEEE:"

OVER THE YEARS THAT SOUND GREETED ME AS I PREPARED FOR THE MORNING SERVICE, GLADYS FIRST IN ON A SUNDAY MORNING SO SAD THAT SHE DIDN'T MAKE HER 100, I WILL MISS HER ALONG WITH THE CONGREGATION OF ST. FILLANS., AND CAN RECOLLECT THE CONGREGATION SINGING 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY' WHEN ONE OF HER BIRTHDAYS FELL ON THE SUNDAY MORNING.

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOUR NEW ORGANIST, DAVID CRAWFORD, I'M SURE HE WILL DO WELL, HE APPEARS AN ABLE CHURCH ORGANIST AS I LISTENED TO HIS CHOICE OF MUSIC AND PLAYING.

I ENJOYED MY SUNDAY AS 'GUEST' ORGANIST AT THE ROBERT BURNS 250TH ANIVERSARY, WHERE THE HYMNS FOR THE MORNING SERVICE WERE SUNG TO HIS SCOTTISH TRADITIONAL TUNES. THEY WERE ALL WELL SUNG AND EVERYBODY SEEMED TO ENJOY THE CHANGE, ESPECIALLY 'AULD LANG SYNE' WHICH REALLY SHOOK THE RAFTERS.

ALSO GOOD TO SEE SOME OF THE MALE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION DULY TURNED OUT IN TRADITIONAL HIGHLAND DRESS AND THEY LOOKED REALLY SMART AND FULL OF COLOUR. (OR SHOULD THAT BE 'COOL') ME FROM AYRSHIRE OF COURSE AND AS A 'LOWLANDER' WORE THE 'TREWS'.

INTERESTED ON LISTENING TO PHIL CUNNINGHAM'S EXCELLENT T.V. SERIES "MUSIC THROUGH THE AGES IN THE SCOTTISH CHURCHES", HOW MUSIC HAS PROGRESSED THROUGH THE AGES, AND HOW THE SCOTTISH CHURCHES HAVE RESISTED SCOTTISH TUNES IN HYMN SINGING, ALTHOUGH MOST COUNTRIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD TEND TO BUILD IN THEIR OWN TRADITIONAL MUSIC AS NORMAL. AGAIN THE CHURCH IN AMERICA SINGING ONE OF THEIR HYMNS TO 'SCOTS WHA HAE' IS ACCEPTED WITH THEIR NORMAL HYMN SINGING.

JOHN BELL ON BEING INTERVIEWED CERTAINLY HAS DONE HIS 'BIT' ON MAKING SURE CH4 HAS A NUMBER OF SCOTTISH TRADITIONAL TUNES RECOGNISED FOR THE HYMN SINGING PUBLIC, 'HOWEVER THE JURY IS OUT'.

I AM NOW ENJOYING SITTING AMIDST THE CONGREGATION AND VIEWING THE BEAUTIFUL KIRK FROM A DIFFERENT ANGLE.

ONCE AGAIN A THANK YOU TO ALL FOR THE KIND CONCERN, I AM NOW FEELING WELL AND NOW IN THE FINAL STAGES OF THE TREATMENT

(A CERTAIN NURSE FROM THE HAEMATOLGY DEPARTMENT IN Q.M. HOSPITAL IN THE CONGREGATION, TAKE A BOW). THE MAN NOW LOOKING 'UP' AND LISTENING TO THE 'KIST OF WHUSTLES'.

### The future of the Parish system.

The Church of Scotland is engaged in an internal debate about part of the 'constitution' of the Church, the Third Article Declaratory. This states that the Church of Scotland has a role to bring the Ordinances of Religion to all the people of Scotland through a 'territorial Ministry'.

Basically, it means the existence of the Parish System as we know it, with a Minister and a Kirk Session and a Congregation in each Parish; with the Minister required to marry and bury all who live in the Parish (and who require such services!).

When the re-united Church of Scotland was formed in 1929 and the Articles Declaratory we re-affirmed, there were some 2,000 Ministers and around 1,700 places of worship. 80 years later there are around 1,050 Ministers and 1,200 places of worship. In addition there are around 200 vacant Charges, i.e. Parishes without a Minister.

The system is creaking at the seams, and it appears no longer fit for purpose. A variety of administrative ways are being developed to cope with these changes and pressures on resources, such as the Parish Grouping idea, in which a number of Parishes share resources and work together across a range of issues. St Fillan's is in such a Parish Grouping, with the Parish Churches in Dalgety Bay, Inverkeithing, and North Queensferry.

The question being asked is: ***"Should the Church of Scotland maintain its present system of Parishes, so that all people in our country have an identified Parish Minister and Parish Church, or should we move away from this model?"***

Whether you are a member of the Church of Scotland or not, whether you ever attend Church or not, why don't you give me ***your thoughts*** on this issue. Do having a Minister and a Parish Church matter to you? Do you feel it is useful that everyone can be buried by a Parish Minister, whether they are Christians or not? Is there a role for a 'national Church' in the multi-cultural and multi-faith setting of 21<sup>st</sup> century Scotland?

Please send your views to The Manse, Aberdour, KY3 0TL, or drop a reply in the reply-box in St Fillan's. Thank you!!

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### **How did this Newsletter come through your door?**

Have you ever wondered how this newsletter was delivered to your house and why it should be on the doormat when you came home? This newsletter comes to every, yes every, household or shop or business within the parish of Aberdour and to church members outwith the parish, so that everyone has the opportunity to know what is going on in St Fillan's church. You see will see that we are an active, friendly church and welcoming to anyone who wishes to worship with us. Do come to join in any of the activities you see advertised in these pages.

May I pay tribute to the band of distributors who carry these newsletters round the districts, climbing steps and staircases and risking their fingers in snapping letter-boxes, to pass on the St Fillan's Crosier to everyone. Your kind dedication is really appreciated. Many thanks to you all.

## Letter from the Manse

2009 marks the 500<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Frenchman Jean Cauvin, known to millions across the world as Calvin, one of the leaders of the many Reformations in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. Unlike Martin Luther and John Knox, who were ordained Priests in the (Roman Catholic) Church, Calvin was a lawyer, not a theologian.

Knowing this is helpful when reading his works or trying to understand the many rules and regulations developed in the 'Calvinist tradition'. He tried to cross every 't' and dot every 'i', just so that there should not be any loopholes everywhere.

Yet to see Calvin only as an obscurantist with a dislike for fun is to do him a disservice. He was one of the world's great intellectual leaders, imbued with the cultural and scholarly wisdom of renaissance-humanism. In this he found part of his desire to improve the world through good education.

The Dutch historian Rob Hartmans writes: "A good glass of wine could not do any harm, according to Calvin, and the thought that sex was a necessary evil that was supposed to be without pleasure was, said Calvin, an invention of the devil."

I sometimes wonder what Calvin would make of the tradition that, loosely, carries his name as a label. There are many differences between what Calvin wanted to achieve when he set out to reform the Church in the mid 1500s, and how the Reformed tradition has developed in practice across the world. So perhaps it would be good to see a clear distinction between Calvin the Reformer, and the Calvinist tradition based on his teachings.

His theological writings make it clear that Calvin saw the Eucharist, or the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, as THE central communal act of the Christian community. Calvin foresaw weekly Communion Services, with a boy's choir singing Psalms during the Distribution of the Elements.

A far cry from quarterly Communion as they developed in the Reformed tradition, characterised by an emphasis on the Death on the Cross rather than including also the joy of the Resurrection and the promise of the future Kingdom. Without these, the eschatological view of the Sacrament is lost.

A "memorialist" view of Holy Communion makes it a sombre, back-ward looking event, rather than the momentous, forward-looking and life-changing occasion it is. The Death of Jesus achieved nothing at all when seen and marked in isolation.

Instead, it is His Life, Ministry, Death, Resurrection and Ascension, viewed as a whole within the promise of the Second Coming, which mark the forgiveness of sin and the conquering of death.

Celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion within this wider context makes it a *Meal of the Kingdom*, a foreshadowing of the time when all Creation, in Christ, shall see an end to division, conflict, hate, hunger, thirst, and an end to death itself.

The Church-season of Lent is a time for contemplating our relationship with God, and with our fellow human beings, in our Families, in our communities, in the nation and throughout the world.

If we contemplate our relationship with God and with other human beings, near and far, within the context of the Eucharist, it will be inescapable that acceptance, love, sharing and reaching out are the Divine imperatives on which to build all our relationships.

When we come to accept this, reconciliation, justice and peace are not pipe-dreams for some distant future, but are achievable realities in our life, and within our lifetime.

A blessed Easter to you and to those whom you love.

*Peter Gerbrandy-Baird*  
Parish Minister

**Holy Week & Easter Services in St Fillan's**

Monday 6 April	7pm
Good Friday	7pm
Holy Saturday	12noon
Easter Day	6am & 10.30am (Family Easter Communion Service)

On **Maundy Thursday** there will be a special event for all Congregations in the Forth Churches Group in Dalgety Church, at 6.45 for 7pm, at which an expert will be speaking about the Jewish Passover Meal, and the events surrounding the Last Supper. Tickets (free) will be available nearer the time. Contact the Minister (861 522).

**CARE FOR THE CARER**

At a recent meeting of the Pastoral Groups of the Forth Churches Group discussion arose over a subject which is certainly receiving considerable press coverage of late and that is the apparent increase in those suffering from Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. Whilst much is being done medically and through the provision of social support for those suffering from dementia, what the group considers is lacking is care for those who look after those affected. If anyone has experience of providing care they will be all too aware of the full time nature of the provision of help which is needed on each and every day.

In discussions to date we have asked the questions in what way can we provide support to those who are caring for a relative or family member? Are there ways of providing respite care, in order to give them space and time to themselves? The range of situations is enormous and growing, and perhaps well beyond the limited human resources of our pastoral group to tackle every situation.

As an initial step to raise the awareness of the need for "Care for the Carer" **a meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30p.m. at Dalgety Parish Church** at which **Ann Little**, who is a Development Worker with Alzheimer Scotland, will provide some background information to dementia and Alzheimer's, but the focus will be on the carer's needs and what can be done towards meeting those needs.

This meeting is not solely for Elders or Pastoral Carers but for all members of our congregation and those of the Forth Churches Group who have an interest in this subject or perhaps are already carers.

**We require an early indication of numbers of those who would be interested in attending and would ask you to 'phone Norman Macdonald at 860585 at your earliest convenience.**

**N. Macdonald**

**9th February 2009  
Preparing for Church  
Membership.**

Are you interested in finding out more about the Christian Faith and preparing for becoming a Communicant Member of the Church?

The Minister will be organising what used to be called 'Confirmation Classes'; informal occasions during which we will cover a range of Faith-related issues, discuss the doctrines of the Christian Church, and look at the role of the Church in the 21st century.

The format will probably be a Saturday event (from 10am to 3pm or thereabouts), followed by two or three evening sessions, all at dates still to be decided, depending on who wishes to take part. It is planned to organise a special Service of Confirmation sometime in June. If you are interested in attending, or want more information, please contact the Minister on 861 522, or the Session Clerk, Catherine Duncan, on 860 611.

**Stop press - New Organist**

Good news! David Crawford, from Edinburgh, has joined St Fillan's as its new Organist. David has many years experience as a church-organist, and is looking forward to becoming part of the St Fillan's Family.

## Parish and congregational register

### Bereavements

#### 2008

(Non members in italics)

- Oct. *Mr. Alexander Whitesmith*  
*Mrs. Stephanie Eckford* (Peter officiated)  
Dec. 8 Mrs. Ethel Turnbull  
*Les Pascall* (Burntisland Peter officiated)  
*Sam Cowin*

#### 2009

- Jan 1 *Mike McGlynn*  
Feb 18 Gladys Hunter

*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

#### 2008

- Sept. 26 Andrew Grimm and Kerry Lake  
27 Hazel Margaret Paterson and Captain Luigi Alessandro Ronca at the Chiesa di Santa Maria Assunta, Fabbrica, Tuscany (daughter of Bill and Margaret Paterson)  
Dec. 6 Daniel Patterson and Imogen Curtis

### Baptisms

#### 2008

- Aug. 24 Joshua Graham Milroy  
Nov. 2 Craig Rob McKay  
Dec. 28 Maisie Sara Brown

#### 2009

- Feb. 8 Grace Rosalie Scott

### Dedication

*Jesus said "Let the children come to me"*

### Joining by Transference certificate

Mrs. Fiona Baxter

*We welcome and hope you enjoy your fellowship here*

(NOTE: Please advise editor of any omissions from above – these will be included next time)

**ST FILLAN'S OPEN DOOR****9 October 2008 – 12 March 2009**

Here we are almost at the end of another Open Door season. As a close relative of mine often says - 'how time flies'!

We started off with a talk about the Samaritans, which took the form of a quiz. This blew away some myths about this valuable organization, as well as introducing some surprising facts; one being that the majority of calls they receive are from young men.

Next came 'Nuclear Power and Safety'. This was fascinating even for the 'non-scientific' members of the audience. Models, beautifully crafted by John Osborne, accompanied the talk.

Kate (Wheaton) kept everyone on their toes by telling us about the ups and downs of teaching road safety to children. She had lots of amusing anecdotes as well as some alarming statistics. The ball was firmly put in our court, however, as she said that children learnt road safety and driving habits, from us, at a very early age!

We had a record attendance of over a 100 for John Taylor's 'Aberdour through the Ages'. We were beginning to wonder anxiously whether we would be able to accommodate everyone, but fortunately the flow of people eventually stopped! We will ask John for a 'part 2', because, due to time constraints, the slides stopped tantalizingly at Shore Road, after a picture tour of the High Street.

Well, we did think we knew quite a lot about the Scottish Parliament, but after the excellent talk by Paul Anderson, we had to admit that there were many grey areas. It was an absorbing insight into the formalities and procedure of the Parliament and the distinction between Parliament and Government.

We look forward to 'Gardening with Wildlife' by Peter Christopher of the National Trust. It is a very topical theme and I'm sure we will take away lots of ideas on how to make our gardens wildlife friendly.

Thank you to everyone who supports Open Door. Suggestions for talks are always welcome and we hope our next programme will appeal to many of you.

Sue Lloyd and the Open Door Committee



THE FAMILY FUN WEEK RETURNS!.....

WHEN?.....JULY 19<sup>th</sup>- 26<sup>th</sup>

WHERE?.....THE CHURCH HALL.

WHO FOR?.....THERE'LL BE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

FUN	SONGS	GAMES	CRAFTS	SNACK
STORIES		QUIZ NIGHT		BBQ
	YOUTHCLUB	TODDLER GROUP		

**Christian Aid Coffee Morning**

**Church Hall**

**Saturday 16 May**

**10.00 am to 12 noon**

Stalls: bric-a-brac, bottles, homebaking, plants, raffle + Fairtrade

Contributions to stalls and assistance on the day would be appreciated

Contact:

Eileen Harper (860151)

Or

Lesley Gordon



121 George Street asked that churches include the following in their newsletters.

**THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND MINISTRIES  
AND MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS 2009**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

At last year's General Assembly, it was decided that all who belong to the Church should be given more information about Ministries and Mission Contributions - the money your Congregational Treasurer sends to the Church offices in Edinburgh. What Happens to this money? How does it enable the worship, mission and service of the Church?

The information below shows how your congregation's contribution is used to support Parish Ministries, Mission and Renewal, and general support and services provided for congregations and the councils of the General Assembly. Please note that the cost of your minister is not what he/she is paid. This cost is the total for stipend and employer's national insurance and pension contributions, and is based on a minister with ten years' service.

<b>Congregation:</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
<b>ABERDOUR ST. FILLAN'S</b>	<b>£44,287</b>
<b>Parish Ministries (87%)</b>	<b>£38,530</b>
The cost of ministry in your parish is:	£39,100
The support you receive from other congregations towards the cost of your minister is:	£570
<b>Mission and Renewal (5.5%)</b>	<b>£2,436</b>
This supports the Church's work in resourcing congregations for Christian education and outreach, in caring for the vulnerable in society, in partnership with Churches in some of the poorest parts of the world, and in providing a Christian perspective on the issues of today.	
<b>Support and Services for Councils and Congregations (7.5%)</b>	<b>£3,321</b>
This provides financial, legal, safeguarding and other services, and meets the cost of the General Assembly and the Moderator.	

**Please note that Ministries and Mission Contributions only provide part of the total funding required for the work of the Church listed above. A fuller picture is given in the leaflet *Belonging to a Sharing Church*, which is available free to all congregations.**

I hope that this helps you to understand Ministries and Mission Contributions and shows you are enabling the sharing of the gospel through the money your congregation sends through the Church Offices to all parts of Scotland and beyond.

Yours sincerely

**Vivienne A Dickson**

Convener, Stewardship and Finance Committee

241447

**Note by the Treasurer:**

This letter does not take into account the £1200 Voluntary Additional Contribution that we make annually to the National Stipend Fund. In practice St Fillan's more than pays its way in this respect. A letter has been sent to the Church of Scotland drawing attention to this fact.

**DO YOU PAY TAX ?**

In the Annual Accounts you may note that £6819 was donated to the Church by the Open Plate. A very generous sum. However, it is worth considering the fact that if all this had been given by Gift Aid we would have benefited by a further £1400. A similar consideration applies to those giving by non-Gift Aid Weekly Freewill Envelopes. **If you pay Income Tax, do consider asking the Treasurer or any Office Bearer for a Gift Aid Declaration. Your donations will then be increased, at no cost to yourself, by another 20%.**

## Scottish Country Dance Club

Aberdour Scottish Country Dance Club held a celebratory meal and dance in St Fillan's church hall on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February to mark its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The club's current members were joined by some of the original members of 30 years ago, plus the minister, Rev. Peter Gerbrandy-Baird and former teacher, Barbara Cuthbertson (now Mrs MacAndie). Teachers, John Philip gave a speech and Linda Cullen cut the cake along with Alice MacEwan who joined 30 years ago and is still dancing today! It was noted that amongst our current class, only one member actually lives in Aberdour, namely Cathie Millar who joined the class a few weeks after it was first started. It was then run by George and Betty McKay. The club now attracts people of all ages from the surrounding area and further afield.

A dance, to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, was composed by member Boyd Brannan, set to music by our resident accordionist Bill O'Donnell and aptly titled '**The Pearls Of Aberdour**'.

All had a great night and hopefully there will be more anniversaries to celebrate. Meantime in the words from 'Strictly', - **K-e-e-p Dancing**.

## ST. FILLAN'S LUNCHESES



1997

2007

*Our Tenth Anniversary has come and gone.....and so have the One hundred limited edition copies of our "Soup"er Recipes Books which were 'launched' at the Sale of Work. Our thanks to all who purchased one (or more) and for the compliments received about the publication. It is our intention to produce a "Book Two" and already hold one or two recipes for that – So...to those of you who missed the last deadline to let us have your recipe, now's the time to look it out and let us have a copy.*

*We do appreciate each and everyone's support by whatever means, and, as always, would like to say a very big "THANK YOU!" to all our diners and volunteers. All it takes to be a volunteer to serve our valued customers is to let us know and you will be put on the Rota (3 times per year for 2 hours) and you don't even need an apron as one is provided. We are always keen to welcome more customers and more volunteers at any time.*

*Sandra and Ewart (823454) and Catherine (860611)*

## ALUMENDA COFFEE MORNING – GREAT SUCCESS!!

Interest in the Alumenda, Malawi project continues to grow as witnessed by the number of people who enjoyed the recent Alumenda coffee morning on 17<sup>th</sup> January at St Fillan's Church Hall.

Jim Wyse and Alex Waugh created a magnificent display of photographs, video clips and artefacts from their visit to Malawi last October. The display brought to life the situation of the people and Church in Alumenda. Jim and Alex were on hand to answer many varied and in depth questions about both the building project and life in Malawi. What is clear is how different life in Malawi is from that in our own community.



Many things we take for granted, such as running water, food and fuel are much harder to come by in the villages there. School children walk several miles in bare feet and stifling heat to go to school and church. They have no desks or chairs to sit on at school and class sizes are well in excess of 100 per teacher. The church building is progressing slowly but steadily. There were many photos on display showing its development to date.

The purpose of the coffee morning was not only to keep everyone informed about our partnership Church, Alumenda CCAP (Church of Central Africa, Presbyterian) but to raise

funds for further work. The total amount raised was a magnificent £1160.40. This was a tremendous achievement. Many thanks go to all those who donated and contributed to the fundraising stalls.

Our next fundraising event for this project promises to be something special! Here is advance warning of a date for your diary – **Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009.**

Many of you will remember the great stand-up comedian and actor Chick Murray, who sadly died in 1985. In 2005 he was named as 'The Comedian's Comedian'. The peak of his career was in the '50s and 60's when, along with his wife, he was famous for great songs and jokes. He later worked as a solo act always wearing a "bunnet" and with a unique style of joke-telling. We are lucky enough to be hosting an evening entitled 'The Great Life Story of Chick Murray' - Murray's daughter, Annabel Meredith, will be coming to the Church Hall to show a video/film clip about her father's life – this includes original footage, sound bites and tributes from other great comedians such as Jimmy Tarbuck and Billy Connolly. There will also be live music from the "Salon Court Trio". More details will follow ....

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK SPONSORED GOLF – 2009



The Christian Aid annual golf week raises money for two worthy causes through sponsorship or by donation. Over the years Christian Aid and Macmillan Fife Appeal have benefited from this fun competition between St Fillans Church and Dalgety Parish Church for the David Rutherford Cup and several other prizes. St Fillans is the current holder

of the Cup. This year's competition will be held between **01-05 June** with the prizegiving later on the Friday evening 05 June in the Clubhouse.

To take part you do not need to be a member of St Fillans or Aberdour Golf Club. The Golf Club has made the course available and will take tee bookings before and during this period for the event, at no cost. If you would like to raise money for two very deserving causes and have a game of golf with your friends and relations. Contact Jim Wyse on 860732 if you need further information



**Scottish Country Dance Club  
Lunch Club**

