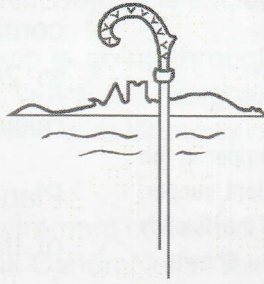


ST. FILLAN'S CROSIER

PRAYERS FLY HIGH FOR THE CHILDREN AT THE EASTER FUN DAY.



MAKING CROSSES, EGGS,
NESTS AND PALM
TREES, THRILLED
56 CHILDREN AT
THE EASTER FUN
DAY ON GOOD
FRIDAY TOPPED OFF
BY A SPECTACULAR
BALLOON LAUNCH.



Also inside

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Letter from the Manse

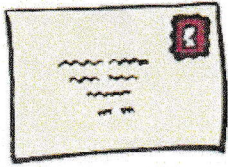
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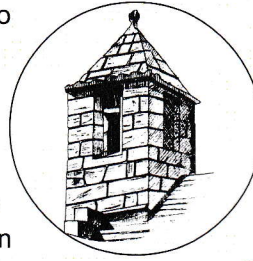
Thank you to the many of you who have donated stamps to the Church of Scotland's World Mission Stamp Appeal.

People are so generous with their time and effort. Time to tear the stamps off the envelopes effort to get them to me and or to the box in St. Fillans or to hand them into Gordon at the Post Office. People hand in treasured stamp albums, exotic stamps as well as everyday stamps. Sometimes I get just a few, other times I get a bundle. The Playgroup contributed well over a kilogram of stamps as they are collecting for us too. Please keep on contributing to this worthwhile appeal.

Susan Morton, 4 Manse Street, Aberdour.

Around 70 members and friends attended the Musical Supper in the Church Hall on Friday 8th March and enjoyed an excellent supper, surpassed only by the entertainment provided by members of the Kirkaldy Amateur Operatic Society (KAOS) singing Songs From The Shows. Thanks to the generosity of KAOS in declining to accept any fee or expenses, plus some generous donations, the nett profit amounted to £427.84 which will go to meet the cost of the Church's Children's Fun Week in July.

Once again our thanks go to the people who helped to set up the tables etc, those who donated salads and delightful puddings, and the helpers who served, cleared the Tables, and did the washing-up afterwards.



Celebrating 900 Years of Worship

In 2023, St. Fillan's Church will celebrate 900 years of worship in its building. We hope to celebrate this significant milestone with a lasting legacy for the church, the village and the wider community. During the ten years leading up to 2023, we intend to hold various fund raising events and activities.

Plans are currently at an early stage in terms of the financial target and the proposed projects on which the funds will be spent. St. Fillan's has already started to allocate funds to the venture.

We hope that the village will support this venture and we will be happy to hear from anyone with suggestions to be considered for the use of the funds and for any offers of proposed fund raising.

ABERDOUR CHURCHES EASTER FUN MORNING in St. Fillan's Church Hall

On March 29th 2013 an Easter fun morning was held by the Aberdour Churches Family Fun group.

This was a new event as a extension to our week in the Summer. The fun morning had been planned and organised for Children age 5 to 12 both Boys and Girls, to attend in St. Fillan's Church Hall. The event was split into four groups. One group made crosses out of lollypop sticks and decorated with wool of all colour's, Easter stickers and other items. The second group were decorating hard boiled eggs for the Grand Roll the Egg competition. The third group made and decorated nest baskets and added two or three little sweetie eggs once complete. The forth group was the Mount of olives group, that were making out of yellow pages groupings of palm trees. The children advanced through each group and finally all were in the Egg race down the slide challenge, - with a prize for the winner. Unfortunately some eggs were decorated with so many stickers and other items they bounced and would not crack or run in a straight line down the shoot. Finally all the children wrote a prayer request on a small card that was attached to a balloon that were all launched in a "mass balloon launch" at the end of the morning. The event was attended by 56 children in all, - that was one more child than our highest number last summer! In all it was judged a great success!

Alan R Thornton

Aberdour Churches Family Fun Group - Publicity

Letter from the Manse

The year appears to be flying by, and Spring seems a long time a-coming! To mark Holy Week, the four Congregations in the Parish grouping - North Queensferry, Inverkeithing, Dalgety & St. Fillan's – joined together for three Evening Services.

Each service was very different, suiting the setting and traditions of each Church, but together they shared one clear message: the suffering of Jesus as He fulfilled His earthly ministry, ending with the Crucifixion

The anguish of the Passion is followed by the great joy of Easter: "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!" Death and sin are conquered by Christ through His sacrifice, made once, for all. Thus all Creation finds new life, and all are embraced in God's love; no-one is excluded from the love proclaimed in the Gospel.

At the time of writing, the Christian Church is going through a difficult period. The abdication of Pope Benedict, the first such event in over 600 years, the resignation of Cardinal O'Brien, and the up-coming General Assembly of the Church of Scotland with its many controversial debates all make for unsettling times.

In our own community, the forthcoming retirement of Canon Val Nellist at St Columba's will bring change for that Congregation. We should all thank Canon Nellist for her contributions to our community, and for her ecumenical work in the Parish. And we pray a blessing on the Reverend Maureen Stirzaker, who will be in charge at St Columba's during the vacancy.

Ecumenical cooperation in Aberdour is most visible during the summer "Family Fun Week" and its follow-up events, when volunteers from both Congregations work together with young folk from the Parish. This year's Good Friday children's event was a new venture, and much appreciated by all who participated in it.

I trust such cooperation will become the norm among the different Christian denominations in Scotland. We all face similar challenges, and I believe the time has come to set aside doctrinal differences – and there are relatively few -, and to stop worrying so much over the way "we" and "they" do things, and concentrate on working together to make the Good News of Jesus a living reality within our nation.

Whether we stand or sit to sing, kneel or sit to pray, have Bishops or Presbyteries, wear black or colourful vestments, pale into insignificance next to the true task of the Christian Community: to be the Living Body of the Risen Christ in the world He redeemed in love, and to share God's never-failing love with all people, without exclusion.

There is a lot of talk within the Church of Scotland about schisms and walk-outs by this group and that. Such talk is both unhelpful and dangerous: if folk are not careful it can become a self-fulfilling prophecy. Talk of division is also un-Scriptural, for we are called to unity in Christ.

I pray this year's General Assembly - which Catherine Duncan and I will be attending as Commissioners - will be a place of prayerful discussion and a genuine desire for unity within the Kirk.

William Arthur Dunkerley hit the nail on the head when he wrote the hymn*:

*"In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth."*

Peter Gerbrandy-Baird, Parish Minister

(* Hymn 624, CH4, ©Desmond Dunkeley)

ANNE STUARTS WORD SEARCH

Anne has been at it again, to get your little grey cells working you are to find the following words in the grid below!

Best....blind....calm....coins....cost....crippled....deaf....death....debtor....demon....disease....

dropsy....epilepsy....evil...fed....fig tree....fish...fool(2)....in- law....judge....lad....lamp....lost....

lost sheep....master....men....mouth....mustard....mute(2)....need....net....new on old....paralysed....

pearl....pool....rich....see....servant(2)....sick....skin....slave....son....sons(2)....sower....tax....

ten(2)....tenant....treasure....vineyard....water....wedding....weeds....widow(2)....wine....yeast.. goats...good...guests.

Each word belongs to a DIFFERENT parable or miracle – can you think of others not included??!

L	A	M	P	X	D	P	N	O	E	S	F	Y	G	R	Y	P	W
S	R	N	L	E	V	O	W	P	K	W	M	E	E	O	E	F	E
E	O	B	E	S	T	O	I	I	T	A	A	V	D	A	O	N	E
R	T	N	B	T	S	L	N	N	N	T	S	A	R	O	S	D	D
V	B	L	S	W	E	D	E	L	I	E	T	L	L	I	D	T	S
A	E	A	O	P	I	T	N	A	V	R	E	S	P	U	R	S	O
N	D	D	S	S	P	R	W	W	X	U	R	T	S	T	A	O	G
T	I	Y	E	N	H	T	U	O	M	B	L	I	N	D	Y	C	S
W	V	A	P	A	R	A	L	Y	S	E	D	H	T	A	E	D	E
E	S	C	A	L	M	G	Y	N	I	E	E	V	I	L	N	L	E
E	N	O	X	J	N	S	O	J	L	Q	R	E	U	O	I	E	D
L	X	V	U	I	P	M	D	P	O	U	T	U	R	S	V	I	T
E	N	D	D	O	E	R	P	E	P	E	E	H	S	T	S	O	L
R	G	D	R	D	A	I	N	W	A	I	D	S	A	A	G	T	V
E	E	D	H	T	R	H	L	O	O	F	N	X	O	N	E	I	O
W	T	T	S	C	U	T	S	D	U	O	C	O	I	N	S	R	F
O	U	U	U	B	I	K	C	I	S	T	S	E	U	G	N	E	T
S	M	N	E	M	A	R	O	W	F	D	L	O	N	O	W	E	N

10th Anniversary success for Open Door

Open Door started life 10yrs ago when founder members Kathleen Fergus, Wallace and Beth Cowan, Douglas and Mary Crow, Bill Cochrane, Trish Niven and Eileen Harper came together to form the first committee.

Continued support from the congregation and Aberdour village has continued throughout the ten years and Open Door continues to be a welcoming monthly date on the calendar fostering friendship and interest during the wintery months.

This past year has continued the pattern in style with the best annual attendance so far. Consequently the funds generated from the entrance charge and 'Fairtrade' stall this year have enabled us to make significant donations to St. Fillan's Church and to the Fife Furniture Plus Initiative.

***Chris Short** began this autumn series with the most fascinating account of three Edinburgh surgeons who broke the mould. Three very remarkable 19C Scots women who became pioneers in their field of medicine. They gained recognition through their courage, brilliance and determination and their fight against prejudice, and they all became highly successful and influential doctors of their time.*

***John Burrell** once again delighted us with his illustrated 'grand tour' from Dover through France to Southern Germany and to the mountainous region where cable cars and chairlifts were by far the best way to explore the area. Onto Switzerland and more breath-taking scenery and a journey on the Glacier Express finally to the Italian lakes. John's account had us all captivated and we look forward to his next adventure.*

***Gail Jackson** Manager at 'Furniture Plus' enlightened us to the valuable work that this local organisation has been undertaking for the past 11 yrs. Collections of good unwanted furniture have been redistributed to needy families. Workshops have been developed to help long term unemployed to build up skills in refurbishing furniture. Advice is also available to low income families to help budget within their means.*

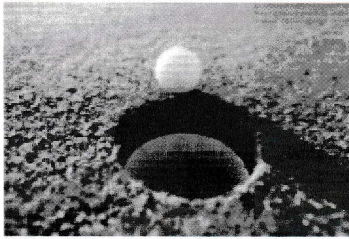
*Feb 14th - Valentine's Day very appropriately - brought us 'Scottish love in Action' (SLA) and a welcome return from **Edith Armit** who is fondly remembered from her time in Aberdour. Edith provided us with her enthusiastic and inspiring account of her work as a volunteer with SLA, which supports the care of destitute 'untouchable' children in India. The lives of many children have been transformed as a result of SLA with the sustainable provision of support, a home, education and health care. A wonderful testament to this organisation.*

***Andrew Cook's** interesting account of the Aberdour Census of 1851 brought our attention to the changed face of Aberdour compared to early Victorian times. He detailed Parish council responsibilities, and in particular the administration of Relief fund for the poor. He focussed on the large number of trades people in the village and the impact of both a significant amount of local mining activity. The further development of the first railway link and many more interesting aspects of village life more than 150 years ago were also described.*

*And in March, local hero and 'Station Master' **Trevor Francis** brought our season of talks to a close with his very personal story of a very blessed and varied life, his fascination with the railways and many more anecdotes on different career changes he has undertaken. His award of the an MBE last years was the pinnacle of his fulfilled life and recognition of the Aberdour communities appreciation of his valued contribution to village life.*

New members for the organising committee are very welcome – please telephone Lynn Bastow (01592- 872101) if interested.

Dates for your Diary



CHRISTIAN AID GOLF WEEK

The Christian Aid Golf Week has been inserted in the Golf Club Fixture Card to run Monday 03 June through to Friday 07 June, both days inclusive.

So, let us all shake off those winter blues and take this opportunity to use this week the Golf Club has allocated for us to play in a friendly and relaxed competition between Aberdour Parish and Dalgety Bay Parish for the Rutherford Cup.

Sponsor cards together with Golf Card Score Cards will be distributed May onwards. It would be great if you could obtain sponsorship from work colleagues, relatives and friends. **All funds raised will be donated equally between Christian Aid and Fife MacMillan Cancer Support.**

Please participate in this event and come along to the social and prizegiving in the Clubhouse on the evening of Friday 07 June.

Thanks.

Jim Wyse 860732

Inchcolm Trip 2013
St. Fillan's annual pilgrimage
Inchcolm will take place on
Sunday 8 September 2013.
Depart Aberdour 3.15pm;
return at 6pm. All welcome.

Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Please put the date of 18th May into your diary to attend the annual CA Coffee Morning in the Church Hall from 10.00 to 12.00.

This is the major fund raiser run by St Fillan's for Christian Aid.

We hope that many of you will turn out to buy bric-a-brac, cakes, copies of the CA quiz and Fair Trade items as well as enjoying a convivial cup of coffee or tea with friends.

If anyone would like to help out the CA team by serving teas and coffees or helping on the stalls, please let Eileen Harper (860151) or Lesley Gordon (860030) know.

You would be very welcome. It is hard work, but fun as well!

A Concert to raise funds for the 900th Anniversary has been arranged for Friday 20th September 2013 in the Church Hall. The Dunfermline & District Strathspey & Reel Society will provide the entertainment.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

The on-going work of Stewardship continues within St. Fillan's and many tasks have been completed which came about either as ideas from the committee or generated as a result of completion of the Talent and Time surveys.

Amongst these tasks were a complete clean of all the light diffusers in the hall and the replacement of all the tubes, a task which took Alisdair and Marion Bayne along with Karyn Crowe from 8am until 5pm one Saturday!

The Property Convenor will have reported elsewhere in the magazine the additional tasks of removing ivy from the church hall and the two Saturdays spent cleaning the church. It is a tribute to all concerned that when asked to participate each one did so willingly (my apologies to the two ladies I missed when collating the volunteers!) and the tasks were carried out in a spirit of friendliness and good humour.

Your committee has met with the lady from 121 responsible for promoting stewardship within the Presbytery and she has given us some ideas which we will be bringing forward over the next few months.

Thanks to everyone for your support in our efforts to promote Christ's kingdom here in Aberdour and beyond.

Phil 4:13

Ewart McSkimming, Stewardship Convenor

Parish and congregational register

Bereavements

2012 Mrs. Marion Maxwell; Alan Henderson; Mrs. Ena Drummond.

2013 John Amos; Mrs. Elizabeth Hynd; Robert Adams.

*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

2013 Sean Edwin Best and Sara Helen Graham

Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder

Baptisms

2012 Harris Peter Shortt.

2013 Amber Olivia Rose Grimm; Harrison Hamilton Ross; Emilia Grace Best.

Jesus said "Let the children come to me"

Joining by Transference Certificate

Mrs. Sheila Bell.

We welcome and hope you enjoy your fellowship here.

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

TALES FROM OLD ABERDOUR

Extract from "Aberdour & Inchcolm" by the Rev W Ross 1885

The Rev Ross did not approve of drink. In discussing the work of the 17c Kirk Session he wrote:

.....Drunkenness seems to have been a commoner vice: but when it could be said that some elders were not free from this fault in this respect, it is less to be wondered at that other members of the community did not think it a particularly disgraceful thing to be seen the worse for drink. The presence of the military in the castle was a great means of encouraging this and other vices. Some of women of Aberdour were, at that time, too fond of their 'ail'. Such notices as the following are not infrequent:-

'The Session ordains Walter Flooker's wife and Christian Ritchie's mother to be summoned for drinking during the time of Divine service'. At another time it is ordained that Mr Andrew Donaldson of Dalgety is to be 'told about Sandy Anderson's mother's drinking and flyting'. While Janet Taylour, admitting she was the worse for drink pleads the excuse, which is not entirely unknown in modern times, that 'she was not accustomed to drink; it was through long abstinence and a little ran in her head'. Various notices prove the truth of the common saying that when a woman is given to drink, modesty and virtue are generally given to the winds.....'

and in another passage he describes:

... 'John Lochtie has been in Aberdour all night and it is taken for granted he could not be in town all night without being the worse for drink. Over the years John was fined and censured and barred from 'mychtie ail' However six whole years pass and John 'lays a tie on himself not to drink ail of any kind for the space of a year.'

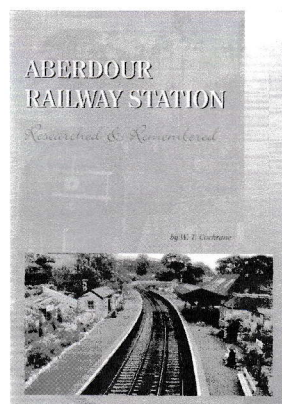
Dealing with 'straiking of his wife':

.....in 1650, the fine for 'straiking of his wife' in the case of William Craig, was ten pounds. It is hardly necessary to say that the offence was one of striking not stroking. Misdemeanours of this kind were, I regret to say, rather commonplace in Aberdour in those days.....'

Aberdour Railway Station Booklet

A few copies of the above (that sold out some years ago) have recently come to hand. These can be offered on a first come first served basis for a donation of £5 to St Fillan's Church 900th Anniversary Fund.

To obtain a copy please contact Bill Cochrane
(Phone 01383 860786).



Book review The Battle of Inchcolm Abbey by William Clinkenbeard

Rev Clinkenbeard is a past member of St. Fillans so when I saw this book in Aberdour library I had to read it. It's about a 'Donald Trump' person wanting to build an executive golf resort on Inchcolm. The 'hero' is hired by Historic Scotland as a religious to advise. He researches the history and is faced with the dilemma of jobs versus the environment. The parts of the book that I found fascinating were the local detail. It features St. Fillans, the mobile barber shop, the Forth View Hotel, etc.

As you read you expect on the next page that he will to come up your road and knock on your door.

I wasn't expecting any religious insights at a recent Royal Scottish Geographical talk but got these two:

Is better to worship God in the open air or to think about football in church?

Two Jesuit novices both wanted a cigarette while they prayed. They decided to ask their superior for permission. The first asked, but was told no. A little while later he spotted his friend smoking. "Why did the superior allow you to smoke, but not me?" he asked. His friend replied, "Because you asked if you could smoke while you prayed, and I asked if I could pray while I smoked!"

The Moosie's Prayer

A pair wee kirk moosieaa forlorn
Its furry coat fair sairly worn
Sank doon upon its bony knees
And prayed - for just a wee bit cheese

The tears ran doon its wee thin cheeks
But nane could hear the saddest squeaks
That drifted on the cauldnight air
Till whiles it could'nae pray naemair

Synedaylicht cam, the kirk bell rang
The doors swung open wi a bang
Communion day had come aan by
With wine and plates of bread piled high

The wee moose lay still as daith
And watched it aawi bated braith
Then thocht – if I keep awfuquate
A bit might just faaff a plate.

And so it gazed as roand they went
Then just as thotwas heaven sent
Whit landed richt upon its heid
But twa lumps o communion bread

The staff o life lay on the flair
The bounteous answer tae his prayer
Just as he thocht it looks fell dry
A body couped some wine forbye.

Wee moosiestoated up the aisle
Wearing sic a boozy smile
The fowk stopped singin, fair aghast
Tae see a drunken moose walk past.

The organist fell aff his chair
The minister could only stare
Tae see this drunken sinful moose
Cavortin in his sacred hoose

At last he staggered up the nave
Then turned and gave a happy wave
I ken noo when it's time tae pray
I'll dae it on Communion Day.



Alumenda CCAP, Malawi

It does not feel that a little over five years have now passed since we in St. Fillans, as a token of thanksgiving for being able to re-slate our Church roof, agreed to a four year twinning with the congregation in Alumenda to help realise their ambitions of building a new church there.

As can be seen from the photographs displayed in the Welcome area of Church, and from the reports we have heard from time to time, the building is now complete and some extra funding is being sent to help with their Kindergarten Project.

Although the actual twinning has now ended, for our interest, we continue to receive updates on the congregations progress and the following is a letter received from the Reverend Doctor Billy Gama, Moderator of Alumenda CCAP at the beginning of the year.

Catherine E. Duncan.

12th January, 2013

Happy New Year to you all. It is our prayer at Alumenda CCAP that God blesses more you our brothers and sisters at St. Fillan's Aberdour in this New Year. Thank you very much for the e-mail and we are always happy when we hear from you.

Indeed the church project has made much progress and we are working hard to ensure that we officially open the church this year. We are so grateful for the support that you have given us to ensure that we build the church. We are working very hard to complete the project and including the buying of benches (seats). Please continue remembering us in your prayers. We will always remember you and be assured that we will continue to pray for you as well. We shall keep on communicating so that you know what we are doing at Alumenda CCAP as your brothers and sisters here.

This partnership enriches our spiritual life but also motivates us as we worship God.

It will be nice when we set the dates for the official inauguration of the church to let you know so that God willing you can send representatives on that day to grace the occasion. We are planning to have such a wonderful ceremony between July and August, 2013 and hopefully the Vice President of the Republic of Malawi will attend the ceremony. We are inviting you to the function and we will be very happy to welcome and seeing the project that you have helped.

As you have mentioned about the funds to help in our kindergarten, we are looking forward to that, and when you send the funds we will acknowledge as a church and will do as suggested to help our kindergarten. We believe we can only be assured of the church tomorrow when we take good care of our young ones.

May the Good Lord continue to richly bless you all and pass our warm greetings and heartfelt best wishes to you all, our beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord.

Yours in the Lord's Service,

Billy Gama (Rev. Dr)
MODERATOR, ALUMENDA CCAP

RECENT VOLUNTRY ACTIVITIES IN AND AROUND THE CHURCH AND HALL

Over the last few months, a number of volunteer work parties were formed to carry out particular jobs at the Church and Church hall.

REMOVAL OF IVY: The boundary wall between the Church Hall and our neighbours to the east side had become overgrown with ivy. This wall cannot be seen from outwith the property and is only accessible through the hall itself. Accordingly, this little courtyard has generally been overlooked and had become a depository for items no longer required or otherwise fit for purpose.

This had come to light on the annual Inspection of Properties and accordingly, on 3rd November a team of volunteers gathered to tackle the job of removing the ivy and generally clearing up the small courtyard. The work was very successfully carried out and the ivy transported to the Council facility at Dalgety Bay. Many thanks to all concerned.



A special mention should go to Simon Baxter whose extra height took the clearance to places others could not reach!



A special thank you to Sandra McSkimming for providing extremely tasty and welcome bacon rolls!

HALL REFURBISHMENT AND CEILING WORKS: Hall users will have noticed that over the last six months or so various improvements have been carried out throughout the Hall. The main hall itself has been painted together with the entrance and stair well. Many thanks must go to Karen Crowe who has, almost single headedly, painted the kitchen, kitchen corridor, male and female toilets and St Colme Hall upstairs. The floor covering in the corridor has been replaced. This refurbishment will continue with the eventual repainting of the two smaller halls at ground level and floor work will be carried out in the main hall and the smaller hall to the east.

The freshening up of the main hall highlighted the need for some attention to the hall ceiling. Some tiles were displaced, there was much evidence of cobwebs and many of the fluorescent light tubes were faulty. The light diffusers were well populated by dead flies and were in need of cleaning. The hall ceiling is very high and cannot be reached from ladders and special arrangements have been made. Cue Cameron and Alastair Bayne with moveable gantry. On 19th January the aforesaid and other volunteers assembled at the hall and the work commenced. Throughout the day Alastair and Marion replaced 45 fluorescent tubes and starters and 15 diffusers were removed-not entirely without difficulty-cleaned and replaced. A truly magnificent effort.

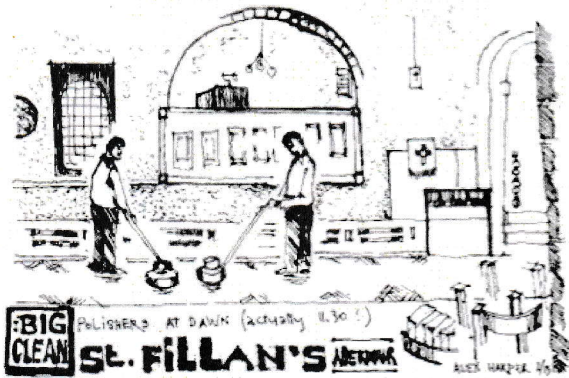
With volunteers on hand, the opportunity was taken to have a bit of a clear out of old items no longer used and taking up valuable storage space. Another two trailer loads to the tip was eventually the outcome.

Bacon rolls, courtesy of Catherine Duncan and Sandra McSkimming, were again well received and there is a common perception that without prior notice of the rolls being served, the number of volunteers may have been greatly diminished!

CHURCH DEEP CLEAN: Many years have passed since the Church was effectively emptied to allow for thorough cleaning to be carried out. This work was carried out over two Saturdays in February, again volunteers were recruited to carry out various tasks involved and an excellent response provided plenty of "hands" to do the work, even without rolls!!!

Because the Church would be required for Sunday Service, the work had to be divided between two days and in such manner that at the end of the day's work, the Church would be restored to normal for Service the following day. With this in mind, a programme was drawn up and work commenced at 9:30 on Saturday February 16th.

The chairs on the South side of the aisle were moved, some into the Chancel and some across to the North side. This allowed the southern walls to be brushed down, the windows washed and the floors vacuumed, washed and polished.



While this was going on, the transept was emptied and the same cleaning carried out there. Matters progressed so well that once emptied, the Chancel was also cleaned. All curtains were removed and taken away for washing and ironing, thanks to Karen Crowe.

The blue cushion covers were washed and ironed by Catherine Duncan. The chairs were returned to the south side of the Church in readiness for the Service next day.



Ewart McSkimming reaching every nook and cranny.

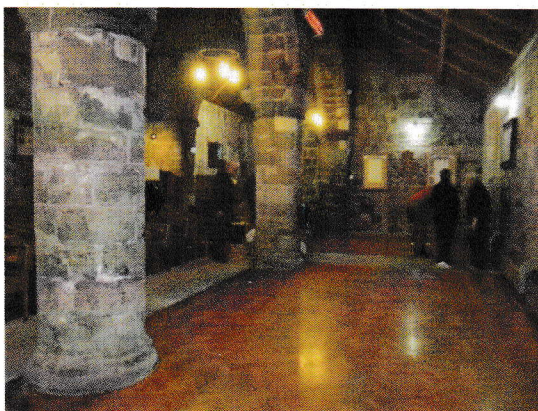
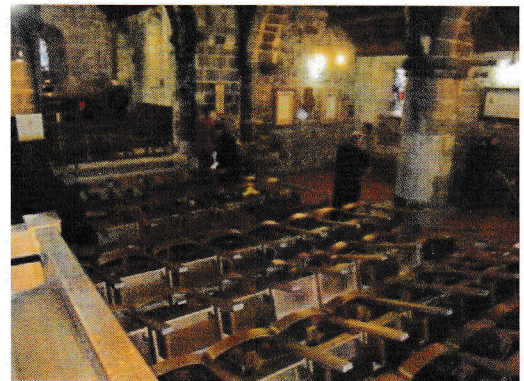
Rubber gloves and dusters at the ready.

Thank you to Sandra and Wallace for photos and to Alec Harper for his sketch.



It had been thought initially that work might be necessary during the week between Saturdays but so much was achieved on the 16th that this was not necessary. Again volunteers assembled at 9:30 on the 23rd and the same exercise took place, this time on the North and West sides. All had been successfully completed by 12:30 and grateful thanks are due to all those who took part and additionally to Beth Cowan and Christine Waddell for providing home baking and other refreshments.

In conclusion I would like to quote from an email recently received from Ewart McSkimming whose energy and enthusiasm acted as the driver in all of these endeavours.



"The manner in which the task was completed in a spirit of friendship and a desire to beautify the sanctuary is, I think, tantamount to the way we all feel about our Church and what it means to us as worshippers and members of St. Fillan's."

Bill Paterson, Property Convener