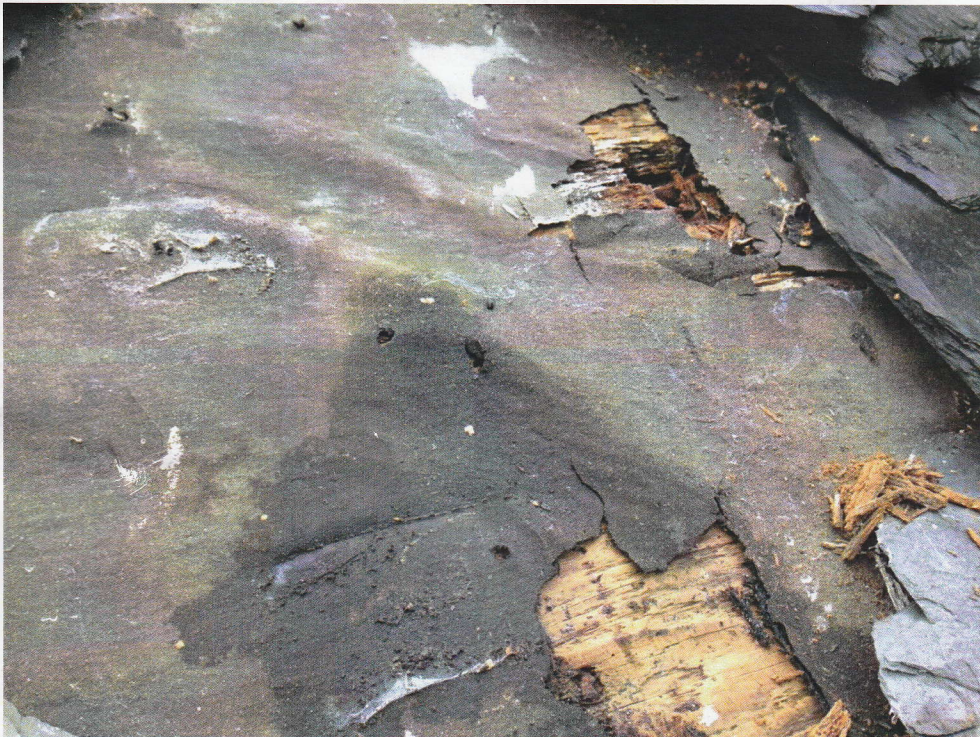
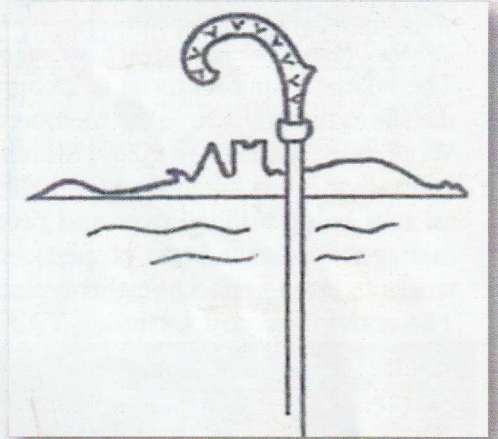


ST FILLAN'S CROSIER

THE CHURCH HALL NEEDS YOUR



ALSO INSIDE...

PAGE 3: Letter from the Manse.

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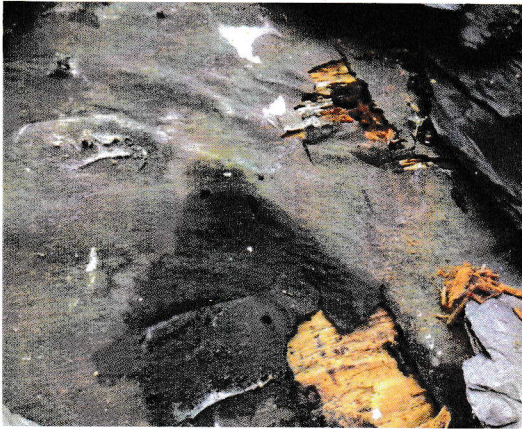
PAGE 7: Bill Cochranes look at St Fillan's old session minutes.

PAGE 12: Holy Week Services.

£46,000 needed to restore the decaying Church Hall roof.

ST FILLAN'S CHURCH HALL ROOF RESTORATION APPEAL

St Fillan's Church Hall was built as a church in 1790 and is a listed Building (Grade B). After the restoration of St Fillan's Church on the east side of the castle in 1926 the church on the High Street was converted into the Hall which many people and groups in and around Aberdour currently use.



We have carried out an investigation of the hall roof and have drawn up a schedule of necessary major repairs to be carried out urgently with our chosen roofing contractor. During this investigation the sarking was found to be rotten on the north elevation round the perimeter of the roof and the east hall roof was found to be in poor condition.

The scope of the work identified on the east small hall will involve the roof slates being lifted, rotten sarking replaced, all lead and zinc replaced and a proper under-slate membrane introduced. All UPVC rhones and downpipes will be replaced in cast iron to be in keeping with the status of the building. On the main hall roof the rotten sarking will be replaced, all flashings replaced and the roof refurbished.

(Photo 1) Rotten sarking on right hand side of photograph was in such poor condition it could be picked out using a finger nail

The village War Memorial is incorporated in the Church Hall and we are also replacing the lead flashings and the slates directly above the memorial.

Work will start on the 20th March, and the hall will be fully scaffolded front and back. Nevertheless the contractor is confident that the hall will remain fully operational throughout the works with doorways and fire escapes being bridged over and protected. There will be some disruption and inconvenience but this will be managed by the hall and property convener. The contract is weather dependent but the contractor expects the works to last a period of eight weeks.

The anticipated cost including VAT is £46,000, and this is a major expenditure for the village Church to bear, but the costs could escalate if unexpected problems are discovered during the work. Various applications for grants have already been made but we have been unsuccessful in securing any funding.



We are appealing to the village for some support assistance with the cost of the project. The Church Hall is used up to three times a day by all sorts of local organisations and some 23 - 25 fund raising events are hosted throughout the year for local, national and international charities. Approximately £24k was raised for good causes in 2015.

(Photo2) Defective Flashings on East Hall Roof

Annual income generated from renting out the hall is approximately £6350 but the current annual running costs are around £9950. Therefore the rental income only partly covers heating, lighting, waste disposal, cleaning, insurance and on-going minor repairs.

Relatively manageable improvements to the Hall such as the recent re-flooring of the small hall, back room and toilets and the purchase of a new water boiler were met by the congregation of St Fillan's and donations from groups such as St Fillan's Lunches and other fund raising events. However, large capital expenditure in restoration and improvements to the Church Hall, such as this work on the roof, is a challenge to St Fillan's. While we have anticipated the need for generating reserves to fund some major capital spend, the scale of this urgent work will leave our reserves very depleted when further works become necessary on our two ancient buildings (Church and Church Hall).

The Church Hall is an integral part of the social fabric of the village and we hope the whole community will join with us to maintain it for future generations. Fund raising events are currently in preparation such as an Afternoon Tea on 30th April and a Strawberry Tea on 11th June, and other events are being discussed and organised.

So we are now appealing to the village for support. An envelope for donations is enclosed in your copy of the Crosier and can be deposited with your gift in the Treasurer's box in the Aberdour Pharmacy, the box in the Church Hall or The Purple Shop.

Finally, a sincere 'thank you' for all those who are able to assist us in whatever manner.

Letter from the Manse

The start of 2017 has been a bit eventful for our Family. My Mother had a bad fall, and broke her hip, causing her to have to spend time in hospital, undergo a dangerous operation, and being moved to a rehabilitation centre, where she may (or may not) learn to walk again. A tough call for a very frail person.

For the first time in their marriage, my Parents will have to spend months apart, and adjusting to such new situations is challenging for both of them. It is humbling to see how their Faith helps them cope with these trials, and how they live out the phrase from the Marriage Service, '*in sickness and in health*', aged 92 and 102, after nearly 58 years together.

-o0o-

The Church season of Lent is a period when we are asked to devote more of our effort to looking at what we do with our lives – our use of time, the gifts we have, what we do in practice with our money and other material assets – and, where necessary, to reconsider how we use them.

Lent is an opportunity for spiritual reflection, so that the essentials in our life come into focus more sharply. It asks us to examine what we understand by Christ's phrase "*the Kingdom of God*", and where we find ourselves in relation to this Kingdom, in our work, our relationships, and in our commitment to God's justice and peace in the wider world.

It is a period in which to stop concentrating on what we want for ourselves, and concentrate instead on the needs of others.

It is a time to give up our pride, our self-delusions, and our expectation that we have earned the right to be part of God's kingdom.

Lent can become a time when we begin to realise what matters most in our lives, where we purposefully set aside the things that distract us, so that our attention may focus on what Christ did for us, and continues to do for us, each day.

-o0o-

Elsewhere in this magazine you will find information on the repairs needed on the Church Hall, and how St Fillan's is proposing to tackle the situation. The Church Hall is a wonderful building, used by many in our community, and the funds raised there are helping people across the world. Ewart McSkimming, St Fillan's Stewardship Convenor, is spearheading our campaign.

Essentially, Christian Stewardship is a restructuring of priorities. It is the realisation that all we have – all of it – is a gift from God, and that the pledging of time, skills and money is a response to that remarkable, generous love. We are no more owners of what we possess than we are owners of the universe – given a free hand to do whatever we like, whenever we like. We are not owners but stewards, and because we are stewards we are given responsibilities, and charged with acting responsibly with the gifts we have.

Such a way of thinking cuts across the modern idea that we are absolutely free to be masters of our own destiny. Instead, we are called to receive God's gifts to us with thankful and humble hearts, to use them wisely, and offer them generously in the service of God and all humanity, always remembering from whom all things come, and to whom they belong ultimately.

How we live out our Christian Stewardship is a matter for each, individually. In the end, it will not depend on the size of our bank balance or salary, but on how much we truly know ourselves to be loved and valued by a God whose love is infinite.

How we use Lent is a matter for each, individually, though for many of us it will involve making space for looking again at what moves and motivates us, and asking ourselves whether that is what God hopes us to be, as His servants in this broken world.

Lent is lived also in the knowledge that the cruelty of the Crucifixion was overcome on the Third Day, when all was made new in the joy of the Resurrection. As the Hymn says:

*"Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won!"*

Peter Gerbrandy-Baird

Parish Minister

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY !

Aberdour's first charity swishing event

There will be a clothes swish in the Church Hall on Friday 17th March between 7 and 9pm.

So what is a clothes swish? A swish is a silent auction for clothing. Items of ladies clothing will be tastefully displayed with a suggested price on the item. If you would like to purchase the item, you initial the price. If someone else wishes to outbid your price, they score out the first price and then initial their new bid and so it goes on. At the end of the evening time is called and if you have won the bid, you take your items for payment. Payment can be made in cash or by cheque.

What charities are we supporting? We are raising funds for two charities, Bloodwise, beating blood cancers since 1960 and the Christian Aid project to improve the health of mothers, girls and babies in Ethiopia.

We are looking for ladies clothing including coats, jackets, dresses, skirts, trousers, blouses, jumpers, scarves, boots, shoes, hand bags and accessories that are in very good condition for the swish. Please contact Lesley Gordon (860030) or Sue Farrar (860851) if you want any donations to be collected or if you want more information.

Church Hall Roof Repair Fundraiser

Spring Afternoon Tea

Fine selection of Sandwiches, Cakes and Scones served on Vintage China

Sunday 30th April

Doors open at 2.15 Tea served at 2.30

£10 per ticket to be purchased in advance

To reserve your seat contact

June Weatherup 860277 or Christine Waddell 860802



The poster features the title 'ABERDOUR CLOTHES SWISH' in a large, white, serif font at the top. Below the title is a photograph of several people sitting on a bench, holding up various pieces of clothing. The date '17.03.17' is overlaid on the photo. A circular badge on the right side of the poster states '£8 Ticket includes wine and nibbles!'. At the bottom, there is text about the event: 'Join us for a fun filled night in aid of CA Ethiopia and Bloodwise. There will be an array of fabulous high quality ladies clothes on sale by silent auction.' Below this, it says 'Friday 17 March 7pm Aberdour Church Hall' and 'Tickets available on the door or from Lesley or Sue on 860030 and 860851'. The Bloodwise logo is at the bottom right, with the tagline 'Beating blood cancer since 1960'.

CHRISTIAN AID/ MACMILLAN SPONSORED GOLF

29th May-2nd June

Please support and help raise money by golfing, sponsorship or donation.

This is a fun completion and you do not have to be a member of St. Fillan's Church or Aberdour Golf Club to take part and help retain the David Rutherford Cup in our annual battle with Dalgety Bay Parish Church.

Organiser Walter Heggie, 13 Inch Avenue.

'The People' (formerly known as The Congregation)
Chalmers Lectures St. Giles Cathedral February 2017

I tagged along with our good Reverend to a Church of Scotland event about change in the church. The event was held at St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh an old "stomping ground" of the aforementioned minister. Our speaker to be was the "renowned" theologian the Rev. Dr. Doug Gay although this may be C of S spin as the Dr. was much more modest of his own talents. The Church of Scotland has asked Dr. Gay to look at the current state of 'The Kirk' and he did that spiritually as well analytically.

Two things struck me as I sat down in the East Wing (neither of them masonry, St. Giles Cathedral seems in beautifully rude health for its considerable age) :-

1. The age of the audience was somewhat north of fifty years young.
2. Most of the audience did not arrive until 5 mins before the lecture....
- 3.

"How very..... er..... Presbyterian.....", I thought
I was ready to have my views challenged....

The Very Rev. John Chalmers. Principal Clerk announced that just as many were watching 'online' from the Church of Scotland website... This proved 'prophetic' as the lectures attracted their highest attendance ever.

"Hurrah for technology!", I thought.

Dr. Gay outlined the all too depressing statistics about the fall in ministers and congregations that we know only too well... Statistically, the church, in attendance terms seems was high to the 1950's with then a steady and now more pronounced decline with the rise of secularism. Secularism has been insidiously working its way into popular culture for many years. But could it be possibly be a bubble fit to burst? Dr. Gay hypothesised that just like Christians in a post Christian society that when secularity cannot answer the BIG questions like "Why am I here?", "What happens when I die?" And "How can life be a 'coincidence'?" That Christianity should be there, as it always has, to pick up the pieces... when the secularity bubble bursts.

Well, what to do...? There are many plans and ways to change the church but what is the Church of Scotland way? Other denominations have scoffed at the C of S approach for being too slow and inflexible. Down through history this has led to anger and even division. The approach has proved frustrating for some who see the Kirk as the tortoise rather than the hare. We know who won that race.

What was presented was NOT a radical plan to throw babies out with bath water and abandon the rock of God's Word but an altogether better plan to cling to God's Word at the heart of the church but allow the peripheries to be more flexible in adapting to the times they live in.... The power in each church/congregation has always been weighted towards the Kirk session and above to provide worship and charity opportunities. What if the congregation can push things forward with ideas and service?

Let's look at that..... and see what we can gain.

Rather than have elders who are 'brought on for life'..... why not look at elders (who are not necessarily 'elderly') who are there on a remit e.g. Elder for Church Technology or Elder for Mission. How do we get congregation involvement without overworking everyone who is already overworked in a secular world.

Each church has traditionally worked with a parish system which should not be thrown out for the 'Internet of Things'. People still want 'community' and 'belonging' from their local church. A computer of any size cannot give you that, not even the might of social media can give you that in high enough doses..... it's a people thing. Social Media is a good messenger at delivering information but like all logical entities very poor at providing context. Come to church and get the world in '3D'. (You do not have to wear funny glasses)

The lectures perhaps created many more questions than answers....

Dr. Gay took a very analytical view in all his lectures in looking at how the church is structured in saying that power-wise the church was possibly top-heavy and that in order to halt the decline needed to offer something new. Church should be outward facing not inward facing. He also conceded that

- Rather than rely on the Calvinistic, aristocratic view of the church it should 'streamline' by closing small 'toxic small declining congregations', merge struggling congregations and plant new churches in a spirit of mission.
- This would also mean not closing presbyteries but merging them from the current forty-six to seventeen (or another requisite number) with a council overseeing the the running of the churches. This would help churches 'sing off the same hymn sheet' but allow local preferences to be empowered by ministers, elders and members.
- Running the General Assembly with a 'festival' attitude where a celebration of the multi-faceted congregations takes place.
- Relinquish 121 George Street and start again in the centre of Edinburgh with a brand leading church model that would blueprint the Kirk's direction for other churches.

Dr. Gay also made an interesting point that I have learned in business

"Culture eats strategy for breakfast....."

Culture floats strategy....."

Without the backing of congregations to modify their culture and embrace strategy and all this is just hot air.

As myself and Peter sat in St. Giles and looked up, he told me that when he trained in St. Giles he was shocked when his minister (and his superior) announced he was having new lights with modern shades fitted in St. Giles. Peter could not see how modern lamps and shades fitted into the ancient cathedral...

But when he saw them fitted, he conceded, they were in keeping with the old and added with new. Go and see them for yourself they are beautiful...

If you google 'Scotland Chalmers Lectures 2017' you can form your own opinions from these lectures by viewing them over the internet. As people and a congregation change is in our future whether we embrace it or not.

Parish and congregational register

Bereavements

2016 Richard Dymond, Mrs Jean Buchanan

2017 Miss Anne Stuart

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

2016 Jennifer Stavely and John Inglis

Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder

Baptisms

2016 Amalie Wardrop Jones; Henry James Sweeney; James David Reekie; Luke Richard Hutton Donaldson

2017 Lewis Fraser Embleton

Jesus said "Let the children come to me"

Joining by Transference certificate

Mrs. Fiona Aitchison; Mr. Alan and Mrs. Fiona Embleton

Joining by Resolution of the Kirk Session

Dr. Janice Jennings

We welcome and hope you enjoy your fellowship here

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

STAMPS!!

In my first few years of being the Stamp Co-ordinator I had to sort out the stamps into their continent of origin. I haven't had to do that for several years. I empty the stamps into carrier bags and place a piece of paper inside identifying the Congregation that has sent them to Mission and Aid. I then have to sellotape the address to the outside of the bags and take them to Catherine Duncan who hands them over at Presbytery for their onward journey to Wishaw.

My thanks to the many of you who take the trouble to get stamps to me. Some of you take great care to ensure the stamps are well and truly sealed up safely. Some use plastic bags, some use coin bags, some use old envelopes. Some even create little packages of stamps. I come across shopping lists, phone numbers, addresses, notes people have written, appointments they have made and I wonder about them. I can't check that you have copied the phone numbers or addresses onto something else. I can't tell you that you were to go to the Dentist at 10.30. I enclose the notes people write about the stamps to the sorters. Some of the notes are very explicit about the stamps. Some explain how they came to have these stamps. One of the bags before Christmas had a Christmas card for the Stamp Sorters that explains the history of the stamps carefully placed inside the card. It will arrive rather late for Christmas. But I am pretty certain that the Stamp sorters in Wishaw will be touched by the thoughtfulness of the donor.

The Charity that Mission and Aid supports through the money raised from the sale of the stamps changes at the end of the Financial Year. At present it is for the Church of South India's Othara Eco-Spirituality Centre. I will let you know what the 2017 Charity will be soon.

Stamps can be left

- with me, Susan Morton, 4 Manse Street, Aberdour
- or in the basket to the right of the door as you enter St. Fillan's
- or in the wooden box on the first windowsill as you enter into the Church Hall .

My thanks to Gordon in the Post Office for collecting stamps on our behalf. May he enjoy his retirement.

One man's highlights of the St Fillan's Session/ Congregational Board (*) Minutes between 1931 and 1973.

Within the period of fifty years prior to 1982 four ministers held the charge of St Fillan's Aberdour. The Reverends Dr Robert Johnstone (1914-1940), David Stalker (1940-1949), David Rutherford (1949-1975) and John Scott (1975-1997). It is this period which was presented to me to review and extract facts that could be of interest to us now.

In 1931, the membership of our church was four hundred and twenty five, and at communion services the attendance hovered around two hundred and twenty four.

In 1935 it was agreed that electric light be installed in the Manse.

Aberdour and Dalgety churches decided to have a combined Coronation Day Service in 1937, and in 1940 these congregations and that of St Colme's, Aberdour agreed to unify, with a "Declaration of Union" service being held under the name of 'Aberdour and Dalgety' on the 21st April of that year. The combined congregation membership became eight hundred.

In those days people who did not attend church regularly were actively encouraged to do so: *'Those absent from Church or Communion came under the Assembly Act'. The moderator to see the members and induce them to be more regular in their attendance'.*

Also in 1940 the **Congregational Board** was formed.

This, too, was the year Dr Johnstone retired from what had been a distinguished career as Minister in our Kirk stretching for 26 years since 1914. He had conceived and oversaw the restoration of St Fillan's Kirk in 1926, presided over the union of St Fillan's and Dalgety parishes, and had written a comprehensive unpublished history of Aberdour entitled "Inchcolm and Aberdour" that can today be borrowed from the public library. He was succeeded as minister by Mr David Stalker.

On the 8th of September a day of National Prayer was held in response to a proclamation by the King (George VI). WW2 having really started after a year of what was termed the 'phoney war' at that time

Evening service times were brought forward as 'black out fittings' were unsuitable for the church, church hall, nor St Colme's Church. The organists' post became vacant as our organist was called up for military service. The organist from St Colme's kindly offered to play for both village churches. Also, due to war conditions, communicants were admitted into the church at Session meetings instead of the usual church service.

In 1941, it was agreed that *'a light port wine be served at communion services'*. and that; *'all members of the session, not on duty, sit together at the front of the church'*. The roll numbered just less than 800 at this time. 1944 brought, for the first time, consideration as to whether women could be ordained as elders. On a first vote this was agreed by one vote (only 5 to 4), however, on a second vote (presumably because there were too few at the first one) this decision was overturned with a vote of 8 against ordination of women and 5 in favour. Women were finally admitted as elders in 1969.

During 1947 a letter was received by the Session from the Church Officer which was declared *'a slur on the on the ability of the Minister and the Kirk Session to conduct Church affairs'*. The church officer was sacked (not surprisingly !), but after an apology was later received he was reinstated ! The Minister stated his intention to resign in 1948. (Mr David Stalker went on to write the statistical report on Aberdour and district in 1952, which one can obtain from the local library on request nowadays) the roll was 'purged' and 29 members were transferred to the supplementary roll.

Mr David Rutherford became our Minister in 1949 and immediately expressed concern about the state of the Manse. (This concern continued is reported intermittently in the minutes for some years until all the improvements were made to his satisfaction). It was in that year that it was agreed to have an annual service on Inchcolm Island, the Hewitt Memorial was erected in the Church and the roll stood at 788.

A decision that the elders should wear black ties, rather than white (which apparently stood for 'purity') at communion services. (At a later date in 1970, elders dress was agreed to be dark suit, black tie, and white shirt. There was no mention of appropriate dress for the ladies who had been admitted to eldership in 1969). By 1951 the roll had increased to 820 but it seems that there were "backsliders" as the minute demanded that members should be visited who had not communicated during the previous year. The Session Clerk was relieved of District Duties in 1952. The previous visiting of 'non attenders' must have 'paid off' as there was an attendance of 305 at the Communion service on the 25th October 1953.

It was in 1954 that the Ratepayers Association decided to purchase the ground between Ha'craig Road and the entrance pathway to the Church for a sum of £45 from Fife County Council. A license for the Church Hall was granted. Also, the Fife Council made an unsuccessful attempt from the General Trustees to buy the land now occupied by St Fillan's Grove and Crescent. (Our Kirk Session had rejected this application by only one vote!!).

Throughout 1957 the deterioration of St Colme's was discussed and due to its poor state, eventually in 1958 it was decided by vote of the congregation to close this Church building for worship. By 1961 a decision was made to dispose of the St Colme Church manse (Sandhaven) and the field adjoining the church.

With the growth of the new town being built at Dalgety bay discussions and decisions were made regarding the disjoining of the parishes of Aberdour from Dalgety during 1964 and 1965. The decision for the separation of the parishes came on 17.2. 1965. The rolls were divided with St Fillan's 594 members and the new Dalgety Church 114 members.

*There was a suggestion in the Congregational Board meeting (1968) that as there was a bottleneck when congregation exiting the church after the services some chairs should be removed to alleviate this.

*Bats that had been a nuisance previously were reported once more in the church and it was agreed to contact the pest officer. The bats were later (1970) reported to have left the church. The school janitor to be offered £1 in recognition for his services in opening the school gates for worshipers on Sundays

*Vandalism – In view of what had happened at St Columba's church it was decided that the Church should be locked at night. Silver Font Bowl – It was decided that this should only be used at Christenings and that a cheap bowl be placed there at other times. Mr Sinclair was thanked for the beautiful replica in aluminium he had made of the silver bowl for the font.

*AGM. 1970 (Congregational Board) Newly formed stewardship committee reported that they were considering the various ways the news of the church, in all its aspects, at home and abroad, could be presented to members.

* 1972 Church: Woodworm had been noticed in the chancel stalls.

It was decided to purchase a copy of The New English Bible at a cost of £25.

and it would be used on the first Sunday of 1973 to mark the beginning of the 850th year. The organist had purchased Carol Books cost £18 16 chairs had been replaced with plywood bases as a result of woodworm being found in them.

The Board decided that chairs (for the church) be purchased by 1st April (1973) from Fabric Fund. 325 Chairs with back rack fitted underneath were ordered and provided we pay by 21st January (1973) there will be a discount of £195, which would make the cost of each chair £7.70p.

Bill Cochrane

Note: Please note that the Congregational Board minute entries in the above report are designated with an asterisk ().*

It is depressing to read the news of present world events- nothing but reports of wars, terrorism, famine, and disease in every airt. Have you ever wondered what you would do about it if you had the power to change things?

The poet Charles Murray (1864-1941) imagined what he would do if he was God, and wrote this couthy Doric poem.....

GIN I WAS GOD

Gin I was God, sittin' up there abeen
Wearet nae doot noo a' my darg was deen,
Deaved wi'the harps an' hymns ooendin' ringin',
Tired o' the flockin' angels hairse wi' singin',
Look ower an' watchhoo things were gyang aneth.
Syne, gin I saw hoo men I'd made mysel'
Had startit in to pooshan, sheet an' fell,
To reive and rape, an' fairly mak' a hell
O' my braw birlin' Earth, a hale week's wark-
I'd cast my coat again' rowe up my sark,
A'n, or they'd time to lench a second ark'
Tak' back my word an sen' anither spate,
Droon oot the hale hypothec, dicht the sclate,
Own my mistak', an' aince I'd cleared the brod,
Start a'thing ower again, gin I was God.

Big Dogs, Big Fun, Big Help!

In July last year the Irish Wolfhound Club of Scotland held their Gaitherin' at Alva, Clackmannanshire.

This is an annual event looked forward to by club members, their families and friends, giving everyo the opportunity to take part in some fun activities, proudly show off their dogs (and not all are Irish Wolfhounds, by any means!) and of course enjoy a wonderful buffet lunch.

The weather was kind, so most of our activities and socialising were held outdoors in the lovely Cochrane park, with the wonderful Ochil hills towering above, overlooking the proceedings.

We had a few stall holders offering an opportunity for people to browse and buy, as well as tombc and raffle tables.

There was a lot of hilarity when the games began - have you ever taken part in a three-legged ra with a dog to make it a 7-legged race? Or tried to balance an egg on a spoon, while trying to ma the end of the course intact while your hairy accomplice has other thoughts?

Following the games, our judge Peter, (Grant, not GB!) had the difficult task of choosing winners i a number of novelty classes, for example the prettiest girl dog, most handsome boy dog, the most unmatched pairing in the Irish brace and finally to risk his reputation by nominating the dog he would most like to take home! After the fun, there was a little bit of serious showing before th day drew to a close with the raffle, prize giving, and presentation of annual trophies.

EASTER TRADITIONS VARY around the world – from dyeing eggs to dancing around them. In some countries, huge processions take place, while in others the religious celebration is marked in more sedate ways.

Here is a look at some of the most interesting traditions worldwide.

Ireland

People often prepared for the coming of Easter by spring cleaning their home, buying new clothes and cutting hair and fingernails.

In the past, a mock funeral for a herring would be held on Easter Saturday, which marked the end of the Lenten period where Catholics would abstain from eating red meat.

Britain

Traditional folk dancing called Morris dancing takes place over Easter.

Easter bonnets were popular, especially in times past, when women would make and wear their own bonnets..

Hot cross buns are served on Good Friday, while Simnel cake was served on Easter Sunday to help break the Lenten fast.

Maundy Thursday is celebrated by Christians on the Thursday before Easter, and includes blessing of holy oils and often the washing of the feet. The Monarch offers 'alms' or coins to senior citizens.

A game called 'egg tapping' is sometimes played in the North of England, where players hit other players' eggs and the winner is the one whose egg breaks last.

Germany

The Easter Bunny also visits Germany, and decorated eggs are popular here.

The summer day parade, or Sommertagszug, is celebrated three weeks before Easter. The Easter market (Ostermarkt) also takes place, where people can pick up Easter-themed products and crafts.

The Osterbrunnen is an Easter fountain – you'll find it in Franken in Germany, and it involves decorating a fountain with garlands and decorated eggs.

The 'egg dance' is often played – eggs are laid on the ground and people dance among them while trying not to damage them.

The Osterbaum or Easter tree is also popular in Germany, which involves Easter eggs being hung from trees or large branches.

Guatemala

An Easter festival is held in Antigua, a tradition brought to the country by Spanish missionaries in the 1700s. It involves a week of celebrations, including a procession travelling through the town.

People gather to carry huge holy statues and a shrine is constructed every year.

Colombia

Similar processions take place in Colombia, where the Nazarenos wear purple hooded robes decorated with white crosses.

Candle-lit processions are held and brass bands play throughout the spectacular events.

Philippines

The crucifixion of Christ is reenacted in the Philippines at Easter time. This practice is not encouraged by the church but takes place on Good Friday and involves the real-life nailing to the cross of volunteers.

Spain

Easter is celebrated in dramatic ways throughout Spain, from processions of religious statues to the drum chorus in Calanda.

Holy Week is called Semana Santa, and Semana Santa in Andalucia sees the 'nazarenos' in traditional hoods and masks following processions.

The Danza de la Muerte (Dance of Death) takes place in Verges, Gerona, on Holy Thursday and harks back to the Black Death in the 14th century. It involves five people dressed as skeletons touring the town and scaring many in their path.

Italy

In Florence, the Easter Sunday celebration involves a parade through the town, during which a cart is exploded to help ensure a good harvest.

Easter processions are also popular in Italy, with confraternities in traditional costumes journeying through the streets and brass bands playing in Enna in Sicily.

A cross of thorns, the urn of the Dead Christ and the statue of Our Lady of Sorrows are carried through Enna.

America

Dyeing Easter eggs is popular here, a tradition that is also carried out around the world.

The White House Easter Egg Roll is an annual event where children roll easter eggs down the White House lawn. This was a European tradition taken to the New World by settlers.

Well-known Easter hymns, but they have had their words jumbled up.

1. Ila oyrlg audl and orouhn
2. Ila nveaeh arlsdcee
3. nda acn ti eb
4. eb Istli nda nkwo hatt i ma ogd
5. eb tllsi fro teh erscnepe fo eht rdol
6. earebht no em tabahr fo gdo
7. hrsict het rlod si eisnr ydaot
8. ofmr anehev ouy ocme
9. eh si rdol
10. i ecandd ni eht grnnimo
11. i oknw taht ym rdemreee eilsv
12. amke wya, amek awy
13. onrmnig ahs eonkrb
14. deri no, ider no ni mateysj
15. Kroc fo gsae
16. eth dol rgdeug srcos
17. heter si a negre illh raf awya
18. tnihe eb teh lgoyr
19. eerw ouy heter
20. enwh i rsevuy the dunroswo ocsrs



1. All Glory Laud and Honour
2. All Heaven Declares
3. And can it be
4. Be still and know that I am God
5. Be still for the presence of the lord
6. Breathe on me breath of God
7. Christ the lord is risen today
8. From Heaven you came
9. He is lord
10. I danced in the morning
11. I know that my redeemer lives
12. Make way, make way
13. Morning has broken
14. Ride on, ride on in majesty
15. Rock of ages
16. The old rugged cross
17. There is a green hill far away
18. Thine be the glory
19. Were you there
20. When I survey the wondrous cross



Holy Week & Easter Services:

Monday 10th - St Fillan's Church, 7pm

Tuesday 11th-Dalgety Parish Church 7pm

Wednesday 12th Inverkeithing Parish Church, 7pm

**Maundy Thursday - St Fillan' Churtch, Holy Communion,
7pm**

**Good Friday Cross Walk From St Fillan's Church to St
Columba's , 2pm**

Evening Service, St Fillan's Church, 7pm

Holy Saturday Vigil, 12noon, St Fillan's Church

Easter Day

Dawn Service, St Fillan's Church Yard, 6am

Easter Day Service of Holy Communion,

Including Egg Hunt, 10.30am