

NEWSLETTER

ST. FILLAN'S

PARISH CHURCH

OF

ABERDOUR

from the year

1123.

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St Fillans Church, Aberdour

PUBLIC WORSHIP: Sunday at 10.00 a.m. June, July and August.

10.30 a.m. September till May

1st Sunday in the month 6.30 p.m. In Church Hall

3rd Sunday in the month 3.00 p.m. In St Fillan's

ALL ARE WELCOME.

HOLY COMMUNION: Celebrated on the third Sunday of March, June and October.

Minister: Rev. Peter Park, The Manse, 36, Bellhouse Road. 860349

Session Clerk: Mrs C. Duncan, 43, Humble Terrace. 860611

Clerk to Board: Mrs K Crowe: 13, St Fillans Crescent. 860721

Treasurer: Mr S Fraser: 55, High Street. 860361

Organist/Choirmaster: Mr J Fairlie, 4, Spinnaker Way, D/Bay. 822392

Church Officer: Mr K Hodge: Hillcrest, West End. 860537

Hall Convenor: Mr B Drever: 15, Inch Avenue. 860353

October 1999

No 128

Church Newsletter Committee:

Collette Adam

Linda Brown Distribution

Catherine Duncan

David Hannah

Eileen Harper

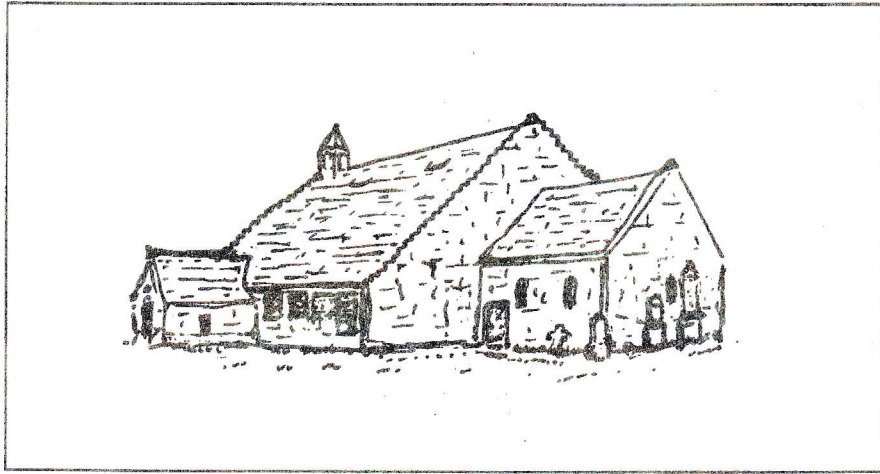
Kenneth Hodge Editor

Senga Noble

Articles for inclusion in the Newsletter can be handed to any member of the committee or to the Beadle (even while he is ringing the bell on a Sunday morning)

Fife St John Association 2nd Annual Charity Concert

Dalgety Parish Church Hall, Regent's Way, Dalgety Bay Saturday 23 October 1999 at 7.30pm. Interval refreshments on sale. Dunfermline Strathspey & Reel Society, (authentic heuching fiddle music) supported by Na Ceumanaich, (traditional Scottish Step Dance Group). Tickets £3 & £2 (concessions) available from David Hannah or at the door. Funds raised for Disability Sport Fife and the St John Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem. More details - David Hannah - 860 877.



Dear friends and members,

Our millennium plans

Various events are planned for our millennium celebrations. These include a number of 'millennium focused' church services, installing 2 new stained glass windows in the Sanctuary, and inviting our members and friends to contribute to a special charitable donation during 2000. Information about our services and windows is given elsewhere in this magazine but I would like to say something about the third, the additional charitable donation, to which we invite everyone to contribute.

St Fillan's has a deserved reputation as being a generous giver to charities, in fact each year about 25% of our total income is given by us for the wider work of the Church and to various specific charities. In 2000 we hope to continue with our usual donations but also do something extra and make a special additional charitable donation over and above our normal giving. Our new windows (costing £4000) were gifted through our legacy fund and we are aiming to raise a sum from our members and friends that at least equates to the cost of our new windows. We are hoping therefore to raise at least £4000, which will be divided equally between 2 charities, the Kinross Children's Hospice and our missionary partner in Pakistan. The Kinross Children's Hospice depends on donations and is a cause that is close to the heart especially at this time of the year. Our missionary partner in Pakistan is in special need of help to rebuild and refurbish living accommodation for children coming to live at the school which was badly damaged in a recent fire.

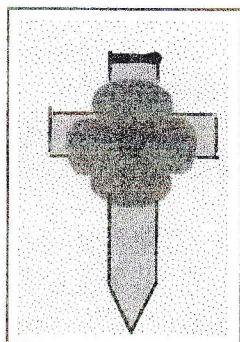
One of our hymns contains in its chorus the lyric, 'freely, freely, you have received; freely, freely give'. It reflects the response from the people of God to the grace of God and reminds us that as we have received so we in turn give. Through the generosity of past legacies we have already received, now we have an opportunity to give to others through this special appeal. We believe that the new windows will add to our beloved heritage in the Sanctuary and our charitable donation will help others less fortunate than ourselves and that this combination is a suitable way to mark the Millennium.

There will be various opportunities to donate to our appeal, for example we will have retiring offerings at our Millennium Thanksgiving service on 31st December 1999 and our service on 9th January 2000 when the new windows will be dedicated. Some of you however might prefer to send a donation direct to our treasurer, Simon Fraser (55 High St, Tel 860361). [If anyone feels able to give a large donation (£100 or more) please speak with Simon because for the Millennium donations of £100 or more for overseas purposes might qualify for tax relief through the Gift Aid scheme]

I hope that you will share our belief that this charitable appeal is a venture worthy of support and if so would urge you to contribute to our appeal.

Peter B Park Parish Minister

Today, dear Lord, I'm 80 and there is so much I haven't done
I hope, dear Lord, You'll let me live till I'm 81
But then if I haven't finished all I want to do
Would you let me stay awhile ...till I'm 82?
So many places I want to go, so very much to see
Do you think you could manage to make it 83?
The world is changing so very fast, so very much in store,
I'd like it very much to live until I'm 84.
And if by then I'm still alive, I'd like to stay 'till 85.
More planes will be up in the air, so I'd really like to stick
And see what happens in the world when I'm 86.
I know, dear Lord, it's much to ask (and it must be nice in Heaven)
But I really would like to stay until I'm 87.
I know by then I won't be fast and sometimes I will be late,
But it would be pleasant to be around at 88.
I will have seen so many things, and had a wonderful time,
So I'm sure that I'll be willing, to leave at 89,
Maybe.



**Remembrance Day Service
Sunday 14th November 1999**

Service in St Fillan's Church Hall at 10.00AM

All are invited to attend and there will be a crèche in the upper hall for younger children
The Service of Remembrance will last 45 minutes and will be followed by a short Act of
Remembrance around the War Memorial commencing at 10.55.

Our youth organisations will parade their colours

There will be a retiral offering for the Earl Haig Fund

From on an old stone plaque:

A kiss from the sun is pardon,
A song from a bird is mirth
You are nearer to God in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: This will be celebrated on
Sunday 17th Oct. at 10.30 am and 3.00pm.

OCTOBER CHURCH SERVICES

<u>Sunday 3rd Oct</u>	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30pm	Evening Service
<u>Friday 8th Oct</u>	10.00am	School Service Harvest Thanksgiving
<u>Sunday 10th Oct</u>	10.30am	Morning Service Harvest Thanksgiving
<u>Sunday 17th Oct</u>	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion
	3.00pm	Service of Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 24th Oct</u>	10.30am	Morning Service
<u>Sunday 31st Oct</u>	10.30am	Morning Service
<u>Sunday 7th Nov</u>	10.30am	Morning Service
	6.30pm	Evening Service
<u>Sunday 14th Nov</u>	10.00am	Remembrance Service Church Hall
<u>Sunday 21st Nov</u>	10.30am	Morning Service
<u>Sunday 21st Nov</u>	3.00pm	Afternoon Service
<u>Sunday 28th Nov</u>	10.30am	Morning Service

An open invitation is extended to everyone to all Services

PARISH AND CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Marriage

Jun 18	Chris McIntyre and Susan Golding
Jun 18	Andrew Crawford and Carol-Anne Cameron
Jul 17	Stephan Tennant and Yvonne Clarke
Aug 27	Darren Best and Shivaun Connor
Sept 5	Mark Faulkner and Wendy Topping
Sept 18	Peter Fleming and Hilary Leighton
Sept 25	Martin McNulty and Gillian Brown

God is Love, and those who live in Love live in God, and God lives in them.

Changes to our membership

Members Joining

We bid welcome to new members

By Resolution of the Session

Mrs Christine Redhead 5 Park Lane

By Certificate of Transfer

Mrs Lorna Barlow 21 Telny Place

Graham and Marion Small, 4 St Fillan's Crescent

and hope they enjoy their time in St Fillan's

Members Leaving

By Certificate of Transference

We bid farewell to

Fred and Marjorie Jeffs, 3 Inch Avenue

Christopher Adam, Corriemar, The Shore

and wish them well in their new spiritual home

Bereavements

Members of St Fillan's

Apr 25 Mrs Lizzie Carmichael, 12 Murrell Terrace

May 25 Jean Rodger, 68 High Street

May 13 Mrs Vi Jamieson, 29 Morayvale

May 22 Mrs Nell Armstrong, 13 Bellhouse Road
 May 29 Bill McGregor, Innesfree, West End
 Jun 21 Mrs Jean Eadie, 25 Inch Avenue
 Jul 18 Mrs Zena Clark, Villa Atina (formerly Home Park)
 Jul 19 Mrs Zena Nicol, 12 Main Street
 Jul 20 Lewis Lewis, Villa Atina
 Sept 24 Rev David Rutherford, Formerly The Manse, Aberdour.
 There will be an obituary in the Christmas Newsletter.
 Sept 29 Robert Redpath, 12 Park Lane
 Sept 30 Mrs Jean Cochrane, Villa Atina

Things beyond our seeing, things beyond our hearing, things beyond our imagining have all been prepared by God for those who love Him. 1 Corinthians 2:9

If you know of anyone interested in joining the Church please ask them to speak to the minister.

Members of the Church moving into the area and wishing to join St Fillan's should obtain a Certificate of Transference from their previous congregation and hand it in at the Church door at any service.

Members moving away from the district should obtain a Transference Certificate from the Minister.

The Minister or Session Clerk should be notified of any change of address so that the congregational roll can be kept up to date.

Nearer my God to thee

Tune: Lowell Mason (1792 - 1872)

Words: Sarah Flower Adams(1805 - 1848)

One of the hymns at the June evening service was "Nearer my God to thee", and whilst playing it I couldn't get out of my mind (and I'm sure it would be the same with everyone who saw the film of the Titanic disaster) the sad scene of the ship's orchestra playing the hymn with the ship going down.

Over the years there have been a number of well loved tunes to the hymn, but I always felt that Lowell Mason's tune was the tune. So who was this composer?

He was an American organist and teacher who compiled a collection of psalm tunes which were published in Boston in 1822 under the auspices of the Handel and Haydn Society, and was one of the pioneers of musical education in schools in New England. He also had an impressive number of brilliant hymn tunes to his own credit such as;

CH3 81 Olivet: "My faith looks up to thee" (Spiritual songs for social worship)

CH2 357 Diligence: "Work for the night is coming"

371 Heber: "From Greenland's icy mountains"

627 Star of Peace: "Star of Peace to Wanderers Weary"

All sung regularly over the years in all Church of Scotland Kirks, also what christening would not be complete without "The Lord bless thee and keep thee?"

So here was an American Christian musician relatively unknown but his hymn tunes sung regularly not only in his own country but also the other side of the globe, and also had one of his tunes played on a medium completely unknown in his time to millions of people all over the world, and who were affected by the pathos of the melody along with the words.

Finally Should we spend some Sunday service in the future singing some of Lowell Mason's well known hymn tunes or is it a case of a man and his music "out of his time"? Maybe the editor would appreciate some comment on this.

Jim Fairlie, The man at the "Kist o' Whustles"

Divine intervention?

One Sunday, while Susan Morton and Alec Stirling were putting the church collection into the bank night save, the safe jammed open. The police were informed and duly arrived. No one fiddles with the bank safe without others being interested and the Cuthills from the newsagent shop said that they had had trouble too and suggested that the screw on the side might be jamming the works. The treasurer, Simon Fraser, who had stopped by as well, was despatched to get a screw driver (and a jemmy?). By the time he returned the police had stopped a passing Chubb maintenance man, who having studied the problem, extracted from his van a large piece of wood and struck the safe a mighty blow. Lo and behold it was fixed.

Visiting Churches

K Hodge

The subject of visiting churches is one that is open to all the readership, to describe or pass comment on churches visited while on holiday or "just happened to be passing". My visitation of two churches proved to be quite thought provoking.

Both churches are in Switzerland close to the Rhine in the northern wine producing area. The first church is reformed, the second catholic.

The first stands in the middle of vineyards overlooking some of that incredibly beautiful picture postcard scenery that the country is famed for. Inside, the church is devoid of any decoration. There are seats, a balcony and a high pulpit. The walls are white washed with a cream colour while the pillars are set off with a tasteful red. There is atmosphere here that you feel as soon as you enter and allows peaceful contemplation.

On entering the second church ones' attention is immediately held by the huge gold crown that is set above the communion table. From there the eye is pulled along the series of side displays cast in marble and painted in strong colours and gold. These were saints whose stories are told in glowing terms. The organist was practising and this large building was full of tourists taking pictures.

These two churches, diametrically opposed in style and culture, were built to enable worship of the same God and the one thing they do is show up the diverse nature of mankind. For most church goers, choosing a church is the same as choosing a car, they have it in their own mind how a church service should be conducted and how the church should look for them to be comfortable in but, the differences in the churches throws up something else: Tradition. The reformers broke the traditions that they felt were hindering the word of God and created a very austere new way that has changed little over the centuries. Traditions to a congregation are the reason why anything is done but a new comer may well scratch his head as I did as I viewed the gaudily painted statues surrounded by candles. In the past both churches have relied on family traditions for continued membership but with a more mobile populace this does not hold so strongly. The church of the future is going to depend very heavily on its top men and women who face the media looking more like ordinary folk but having a lot more wisdom than they display at present. Whether church buildings remain tourist attractions or not is for the traditionalists in the congregations to sort out, but one must remember that tourists tend to ask "why was so much spent on this building when there is so much suffering?" and don't always think of an offering or a prayer for those who suffer.

St Fillan's and the church on the Swiss hillside are two of the small number of churches that are open every day without a "doorman" where peace is recognised. I would not find peace in any large show church. In this increasingly busy world the church for the people and the future has to be a place where one can commune with God, relax the mind and feel at ease.



Seen on Aberdour shore front a car with both, "POLICE AWARE" and "fixed penalty" notices. Looks like a case of being aware of tough luck.



St Fillan's Harvest Thanksgiving

Church Service Sunday 10th October 10.30AM
School Service Friday 8th October 10.00 AM (In church)

This year our harvest appeal is to assist the
Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal
A charity which sends gifts to Eastern Europe in time for Christmas

We are asked to fill shoe boxes with some of the following
and mark on the outside who it is suitable for and what each contains.

Boxes may include:

- ❖ *Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, face cloth, sponge*
- ❖ *Talc, comb*
- ❖ *Small toys*
- ❖ *Pen, pencil, notebook, rubber, crayons*
- ❖ *Socks, gloves, hats, scarves*
- ❖ *Sweets (not chocolate) or raisins*
- ❖ *Tinned food, powdered milk, rice or biscuits*
- ❖ *Baby clothes*

❖ *Please label all boxes clearly on outside*

Who contents are for

man/woman teenager(age and sex)
child (age and sex) baby (boy or girl)

❖ *What contents are (This is for customs officials)*

If you would like to take part and donate a box (or a donation towards transport costs)
please bring or send it to one of the above services

**THE AMIGOS MEXICAN
PRESENTATION**

CHURCH HALL 10th OCTOBER 3.00pm

**Slide/talk show of an epic journey by Leslie
Gordon and the Amigos from Inverkeithing
High School**

Sponsored Golf



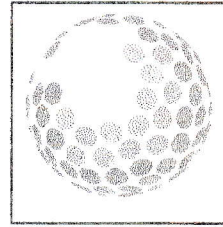
Once again a swinging time was enjoyed by the hundred golfers who took part in the annual sponsored golf tournament with Dalgety Parish Church.

For the fourth year in succession St Fillan's won the David Rutherford Trophy by the narrow margin of 238 - 232 points. The winner of the St Fillan's Cup was Phil Barton with 43 points - the other five winning scores were returned by Lenny Wahlroos 41 pts., Bill

Cochrane 39 pts. and Angela Parker, Paul Stackhouse and Jim Thomson all with 38 pts.

Many thanks go to the golfers and their sponsors who raised the magnificent £1200 and almost £1300 in Dalgety Bay.

This money has been given to Christian Aid and The Macmillan Cancer Relief (Fife Appeal).



The Moderator of the General Assembly comes to Aberdour

On Sunday 9th January the Moderator the Right Reverend John B Cairns has agreed to revisit St Fillan's for morning worship. (Note- this will be a 10.00am start) During the service Mr Cairns will dedicate the new Millennium windows, and afterwards, the congregation will have a chance to meet the Moderator in the Maclauchlan Hall (school hall). Lois Hutchison and Susan Farrar are arranging the catering for this occasion (tea, coffee cakes and sandwiches, not a sit down meal) This will also be one of the times in Church life when people are thanked publicly for service to the church and the Moderator will be presenting certificates to members in recognition of 30 years service in St Fillan's and elsewhere. The following are due to receive certificates: Elders: Mr W Allan, Mr J Anderson, Dr G Brown, Mr W McRae, Mr W Nelson, Miss C Simmers, Mr A Stirling.
Board: Mrs L Hutchison, Mr W Miller.
Choir: Miss J Bald, Mrs C Duncan, Mrs U Hodge.

If anyone has been missed out please accept our apologies and do contact Catherine Duncan or the minister. If you know of anyone who should be considered, again, please contact Catherine Duncan or the minister.

Lois Hutchison and Susan Farrar would like to here from anyone who would like to assist with the catering.

Tape recording for the partially sighted

If you are having difficulty reading the church newsletter and the village news, or if you know someone who might have a problem reading them, why not contact Dorothy Drever on 860353.

Dorothy is recording these papers on a tape and will be pleased to deliver a copy to you on request.

New Stained Glass Windows in the Church For the Millennium

Following a proposal by the Kirk Session and Board which was approved at the Annual General Meeting earlier this year, two new stained glass windows have been commissioned from the artist Roland Mitton of Livingston Village. The windows are part of our Millennium celebration and will be fitted in the south facing wall just to the east of the porch.

The windows are of a traditional design and feature the themes of the Nativity and Baptism of Jesus Christ.

The cost of £3900 is planned to be met from legacy funds.

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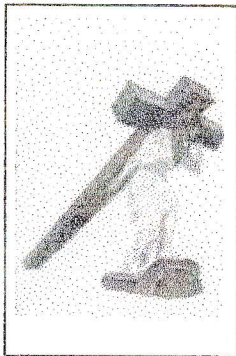
Marathon Musings

David Hannah

By the time this letter is printed I will, hopefully have completed the first Dunfermline to Edinburgh Marathon - 26 miles 365 yds fund raising for Fife St John Association. the run itself is not the daunting prospect people think, at least not if you have been training.



When Lawrence Leask put his wee notice in the village shops back in January looking for people to join him in post Christmas tummy trimming jogs none of us thought that we would end up doing the big time. It was arranged for us all to meet at the village clock each Sunday, Wednesday and Friday at 8pm and jog around the local area. As it was dark and cold we started off going round Dovecot Park and Silver Sands, eventually building up to going down the avenue, scaring the occasional late dog walker by appearing out of the gloom puffing and panting, up Braefoot road and back along Inverkeithing Road. When the clocks changed to BST we extended our runs up Goat Quarry to Crossgates, along the coastal path to Dalgety Bay, Inverkeithing and Burntisland, Kinghorn up through Humble Woods and over the Binn and many other interesting routes in the area. The first time that no one else turned up I had to choose whether to go by myself or return home, I decided that having got motivated for a run I would set off up High Street, Inverkeithing Road to Braefoot Roundabout and down the drive to where it meets the Avenue and back home. It's amazing how quiet it is when you get away from the main road, apart from the wind in the trees and small animal noises in the verges on dark nights with no moon or starlight to brighten the way.



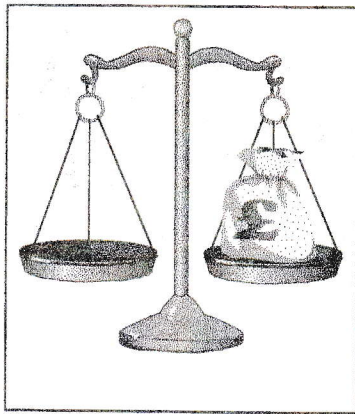
Running on your own like this, especially on longer runs gives you a lot of time to contemplate on life, and death, once you have settled into a rhythm and can breath steadily. Thoughts come and go, some lasting longer than others, one stayed with me on the first few times I ran alone and that was about being out here on dark nights and in lonely places. What if something happened, a twisted ankle/broken leg, running into a tree branch who would know where to find me? Would I lie alone and in pain all night or would I be able crawl to a house, when would my wife start to worry and call for help?

There had been stories about people being found dead on the hills, falling and dying of exposure, not being found for ages. It was only when I remembered that I was supposed to be a committed Christian and took comfort in that. If I truly believed then I couldn't be alone as God was with me and I stopped worrying about what might happen and just carried on running. The difference is that now I use those times to talk to God and to pray for others, confess my sins and ask his forgiveness.

We have covered a lot of miles since January, firstly training a bit more seriously for Aberdour's Donkey Brae run during the Festival, finishing the 7 miles under 50 minutes, my best ever time, as a Super Vet. Averaging around 15 miles a week for 30 weeks we have covered some 450 miles in all weathers, enjoying the changing of seasons and meeting loads of folk with dogs, most of whom give a nod or say hello. It hasn't always been a pleasure, there have been some injuries - pulled muscles, cramps and a lot of aches and pains to compliment the blisters but we intend to keep going, at least once a week after the Marathon. Meet us at the Clock Sundays at 8.00pm and enjoy the many routes and track we follow.

(David Hannah came 891st out of 3521 in the Dunfermline to Edinburgh run. Ed)

Time to bring your contributions up to date



At this stage in time it is looking as if the St Fillan's general fund will be in deficit at the end of the year. This is the fund from which we pay all our running costs, our contributions to the central funds of the church and the costs of the routine maintenance of our fabric. In recent years any surplus has been donated to charity.

Any increase in the weekly collection will help, but we would particularly ask all those who give by WFO and covenant to ensure that their contributions are up to date before the end of the year.

Conservation of the Church Building.

John Anderson

With the approval of the Congregational Board the property committee have prepared phase 1 of a project involving a major overhaul of the fabric of our church which is planned to take place over the next few years. The planned work is based on a survey carried out by Edinburgh architects Stewart Todd & Partners who specialise in the preservation of old stone buildings and are now acting as architects for our project. The plan includes the following work in the first phase:

Repair of the belfry tower

Repair of the west gable including crows' steps, indentation of new stones, backfill and pointing and repair of memorial plaque in wall.

Repair of porch roof

Repair of plaque on NW wall of church.

The total cost of the first phase has been estimated at around £23,800. We have applied for a grant from Fife "Entrust" who administer the allocation of proceeds from landfill taxes in Fife and we have been offered a payment of £11,900. The balance equal to the sum will be paid by ourselves.

ALPHA

Ronnie Kerr

There's still time to join the St Fillan's Alpha course which is taking place this Autumn in the church hall.

More than a million people world wide have completed the Alpha course during the last six years in churches, homes, schools, universities and prisons. Alpha is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening setting in thought-provoking weekly sessions. It is low key, friendly and fun and is supported by all the main Christian denominations.

In Aberdour the course is running every Monday evening until 6th December. Each weekly session starts with soup and a sandwich at 7.30pm. If you would like to find out more, then please contact the minister or Ronnie Kerr on 860848.

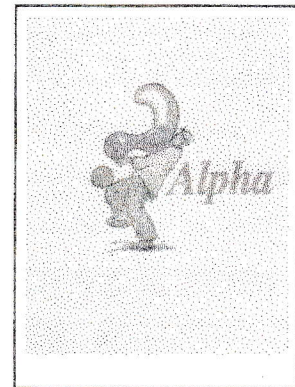
What the papers say about Alpha.....

"What the Alpha offers, and what is attracting thousands of people, is permission - rare in secular culture - to discuss the big question: Life, death and their meaning."

Madeleine Bunting, The Guardian.

"Alpha makes Christianity relevant to modern life."

Julia Llewellyn Smith, The Express



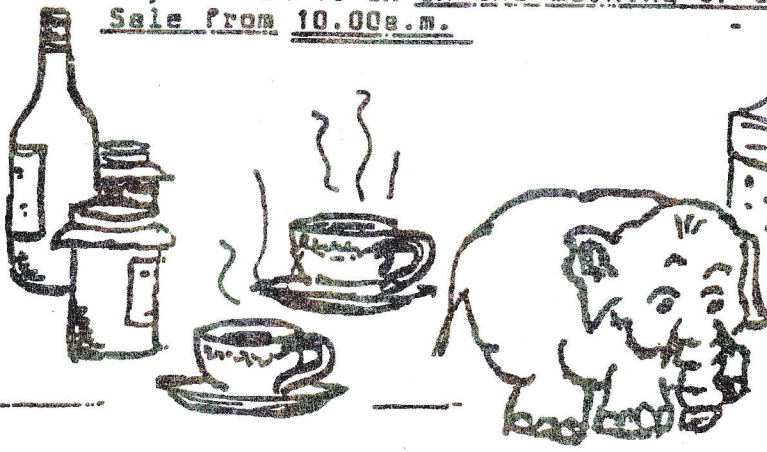
SALE OF WORK

in THE CHURCH HALL
SATURDAY, 20th NOVEMBER '99
 at 2-30 p.m.

STALLS	CONVENERS	TEL.
BOOKS	Elizabeth Lloyd	860044
Bottle	Douglas Crow	860291
Cake & Candy	Catherine Duncan	860611
Gifts	Lois Hutchison	860444
Plant & produce	Betty Craig	823252
Sunday School.	Lesley Bowie	860642
Teas	Janette Smith	860045
White Elephant & Bric a Brac	Collette Adam	860515
Work	Marnie Rennie	860711
ADMISSION (including tea) 60p		
Any queries? Contact Dorothy Drever or Eileen Harper		860353 860151



YOUR contributions for the various Stalls are **VERY MUCH APPRECIATED**, and may be handed in on the morning of the Sale from 10.00a.m.



Thank YOU for YOUR support!

