

NEWSLETTER

ST. FILLAN'S

PARISH CHURCH

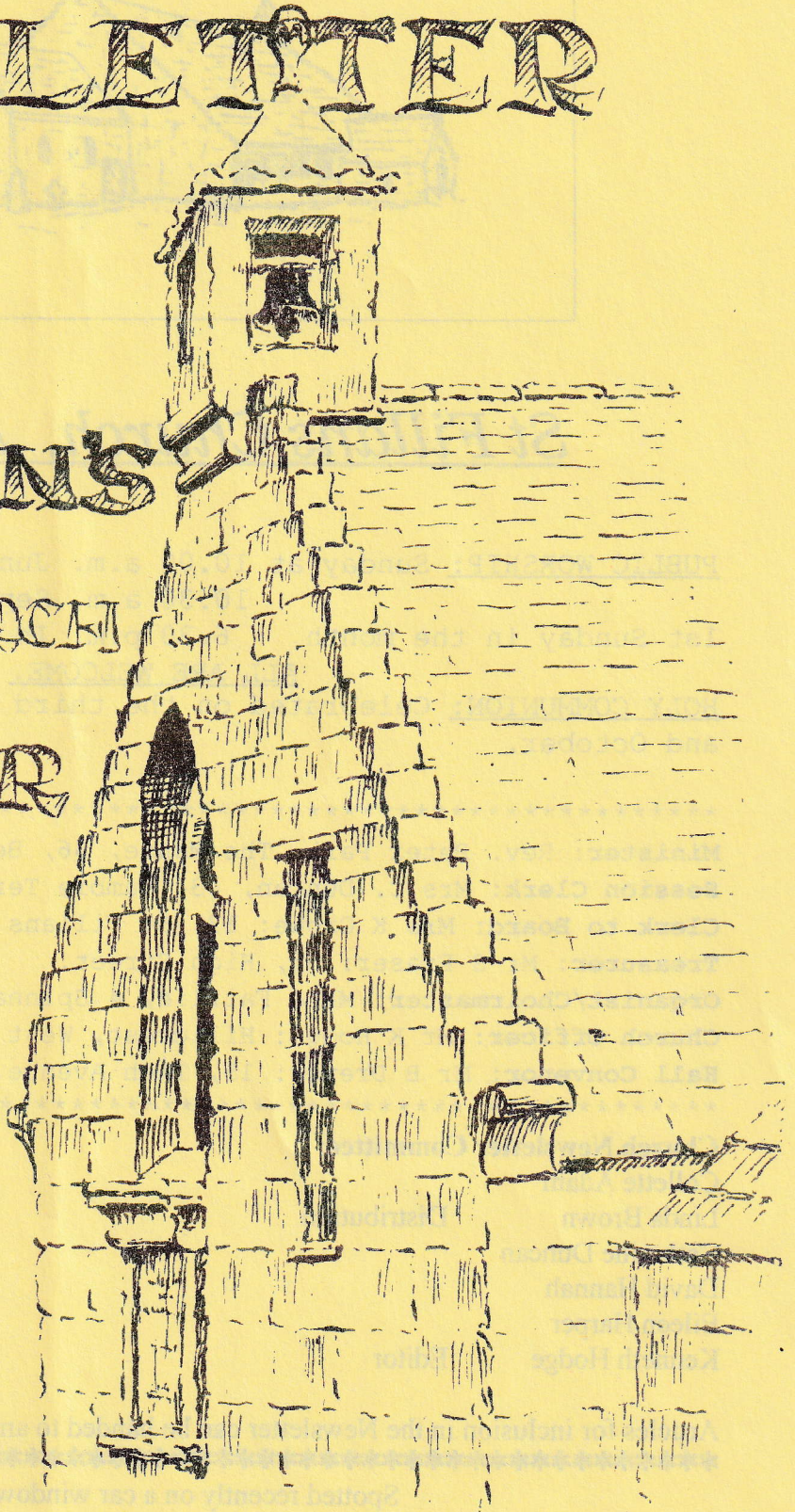
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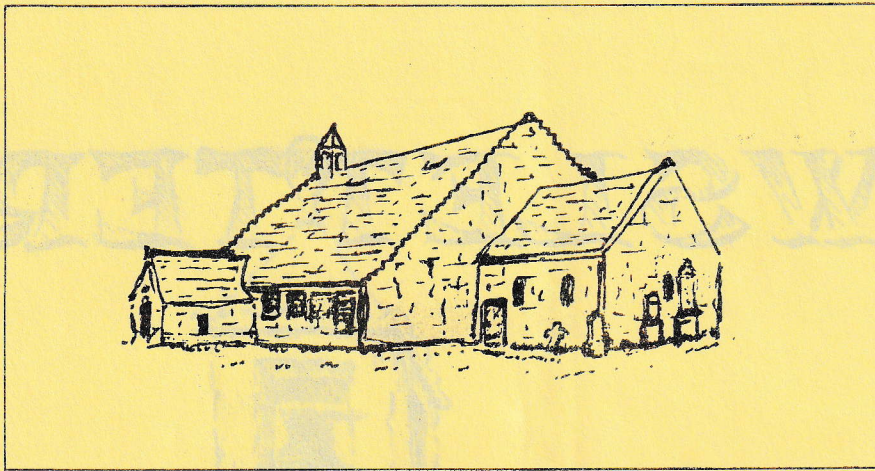
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OCTOBER 2000

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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

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

Church Newsletter Committee:

Collette Adam

Linda Brown Distribution

Catherine Duncan

David Hannah

Eileen Harper

Kenneth Hodge Editor

Articles for inclusion in the Newsletter can be handed to any member of the committee.

Spotted recently on a car window sticker

Jesus Christ, Carpenter in Nazareth seeks Joiners

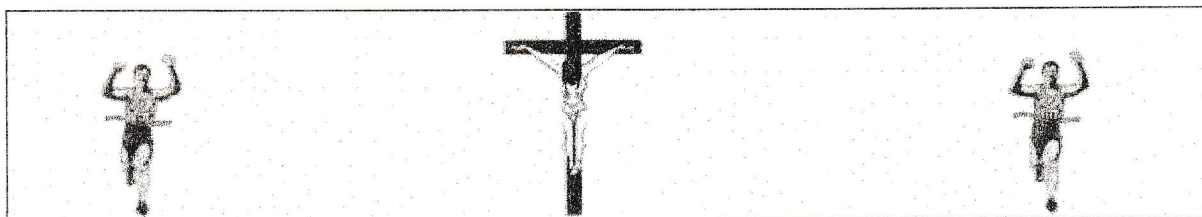
St Fillan's is not asking you to go to Nazareth but you might be interested in joining the local branch of your church.

If you would like to make enquiries as to what church membership entails please speak with the Minister.

Dear Friends,

This letter is written mid way through the Olympic games, that four yearly festival of sport attracting athletes from all corners of the globe. The competitors have been selected to represent their countries in various disciplines, and when the time comes for them to take centre stage in their own event, strive to win medals, or at least perform to their personal best. The concentration, strain and effort involved during competition manifests itself in various ways and on more than one occasion this year we have seen mature athletes wince with pain, and some brought to tears, as they strive to produce that extra effort required at the highest level of competition. For those who win medals, temporary pain and the tedium of long training sessions give way to euphoric joy as they receive due recognition for their efforts when they stand on the podium to receive their rewards. It is a splendid sight and I am sure that many of us feel the emotion welling up inside us as we watch these athletes receive the praise due to them and share with them their joy as they raise their arms in victory.

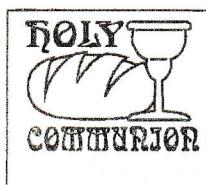
As you read this I invite you all to spend a few moments reflecting in your own way on someone else with raised arms. He also achieved a victory after competing on the world's stage. He is not a smiling Olympian champion on a podium. He is Jesus Christ, arms outstretched on the Cross. Jesus, Son of God, sent by the Father to save the world. At the time of his crucifixion, and as people stared at the cross seeing a broken body wracked with pain, I suspect that defeat was uppermost on the minds of the spectators. After all how could a dying man save the world as he had prophesied! In 2000 however we are able to view the cross and the man with raised outstretched arms through the lens of history. We know now that for Jesus the cross was not defeat but a step on the way to the resurrection and ultimate victory over the power of death. The victory Jesus won did not earn him an Olympic medal — the prize he gained was not even for him. He had been sent to save the world and had achieved his target. The promise of John 3:16 'For God so loved the world that he gave it his only Son, that all who believe in Him shall not perish but have eternal life' now proven to be available to all who follow the ways of Jesus. To achieve his victory Jesus had to endure pain but imagine his joy when in God's time he realised what he had achieved for the world.



The first verse of one of my favourite hymns is
'To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

The wonderful news is that each of us can share in his victory- all we need do is put our trust in the man with raised outstretched arms — are you prepared to do that?

Yours in Christ
Peter Park - Parish Minister



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: This will be celebrated on Sunday 19th Oct. at 10.30 am and 3.00pm. To enable parents of young children attend the morning service there will be a crèche in the Vestry at the Church.

OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER CHURCH SERVICES

<u>Sunday 1st Oct</u>	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30pm	Evening Service in Church
<u>Sunday 8th Oct</u>	10.30am	Harvest Thanksgiving
<u>Sunday 15th Oct</u>	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion
	3.00pm	Service of Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 22nd Oct</u>	10.30am	Morning Service
<u>Sunday 29th Oct</u>	10.30am	Morning Service
<u>Sunday 5th Nov</u>	10.30am	Morning Service
<u>Sunday 12th Nov</u>	10.00am	Remembrance Service in Church Hall
<u>Sunday 19th Nov</u>	10.30am	Morning Service. Missionary Partner visit
<u>Sunday 26th Nov</u>	10.30am	Morning Service

An open invitation is extended to everyone to all Services

PARISH AND CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Baptisms

July 2 Caitlin Heather Gray
Aug 27 Lochlan Scott Jackson Gunn

Jesus said "baptise them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit

Marriage

June 17 Norman Whitesmith and Linda Stevenson
July 8 Alex Duncan and Anne Patrick
July 15 Peter Dalton and Morag Findlay
July 21 Alisdair MacGregor and Sian Laverty
July 22 Paul Fyffe and Vivienne Brown
July 22 Christian Forsyth and Sylvia Lind
Aug 25 Lee Butler and Catriona Watson
Aug 26 Scott Lafferty and Britta Mason
Aug 27 Darron Barlow and Caroline Dickson
Sept 2 Gordon McRae and Claire Craig
Sept 8 Adam Tjolle and Sandra Raffan
Sept 9 Daniel Mudd and Kirsten Ferguson

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

Blessing

May 28 Ewan Mackintosh Morgan

Jesus said, "Whoever receives one of these little children in my name receives Me."

Changes to our membership

Members Leaving

Bereavements

June 25 Ursula Hodge, Hillcrest, West End

Jun 30 Doris Burniston, 18 Murrell Road

Sept 6 Chris Whyte, Telny Place

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.



The Weaver

My life is but a weaving
Between my Lord and me,
I cannot choose the colours
He worketh steadily,

Ofttimes he weaveth sorrow
And I in foolish pride
Forget that he seeth the upper,
And I the underside,

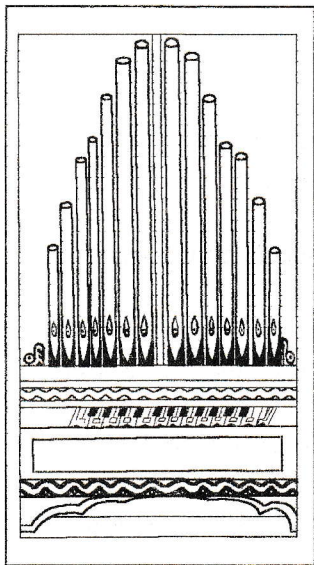
Not till the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly,
Shall God unroll the canvas
And explain the reason why,

The dark threads are as needful
In the Weaver's skilful hand,
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern he has planned.

Anon

.....
• Catherine Nicol, our missionary partner in Pakistan, will be taking part in the morning •
• service visiting at St Fillan's Church on 19th November. •
• Afterwards, in the school hall, there will be a buffet lunch and a chance to meet •
• Catherine Nicol. During this time she will be presented with a cheque for her school •
• in Pakistan as part of our Millennium promise. Final details will be posted. •
.....

An article in our Churches Visited series, this one from Jim Fairlie.
The man o' the Kist of Whustles, in Paphos, Cyprus:



We have all experienced on return from holiday the query 'Did you have a nice holiday?' and before you can reply they have escaped in a cloud of dust. The congregation of St Fillans is not so fortunate.

There we were sitting under the coolness of a tree overlooking a site according to legend where the Romans reputedly gave St. Paul 39 lashes, round about 45 a.d., in the course of his first Missionary journey. Also according to legend, when he was asked to give an account of it to the Pro Consul Sergius Paulus the court astrologer Bar Jesus interfered and was temporarily blinded (see Acts of the Apostles 13 verses 5—12).

Incidentally Sergius Paulus was converted to become the first Christian ruler.

Anyway here we were looking at this magnificent site currently being restored, with its dozens of pillars either lying on the ground or upright, and its beautiful mosaic walkways gradually being cleared. Also in front of us the reputed pillar of the event with its plaque, and it was not difficult to imagine what it must of have

been like at that time from this scene.

We both felt that there was something very special about the place, far different from the magnificent Monasteries and religious palaces we had seen days previously. There is also a small Greek Church at the end of the site currently shared by the Paphos Catholics and Anglicans, called the Church of St. Paul's Pillar, again with a lovely atmosphere.

Whilst we were there a curious thing happened, a tour bus pulled up filled with a mixture of Europeans and Asians, about six people alighted (Japanese), looked, took some photographs and rejoined the bus. The others? They just looked on, and within minutes the bus took off.

Incidentally the location of this marvellous site, (it took a bit of finding) just off the main road leading to the ancient Port, and then a short cut through 'Woolworth's' Car Park, (Yes Woolworth). You couldn't make it up!

The following letter was sent from the Erskine Hospital Finance Director to our treasurer.

Dear Mr Fraser

Thank you very much for your further generous donation of £152.01 to our Hospital funds. We very much appreciate your prayers on our behalf and I would ask you to pass on our particular thanks to your congregation.

Your most welcome support for our disabled ex-servicemen and women is very much appreciated.

The Appeal has now raised £4.5 million towards our target of £5 million and the construction of our new building is near completion. We are confident that, with the continued support of so many good friends, we will be able to carry on our work of caring for ex-servicemen and women for as long as there is a need.

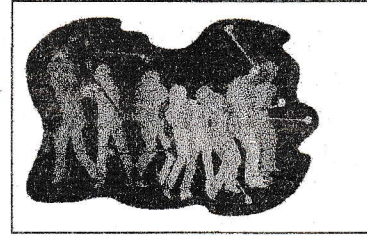
An official receipt is enclosed and comes to you with warm thanks and all good wishes from the residents and staff at Erskine.



The Golf Report

Not for the first time weather conditions were less than kind to the 90 golfers who took part in the Annual Sponsored Golf Competition between St Fillan's and Dalgety Parish Churches.

A special mention must be made of the ladies who braved the elements on what was the worst morning of the week.



The gentlemen booked to play that morning postponed their efforts till later but undaunted the ladies went out to be rewarded in rather different ways.

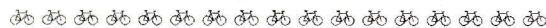
One returned a score which helped St Fillan's to retain the David Rutherford Trophy. Another had an injured shoulder which necessitated a visit to a chiropractor - the others got wet!

The St Fillan's cup was won by Alasdair Raffan with 45 points while the other 5 scores which counted towards the all important win by 238 to 232 points were returned by Peter Redhead, Sheila Robb, Bill Cochrane, Ben Durkin and Willie McKay.

The best Dalgety score of 42 points was returned by Bill Fyffe who retained the Hugh Martin Cup. we were privileged to have Marjorie Clark, the area organiser for Christian Aid, who not only got wet playing for Dalgety Bay but joined us on the final evening to present the prizes to the winners.

The organisers thank all the golfers and their sponsors for their excellent efforts which raised £975 from St Fillan's members and friends and £1107 from Dalgety Church.

The money was divided between Christian Aid and the Macmillan Fife Appeal.



Spelling B

Anyone who has had the misfortune to be "tied" to a computer at work and used the spell checker will identify with this little poem from cyberspace. Readers will be happy to know that the editor prefers to rely on a real life checker who wields a red pen with total gay abandon but hands the pages back with a smile, which makes it all right.

Spelling Checkers

Eye halve a spelling chequer
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marquis four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin not sea.

Eye strike a quay and type a word
And weight for it to say
Weather eye am wrong or write
It shows me strait a weigh

As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two long
And eye can put the error rite
It's rare lea ever wrong.

Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore ewe are pleased two no
It's letter perfect all the weigh
My checker tolled me sew

Comment from the Editor

"It's not logical captain.", famous words uttered by Spock and recognised by all Star Trek fans world wide.

This larger than life character with the pointy ears was the one we would all love to be sometimes, cold, detached and able to make decisions unencumbered by emotion. Captain Kirk on the other hand was the fighter that dwells in our baser nature. Doctor MacCoy the medic, being full of emotion and compassion, completed the trio. Without any one of the three the series would not have worked. Like removing either heat, fuel or oxygen from a fire, it will go out. Life, it would seem, runs on similar lines.

We need three things to keep life going, fuel, direction and discipline. The fuel item is obvious, but direction and discipline? Discipline can be summed up by "learning the difference between right and wrong and doing something about it". More than that we need some one to teach discipline, a subject you wont find in any school curriculum along with the other great omission "How to be a good parent".

Direction is harder to identify. If we have no direction life loses all meaning, Life is divided into two parts, physical and spiritual. Each of these is equally affected by fuel, discipline and direction. We deal with the physical side every day but only tend to the spiritual side when things go wrong and then it may be too late to help get us over difficulties.

As Christians we have wonderful guidelines contained within the covers of the Bible. Written 2000 years or so ago they mean the same now as then because mankind has not changed his way of thinking at all. So many people find the Bible "Not for this age", hard to understand, mumbo jumbo, written in secret code etc. Approach the Bible with an open mind and your spirit does the rest. It literally becomes refuelled.

Here then is your fuel, your direction and the discipline that keeps your direction straight - and----- "it's logical, Mr Spock!"

Hebrew Nouns

Email from The Salvation Army

As you may know, Hebrew nouns have a gender. When the time came to translate the word "computer" into Hebrew its gender had to be decided. They established two expert committees, one of men and the other of women. Each committee was instructed to decide on the machine gender: Machshev - it thinks (male form) or Machshevet - it thinks (female form).

The women's committee recommended that computers are male form, because:

1. They will usually do what they are asked, but nothing more, and they don't think of doing it themselves.
2. They are supposed to solve your problems, but most of the time they are the problem.
3. They usually become outdated in five years, and need to be replaced, but most of the time users feel that as they have already invested in that machine, they put up with an imperfect model.

On the other hand, the male committee claimed that the computer should be female form, because:

1. No-one but the creator understands their inner logic.
 2. The language that they use to communicate among themselves is incomprehensible to anyone else.
 3. The error message "Bad command or file name" is about as informative as "If you don't know why I'm angry at you I am certainly not going to tell you."
 4. Once you're committed to one, you find yourself spending a fortune on accessories for it.
 5. Even the slightest error is maintained in long term memory for use at a later date.
-

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ON SALE AT CHURCH SALE

JAM on Sundays

Sundays were fun days for village children who attended the "Jam Club" in the Church hall for four weeks in June.

Between 25 and 40 children of Sunday school age attended the two hour sessions which featured a variety of activities including keep fit, games, arts and crafts, music and the chance to learn a little more about the Christian faith. Members of the Jam Club - which stands for Jesus and Me - shared some of their activities with the rest of the congregation at the family service in the church hall on the 3rd September.

A Jam spokesman told the St Fillan's Newsletter "It was a lot of fun. We were thrilled with the response we got to the club and were delighted that the children enjoyed all the activities which were laid on.

"We were very fortunate to have such a hard working and enthusiastic team of leaders and encouraged that the four weeks went so well. We're hoping that we can build on that success and that the JAM club will meet again next year. Watch this space!"

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THE OBERAMMEGAU PASSION PLAY.

Friday, 1st September, 2000.

Margaret Smith

Passion Plays have their roots in medieval history and, at Oberammegau, the first performance of one was in 1634, thereafter in more or less a ten year sequence, except for wars and other difficulties.

The sun was shining brilliantly on my friends and I, and we found that the two three hours long sessions, with a lunch break of three hours, seemed to pass quickly. We each had an English translation of the play, but, as most of us have regularly attended Scottish Presbyterian Churches, we could often understand what was happening on stage without following the text line by line.

Our memories of the Last Supper, The Crucifixion and The Resurrection, as shown on stage to a hushed audience (4700 people) will return to us at Communion and Easter Services in our own churches.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services

Morning Worship Sunday 8th October

Primary School Friday 13th October

This year we are again taking part in the
Blythswood Shoe Box appeal
Sending gifts to Eastern Europe in time for Christmas
We are asked to fill shoe boxes and mark on the outside
who it is suitable for and what each contains

Boxes may include

- ❖ Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, sponge, face-cloth
 - ❖ Talc, comb, toiletries
 - ❖ Small toys
- ❖ Pen, pencil; notebook, rubber, crayons
 - ❖ Socks, gloves, hats, scarves
- ❖ Sweets (not chocolate because it melts) or raisins
 - ❖ Tinned food, powdered milk, rice, biscuits
(sell by dates later than April 2001 please)
 - ❖ Baby clothes

Please label all boxes clearly on the outside with

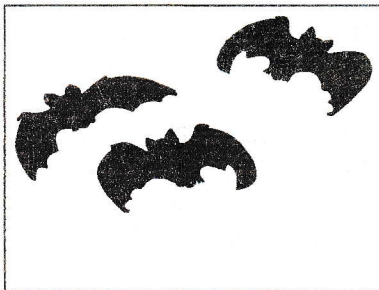
- ❖ *Who contents are for*
(man or woman, teenager (age and sex), child (age and sex) babies

- ❖ *What the contents are*

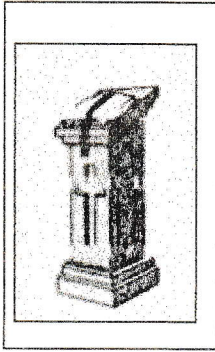
This is a customs requirement

If you would like to help and fill a box or make a donation towards transport costs please bring/send it to one of the above services

Bats in the Belfry?



Bats, of course, are not every one's cup of tea. Once upon a time three ministers were plagued with them in the rafters of their churches. One minister gathered his bats together and released them twenty miles away. They were back in the church as quickly as he was. The second reverend drove fifty miles before doing the same thing. His bats returned the next day. The third minister, however, adopted a different strategy. He baptised and confirmed his bats - and never saw them again.



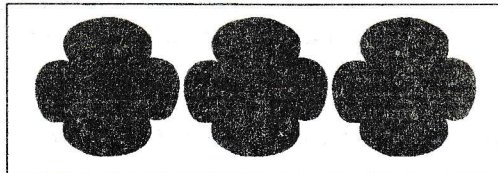
Sunday Morning Scripture Readings

The following are the planned passages for the next two months. If you would like an exposition of the theological or historical issues pertaining to any of the passages please speak to me and I will try to help.

Please let the minister know if you would like to come on the Scripture reading rota

Oct 1	James 5: 13 - 20 Mark 9: 38 - 50	Nov 5	Revelation 7:9 - 17 Matthew 5: 1 - 12
Oct 8	Deuteronomy 8: 1 - 10 John 6: 24 - 35	Nov 12	Deuteronomy 4: 9 - 14 John 15:9 - 17
Oct 15	Hebrews 4: 12 - 16 Mark 10: 17 - 31	Nov 19	Daniel 12: 1 - 3 Mark 13: 1 - 8
Oct 22	Job 38: 1 - 7 Mark 10: 35 - 45	Nov 26	Daniel 7: 9 - 10, 13 - 14 John 18: 33 - 37
Oct 29	Job 42: 1 - 6, 10 - 17 Mark 10: 46 - 52	Dec 3	Jeremiah 33: 14 - 16 Luke 21: 25 - 36

Remembrance Day Service Sunday 12th November 2000



Service in St Fillan's Church Hall at 10.00AM

The Service will last 45 minutes and be followed by
Act of Remembrance around the War Memorial at 10.55AM

Our youth organisations will parade their colours

All are invited to attend

Crèche for younger children

Collection on the day for the Earl Haig Fund

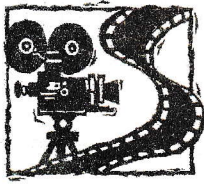
St Fillan's Millennium Promise

We set ourselves a target of raising £4000 to be split between the Children's Hospice in Kinross and a Christian school in Pakistan.

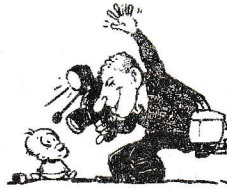
Many have supported the appeal and to date we have raised £3000, with a further £1000 to make our target. If you would like to support the appeal please give your donation to Simon Fraser or any office bearer.

If you are a tax payer and are able to give £10 or more please consider making your donation through our Gift Aid scheme (details from Simon). If you do, we can reclaim an extra £2.80 for every £10 you give

Monday 9th oct 7-30

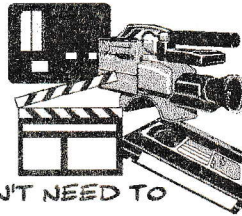


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IN AID OF "SCOTTISH MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE ASSOCIATION"

Talking Books

Love a good story, but had to give up reading because of failing eyesight? Then this may be just the thing for you.

St. Fillan's Pastoral Committee have just received a kind donation of 4 'Talking Books' to lend out to folk in the congregation who can no longer read for themselves, but have access to a cassette player. The Books are:

Murder in Mesopotamia by Agatha Christie - 2 double-sided tapes "A Hercule Poirot story".

Old Songs in a New Cafe by Robert J. Waller, author of *The Bridges of Madison County*.
2 double-sided tapes
"Your spirits will be lifted with laughter as Waller tells how he learnt about honour from buying chickens with his father as a boy; and what it means to be still in love after twenty-five years of marriage".

Charlotte Gray by Sebastian Faulks - 4 double-sided tapes
"It is 1942. London is blacked out, but France is under a greater darkness.....
From Edinburgh, Charlotte Gray travels south to London - conceives a dangerous passion for an English airman - then moves to France on an errand for a British organisation helping the Resistance- and for her own private purposes".

Wild Swans by Jung Chang - 4 double-sided tapes
"Wild Swans tells the story of three women - Jung Chang, her mother and her grandmother - whose fortunes mirror the tumultuous history of twentieth century China. As the years pass in this beautifully detailed family tapestry, we see three lives unfolding one from the other, through love, tragedy and renewal".

Interested in borrowing from the "Talking Books' Library? Phone or speak with Margaret Tollick (860559) who will offer on a first come first served basis, and also start a waiting list. Would love the tapes, but no cassette player? - let Margaret know and perhaps someone in the congregation may have one to spare or to lend. Other donations of 'Talking Books' will be gratefully received.