

# NEWSLETTER

ST. FILLAN'S

PARISH CHURCH

OF

ABERDOUR

from the year

1123.

...

JUNE

2002



**CHURCH SERVICES in St Fillan's**  
**Morning Worship 10.30 AM all year round**  
**Evening service in church 6.30 PM – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday each month**

*Some Contact People*

Parish Minister	Rev Peter Park 36 Bellhouse Rd e-mail	860349 <a href="mailto:peter.park1@virgin.net">peter.park1@virgin.net</a>
Session Clerk	Mrs. Catherine Duncan 43 Humbie Terr	860611
Clerk to the Board	Mrs. Karyn Crowe 13 St Fillan's Cr	860721
Treasurer	Mr. Simon Fraser 55 High St	860361
Gift Aid	Mrs. Trish Niven Banks Farm	860355

**Kirk Session Working group leaders**

Pastoral	Mr. Norman Macdonald Watchhouse, Lower Glebe	860585
Stewardship	Mr. Ewart McSkimming 6 Crowhill Rd Dalgety Bay	823454
Youth/Education	Dr. Sue Farrar 3 Dovecot Park	860851
Focus Group	Mr. Bill Chalmers 18 Dovecot Park	860260
Social Worship	vacant at present Mr. Ronnie Kerr 11 High St	860848
Link group (ecumenical activities)	Mrs. Kathleen Fergus Glenelg, Inverkeithing Rd	860804

**Board Committees**

Property Convener	Mr. John Anderson 9 Bellhouse Rd	860524
Finance Convener	Mr. Ewart McSkimming 6 Crowhill Rd Dalgety Bay	823454
Hall Convener	Mr. Bruce Drever 15 Inch Ave	860353

**Church Newsletter Committee**

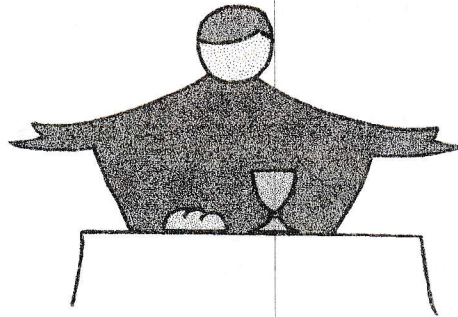
Collette Adam  
Linda Brown  
Catherine Duncan  
David Hannah  
Eileen Harper

**St Fillan's Aberdour**  
**'Encouraging people to follow Jesus Christ'**

Our church has an important place in the life of the community.

We exist, as a Church of Scotland congregation to reflect the love of God to all people, to be a place where any and all may experience God's presence, and to be a fellowship, which seeks to nourish and sustain its faith through worship, friendship, care and education.

In response to the Love of God, we seek to serve the community in every aspect of its life and to promote the Christian values of concern for others, forgiveness, reconciliation, truth and integrity, whilst acknowledging that we ourselves do not always live up to these values.



**An invitation to the Lord's Table**

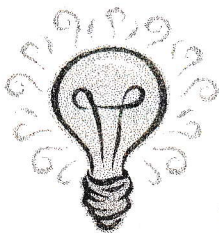
**Sacrament of Communion**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June**

**10.30 AM and 3.00 PM**

**For everyone who loves the Lord**

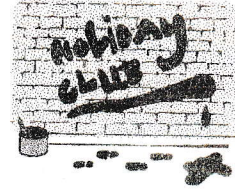
**If you are unable to attend the Sacrament of Communion in Church  
 And would like Communion in your own home  
 Please speak with the minister or any of our elders**



**Morning Worship on 7<sup>th</sup> July and 4<sup>th</sup> August is in the  
 Church Hall. Children will join us for first part of service then go  
 to the upper hall. Tea and Juice after the service**

**Children's activity pages 10 and 11**

◀◀◀◀◀◀◀ *Parish information on facing page*



### **JAM (Jesus and me )Club**

We are holding another JAM club this summer for all children 3 and upwards – whether or not they come to Sunday School or Bible Class  
 Sundays in June – 10 – 12 in Church Hall  
 Contact people Christine and Gary Waddell 860802

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June our Morning worship (in the Church) will provide an opportunity for the wider church to find out about what went on in JAM club



### **Bible Class and the Chernobyl Children's Life Line Appeal**

As many of you will remember, the Chernobyl nuclear accident happened in 1986. It was devastating at the time and its effects are still being felt today. Many families suffer dreadful illnesses and many die far too young.

The Chernobyl Children Life Line began in a small way with the idea that groups of children from the area, particularly Belarus, could be brought to Britain for a month's holiday. This appeal has grown and now there are groups all over Britain, including one in the Dunfermline area, arranging these holidays. It is estimated that a month staying with a family eating nourishing food and breathing clean air can add up to two years to these children's life expectancy.

St Fillan's Bible Class decided to help this appeal. The congregation helped us by collecting 2ps and in just a few weeks we have over £100 which will help to purchase items, such as vitamins, for the children.

We should like to continue helping this appeal when we return to Bible Class in September so we would ask you to keep saving your 2ps for us. Thank you. (Any more donations for this current appeal can be passed on to an official in Church on any Sunday morning or to our Bible class leader, Eileen Harper, 10 Home Park.)



**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July**

**Evening Concert in Church**

We are hosting a concert given by an adult American choir from Maplewood, New Jersey. We would like to offer them a meal before the performance and seek host families who would take 4 / 6 people from 5-7 PM

If you are able to help please contact the minister asap



**Are you interested in church membership?**

Then please speak with the minister or any of our elders to find out more about this

## OUTREACH

*St Fillan's mission statement is 'Encouraging people to follow Jesus Christ'.*

*In addition to a varied diet of worship and communion services we have a number of Church activities that bring people together in Christ's name. Let us all take time to reflect on what goes on in order that we might*

- \* *share in prayer both individually and collectively asking God's blessing on these activities,*
- \* *ask Him to guide our thinking as we seek to further develop these activities,*
- \* *seek His wisdom for any new ways in which He would have us move onwards,*
- \* *ask ourselves in His presence if there is some way in which He would like us to make an effort by prayer, time, money or energy to any of these many activities.*

### Outreach activities.

#### **Sunday School**

**Queen Margaret Hospital**

*Primary School Services and Assemblies*

**LINK GROUP**

**BIBLE CLASS**

**JAM Club in June**

**LUNCH CLUB monthly**

**Monthly coffee-after-worship fellowship**

**Advent Bible Study**

*Inverkeithing High School Assemblies*

**HENDERSON HOUSE SERVICES**

**Monday Morning Bible Study Group**

*ELDERS VISITS TO CHURCH GROUPS AND OTHER HALL USERS*

**St Fillan's Junior and Senior Handbell Ringers**

Pastoral visiting

**District Scout Chaplaincy**

**Church Flower Distribution**

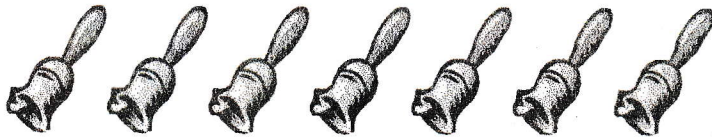
**TAPE MINISTRY**

*Church Newsletter*

**Lent Bible Study**

**HOSPITAL AND BEREAVEMENT VISITING**

*Editors Note – Those boxed have individual reports in the newsletter  
Apologies if we have missed any group*



### *Junior Handbell Ringers*

Our Junior ringers continue to flourish and took part in our charity concert on 19<sup>th</sup> May.

They also represented the primary school at a Scottish National rally in Dunblane on 15<sup>th</sup> May. There were 150 children taking part in the rally from all over Scotland and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

If any children (generally P5 and upwards) are interested in joining the group please get in touch with the minister



### *Scottish Country Dancing*

Our new season starts on Wednesday Sep 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.45 PM in the Church Hall. This is essentially a fun class for adults to the age of 80 and beyond!! We have live music and the price of £1.50 includes tea and biscuits. Please come along and give it a go – you will be made most welcome. For further information contact Sandra McSkimming (823454) or David Hannah (860877)



### **Church Garden**

Thanks to everyone who purchased the fuchsia plants (grown by Maggie Christie). The sum raised was £175 and this was used to purchase new plants for the Church garden. Thanks also to Scott and Maggie Christie, and Stan and Sheila Robb who voluntarily look after the gardens on our behalf.



### **Coffee after Church**

Thanks to everybody who has helped to prepare and serve coffee during the year. We now break for the summer and will resume the last Sunday of September. I will contact existing helpers after the summer break with a new schedule but if anyone would like to come on to the rota as a helper ask that they get in touch with me

Tricia Hannah 860877



### **SPONSORED GOLF COMPETITION**

**3<sup>RD</sup> – 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

The annual competition between Aberdour St Fillan's and Dalgety Parish Church is open to anyone who would like to help to raise money for Christian Aid and MacMillan Cancer Relief Fife Fund

This is a fun competition with an eagerly contested trophy for the winning team at the end of it. A win for St Fillan's this year would even the score at 11 all but the most important thing is raising the money.

*For further information contact Lois Hutchison on 860444*



If you want a pastoral visit .....

Occasionally we hear of people disappointed not to receive a visit from the pastoral group or minister when they would have liked one.

A gentle reminder that hospitals do not inform churches when members are admitted and that the grapevine doesn't always work in letting myself or the pastoral group know of problems. If you especially want a visit for yourself or someone else please tell the minister, your elder, or our pastoral convener – don't hope or assume that someone else will. That way we will know of the situation and ensure that someone does visit.



### An old story about a pastoral visit

Young Susan was entertaining her minister when Mum was making tea. The minister asked Susan if she said her prayers every night. "No, Mummy says them for me", answered Susan. "Oh indeed and what does Mummy say?" asked the minister. "Thank God you're in bed" Susan replied!

FROM: JIM FAIRLIE, CHURCH ORGANIST.

I often visit St George's Church of Scotland in Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.

Apart from being a place of worship it has a lively snack bar for lunches (worth a visit). It is usually quite busy with all types and quite a number go for a walk round the church after their meal, enjoying the quietness from the hustle and bustle of big city noise, and a break from the work place.

St George's is a large Victorian type Presbyterian Church with a large domed ceiling, and is dominated at the far end with big organ pipes. On a recent visit the organist started playing and it was interesting to see many diners, curiosity aroused, leave their meals for a quick look-see. So what attracted their attention was it the music or was it just curiosity? How often do we turn our heads at the first skirl of the pipes, or stop in our tracks at a street busker?

The Church has altered its traditional pew seating. Instead of row upon row facing the pulpit they have reduced the seating and placed the pews at three angles all facing a large central area with a lectern stand, thus bringing the preacher into the body of the Kirk.

St George's concentrates its singing on Common Ground Hymn book (one of those we use in St Fillan's). Common Ground has many modern, interesting and singable hymns with lots of old and new British tunes supplemented with hymns from other countries such as Africa and New Zealand.

On the subject of singing has it been noticed that we are now without a choir, and therefore without a lead for the new hymns that are becoming more popular. Although latterly I was only asking for about an hour's practice before worship to rehearse the service hymns the choir was not being adequately supported therefore I decided to suspend it. I am aware there are a number of good singers in the Church and I hope to restart the choir in the future if I am given encouragement with some new members. I'll have more to say about this in the Autumn but in the meantime if anyone wants to speak with me about the choir please do so, I'll leave you with something to ponder on given to me by a church member, "why does the congregation not clap the church organist when he plays a particularly pleasing piece of music but gives enthusiastic clapping for our bell ringers?"

St Fillan's



## Annual pilgrimage to Inchcolm

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September

Leaves Aberdour 15.00

Leaves Inchcolm 17.15

Please note times have been revised since last newsletter

Tickets available from Simon Fraser 860361

Sunday school will again come with us as a group and Sunday school children do not need separate tickets.

Parents of Sunday school children should however obtain tickets for themselves

**THE LORD IS MY PILOT.**

The Lord is my pilot, I shall not drift.

He Lighteth me across the dark waters,

He steereth me in deep channels,

He keepeth my log.

He guideth me by the star of Holiness for his name's sake.

Yet though I sail 'mid the thunders and tempests of life,

I will dread no danger, for Thou art near me,

Thy love and Thy care they shelter me,

Thou preparest a harbour before me

In the homeland of eternity.

Thou annointest the waters with oil,

My ship ridest calmly,

Surely sunlight and starlight shall favour me

On the voyage I take,

And I shall rest in the port of the Lord for ever.



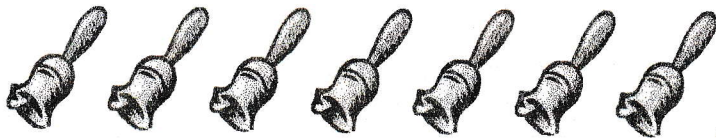
## Sunday Morning Scripture Readings for June

Jun 2	Gen 6: 9 - 22, 7:24, 8:14 - 19 Romans 1: 16 - 17, 3: 21 - 31 Matthew 7: 21 - 29	Jun 23	Gen 21: 8 - 21 Romans 6 : 1b - 11 Matthew 10: 24 - 39
Jun 9	Gen 12: 1 - 9 Romans 4: 13 - 25 Matthew 9: 9- 13, 18-26	Jun 30	JAM Club service Lectionary readings for info only Genesis 22: 1 - 14 Romans 6: 12 - 23 Matthew 10: 40 - 42
Jun 16 Communion	Gen 18: 1 - 15 Matthew 9:35 - 10:8		

**VERSE FROM SUNDIAL AT CALLANDER (1756)**

*I mark not this hour unless it is bright,  
I mark not the hours of darkness and night,  
My promise is only to follow the sun  
And point out the course his chariot doth run.*





### *St Fillan's Handbell Ringers*

The fun of making music together is bonus enough for each of us in the St Fillan's Handbell Ringing group, but to be able to bring pleasure to others is both our mission and a joy. In addition to our main aim of enriching worship in St Fillan's Church, we have played for residents in Henderson House and Greyforth House; for our own village Day Centre and a group in Dalgety Bay; for a group of three Woman's Guilds in Kirkcaldy; for the THIS group (The Heart Is Strong); with the Salvation Army Band at Christmas in Queen Margaret Hospital; and just recently at a wonderful day at the Annual Spring Rally of Handbell Ringers with nearly a hundred ringers from all over Scotland, held this year in Inverkeithing High School ... a day to remember.

A new development this year has been the formation of a junior section of young ringers. Well done indeed to these youngsters who played so well at the Spring Rally, their first public performance, and then at their Primary School Easter service. The parents of these young players are very grateful to Rev. Peter Park for his time and interest in nurturing their children in this worthwhile activity.

Both senior and junior groups very much enjoyed playing at our concert on Sunday 19th May in the Church Hall, to raise funds to enable multiple sclerosis sufferers to have a good holiday at a specialist centre near North Berwick. The event was well supported and we all hope that Maureen Reid will enjoy her holiday there in June. Thanks to everyone who supported us.

The senior group was invited with four other choirs/music groups to play at a Fund Raising Concert on Friday 24th May in Carnegie Hall, Dunfermline. This concert was to raise funds to buy an electric hoist for Lynebank Hospital. We were delighted to take part and enjoyed the event.

Kathleen Fergus.

#### **Charity concert in aid of Multiple Sclerosis – 19<sup>th</sup> May**

Maureen and Ena would like to thank the bell-ringers, tea makers, and everyone who helped to make this concert a success. They were absolutely delighted to learn that as a result of the wonderful donations made Maureen will be able to have a holiday at the Richard Cave MS Holiday centre at Leuchie, North Berwick.

#### *Some misprints from Church Newsletters*

*Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community*

*Don't let worry kill you – let the Church help*



#### **A reminder that we provide a Sunday morning crèche**

Although we do not have many babies attending at present we will arrange a rota for the coming year but would appreciate if parents of younger children could contact Barbara Williamson 860201 and take a turn on the rota

### A treasured poem

One of our members came upon this poem over 40 years ago and says  
 "I have treasured this poem despite sensational changes in our life styles since World War II.  
 Perhaps by today's standards the poem does not hit so hard but I believe there will be families  
 where it is would be worth repeating even despite so many distractions.(T. V. included.)

#### *To My Grown-up Son*

My hands were busy through the day  
 I didn't have much time to play  
 The little games you asked me to  
 I didn't have much time for you

I'd wash your clothes; I'd sew and cook,  
 But when you'd bring your picture book  
 And ask me please to share your fun  
 I'd say "A little later, son"  
 I'd tuck you in all safe at night  
 And hear your prayers; turn out the light  
 Then tiptoe softly to the door.  
 I wish I'd stayed a minute more

For life is short, the years rush past  
 A little boy grows up so fast  
 No longer is he at your side  
 His precious secrets to confide  
 The picture books are put away  
 There are no longer games to play,  
 No goodnight kiss, no prayers to hear  
 That all belongs to yesteryear

My hands, once busy, now are still  
 The days are long and hard to fill  
 I wish I could go back and do  
 The little things you asked me to.

*Hope this might just be a lasting memory for a loving parent.*



#### Church

#### Flowers

- Thanks to everyone who is on our flower rota – We admire and enjoy the flowers put in the church week by week and those who receive them after services are also very appreciative of them.
- We still have some gaps in the rota and if you would like to donate flowers (either arranged by yourself or a payment towards the cost of flowers) please speak with our flower organizer, Mrs. Catherine Duncan 860611



#### Garden of Remembrance

Aberdour has a garden of remembrance in the cemetery and anyone who wishes can arrange to have a plaque in memory of loved ones. If you would like information about this please speak with the minister

Some words of wisdom from an experienced committee member, who always read and memorized these before meetings

- Keep a tight hold on your tongue and do not lose your head
- Close your ears to idle gossip and rumours, and keep your temper in check



### **No more unauthorised walkabouts!**

To find out that your child is missing, even momentarily, is a sickening feeling.

My daughter, Kirsty who is 2 "escaped" from the Church Hall a few Wednesdays ago while at the Baby and Toddler Group and wandered out onto the High Street with another toddler. Thankfully they were spotted and picked up by Lesley Bowie and Elaine Nicoll outside the Newsagents just as we realised they were missing from the hall. I don't even like to think about what might have happened to them during those few moments that they were missing but it was immediately obvious that we had had a very lucky escape and needed to improve security at the hall urgently.

We have used the Church Hall for Toddlers for the last few years and have always relied upon the weight of the two heavy fire doors at the entrance to contain the children - as the two children who got out were by no means the biggest or strongest it was obvious that the doors could be opened by many of the children if they so wished.

Bruce Drever, the Church Hall convener and I discussed several security options - installing an alarm on the inner door, raising the handle so that it could not be reached by the children etc. The problem was to find a solution which would keep smaller children secure whilst allowing free access to others. A Fire Officer came along to advise us on regulations. Bruce then decided to phone around to try to get some advice and tried Base Securities in the High Street - they first offered to call round and advise and then later phoned to offer us a security system free of charge!

The offer was made by Mr Blair Auld, the Managing Director - the system which he offered and which has now been fitted is similar to that used in shops. A loop device has been fitted around the door of the hall together with an alarm - each child will wear a tag and should they go out of the door the alarm will sound to alert us. We have now started using the system for the Toddler Group and "Mucky Pups" (preschool Arts and Crafts Group)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Auld and Base Securities Ltd for his generous gift to the community which should help ensure the safety of children using the hall for years to come.

Fiona McDonald

Baby and Toddler group

*Minister's Note: a special thanks to Bruce from the Congregational Board for the prompt way he dealt with this matter and found a solution so quickly.*



### **St Fillan's Lunches First Thursday each month Thanks to everyone who supports these**

6<sup>th</sup> June, 4<sup>th</sup> July, 1<sup>st</sup> August (Festival special)

12 - 1.30 PM

In the church Hall

Everyone welcome to join us

soup and filled rolls £1.50

We have a rota of helpers but would welcome some additional help  
If you would like to come on to the helpers rota (about once every 3 months)  
please speak with Mari Park or Catherine Duncan

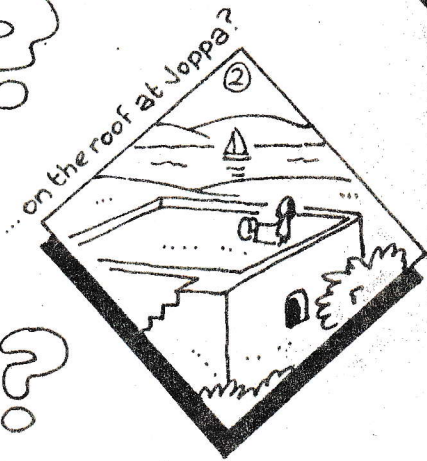
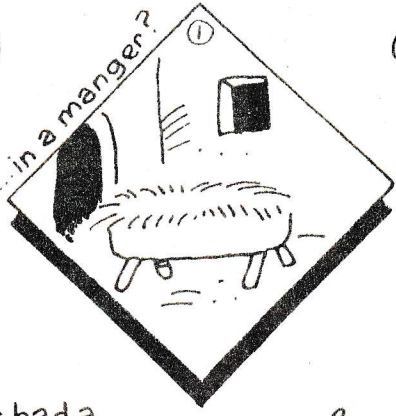
# What happened where?

An old lady was cured of a fever by Jesus (LUKE 4: 38-39)

Jesus ate the Passover meal with his friends the day before He was killed (MARK 14: 13-16)

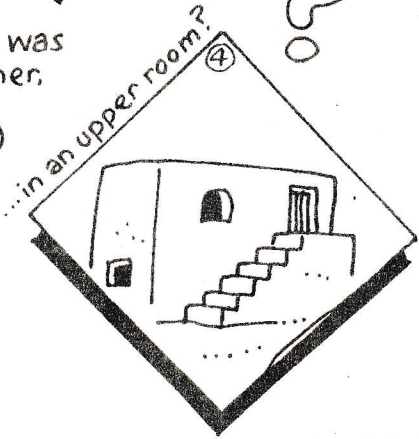
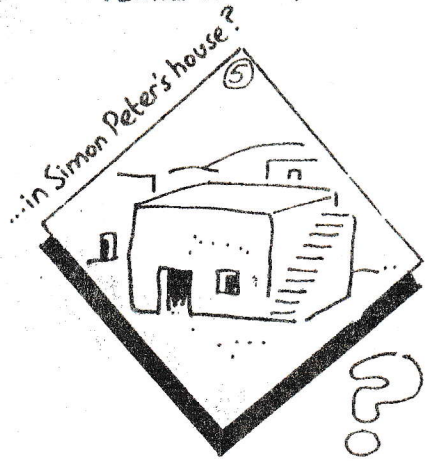


Jesus was born and laid here, as there was no room in the inn. (LUKE 2: 6-7)



Peter had a vision, while he was waiting for dinner, at about noon (ACTS 10: 9-16)

Jesus was arrested and brought to trial. (JOHN 18: 1-3)

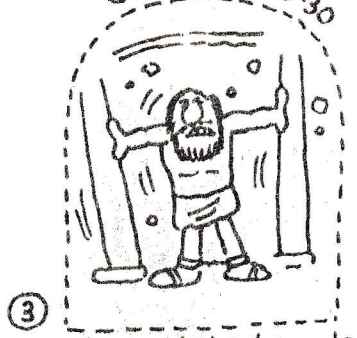


# Who did what?

Genesis 29: 15-30

Exodus 5: 1-5

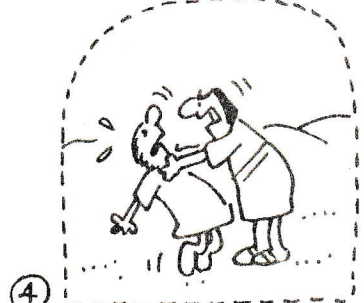
Judges 16: 23-30



worked 7 years to earn his bride - and then 7 more years?

went with Moses to ask Pharaoh if the Israelites could leave Egypt?

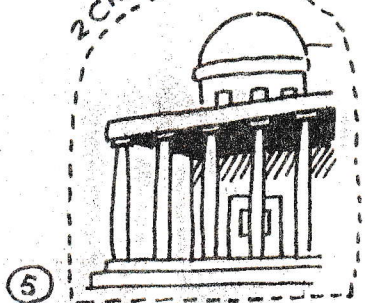
destroyed the temple with his bare hands?



killed his brother in jealous fury? (Genesis 4: 1-8)

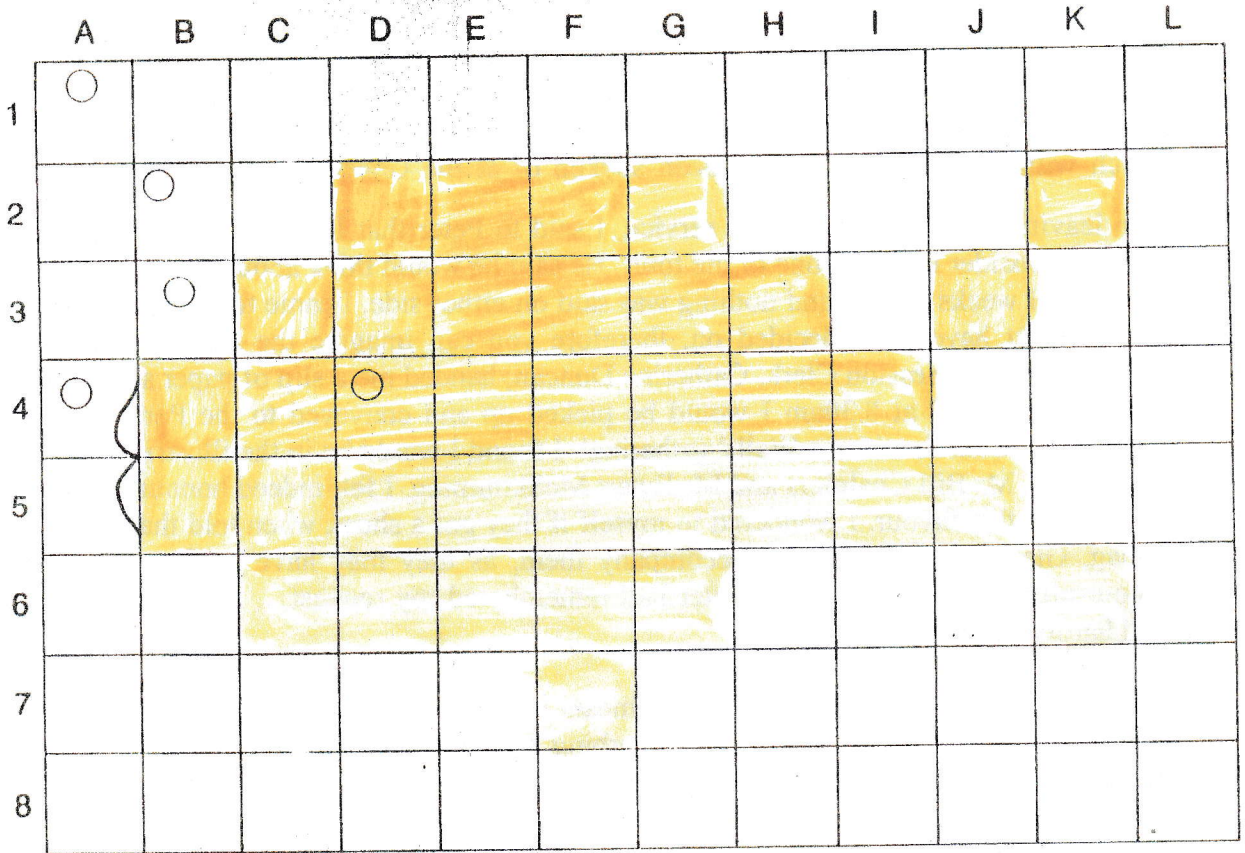
- \* Samson
- \* King Solomon
- \* Aaron
- \* Cain
- \* Jacob

2 Chronicles 6: 7-11



built the Temple at Jerusalem?

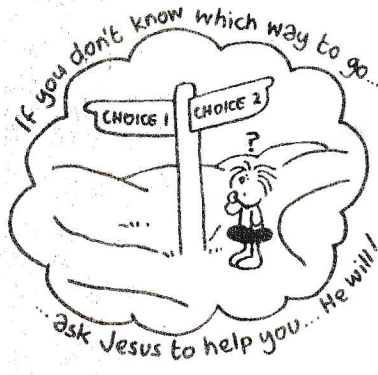
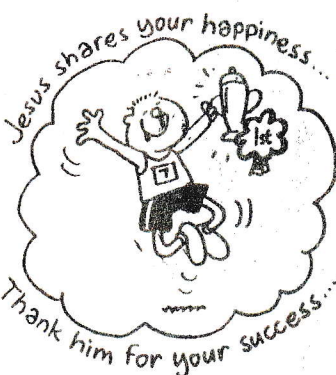
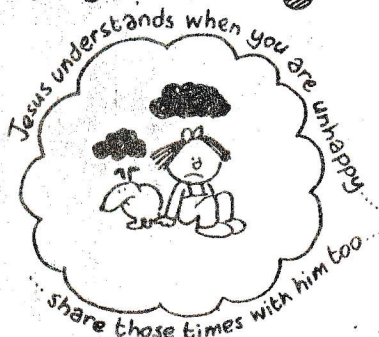
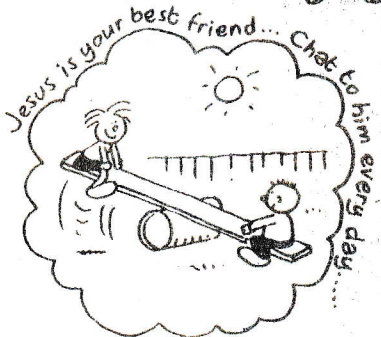
# WHAT CAN IT BE?



Shade in these squares to find what Jesus and his friends cooked for breakfast one morning.  
(Read Luke 24:36-49.)

2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2K, 3C, 3D, 3E, 3F, 3G, 3H, 3J, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 4F, 4G, 4H, 4I, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5J, 6C, 6D, 6E, 6F, 6G, 6K, 7F.

## HOW DO I PRAY?



## WORD SEARCH

'Animals of the Bible'

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

- BEAR
- CAMEL
- CATTLE
- DEER
- DONKEY
- FOX
- GAZELLE
- GOAT
- HORSE
- JACKAL
- LEOPARD
- LION
- SHEEP
- WOLF

**A special day by Gladys Hunter****Recollections of a day conference**

The Rev Peter Park, our minister at St Fillan's Church Aberdour, first made mention on our Sunday service programme, of an event to take place on Saturday 27th April 2002 to which four of our congregation were invited to attend. This was to be a meeting in Perth concerning 'Church without Walls' which had been spoken of at the General Assembly in Edinburgh.

When leaving the church after that service, I said to Peter that I would like to go if he was willing to consider me to be one of the four. He said he would think about it, and it was left at that. Several weeks passed and nothing was said on either side. I came to the conclusion that the four must have been decided on, therefore you can imagine the delightful surprise I received when our Session Clerk, Catherine Duncan, handed me a slip of paper saying that on Saturday 27th April at 8.30am I would be picked up and conveyed to the Perth Salutation Hotel for the 'Church without Walls' gathering! I found I would be in the illustrious company of Catherine, Mr Bill Chalmers and Mr Ewart McSkimming. I felt indeed honoured that I had been granted this favour. I wondered to myself if they got a shock when told that the 92 year old hag, Gladys Hunter, was to accompany them, as they may have preferred a younger glamour-puss! It was not to be - Peter had remembered my request ... I was to go, which I could hardly believe.

Actually, I was curious to know what was meant by 'Church without Walls', as, following the General Assembly, I had read a rather disturbing article in the Daily Mail newspaper, which conjured up visions of the church as we know it, no more, far removed from what we have been used to. However, to my joy, what was said in the paper was unfounded, as it is actually a way of coming nearer to God and Jesus, if by new routes we are willing to follow.

I was so wound up and enthusiastic regarding the 'Church without Walls' as I discussed it with Kathleen Fergus, at coffee-fellowship after morning service on Sunday 28th April. To my amazement she thought I should write an article on this for our Church Newsletter. A match was put to the sticks and the fire was alight, so this is the result. With fervency I commence to tell you all, of this exciting experience

Although not familiar with Perth, I was quite impressed when I caught a glimpse of all the lovely shops which I promised myself I would get a closer look at, at some future date. The main thing was to get to the Salutation Hotel on time. My escorts had arrived promptly at my home at 8.30am. Having been up at the crack of dawn, I was all ready and waiting. In no time at all we reached Perth (3/4 hour only). Whilst Ewart was parking the car, Catherine, Bill and myself entered the Salutation Hotel. A cosy lounge meets you. Already quite a few people were there. We took a seat for a few minutes before moving to the hall of considerable size where the meeting was to take place. There were long tables set out with cups, saucers and biscuits beside huge jugs of coffee and tea of which we lost no time in partaking once Ewart joined us!

Comfortable seats were all awaiting us in the hall. The helpers were in the throes of setting up the equipment for wide screens in opposite corners of the hall. It was still only around 9.30am and not due to commence until 9.45am. We all assembled and there must have been well over a hundred people present.

To begin, introductions were made by Rev.Malcolm Rooney and Rev.David Currie.We had readings from the Bible, prayer and a hymn 'As this soul pants' was flashed up on the white screen. Following this we were divided into two large groups, each group in opposite corners of the hall. We four split up so as not to be in the same group. Rev Robert McAlpine took one group and Rev.Malcolm Rooney the other. One wouldn't have known they were ministers as

they were dressed quite casually. Both were excellent speakers, talking about the form of evangelism; speaking of ways we could all become better Christians and followers of Jesus Christ, and what new interests we could introduce to the church to encourage people young and old.

They spoke of such ideas as forming groups in the church rather than the conventional gathering we have; workshops by which youngsters could learn new skills; walking clubs; prayer visits to members of the congregation. In fact this matter reminded me very much of our last Lent Study meeting when we all tried to think of ways and means of getting people to come to church, as it is vital that we do or the church is going to sink. Also, they spoke of ways we can make for betterment and they spoke of an open church, a culture change and more activities in church halls. As far as that is concerned I think we do very well. I told them in our group that we had a Lunch Club once a month; Country Dancing and Line Dancing; Brownies, Bell-ringing classes and concerts; Coffee mornings, Book sales; Sales of work; Annual Flower Show; Remembrance Day service held in the hall and beside the War Memorial just outside the hall, enabling us to hold the two minutes silence together with the service more or less on the premises. I mentioned services taken in Nursing homes and at the hospital; that we had Lent and Advent Bible study meetings; sails to Inchcolm in September each year; that we gathered to see the sunrise on Easter morning at 6.30am afterwards rolling Easter eggs in the Castle grounds and that we even had a Ceilidh in our church hall enjoyed by all.

I told my group that Peter Park did his best to bridge the age gap by encouraging the old to mix with the young and that I was 92 and I had never enjoyed myself so much! One young lady in the group said she wished there were more like myself in her church. Very flattering, but then I am known for being 'pushful', am I not?!

In the large group, Robin McAlpine asked each one to give their names, the place they lived and their church. I gave them this information and added that our minister was Peter Park. Robin at once said that he knew Peter. I felt they were much alike in their thinking.

Mid-day we stopped our discussion for a nice buffet lunch laid on for us, then we resumed in groups as before. Robin was asking questions that were printed on the screen. One was, 'What is it most important to believe?' Without any hesitation I called out 'the Resurrection'. This was taken up by Robin and specially marked on the screen. Others took the same view. 'Why did we like coming to church?' was another question. I said it was nice to speak to and to be in the company of people of the same mind; to enjoy the sanctity and peacefulness of the Church surroundings; to listen to the preaching of the minister as well as to the Bible readings and hymns. I always feel uplifted on leaving the church.

Certain chapters of the Bible were put up on the screen ... Matthew 28 vv16-20; Matthew 14 vv14-33; 1 Peter 3; Luke 5 vv 1-7. We all joined hands at the closing and were blessed. I am sure Catherine, Bill and Ewart have much more to add to what I have related. Now I must add my warm thanks to Peter for adding myself to make up the four from St Fillan's; also to Bill, Ewart and Catherine for putting up with me and for their kind attention to my well-being. I enjoyed it all so very much and am now more knowledgeable as to what a 'Church without Walls' means.

#### *Editor's Comment*

*Thanks to Gladys for her very full, informative and entertaining report sharing her enthusiasm and excitement about her day in Perth. Thanks also to Gladys, Catherine, Ewart and Bill for representing St Fillan's at the conference.*



### **Lent Bible Study Group 2002**

*During the last few years, one of the most 'looked-forward-to' times in the church year, has been the series of five Bible Studies held annually during the time of Lent, in preparation for Easter.*

*These are ecumenical meetings of village folk from different denominations, meeting together in different local homes, often using material drawn up by 'Churches Together in Britain and Ireland'~.*

*This year the material was 'Called to be Saints'. The carefully planned course and Bible study took us from the Saints of old, through their work, location and devoted service, to the realisation that we who are disciples of Jesus in 2002 are the saints of today!*

*Searching questions, leading to lively discussions, made us look, by the end of the course, at the challenges and needs of our own time, our location, our local churches, our community, our outreach and mission.*

*In the caring atmosphere of this group of folk, this year from five different denominations; St Columba's Scottish Episcopal Church, Viewfield Baptist Church, The Vine Fellowship Dunfermline, Quaker Meeting and St Fillan's Church of Scotland .... good discussion took place and ideas were exchanged. All taking part enjoy this study time; value the growing friendships and the fellowship, and were grateful once again to all who hosted and led the evenings which culminated in a shared communion on the last evening.*

*Do look for the notices for next year's study and think about coming to join in. You will be made very welcome to share in this Christian fellowship.*

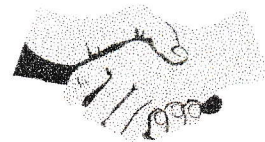
#### **Monday Morning Bible Study Group.**

*It is a wonderful way to begin the working week to know that at 10.30am after several hours of family/housework there is a lovely welcoming cup of coffee awaiting you at a friend's house, after which there is an hour or so of Bible Study following a topic chosen by the group eg. prayer, one of Paul's letters, women in the Bible, sharing faith.*

*By reading the Bible passage and using the planned study questions we are lead into good discussions. We have all learned such a lot by sharing study and prayer in this atmosphere of trust and encouragement where no thought or question is too simple to be expressed.*

*Do think of coming to join us, or better still, to begin another house group at a time suitable to you and friends. It would be so good if there were several house groups like this in the village. Any one of this group would be happy to talk through what we do and where we find the study material. An initial contact can be made with Trish Niven 860335.*





## **LINK report given to our AGM in February**

*Some links between St Fillan's church and St Columba's church have been happening for some time, but it was felt wise to form a group from the two churches to further these links. In April 2001, Mrs Eileen Harper and Mrs Kathleen Fergus from St Fillan's, and Mr John Train with Mrs Kay Parry from St Columba's, were asked to form the LINK group.*

*\* We seek ways to better understand the differing styles of worship in our two church services in order that we can be comfortable when sharing the joy of Christian worship and local pastoral care.*

*\* We try to find further fresh ways of joint witness and outreach in the village and locality.*

*\* We drew up a calendar showing the events we already share, plus a growing number of new ones. This calendar is on village notice boards for everyone to see and can be talked about with District Elders. A warm welcome awaits everyone who attends any of the events.*

*The following is a list of some of these:*

*Lent Bible study, 5 Monday evenings ....a real ecumenical occasion again this year with folk from 5 denominations attending.*

*Monday morning ladies' Bible study.*

*Annual joint service, usually held in January.*

*World day of Prayer service ... March*

*Songs of Praise service to close the Village Festival.*

*Remembrance Day service held at the War Memorial.*

*Lunch Club, 1st Thursday of each month in the Church Hall and open to all.*

*'Fraternal' of local clergy which meets regularly for fellowship and discussion.*

*St Columba's making use of St Fillan's Church Hall for various events, charity sales, most recently, the lovely evening of the retiral of Rev Dr Jean Cook.*

*Some of the newer links are*

*shared the buying of plants for Christmas delivery to many members of both churches last Christmas.*

*invitation to Evensong on Sunday evening in any month which has a fifth Sunday. various concerts throughout the year*

*Service of Healing on 2nd Wednesday of each month.. details on the calendar.*

*\* These are some of the now established links. We will add to them and we would welcome your suggestions.*

*\* Recently, in the excellent little booklet 'Pray Now' which is issued by the Church of Scotland each year, to help with private prayer time, the listed prayer suggestion for the wider church on that day was, 'for all who encourage and enable different branches of the church to relate to and to learn from each other about the gospel they share.*

*By getting to know each other better and as we link more often locally, we value folks' prayers as we are doing just that and we very much hope and pray that our joint witness, our fellowship, friendship and service to others, will become even more effective in our community.*



**We make a tape recording of our Sunday services.**

**If you would like to receive a copy either on a regular basis or as a 'one of' please speak with the Minister or any of the elders**

***Religious sites on the Internet***

*There is a proliferation of sites on religious subjects.*

*David Graham, one of our members, came upon one telling Bible stories by using Lego bricks. Internet users may want to view some of the pictures for themselves – [www.the-reverend.com/brick\\_testament](http://www.the-reverend.com/brick_testament)*

**The Brick Testament – Scripture stories on the Internet**

We have probably all seen Bible stories being told with the aid of soft toys but Reverend Brendan Powell Smith uses Lego bricks. He has used them to retell 38 bible stories from the Old and New Testament making scenes from LEGO.

Smith, a 28-year old from San Francisco, with a degree in philosophy and religion (he's not actually a Reverend, but an atheist) chose the bible because he says "it is chock full of fascinating stories". He depicts many stories such as the Flood, the Fall in the Garden of Eden and the Last Supper. Attention to detail is part of Smith's secret and he maintains a policy of strict adherence to the finer points of each story. Each scene is accompanied with the text from the New Jerusalem Bible, Smith says, "it's important for the audience to know that I'm not making this stuff up".

Rachel Harden writing in the Church Times says "Mr Smith is mindful of the sensibilities of visitors to his website. Each story is given ratings N for nudity, S for sexual consent, V for violence and C for cursing". But I think it is a bit tongue-in-cheek, as I don't think a few yellow LEGO bricks put together depicting the baby Jesus could offend any one. On the other hand, we often skip over some of the more difficult parts of the bible, like all the people drowning in the story of the Flood and Herod killing the babies. It makes you see the stories in a new light."

Every scene is made entirely out of Lego. All the bricks used are off the-peg, although Mr Smith says he sometimes had to modify them with a knife or marker pen and the subtle modulations in body language among the Lego disciples is astonishing. Smith's favourite story is the Flood, "It gave me the opportunity to build all sorts of animals, the ark itself, and a big rainbow at the end. Plus it was fun to show God drowning everybody."

*Warning - even though this site may not offend, links to it may cause offence.*

*Editors Note – If anyone wants to submit articles about other religious web sites these will be very welcome*

**Heard on a Woman's Hour radio broadcast**  
*Every time I pass a church, I stop to make a visit*  
*So when I'm carried in feet first*  
*God won't say "Who is it?"*



**Easter Sunday – very early!**

We decided to go ahead with this and about 25 people attended. The weather was excellent and after sharing worship and Communion Easter eggs were rolled. Those taking part enjoyed the experience so much that we will probably repeat it next year.

# Kid's Corner

## Tennis Fun day – Clare McVay and Amy Weatherup

We started off by playing elephant tig to warm up, then we played girls against Boys basketball. When the girls started to win the coach, Tom Gilmour joined the boys' team. Matthew McVay stood next to the basket ready to score. Tom passed to Matthew who scored a goal but in the end the girls still won 5 – 3. Clare McVay and Amba Gayser played doubles against Timmy Hasler and Sarah Leask and in the end Clare and Amba won 3 – 1. When that was going on all the other people were playing racing games.

There was a serving game and 5 people got to win a drinking cup. Then there was a rallying game and Daniel Jennings with a rally of 59 won! Winners of the doubles were Daniel Jennings and Adam Leask. Thank you to every one who helped and to all the people who took part.

## Thoughts on performing in public – Ashley Donaldson

I am very lucky to be in the Donibristle Primary school production of Joseph and his amazing coloured coat. I have the part of the narrator. I'm having to learn all of the words and speak really clearly. It's going to be hard because there's going to be 180 people watching me. I hope I don't mess up.

*Editors Note* this was written in rainbow colours that cannot be reproduced in the newsletter. Performance is at the end of June



## The Quiet Garden Trust

Avis Swarbrick, Pitadro House, Fordell Estate, is making her garden available under the above scheme as a place of meditation. The emphasis is on prayer and silence. Details from Avis, 412600 or the Minister

### Welcome to Aberdour

Our pastoral group has prepared a welcome to Aberdour letter for new residents in the village. It provides information about the churches, local amenities, clubs / groups for all ages, useful telephone numbers and so on.

It will be delivered (starting May 2002) to new people moving into the village and to ensure as full a coverage as possible we ask that names / addresses of new residents be given to one of our elders or to Norman Macdonald, leader of our pastoral group.

If anyone who has moved into the village in the last 6 months or so would like a copy of the letter they should contact Norman on 860585



## Church coffee morning and book sale

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September

10 – 12 AM

Offers of baking and help please to

Mrs Catherine Duncan

860611



## Parish and congregation register

### Bereavements

Mar 6	Dr Bill Adam
Mar 17	Jim Waddell
Mar 18	Harry Allan
Mar 27	Harry Logan
Apr 11	Mrs Eleanor Connell
May 10	Mrs Greta Armit

*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*

### New members

Andrew Aitchison	5 St Fillan's Cr	861118
Mrs Rena Lochtie	7 Dovecot Park	860511

*Welcome and we hope you enjoy your fellowship here*

### Change of Address

Mrs Joyce Jobes      now 9 St Fillan's Gr      tel ex dir

### Marriages

May 11	Paul Devine and Senga Noble
May 18	Jason Regula and Pamela Fulton
May 24	Colin Meldrum and Margaret Watson
May 25	Paul Young and Angela Riddick

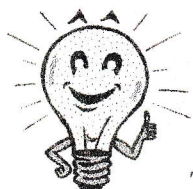
*God is love and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them*

### E-mail addresses

The following e-mail users have agreed their addresses be circulated as a church directory.

If you would like your e-mail address to be known to the wider church and village community please let the minister know ([peter.park1@virgin.net](mailto:peter.park1@virgin.net)) and he will add it to the list which will be updated in future newsletters.

Allan, Bill	<a href="mailto:ballan@aberdour50.freemove.co.uk">ballan@aberdour50.freemove.co.uk</a>
Farrar, Martin	<a href="mailto:martinfarrar@hotmail.com">martinfarrar@hotmail.com</a>
Farrar, Sue	<a href="mailto:suefarrar@hotmail.com">suefarrar@hotmail.com</a>
Graham, David	<a href="mailto:david@graham167.freemove.co.uk">david@graham167.freemove.co.uk</a>
Hannah, David	<a href="mailto:david.hannah@edinburgh.gov.uk">david.hannah@edinburgh.gov.uk</a>
Harper, Alex & Eileen	<a href="mailto:Sophieharp@aol.com">Sophieharp@aol.com</a>
Macdonald, Norman & Eileen	<a href="mailto:NMacdl@aol.com">NMacdl@aol.com</a>
McSkimming, Ewart & Sandra	<a href="mailto:ewart.mcskimming@virgin.net">ewart.mcskimming@virgin.net</a>



**Thanks to all who have provided articles for this newsletter**

If you have an article you would like included or any suggestions as to what else you would like to see in the newsletter please give this to the minister or any of the committee – names on inside of front page