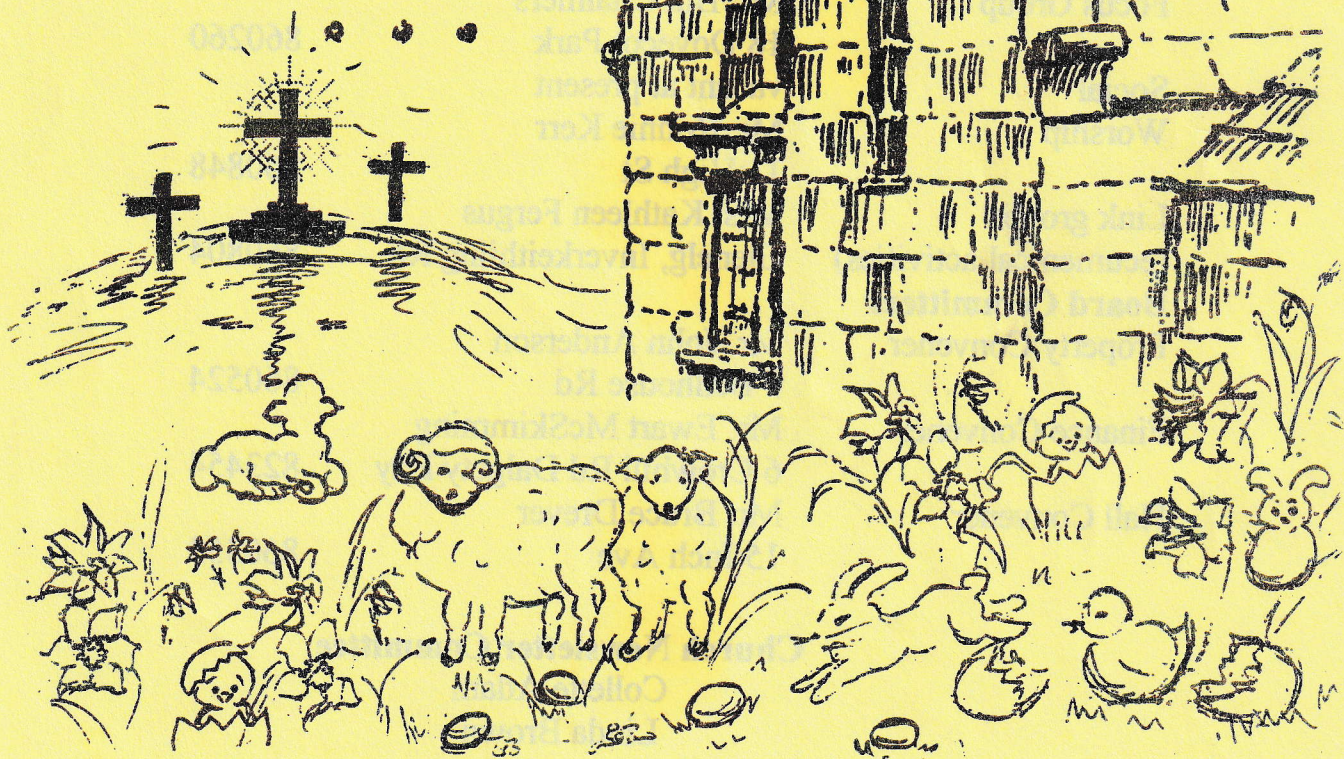


NEWSLETTER

ST. FILLAN'S PARISH CHURCH OF ABERDOUR

from the year

1123.



MARCH 2002

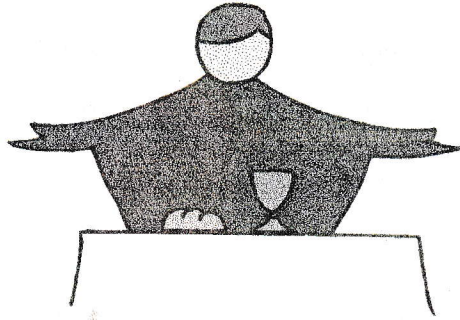
CHURCH SERVICES in St Fillan's
Morning Worship 10.30
Evening service in church 6.30PM – 1st Sunday each month

Some Contact People

Parish Minister	Rev Peter Park 36 Bellhouse Rd e-mail	860349 peter.park1@virgin.net
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



An invitation to the Lord's Table

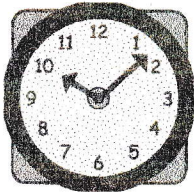
Sacrament of Communion

Sunday 17th March

10.30 AM and 3.00 PM

For everyone who loves the Lord

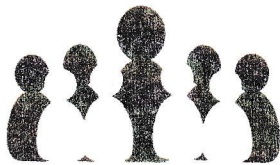
**If you are unable to attend the Sacrament of Communion in Church
And would like Communion in your own home
Please speak with the minister or any of our elders**



Morning Worship now 10.30 all year round

4 years ago we changed the time of morning worship to 10.30 in the winter and 10.00 in the summer. The 10.30 start has been well received but we know that some of our older members find it increasingly difficult to make the earlier start in the summer.

The Kirk Session has therefore decided to discontinue having an earlier worship time during the summer and to have a 10.30 start all year round (other than Remembrance Day)



Are you interested in church membership?

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

**New this edition
Children's activity pages 10 and 11**

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

Dear Friends,

‘encouraging people to follow Jesus Christ’

We know the benefit in our personal lives of periodically reviewing where we are, determining what our objectives are, and deciding what we need to do to (try to) achieve these. Our needs and priorities will change from time to time and we need to make adjustments in our lives to deal with these.

The Church is no different and it is important that we as a parish church should make time to reflect on our corporate purpose in God’s plan; and through prayer and discussion seek to know and recognise God’s will for the Church. This process allows us to be clear in our minds as to what we are about, and ensures that what we plan to do as a church is helping us to achieve that objective.

Over the last 3 months your Kirk Session has given this matter some considerable thought and want to share the results thereof with our members and wider readership. In articulating what we believe we are reasonably good at and identifying areas where development is required we believe we have the mind of the congregation and that most will agree with and support our thoughts. However if you disagree with our thinking or if you can identify omissions from the areas we believe should be developed we would appreciate your comments and feedback. We are a parish church aiming to serve our members and the parish and seek and appreciate your input and support in helping us all work effectively for the Lord Jesus Christ in this community.

We believe that St Fillan’s main purpose in the work of the Lord can be summarised as ‘encouraging people to follow Jesus Christ’. Our purpose as a church is to love and serve God, and God’s people, and we affirm our statement of purpose as follows:

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.

But does what we are presently doing as a church achieve this?

We have looked at various aspects of our church life and work and consider that there are many things we do reasonably well and should continue to do. These include:

- Our diet of worship encompasses the needs of senior members and children
- Bible readers taking part in worship
- Giving to the wider church and community – financially and other ways
- The provision of tape ministry
- Our pastoral caring within our membership
- Social events – Ceilidh, musical supper, Inchcolm etc
- Sunday school, JAM Club, Lunch club
- Making church hall available to community groups
- Open door policy (everyone welcome to be part of our church life)
- Minister’s bereavement and hospital visiting

We also recognize that there are areas we need to think about and develop and these include:

- More participation by others (than minister) in worship
- Expanding our fellowship and attracting new members
- Reaching out to lapsed existing members
- Welcoming newcomers to village
- Consider how to provide effective district eldership in the third millennium
- Living our faith and demonstrating Christ like witness
- Welcoming people (particularly visitors and new comers) on Sunday mornings
- Following up contacts made at weddings, funerals, baptisms, church visitors
- Providing some more social events
- Retaining and rejuvenating youth involvement through and beyond Primary school
- Extending our tape ministry
- Examining our stewardship (personal and collective) of time, talents and money
- Listening to and addressing people's needs
- Increased eldership training
- Maintain and improve our methods of communication
- Develop use of church and church hall
- Consider creating a visiting group for members and parish

Identifying the things we should be doing is good - but it also presents a challenge as to how we are going to achieve this and Session will be turning our minds to this over the next few months.

There are various ways to help St Fillan's fulfill its purpose, many ways in which we all can 'encourage people to follow Jesus Christ'; some are mentioned in this newsletter, others appear from time to time in various ways and I would ask everyone who wants to support us to find the way appropriate to them. Our Kirk Session believe we have an important part to play representing our Lord in this parish and we would like to invite you all to play as active a part as possible in the Lord's work.

Peter Park
Parish Minister

Sunday 28th April 2002 10.30 AM

**Morning worship will be a Service of recommitment
An opportunity for all to renew their membership vows**

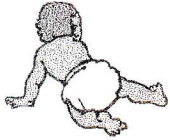
Many of our members do a considerable amount for the church and on behalf of St Fillan's I thank them for this. A number of our older members are no longer capable of doing as much as previously but they are still very much part of our Christian witness. Unfortunately however we have a number of members whom we seldom, if ever see, either at Worship or at other activities and I would invite these lapsed members to consider their vows and ask themselves whether they are still being true to God.

Many in the village, who are not members, support us in many different ways and we thank you for this. I would however specifically invite any readers who are not members (of St Fillan's or other churches) but who regard St Fillan's as your church to consider publicly associating yourself with the work of the Church through church membership.

Children and Youth activities in St Fillan's

When children are baptized the congregation make promises to support parents bring their children up in the Christian tradition. Here are some of the ways in which the church helps keep its promises.

If you can suggest other ways that would help you as a parent or a young person please let us know



Babies 0 – 3 yrs Creche in vestry every Sunday

to allow parents to attend church while baby is being looked after
Contact Barbara Williamson 860201



Sunday school for Children 3 – Primary 6

meets during school term time
gathers in church for 20 minutes then go to school
crafts, games, stories relating to Christian life

Leaders are:

Barbara Williamson 860201

Liz Ireland 860094

Margaret Watson 860431

Christine Redhead 860503



Bible Class

Primary 7 and upwards

meets during school term time

usually meets in church for 20 minutes then go over to school for discussion time

Contact person : Eileen Harper 860151



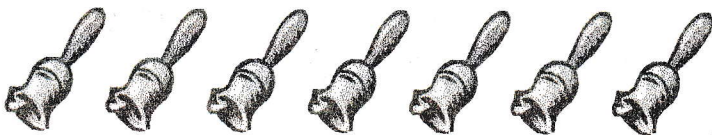
JAM (Jesus and me)Club

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

Planned to meet on Sundays in June – more details to follow

10 – 12 in Church Hall

Contact people Christine and Gary Waddell 860802



Junior handbell ringers

Ages primary 5 and upwards

Contact person : the Minister

Once we attain a sufficient level of proficiency we hope to play regularly in church and other events as part of St Fillan's Christian outreach



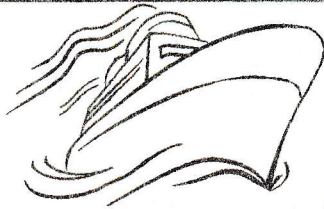
WHERE ARE ALL THE ABERDOUR DANCERS???

Aberdour Scottish Country Dance Club has been dancing in the Church Hall for the last 25 years and out of a roll of approximately 40 only 7 come from Aberdour and one of them is an eighty year old gentleman (He won't mind me disclosing this!).

This is essentially a fun night for adults from 19 to 90! starting at 7.45pm until 9.45pm for £1.50 including tea and biscuits Dances are taught by two experienced teachers and we have live music.

Please come along and join us; try some old favourites and learn some new dances... who knows you might just enjoy it!

Sandra McSkimming
(01383 823454)



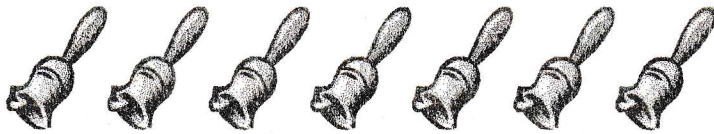
Advance Notice

Annual pilgrimage to Inchcolm

Sunday 8th September

Leaves Aberdour 15.15

Leaves Inchcolm 17.30



St Fillan's Handbell Ringers

We are hosting the annual Spring rally of the Scottish Handbell Ringers Association and this will take place in Inverkeithing High School on Saturday 16th March.

Our adult and junior teams will take part and ringers from all over Scotland will join us for the afternoon. Each team will play 2 or 3 pieces of their own choosing and in addition most of us will take part in a massed ring. Hearing 80/100 people ringing at the same time is an experience unlikely to be forgotten.

The ringing is open to the public and everyone is invited to attend what we hope will be an enjoyable and memorable event. For more information contact Mari Park (860349) or Catherine Duncan (860611).

Hope to see you there!



What if God installed voice mail?

Imagine praying and hearing this:

“Thank you for calling God’s house. Please select one of the following options:
Press 1 for Requests, press 2 for Thanksgiving,
Press 3 for Complaints, press 4 for All Other Enquiries’.

What if God used the familiar excuse:

‘I’m sorry, all of our angels are busy helping other sinners right now. However, your prayer is important to us and will be answered in the order it was received, so please stay on your knees’.

Can you imagine getting these responses as you call God in Prayer?

- “If you would like to speak to Gabriel, press 1; Michael, press 2; for a directory of other angels, press 3; if you’d like to hear King David sing a psalm while you are holding, press 4; to find out if a loved one has been assigned to Heaven, press 5, enter his or her social security number, then press the pound key. If you get a negative response, try area code 666”.
- “For reservations at God’s house, please enter J-O-H-N, followed by 3-1-6.
- For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth and where Noah’s Ark is, please wait until you arrive here
- “Our computers show that you have already prayed once today. Please hang up and try again tomorrow so others may have a chance to get through”.
- “The office at God’s house is closed from 5pm on Friday, all day Saturday and Sunday. Please pray again on Monday after 930am.
- If you need emergency assistance, contact your local pastor”.

*Courtesy of “Country Way”, the magazine of Life and Faith in rural Britain
And as appeared in the newsletter of
Duthil, Carr-Bridge, Boat-of Garten and Kincardine church*

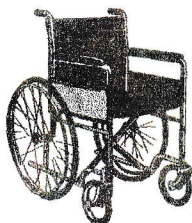
Editor’s note:

Thank goodness the Lord is personally there at all times to take our calls!



Church Flowers

- Would you like to come on to our flower rota for putting flowers in the church once or twice a year? We are seeking some additional help to either physically put the flowers in church (they don’t need to be especially arranged – just put them in a vase) or if you would prefer to make a payment towards the cost of flowers.
- For information about dates please speak with Mrs Catherine Duncan 860611



Queen Margaret Hospital - patient to pew service

Every Sunday morning a team from one of the Dunfermline area local churches goes to the hospital and helps take patients from the wards to the hospital chapel for a short service, St Fillan's is one of the participating churches and we send a group of 6/8 (adults and teenagers) about 3 times each year.

This service is very much appreciated by staff and patients and is one of the ways in which St Fillan's reaches out the hand of Christian friendship to the wider community.

We already have a number of volunteers but could accommodate a few more. If you would like to come on the team and/or find out a bit more about what is involved please speak with Norman Macdonald, our pastoral convener on 860585. We welcome support from anyone in the village, not just members of St Fillan's.



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



St Fillan's Lunches

Thanks to everyone who supports these

First Thursday each month
7th March, 4th April, 2nd May, 6th June, 4th July,
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



May we have your used stamps please?

The Church of Scotland Board of World Mission collect and sell used stamps to further their work abroad.

If you would like to help this project please give your used stamps to Mrs Helen Hannay, 10 Telny Place, or hand them in at the church door any Sunday.

A time for pause and reflection

A terminally ill girl in New York who had 6 months to live wrote a poem called "slow dance". After the September 11th terrorist attacks on America it was her dying wish that it be circulated to encourage people to live their lives to the fullest, as neither she, nor those who lost their lives that day would be able to do so.

It was circulated by a medical professor in New York via e-mail to raise funds for the girl's treatment plan – it is offered here as a reminder to us all that we should take time to look at and appreciate what is going on around us.

Have you ever watched kids on a merry-go-round?
 Or listened to the rain slapping on the ground?
 Ever followed a butterfly's erratic flight?
 Or gazed at the sun into the fading light?
 You better slow down. Don't dance so fast
 Time is short. The music won't last.

Do you run through each day on the fly?
 When you ask, "how are you?"
 Do you hear the reply?
 When the day is done
 Do you lie in your bed with the next hundred chores
 Running through your head?
 You better slow down. Don't dance so fast
 Time is short. The music won't last.

Ever told your child, we'll do it tomorrow?
 And in your haste, not see his sorrow?
 Ever lost touch, let a good friendship die?
 Cause you never had time to call and say "Hi"
 You better slow down. Don't dance so fast
 Time is short. The music won't last.

When you run so fast to get somewhere
 You miss half the fun of getting there
 When you worry and hurry through your day
 It is like an unopened gift – thrown away
 Life is not a race, do take it slower
 Hear the music before the song is over

A biblical passage about time

Ecclesiastes 3: 1 - 8

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:
 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,
 a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build,
 a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,
 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain,
 a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away,
 a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,
 a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

Can you help with our beading duties?

We are seeking someone (male or female) to help with all or some of the duties of Church Officer

There are three main areas to cover but these do not all need to be done by the same person and job sharing may be an option.

*Sunday duties such as preparing the church, ringing the bell, bringing in the Bible.
This is currently covered by a rota of 3 volunteers but we are looking for 1 or 2 additional people to be available for Sundays*

Additional church services such as funerals and weddings

Opening and closing the Church each day

If you are interested in this (or know of someone who might be) please speak with Ewart McSkimming, David Hannah or the minister

A letter from Alison Hay – who is considering entering parish ministry and is spending some time with St Fillan’s to enable her to observe and reflect on various aspects of ministry.

Hello, my name is Alison Hay and I am an ‘enquirer’ with the Church of Scotland. I am on a six month placement and delighted to be at St Fillan’s. The overall aim of the placement is to broaden my understanding of parish ministry.

I would like to thank you all for the exceptionally warm welcome I have received.

As an enquirer one of the aspects I am developing is the ability to reflect on issues arising on issues such as worship, personal encounters and reading materials. I thought in view of this I would share with you one such reflection, a personal reflection on my relationship with God.

I am in the hands of God and believe that if you want to alleviate any pain or affliction you have to determine first that you will see nothing in it but the hand of God.

The second part of my reflection takes the form of a prayer. I find praying a most beneficial and essential practice in my life. The following prayer I have written in the hope that some of you might want to use it for yourself or share the prayer with friends as you sit in the warmth of your/ their home or at Bible study or while visiting someone or

Loving God, we thank you literally for your constant hand. We are in awe of you and your ability to caress us and help each one of us not only with the individual hand you give us, the hand that helps us do your will, but also the hand that saves, gives, protects, and takes life.

*We are sorry when our complete trust in you wanders and we would beg your forgiveness
We speak with you today in prayerful fellowship to share our prayers and thanks and to ask you about what concerns us. So we bring our love, praise and thanks to you along with our sorrows, apologies and concerns*

Lord, in the quiet of our hearts let us focus on you and offer you our own prayers, as we feel drawn to speak to you

We ask all this in Jesus name, Amen

“Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord”

2 Peter 1: 2

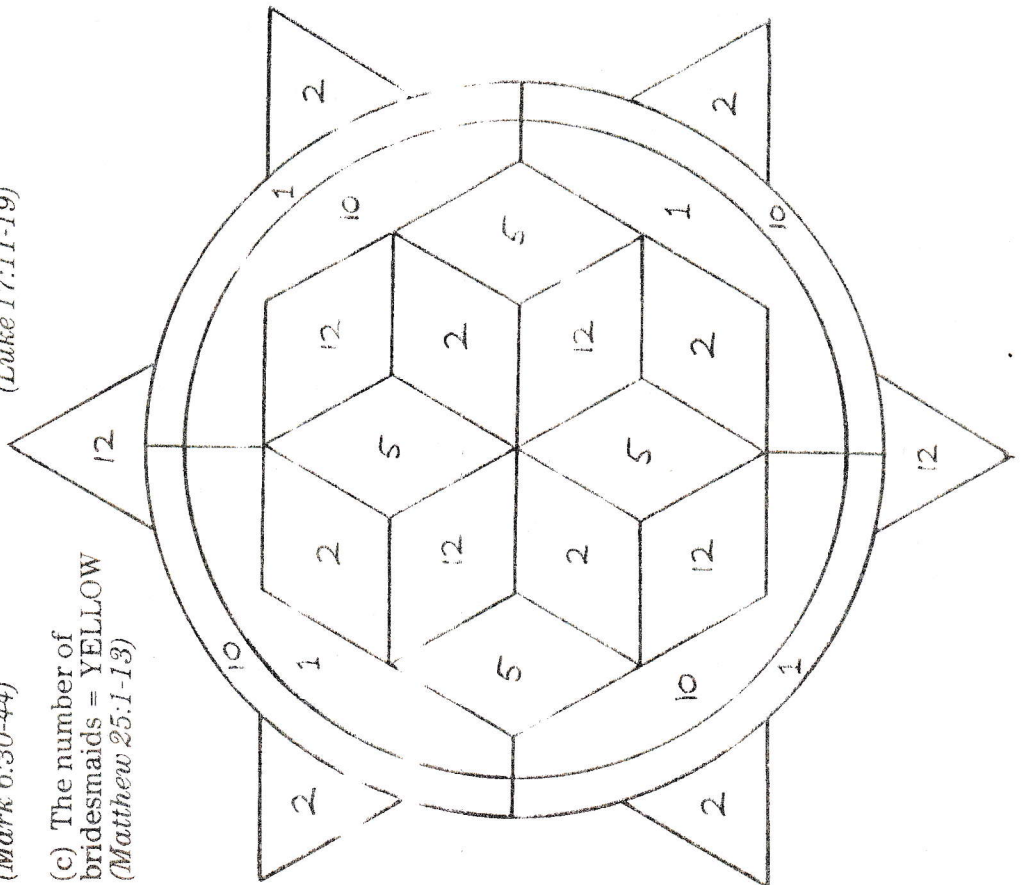
I hope you find the above reflection helpful on your own spiritual journey

With all my love

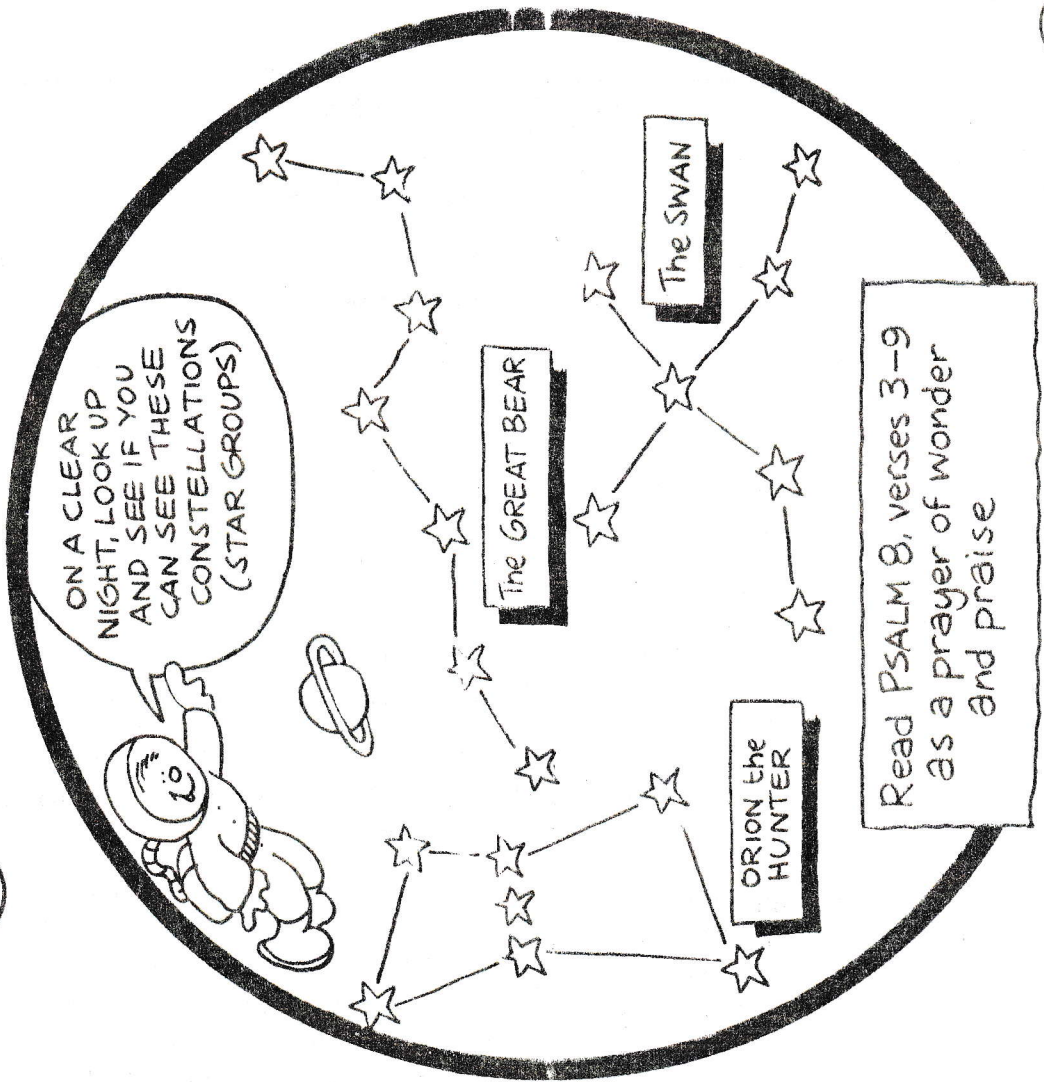
Alison Hay

COLOUR THIS PATTERN

- (a) The number of disciples = BLUE
(Matthew 10:1-4)
- (b) The number of loaves which fed 5,000 = RED
(Mark 6:30-44)
- (c) The number of bridesmaids = YELLOW
(Matthew 25:1-13)
- (d) The number of fishes which fed 5,000 = GREEN
(Mark 6:30-44)
- (e) The number of lepers who gave thanks = ORANGE
(Luke 17:11-19)



GO TO STARS



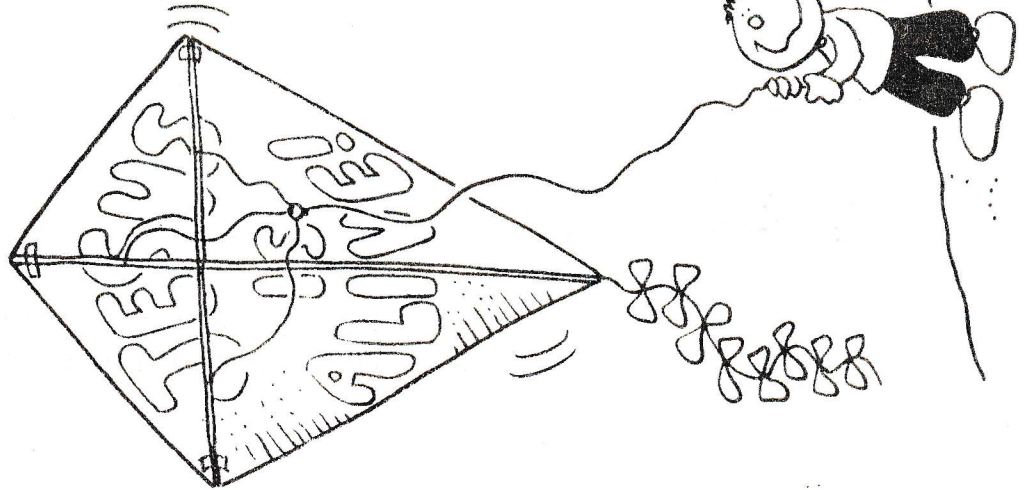
Make an EASTER KITE

You will need:

- ★ polythene (cut from a carrier bag)
- ★ 2 thin garden canes
- ★ one curtain ring
- ★ thin string

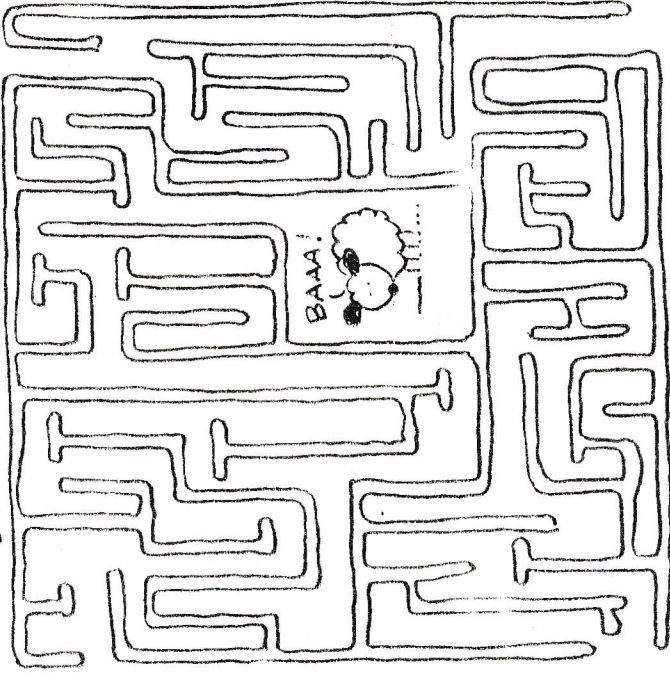
What to do:

1. Make sure you cut the kite EXACTLY the same shape each side of the centre.
2. Fix canes with tape.
3. Tie a piece of string to the cross piece, threading it through the ring.
4. Tie a short string from the upright cane to the ring.
5. Tie the kite string to ring.
6. Cut tall pieces from polythene and tie on.
7. Decorate and fly proudly!



BAAA!

HELP THE SHEPHERD FIND HIS LOST SHEEP?



Read

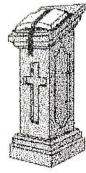
Matthew 18:10-14
or Luke 15:3-7

WORD SEARCH

'Boys' names from the Bible'

- | | |
|----------|---------|
| ADAM | MARK |
| ANDREW | MATTHEW |
| BENJAMIN | PAUL |
| DANIEL | PETER |
| DAVID | PHILIP |
| JAMES | SIMON |
| JASON | STEPHEN |
| JOHN | THOMAS |
| JONATHAN | TIMOTHY |

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



Sunday Morning Scripture Readings

The following are the planned lectionary passages for the next few months.

Mar 3	Exodus 17: 1 - 7 Romans 5: 1 - 11 John 4: 5 - 42	May 5	Acts 17: 22 - 31 1 Peter 3: 13 - 22 John 14: 15 - 21
Mar 10	1 Samuel 16: 1 - 13 Ephesians 5: 8 - 14 John 9: 1 - 41	May 12	Acts 1: 6 - 14 1 Peter 4: 12-14; 5: 6-11 John 17: 1-11
Mar 17 Communion	Ezekiel 37: 1 - 14 Romans 8: 6 - 11	May 19	Acts 2: 1-21
Mar 24	Palm Sunday		1 Cor 12: 1 - 13 John 20: 19-23
Mar 31	Easter Sunday	May 26	Sunday School end of term
Apr 7	Acts 2: 14 a, 22 - 32 1 Peter 1: 3 - 9 John 20: 19 - 31	Jun 2	Gen 6: 9 - 22, 7:24, 8:14 - 19 Romans 1: 16 - 17, 3: 21 - 31 Matthew 7: 21 - 29
Apr 14	Acts 2: 14a, 36 - 41 1 Peter 1: 17 - 25 John 21: 1 - 9	Jun 9	Genesis 12: 1 - 9 Romans 4: 13 - 25 Matthew 9: 9- 13, 18-26
Apr 21	Acts 2: 42 - 47 1 Peter 2: 18 - 25 John 10: 1 - 10	Jun 16 Communion	Genesis 18: 1 - 15 Matthew 9:35 - 10:8
Apr 28	Service of recommitment	Jun 23	Genesis 21: 8 - 21 Romans 6 : 1b - 11 Matthew 10: 24 - 39
		Jun 30	Genesis 22: 1 - 14 Romans 6: 12 - 23 Matthew 10: 40 - 42



**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**

EuroEnglish

The Scottish Football Association has appointed a German as manager of the national team. As we know most continental Europeans are bilingual and speak English. However, many Scots do not speak German and there may be occasions when some of us will struggle to understand what the new manager is saying. The following (spoof?) communication might be of assistance.

The European Commission have just announced an agreement whereby English will be the official language of the EU rather than German, which was the other possibility. As part of the negotiations, Her Majesty's govt conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a 5 year phase in plan that would be known as "EuroEnglish":

In the first year, "s" will replace the soft "c".. Certainly, this will make the sivil servants jump with joy. The hard "c" will be dropped in favor of the "k". This should klear up konfursion and keyboards kan have 1 less letter.

There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year, when the troublesome "ph" will be replaced with the "f". This will make words like "fotograf" 20% shorter.

In the 3rd year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be expekted to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible.

Governments will enkorage the removal of double letters, which have always ben a deterrent to akurate speling. Also, al wil agre that the horrible mes of the silent "e"s in the language is disgraceful, and they should go away.

By the 4th yar, peopl wil be reseptiv to steps such as replasing "th" with "z" and "w" with "v". During ze fifz year, ze unesesary "o" kan be dropd from vords kontaining "ou" and similar changes vud of kors be aplid to ozer kombinations of leters.

After zis fifz yer, ve vil hav a reli sensibl riten styl. Zer vil be no mor trubls or difikultis and evrivun vil find it ezi tu understand ech ozer.

ZE DREM VIL FINALI KUM TRU!!

(Editors note : If anyone has a euro English spell-check please send me a copy)



Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Saturday 18th May

10.30 – 12.00

Church Hall

Tickets £1

Contact Elizabeth Lloyd

860044



A look back into the past

In the last magazine we had some memories of the good old days of the Kirk
Here is a secular look back

(For those born before 1940)

We were born before television, before penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, videos, frisbees and the pill. We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball point pens; before dishwashers, tumble driers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip-dry clothes....and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together (how quaint can you be?) We thought 'fast food' was what you ate in Lent, a 'Big Mac' was an oversized raincoat and 'crumpet' we had for tea. We existed before house husbands, computer dating, dual careers, and when a 'meaningful relationship' meant getting along with cousins, and 'Sheltered accommodation' was where you waited for a bus.

We were before day care centres, group homes and disposable nappies. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, word processors, yogurt and young men wearing earrings. For us 'time sharing' meant togetherness, a 'chip' was a piece of wood or fried potato, 'hardware' meant nuts and bolts and 'software' wasn't a word.

Before 1940 'Made in Japan' meant junk, the term 'making out' referred to how you did your exams, 'stud' was something that fastened a collar to a shirt and 'going all the way' meant staying on the bus to the depot. Pizza, McDonalds and instant coffee were unheard of. In our day cigarette making was 'fashionable', 'grass' was mown, 'coke' was kept in the coal house, a 'joint' was a piece of meat you had on Sundays and 'pot' was something you cooked in. 'Rock music' was a grandmother's lullaby, Eldorado' was an ice-cream, a 'gay person' was the life and soul of the party and nothing more, while 'aids' just meant beauty treatment or help for someone in trouble.

We who were born before 1940 must be a hardy bunch when you think of the ways in which the world has changed and the adjustments we have had to make. No wonder we are confused and there is a generation gap today..... BUT

By the grace of Godwe have survived

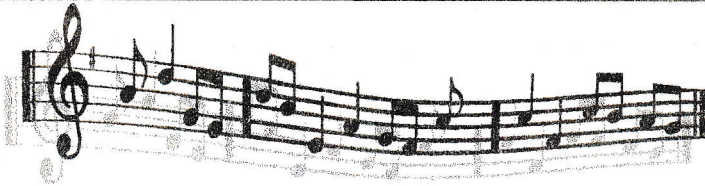
— Alleluia

Some misprints from Church newsletters

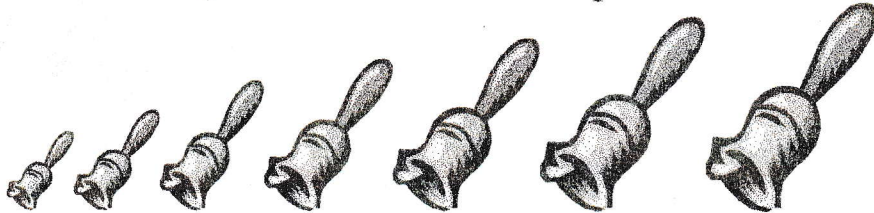
Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get

Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of pastor Jack's sermons

The minister will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing ;break forth into joy'



Charity concert in aid of Multiple Sclerosis



Handbell Concert
By St Fillan's Handbell Ringers

A wide ranging programme of classical, sacred and secular music
Something for all ages
Followed by tea / coffee

Sunday 19th May 2.30 – 4.00 PM
Church Hall

To raise funds to help provide holidays for people with MS
(Mrs Maureen Reid, who lives in Aberdour, will be the first beneficiary)
Donations on the day

Grace, mercy and peace

Grace – is God making sure that you get what you don't deserve

Mercy – is God making sure that you don't get what you deserve

Peace – is what you enjoy when you accept God's Grace and Mercy



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.

Our Sunday school children were invited to write something for the newsletter about some of their activities

We received some written articles and some excellent drawings

Editors note : we were unable to reproduce the children's drawings and hope that the computer graphics give a flavour of what was submitted



Iona Crosses - Laura and Alex

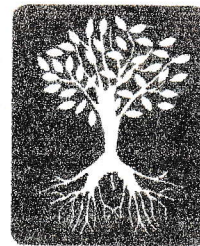
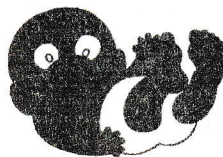
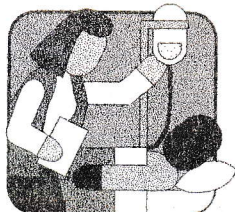
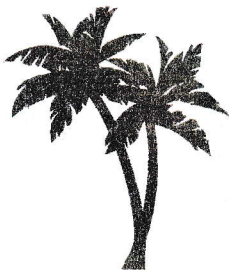


At Sunday school we have been making our own Iona crosses. We had cardboard and used lentils and split peas and string, then spray painted them silver and stuck them in foam stuff.

Africa – by Amy, Clare and Emma

A lady called Linda came to Sunday school to tell us about her time being a nurse in Africa. She gave us a slide show and told us some stories. Here are some of the reactions of Sunday school :-

Names	age	
Kiandra	3	enjoyed it
Ali & Rachel	3	liked the slide show
Rachel	5	liked the nice pictures
Emma	5	thought the palm trees were lovely
Lewis	5	thinks about the poor children
Molly & Amy	5	Did not like the witch doctor
Matthew	5	liked the stream
Finlay	4	thought the anthill was great
Iain	7	the nurse was nice – she helped the babies
Laura	8	it was interesting and sometimes sad because people were not getting enough food
Matthew	7	the houses were made out of mud bricks and had a straw roof. The nurse delivered the babies.
Ashley	10	the witchdoctor burned a young girl because he thought it was an evil spirit that was giving her bad pains. Linda found out that the little girl had a kidney problem and made her better
Clare	9	the witchdoctor believed in evil spirits and made people wear special jewelry to ward the evil spirits off
Lisa	9	little boys had to climb mangrove trees – one fell down and Linda had to stitch his head





in St Fillan's

Palm Sunday 24th March 10.30

Sunday school in for first part of service then go to school

Maundy Thursday 28th March 7.30 PM
With Sacrament of Communion

Good Friday 29th March 7.30 PM

Easter Sunday 31st March 10.30 AM
Children in for entire service
Sacrament of Communion after service



SUNRISE SERVICES

Easter Sunday - Is anyone interested?

Over the years a few people have asked me whether we could and/or should have an Easter morning sunrise service in Aberdour. I know that some churches have such a service and that many who attend find these moving and memorable events. If we were to have such a service the format would be along the following lines:

We would gather at about half an hour before sunrise at a suitable venue (can any of our early risers suggest where best to see the sunrise?) and at sunrise have a short service to commemorate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ – perhaps followed by rolling Easter eggs and a cup of coffee (bring a flask).

Before making a commitment to this (and seeking all the necessary permissions and making arrangements etc) we need to know whether or not people would be interested in attending this – remember it means a very early rise on Easter Sunday

SO ... If this is something you are interested in and/or you have suggestions as to the venue and/or format thereof please let me know. If there is a positive response we will pursue this.

Peter Park – Parish Minister

Parish and congregation register

Bereavements

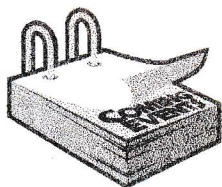
Oct 3	Mr. James Blake
Nov 16	Mr. Harry Connell
Nov 21	Mrs. Marjorie Houghton
Dec 15	Mr. Norman Henderson
Dec 18	Mrs. Cathy Foster
Jan 2	Mr. John Helm
Jan 4	Mr. David Petrie
Jan 12	Mrs. Vera Meadows
Feb 2	Mr. David Charlton
Feb 7	Mr. Michael Burns

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

Jim and Mrs. Margaret Thompson	21 Inchmickery Rd	Dalgety Bay	822923
Mrs. Irene Rainey	12 Inchmickery Rd	Dalgety Bay	822693

Welcome and we hope you enjoy your fellowship here

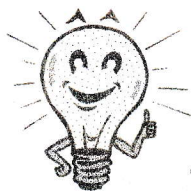


Some Forthcoming evening Concerts in St Fillan's

Further details nearer the time – but why not put the dates in your diary now?

Capernaum Choir (from Dunfermline)
American Choir

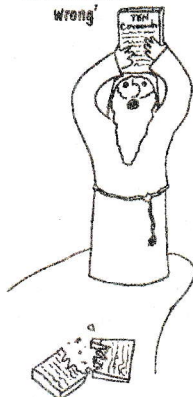
9th June
1st July



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 speak with any of the committee – names on inside of front page

'Drat, I've spelt
Commendments
wrong'



A plea from the treasurer - please re-assess your giving

As always our standing costs are increasing. Water charges, council tax, insurance and like go up each year. I know that many of you are already giving generously (through Gift Aid, Deed of Covenant, or Weekly freewill offering) and that several have increased their donations in the past year. Nevertheless I would ask every one of you to look at the table below; study it; assess where you lie in the scheme of things and consider seriously whether you can give a little more this year, An increase of £1 a week from everyone would make a massive difference to our Church income.

If you are not already supporting us by regular giving, then please do consider what you gain from St Fillan's. Do you use the Church and/or Church Hall? Do your children attend Sunday school? Have you enjoyed the trip to Inchcolm? Benefited from a visit in hospital or called upon the services of the parish minister?

If you want more information about how to support the Church by giving regularly through Gift Aid (GA) or Weekly Freewill Offering (WFO) please contact me.

Simon Fraser 55 High St 860361

Table of annual giving through Gift Aid and WFO

Donation	Number	Number	Number
2001	Of Donors	Of Donors	Of Donors
£	WFO	GA/DOC	Total
599-1200		7	7
500-599		4	4
400-499		10	10
300-399		24	24
250-299	1	8	9
200-249		18	18
150-199	2	11	13
100-149	6	22	28
50-99	8	15	23
0-49	15	3	18
Total Donors	32	122	154
Average Donation	£72	£215	£189

The table shows that we have 154 regular givers (some of whom are couples), the average donation being £189 per annum

Of these

11 give £10 or more per week

102 give between £2 and £10 per week

41 give up to £2 per week

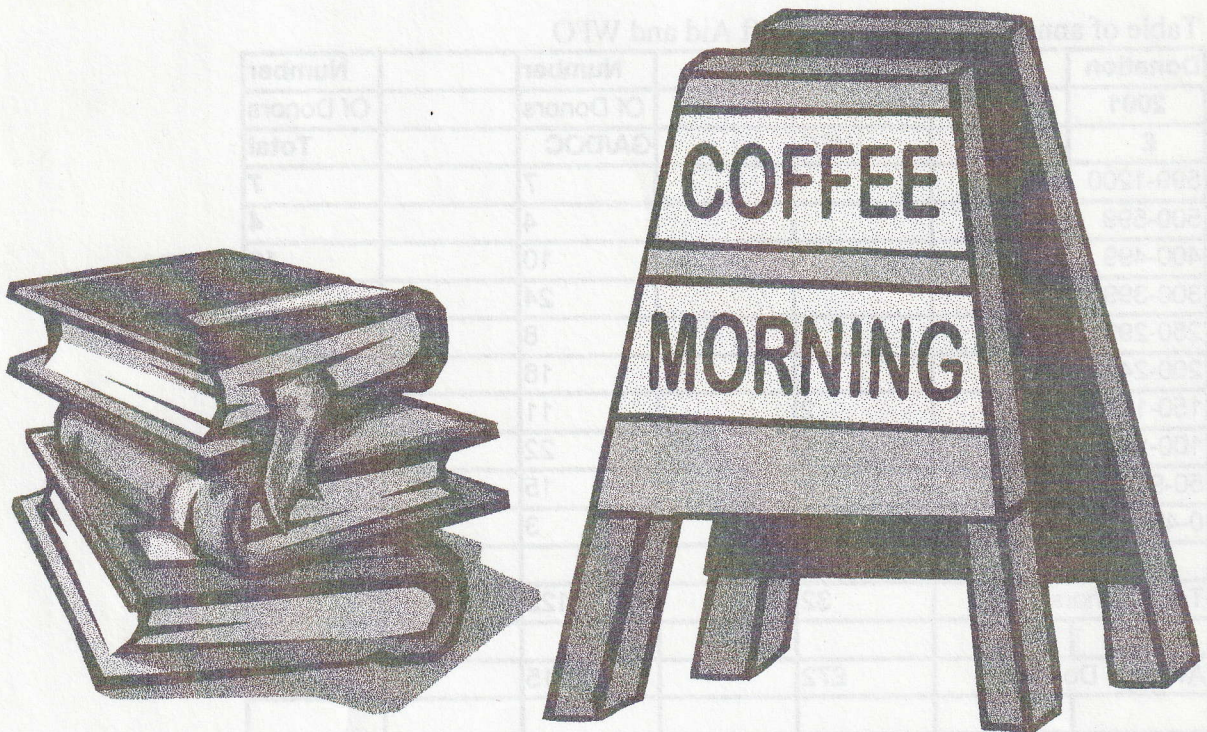
Our current membership is 423, which means that many of our members do not make a regular donation through WFO or Gift Aid.

If those who currently put cash in the plate changed to Gift Aid (for taxpayers) or WFO this would also make a considerable difference to our income and help our budgeting

For every £1 given under gift aid we receive an additional 28p from the Inland Revenue

St Fillan's Church coffee morning and book sale

**Saturday 6th April
10 - 12 AM**



**Offers of baking and help please to
Mrs Catherine Duncan 860611**