



Kiltarlity and Wardlaw Churches

# The Parishioner



Dear Friends,

I recently read Nick Thorpe's book "Adrift in Caledonia" in which he describes an unusual journey around Scotland – not hitch hiking but boat hitching. He begins one morning at the Union Canal in Edinburgh and manages to hitch boats around much of Scotland. As he travels he reflects on life. One morning in Greenock he manages to hitch a lift on the MV Menno from Greenock to the Kyles of Bute.

"The MV Menno was not the most glamorous of vessels. Essentially a large, rectangular biscuit tin fitted with a crane and a necklace of tyres, she patrolled the Clyde keeping the 130 gas and solar-powered navigation buoys in working order. Despite her looks, she commanded the sort of fierce loyalty you'd expect from the crew of an Elizabethan galleon. 'One day all boats will be shaped like this,' grinned Brian the skipper, throttling midstream on a retreating tide as the crane operator lowered a vast, weed-shagged buoy on to the deck. Outside the wheelhouse, a team in luminous orange boiler suits was demonstrating how many men it takes to change a light bulb. I counted eight. Apart from Brian and the crane operator, there was one man to attach a safety line to the buoy's fat anchor chain, three to scour the weed and barnacles from its side with instruments like wallpaper scrapers on long poles, others to daub the rusty upper section with new green paint. And of course the light bulb changer himself, climbing up the ladder past the solar panels, and tinkering inside the chamber. The men bantered as they went about their well-choreographed tasks. A 'happy ship,' whose company might at any moment break into a chorus of 'Whistle while you work.'"

Two things stand out from that day. One was the importance of the task – to shed light on the Clyde and ensure that ships kept on course as they sailed up or down the river. The other was the sense of teamwork with each man undertaking the distinctive job allocated to him.

We can quite easily apply that to the life of a congregation. Firstly we are called to help guide people on the voyage through life. Keeping the light of Christ burning in our communities, helps to keep people on course. Secondly we will only accomplish this by exercising good teamwork, fulfilling the tasks to which we are called.

Yours sincerely,

*Edgar Ogston*

## “Paysage Bords de Seine” - a painting by Renoir



The Renoir painting featured on the front page of last month's edition was withdrawn from auction two days before the auction date. The auction house put the sale on hold as the painting may have been the exact piece that was stolen from a museum six decades ago.

The auction, which was scheduled to take place on Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> September, was cancelled on the Thursday prior after a Washington Post reporter discovered documents in the Baltimore Museum of Art's library showing that the painting in

question was on loan there from 1937 until 1951, when it was stolen.

The Impressionist painting was purchased two years ago at a West Virginia flea market before the buyer, a Virginia woman, took it to auction house, The Potomack Co., in July to be examined. Experts at the auction house confirmed it was a painting by the French master Pierre-Auguste Renoir. The piece, whose title translates as "Landscape on the Banks of the Seine," was expected to auction for \$75,000 or more. "Potomack is relieved this came to light in a timely manner as we do not want to sell any item without clear title," Elizabeth Wainstein, the owner of the Alexandria, Va.-based auction house, said in a statement.

### A card scam you need to be aware of.

A new card scam in which people are tricked into handing over their bank card details and pin numbers has seen customers duped out of £1.5 million since the beginning of 2011.

The scam works by the victim being telephoned by the fraudster to renew their debit or credit card owing to a fraud on the account. The owner is told to key in their pin number on the phone and a courier is sent out to collect the card. The card is then sent direct to the criminal who also has the pin number. The majority of victims are older adults and the scammers often give an alternative number for people to call back on to ensure the call is genuine. But instead of hanging up many people are tricked into thinking the call is from their bank and stay on the line.

In total, £1.5 million has been lost to this type of crime and £750,000 of this was taken in the first four months 2012 - the same as the whole of 2011. The UK Payments Council has urged people never to hand over their card to anyone who has come to the door, never to enter their pin number over the telephone and to always speak to their bank securely by making sure there is a dial tone when calling and only ever using the bank's advertised number.

"Many of us feel confident that we can spot fraudsters but this type of crime can be sophisticated and could happen to anyone," warns Paul Barnard, head of the bank sponsored Dedicated Cheque and Plastic Crime Unit ( DCPCU ). "While we have seen an increase in this type of fraud, we know collectively we can stamp it out. If you have friends or relatives who you feel may be vulnerable to this, please help them to be more aware of the potential risks and what to look out for" he adds.

## KIRKHILL GUILD NEWS



October saw the start of the new Guild season, with tales from Barlinnie, Shotts, and Porterfield Prisons amongst others, as Ian Dearing entertained us with his memories of a career with the Prison Service. His narrative of facts and events took us to a different world far removed from the cosy Guild Room - his stories provoked laughter and questions, but also disbelief. His detail behind some of the events that we had only read about in the newspapers was thought provoking throughout; some times saddening and other times hilarious.

On Monday, 5 November at 7:30 p.m., we are invited to join Kilmorack & Erchless Guild for their meeting held at the Church Hall in Beaulie. The guest speaker will be Marjorie Clark, Coordinator of the Church of Scotland HIV Programme. This is the programme which receives the



It's time to end stigma  
and discrimination  
1 December

donations made at the Kirkhill and Kiltarlity Souper Sunday lunches each year, so if you want to find out more about this, please do join us. If you intend coming, please let Rosemary know, so that we can advise the Beaulie Guild of expected numbers. World AIDS Day is on 1 December - if you want to find out more about the Church of Scotland's work in this area, now's your chance !

The meeting on Wednesday, 7 November will feature Keith McClelland as guest speaker. Keith is a renowned photographer, and cruise lecturer. He has helped Wardlaw Church greatly by donating time and pictures for the church. Since moving to the Highlands, Keith has delighted in taking pictures of the scenery and wildlife, very often highlighting things that we take for granted in our surroundings - and these are the images that he will be sharing with us. Keith has compiled a limited edition calendar for 2013 which will be available to purchase on the afternoon. The meeting starts at 2:30 p.m. at Wardlaw Church.



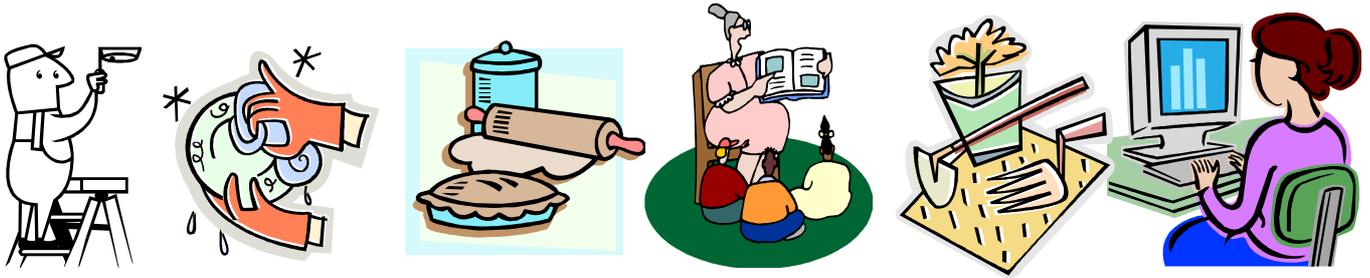
There is a Quiz Night for the Guilds from Inverness & Nairn Presbytery on Monday, 12 November at Dalneigh Church in Inverness, starting at 7:00 p.m. Teams of 4 from each Guild are welcome. Anyone wishing to form part of a Kirkhill Guild team, please have a word with Rosemary; transport will be available.

On Tuesday 27 November at 7.30 p.m., Ness Bank Church will be hosting a meeting of the Guild Presbyterial Council, featuring Rev. Jan Mathieson, Minister for Cawdor and Croy, who will be speaking about her travels in Myanmar.

Should you wish to find out more about any of these events, please contact Rosemary, Maris or Anne at Wardlaw Church. Should you wish to become a member of the Guild, the annual subscription is £8, payable at either the November or December meeting. Otherwise, if you just wish to come along to any of our meetings when the subject particularly interests you, please be assured that you will be made very welcome.

Rosemary Mortimer

## STEWARDSHIP SEASON



We are very grateful to Rev. Tony Livesley who conducted three Sunday services in October at Wardlaw Church on the theme of talents. Tomnacross Church held two services on this theme during October, as the first Sunday in October was a Communion service for them. The original plan was to hold four services in both Churches on the theme of talents, but the need to hold a congregational meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> October to elect a Nominating Committee in our vacancy procedure reduced the number of services available for this theme.

Rev. Livesley's sermons / talks were very much based on his own personal experiences and were very inspirational to many and were well received by the congregation. They have certainly given us all food for thought, especially the last one "What is that in your hand ?" At the end of service on the 21<sup>st</sup> October members of the congregation were given the opportunity to take away a questionnaire containing 45 questions which will help them identify which talents they have and will be able to offer to the benefit of the Church and the spreading of the Lord's message to others. There are lots of opportunities for members to be involved in the life of the churches here in Kirkhill and Kiltarlity, and some of these were listed on a third sheet attached to the questionnaire. This list is by no means exhaustive and there may also be opportunity for new areas of service. The questionnaire is for their own personal use - there is no requirement to return a completed questionnaire to any Church official at all. Spare copies of the questionnaires are still available at Wardlaw Church if you were not able to attend the service on the 21<sup>st</sup> and wish to complete one.

*Iain J. Mortimer*



### **Poppyscotland**

Scottish singing star Susan Boyle officially launched the 2012 Scottish Poppy Appeal on Wednesday, 24 October, calling for the public to give as much money as they can to raise vital funds for Scotland's Armed Forces community. At the event in Glasgow, Susan was joined by around 80 members of two Scottish military wives choirs – West of Scotland and Edinburgh Garrison, whose partners are currently serving in the Armed Forces. The choirs performed their version of Proud (M People) before Susan officially launched the Appeal, organised by Poppyscotland.

Remembrance Sunday services will be held at both Kirkhill and Kiltarlity on Sunday, 11 November. The Sunday service at Kirkhill starts at 10 o'clock, which is 30 minutes earlier than normal, to allow for a short service at the war memorial next to Wardlaw Church at 11 o'clock. Kiltarlity will hold a short service at the war memorial in Kiltarlity shortly after their morning worship service has finished.

## VACANCY - THE NEWS THIS MONTH IS ....

Two intimations were read out at the Sunday services on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October in respect of the vacancy. The first one was in respect of the PREPARATION OF ELECTORAL REGISTER — Section 13 (1) and (2) C. Intimation is hereby given that in view of the vacancy the Kirk Session is about to make up an Electoral Register of this congregation. Any communicant whose name is not already on the Communion Roll as a member should hand in to the Session Clerk a Certificate of Transference, and anyone wishing his or her name added to the Register as an adherent should obtain from the Session Clerk, and complete and return to the Session Clerk, a Form of Adherent's Claim.

All such papers should be in the hands of the Session Clerk not later than **Sunday, 25th November 2012**. The Kirkhill Kirk Session will meet in Wardlaw Church, Kirkhill on **Tuesday, 27th November at 7:30 p.m.** and Kiltarlity Kirk Session will meet in Tomnacross Church, Kiltarlity on **Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> November at 7:30 p.m.** to make up the Electoral Register when anyone wishing to support his or her claim in person should attend.

*Kirkhill's Session Clerk is Maris Elkin ( 831 590 ) and Kiltarlity's Session Clerk is David Garvie ( 741 038 )*

The second intimation is in respect of an edict for the ELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE - Section 14 (1). Intimation is hereby given that a meeting of the Kirkhill congregation will be held in Wardlaw Church on Sunday, 28th October 2012 at the close of morning worship for the purpose of appointing a Nominating Committee which will nominate one person to the congregation with a view to the appointment of a minister. A similar meeting of the Kiltarlity congregation will be held in Tomnacross Church on the same Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2012 at the close of their morning worship.

The Nominating Committee will be made up of 9 members - 5 from Kirkhill and 4 from Kiltarlity.

The Presbytery of Inverness on 2nd October appointed a Vacancy Procedure Committee and a Vacancy Advisory Committee for the Kirkhill and Kiltarlity vacancy. These Committees are needed to progress our vacancy procedure.

**Vacancy Procedure Committee** is headed up by Rev. Janet Mathieson ( Minister - Cawdor & Croy ) – Convenor, Rev. Dr. Peter Donald ( Minister - Inverness Crown ), Mrs L. Clark ( Presbytery Elder – Ardersier ), and Mr Alexander Henderson ( Presbytery Elder - Cawdor & Croy ).

**Vacancy Advisory Committee** is headed up by Rev. Fiona Smith ( Minister - Inverness Ness Bank ) – Convenor, Mrs Vivian Roden ( Ex- Moderator, Reader and Presbytery Elder for Moy, Dalarossie and Tomatin ), and Mrs Joy Gillies ( Presbytery Contact for Safeguarding ).

The Vacancy Advisory Committee from the Presbytery of Inverness will convene a joint Kirk Session of the two linked parishes in early November to meet with both Kirk Sessions and the Nominating Committee to inform them of the correct procedures to follow in relation to moving the situation forward. We must continue to pray for guidance and patience in this procedure.

At the meeting outlined in the last paragraph, the joint Kirk Sessions will view the completed DVD that has been prepared for distribution to any new Minister applying for the vacancy. Keith McClelland and his wife Mary have been very busy this summer taking photographs and filming inside and outside of both Churches, a wedding at each Church, the Harvest Thanksgiving service at Wardlaw Church, the surrounding locality, Wardlaw Manse and other venues. Duncan Chisholm has kindly given his permission for us to use some of his fiddle music as part of the soundtrack, along with music recorded on the Allen organ at Wardlaw Church played by Mary Robb. Following the screening of the DVD to the Elders and Deacons of both Churches the DVD will be available to be viewed on the Churches web-site, or on YouTube. It also will be shown as part of the Third Sunday event at Wardlaw Church on the 18<sup>th</sup> November.

## December dates for your Diary



On Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> December, Tomnacross Church, Kiltarlity will hold a Christmas Family Service led by the Sunday School and TCC, starting at 12 noon.

On Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> December, the Kirkhill Primary School will hold their Christmas Carol Service at Wardlaw Church starting at 6 o'clock in the evening.

On Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December, a Candle and Carol Service will be held at Wardlaw Church, featuring the Celestial Choir led by Mary Robb. The service starts at 6:30 p.m.

On Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December, both Churches, Wardlaw and Tomnacross, will hold a Christmas Watchnight service, led by the elders from each Church, starting at 11:30 p.m.

### Plot of land at rear of Wardlaw Church update

There is no positive news to report on this matter. We did have a couple from Taunton expressing an interest during the month, but concerns raised by their solicitor about what the planners would allow or prohibit, has resulted in them deciding not to proceed. The plot is presently advertised at the Highland Solicitors Property Centre in Inverness, and on their web-site, along with the Church of Scotland web-site. The plot is now advertised on the LCD screen in the Cobbs Café at the Highland Industrial Supplies premises.

However, if you know of anyone who is interested, ask them to contact Anne Steele at the Church of Scotland Law Department at 121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN Tel: 0131 240 2263 without delay.

### BEAULY CARE PROJECT UPDATE

Further to a successful public meeting and consultation in the summer and analysis of the results, the leaders of the Beauly Care Project are currently developing their aims.

Two of these aims already identified will need volunteers for them to operate successfully.

Aim 1 is for a "morning call" telephone service for those who need the reassurance of a free daily call to check they are OK.

Aim 2 is for the development of a "car-sharing scheme" which will help people with shopping and social visits.

If you would like further details, or wish to offer your time to assist in any of the aims outlined above, please contact the project's secretary Belle Maxwell on 783 867 as soon as possible.

# It's not my fault!



## *Thoughts from the editor*

*Article by Lin Pearson, Editor of First !*

**O**NCE I SAW A MOTHER AND HER SON at a tray of food; he had only a glass of juice. Somehow, in setting it down, he knocked it over, spilling the contents over the table and chair.

“Mu-u-u-u-m!!!! he wailed. “Look what you made me do!”

His mother had been several paces away from him and the table was not in the least bit wobbly. Mum made it clear to her son, “I didn’t make you do it. No one else made you do it. You can’t blame anyone except yourself.”

**Sometimes I have days when I am particularly clumsy.** It’s then I sometimes blame inanimate objects! I may stumble and say, “That stupid shoe lace never stays tied up.” Or once, “That milk jug shouldn’t have been on the corner of the worktop. It stuck out and caught my hand. Look at the state of the kitchen now!”

**Like the young lad in the restaurant, we tend to follow a pattern** that has been entrenched in human behaviour since Eve said, “The serpent told me...” and Adam said, “The woman gave it to me to eat.”

We live in a blame culture. We may not go to court and demand compensation, but it is easy to fall into the way of blaming anyone or anything, except ourselves, for many of the ills that we bring into our lives, or which are simply nobody’s fault.

**We can break that pattern**—face up to our own carelessness, clumsiness, laziness... whatever has caused the mishap. If we do that then, when something happens that is the fault of another person, we will more readily see that we might have done the same, and be more understanding and forgiving.

Go on! Be kind to yourself. Understand that you have made a mistake and don’t try to dodge out of it. Repent, and move on, determined to do better next time. That way you will stop looking to put the blame elsewhere.

It may take a conscious effort, but with God’s help we will find that as we get out of the “it’s-not-my-fault” syndrome, we won’t be grumbling so much and life will be all the sweeter, both for us and for those around us. ■

*This is an article in the Faith Mission’s Sept / Oct 2012 edition of their First ! magazine – thanks to Maureen Matheson*

Being British is about driving in a German car to an Irish pub where we drink a Belgian beer. On the way home we pick up an Indian curry or a Turkish kebab. Then we sit on Swedish furniture and watch American shows on a Japanese TV.

Most of all we're very suspicious of anything foreign.

More than that, only in Britain can you get a pizza quicker than an ambulance; only in Britain do banks leave both doors open, but chain the pens to the counter; only in Britain do supermarkets make sick people walk to the back of the store to get their prescriptions, while healthy people can get their cigarettes at the front.

We might be British, but you can't deny that we're funny.

## HARVEST THANKSGIVING at WARDLAW CHURCH



Sunday, 30 September was Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday at Wardlaw Church. Rev. Stewart Frizzell presided over a packed church for this special service, with Margaret Birkbeck leading the children in their lovely contribution to the worship with specially themed prayers and readings. The congregation had been asked to bring items of non-perishable food, for onward donation to the Highland Food Bank run by Blythswood Care. In common with food bank initiatives throughout the UK, the Highland Food Bank is seeing an increasing number of families and individuals needing to rely on such supplies to see them through a bad patch. At a particular stage during the Kirkhill service, the children circulated with baskets to collect donations. All the youngsters acquitted themselves very well, especially little Ellie who struggled down the aisle with her

basket containing a very generously sized tin of ham!

As ever, Simon Fraser had donated a generous supply of beautiful fresh vegetables from Achnagain Farm. Under the supervision of Anne Lyle, these were arranged around the church windowsills - and on virtually every available flat surface. Only the sound desk was a no-go area! Anne's flower arrangements reflected the theme in lovely autumn shades. Our sincere thanks to Anne, Simon and Anne's team of elves ( Maris, Rosemary and Iain ).



After the service, tea and coffee were served, with the normal biscuits being ignored this week, in favour of a splendid display of home baking. Very many thanks to Avril Marr and all who brought in home-made cakes and to those who helped with serving - and washing up afterwards !

*Rosemary Mortimer*

## Sport and the Church - Common Ground ?

*This is an edited extract of an article by David Oakley which appeared in Spring 2012 edition of The Bible in Transmission. David has been involved in full-time football mission work internationally for over 18 years and is the Chief Executive of Ambassadors in Sport; a global Christian organisation that brings hope through football by empowering local churches to come alongside broken people through football to enable life changing decisions to be made.*

To understand the social phenomenon of sport and the potential 'pull' on Christians today, it is helpful to consider how Christians have or have not embraced sport in the past. It is not known what the early Church thought about sport but the apostle Paul used sport as an effective way to illustrate biblical principles ( e.g. 1 Corinthians 9 verses 24 to 27 ). Thus there is an assumption that Paul's audience was familiar with sport because of mass popular appeal. The Bible does not condemn nor is there anything negative suggested in early Christian tradition towards sport as such. Increasingly, however, under Roman rule through to the 'Middle Ages' sport became more violent and therefore would have been problematic for churches to embrace any mass appeal of sporting activity.

New games were invented and there was a gradual exporting of games to the lower classes throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the hope of producing respectability in the participants. For many participants, sport would have been a welcome distraction from the drudgery and pain of long hours of labour and poverty which would have been prevalent for the working class.

In the 1870's the majority of English football clubs were sponsored by churches. By 1900 the vast majority of teams in Liverpool originated from church organisations and the core of the newly formed football league were sponsored by socio-religious bodies. The Boy Scout movement and the YMCA played a role in developing an ideology labeled as 'Muscular Christianity' which believed that through sport Christian character ( i.e. morality and manliness ) could be built into young boys. The Olympic Games movement had strong ideological links with Muscular Christianity highlighted by Pierre de Coubertin's address to the members of the International Olympic committee in London by stating 'the importance ... is not so much to win as to take part ... The important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle.'

However, Christian attitudes towards sport changed during the early part of the twentieth century. Sporting organisations grew with various forms of business patronage, dramatic increases in crowd sizes, media interest, transportation development, commercialism, gambling and professionalism meant that 'stars' emerged as the innocence of sport was changed. Modern themes of sport, e.g. professionalism, sporting icons, commercialisation, bureaucracy, nationalism, mass spectatorship and media coverage found roots in the late 1930's. The resulting commercialisation of sport led to an increasing influence and interaction with the economy. During this crucial development time, churches generally disengaged with the sport culture as fundamentalist attitudes within the Church resisted involvement in such a cultural climate.

During the 1950s in the USA, Christianity and sport started to re-engage again because the mass appeal of sport meant that crowds could be attracted for gospel mission events. Christian involvement in sport has now evolved into a multilayer movement that is poised to impact the twenty-first century. The sports culture that the Church now tries to engage with has changed dramatically since the Church last really embraced sport in the nineteenth century. There has been an increase in achievement behaviour, marketing, financial turnover, careers, societal influence, mass media and shift to the periphery of non-economic factors such as values. At top-level sport, professionalism and commercialisation have become the major characteristics seemingly pushing aside any notions of play. Morality has become confused with money values and 'winning at all costs' seems to have replaced 'sporting spirit'; it is in this contextual environment that the appeal of sport question has to be addressed.

## *Sunday Lunch Club*

*Are you 60 or over ? Fancy a nice lunch made just for you ?*

*If so then come along to the monthly Sunday Lunch Club at the Royal Highland Hotel in Station Square, Inverness. The Sunday Lunch Club meet once a month, and the next meeting is on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, then 16<sup>th</sup> December.*

*The lunch starts at 1:00 p.m. and is a two course meal followed by tea / coffee.*

*The cost is £3.50 per person ( plus optional 50p tip ).*

*If interested, please ring Liz Syred on 07925 145 496 by Thursday prior to each date above to guarantee your reservation.*

*Everyone is most welcome.*

*Please note you cannot make any booking for this lunch direct with the hotel, all bookings must be made through Liz Syred.*



*Come and join us every  
Tuesday morning at  
Wardlaw Church between  
10:00 a.m. and 12 noon  
for a cup of coffee, or tea,  
and home baking.*

*Everyone is most welcome  
to come along and  
enjoy a chat*

Mary, Anne and Maris wish to thank all the folks who donate their time to bake the scones, cakes and éclairs for the Tuesday Coffee mornings at Wardlaw Church. The Coffee mornings are regularly attracting between 20 and 30 folk each week who come along for a hot drink, home baking and a good blether. They are proving to be a great success and anyone in the communities of Kirkhill, Kiltarlity, Beauly and beyond are most welcome to come along and join in at this fellowship time.

The ladies have spent some of the money donated so far, in purchasing the four new urns filled with flowers that grace each side of the Church doors. They have also paid for the repair and re-painting of the main Church doors. We now have very warm and welcoming entrances into our Church thanks to those improvements. Various pieces of new crockery to display the magnificent baking that is available each week have also been purchased.

Their thoughts are looking to purchase an outside bench for use in the summer time and any other items that will enhance and benefit folk's visit to our Church.

The Third Sunday Praise will be held on Sunday, 18 November starting at 6:00 p.m.

This Wardlaw Church event will be a mixture of praise songs interspersed with short Bible readings and prayers. This event gives everyone a chance to learn and sing new hymns and songs. The themes for this month's event will be Communion thanksgiving following our Communion service in the morning, prayers for our vacancy and the showing of the DVD that has been made. The aim of the DVD is to enable any prospective Minister in another part of Scotland to view what our parishes have to offer in terms of buildings, facilities and environment.

People of all ages, from the youngest to the oldest, and from all Churches and none, will be made most welcome. There will be tea, coffee and home baking served at the end.

If you are able to play a musical instrument, and wish to share that skill, please speak to Alasdair Morrison – 831 185.

## Remembrance

A number of years ago Jeremy Clarkson from Top Gear, presented a documentary, *'The Victoria Cross: For Valour.'* This told the stories of some VC heroes, including his own father-in-law, who he never knew. Moved by these stories, Clarkson went on to ask, *'How can we call the likes of David Beckham a hero for scoring a goal? I wonder who your heroes are today?'*

In this season of remembrance we think especially of those who have sacrificed their lives in war. However, Jesus calls us all to a radical and supernatural heroism when he says, *'You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.'* ( Matthew 5:43-45 ).

God calls us to love even those we regard as our enemies. It's easy to love those we get on with or find attractive. The love of which Jesus speaks, as throughout the New Testament, is agape love. This quality of love seeks and works only for the good of the other person. When we can pray for someone we don't get on with, God begins to answer your prayer by softening our attitude toward them. We love them because they are individuals created in the image of God and in need of God's forgiveness and grace, just like us.

This month marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Enniskillen bombing in Northern Ireland on 8<sup>th</sup> November 1987. An IRA bomb exploded during a Remembrance Day service, resulting in 11 people being killed and 63 injured. What is remembered most from this day is the interview Gordon Wilson gave only hours after the bombing. It brought him to international prominence, as he described the conversation with his dying daughter Marie, as they lay buried in rubble. To the astonishment of listeners, Wilson went on to say, *'But I bear no ill will. I bear no grudge... She's in heaven and we shall meet again. I will pray for these men tonight and every night.'* The impact of his words lay in his willingness to forgive the bombers, and as a result Wilson went on to dedicate his life as a campaigner for peace and reconciliation. He perfectly models Jesus's words for us. *'No words in more than twenty-five years of violence in Northern Ireland had such a powerful, emotional impact.'* ( Jonathan Bardon ).

*This is an article by Rev. Paul Hardingham which is printed in the November issue of the Parish Pump.*

## Kirkhill's SWRI 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday on 20 October 1969

Well spotted all those of you who noticed that the correct date of the 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday was 20 October **1969** and not 1962 as published in last month's edition – apologies to everyone. Since publication Maureen has been given three names and a possible fourth name for the five missing names. The missing names are inserted in **bold** below.



Front Row ( l to r ) Miss Milne, Nancy Fraser, Lucy MacLennan, Rose Chisholm, Mary Urquhart, **Blank 1**, and Margaret West.

Row 2 ( l to r ) Elma Rorison, Peggy Coghill, Jan Sutherland, Nancy Paterson, Mrs M MacDonald, Mrs Fraser ( Reelig ), Miss Leslie, Ann MacDonald.

Row 3 ( l to r ) **Margaret Fraser**, Betty Macrae, Mary Rattray, Joan Stewart, Mary Polworth, Jessie Morrison, Bessie MacLennan, Peg Ross, Dolly Fraser, Evelyn Campbell, Belle MacRae, **possibly Ellen Fraser**, Aldra Chisholm.

Back row ( l to r ) Winnie Fraser, Christine Chisholm, Lil MacKenzie, Sheila MacLean, Mrs MacLennan, **Amy MacDonald, Elsie ( Tootie ) MacKenzie**, Frances Fraser, Chrissie MacMillan, Katie Bruce, Mrs Smith ( Berryfield ).

Have you a name for **Blank 1** and can you confirm, or give another name for **Blank 3** ( possibly Ellen Fraser ) ?  
*Answers to Maureen Matheson please – thank you.*

### Chocolate !

If you like hot chocolate, go ahead: it seems that drinking a cup at bedtime can help stave off memory problems. Certainly a recent study in Italy found that people who indulge in cocoa drinks had better memories, higher scores in reasoning tests, and improved blood sugar control than those who did not. Cocoa contains high levels of flavonols, which are thought to protect brain cells from damage.

## PARISH NOTICE BOARD

- \* There is a Ladies Testimony and Praise evening at the Kiltarlity Free Church on Friday, 2 November 2012 starting at 7:30 p.m. Details can be obtained by contacting Fiona MacRae at the Kiltarlity Free Church.
- \* Kiltarlity Free Church's First Sunday Praise evening is on Sunday, 4 November, starting at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is most welcome to come along to this service. Tea and home baking is served after the service.
- \* Morven Archer makes a welcome return to lead our Sunday services on 4 November. Sunday, 11 November is Remembrance Sunday and the service at Wardlaw Church starts at 10 o'clock, followed by a short service at the war memorial at 11 o'clock. Tomnacross Church service starts at 12 noon followed by a short service at the war memorial in the Kiltarlity village. Rev. Stuart Jeffrey will lead all the services on this special Sunday of Remembrance. Rev. Stuart Jeffrey returns the following week, 18 November to lead the Communion service at Wardlaw Church at 10:30 a.m. and a normal Sunday worship service at Tomnacross Church at 12 noon. Mrs Vivian Roden returns on the last Sunday in November to lead our worship.
- \* Please note there is no Communion Preparatory service on Friday, 16 November, or specific Communion Thanksgiving service on the evening of the 18 November at Wardlaw Church. The Kirkhill Kirk Session decided to suspend these services whilst the parish has a vacancy.
- \* The Kirkhill Deacons' Court meeting will take place on Wednesday, 21 November at Wardlaw Church, starting at 7:30 p.m. The Kirkhill Kirk Session meeting will take place on Tuesday, 27 November at Wardlaw Church, starting at 7:30 p.m.
- \* The Kiltarlity Deacons' Court and Kirk Session meetings will take place on Thursday, 29 November at Tomnacross Church, starting at 7:30 p.m.
- \* Anyone from the Churches' congregations is invited to come along to witness any Deacons' Court or Kirk Session meetings. Members of the public would be excluded whilst a subject to be discussed is deemed private and confidential by the Convenor of the meeting. This is a chance for anyone to witness the decision making process and procedures of the Church that you attend.
- \* The Tuesday coffee / tea and home baking at Wardlaw Church is proving a great success, thanks to Mary, Anne, Maris, plus everyone who comes along to enjoy the refreshments and fellowship. Also a big thank you to all those who bring along home baking each week. This event will continue to happen every Tuesday between 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon. You are more than welcome to come along and bring your neighbours and friends. There is no fixed charge for the refreshments, but a donation towards the cost will be most welcome. The Church sanctuary will also be open during this time for anyone who wishes to have some "private time" for prayer and thought.
- \* The Kirkhill Community Centre closed on 20 August 2012 for building and refurbishment work, and is not due to open until late December 2012. Groups that use the Community Centre for their activities are welcome to use the facilities at Wardlaw Church during this time on the same terms, if the facilities we have are suitable for them. Bookings for use of the Church during the period the Kirkhill Community Centre is closed should be made with Wilma Williamson - 831 737.
- \* Congratulations to Philippa Tolhurst and Alistair Cliff who were joined in marriage by Rev. John Chambers at Tomnacross Church, Kiltarlity on Saturday, 6 October 2012.
- \* Congratulations to Marina Macleod and Paul Marlin who were joined in marriage by Rev. Rory Stott at Wardlaw Church, Kirkhill on Wednesday, 17 October 2012. At the end of the service, Rev. Stott presented the couple with a Bible from the Wardlaw Church congregation to mark this special day in their lives.
- \* Congratulations to Laura Marshall and David Laverty who were joined in marriage by Rev. Edgar Ogston at Tomnacross Church, Kiltarlity on Saturday, 20 October 2012.
- \* Lorna Dempster, the Project Co-ordinator for the Highland Foodbank has written to both Margaret Birkbeck and Elizabeth Fraser expressing gratitude for both Churches involvement in the Harvest appeal and the donation of 122kgs of food. Lorna wishes to thank the people of both Churches for their generosity which is enabling Highland Foodbank to make a difference in the lives of many families in our local communities.

## The Bible and EastEnders

*This article appears on the Bible Society web-site and is written by Ben Whitnall*

So every EastEnders storyline comes from the Bible, apparently. Jennifer Robins, storyliner on the show, said that “the prototype of every EastEnders story can be traced back to one source: David and Goliath, Daniel in the Lions’ Den, Samson and Delilah, Sodom and Gomorrah, and other Bible stories.”

It's easy to see why: the Bible is bursting with human stories that will be around as long as people are – and it's got to be one of the most honest, insightful, hard-hitting and brilliantly constructed collection of books about what Rowan Williams calls 'the really important debates in the public arena [which] are about what it means to be human.'

But Christians protest: 'EastEnders characters are so bad, they're so nasty, they're so morbid and dark and depressing!' (Of course, these same objections are also frequently leveled at Christians.) 'The programme doesn't always show 'God botherers' in the best light ! It continually confronts us with a repertoire of dubious ethical choices!' In short, the question comes: 'how can you call EastEnders biblical when the characters are so disobedient to its teaching ?' This is where one starts to wonder if people have actually been reading their Bibles.

Firstly, the Bible has more storyline than it does lists of commands. It's a collection of real stories about real people and real relationships. Something like 70% of the Bible is written in narrative form. By comparison, there are actually not that many column inches of finger-wagging instructions or definitive stances on binary ethical issues or divine dictates about good behaviour. If we'd rather get values-by-rote than stories, we'll have a hard time with the Bible.

And, secondly: EastEnders storylines are tame in comparison to some of the Bible's ! Has there ever been an incident on Albert Square where two daughters plot together to get their dad drunk and have incestuous sex with him in the hope of getting pregnant (Genesis 19) ? Or where a father sacrifices his daughter because she's the first thing he sees when he gets home, and he has to keep his promise ( Judges 11 ) ? If the BBC are looking for 'gritty' storylines, how about the one where a military leader fast-tracks an ordinary soldier to the front-line to be killed so that said leader can get together with the soldier's widow ( 2 Samuel 11 ) ? Or, if we're going to stick to only 'nice' TV, would, say, the stoning of Stephen ( Acts 7 ) ever make it on to our screens ?

That doesn't mean that the point of these stories is to condone the behaviour in them, or that the God of the Bible relishes these things. Far from it ! But sometimes we can be so quick to rush to 'the point', or to get to its teaching, that we bypass the human story part altogether.

Maybe that's why the suggestion that EastEnders takes its storylines from the Bible can raise a few eyebrows. But the fact that the Bible is what it is means that we shouldn't be surprised that it is such an important resource in the world of literature, the visual arts, music and, yes, even soap operas.

## **OPPORTUNITIES to PRAY at this TIME of VACANCY**

**Matthew 21:22** *“And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”*

**Mark 11:24** *“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours”.*

**1 John 5:14** *“And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.”*

The power of prayer is awesome and we must not underestimate this power. We are just beginning on a journey to appoint a new Minister to lead us in the formation of a Nominating Committee. God does have someone in mind for this role for us and we must learn to be patient and trust in Him to reveal to us who that person is when He, God, is ready.

What we can do in the meantime is to lay aside some time to pray to God for the ability to understand His plan for filling our vacancy situation. We need to pray for our Interim Moderator, Edgar and his wife Jean, and all the Readers, Deacons and Ministers who come each Sunday to deliver His word during our current vacancy. We must give thanks for the communities of the Churches in Kirkhill and Kiltarlity, and rejoice in the fellowship those communities have with one another.

These prayers can be made by individuals at home, privately or with members of their family and friends. However, to aid folk to focus on this very important aspect of vacancy, we are also making Wardlaw Church available during November for people to attend for their own private prayer time within the Church walls.

The Wardlaw Church sanctuary will be open for prayer between 10 a.m. and 12 noon every Tuesday for people to come along and spend time praying privately. There will be no one present to lead any prayers, but the sanctuary offers a place of calmness and quietness. The sanctuary heating will be operational during these hours.

The Guild Room at Wardlaw Church will also be available for private prayer between 9:30 a.m. and 10 o'clock each Sunday before the Sunday service. On 11 November, the Guild Room will be available between 9 o'clock and 9:30 a.m. for this purpose because of the early start time of 10 o'clock of the Sunday service that day.

The normal fortnightly Kirkhill Evening Prayer meetings for November will be held weekly, i.e. a meeting will be held on 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> November, and will concentrate on praying for guidance and understanding at this time of vacancy. Prayers for individuals and their needs, world issues, and whatever else is on the minds and hearts of those present will also be accommodated. Each meeting has a leader to start the meeting with a Bible reading and to conclude the meeting with a prayer. Prayers are both free and fixed, spoken out loud or silently to oneself. The meetings will be held in the Guild Room at Wardlaw Church and the short service begins at 7 o'clock and finishes by 7:30 p.m. Everyone is most welcome to join at this time of prayer.

**Psalms 55:22** *“Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.”*

*Members of our Church family and others to be remembered in your prayers*

**Norman Grant** was discharged from Aberdeen Royal Infirmary at the beginning of the month following his heart operation. Norman is making a good steady recovery and has returned to his duties at Tomnacross Church. Please remember Norman and **Carol** in your thoughts and prayers.

**Walter MacFarlane** is in good spirits despite still being housebound. **Mairi** continues to be Walter's main nurse and support, and is still troubled by her own back which affects her mobility and keeps her from attending Church. Please continue to remember both Walter and Mairi in your prayers.

Fiona Martin, the girlfriend of **Ally MacNeil ( Jnr. )** died tragically in a road accident at Dunkeld on Saturday afternoon, 20 October. We cannot find any words to even begin to express our sorrow that Ally, **Christine, Ally ( Snr. ), Laura** and the rest of the MacNeil and **Martin** families are feeling at this time. May the love of those around them help them through the days ahead. Please remember the MacNeil and Martin families in your prayers at this time.

**Robert MacKintosh's** daughter **Claire** and her husband **Jason** had a son, Josh, born asleep on Saturday, 20 October at Raigmore Hospital. Josh's arrival was much anticipated by his loving parents and would have been the first grandchild for Robert and his wife **Gloria**. The MacKintosh's live at Broombank, Drumchardine and are members of the Crown Church in Inverness. Robert has just completed the repair and repainting of Wardlaw Church doors. May the comfort of God help the MacKintosh and **Finnegan** families during this difficult time. There are no words that seem adequate to express the sadness the families must feel. Please remember both families at this very difficult time in your thoughts and prayers.

**John Dale Fraser** died suddenly on 7 October in Pitlochry aged 64 years. John was the only son of the Rev. Alexander Fraser, Minister at Wardlaw Church between 1954 and 1966, and Dr. Elizabeth Fraser of Kirkhill. John is survived by his daughter **Lynsey** and his sister **Katherine**. The funeral service was held at Perth Crematorium on the 23 October. Like a bird singing in the rain, let grateful memories survive in this time of sorrow. Our thoughts and prayers are with Lynsey, Katherine and their families at this time. Peace, prayers and blessings to everyone.

**A Poem for Autumn**

*By Liz Kennedy*

The autumn is upon us now,  
Things will start to change,  
Rowan trees are fully clothed  
With berries fiery red.  
Flowers hang their heads  
As they begin to die.  
Storm clouds are gathering  
In the autumn sky.

The winter will soon be here  
With it's cold snow and ice.  
Frost on the ground will be glittering  
And looking very nice.

The seasons are amazing  
Each their jobs to do.  
It reminds us of our lives  
And the changes that take place  
And our Lord who is in charge of it all  
Never makes mistakes.

The Presbytery of Inverness Annual World Church Service will be held at Kinmylies Church, Inverness on **Sunday, 4 November 2012** starting at 6:30 p.m.

The guest speaker is Marjorie Clark, HIV Programme Coordinator, Church of Scotland World Mission.

Everyone is most welcome to come along. There is tea and coffee afterwards and a car park beside the church.



This anonymous, humorous poem is clearly aimed at children and lends yet another twist to the story of the "poor church mouse" - The Moosie's Prayer

A puir wee kirk moose a' forlorn  
Its furry coat fair sairly worn  
Sank doon upon its bony knees  
and prayed - for just a wee bit cheese.  
The tears ran doon its wee thin cheeks  
But nane could hear the saddest squeaks  
That drifted oan the cauld nicht air  
Till whiles it couldnae pray nae mair.

Syne daylight cam, the kirk bells rang  
The doors swung open wi' a bang  
Communion day had come oan by  
Wi' wine and plates o' breid held high.

The wee moose lay as still as daith  
And watched it a' wi bated braith  
Then thocht - if I keep awfu' quate  
A bit nicht jist fa' aff a plate.

And so it gazed as roond they went  
Then jist as tho twas heaven sent  
Whit landed richt upon its heid  
Bit twa lumps o' communion breid.

The staff o' life lay oan the flair -  
Then, bounteous answer to his prayer  
Jist as he thocht, 'It looks fell dry'.  
Ae body couped some wine forbye.

Wee moosie stoated up the aisle  
Wearin sic a boozy smile  
The folk stopped singin', fair aghast  
Tae see a drunken moose walk past.

The organist fell aff his chair,  
The meenister could only stare  
Tae see this drunken, sinfu' moose  
Cavortin' in his sacred hoose.

At last it staggered up the nave  
Then turned and gied a happy wave  
"I ken noo when it's time to pray  
I'll do it oan communion day".

Meaning of unusual words:

sairly = severely

whiles = sometimes

syne = soon

daith = death

quate = quiet

fell = exceedingly

ae body couped = somebody spilt

forbye = as well

stated = stagger, totter

*Thanks to Marie Harvey*

A frog goes into a bank and approaches the teller. He can see from her nameplate that her name is Patricia Whack.

"Miss Whack, I'd like to get a £30,000 loan to take a holiday."

Patty looks at the frog in disbelief and asks his name. The frog says his name is Kermit Jagger, his dad is Mick Jagger, and that it's okay, he knows the bank manager.

Patty explains that he will need to secure the loan with some collateral. The frog says, "Sure. I have this," and produces a tiny porcelain elephant, about an inch tall, bright pink and perfectly formed.

Very confused, Patty explains that she'll have to consult with the bank manager and disappears into a back office.

She finds the manager and says, "There's a frog called Kermit Jagger out there who claims to know you and wants to borrow £30,000, and he wants to use this as collateral." She holds up the tiny pink elephant. "I mean, what in the world is this?"

The bank manager looks back at her and says.

"It's a knickknack, Patty Whack.  
Give the frog a loan,  
His old man's a Rolling Stone."

( You're singing it, aren't you. Yeah, I know you are. )

Never take life too seriously! Come on now,  
you grinned, I know you did !

Thanks to Harry Mooring of Leeds for this story

*Tomnacross School Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday, 24 November 2012 at Kiltarlity Village Hall 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.*

*Do not leave it to the last minute, come along and purchase your Christmas presents early.*

## Lord, prop us up !

There is a story of an old farmer who always prayed the same prayer at his church meeting. 'Lord, prop us up on our leanin' side'. After hearing this many times, his Minister asked him one day quite what he meant.

The farmer replied: "Well, it's like this... I've got an old barn out in one of my fields. It's been there a long time, and gone through a lot of storms. One day a few years ago I noticed that it was leaning to one side a bit. So I went and got some poles and propped it up on its leaning side, so it wouldn't fall. Then I got to thinking about how much I was like that old barn. I'd been around a long time, and seen plenty of storms in life. I was still standing, but I was also leaning a bit. So I decided to ask the Lord to prop me up, too, on my leaning side.

Our 'leaning side' is where we are weakest in ourselves. Sometimes we get to leaning toward anger, bitterness, bleakness in life. Then we too need to pray for God to prop us up, especially on that leaning side. He wants us to stand tall and free, in him.

## The other side of the door

A very sick man visited his doctor in a small rural village. As he was leaving, he suddenly blurted out: "Doctor, I am afraid to die. You go to church on Sundays. Tell me what lies on the other side."

The doctor thought a moment. Then he said simply: "I don't know."

"You don't know?" protested the man. "You, a Christian, can't say more than that?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door into the waiting room of the surgery. On the other side, there was a sound of eager scratching and whining. He opened the door and the patient's spaniel sprang into the room, leaping on his owner with an eager happiness.

Turning to the patient, the doctor said, "Here's your dog. He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and so when the door opened, he sprang in without fear. It is the same for me. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing: I know my Master is there, and that is enough. And when the door opens for me one day, I shall pass through with no fear, but with gladness."

## The Soldier's Prayer

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,

I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.

I asked for health, that I might do greater things,

I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.

I asked for riches, that I might be happy,

I was given poverty, that I might be wise.

I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,

I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.

I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,

I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.

I got nothing that I asked for –

But everything that I had hoped for, Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.

I am among all men most richly blessed.



## SHOEBOX APPEAL 2012

Some people have so little that the things we take for granted are luxuries that they can't afford to buy. To give someone a new hat or scarf when they have never had new clothes brings great joy and laughter. Please fill a shoebox and give to someone in need this Christmas. Please follow the instructions carefully. Otherwise your box may not pass customs regulations.

### CHECKLIST 2012

Please tick items included and firmly secure this list on your shoebox lid.

Suggested items ( all items must be new )

Please do add the essential items in the first box below

Toothbrush and Toothpaste..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Soap ..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Hat/scarf,gloves (or substitute one of them for a warm jumper) ..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Toy car For boys children's box ... <input type="checkbox"/>
..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Small doll For girls children's box .... <input type="checkbox"/>

Toiletries (NO TALCUM POWDER)	Stationery
Shampoo (max 250ml) ..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Pens/Pencils/Sharpener..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Face cloth/ Moist wipes ..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Notepads/ Colouring books..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Deodorant..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rulers/Rubbers..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Moisturising Cream..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Small Toy (e.g. small car, doll or cuddly toy) ..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Comb/Brush..... <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Sweets</b> (No chocolate or any other food)
Sanitary Products..... <input type="checkbox"/>	'Best Before' date March 2013 ..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Shaving foam/Razors..... <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No loose sweets, lollies or undated bags of sweets.</b>
<b>Clothes</b>	<b>Other Items</b>
Underwear	(T-Shirts/Pyjamas/ Jumpers/Shirts) etc
Socks/Tights..... <input type="checkbox"/>	..... <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	..... <input type="checkbox"/>
New Make-up..... <input type="checkbox"/>	..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Sewing Equipment ..... <input type="checkbox"/>	..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Household Candles..... <input type="checkbox"/>	..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Screwdrivers/Pliers..... <input type="checkbox"/>	..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Kitchen Utensils..... <input type="checkbox"/>	..... <input type="checkbox"/>

PLEASE TICK THE BOX NEXT TO WHO THE BOX IS FOR



- Girl 3-7
- Girl 8-12
- Girl 13-16
- Woman
- Elderly Woman



- Boy 3-7
- Boy 8-12
- Boy 13-16
- Man

Please specify the age of child you have filled this box for .....

After checking your box, Blythwood Care will add a Bible storybook for kids, a book for teenagers or a calendar for adults. It will then be sent to someone in Eastern Europe in time for Christmas. Shoeboxes will also be sent to Pakistan.

Instructions:

- Find a shoebox. Please select a standard sized shoebox as it makes the distribution difficult if the boxes are not of a consistent size. Decide to fill it for a child, a teenager, a man or a woman.
- Wrap your box and lid separately so that the lid can be removed without tearing the paper.
- Gather the items and pack them into the box.
- Remember that any goods disallowed by customs will be removed. No foods are permitted apart from sweets ( but no loose sweets or lollies are allowed or individually purchases sweets made up into little bags ). All sweets must display a "best before" date which should be no earlier than March 2013.
- On the checklist, tick the items you have put in your shoebox and note any that are not on the list.
- Secure the ticked checklist to the outside of the shoebox lid using sticky tape. Detach the donation envelope as instructed and place inside your shoebox.

**It costs us £2.50 to send each box abroad. We would welcome donations towards this. If you would like to request the leaflet, it contains a donation envelope and form that enables us to reclaim tax under the Gift Aid Scheme. Or, if you prefer, please place your donation in a sealed envelope and mark it DONATION and add your name, address and contact details. Please place completed envelopes inside your box.**

- Secure the lid with rubber bands. Custom regulations require Blythwood Care to check the contents of your box.
- Deliver your box to your local collection point.

**PLEASE NOTE :** For Christmas Delivery, your shoebox should be at Wardlaw Church by **Friday, 9<sup>TH</sup> November, or contact Iain or Rosemary on 782 648 to arrange collection.**

**Can you spare a few hours to sort the shoeboxes before they are dispatched ?**

The following are locations of the local sorting stations and dates when the sorting will take place.

- Smithton Free Church – 16 / 17 November.
- Culduthel Christian Centre – 23 / 24 November.
- Dingwall Free Church Hall – during November.
- Deephaven Depot from early November.

Please contact the Blythwood Deephaven Depot on 01349 830777 for more information regarding these venues and times, or for a donation envelope with Gift Aid.

# DO YOU KNOW GOD?

WHEN MY SON WAS A SMALL BOY playing with his buddies in the back yard, I overheard them talking one day—and the conversation was, amusingly, one of those “My dad can whip your dad” routines.

I heard one boy proudly say, “My dad knows the mayor of our town!” Then I heard another say, “That’s nothing—my dad knows the governor of our state!”

Wondering what was coming next in the “program of bragging”, I presently heard a wonderfully familiar voice (that of my own little son), saying, “That’s nothing—my dad knows God!”

I swiftly slipped away from my place of eavesdropping with tears running down my cheeks. I dropped on my knees in my room and prayed earnestly and gratefully, “Oh, God, I pray that my boy will always be able to say, ‘My dad knows God.’”

—Hilding Halverson

This is an article in the Faith Mission's Sept / Oct 2012 edition of their First! magazine - thanks to Maureen Matheson



## 'Can I Touch the Lives of Others'

A line from a song written by Lynne Prosser

Come and join us on

Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm

At Kings Factory, Smithton Industrial Estate, Inverness,

for an evening of Music and Poetry

In support of Adopt-A-Child

Lynne will be sharing music and poetry from her book

### 'Along the Way'

The original cover painting will be auctioned and other watercolours

will be represented in mounted prints and cards

All available for purchase with proceeds donated to

Adopt-A-Child

Zone 5 Building Project

Fiona Mackay will also be sharing about her recent trip to Guatemala,

one of the countries in which AAC is working

Admission £5 at the door

Complimentary Buffet by Harry Gow, Inverness and Annette of Fiddlers Restaurant, Drumnadrochit

Adopt-A-Child (a programme of LWI) in the UK is a Scottish Charity No. SC 029685, and a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, No. 202663  
International Development Co-ordinator: Paul A. Cocking Reg. Office: AAC, Culloden Centre, Keppoch Road, Inverness, IV2 7LL, Scotland

Wardlaw Church contact  
Maris Elkin 831 590



Kiltarlity Church contact  
David Garvie 741 038

Interim Moderator – Rev. Edgar Ogston 782 260 or [edgar.ogston@macfish.com](mailto:edgar.ogston@macfish.com)

Kirkhill Sunday School – Margaret Birkbeck 831 518 / Flora Morrison 831 373

Kiltarlity Sunday School – Linda MacKenzie 741 313 / Anneliese Garvie 741 038

*The Parishioner* – Iain and Rosemary Mortimer 782 648

E-mail – [iain.mortimer1@btinternet.com](mailto:iain.mortimer1@btinternet.com)

## Do I need a Will ?

The short answer is yes. Writing a valid Will is the only way you can be sure that your wishes are carried out and your loved ones provided for after your death. Also, dying without a Will may cause your family the distress of resolving legal problems on top of losing a loved one. Making a legally valid Will is the only way to be sure that, in the event of your death, your money and possessions go to the people and causes you care about. Many married people believe that their possessions would automatically go to their partner. Without a Will, though, that is not necessarily the case. And if they are not married, their partner could receive nothing.

## Can I write my own Will ?

It is perfectly legal to write your own Will, but few of us have the skills needed to do this properly. It is said that solicitors make more money sorting out badly written or invalid Wills than they do out of writing them !



Having your Will written professionally can give you great peace of mind. Use a local solicitor who has signed up to Will Aid and you can enjoy the added feel-good factor of supporting nine leading UK charities. Instead of paying your solicitor's fee, you will be invited to make a donation to charity. Suggested minimum donation is £90 for a basic Will, £135 for a pair of basic mirror

Wills and £40 for a codicil.

The following local solicitors are some that have signed up for Will Aid - T.S.H. Burns & Son and J. C. Bartlett & Co. in Dingwall, MacArthur & Co. and Allen and Shaw in Inverness. This is not a full list of local solicitors who have joined the scheme. Please contact a solicitor of your own choice and ask them if they have signed up to the Will Aid scheme.

The 9 charities are : **British Red Cross**, **NSPCC**, **Save the Children**, **Christian Aid**, **Age UK**, **Trócaire** - formed in 1973, supports communities in their efforts to improve their lives, meet their basic needs and ensure their human dignity in a way that is both long term and sustainable. **SCIAF** is Scotland's leading aid and development agency helping people affected by hunger, conflict and disease. **ActionAid** take advantage of over 30 years of knowledge and experience in fighting poverty. They don't impose solutions, but work with communities over many years to strengthen their own efforts to throw off poverty. For 60 years **Sightsavers** has been working in the developing world to save sight and promote equal opportunities for people who are blind or have low vision.

## Diary dates for NOVEMBER 2012

- 30 October Coffee / tea / home baking at Wardlaw Church at 10:00 a.m.  
30 October Adopt a Child event at Kings Factory, Inverness at 7:30 p.m.  
2 November Ladies Testimony and Praise evening at Kiltarlity Free Church at 7:30 p.m.  
**4 November Worship at WARDLAW at 10:30 a.m. KILTARLITY at 12 noon.**  
Preacher is Mrs Morven Archer
- 4 November First Sunday Praise at Kiltarlity Free Church at 6:00 p.m.  
4 November Annual World Church Service at Kinmylies Church, Inverness at 6:30 p.m.  
5 November Kilmorack & Erchless Guild meeting in the Church Hall, Beauly at 7:30 p.m.  
6 November Coffee / tea / home baking at Wardlaw Church at 10:00 a.m.  
7 November Guild meeting at Wardlaw Church at 2:30 p.m.  
7 November Prayer meeting at Wardlaw Church at 7:00 p.m.  
**11 November Worship at WARDLAW at 10:00 a.m. and KILTARLITY at 12 noon.**  
Remembrance Sunday – Preacher is Rev. Stewart Jeffrey
- 12 November Inverness & Nairn Presbytery Guild Quiz at Dalneigh Church at 7:00 p.m.  
13 November Coffee / tea / home baking at Wardlaw Church at 10:00 a.m.  
14 November Prayer meeting at Wardlaw Church at 7:00 p.m.  
**18 November Communion Service at WARDLAW at 10:30 a.m. and  
Worship Service at KILTARLITY at 12 noon.**  
Preacher is Rev. Stewart Jeffrey
- 18 November Third Sunday Praise at Wardlaw Church at 6:00 p.m.  
20 November Coffee / tea / home baking at Wardlaw Church at 10:00 a.m.  
21 November Prayer meeting at Wardlaw Church at 7:00 p.m.  
21 November Kirkhill Deacons' Court meeting at Wardlaw Church at 7:30 p.m.  
24 November Tomnacross School Christmas Fayre at Kiltarlity Village Hall from 10:00 a.m.  
**25 November Worship at WARDLAW at 10:30 a.m. and KILTARLITY at 12 noon.**  
Preacher is Mrs Vivien Roden
- 27 November Coffee / tea / home baking at Wardlaw Church at 10:00 a.m.  
27 November Kirkhill Kirk Session meeting at Wardlaw Church at 7:30 p.m.  
27 November Guild Presbyterial Council meeting at Ness Bank Church at 7:30 p.m.  
28 November Prayer meeting at Wardlaw Church at 7:00 p.m.  
29 November Kiltarlity Deacons' Court and Kirk Session meeting at Tomnacross Church  
at 7:30 p.m.  
**2 December Worship at WARDLAW at 10:30 a.m. and KILTARLITY at 12 noon.**  
Preacher is Mrs Vivien Roden - *First Sunday of Advent*

*When the Minister moved his family into the large Victorian Manse, a member of the congregation asked the young son how he liked his new home. "It's great," the little boy replied. "At last I have my own room, and Mike has his own room, and Jemma has her own room, and Bobby has his own room. But poor Mum is still in with Dad."*

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