

MAY 2017

From the Archives

Below are the researches of Madeline Kingston into the past Registers and Minute books which are stored in St. John's. This is clearly proving a fascinating account of earlier days of the congregation. At present she is engrossed in the Minute book of 1941, a time when the long incumbency of the Revs. Alexander Copland had just ended with his death in office. So that particular year covers wartime, a vacancy and the appointment of a new rector.

Her findings will be a regular feature in the Eagle for several issues, and will provide very interesting reading for us all.

She writes:-

I had occasion recently to look at some of the Registers and Minutes books stored in St. John's.

Among them is a Register of Services relating to St. Margaret's Carsebarracks from August 1931 – March 1937. Throughout that period Evening Prayer from the Scottish Book of Common Prayer was read at 6 p.m. every Sunday, usually by a layman (the name Peter Dearne occurs frequently). In addition the Rector, the Revd. Alexander Copland, celebrated Holy Communion at 8.30 a.m. on the third Sunday each month. The Register shows no record of the numbers who attended, but it does list the sum taken up in the collection at each service, with a monthly total which ranges from 4s.2d. to 11s. 8d. Also shown is the sum apparently spent on flowers each month, rarely more than two shillings.

In a Vestry minute book of 1943 there is a letter from Carsina Gray-Cheape whose mother had built and endowed the "Carsebarracks Mission Church" in memory of her husband. At that date, 1943, there had been no regular services for several years as the endowment was "now inadequate". She therefore made provision for the Vestry to use the income from the available balance for both maintenance of the building and provision of services regardless of my mother's letters of 1907 and 1908.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday May 10th** Dunkeld Area council Area See below
- Saturday May 13th** Coffee Morning 10 a.m. to 12 noon See below
- Saturday May 27th** Diocesan Gathering See below
- Saturday June 17th** Lunchtime Recital
- Wednesday June 28th** Pitlochry Outing
- Tuesday August 8th** Bingo at The Royal British Legion Hall, 7 for 7.30pm

Dunkeld Area Council

There will be a social gathering at **St Ninian's Cathedral on Wednesday 10th May, 7pm - 8.30pm.**, to which all are welcome. This is a chance to get to know each other over an informal 'bring and share' meal. Please bring contributions for a finger buffet. We will close the evening by sharing in a Taize service.

Hilary Bridge. CTNLO.

Coffee Morning: Saturday May 13th

Here we are again! Time for looking out for some suitable Tombola Prizes; Gift Stall items; dust off the recipe books to decide what delicious goodies to bake, and dig out the home made preserves from the pantry, for the Cake and Produce Stall. **Any other suggestions or offers to help would be welcomed! Please contact Fay on 818787. Please give any donations of goods etc. to Fay or bring them to the Halls on the morning of Friday 12th between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.**

Saturday May 27th Diocesan Gathering

Final programme details and booking forms are to be found at the back of the church. Forms should be returned by 13th May. Full details were in the February Eagle . It has been suggested that we hire a minibus to transport those who would like to attend the Gathering on Saturday 27th May. This would avoid all the hassle of travel and parking. If there are sufficient numbers this can be arranged. Please let vestry secretary Geoffrey Bridge or me know if you want to take us up on this offer. Hilary Bridge. CTNLO 01828 640 452

There will be further reminder of details of the Lunchtime Recital and the Pitlochry outing in the June magazine

The Quiz night in March raised £428.

TUESDAY CLUB – 11th APRIL 2017

THE LUNAN WATER – JIM NICOL

How well do you know your local area? An easy question perhaps but not so easily answered without an in-depth knowledge resulting from time and research, as our invited speaker for the evening Jim Nicol was to prove. Born and brought up in Glen Prosen, Jim's father introduced him to the great outdoors and the sense of adventure. Educated locally, then a career with the R.A.F. developed Jim's love for walking, mountains and climbing (particularly rock and ice). Mountains would become a passion for this man from the Glens, being a former president of the Forfar and District Hillwalking Club and involvement with Mountain Rescue, both in the forces and as a civilian for 21 years, more than testifies to that. Those 'boots made for walking' have trod many a mile at home and abroad including the mountains of Austria, Germany and Switzerland and even the Drakensberg Range in South Africa and he remains a member of the R.A.F. Mountain Rescue Association. Jim's other great love is of course his wife of 58 years and he says that they decided last week that the marriage just might work!

Our topic of '*The Lunan Water*' from its origins to the sea was a cocktail of photography, local history and geography. Following a course close to the old Forfar to Arbroath railway line, the *Lunan* was once the main water supply for Lunanhead or '*the Berrecks*' (dating from the middle ages) and its environs. The 'spot' near to the railway bridge at the village is still visible today and is fed as it has always been, by springs from Pitscandly Hill or Rob's Reed, site of an ancient fort, and Turin Hill or Kemp's Castle, an Iron Age fort. A stone circle on Turin Hill supports a plaque (replacing Jamieson's sword) erected to the memory of B.S.M. William McKay Jamieson of the Scottish Horse / Royal Artillery, who courageously died saving the lives of his men during a fateful training exercise on 23rd June 1943. Also from here, panoramic views were enjoyed over Craigowl, Loch Fithie and the Murton before we journeyed through the countryside to Reswallie, Restenneth Priory, Restenneth Moss (an area of special scientific interest and bird life) and Clocksbriggs, prior to reaching Reswallie and Rescobie. Viewing the *Lunan* from Rescobie Kirk, the former stream has developed into a burn. Balgavies Loch came next and Milldens where we took time to rest a while at the mill lade as workers did of old, and to visit the mill witnessing the production of bird seed and the like which is available for purchase. At one time in their history Milldens and Guthrie had another thriving industry in the form of eels. The banks were ideal places for setting traps and the eels were so plentiful, the 'catch' was sent to London to be sold. Due to restricted access to the grounds of Guthrie Castle, the route was curtailed, so leaving the *Lunan* we cross to Pitmuies and pick up '*The Vinney*'.

The source of the *Vinney* is at the 'back o' Bummie' (Balmashanner) and though not so, would seem more significant than the *Lunan*. The *Vinney*, stemming from two burns, is therefore much wider as it flows through Letham to Pitmuies. Still visible today are the gates which, when closed, allowed the *Vinney* water to create the mill pond which fed the mill at Guthrie or continued its natural course towards Friockheim.

Having passed the grounds of Guthrie Castle, the *Lunan* can again be traced, as it too flows towards Friockheim and the magical merger.

Throughout the journey, Jim's photography illustrated the beautiful scenery we have around us even though the ravages of time and nature may have taken their toll. The place of the 'meeting of the waters' must have been truly inspirational for the young man meeting his love as he penned the following;

The Meeting of the Waters

***Oh meet me in the moonlight pale
When gently zephyrs blow,
And hear me tell my tender tale
Where Lunan's waters flow
And be our true love in its sweep
A love that cannot cease
Serene and pure and strong and deep
Like Lunan's stream of peace***

***And as the rivers twain converge
Until at last they meet
And Vinney's waves in Lunan's merge,
A marriage rite complete.
Such love may our love's course be run
As such its final goal,
No longer twain but truly one,
One heart, one mind, one soul***

Written by David Young of Carmylie, c1852

Sadly now overgrown, the beauty of the mill pond at 'Friock' remains only in the memory of its older residents. Clearly once an attraction for the public as the warning signs record – No Swimming, No Fishing, etc. Time though does not stop the *Lunan* as it passes by Kinnell and the ruinous Kinnell Kirk (a place of worship from 1859 – 1967, the Kirk bell can be seen at the entrance to Friockheim Church) getting closer to the sea. Hatton Mill and Spring Mill two of the many mills supported by the *Lunan*. Examples of their production being String, Yarns, Osnaburg and family linen to name but a few necessary items of a by-gone-age. Sixty women were employed in the latter mill, each having to walk two miles from and to Arbroath daily just to get to work. Meal Mills, Barley Mills all dependant on the flow of the water. Now in its final stage the *Lunan* makes its way by Inverkeillor, Red Castle, Ethiehaven and Lunan Bay where once Salmon fishing was a source of employment, but now like the old fishermen who hung up their nets for the last time, we view '*The Lunan Water*' for the last time as it enters the sea.

In conclusion, 'how well do you know your local area?' I for one learned a huge amount about what is on my doorstep and I am fairly sure those attending did likewise.

Evelyn gave the vote of thanks and as is customary, we all enjoyed our supper. Many thanks to all concerned.

Linda Robbie

SALVATION ARMY FOODBANK

St John's, as well as the other churches in Forfar, has been collecting items for the S.A. Foodbank for a number of years. This takes place on the 1st Sunday of each month, although items can be brought to the church at any time of the month, Sundays or Wednesdays.

The S.A. recently issued a list of the type of items they need, and a list of other items they do not need at the present time.

See poster on the table at the back of the church.

It is easy to forget how quickly the 1st of the month comes round, and neither is it always easy to carry tins and packets etc.

The S.A. also accepts monetary donations, which allows them to purchase food items when certain stocks are running low.

There will now also be a S.A. collection tin at the back of the church on Foodbank Sunday should that be the preferred way to donate.

The kindness of all the congregations in the town is greatly appreciated by the S.A. and, of course, by the needy recipients.

Let's continue our much needed support in any of the above ways.

Listening as spiritual hospitality.

To listen is very hard because it asks of us so much interior stability that we no longer need to prove ourselves by speeches, arguments, statements or declarations. True listeners no longer have an inner need to make their presence known. They are free to receive, to welcome and to accept.

Listening is much more than allowing another to talk while waiting for a chance to respond. Listening is paying full attention to others and welcoming them into our beings. The beauty of listening is that those who are listened to start feeling accepted, start taking their words more seriously and discovering their true selves. Listening is a form of spiritual hospitality by which you invite strangers to become friends, to get to know their inner selves more fully and even dare to be silent with you.

Henri Nouwen from 'Bread for the Journey.'

ROTAS READINGS AND READERS

SUNDAY MAY 7TH

11a.m. Sung Eucharist

Acts 2: 42 – 47, 1 Peter 2: 19 - 25, John 10: 1 - 10

Reader Eleanor Rowlands

2 p.m. St. Margaret's Lunanhead

WEDNESDAY MAY 10TH

10 15 a.m. Said Eucharist

SUNDAY MAY 14TH

11 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Acts 7: 55 – 60, 1 Peter 2: 2 – 10, John 14: 1 – 14

Reader Lee Winks

WEDNESDAY MAY 17TH

10 15 a.m. Said Eucharist

SUNDAY MAY 21ST

11 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Acts 17: 22 – 31, 1 Peter 3: 13 – 22, John 14: 15 – 21

Reader Eryl Rowlands

2 p.m. St. Margaret's Lunanhead

WEDNESDAY MAY 24TH

10 15 a.m. Said Eucharist

SUNDAY MAY 28TH

11 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Acts 1: 6 – 14, 1 Peter 4: 12 – 14.5: 6 – 11, John 17: 1 – 11

Reader Nora Craig

WEDNESDAY MAY 31ST

10 15 a.m. Said Eucharist

SUNDAY JUNE 4TH PENTECOST

11 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Acts 2: 1 – 21, 1 Corinthians 12: 3b- 13. John 20: 19 - 23

Reader Fay Slingsby

2 p.m. St. Margaret's Lunanhead

WEDNESDAY JUNE 7TH

10 15 a.m. Said Eucharist

SUNDAY JUNE 11TH TRINITY SUNDAY

11 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Genesis 1:1 - 2:4a, 2 Corinthians 13: 11 – 13, Matthew 28: 16 - 20

Reader Madeline Kingston

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Easter and Music

Ian Young who conducted the Palm Sunday service writes of that days' liturgy. And in particular speaks of Neil's wonderful and atmospheric performance of the piece he describes below:-

'The liturgy of Palm Sunday is unique. Within an hour or so the scripture readings take us on an immense journey from the Triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem to his death on Calvary. In singing terms from 'All glory, laud and honour' to 'When I survey the wondrous cross'. As a postlude, Neil played 'Le banquet Celeste' (The Heavenly Feast or the Celestial Banquet} by the 20th century innovative French composer Olivier Messian. At the conclusion of the piece he quotes John 6.56 'He that eateth my flesh and drinks my blood dwelleth in me and I in him', which indicates that it is to be played during or after a Eucharist. On this day, it is obviously foreshadowing the last Supper. The work is only 25 bars long, but takes between 7 and 8 minutes to perform due to the extremely slow tempo. The first theme, marked 'far away', mysterious' is slow and sustained and the second, played by the feet on the pedals is 'brief, staccato as a water drop' representing Christ's blood. Neil's performance on Palm Sunday was both a fitting ending to our worship and greatly appreciated by all who listened. '

For those of us who worship regularly in St. John's it is no surprise that Neil should have taken such care and thought for his postlude on Palm Sunday. Not only is he a wonderful organist, and plays with such skill and sensitivity, but he is clearly enormously committed to his task. For him is very obviously NOT just an hour on Sunday. His choice of hymns and voluntaries is always inspired - we never know quite what is coming next except that it is always imaginative and appropriate. We don't realise the half of what he gives to St. John's all the time. We don't in fact realise quite how incredibly lucky we are.

He is also, on a rather less lofty note, a wonderful choir master. Hugely patient, he points out the deficiencies with great charm and humour. And one must remember the choir practice takes another hour in the week, which all adds up. Those of us in the choir know, perhaps a little bit more than the rest of the congregation. what he gives, and we are deeply grateful.'

Ian has mentioned the Palm Sunday liturgy. Going further into the week, several fortunate members were present at the meditation prepared by Eryl Rowlands for Good Friday. And Neil was there to accompany the three familiar hymns. The format of the meditation had been prepared by Eryl himself, and it is difficult to describe his leading of it, without appearing almost patronising or trite. Everyone's reaction will be different and personal. It is enough to say that no-one could have left St. John's that afternoon without being moved, inspired and deeply affected. We were also lucky that he prepared the order of service for Easter Sunday to a packed church. + Ted Luscombe celebrated the Eucharist, which was very special for us all.

On a lighter note, Palm Sunday also saw the annual Daffodil walk – the circuit of Burnside Hill beginning and ending at Reswallie, where awaiting us was a delicious tea at tables basking in the sun at the front of the house. It was a beautiful day, sunny and warm. It must be about the 20th walk, and to my memory the weather has always been good for it. Sometimes the flowers have not been up to speed, and the walk has had to be postponed but never cancelled because of rain, Quite a record for Scotland. Dorothy Bruce-Gardyne

Appeal - Knitters Required
from The Freedom From Fistula Foundation, Perth

Today, an estimated 2 million women in Africa are suffering from obstetric fistula caused by prolonged, obstructive childbirth and lack of access to maternity care. Left incontinent, the effect in women is devastating and often condemns them to a life of solitude and despair. Aims are to help these women by:

providing free surgeries to heal their fistulas and financing caesarean sections to stop obstetric fistulas occurring

providing free maternity care delivered by midwives trained in the highest standards of maternity healthcare

financing access to healthcare during pregnancy and labour

With help we can continue to make a difference.

Quote from a Mother in Sierra Leone: "At first, I didn't see myself as a human being since people didn't want to be around me. Now I see healing and it's like life has returned again"

So in what way can knitters help? By knitting squares! As the women are ostracised and confined to their homes, sewing the squares together to make into blankets gives them a purpose, and the blankets are, of course, so useful.

PATTERN

Cast on 30 stitches, leaving 18 inches of yarn at the start, knit 60 rows, then cast off leaving 18 inches of yarn at the finish. (Do not sew together)

Double knitting wool, needles size 8/4mm. One 100 gram ball of wool will knit 7 squares.

All squares to be handed to Lee Winks (07549165672)

Let's get clicking!

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Things that could be better put - on a church notice board -

JUMBLE SALE NEXT SATURDAY 3 P.M.

This is a good chance to get rid of anything that is not worth keeping.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR HUSBANDS ALONG.

(Might the Bric a brac stall on May 13th be interesting?!)

