



St Peter's Church
19 Townsend Place
Kirkcaldy
KY1 1HB

Rector: The Revd. Canon Christine Fraser
St. Peter's Rectory
1 Longbraes Gardens
Kirkcaldy. KY2 5YJ

Registered Charity Number:

St. Peter's with Ss Mary and Leonard: SC010443

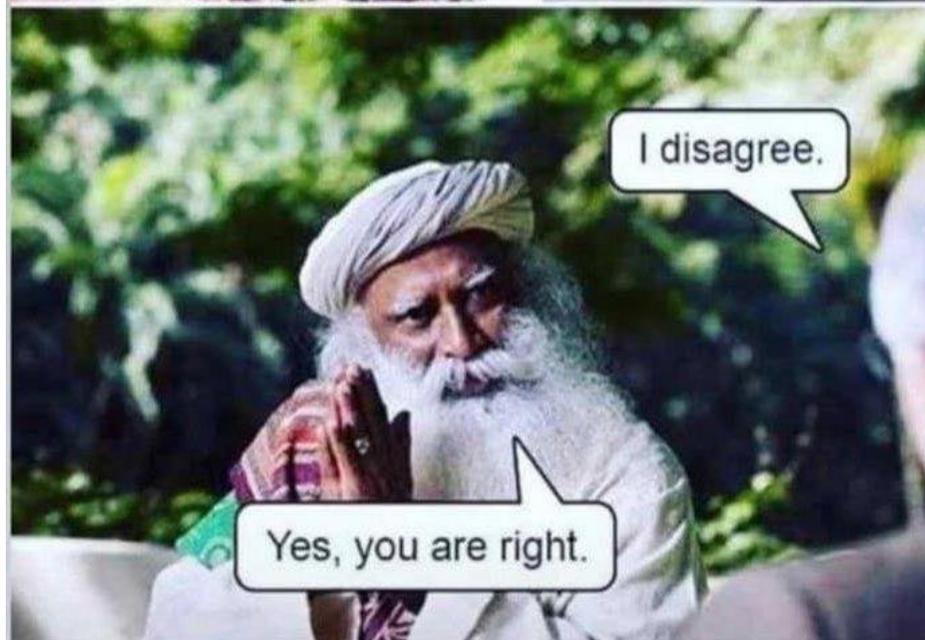
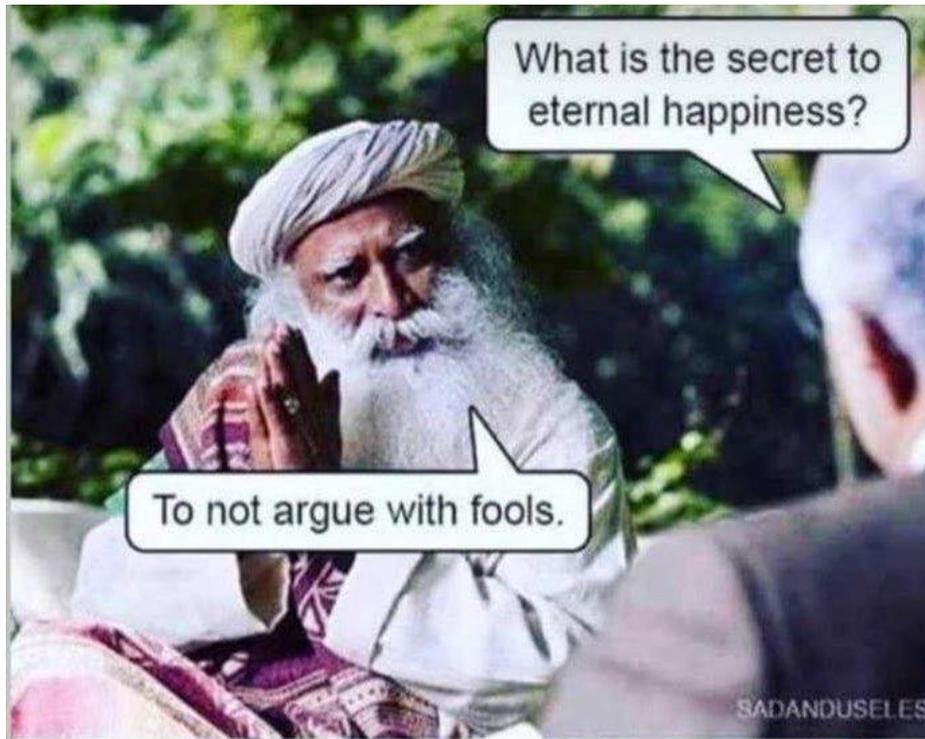
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St Peter's Website..... www.stpeterskirkcaldy.co.uk

The Contact Magazine of St. Peter's with Ss. Mary & Leonard

Rector: The Revd. Canon Christine Fraser





Mr Tremble, a retired health and safety officer, whose well-meaning advice on avoiding accidents is such a burden, is applying to have all the gravestones on his patch levelled, so that no one could be killed by having a fall on them. The fact that this has never happened in 600 years, seems an irrelevance to him. On the other hand, his neighbour spends summer evenings painting his stones with sour milk, in order to encourage lichen. Mr Tremble's warning that some lichens can be quite poisonous have so far fallen on deaf ears.

A local farmer, who maintains the boundary walls, generously planted cherry trees all around the perimeter; not only for their looks in Spring, but so that the birds would have somewhere to roost. Sadly, Lady Lipton, while resting from maintaining her plot, tends to stupefy them when she smokes her briar pipe.

The only area which no one dares criticise surrounds the mausoleum of the Luscombes, maintained by the gardening staff of the present Lord. It contains such a collection of rogues and miscreants that parishioners fear their anger at being disturbed may even cross the divide of death.

I hesitate to admit it, but the thought of an area of concrete with a few pizza boxes scattered round does at times hold a certain attraction.

Your loving Uncle

Eustace

The Italian pasta diet that really works

You walka pasta da bakery
 You walks pasta da sweet shop
 You walka pasta da ice cream shop
 You walks pasta da table and fridge
 You gonna losa da weight!

gasped something about heavy metal, I was able to reassure him. “Heavy metal? We’re doing that Saturday morning from about 6am, when our bellringers will give a three-hour exhibition of change ringing.” The farmer pleaded something about singing, and I was able to reassure him on that point as well: “On Sunday we’ll do a Songs of Praise, and not to worry, your campers can choose their favourite hymns from ‘Ancient and Modern’.”

I was thanked profusely, but the following week, our dear farmer wrote to tell me he had decided to graze sheep on his field after all. Shame about that.

Talk of fields and churchyards leads me to consider our “Turf Wars”.

Consider yourself fortunate that your churchyard consists of no more than a small, paved area, and that keeping it tidy requires ten minutes of picking up discarded takeaway boxes on Sunday morning. Our four acres of grass and randomly placed gravestones absorbs a large portion of the time and energy of half the parish.

By getting different people to adopt sections of the churchyard, the hope was that an element of competition would be introduced; Major Rutherford would never let Admiral Crompton’s section look tidier than his and the local farmers would want to show the amateurs that they knew far more about land maintenance.

Sadly, human nature has got in the way – as it invariably does. Miss Timmins has declared her section a nature reserve, so that the cuddly field mice and darling hedgehogs have somewhere to live in. This now means that crossing from her patch to the next feels like crossing from Kew Gardens to the Amazon Rainforest. Two feet high grass and a profusion of dandelions give way to manicured lawn with any weed daring to pop its head above the parapet being beheaded in seconds. Miss T is toying with erecting a fence round her plot, to keep her dear furry friends safe and Sir Horace is threatening to have it electrified, to make sure they do not defile his grass billiard table.

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Letter from The Rector

Dear Friends

We began our Lenten journey with Jesus on Ash Wednesday. We have followed Jesus as we accepted his invitation to take up our cross and follow him. We stand with Jesus as he enters Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. On Holy Thursday Jesus bent low and washed our feet. On Good Friday Jesus gave his life for ours on the cross. Having sat at the table with him and having stood at the cross with him, we can now stand at the empty tomb and proclaim, with Mary Magdalene, Jesus is risen! Death did not have the final word. Light has overcome darkness; new and everlasting life is offered to all people.

On Easter Sunday we stand with Mary Magdalene at the empty tomb. She was a loyal and faithful disciple of Jesus as he preached to the crowds and healed the sick. She, with the other women, stood at the cross and watched her friend and master die a very public and humiliating death. Now after his death and burial, she is still looking for him. Imagine her surprise and shock when she saw that the huge stone that covered the tomb was rolled away. Imagine her shock and disappointment when she saw that the tomb was empty.

However, all is not as it seems. Turning around she sees 'the gardener.' This ordinary 'gardener' is the risen Lord! Jesus looks at her in a familiar way and says one word, 'Mary.' Immediately her eyes are truly opened and she realises to whom she is speaking. She too replies with one word, 'Rabboni' – which means 'teacher'. Her disappointment turns to immense joy.

Jesus has a mission for her, he asks her to go and tell the others that he has risen from the dead. Mary is the first to experience the resurrection and she is the first to proclaim this great news.

Today, we are called to follow Mary's example; we too are asked to go and tell, to go and share the good news of our faith with others. Mary did not keep the good news of the resurrections to herself and neither can we. Just as Jesus called Mary by her name, he calls each of us by

The Rectory
St. James the Least of All



My dear Nephew Darren

On how to sabotage a music festival

It seemed such an innocent suggestion. A local farmer announced he wanted to arrange a Spring music festival. I could already hear Mozart string quartets being played in our Lady Chapel, and arias from Donizetti operas being sung *al fresco* in the Glebe field, while we sipped champagne in the warm Spring sunshine and admired the flowers.

Unfortunately, our farmer was thinking of a heavy metal weekend in one of his fields. The teacups began to rattle when village talk turned to portable lavatories, mobile catering vans and using the churchyard for overflow camping space. Then the police arrived to discuss crowd control and drug policy. At James the Least of All we tend more towards congenial dinner parties, with drugs labelled Bollinger or Glenfiddich.

That was the point when Colonel Trubshaw began to search out his old shotgun. His wife even stopped serving coffee after Mattins, in order to patrol the perimeter of their estate with their arthritic spaniel. On the other hand, Miss Little went a little mad. She exchanged her usual tweeds and brogues and pearls for a red bandana, long patchwork dress and peace beads. She must have enjoyed the 1960s.

It was time to take action, so I told our farmer that St James the Least of All would support him to the hilt. Our ladies would of course do flower arrangements for the stage, and our sidesmen would greet the campers as they arrived. We would provide a full choral Evensong on Friday night, to help set the tone for the weekend. When the farmer

“Why English Is Hard to Learn”

We'll begin with *box*; the plural is *boxes*,
 But the plural of *ox* is *oxen*, not *oxes*.
 One fowl is a *goose*, and two are called *geese*,
 Yet the plural of *moose* is never called *meese*.

You may find a lone *mouse* or a house full of *mice*;
 But the plural of *house* is *houses*, not *hice*.
 The plural of *man* is always *men*,
 But the plural of *pan* is never *pen*.

If I speak of a *foot*, and you show me two *feet*,
 And I give you a *book*, would a pair be a *beek*?
 If one is a *tooth* and a whole set are *teeth*,
 Why shouldn't two *booths* be called *beeth*?

If the singular's *this* and the plural is *these*,
 Should the plural of *kiss* be ever called *keese*?

We speak of a *brother* and also of *brethren*,
 But though we say *mother*, we never say *methren*.
 Then the masculine pronouns are *he*, *his*, and *him*;
 But imagine the feminine . . . *she*, *shis*, and *shim*!

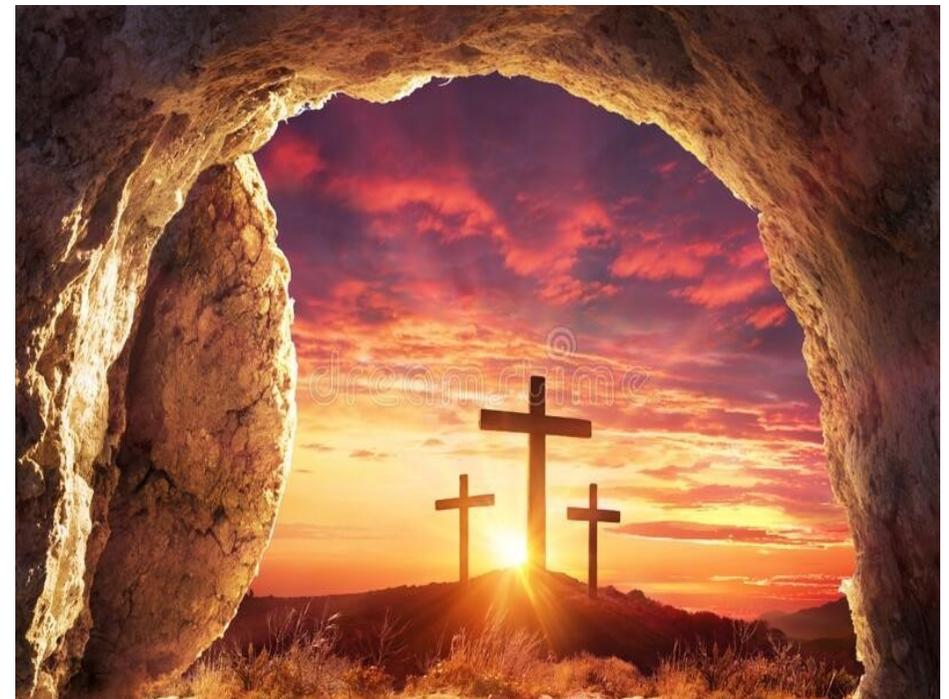
our name today. Like her, we too are called to be missionary disciples who share and proclaim the good news of the resurrection with all those we meet. We do this in countless ordinary ways through the quality of our daily lives and how we treat others.

Mary experienced the resurrection in a very personal way and then went and told others that she had met and spoken to the risen Lord.

This Easter as we celebrate and experience the Resurrection of Jesus, let us follow Mary Magdalene's example; let us go and share with others our own good news; Jesus is risen, death has been defeated, light and goodness have triumphed. Jesus is risen and alleluia is our song. We can truly say Happy Easter!

Blessings

Christine



Worship at St Peter's

Sundays 9.15 am Said Eucharist (SPB)

10.30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Liturgy)

Wednesdays 10.00 am Said Eucharist (1982 Liturgy)

The Church, Hall and meeting room are now connected to the Internet with full WiFi access. Please check with Christine, George or Andrea for further information.

Easter Services in April

Palm Sunday 10th - 9.15 and 10.30 am

Wednesday 13th - 10.00 am—midweek service

Thursday 14th - 11.00 am - Chrism Mass at St. Ninian's Cathedral

All welcome. If you're going, please advise the Rector, for catering purposes

Thursday 14th 7.00 pm - Maundy Eucharist and Stripping of Altar

Good Friday 15th - 12 noon - Good Friday service with Communion

Easter Sunday 17th - 9.15 and 10.30 am



In 1840s Fife, a deserted spouse could have their marriage annulled if they set a place at the dinner table and shouted out the door for the absent spouse to come eat.

If they repeated this every day for a year plus one day, they were free to marry again.

[#OldWeirdScotland](#)



ODE TO THE SPELL CHECKER

Eye have a spelling checker
 It came with my pea sea
 It plainly marques four my revue
 Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.
 Eye strike a key and type a word
 And weight 4 it 2 say
 Weather eye am wrong oar write
 It shows me strait a weigh.
 As soon as a mist ache is maid
 It nose bee fore two long
 And eye can put the error rite
 Its rare lea ever wrong.
 Eye have run this poem threw it
 I am shore your pleased two no
 Its letter perfect awl the weigh
 My chequer tolled me sew!

Little Billy

The teacher asked all the children what their fathers did for a living. All the typical answers came out, fireman, policeman, salesman, chippy, captain of industry, Equipment Specialist etc, but Billy was being uncharacteristically quiet and so the teacher asked him about his father.

"My father is an exotic dancer in a gay club and takes off all his clothes in front of other men. Sometimes if the offer is really good, he'll go out with a man, rent a cheap hotel room and let them sleep with him."

The teacher quickly set the other children some work and took little Billy aside to ask him if that was really true.

"No" said Billy, "He plays cricket for England, but I was just too embarrassed to say."



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Becoming a grandmother is wonderful. One moment you're just a mother. The next you are all-wise and prehistoric. – *Pam Brown*

Grandchildren don't stay young forever, which is good because grandfathers have only so many horsy rides in them. – *Gene Perret*

You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother. – *Proverb*

On going discussions - everyone has similar fears re finance, loss of lets, building difficulties and viability queries. Do we need buildings - could we meet future members elsewhere?

David McKenzie Mills commented that in Kinross there are a number of new housing estates but no new people coming along to church. How can we go to where the people are ?

He commented on the number of Food Banks which are ever growing saying that, "we are starting to be seen as a church of the poor, rather than for the poor in some areas"

Climate Change - Awaiting the 'toolkit'

Comment - We are all in this together.

Climate change/carbon neutral should be a Vestry Agenda item each meeting. (Pleased to say it is here). We heard of examples which are in my other report re working towards Bcoming Carbon Neutral.

Lastly, agreed that the motion that Liliash Graham be included in the Scottish Episcopal Church Calendar, on account of her faith filled life and example, should be carried through to General Synod in June, to be voted on for inclusion.

Meeting closed 15.38 with a note that next year's meeting will be on 11th March, 2023.

Quiet in church

A mother who took her fidgety seven-year-old to church finally had an idea. About halfway through the long sermon she leaned over and whispered: "If you don't be quiet, the preacher is going to lose his place, and he will have to start the sermon all over again."It worked!

Diocesan Synod 05 March 2022 - By zoom

from **Shirley Mann**

Synod started with Eucharist with the New Dean Graham Taylor giving the homily. He thanked everyone for making him feel so welcome in his new post and said he is intending to visit all charges as restrictions on visiting etc. are lifted.

There was the usual welcome to guests and first time members of Synod followed by elections of Clergy and Lay Members to General Synod in June.

Bishop Ian reflected, as you would expect, on Ukraine asking us all to pray. He told a story he had come across of a young boy praying with his mother at bedtime. He prayed for peace in his country and that the Russian president would be a good man that from a 6 year old.

He spoke of the St Andrews Declaration signed last year. This works for unity and co-operation with the Church of Scotland (which he sees as becoming very positive)

Referring to Ecumenical projects with the Church of Scotland in connection with the Fife Pilgrim Way. We heard of a Pilgrimage Pastor who will work 2 days a week for a pilot scheme of 1 year, based at the church in Ceres. This is based on the model from the Lutheran churches. It sounds a very exciting project.

Bishop Ian also announced the creation of 2 new canons, the Rev Elaine Garman and the Rev Christopher Wutschter . They will be installed at the Chrism Mass.

The use of New Experimental Liturgy, (which we at St Peter's have been using since the return to Church services following Covid restrictions) was passed for second reading at General Synod in June.

The Lambeth Conference will take place this year but none of the attending Clergy will be visiting Scotland.

Who's Who at St. Peter's

Rector: Rev'd. Canon Christine Fraser

Assistant Priest: Rev'd. Stuart Gray

.....

Car Park Rentals: Maria Page

Child/vulnerable adult Protection:

Kerry Briers

Christian Aid: Judy Webster

Rosemary Potter

Church Treasurer, Gift

Aid & 100 Club: Judy Webster

Contact Magazine Editor: Richard Ouston

Email richard.16@hotmail.co.uk

CTN Administrator: Shirley Mann

Duty and Tea Rotas: Judy Webster

Shirley Mann

Fabric Convenor:

George Legge

Flower Convenor:

Jane Legge

Hall & Room Hire:

Andrea Ladyka

Lay Representative:

Shirley Mann

Lay Worship Leaders:

Richard Fawcett

Maria Page

Shirley Mann

Rudi Limebury

Rev. Christine Fraser

Prayer Group:

Social & Fund Raising

Committee Chair:

Shirley Mann

Vestry Chairman:

Bill Page

Vestry Secretary:

Maria Page

Website:

Norman Ward

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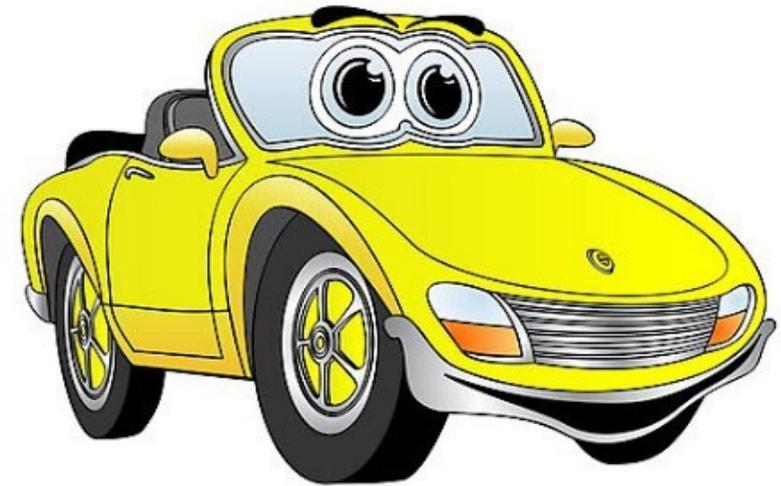
COST: (Including one free car parking place)

CHURCH:	£30 - £40 PER SESSION	CAPACITY: 80
LARGE HALL:	£30 PER SESSION	CAPACITY: 50
SMALL MEETING ROOM:	£20 PER SESSION	CAPACITY: 12

A booking form with full details is available for download from the website: www.stpeterskirkcaldy.co.uk

For further information please contact Andrea Ladyka:

Email: bookings@stpeterskirkcaldy.co.uk Mobile: 07716 568788



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Things My Mother Taught Me... from Norman Ward

1. My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE. "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I've just finished cleaning."
2. My mother taught me RELIGION. "You'd better pray that will come out of the carpet."
3. My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL. "If you don't straighten up. I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
4. My mother taught me LOGIC. "Because I said so. that's why."
5. My mother taught me MORE LOGIC. "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."
6. My mother taught me FORESIGHT. "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
7. My mother taught me IRONY. "Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."
8. My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS. "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."
9. My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM. "Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck."
10. My mother taught me about STAMINA. "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."

RNIB Stamp Collection

There is now a collecting box in the vestibule where you can put your used postage stamps. If possible, please leave a 1cm border when you cut your stamps from the envelope.



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The Clock of Life

from **Norman Ward**

Day and night and night and day
The clock of life jist ticks away
Years fly by so very fast
There is no way to make them last

Growing up we hud nae fears
Guid advice fell on deaf ears
Get life insurance a pension tae
But that is not what young folk dae

Got a job tae earn some money
Life now seemed as sweet as honey
Great times had as carefree teens
Sky blue "T" shirts and blue jeans

Weekend dancing happy days
Miniskirts wir aw the craze
Met a girl love at first site
Passion now was at its height

Soon got married in oor prime
Oblivious to the march of time
Children come our lives complete
Feel contented and upbeat

Went on holiday every year
Family life wis oh so dear
Happy memories of times gone by
Thinking back I laugh or cry



Flowers at St. Peter's

from **Jane Legge**

Many of you will have been enjoying the spring flowers brightening up the church grounds lately .The bulbs were planted in memory of the late David Innes, a long serving and generous member and a good friend of many at St Peter's.

We would like to thank those who assisted with the planting of the bulbs, also a big thankyou to Ian, Manager of MARTIN PLANT HIRE, KIRKCALDY, who generously donated the use of a turf lifter, making the task of creating the daffodil beds much easier.



Easy Fundraising St Peter's is now registered on the easyfundraising website. If you wish to contribute, the instructions are as follows:

1. Open easyfundraising website: www.easyfundraising.org.uk
2. Click on 'Create an account' box
3. Click on 'I want to support a good cause' box
4. Enter cause name in box - St Peter's, Kirkcaldy
5. Click on 'Support this cause'
6. Complete form with own personal details.

There is so much beauty in the telling of the true love of God very much laced with a wonderful sense of humour, so well matched with great love and intelligence by his American wife Joy. After being very good friends for some years, they got married at her hospital bed side when she was dying with cancer. However, by a miracle, she lived another three years.

I find the last few minutes of My Life's Journey especially beautiful: 'The deep feelings for the sins in spite of which we love the sinner.....There are no ordinary people, you have never spoken to a mere mortal, we share our lives with immortals,...our neighbour is the most precious object presented to our senses and the most important one...and if he is a Christian neighbour, in him or her Christ glorifies himself.'

Lastly, I have started to listen to the Radio Interviews with the Archbishop of Canterbury. In one of the episodes he talks about working for two years with his friend Canon Andrew White in reconciling work. 'Andrew White has the most genuine, overflowing and extraordinary love for the people he meets, which means he can meet two people, fierce enemies, and they know he loves them both to such an extent, that they begin to talk to each other. That love just melts down the hatred and begins to bring reconciliation. I also know that he prays a lot'.

Canon Andrew White was vicar of St. George's Church, Baghdad, the only Anglican Church in Iraq, until his departure was ordered in November 2014 due to security concerns. Apart from suffering from MS, he was at times imprisoned, tortured and his life threatened.

How we need to pray at present in the spirit of Andrew White!

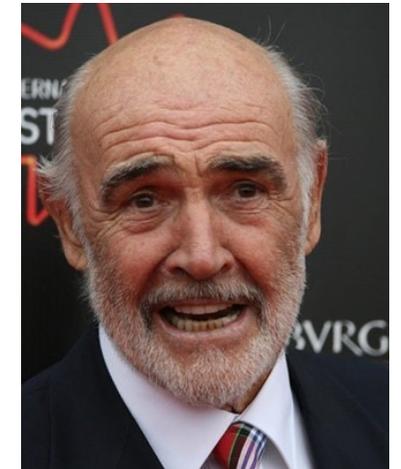
Kids now growing up so fast
Time is starting to fly past
Soon they all have left our home
Now have partners of their own

Grandbairns arrive to our delight
Time now fleein' at the speed of light
Maturing quickly like our own
In no time they too have grown

Both now retired time tae relax
Avoiding strokes and heart attacks
Take it easy enjoy life
Mair time spent wi' my dear wife

Ma mind regresses back in time
A recall when a' wis in ma prime
Thocht that a wid ne'r grow auld
Noo 'am gray headed and half bald

Life's like a roller coaster ride
With many up's and downs supplied
Enjoy the ride and hang on tight
Cos all to soon you must alight



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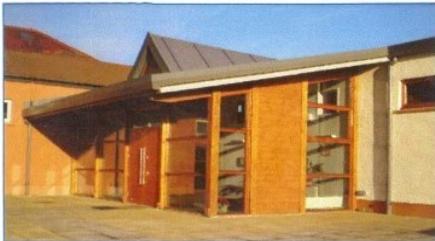
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Canterbury Morning Prayers, C S Lewis and Archbishop of Canterbury Interviews

from **Hedi Limebury**

During the lock down in March 2021, filming started of daily Canterbury Morning Prayers, in the Deanery Gardens, by the Dean of Canterbury Robert Willis, with Fletcher Banner doing the filming and producing the videos. The prayers take place in different relevant spots of the Deanery Garden in the company of the Deanery cats: most days by three legged Tiger but at times by Leo and Lilly, as well as chickens, turkeys, Ducky and Winnie the pig with her piglets.

I got to know so much more about the book of Genesis, Exodus, Samuel and the Gospel of John. After the Bible readings and Prayers the Dean talked about Kings, Saints, Poets, Musicians, Composers, Actors..... whose anniversaries would be remembered on the day. I hope I will remember some of the fascinating information I was given since joining the worldwide Deanery Garden Congregation last June.

Unfortunately the Church's legislation requires the Dean to retire on his 65th birthday (in May), but it is easy to catch up on YouTube with all the Morning Prayers. Also on YouTube, I started to listen to some C S Lewis talks and am currently reading his book 'Mere Christianity'. But I especially love 'My Life's Journey', as told by the brilliant actor David Payne as C S Lewis. He gives the listener such a vivid picture of C S Lewis' whole life.

Lewis told his friend J.R.R. Tolkien, after reading the script for 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe', that it was no good, so it went into the same pile of papers used for lighting the fire. Fortunately, just before using it as such, he had another look and thought best to give it to his editor!!

Get your Thinking Caps on :-

Anybody worked this out yet?

A farmer died leaving his 17 horses to his three sons.

When his sons opened up the will it read:

My eldest son should be given $\frac{1}{2}$ (half) of the total horses;

My middle son should be given $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the total horses;

My youngest son should be given $\frac{1}{9}$ th of the total horses.

As it's impossible to equally divide 17 by half or by 3 or by 9, the sons started to argue and fight with each other. So they then decided to go to a farmer friend whom they considered quite smart, to see if he could work it out for them.

The farmer friend read the Will patiently and, after giving due thought, he brought one of his own horses over and added it to the 17, thereby increasing the total horses to 18.

Farmer's Maths:-

Now he divided the horses according to the father's will.

Half of 18 = 9, so he gave the eldest son 9 horses.

$\frac{1}{3}$ rd of 18 = 6, so he gave the middle son 6 horses.

$\frac{1}{9}$ th of 18 = 2, so he gave the youngest son 2 horses.

Add up how many horses the sons have—eldest son 9, middle son 6, youngest son 2 **TOTAL IS 17**

As this leaves one horse over, the farmer friend takes his horse back to his farm. **Problem Solved!**

MATHS ARE SCARY, EH?

A Day In London in 2014

from **Jill Harris**

While staying with a friend in Harrow, we decided to have a fun day out in London's East End. Our first stop was the O2 Arena but, as the booking office was closed, we opted for the cable car ride across the Thames; affording great views of the area including the iconic Thames Barrier.

We then caught the Docklands Light Railway to Blackwall - always an adventure for me since the trains are driverless - children love to sit in front and pretend!

My friend had never been through the Blackwall Tunnel so we caught a bus back under the Thames to the now open O2 Arena. I booked my place for a climb over the top of the Millenium Dome and enjoyed a coffee while waiting. My climb was with a group of young women and some schoolboys. After a short safety talk, we put on jump suits, special shoes and harnesses which were then attached to a cable which formed a fence along one side of the pathway, the other side being open. At first, the climb was very steep and I wobbled about a bit as we were above the Dome's roof. At the top was a fenced off area where we could wander around and take photo's of the superb views across London. As always, the climb down was much harder but we all managed it without difficulty; after more photo's and a change back into our own clothes, it was time to say goodbye to new found friends and rejoin my old one for lunch.

We then went to Greenwich for a brief but most enjoyable visit to the Cutty Sark, followed by a trip on the River Clipper back to Westminster and then a tube train to my friend's local station in Harrow. We walked home tired but happy, having done so much in just one day!

Craft Group

From **Marjorie Ward**

The first session of the Craft Group for 2022 started on Monday 7th February and will run until Monday 28th March.

At present we have 8 crafty ladies attending regularly plus Dawn, our daughter, helping out on new projects eg crochet. The cost of the 2 hour session is £2 which includes all materials and refreshments with a biscuit served by our tea-boy Norman.

We began this session with crocheting, hooks supplied from craft funds and wool from Dawn's extensive hoard. Most ladies mastered the art but the knitters amongst us and those who are left-handed struggled as the terminology is completely different and those knitters wanted to crochet as if they were knitting. But in saying that 90% were able to complete a chain and by the second week they were successful in creating 'granny-squares'.

At this time Rev Christine started her dressmaking project. There have been requests from other craft ladies for more dressmaking projects, This could happen in the near future as we have gifted 3 sewing machines, 2 of which are currently being serviced and a third one was donated to St Margaret's, Leven Ladies Group after we heard they were having difficulty in obtaining one.

On week 3 the ladies were working with air-dried clay to make tiles (see photos). The process of kneading and rolling out was a challenge. Thanks to Norman for making the thickness gauge rails and rolling pins. Next was the cutting, piercing and shaping. The tiles then had to be left to dry until week 4 when the ladies decorated them with different media paint/felt pens, etc. The tiles have now been sealed with 'Mod podge' ready for the ladies to take home and display indoors.

In week 5, the crafty ladies made the gifts for Mother's Day (27th March) which took the form of coated paper cups adorned with a selection of bright fabrics (many thanks again to Norman for making the templates). (What would I do without my right-hand man). These beautiful cups were then filled with colourful tissue paper

to use quickly when grants become available. We were warned that if planning to do anything of this kind within say the next 8-10 years, we should be starting the planning now as it can take a very long time to organise.

There was much discussion re the viability of older churches and older congregations. Question, is it really a good idea to spend vast amounts of cash on old buildings and is it better to sell off the old and start with a new build?

What can we as individuals do? There were ideas for a Green Lent, cutting down on red meat to one portion per week. A green cook-book prepared by St Andrews, St Andrews for use in Lent. Only eat veg/fruit in season, ie no tomatoes from November to May. Drink tea – apparently coffee drinking carries a high carbon footprint!

One scary comment from a delegate which I will share. "People in Scotland should relearn how to live at 18 deg C in much the same way as their parents and grandparents did in years past when no-one had central heating"

These are just a few notes from the meeting. However I understand this can now be viewed in its entirety on u.tube, for anyone who wishes to see it.



Becoming Carbon Neutral

from **Shirley Mann**

The Scottish Episcopal Church is committed to become carbon neutral by 2030 following a declaration at General Synod 2020. This meeting was held by the Climate Change Group of our Diocese to discuss what has been done so far and what help is available to achieving this goal.

Much emphasis on small steps that can become bigger steps on the journey to becoming carbon neutral. I had previously heard much about a 'toolkit' being issued from the SEC which is designed to help us (and all charges) to work-out their carbon footprint. We are told it will also offer suggestions and ideas. It is expected very soon.

We heard of ideas about reducing energy, changing from oil/gas to electricity, on a personal level changing to electric cars. Changing from fossil fuel to solar heating and heat pumps. Secondary glazing to stained glass windows to help reduce heat loss.

There was a general feeling of helplessness, about what to do and how to do it. We all mentioned limited funds needed for the running of our charges particularly in the wake of the covid epidemic. We were told that Zero Waste Scotland will do free energy audit and give useful advice.

We heard of some very expensive projects and the advice from those who had undertaken them (particularly from St Andrews who installed solar panels and Aberfoyle who completely rebuilt their very old Rectory). St Andrews was to have prepared a grant application template

which encompassed a 'BeeBomb'. (see photos)

For those of you not aware of what a 'BeeBomb' is, this is a clay impregnated with native wild flower seeds. There are 18 different varieties of seed including corn marigold, white and red campion, cornflower and many more. The variety of native flowers are perfect pollinators for our bees. No gardening, tilling or digging is required, 'BeeBomb's don't need to be planted or tended, just throw onto cleared ground, water well, keep the seeds damp and await the wild flowers. If you are interested to read about each species go to the 'BeeBomb' website (www.beebombs.com/our-seeds)

Over the next few weeks the ladies have been making Easter gifts for the sales table held on 3rd April. There was lots of choice of gifts for all ages including Easter egg crafts (yum yum), books, bags, etc. All proceeds go to projects within the church. This past year £500 was given to help complete the wet-walling of the kitchen and £72 to pay for the website hosting fee.

The Craft Group would like to wish everyone a Blessed Easter and thank all who have supported us.

The next session will commence on Monday 25th April until Monday 20th June



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