



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

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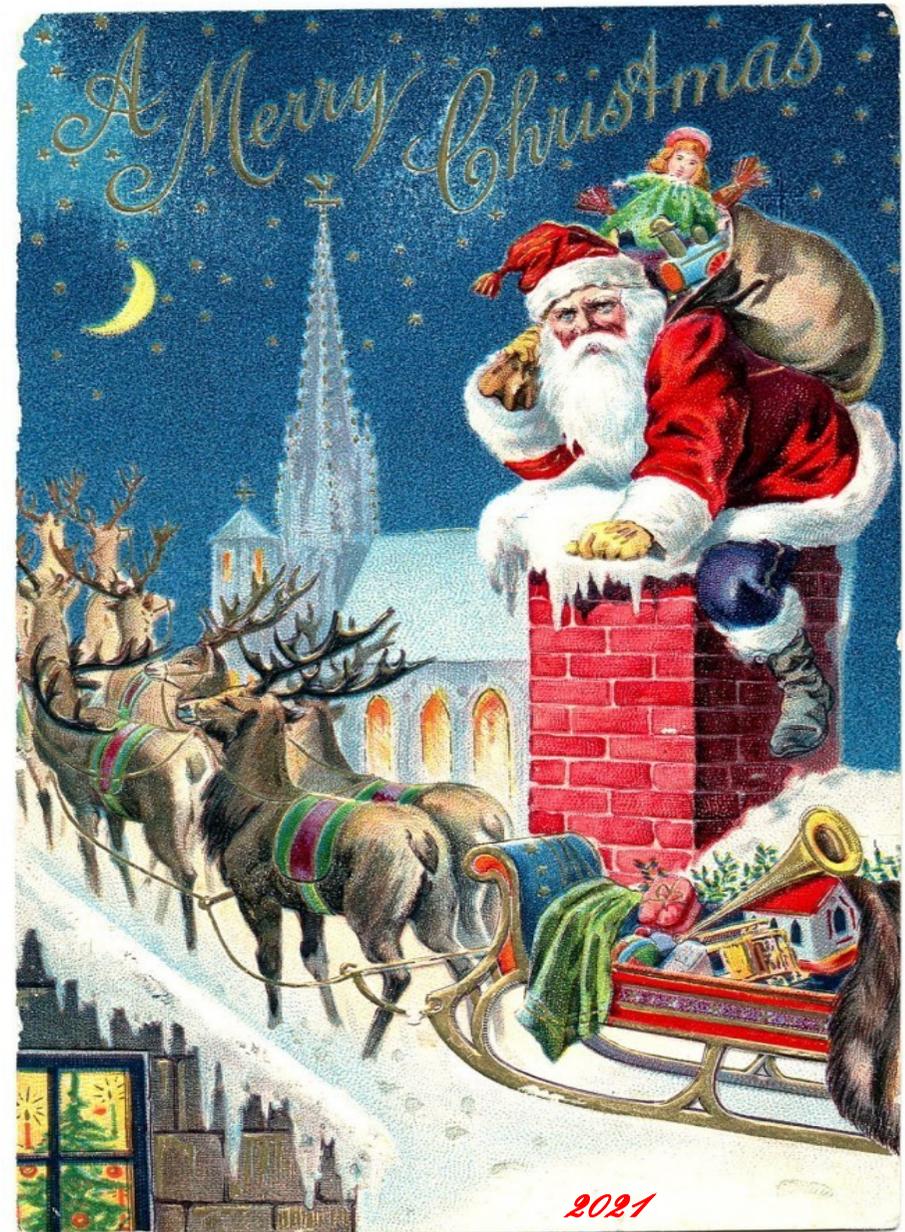
St. Peter's with Ss Mary and Leonard: SC010443

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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



Christmas Churches



Are you
'Dreaming of a
White Christmas'

Only if it's all gone
by Boxing Day!



When winter
comes.....



...Spring won't
be far behind !



The Editor

Wishes all our readers a Very Happy Christmas

And

A Healthy and Peaceful New Year

And please remember that magazine subscriptions (£8 a year) become due in January.

Also please remember to send me any contributions for the magazine as soon as possible but definitely no later than four weeks before the publication dates of :-

12th April—Easter

19th June—Patronal Festival

18th September—Harvest

18th December—Christmas



"We're looking for something to help us survive our church's early morning Winter services"



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Editor: Dear Friends, due to unforeseen circumstances it has not been possible to. Include the usual letter from Christine, our Rector, in this edition of Contact magazine.

As a perhaps cheap replacement, I have included instead another letter from our old friend Eustace, the irascible Rector of the Parish of St. James The Least Of All.

St James the Least of All

There are more frightening things than bishops out there..

My dear Nephew Darren

You really should not worry about having reversed your car into the bishop's gatepost, knocking it over and destroying his rose-beds. It gives him an opportunity to exercise Christian forgiveness. Your real mistake was scribbling a note of apology and pushing it through his letterbox. Far better would have been to have sent an anonymous letter (and to have written it on lined notepaper in capital letters, preferably in green ink, to make it look truly authentic) saying that you had seen the archdeacon do it, and then you had watched him drive off without stopping. That would have taken the minds of the senior clergy away from parish matters for quite some time.

No, never worry about the wrath of bishops; dangers lurk much nearer home. For a start, never incur the displeasure of your flower arrangers. I only crossed their path once – and arrived in church the following Sunday, to see a ten-foot-high floral arrangement at the front of church. I assumed it was by way of making amends, until I discovered it had been placed in front of the pulpit. I was obliged to preach, hidden behind a large multicoloured hedge, while the congregation listened to what were apparently talking chrysanthemums.

like amateurs. Unfortunately, we do not have the ecclesiastical equivalents of the blue berets to enforce peace.

The more patriotic members of the congregation have suggested they all show the Union Jack – presumably so they can be waved at appropriate moments in our services; one belligerent individual wants to see depictions of St Michael slaughtering the dragon, John the Baptist's head on a platter and other such tasteful scenes; on the other hand, dear Miss Timmins wants them all to depict doves or small fluffy creatures, which would make the church look more like pets corner.

Cutting through these vital issues, I have suggested that the entire congregation converts to Roman Catholicism.... and then we could stand for our prayers and do without kneelers entirely.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

Sitting down in church

Did you ever wonder how our churches first acquired pews? Dr Nicholas Orme, Emeritus Professor of History at Exeter University, has written a book, *Going to Church in Medieval England* (Yale University Press), in which he points out that “no medieval church pronouncement ordered the provision of seating in churches other than for the clergy. General seating was a lay invention.”

It is easy to understand those laity of long ago: the services could go on for hours. And so, as Dr Orme explains, general seating “seems to have begun with the nobility and gentry who wished for comfort The desire spread downwards to the congregation during the 14th and 15th centuries.”

The Rectory
St. James the Least of All



My dear Nephew Darren

On the peril of choosing new kneelers

After all these years, I now understand why the non-conformist denominations sit down, rather than kneel, to say their prayers. That way, no decisions have to be taken over the number, size, shape, colour, material and design of kneelers in church.

Our present set was donated by a retired Major-General in 1899 to celebrate the Relief of Mafeking, and after more than a century of use by the pious and not-so-devout, time has taken its toll. Like certain members of our congregation, they now look a little worse for wear. Many have sprung leaks, so that when used, a jet of flocking is emitted all over the clothes of their neighbour, who then leaves Mattins looking like a Yeti.

Other kneelers have been occupied by grateful mice, who find them most congenial for nesting and who leave in high umbrage, creating chaos as Miss Mapp chases them down the aisle with her umbrella; that this provides her with the perfect excuse to leave before the sermon is, I am sure, entirely coincidental. The final straw came when my own, by some quirk in its design, now sounds like a whoopee cushion every time I kneel. It may cause the choirboys much amusement, but it lends nothing to the dignity of our worship.

So, we have decided to have a completely new set – and therein lies the problem. Who makes them? What will be the designs? Who coordinates the whole project? There is enough here to occupy the combined minds of our Church Council for the next Millennium and there will be enough scheming, manoeuvring, signing of non-aggression pacts and formation of tactical truces to make the United Nations look

A colleague offended his own ladies and arrived to find that the contents of the safe had been removed and replaced with all those exotic pieces of equipment that seem to be indispensable for arranging flowers. He was obliged to administer Communion using a small vase until peace was re-established and his chalice returned to him.

Similarly, organists are a delicate breed. Congratulate him on the anthem, and if it happened to be unaccompanied, he would assume you were implying that the services were better without his playing. Offend your organist and you can be guaranteed that hymns will be played at either half or double speed, stopping one verse short and that the final piece of music as you process out will stop, leaving you and the choir stranded halfway down the aisle.

And finally, never, ever upset your verger. One forgotten Christmas present and you can be sure you will get half-way through a baptism to find he hasn't put water in the font; at marriage services, the sheets for last week's funeral will have been accidentally put out and when you sit in your stall you will discover where he now stores the mop and bucket.

No, bishops are warm, fluffy bunnies; real dangers lurks much nearer home.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

The passenger tapped the taxi driver on the shoulder to ask him something. The driver screamed, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on the pavement, and stopped inches from a shop window.

For a second everything went quiet in the car, then the driver said, "Look mate, don't ever do that again. You scared the daylight out of me!"

The passenger apologised and said he didn't realise that a little tap could scare him so much. The driver replied, "You're right. I'm sorry, it's not really your fault. Today is my first day as a taxi driver.

Worship at St Peter's

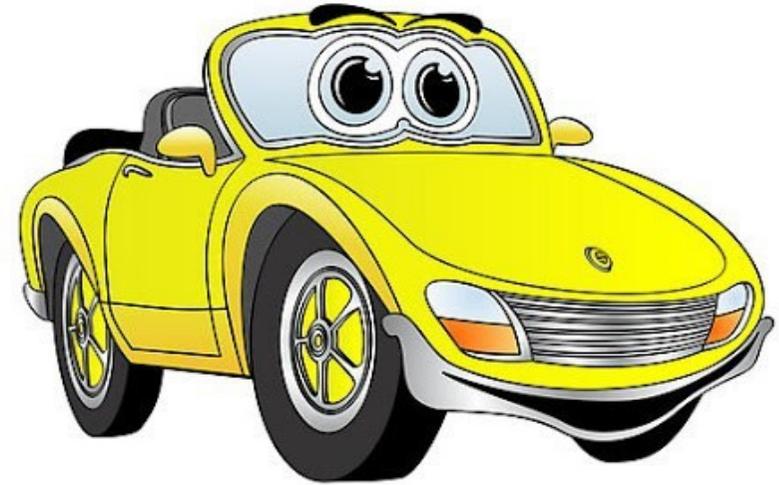
Sundays 9.15 am Said Eucharist (SPB)
10.30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Liturgy)

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.

Christmas Services

Sunday 19th December	9.15am Eucharist 10.30am Carols and Communion
Friday 24th December	7.00pm Sung Eucharist
Saturday 25th December	10.00am Sung Eucharist
Sunday 26th December	10.00am Eucharist
Wednesday 29th December	NO SERVICE
Sunday 2nd January	9.15am Eucharist 10.30am Sung Eucharist
Wednesday 5th January	NO SERVICE
Sunday 9th January	9.15am Eucharist 10.30am Sung Eucharist



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Elementary School

from Jeeta Ouston

An elementary school teacher presented the 1st half of a well known proverb to each child in her class, asking them to complete the remainder of the proverb, with some unexpected results. While reading, bear in mind that these were 6 year olds and read on to the last answer which is a classic!

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. You can take a horse to water but.... | How? |
| 2. Don't change horses.... | Until they stop running |
| 3. It's always darkest before.... | Daylight saving time |
| 4. Don't bite the hand that.... | Looks dirty |
| 5. No news is.... | Impossible |
| 6. A miss is as good as.... | A Mr. |
| 7. You can't teach an old dog new.... | Mathematics |
| 8. Love all, Trust..... | Me |
| 9. The pen is mightier than the..... | Pigs in it |
| 10. An idle mind is..... | The best way to relax |
| 11. A penny saved is..... | Not very much |
| 12. There are none so blind as..... | Stevie Wonder |
| 13. Laugh and the world..... | Couldn't care less |
| 14. Two's company, three is..... | The Three Musketeers |
| 15. Children should be seen and..... | Not spanked or grounded |
| 16. If at first you don't succeed..... | Try new batteries |
| 17. When the blind lead the blind..... | Move out of their way |
| 18. A bird in the hand..... | Is going to poop on you |
| 19. Better late than..... | Pregnant |

**A truck loaded with
Vicks vapor rub
overturned on the
highway.**

**Amazingly, there was
no congestion for
eight hours.**



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Now that we are older, we see things differently....

- Going out is good.....Coming home is better !
- You forget names.... But it's okay because other people forgot they even knew you !!!
- You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than in bed. It's called 'pre-sleep.'
- You miss the days when everything worked with just an 'on or off' switch.
- You use more 4-lettered words - what...when...
- 'In style' are the clothes that still fit. You have 3 sizes of clothes in your wardrobe... 2 of which you will never wear again.
- 'One for the road' now means peeing before you leave the house.
- Aging has slowed you down, but it hasn't shut you up !!!!
- 'On time' is when we get there
- Everybody whispers
- However, old is good in some things; old songs, old movies, and best of all old friends—*Stay well old friend.*
- That stupid moment when you have your pill bottle in front of youbut you simply can't remember whether or not you've already taken it!
- Don't worry about going up stairs—you'll have forgotten why you bothered when you get there

In Search of Father Christmas

from **Jill Harris**

The day after my retirement (some time ago now!) I found myself with two friends at 4.30am at Gatwick Airport, starting a day of adventure to find Father Christmas. The flight, far above the Arctic Circle, was jolly with breakfast and a sing-song to pass the time. We landed at 11.30am local time—already dusk and -25 degs. On leaving the plane, with our noses and eyelashes quickly frozen, we were taken to a warm hangar and kitted out with snow gear. Then on to the Hetta Hotel, via skidoo; over frozen lakes and fields, even crossing a main road. On arrival we were met by dozens of Santa's Elves who gave us hot soup before again venturing out into a -30degs !

Our next ride was on a sleigh drawn by a pack of very excited Huskies then out into a real winter wonderland of sparkling trees, hundreds of stars and a bright full Moon.

Next we had a much more sedate ride with reindeer pulling us and giving us more time to take in the breath-taking scenery. Then, after a moonlit pony and sleigh ride, on to the big event—our skidoo ride, in the clear Arctic air, to Santa's cabin in the magical forest. We waited in our skidoo until Santa was ready for us and then in we went for our short interview (he's a busy man at this time of year!). As it was my birthday, I was invited to sit on his knee to receive my small present—I also stole a kiss!

We returned to the hotel via the candle lit Ice Theatre where we sat on chairs carved from ice and the Elves gave us home-made biscuits and warm berry-juice. Before we left the hotel we had time for a lovely turkey and baked potato meal, followed by pancakes with jam and cream.

Arriving back at the waiting plane, we shed our snow suits and enjoyed watching the ground crew spraying the plane with de-icing fluid. Soon on our way home, after a truly lovely day to remember. I was so enthralled that I booked a camping trip to the Arctic for the following summer—but that's another story.

More

Mother decided that ten-year old Cathy should get something 'practical' for Christmas. "Suppose we open a savings account for you?" she suggested. Cathy was delighted. "It's your account, darling," mother said as they arrived at the bank, "so you fill out the application." Cathy was doing fine until she came to the space for 'Name of your former bank.' After a slight hesitation, she put down 'Piggy'.

**

Father Christmas enters through a hole in the chimney and leaves through a hole in your pocket.

**

Christmas is the season when your neighbour's radio keeps you awake playing 'Silent Night'.

**

The little boy was to be an angel in the Christmas play and his one line was: "Behold, I bring you good tidings." He asked what tidings were and his mother explained that the word meant news.

On the night of the play, the youngster had stage fright and, after a long silence, blurted out: "Hey, have I got news for you!"

**

I was talking to my young Sunday School class, and a four-year-old boy suddenly asked me: "Miss, do you have a grandfather? I replied, "I used to have two, but they both went to Heaven to be with Jesus."

He thought, shook his head sadly, and said, "One of my grandfathers hasn't gone to Heaven."

(Long pause while I tried to decide how to proceed.

"He's gone to Bexhill-on-Sea."

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

Judy Webster

Rosemary Potter

Church Treasurer, Gift

Aid & 100 Club:

Judy Webster

Contact Magazine Editor:

Richard Ouston

Email

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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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SESSION 3:	1800 – 2200



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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

Wordsearch for December

Christmas is nearly here! Two thousand years ago the Jews were longing for the coming of their Messiah. The Old Testament had promised that when He came, He would preach good news to the poor, bind up the broken hearted, proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, comfort all who mourn and to bestow on His people a crown of beauty instead of ashes. Jesus did all those things. He was and is the Son of God, and whoever has seen Him has seen the Father. Whoever believes in Him will have the best gift of all – His Spirit within them, which gives them eternal life.

Messiah

Broken

Heart

Freedom

Darkness

Favour

Prisoners

Comfort

Mourn

Bestow

Crown

Beauty

Ashes

Son

God

Jesus Seen Father Whoever Longing Thousand



Smile Lines for December

In Jane's Christmas drawing, two of the camels were approaching the inn, over which was pictured a large star. The third camel and its rider were going directly away from it. "Why is the third man going in a different direction?" her mother asked. Jane replied: "Oh, he's looking for a place to park."

**

Two snowmen were standing next to each other. One said to the other: "Can you smell carrots?"

**

One night Freda went carol singing. She knocked on the door of a house and began to sing. A man with a violin in his hand came to the door. Within half a minute, tears were streaming down his face. Touched, Freda sang every carol she knew - and some she didn't. The man continued to weep gently throughout her performance. "I understand," she said softly at last. "You are remembering your happy childhood Christmas days."

"No, not exactly," he replied in a choked sort of voice. "I'm a musician!"

**

If you **MUST** speed on the road during this Christmas season, at least sing these hymns loudly as you go:

at 45 mph.... 'God Will Take Care of Me'

at 55 mph.... 'Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah'

at 65 mph.... 'Nearer My God to Thee'

at 75 mph.... 'Nearer Still Nearer'

at 85 mph.... 'This World is Not My Home'

at 95 mph.... 'Lord, I'm Coming Home'

at 100 mph.... 'Precious Memories'



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TEMPORARY WARTIME GOLF RULES

1. Players are asked to collect Bomb and Shrapnel splinters to save these causing damage to the Mowing Machines.
2. In Competitions, during gunfire or while bombs are falling, playes may take cover without penalty for ceasing play.
3. The positions of known delayed action bombs are marked by red flags at a reasonably, but not guaranteed, safe distance therefrom.
4. Shrapnel and/or bomb splinters on the Fairways, or in Bunkers within a club's length of a ball, may be moved without penalty, and no penalty shall be incurred if a ball is thereby caused to move accidentally.
5. A ball moved by enemy action may be replaced, or if lost or destroyed, a ball may be dropped not nearer the hole without penalty.
6. A ball lying in a crater may be lifted and dropped not nearer the hole, preserving the line to the hole, without penalty.
7. A player whose stroke is affected by the simultaneous explosion of a bomb may play another ball from the same place. Penalty one stroke.

RICHMOND GOLF CLUB
SURREY, ENGLAND
1940

Christmas Stressing

Just a reminder for people stressing and struggling over Christmas:

YOU DON'T NEED MATCHING PYJAMAS TO BE HAPPY

YOU DON'T NEED AN INSTA-PIC WITH SANTA TO BE HAPPY

YOU DON'T NEED A CHRISTMAS EVE BOX TO BE A GOOD PARENT

YOU DON'T NEED VARIOUS CHRISTMAS TRIPS TO HAVE FUN

CHRISTMAS FILMS DON'T NEED TO BE SEEN IN A TIDIED-UP ROOM

YOU DON'T NEED TO HAVE A CHEESE BOARD

YOU DON'T NEED CHOCOLATE BOMBS EITHER

YOU DON'T NEED A COLOUR CO-ORDINATED TREE

YOU DON'T NEED TO SEPARATE OUT ALL THE TINSEL

YOU DON'T NEED A HUGE MASS OF PRESENTS UNDER THE TREE

YOU DON'T EVEN NEED TO CHANGE OUT OF YOUR MIS-MATCHED
GRAVY STAINED PYJAMAS

YOUR CHRISTMAS IS YOUR CHRISTMAS! DON'T LET SOCIAL MEDIA
MAKE YOU THINK YOU HAVEN'T QUITE GOT IT ALL !

ABOVE ALL—ENJOY CHRISTMAS AND BE GRATEFUL FOR THE GREAT
GIFT OF MENTAL PEACE AND HARMONY



Church Atmosphere

from **Richard Fawcett**

From the essay: 'Of the atmosphere of a church' (1939) by Sir Ninian Comper, an Aberdeen born architect and designer of some of the most beautiful late 19th and early 20th century churches in Scotland.

'The atmosphere of a church should be such as to hush the thoughtless voice.....My Father's house is a house of prayer.....it is a building which enshrines the altar of Him who dwelleth not in temples made with hands and who yet has made there His Covenanted Presence on earth. It is the Centre of Worship in every community of men who recognise Christ as the Almighty, the Ruler and Creator of all things; at its altar is pleaded the daily sacrifice in complete union with the Church Triumphant in Heaven, of which he is the one and only head, the High Priest for ever after the order of Melchisedech.'

On Lousy Friends

from **The Editor**

Some people are quick to label you a lousy friend with no clue as to how broken you are and, instead of understanding, they just call the friendship quits.

There are many people who have a night out planned or arrange a coffee with friends and, suddenly, the four walls they inhabit seem their only safe haven because it's the only place they don't have to pretend they are OK; so they cancel.

Or, when they are invited out, they tell their friends how terribly sorry they are but they are already booked up that weekend—when they are actually just really busy holding it together in their 'safe box'. And so the first problem starts all by itself.

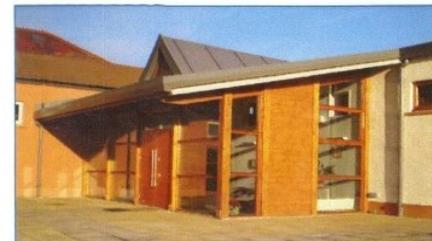
People stop asking them out and the isolation which at first wasn't true, becomes their only truth.

Please don't give up on your friends. Ring them up!. Go round—even when they don't want you to! It's called loving thy neighbour!

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Get your Thinking Caps on :-

(There must be an explanation why this works)

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 $1/2$ (half) of the total horses;

My middle son should be given $1/3$ rd of the total horses;

My youngest son should be given $1/9$ 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.

$1/3$ rd of 18 = 6, so he gave the middle son 6 horses.

$1/9$ 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?

Blimey, I didn't even know he'd been unwell... 🤔



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.

Chapel Level

Set in the outskirts of Kirkcaldy, Chapel Level is a welcoming, purpose-built care home offering nursing and nursing dementia for older people.

At HC-One, kindness is at the heart of everything we do. Our Residents are guaranteed a warm and comfortable stay in a home-from-home environment.

Life is not made up of minutes, hours, days, weeks, months or years, but of moments. We believe an ethos of kindness and genuine caring ensures these moments are happier, and makes all of our journeys easier.

To find out more information on the care that Chapel Level can offer you, or your loved one, please visit our website or contact our Home Manager, Sarah Fowler.



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Craft Group Update

from Marjorie Ward

Firstly may I say how wonderful it is to be back at Craft with all the talented ladies who have returned. The creative juices are flowing again.

We started back on the 6th September for 3 weeks then a 2 week break in October for the 'tattie fortnight' (not sure if they call it that now, just showing my age).



We've had various different crafts since the start of the second term, iris folding with strips of paper, stone painting, decoupage. We



felted seasons took several weeks and which the ladies really enjoyed, wards their hangings.



which weeks and ladies really working to-



There was card making with glitter paste led by Judy.



In November, to mark Armistice Day the mock stained glass windows with a poppy

ladies created theme.

At the beginning of November some of the craft ladies started on our long-awaited Christmas pew-ends. There are 9 images mostly sewn on the machine with some hand-sewing. These are well on the way to being completed and will decorate the church for the Christmas services.

As well as these busy mornings, the craft group have had a sales table out. Most of the items had been produced just as the pandemic lock-

down was announced and carefully packed away until such times as we were permitted to have a sales table again. The first sale was at the mini-gathering where it was well received by the delegates. The table was then kept up for a further 3 weeks after the Sunday services. Many thanks to the very generous people who bought items and also donated. From these sales, the Craft Group have decided to donate £500 as a contribution to the refurbishment of the kitchen which will have more wet-wall erected to complete earlier works.

The Craft Group will continue until 13th December when we will stop for a break, but until then we will still be crafting.

Next session in the pipe-line is dress making for some of the ladies while the others will be creating clay tiles, kimekomi balls and more items to go onto an Easter sales table.

Can I just thank everyone who has contributed to the craft morning, firstly the church for allowing us to meet and ensuring that the heating was on for us, the generous folk who donate materials and craft equipment and lastly, not forgetting Norman, our tea-boy, for without you there wouldn't be a craft morning.

100 Club from **Judy Webster**

I just want to remind St. Peter's members that I'm still running the 100 CLUB. You pay £1 a month, pick a number and, at the end of each month, one lucky person wins £20. You can of course have more than one number if you so choose.

When the Club first started there were 100 members—but now we're down to 30! So if you would like to join, please let me know. I will start collecting for 2022 in January. You can pay either yearly or monthly and, please remember, all profits go towards church funds.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Lucky New Year to everybody!

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