

Paws for Thought

Dear Friends,



Well a couple events happened this month that I feel I should tell you about. The first looked promising, as the house got decorated and food started to fill the kitchen. I could smell all the food that I like, sausages, sausage rolls, sausages, meat, and even more sausages. I thought it must be a party for me, though I did wonder why Daddy was dressed up as a dinosaur. Then it happened – I was shut in room, and left to cope with the sounds of a party downstairs, which I wasn't invited to! Still Mummy felt sorry for me afterwards and gave me plenty of sausages to make it up to me – which worked!

Then a few days later, I began to notice that Mummy was packing for a holiday, and hoped that I might get to come to, and sure enough, even though I was squashed in between the two children, they took me on holiday to a place called Crieff Hydro. The highlight of the holiday was a walk with Mummy, Daddy and some of their friends, and it was brilliant! I loved every minute of it and even though my paws were a bit sore, I felt so loved! Anyway, better go now, as I need to help Mummy organise all the food that she is putting into the kitchen ready for a big event this weekend – hopefully there will be even more sausages!

Dougie



Leprosy Mission

I will be happy to take any donations for LEPROSY MISSION during February. I appreciate all the support you have given to LEPROSY MISSION over the years. If anyone would be interested in reading the latest copy of LEPROSY MISSION news please ask me.

Penny Savage

At the Wedding

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, *"Why is the bride dressed in white?"*

"Because white is the colour of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life."

The child thought about this for a moment, then said *"So why is the groom wearing black?"*



Weather

During the last month we have seen devastating floods in Australia, first in Queensland and then Victoria, and these have been associated with La Nina, a cooling of the Tropical Pacific. You may think La Nina and its opposite El Nino are modern inventions but their discovery all began with the Indian monsoon. In 1899 the monsoon failed to arrive and set off a catastrophic famine that killed more than 2million people across India. A long range warning of the monsoon's strength was needed desperately, but there seemed no reliable ways of forecasting it.

Then in 1904 a brilliant English mathematician, Gilbert Walker, was appointed head of the Indian meteorological Office and he began ground breaking research to find a way of forecasting the monsoon. He collected years of weather records from all over the world and looked for any patterns, no matter how remote or outlandish. His office was lined with rows of pigeon holes for filing any connections in the weather and then tested these matches using new techniques in statistics that he devised himself. By the 1920's Walker had discovered one particularly strong correlation in the Pacific, which he called a "big swaying" or "Southern Oscillation". When barometer readings were high in the Pacific and South America they coincided with low readings in Places such as Australia, and months later this pattern brought heavy rains to India, Java and Australia, but drought in Chile. These were warning signs of La Nina. When the barometer readings swung the other way, this brought drought in Australia and floods in Chile, the tell tale signs of El Nino. Walker did not understand how this cycle worked, but he had found the key to making a seasonal forecast—a revolutionary concept at a time when forecasts could barely predict a day ahead. Walker's forecasting technique was ridiculed; it was not until 1960 that he was proved correct and the effect of the Pacific was shown to influence the monsoon and much of the world's weather.

George Watt



Just to remind everybody the flower calendar is at the church entrance, there is still a few vacancies anyone wishing to donate flowers should add their name against the appropriate Sunday's date.

Bible Word Search: Jesus Calms the Storm

All the words listed below are in the puzzle - left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and circle it to highlight it. After you have found all the words, mark the leftover letters in the correct order to form *the mystery answer.* (found at bottom of page)

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

Afraid,
Boat,
Calm,
Evening,
Faith,
Fierce,
Frantic,
Rebuked,
Sleeping,
Teacher

Baby Brother

Little Johnny's new baby brother was screaming up a storm. He asked his mom, "Where'd we get him?"

His mother replied, "He came from heaven, Johnny."

Johnny says, "WOW! I can see why they threw him out!"

The church was badly in need of a coat of paint. So the minister decided he'd do the job himself. But all he had was one bucket of paint. So he got some water, and he thinned the paint enough to cover the entire church. He spent all day painting. That night it rained -very hard-and washed all the paint off. The minister was quite discouraged and asked, "Why...why God, did you let it rain and wash off all my hard work?" To which God thundered his reply, 'Repaint! Repaint! And thin no more!

(Waves)

For reading and meditation :- Mathew 16: v.13-16 NKJV
Who do you say I am? V.15. Jesus asked his disciples



What a question, what would we say if someone asked that question of us. After much deliberation - - Peter answered that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God.

He and the other disciples experienced first hand all that Jesus did. Would we be able to answer truthfully that we know who Jesus is? Yes I think we would because we have God's word that Jesus is His Son. He is Gods gift of salvation. We have the choice of accepting or declining that gift.

By accepting that gift it means we can receive full forgiveness and everlasting life we have also entered into a personal relationship with God and now live in the light of the Fathers love.

Prayer

Loving, living Lord thank you for your gift of salvation,

In this dark world you shine like a beacon of light

Shine into our hearts and dispel our doubts and fears,

We do not always understand why things happen but we do know Lord you are there with us,

When we are challenged help us to speak out for you,

Let each of us be willing to take up our cross and follow you Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Joy to the world, the Saviour Reigns.

Amen

Every blessing in Jesus name Pat.



Used Stamps

As well as used stamps, we also collect old spectacles and used ink cartridges (except Epson). Please note! All stamps should have a 10mm or more border around the stamp.

News Letter



Items for next months news letter should be in by

28th February.



Church Family

Would you like a free lunch?

Well come along to Lunch at the Manse, and enjoy the soup, sandwiches and cakes and the time together, as well as a time of reflection on an aspect of our faith. Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't been before.

Date: **24th February**

Location: The Manse,
1 The Vennel, Ballantrae

If you need transport please speak to the Minister.



Ballantrae Church Guild

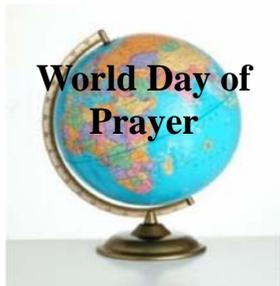


Next meet on **Monday 21st Feb.**

In the Community Centre.

Mrs M Ford will Talk about Israel and also A visit to a Guild Project.

**A date for your diary
Friday 4th March**



A meeting will be held in BRICC House on **Tuesday 15th Feb. @ 7pm**, for those interested in the conducting of worship in the Minister's absences.

There will be a talk by Graham Maule, who is part of the Wild Goose Resource Group, which was set up at request of the Church of Scotland, to offer ways of worship to churches.

No obligation to join the Worship Group is involved.

Everyone welcome to come and hear how services can be organised.
Margaret Maule.

Presbytery Adult Trainer

S.W.R.I



**Meet on Monday
7th February**

Ian McGinlay updates our culinary skills



**Ballantrae Film Night
in Ballantrae Church
25th February 2011**

6pm – Toy Story 3 – animated film from Pixar Studios

8pm – Letters to Juliet – a romantic film for all you romantics!



Leek and Butterbean Bake



The combination of the sweetness of leek with the creaminess of the butterbeans and the added crunch from the parmesan crust makes this a delicious supper dish.

Ingredients

- 4 medium leeks
- 100ml double cream or milk
- 150g butterbeans
- Handful of fresh herbs, chopped (e.g. sage & thyme)
- 150g mozzarella
- 30g freshly grated parmesan
- Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat the oven to 190 C (Gas Mark 5)
Trim the root off the leeks and trim the leaves. Slice down the middle of the leek and wash them well under running water. Slice into 2cm chunks. Cook in boiling water for 2 minutes, then drain well in a colander
Mix together the milk and chopped herbs. Season to taste.

Put the leeks and butterbeans into an oven-proof dish and mix well. Pour the milk on top. Arrange the mozzarella slices on top of the mixture and finish off with the grated Parmesan.

Bake for 25 - 30 minutes, until the cheeses are golden

LISTS AND ROTAS

Flower Calendar



Feb.
6th. M Heap
13th. M Dempsey
20th. J Brown
27th.



March Tea Duty

*Lorna Greenhill,
Florence Brown, Penny
Savage, Liz Gregg &
Georgina McKinley*

Church Cleaning Team

Feb. 6th. John & Janice
McIlwraith
Feb. 20th. Penny Savage &
Liz Gregg

If unable to fulfil your given date, please swap with another team. If you can help with the Church cleaning rota, contact **Liz Gregg, tel. 841686.**

Please note church should be cleaned prior to date indicated.

Sunday Duty Rota

Feb.	March
6th E	6th C
13th F	13th D
20th A	20th E
27th B	27th F

Message from the Manse



Dear friends,

During the summer, Barbara and I bought our children a playhouse for the garden and even found some wooden decking from Ikea for it to sit on. I also put a fence round it to create a mini garden and had a trellis at the back with some sweet peas growing up it. It all looked perfect, until the first strong winds came in the autumn. Then the house, which was just sitting on the decking, blew right over. Thankfully it didn't damage it, but even though we have put it the right way up a few times, if the wind is strong enough it just tips right over.

Over the next couple of months, we will be looking at 1 Peter, and examining what it says about our Christian life. Right at the beginning of his letter, Peter, one of the first disciples, makes it clear that in our Christian life we will have trials, but that these are part of God's plan to strengthen our faith.

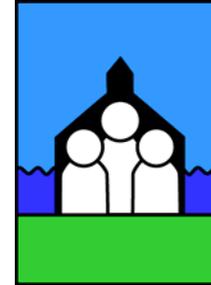
“You have faith in God, whose power will protect you until the last day. Then he will save you, just as he has always planned to do. On that day you will be glad, even if you have to go through many hard trials for a while. Your faith will be like gold that has been tested in a fire. And these trials will prove that your faith is worth much more than gold that can be destroyed.” - 1 Peter 1: 5 – 7

Christians do not have trouble free lives. We all have times of hardship, times when we struggle to see where God is and question why we have to endure all that we face. We may not understand why we experience all that we do, but Peter reminds us that all trials that we face should help to strengthen our faith.

If you are on a boat and the waves are rough and the wind is strong, I am sure you would cling to the boat until all is calm again. Therefore, let us in the rough times of life, cling to God, holding firmly to him, despite all that we face. Then our faith will grow and we will endure all that we experience in life, before God calls us home.

God bless,

Stephen



CHURCH OF SCOTLAND BALLANTRAE PARISH CHURCH

LINKED WITH

St. COLMON

www.ballantraeparishchurch.org.uk

Minister: Revd. Stephen Ogston

Tel. 01465831252 E-mail: ogston@macfish.com

Printed by Century21 Computing

