

Weather



The main weather event in May was on the 20th when a tornado devastated Moore on the outskirts of Oklahoma city, USA. Moore was hit by another big tornado on May 3, 1999, when 36 people were killed and 583 others were injured. 8,000 homes and 1,000 apartments were damaged or destroyed with wind speeds measured by radar at 317mph—the highest recorded wind on the surface of the earth.

There are many strange accounts of tornado damage throughout history. Wooden planks have been fired through iron girders, straw through tyres, and an account of one in 1919 in Minnesota described how it “split open a tree, jammed in an automobile, and clamped the tree shut again.” Entire houses have been lifted off their foundations and moved intact metres away, evocative of “The Wizard of Oz.” People have been plucked out of their homes and dropped unharmed on trees or ground far away. In Missouri in 1899 two women and a boy were carried a quarter of a mile but brought them down to earth safe and sound. One of the victims, Mrs Moorhouse, remained fully conscious. “I seemed to be lifted up and whirled round and round, going up to a great height, far above the church steeple, and carried a long distance.” The longest recorded distance for the fallout from a tornado was in 1915 when a cancelled cheque was sent flying 210miles from Kansas to Nebraska. The same tornado carried a sack of flour 110miles.

Back home it looks as though May will end up being much cooler than average, also wetter. My local house martins finally turned up on the 20th—4 weeks later than last year. One thing to look forward to, will be Comet Ison in November. This promises to be brighter than the full moon.

George Watt

Pastoral & Hospital Visiting

If you know someone who is in hospital or is housebound and would appreciate a visit from the minister, please contact Stephen on 831252

The BALLANTRAE MONTHLY HEARALD

No.628

March 1894

I WILL lend thee seven florins upon the instrument. It is not worth so much; nowhere else wouldst thou meet with such an offer." The speaker—a pawnbroker by trade, a German by nationality, a Jew by birth—peered a little curiously at the customer before him as he spoke, In his hands he held a; beautiful little violin worth far more than the trifling sum lent 'upon it. . But the young man opposite him looked so hungry, so shabby, so hopeless, that he aroused only a feeling of extra cupidity in the dealers heart. "Seven florins. It is far above the value of such an instrument as this; it is good only for firewood. But there! seven florins, and if not redeemed in a fortnight to become my property." George Neumark had tears in his eyes as he gazed at his beloved violin. For ten years that little stringed instrument had been his companion and comforter. Brought with him from his birthplace, Langensalza, he had clung to it through every privation ; clothes, even food, had been gone without, but his violin had never been parted with. , Now it had to go at last, and for so small a sum! No wonder the young man's lip quivered; well he knew that once out of his hands - once pledged for seven florins to the German Jew—he would never be. able to redeem it ; never to play on it again, never to speak to his heart through the sensitive musical strings! The thought was almost more than he could bear. "Herr Schmidt," he said at last, "I must take your offer, but allow me to play a last tune all my dear violin. At the worst—and, alas! it is the very worst with me now—it has spoken to me and sung back all my courage and hope." With much reluctance, the Jew reached the violin over the counter. It was such a valuable prize ; and if once again in the young student's hands, he might refuse to part with it. " Thou hast the florins ; here they are," he said, pushing the coins towards the white, trembling fingers that were aching to catch up the violin. " No backing from thy bargain. Thine the florins, mine the fiddle." " Of all the sad hearts that have left your door, there has been none so sad as mine," replied the young man, his voice thick with emotion. " Only one more message through my friend." Seizing the violin, the musician placed it lovingly beneath his chin and stretched out the bow firmly. Next moment a tune so exquisitely soft and musical throbbed out into the dusty room that even the old Jew listened in spite of himself. A few-chords, a few strains, and then a rich voice took up the melody- " Life so weary! Saviour take me." The words were well known then, they are better known now. Sung as they were in that most obscure shop in Hamburg by the author and composer, they were beautiful past all expression. Suddenly the key changed; a few bars of the minor, and then the melody poured itself out anew as Neumark's face lighted up with a smile, and he sang--- “ Ye who knows ? the cross is precious”

With that smile his renunciation was complete. Laying down the instrument he said in Latin “God's will be done” and rushed from the place

Neumark, Georg, 1621-1681

Taken from a copy of the Ballantrae Monthly Herald March 1894. which was found with papers belonging to the late Jessie Melville. My thanks to the Melville family for allowing me to make copies.

PAWS FOR THOUGHT

Hi pals,
Do you know the best thing about summers? It's the company in the gardens. In the winter months I am put in the garden all by myself, but in the summer all the family join me. They come and we play together: they chase me, throw my ball for me or they tickle my tummy. There is nothing better than lying back on a summer day and getting your tummy tickled!



However I have to say that I am a bit picky when I want it tickled. I like it outside or in any carpeted room inside, but not the vinyl in the kitchen – I just can't stand it! Grass or carpet is fine, but nothing hard or cold. It is so relaxing and makes me feel loved. We all need someone to show us love, someone to care for us and make us feel special.

I hope you have a good summer, and I hope I get all the tickles I need.

Till next time,



Hamish

CHURCH SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 27th July @ 2pm

Please come and give your usual support of our annual fund raiser.

All the usual stalls:

Baking, Books, Craft, Teas,
Hampers and lots of games.

All donations will be gratefully received.

*Hall will be open on morning of sale
09.30-11.30 to receive goods*



PRAYER



May you walk with God this summer
In whatever you do, wherever you go.

Walking with God means...

Walking with honesty and with courage,

Walking with love and respect
And concern for the feelings of others.

May you talk to God this summer
And every day and in every situation

Talking with God means...

Praying words of praise for the beauty of creation
Saying prayers of thanks for friends and good times,

Asking God's help in all your decisions

Expressing sorrow when you have failed

May you talk with God Every day.



Amen

Author unknown.

Honeycomb ice cream

Ingredients

- 1 large tin condensed milk
- 1 pint double cream
- 2 crunchie chocolate bars



Boil condensed milk in tin for 55mins and leave to cool.

Whip double cream, fold the condensed milk in to cream.

Break up crunchies and fold in to cream mixture

Double line loaf tin with cling film then add mixture and put in freezer for at least 4.5 hours.

So easy to make without ice cream maker, just slice and serve.

Announcements

Home Group

Please could anyone who would be interested in being part of a home group, meeting for fellowship and bible study on a weekly or fortnightly basis, please speak to Stephen.

Wednesday Worship

5th June and 3rd July at 11am in Ballantrae Church.
All welcome.

Contemporary Praise Evening

2nd June at 7:30pm in Ballantrae Church.

Gala Songs of Praise

7th July at 7pm in Ballantrae Church

Glenapp Church Summer Service

25 August at 3pm



A Weekly Reminder

Without GOD,
our week would be Sindy
Mournday, Tearsday, Wasteday,
Thirstday, Fightday and Shatterday.
Remember seven days WITHOUT
GOD makes One WEAK!!



Ballantrae Church Guild



Ballantrae Church Guild had its last meeting of this session on Monday 20th May. This was a talk with slides about the charity "Mary's Meals" which serves meals to school children in very poor countries.

Penny Savage who is retiring as convener thanked everyone for their help and support during her term of office and welcomed the new convener Margaret Maule.

The Guild coffee morning which was held on the 11th May made a total of £431. Thank you to all the members who gave their help and a big thank you to everyone who supported on the day and to those who have given donations.

The next session will commence September 16th.



A man is talking to God. "God, how long is a million years?" God answers, "To me, it's about a minute." "God, how much is a million dollars?" "To me, it's a penny." "God, may I have a penny?" "Wait a minute."



Church Cleaning Team



June

9th. Anthea Russell & Jessie Brown
23rd. Sharon Taylor & Irene Stewart

July

7th. Tom & May Lothian
21st. Meg Peacock & Lorna Greenhill

August

4th. Robert & Caroline Dalrymple

18th. John & Janice McIlwraith
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.



Tea Rota

2nd June; F Brown, L Greenhill, L Gregg & P Savage.

7th July; D Duffy, M Maul, J Ross A Russell.

4th August; F Carle, J Davidson, J McIlwraith, I Stewart & D Buchanan

FLOWER LISTS



June

2nd. Meg Peacock
9th. Myra Heap
16th. Guild
23rd. Lorna Greenhill
30th.

July

7th. May Cunningham
14th. Florence Brown
21st.
28th.

August

4th. Betty Nelson
11th.
18th. Meg Peacock
25.

Flower Fund to which donations of any amount can be given at any time. These should be left in the offering plate in a suitably marked envelope, or given to the minister or any office bearer. If you wish to donate the flowers but don't feel able to arrange them, this can be done for you.



News Letter

Items for September news letter by **Thursday 22nd August**

Dear Friends,



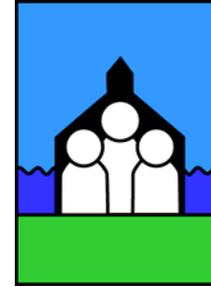
As many of you know, from the 18th to 24th May, I attended the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. While each day was tiring, it was good to meet up with colleagues who are serving in different parts of Scotland. It was also good to hear about the work of the Church around Scotland and throughout the world. Normally, if I don't attend, I try to watch it online, and this year there were many who tuned into watch the debates. The most watched session was on Monday (approximately 10,000 throughout the day) and it was then that we discussed and voted on the proposals to allow the ordination of ministers in same-sex relationships. The result of a whole day of debates was to "Affirm the Church's historic and current doctrine and practice in relation to human sexuality; nonetheless permit those Kirk Sessions who wish to depart from that doctrine and practice to do so."

The media generally presented this as a done deal, but that is not the case. The process to make this proposal into church law will take at least two more years because it has to be agreed by the majority of the Presbyteries. While this may not be the outcome that either side desired, it does provide the best opportunity to keep the peace and unity of the church. I am truly grateful for your prayers while I was away and if you want further information, please let me know.

However the saddest thing, as another minister highlighted, was that having spent so long discussing an issue that we are divided on, we rushed through the report on Mission and Discipleship, two of the most important themes for our church. This is our calling as a Church, for we are here to share the Good News of Jesus to our communities and nation. Remember what Jesus told his disciples, "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields." May we be ready and willing to serve God in our church and community and may he bless us as we follow him.

I hope and pray that you have a good summer and that God blesses you every day,

Stephen



CHURCH OF SCOTLAND BALLANTRAE PARISH CHURCH

LINKED WITH

St. COLMON

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June 2013