



News from the Episcopal Churches Serving the Trossachs and Strathendrick

Spring 2012

Issue 40

Church Services

**St. Andrew's
Leny Road, Callander**

Sunday service in church

Holy Communion
Every Sunday, 10.00am

1st Sunday in the month
Holy Communion according to
Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

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Midweek service in church

BCP Holy Communion
every Wednesday, 10.00am

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**St. Mary's
Main Street, Aberfoyle**

Sunday service in church

Holy Communion
Every Sunday, 11.15am

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Balfon BCP Holy Communion
3rd Sunday in the month, 8.00am
St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church
Dunmore Street, Balfon

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Killearn Holy Communion
1st Wednesday in the month, 11.30am
Killearn Kirk Session Room

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**Mothering Sunday - 18 March
Palm Sunday - 1 April**

Holy Week Ecumenical/Linkage Devotions
Monday - Wednesday, 2-4 April
Callander Kirk, 7.30pm

Maundy Thursday 'In Memory' Joint Service, 5 April
St Andrew's Church, 7.30pm

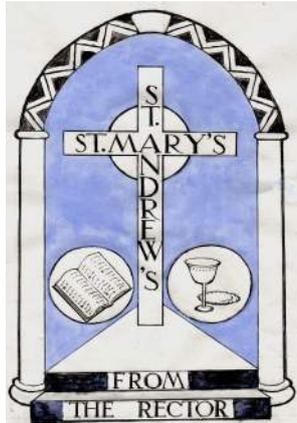
Good Friday Devotions, 6 April
St Andrew's Church, 12 noon
Callander Kirk, 7.30pm

Easter Day, 8 April
Holy Communion, 10.00am

Good Friday, 6 April
Devotion, 10.30am

Easter Day, 8 April
BCP Communion, 8.00am, Balfon
Holy Communion, 11.15am, St Mary's

Revd. Richard Grosse St Mary's Rectory, Main Street, Aberfoyle FK8 3UJ
Phone: 01877 382887/ 07759497826 Email: richard_grosse@hotmail.com



The Aim of Purple Times

Last autumn my page detailed the liturgical colours of the Anglican Communion seen in our and their significance to spiritual life.

By way of summary, the colours displayed in church are red, white, green and purple. Red is the least common and is rarely in use save on Palm and Pentecost Sundays and on such Saint's days that fall on a Sunday within the course of any year. White is a colour of celebration and so utilised primarily for the feasts of thanksgiving at Christmas and Easter.

I commented that in one respect liturgical colours follow the pattern of nature. Green is seen in church for much of the late spring, summer and early autumn. It is a time when believers are encouraged to sustain their inner life from the word of God just as animals feed on lush grass.

Thus the colour purple is reached: the colour is significant in marking two periods or seasons falling immediately before the major festivals of Christmas and Easter. Purple is a somewhat sombre colour. It is a reminder that in such seasons the life of a believer should be one of reflection. Naturally, guidance for best use of these purple periods is often needed.

The first purple season falls at the start of the Church Year on the last Sunday of November. From then until midnight on Christmas Eve the season of Advent is observed.

Mary Soames, the youngest child of Sir Winston Churchill, recalls in her recent autobiography of life at Chartwell, the family home in Kent. "As the last Sunday of November approached, cook in the kitchen would gather the ingredients required for the Christmas cake and pudding. These would be considerable, as a great number of Christmas guests would be expected. Inches, the butler would quietly invite each member of the household to the kitchens, which otherwise were strictly out of bounds. A wooden spoon would be provided to each to stir the contents of the basins, and at the same time, to make a wish for the future." Such a custom would not have been unusual. Indeed the Sunday before the start of Advent was, and still is known as 'Stir Up Sunday' on account of the Collect or prayer said on that day "Stir up we beseech thee O Lord the wills of thy faithful people; that they plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded".

So what needs to be stirred in Advent? The Collect for the first Sunday of the season reminds us 'that in the last day, when he shall come in his glorious Majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal'. Our inner life needs stirring with a reminder that it is not at liberty to do as it pleases, because judgement is part of God's will for the human race. Divine judgement takes two forms.

The Collect for the first Sunday of Advent refers to the time when the present world will end and Christ returns to earth for the second time. As the concept of the second coming is so obscure, we tend to quietly shelve this at the back of our minds. There is though a more pressing and present form of judgement. We tend to forget that the most insignificant of our daily deeds and thoughts are under scrutiny, however much we tell ourselves otherwise. Hence the opening prayer of the Communion Service: "Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from who no secrets are hid...."

The primary purpose of Advent is therefore to remind ourselves that as believers we cannot treat ourselves and our lives as free agents. In one of my previous churches there hung on the wall a yoke once used by a plough horse. I remember it as a simple, but powerful symbol of our obligation in this regard.

The second 'purple period' is the season of Lent. Unlike Christmas, the date of Easter is not fixed save by the phases of the moon. The date of the start and end of Lent therefore varies. The season starts on Ash Wednesday. It then passes through a cycle of six Sundays. There is 'a half time break' on the fourth Sunday to mark Mothering Sunday. The fifth Sunday following is known as Passion Sunday and the one after that Palm Sunday. The week following Palm Sunday, known as Holy Week, is a time when the believer might mentally follow Christ's footsteps from the streets of Jerusalem to Calvary. On Maundy Thursday, Christ's final fellowship at the Last Supper with his disciples is remembered. Those in Holy Orders are encouraged to attend their Cathedral to be reminded of the vows taken at ordination. Her Majesty the Queen customarily distributes the Maundy pence. The sombre mood of the aftermath of the crucifixion ends Lent to be greeted by the joy of Easter Day.

Lent is similar to Advent in that it starts with an act of symbolism. The ash of Ash Wednesday derives from the ceremonial burning of a Palm Cross saved from the previous year. The following words accompany the burning: 'God our Father, you create us from the dust of the earth; grant that these ashes may be for us a symbol of our penitence and a symbol of our mortality for it is by your grace alone that we receive eternal life'. Later on Palm Sunday we receive a fresh palm cross and keep it with us for the remainder of the year as a reminder of our obligation to carry anew and bear Christ's cross however that might be asked.

So what might we hope to achieve in Lent?

It is a good look at oneself in an imaginary mirror. We look at ourselves in real mirrors every day but perhaps in terms of vanity or self interest. Rather we should treat the mirror in which we see ourselves like the mirror of the tailor. As we stand before it there is another pair of scrutinising eyes, those of our tailor who already has noticed the changing contours of our profile since the last visit. So we look at ourselves objectively.

Our aim is to find out what is really beneath the outer clothes in which we walk our lives. We might be surprised with what we find. When we change our car or washing machine it is useful to look at a manual or handbook to see what happens when one or another knob is turned or button pushed. Unless we know ourselves reasonably well then we are not likely to discover those things that are unworthy. We find these things by a combination of thought, prayer and perhaps some reading.

The discovery of true self might of course cause dismay. The wonderful truth of our faith is that no sin, with our contrition is beyond God's forgiveness.

I am fond of the verses of the sixteenth century Bishop Ken's hymn 'Awake my soul and with the sun'. It sums up in a few words how we should attempt to open ourselves to God in these purple seasons. The hymn alas no longer appears in the latest version of our hymnbooks in church, so I close with two of its verses. The first sums up what I believe to be our aim in Advent:

*Redeem thy mis-spent time that's past
And live this day as if thy last;
Improve thy talent with due care;
For the great day thyself prepare.*

The second is perhaps helpful to Lenten thought:

*Direct, control suggest this day
All I design and do and say
That all my powers with all their might
In thy sole glory may unite.*

Revd Richard Grosse



Diocesan Synod

Diocesan Synod was held on Saturday 10 March. It included an update from the six Casting the Net Action Groups, outlining work with congregations, educational activities and work with children and young people. A Review of the Diocesan Policy and Action Plan was presented by Karen Gaskell and approved by Synod. This review presents experiences from the last four years since Casting the Net was launched and presents the way forward for the Action Groups working on three common aims:

- Working creatively and supportively to develop mission-shaped communities of faith
- Education, training and support to build confidence and encourage growth
- Building dynamic and loving relationships through which we share our faith and serve others.

The Review report will be made available soon.

During the afternoon session, synod discussed the Anglican Covenant in small groups. Views were shared in plenary so that the views of the Diocese can be presented by our Diocesan representatives to the General Synod later this year.

If you would like to find out more about the covenant, please speak to the Rector or see the following videos:

The Anglican Communion Covenant

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jq_063uf3k

The Covenant and accountability

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T228Qk5tueM>

The sections of the Covenant

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4E51zRTJ3eE>

If you'd like to know more about any of the Synod business please contact the Rector, or your lay representatives, Kay Battye in St Andrew's and Philip Gaskell in St Mary's.

Bishop's Lent Appeal Fikelela AIDS Project



Fikelela means reach out and is the name of the HIV/AIDS outreach programme of the Anglican Church in Cape Town, South Africa.



Fikelela was founded in 2000 to provide an active Christian response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic in South Africa. It provides a range of care for abandoned and orphaned babies and children.

- *Orphan Support*
- *Parish Task Teams*
- *Prevention Work*
- *Children's Centre*
- *Research*
- *Support Groups*
- *Love Packs*

For more information see
www.fikelela.org.za

Crossroads Caring Scotland



A national charity, Crossroads, was started in West Stirlingshire in 1981 by two friends in Kippen. They had each been caring for a relative for a very

long time and recognised the desperate need for some form of respite. They collected friends together and so began Crossroads in this area. The group gradually expanded to encompass Dunblane, Gargunnoch, Strathblane and the Trossachs. Its objective is "to provide a high quality service in the community to enable carers to take time off from their caring responsibilities."

Vulnerable people of all ages can have the support of highly qualified and suitable staff for four hours per week. They soon begin to enjoy the company and look forward to the visits. During these hours their carer has freedom, peace of mind and relaxation knowing all is in good hands at home. Comments from delighted carers illustrate this: "I find my husband is always more cheerful after a visit, he loves a chat and his care attendant is very patient with him, and is a good listener too – so if he is happy so am I." "An excellent service which is a credit to all."

At present the service is free. The expenses of the charity are met through fundraising, grants and donations. For the past two years members of St. Andrew's Church have collected in The Mollins and in the Square in Callander and this has been a great help to Crossroads in their annual collection round the villages.

Requests for the service can be made through your G.P., the social services or directly to Crossroads on 01360 449 400.

Margaret Newman

Heart to Heart

Bringing hope to those affected by divorce or separation

We are very excited to announce the launch of a new project for Heart to Heart run in conjunction with the Vodafone Foundation World of Difference Program.

Cathy Scott has been employed to work with the parents of young people that Rural Heart to Heart is supporting.

Cathy says:

I am delighted to be working for Heart to Heart on the new Parents Project as Rural Support Worker. This placement is funded by the Vodafone Foundation's World of Difference Program which gives 500 winners a fabulous opportunity to work for a charity of their choice and get paid for it. I was chosen from 5000 applicants, so I feel really blessed. Part of the placement is to write a blog (online diary) which is a brilliant vehicle for publicity for Heart to Heart.

The link to my blog is

<http://worldofdifference.vodafone.co.uk/blogs/catherine-scott/>

Please visit this site from time to time to see how I am doing. I will be updating it at least 3 times a week so there will always be something new to read. There is the ability to make comments alongside each post which I would really appreciate.

Thanks to Heart to Heart and Vodafone for giving me this opportunity.

If you know of divorced or separated parents who would benefit please contact us for more information.

Ruth Kennedy

Development Coordinator
info@hearttoheart.org.uk

Sharing Faith by Confident and Sensitive Evangelism does not mean bible bashing evangelism. It is about confidently and quietly seeking to share with others what is most important to us. We live in a secular society where people have no background in the Christian faith, but they care deeply about the purpose and meaning of life. Rather than being a church that is 'out of the way', we can communicate what we care about to others, so that they can join our community of faith and journey with us.



Reaching out to Children and Young People is so important, because in rural communities one in five is a child. I welcome the sound of children in church and to see them at the communion rail, as part of the church's fellowship meal. We must not see them as apprentice Christians. They have the inside track. Remember that Jesus said that 'whoever does not receive the Kingdom like a child shall not enter it'.

In the Gospel, the disciples had been fishing all night, but they hadn't caught anything. Then a stranger arrives and tells them to cast their net on the other side. They decide to do what he says and at that moment of obedience comes a point of believing and they recognise Jesus.

In Mission Action Planning we are doing what we believe we are called to do and as we do, we meet Jesus and are blessed.

Launching our Mission Action Plan

On 5 February we enjoyed a wonderful celebratory launch service with Bishop David where we launched our Mission Action Plan.



The service included presentations from James Gardner and Barbara Carruthers about our two chosen Marks of Mission: 'Reaching out to children and young people' and 'Sharing faith through confident sensitive evangelism'.

James and Barbara described how St Mary's has already started initiatives in these areas, but the Mission Action Plan consolidates this work and seeks new ways to engage children and build our confidence to share faith confidently and sensitively over the next three years.

The children will choose the last hymn of services they attend after Godly play and they have started an ornamental garden for Easter. Families with children baptised at St Mary's have been specially invited to attend on Mothering Sunday. We are also seeking to strengthen our engagement with children's charities with whom we have special links: CINI, The Chesney Trust and the Callander Youth project.

The Sharing Our Faith Lent study has commenced (still time to join in) at 10am each Sunday before morning worship. Coffee and biscuits are served! There has been good discussion and an open forum has been provided for sharing views and ideas. Those attending are likely to want to spread some of their conclusions more widely – listen out nearer Easter.

Some books have already been gathered for the library in the church room, more are invited whether as gifts or loans. And you'll see the first 'faith interview' in this magazine. Karen chose an easy 'victim' in the hope that others will want to undertake the interview in future magazines. Please let her know if you'd be willing to be interviewed.

Have a look at your copy of the Mission Action Plan to see what is happening this year.

Philip Gaskell
Lay Lead, Mission Planning Group
philip.gaskell@nhs.net
01360 661011



The Mission Action Plan

The attendance for the launch of our Mission Action Plan was very heartening and gives the Vestry great confidence that the congregation are right behind them. Everyone who attended now has a copy of the plan; a copy is also on our website and at the back of church.

If you have not got a copy and would like one, please ask.

I hope that everyone will read the plan. It's not cast in stone. The whole idea is that the plan should be monitored (which the Vestry will do) and altered as a result of our experience. Indeed we can add to the plan at any time. This we must do to keep the plan alive and relevant.

So as Chairman of your Vestry I urge you all, whether you came to the launch or not, to get involved. Please come up with ideas and let the Rector or a Vestry member know of these ideas and any other reaction you have to the plan.

This is a living breathing document and we need, all of us, to use it so that St Mary's thrives and grows. Do get behind the plan and let us all together make it work.

Mark Seymour
Vestry Chairman
mark@thorntreebarn.co.uk

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**Christian Aid Week
20-27 May**

If you'd like to help collect for Christian Aid in Aberfoyle, please contact Jean Sykes.

Faith Interview: Philip Gaskell

Would you mind sharing your age?
I'm 59.

Where were you born and where did you spend your childhood?

I was born in Inverness, then spent the next eight years in Law village in Lanarkshire. My father was a GP there in the 1950s, then we moved to Edinburgh where I lived for many years.

What did you do when you left school?

I left school in the 70s when it was conventional to go to university and I just about scraped into medical school.

What kind of job do/did you have?

I work as a GP in Stirling in a practice that deals with patients who have significant alcohol and substance misuse issues.

Tell me about your family

I have two daughters in their late 20s, living in Edinburgh, whom I try to see regularly. Lizzy is a social worker dealing with challenging family situations and children at risk. Nicky works in a bar and plays rugby and may yet discover other aims in life.

My parents are ageing in their late 80s, but still impart wisdom in small measures to their three children.

My best friend was my twin brother (not identical) whose humanity and musicality were wonderful attributes. He became a psychiatrist in Argyll and died 10 years ago of brain tumour.

How did you come to be living in this area?

After 20 years in North Edinburgh, I wanted to live with my new wife who had settled in Drymen.

What do you like doing in your spare time?

I like reading newspapers and medical magazines. I like heavy gardening jobs, playing golf, making celebration cakes, cooking and attending orchestral concerts and opera. I am secretary of the Strathendrick tennis club, on the board of the charity Artlink and sing in the Strathendrick singers.

When did you start going to church?

I went with my family to the parish church in Portobello and was member of the Boys' Brigade. I became a member of the church when I was 18.

What churches have you been involved in?

As a student, I started going to St Giles, Church of Scotland Cathedral and served as an elder there for 10 years up to 2004 when I moved to Drymen.

Why did you start coming to St Mary's?

Coming from St Giles' I was used to a weekly Eucharistic service and found the local church of Scotland services rather passive and ordinary.

How do you pray/gain spiritual nurture?

My prayer lacks structure. I pray when I am driving (but it doesn't improve my driving!). I pray before falling asleep. I pray in Sunday services & when constructing intercessional prayer for the service.

I gained spiritual nurture from Gilleasbuig Macmillan, who was minister at St Giles for the 30 years I was there. His themes of symbolism (faith being touchable and visible in ordinary life) and inclusive church have stayed strongly with me.

I am inspired and challenged by choral masses and other religious works, either when singing or listening. Of particular note was our trip to hear the Oberammergau Passion Play in 2010. And of course my wife provides me with spiritual nurture and challenge!

Do you have a favourite Bible passage?

The sermon on the mount (Matthew chapters 5-7) covers a range of human activity and endeavours, and provides sustenance when the going gets tough.

Have there been important people in your journey of faith?

My three work colleagues in Edinburgh had a living faith. Regrettably our faith was little spoken of, but it was a bond.

Has being a Christian made a difference to your life?

I feel a responsibility to serve professionally and privately, which at times has stretched energies more than might be wise. My faith is both a driver and a sustenance.

What are you looking forward to next in your life?

I plan to work for another four years or so, at a less frenetic pace, which will allow reflection, wider reading and more hill walking.

Karen Gaskell
kmgaskell@btinternet.com
 01360 661011



Godly Play

18 March
 22 April
 27 May
 17 June

11.00am in the Church Room.
 All children welcome



High Society Jazz Band
Thursday 17 May, 7.30pm

This great jazz band will perform a varied programme of Dixieland and traditional jazz.

Tickets £8

For further enquires call
 Alan Corbett on 01324 554388 or
 Carol Seymour on 01786 870710
 Email: carol@thorntreebarn.co.uk



Kyiv Classic Accordion Duo
Thursday 14 June, 7.30pm

Igor and Oleksiy return to delight us in their virtuoso accordion playing of popular classics and traditional music

Tickets including wine and nibbles:
 £10 adults; £5 concessions.
 Available from John Tilman,
 or Karen and Philip Gaskell.

Proceeds to the Hippokrat Society supporting children and young people disabled after the Chernobyl disaster.

The Glass of St Mary's, Aberfoyle

Last spring my mum, Barbara Carruthers, asked me to come and look at the stained glass at St Mary's, since I make stained glass panels and am currently studying glass at Edinburgh College of Art. When I came, Richard asked me to write an article for this magazine and, somewhat later than I intended, here it is.

My intention is to give you a fresh perspective on the lovely windows you have and perhaps some understanding of the skills involved. I will outline first how stained glass is made and then point out where particular techniques have been used in windows in the church.

Stained glass was historically made by hand and the best stained glass still is. It is an amazing process to watch, as a glowing blob of hot glass is transformed into a flat sheet of glass. If you have internet access you can watch how it is done on these short videos:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4_FyF01ua7k and
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExyfPI5z2NY>

The hot glass is kept at a temperature of 1150°C and is the consistency of syrup or runny honey. Think about how you have to keep turning the spoon to keep the honey from dripping off. In the same way the glass blower has to keep turning the blowing iron with the hot glass on the end whilst they work it and blow it to the required shape.

A blob of molten glass is gathered from the furnace and shaped before a bubble of air is blown into it (see photo).



More glass is gathered over this and the bubble is blown bigger and bigger with the glass blower shaping it into a large cylinder. During this process the glass is reheated when it cools too much.



After two further gathers of glass the bubble is being shaped with wet paper. An assistant shields the glass-blower from the heat with a wooden paddle.

The cylindrical bubble is opened at the ends, the exact method varying from one maker to another, before it is cut open along its length and reheated so that it opens out flat.

The stained glass maker now takes the glass to a full size drawing of the window – the cartoon.

The different coloured pieces of glass are laid onto the cartoon and cut to shape. At this stage the glass might be painted, etched or silver stained - I will describe these processes as I talk about the windows.

Next, lead calme (pronounced 'came') is cut to length and bent to fit the curves of the glass until all the pieces can be soldered together. Special cement is forced between the calmes and the glass to create a waterproof seal.



That is the basic process which has been used to make stained glass windows for hundreds of years with only minor changes to the tools and materials.



Now let us look at the windows at St Mary's. The first window is in the entrance door. It includes textured glass, which is machine made, although I confess I don't know how. The central panel is surrounded by a double border of straight strips of glass. Such a border is common in stained glass windows and I have been told that the idea was that if anything was going to be broken during handling it would be an easy-to-replace strip rather than a costly painted piece.

Personally I like the way it sets off the framing of a window, rather like the coloured mount board between a painting and its frame. Although the window is a simple design in clear glass it makes a significant difference to the door and to the entrance.

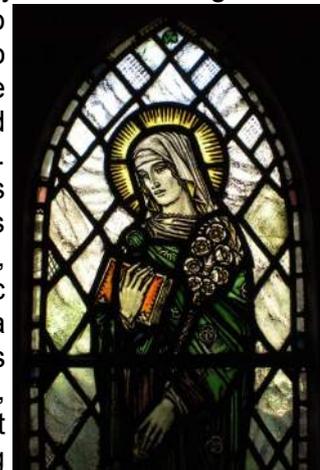


Can you imagine what it would be like with just plain glass?

Across the church is a strong-featured man symbolising medicine, religion and art and commemorating Annie May Talbot Smith. Can you see the organ pipes in the design? This is the first of the three commemorative windows which are at eye level in the church. They are each designed and made in distinctly different styles, but all three are beautifully painted with wonderful drapery and faces.

Further towards the front of the church on the same wall is the image of St Anne above a smaller family grouping of Anne, Mary and the baby Jesus. The glass is

painted boldly to give both detail to the figures and life to the background surrounding them. Glass paint consists of chemical oxides mixed with a binder, such as gum Arabic or honey, and a medium such as water, oil or acid, depending on what the painter is trying to achieve.



Once painted the glass is then fired at around 680°C so that the paint fuses permanently to it. Notice how the gentle shading on the glass surrounding St Anne brings the image to life. How would it look if the figure was surrounded only by unpainted glass?



Across the church from St Anne is St Mary in her blue robe with the baby Jesus, but painted in a delicate Arts and Crafts style. The blue of Mary's robe is 'flashed glass' – clear glass with a layer of coloured glass on it. The coloured glass is then etched away with strong acid to produce the delicate shading of the folds.

If you return now to the St Anne window and examine the head of Mary you will again find blue flashed glass. This time the colour has been completely etched away in places to reveal clear glass for the face and the halo. Although it looks as though the face and the halo are separate pieces of glass they are actually one piece with a line painted in.



The halo glows yellow, through the application of silver stain. This is a silver salt, such as silver chloride, which is painted on to the glass and then fired, reacting with the glass to stain it. Shades ranging from pale yellow to deep amber are obtained by varying the temperature and thickness of application. It is because of silver stain that such windows are known as stained glass, but the term has come to include any window made with coloured glass and lead calme construction.

The series of four windows across the front of the church, which tell the story of Jesus are difficult to get close to. However, they look to me to be fine windows and include all the techniques already described.



Returning back up the aisle to the rear of the church there are the Fanshawe windows, two arched lights and a circular one gifted in memory of Althea Fanshawe.



Recently restored into this new position after many years hidden away, they are predominantly painted and silver stained clear glass. However, the complexity of the painting and the range of silver stain shades make that hard to believe. The rich colour in the robes of the angels and the grass underfoot accentuates the glorious golden glow of the silver stain, whilst allowing a lot of natural light through. The colour variation of the clear glass is due to tiny variations in the amount of chemicals in the glass, for instance iron gives glass a greenish hue.



The final panel of stained glass is located below the circular Fanshawe window. This modest image is of a woman holding up her young child with only their halos to indicate their sacred significance. It was inherited by a member of the congregation from Harry Mileham, a painter who also made stained glass. I believe it was a sample panel that the artist would take to prospective clients to demonstrate his work.

Alone of all the stained glass in the church its maker is identified – can you see that one of the flowers in the border is different and is Mr Mileham's monogram with the date 1936?

The stained glass in St Mary's is beautiful and it was my privilege to be able to spend time enjoying it. I would like to thank you all for your warm welcome when I visited last year and for this opportunity to share my enthusiasm for stained glass with you.

One final note: whilst I was researching this article I was delighted to discover something special about the Scottish Episcopal Church. There had been stained glass in Scotland, but in 1560 the Presbyterian Lords of Council instructed the removal of "all kind of monuments of idolatry"⁽¹⁾ as part of the Reformation. They specifically excluded the destruction of fabric of building such as "windocks" and "eyther glass in wark"⁽¹⁾, but this was ignored and over time all but a handful of the mediaeval stained glass in Scotland was destroyed and replaced with plain glass.

The Presbyterian Kirk continued to oppose the use of stained glass for 250 years but in 1815 Episcopalians ignored this disapproval and commissioned glass for St John's Episcopal Church on the corner of Princes Street and Lothian Road in Edinburgh. If you are ever in Edinburgh this church is well worth a visit as the windows are beautiful. An English firm carried out the work because no-one in Scotland could do it and it was another 30 years before the stained glass revival became established. So, my heartfelt thanks to the Scottish Episcopal Church for bringing stained glass back to Scotland!

⁽¹⁾Donnelly, M (1997), *Scotland's Stained Glass: Making the Colours Sing*, Stationery Office, Edinburgh

Lin Carruthers
gentlewindofchange@hotmail.com

Summary Accounts

Year ending 30th September	2011	2010
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Congregation	36564	32848
Donations	6540	5252
Grants received	836	24146
Fundraising events	1389	1130
Investment income	1388	1350
	<u>46717</u>	<u>64726</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
Clergy	23923	29283
Building & organ	12586	73349
Diocesan Quota	6069	6030
Church Giving donations	725	1200
Loan repayments	10560	0
Other	1408	1660
	<u>55271</u>	<u>111522</u>
(Deficit)	<u>-8554</u>	<u>-46796</u>
<u>FUND BALANCES</u> at 30th September		
General Fund	57719	61682
Renovation Fund	863	6763
Church Giving Fund	119	-49
	<u>58701</u>	<u>68396</u>

The full 2011 Accounts can be seen on www.stmarychurchaberfoyle.org.uk

Congregation receipts include Gift Aid tax recovered.

Payments are shown net of St Andrew's Callander contribution to Linkage costs.

Closing year end Fund balances are shown net of internal transfers.

Nick Cooke, Vestry Treasurer
Nhcooke@aol.com
March 2012

Artlink Central

The Giving Fund was pleased to support Artlink Central last year. Here's a summary of their work.

Artlink Central is a leading arts agency and charity in Central Scotland, developing artist led creative programmes for people who lack opportunity to participate in the arts due to mental health issues, disability or other social barriers.



We use music, literature, storytelling, visual and performing arts to remove barriers that create or sustain inequality, and to discover and nurture creative talent in people, particularly emerging disabled artists.

Key areas of our programming include:

Artspace programme creating access to regular arts opportunities for people experiencing mental health issues in the community.

Arts and Health programme which delivers arts experiences targeted at people with mental ill health, dementia, physical illness, stroke as well as sick children in thirty one wards across the Forth Valley.

Arts, Transition and Social Inclusion programmes in schools across the region, including Creative Leavers programme for young disabled artists leaving school supporting them to create, exhibit and sell work in a professional setting and build a portfolio to support their adult aspirations.

Artreach cross art form programme for adults with learning disabilities supporting participation, audience development emerging talent across Stirling area.

Artreach: the story so far

Artreach was created to inspire, develop and showcase the artistic talents and interests of adults with learning disabilities in the Stirling Community. From June 2010 – 2011 around 70 people took part in music, drama and visual art sessions, creating excellent artworks.

They have been working to build and shape an artistic community where creative interests, laughter and support were shared. Throughout the programme participants worked with artists and managers through consultation to create the project that they wanted and needed, resulting in the resounding success of Artreach and the desire to see it established permanently.

With support from a visual artist, drama artist and musician, artists exhibited and performed their work to audiences in Stirling and across Scotland, culminating in the event 'Artreach: Definition', a fantastic cross-artform celebration of their achievements at the Albert Hall, which inspired and moved all who attended in March 2011.

Among the highlights of Artreach, visual artwork was shown and sold nationally at eight impressive exhibitions and installations.

Drama artists wrote and performed original work for theatre at 'Artreach: Definition', and for the National Theatre of Scotland project '5 Minute Theatre', which was broadcast nationally in June 2011. Much of their work was informed by attending performances and workshops by other theatre companies in Scotland.

Musicians composed and performed original music at 'Artreach: Definition', leading to the commission of a new piece for the launch event of Central Advocacy Partners in

October 2011, and took part in 'Reverb', a national consultation event in September 2010 for disabled musicians in Scotland wishing to work professionally.

Artreach was supported between June 2010 – 2011 by Stirling Community Planning Partnership and the Gordon Fraser Trust. We have also been delighted to be supported by local trusts and supporters, such as St Mary's Church of Aberfoyle and the Dickon Trust

Artreach: the next chapter

We aim to make Artreach a leading arts programme which achieves excellence in the holistic development of every individual's artistic interests and talents. From trying things out and getting involved for the first time, to visiting performances and exhibitions, to mastering new skills at a high level, we aim to create opportunities for learning, fun and development at every stage of an artistic journey.

Artreach has been designed in partnership with the participants who took part from 2010 – 2011. Inspiring consultation meetings in December and January lead to the creation of our 10 week programmes; each block reflects an area of music, art or drama that people want to learn more about.

We are committed to working not just in our separate artforms, but together across disciplines to make work which can be performed and exhibited together. Our aim is to create ambitious works of art demonstrating many different perspectives, but are also linked by common threads and a strong sense of the Artreach artistic community around them.



**Fundraising Group
Invites you to a**

BRIDGE LUNCH

On Friday, 23rd March, 2012

By kind permission of Sir James & Lady Campbell,
Kilbryde Castle, Dunblane, FK15 9NF

Drinks on arrival at 12 noon followed by

A hot main course & puddings

(Vegetarian & gluten free options available please advise on booking ticket)

Tickets: £80 per table or £20 per person and we will find you a table.

From: Artlink Central, Cowane Centre, Cowane Street, Stirling. FK8 1JP

Please supply SAE.

Tel: 01786 450971

email: info@artlinkcentral.org

Cheques should be made out to Artlink Central Ltd.

Registered Charity No. SC) 08158

The Story Behind Our Hymns - 8

*Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted, and yet undefiled.*

The words of this well-known and well-loved Lenten hymn, relating to Christ's temptations in the wilderness ("He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto Him." Mark 1:13) are apparently a composite created originally for *Hymns A&M* in its first edition (1861).

It is partly based on some verses published by G.H. Smyttan (1822-70) in the *Penny Post* in 1856, but heavily altered by Francis Pott (1832-1909). It is sung to *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich* (Heinlein) *Nürnbergisches Gesangbuch*, 1676, attributed to Martin Herbst (1654-1681). George Smyttan, the son of Dr. Smyttan of the Bombay Medical Board, was educated at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge (BA 1845). He was ordained Deacon in 1848, Priest in 1849, and appointed Rector of Hawkestone, in Nottinghamshire (1850-1859).

White's "Directory of Nottinghamshire" (1853) notes that "Hawkestone, anciently called Hocheword, is a small village parish, 4 miles north-east of Bingham and 8 miles south-south-west of Newark. The church, dedicated to St Mary and All Saints, is a small building, with a brick tower. The chancel has been lately rebuilt, and contains some fine stained glass by Wailes of Newcastle."

George Smyttan also published some small volumes of poetry including *Thoughts in Verse for the Afflicted* (1849); *Mission Songs and Ballads* (1860); and *Florum Sacra*, and wrote one other hymn *Jesu, ever present with Thy Church below*, which appeared in the 2nd edition of *Lyra Eucharistica* in 1864.

Francis Pott studied at Brasenose College, Oxford. He was ordained Deacon in 1856, and Priest in 1857.

He was Curate of Bishopsworth, Bristol, 1856; of Ardingley, Sussex, 1858; was appointed to Ticehurst in 1861, and was then incumbent of Northill, Bedfordshire. As well as altering the words of this hymn, and translating some other hymns, he was the author of a number of popular hymns including *Angel voices ever singing round Thy throne of light*, *Jesus Christ is risen today*, and *O God of Bethel by whose hand*.

The final verse of this hymn directs our thoughts towards Easter:

*Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
Ever constant by Thy side;
That with Thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide.*

Acknowledgements: <http://cathythinks.blogspot.com/2006/03/forty-days-and-forty-nights.html> and http://www.hymnary.org/person/Pott_F

John Dymond
dunmorecot@fiscal.co.uk

Strathendrick Singers Spring Concert

Killearn Kirk
Sunday 18 March, 7.00pm

The programmes includes
Haydn: Little Organ Mass
Lauridsen: Lux Aeterna
Vaughan Williams: The Lark Ascending
Rutter: The Sprig of Thyme (a collection of traditional songs)

Conductor: Mark Evans
with Claire Evans, soprano and
Laura Ayoub, violin

Tickets £10 adult, £5 child
Including refreshments
From Philip Gaskell or Bill Richardson
or at the door.

Child In Need Institute Mothering Sunday Appeal

On Mothering Sunday, 18 March, there will be an appeal on radio 4 for the CINI ***Sponsor a Mother Programme.***

This appeal will be made by Mark Tully, the long-standing news correspondent for Delhi and patron of CINI. So turn your radios on before coming to church!

Thank you!

Thanks to the flower arranging team, Saffrey Miller, Kate Joynston, Jean Sykes, Melanie Grosse, Susan Forsyth, Fiona Stirling and Robin Willis and to Gill Brown, Anne Winther and George Willis for helping on high days and holidays and the others who do flowers fortnightly throughout the year, Julie Edmonstone, Margaret Johnson, Rozie Parker, Eileen Gibbs, Vi Boyd and Peggie Aitken

Also a big thank you for the concerts/talks helpers Saffrey Miller, John Tilman, and to David Miller, Marie and David Thomson, Gill Brown, Archie Orr Ewing, Kate Joynston, Robin and John Willis, Susan Forsyth, Alastair Gardner and anyone else who has helped out on the night!

Thirdly a thank you to those who contribute to the Easter Lily Fund most generously

Also to those who help during the summer months bringing goodies to the Bring and Buy sales. In particular, Kate, Julie, Alastair Wallace, Billie, Barbara, Margaret, Saffrey and David, Vi, and Gill

Apologies if I have left anyone out but really we have to thank the congregation for their support in all these ventures.

Carol Seymour



Prayer Group
2nd Tuesday of the month, 6pm

Beechwood, Croftamie

All welcome to these meetings of open prayer, or just pop a request for prayer in the 'prayer basket' at the back of church.

Lily Fund

If you would like to make a donation to the Lily Fund to decorate the church on Easter Sunday, please contact Carol Seymour.

Volunteers for Flower Rota

Two people have left the flower rota, so we're looking for new volunteers to join.

If you think you may be able to help, find out more from Carol Seymour.

Good intentions

From the Herald on Ash Wednesday: One chap in Glasgow asked if he ever gave anything up for Lent, replied "usually my New Year's resolutions".

Pasta with Beef

This is a really good lunch or supper dish for four people.

*1 can mushroom soup
Cream
Sherry
Worcestershire sauce
Mustard
Fresh mushrooms
12 oz sirloin steak
Penne pasta*

1. Boil the penne pasta.
2. Mix the can of mushroom soup, good dashes of cream, sherry, Worcestershire sauce, mustard and sliced fresh mushrooms in a saucepan. (Preferably a two-handed saucepan you can serve from.)
3. Simmer for 5 minutes.
4. Slice the sirloin steak into thin strips.
5. Fold steak and cooked penne into the sauce.
6. Simmer for 1 minute.
7. Scatter with chopped parsley and serve with grated parmesan to be extra posh.

*Julie Edmonstone
Juliet@edmonstone.com*

**Eco-congregation
Scotland's Annual Gathering and AGM
"Behaviour Change"**

**Bridge of Allan Parish Church Hall, Keir St.
Saturday 21 April
10am—4pm**

Keynote speaker: Stewart Stevenson MSP,
Minister for Environment and Climate.

This meeting will consider local and global
issues of sustainable living.

A light lunch will be served.

To register please contact Oyunn Anshus on
oanshus@cofscotland.org.uk
121 George St, Edinburgh EH2 4YN

St Mary's library

One of the aims set down in our Casting the Net Mission Action Plan is the founding of a small library in the Church Room. It is hoped that the availability of good literature will help us all develop faith. The library would be open for loans and returns each Sunday. A few books have already been gathered for this purpose.

Has anyone further Christian material (books CDs, DVDs) that they might be prepared to donate, please? It is also hoped that the Vestry budget might be stretched to augment stock from time to time.

Offers and enquiries to Richard, please.

**Inviting Them to Stay
Seminar by Michael Harvey**

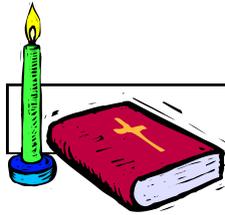
**St John's Threshold Centre, Perth
Wednesday 21 March
1.45 (for 2pm)-4pm**

Calling all involved in ministry and mission

*You know that regret you feel when
people show interest in your church,
come in once... and that's it.
There is no simple solution, but there are
things we can learn and habits we can
avoid.*

*Michael Harvey, one of the founders of
'Back to Church Sunday' will lead this
seminar.*

*Donation on the day:
£5 to cover expenses.*



Church Lessons

Spring 2012

To help you prepare for or reflect further on a service,
here are the readings for the coming season.

Date	Sunday Theme	Lessons
18 March	Mothering Sunday	1 Samuel 1:20-end 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 John 19:25-27
25 March (British Summer Time Begins)	Passion Sunday	Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33
1 April	Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50:4-9a Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 21:1-13
8 April	Easter Sunday	Isaiah 25:6-9 Acts 10:34-43 John 20:1-18
15 April	Second Sunday Of Easter	Exodus 14:10-end Acts 4:32-35 John 20:19-end
22 April	Third Sunday Of Easter	Zephaniah 3:14-end Acts 3:12-19 Luke 24:36b-48
29 April	Fourth Sunday Of Easter	Genesis 7:1-5,11-18 Acts 4:5-12 John 10:11-18
6 May	Fifth Sunday Of Easter	Genesis 22:1-18 Acts 8:26-40 John 15:1-8
13 May (Rogation Sunday)	Sixth Sunday Of Easter	Isaiah 55:1-11 Acts 10:44-48 John 15:9-17
20 May	Seventh Sunday Of Easter	Acts 1:15-17,21-26 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19
27 May	Pentecost	Ezekiel 37:1-14 Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-17,16:4b-15
3 June	Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 6:1-8 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17
10 June	First Sunday After Trinity	Genesis 3:8-15 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35
17 June	Second Sunday After Trinity	Ezekiel 17:22-24 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17 Mark 4:26-34
24 June (Birth of John the Baptist)	Third Sunday After Trinity	Isaiah 40:1-11 Acts 13:14b-26 Luke 1:55-66, 80