



OUTREACH

St James the Less Scottish Episcopal Church, Penicuik



Brahms for Lunch: talented Cambridge Students entertain us!

Issue No 163 October 2010

Mothers' Union display at the Doors Open Day in September



Summer travels - Jean and Frank Lindsay (+visitor!) in their church of St Mary's in Kilgetty (see page 16)

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Service Times

Sundays: 11.00am Choral Communion; Evensong as announced
Wednesdays: 12.15pm Midweek Eucharist

On the first Sunday of the month the 11.00am Sunday Service is a Family Communion; on the other Sundays the young people go out to Young Church during the first hymn and return in time for Communion.

Groups and Activities

(please contact the appropriate person listed inside the back cover)

Sundays:	7.30pm	Youth Group for 10-16s
Tuesdays:	9.30am	“J-Tots” Playgroup
	10.00am	Bible Study at 24 Mauricewood Park
	7.30pm	Mauricewood Housegroup at 6 Arras Grove
Wednesdays:	7.00am	“Earlybirds” Prayergroup
	8.00am	“Earlybirds+” Prayergroup
Thursdays:	7.00pm	Choir Practice

From the Rector

“There’s something in the air”. “There’s something in the water”.

These phrases are ones which we may use when a number of people “come up with” or “come down with” the same thing at the same time. A number of people find themselves thinking the same thing and talking about it. “There’s something in the air” we say, there’s a “buzz” going on.

It happens more frequently than we know that several people will come up with the same idea. A number of things have been invented by different people in different places at more or less the same time – the telephone and the paper-clip come to mind. Even without entertaining the idea of the theft of intellectual property, they are sometimes ideas, if you like, “whose time has come”. It makes you wonder whether our ideas are common property in some way that we don’t yet understand.

Or we look at members of an extended family who, generation after generation, find themselves sharing many of the same weaknesses – drink or violence. Is it genetic or environmental? We think of a congregation which returns to the same dilemma every ten years, or finds its members weary and frustrated at the same time. “There’s something in the water”, we say, because it seems vaguely like a tummy bug which gets passed around a family, a school or a workplace.

There are laws in the universe which state that organised things gradually become less so over time. Warm things cool down. It would appear to be a downward slope. We need only to look in the mirror to see the effects. And if we wanted to think long and hard about it, we could drive ourselves into a fit of despond at the things which end, which grind to a halt, which leave, which are worn down, which age and

which “run out of steam”. Yes – that is one way of looking at all things. On the day such a reflection hits more than one of us we can say that there’s “something in the water”. We’ve caught the bug.

We have no choice, however, but to also take account of the things that “begin” as well. They, oftentimes, begin quite gracefully and even playfully. The new refrigerator is delivered and the neighbourhood children end up having a gay old time with the massive cardboard carton it was delivered in. At one moment it’s a castle, at the next moment it’s a vehicle. All they brought with them to this humble cardboard carton was imagination and free time. Such beginnings are graceful and they are cost-free.

Such a “buzz” may only be a conversation away – only one idea away – only one meeting away. Josiah starts a reform movement within Israel simply by reading the book of the Law aloud. Jesus calls a few fishermen aside from washing their nets and his early public ministry begins. The Kingdom of God finds its inroads into human society with such humble beginnings. Our local organisations and institutions were born of such conversations - discussions between people, the gathering of fairly modest resources and a few preliminary attempts which may have worked out and borne fruit the second or third time they were tried.

In the water – in the air: there is more than one slope. It goes up as often as it goes down.

So what’s in the water where you are? What’s in the air?

Father Rob Warren

John Farrant

There will be a Requiem Mass at St Bride's Episcopal Church, 69, Hyndland Road, Glasgow, G12 9UX for the Reverend Canon John Frederick Ames Farrant (1930 - 2009) on Saturday 30 October, 2010 at midday. St Bride's hope that some of us who remember John will be able to attend. Refreshments will be served after the service.

AGM Reports

To assist with production of the AGM agenda and reports booklet in time for St James’ AGM on Sunday 12 December 2010, reports on church organisations are requested by end of day **Sunday 21 November**.

Email is convenient, if available, but reports can also be sent on flashpen or paper. Plain text, rtf or MSWord are suitable; no formatting is needed.

Please send reports to Richard Phillips: rphillips52@toucansurf.com

Thank you for your help to have this ready in time.

Richard

Penicuik for Africa

Street Fair: Many thanks to those who donated items for our stall at the Street Fair in August and/or who helped to 'staff' the stall: the picture shows the helpers briefly posing before dealing with the next rush of customers! Despite intense competition, we raised another £115 towards our target of £8000 for furnishing the new student facilities at Chitambo. We are expecting to hear any day that the first consignment of beds, desks etc. has arrived and our treasurer Graham is poised to write a cheque for some £4,500.



Fairtrade: I continue to be disappointed by the 'trickle down' direction of sales on our stall but was encouraged to read in

Traidcraft's Annual Review that we are not alone. Direct sales by Traidcraft plc fell by 7% in the last trading year to £14.9m, victim of the recession. Nevertheless, by restructuring and efficiency savings Traidcraft managed to increase what they sent to producers, mostly in Latin America and Africa, by 3.73% to £4.2m. For those not already doing their sums, 25% of the price paid by customers went directly to the producer. If that seems too small, just think of the far smaller fraction of what we pay in supermarkets for home produce that goes to our farmers. We do even better at St James because our discount of 10% goes straight to Africa, making a 35% return in all. Although many supermarkets now sell Fairtrade produce, they do not do what Traidcraft

does. As a non-profit organisation, Traidcraft made advances of £0.83m to producers in a year when credit was hard to obtain, 13% more than the previous year. Please support your Traidcraft stall!

Coffee Morning: You will find elsewhere a notice from Val about this: a bit of our own restructuring sees the old Tear Fund bandwagon swing in behind PfA this year and we are most grateful. As an extra would you like to be raking around for donations to a 'Cash From The Attic' stall: items you no longer see or use that have a 'not inconsiderable' value. Put a reserve price on them, indicating the least you would like to see them go for, but be prepared either to take them home again or leave us with some discretion on what we accept.

Advance notice of provisional date for PfA AGM: *can I suggest **Tuesday, November 16 at 8pm** in St James Church Hall. Please let me know if that's inconvenient for you.*

Neville

Choir News

Sadly, Penicuik Silver Band could not be with us last month. The Band hopes that another date can be arranged when they can come and play at a morning service.

St James was open to visitors on 11 September as part of Midlothian's "Doors Open" project. Several people visited the church, admired the architecture and furnishing, looked through our archives and listened to organ music. One visitor was William Mabon from Haddington. William is an ex-chorister of St James and sang in the choir from 1949 to 1953-ish! He enjoyed his time looking around the church as it seemed to be packed full of his memories. We hope that he'll be able to visit again.

During October we will be working on music by Philip Ledger. We intend to sing pieces from his "Requiem - A thanksgiving for Life" at evensong for All Saints on Sunday 7 November at 6.30pm. The requiem has Latin movements interspersed with settings of some wonderful poems by Thomas Traherne (c.1636-74). The work starts with the birth of the soul and ends with its final journey to Paradise. We intend to use the service to remember especially John and Marjory Farrant, and Frances Mclean - please add the date to your calendar.

Meantime I hope that you have enjoyed the Flower Festival and the Harvest Music - just a peep ahead indicates that Sunday 31 October is described as the 4th Sunday before Advent!!

David

‘Being a Christian in the 21st Century’

This was the running title of a ‘Progressive Christianity’ Conference at St John’s on 11 September. The vendor of *Big Issue* in Lothian Rd. was selling few copies to arriving delegates, who were perhaps distracted by **the** big issue on their agenda in three lectures from Marcus Borg. It was ironical that in five days time, Edinburgh was to host Pope Benedict XVI whose subliminal message was to be the very opposite: ‘Being a Christian is the same whatever the century’. In his welcome, the Rector of St John’s, John Armes, invited us to look at a topical mural being completed on the Princes Street wall of the church. We found a mock stained glass window with three panels: to left and right, portrayals of Copernicus and Galileo, each with a large red ‘X’ daubed across the base; in the centre woman in black behind an altar, about to instinct the Host in a chalice. The artist was up a ladder about to complete his work – the third red cross! The proceedings inside St John’s were just as provocative to anyone passing that way with orthodox beliefs.

To those who had read any of Marcus Borg’s many books, there were few surprises in what he had to say. To those, like me, who had never met him, there was an immense but reassuring surprise in what stood at the lectern: a diminutive, softly spoken, humble and ‘holy’ man. His declared threefold purpose was to ‘reclaim the Christian language’, ‘move beyond literalism’ and ‘participate in God’s passion for transformation’. His passion was to re-educate Christendom and, if that sounded all-too threatening and subversive, he began a session with an ancient prayer which ended thus:

Grant that I may ever seek Thy face with all my heart and soul and strength; and, in thine infinite mercy, bring me at last to Thy holy presence where I shall behold Thy glory and possess Thy promised joys. St Alcuin of York (735-804 AD). No change there then!

Most other religious conventions in the book and of *The Book* were however brought to book. Marcus Borg’s thesis is that a literal and

uncritical reading of selected (canonical) scriptures, themselves shaped by the customs and historical contexts of their day, had got the Church into an unholy fix. Constantine, the enforcer, had united church and state, bringing ill-founded order to both. The 'Enlightenment' had triggered a robust defence of 'The Faith' that state and church had forged. The outpouring of absolutes from the Church to quell the eruption of doubt resembled (my analogy) the recent reaction of BP who, fearing widespread pollution, poured cement into the leaking oil well in the Gulf of Mexico. The 'fix' was thus 'fossilised' and now hung like a millstone round the Church's neck. Borg's answer? To drill down a relief well and tap the rich resources discovered by studies of the 'real' Jesus. Marcus was sympathetically questioned and enthusiastically applauded after each session. We had come from all parts of the UK and from all denominations and left with the impression that here indeed lay the way to 'possess the promised joys'.

The pope has been and gone and most of us will have been captivated and moved at times by the spectacular ceremony surrounding the rapprochement between two great churches, doing what they are good at. However, their 'Big Issue' was studiously avoided: their standing in society and their peace is threatened not just by 'aggressive atheism' but by 'progressive Christianity' which is determined to rediscover and express Jesus' compassion for those who suffer hunger, sickness, poverty and oppression. *Neville*

Penicuik for Africa Coffee Morning

The coffee morning will be held on **Saturday 13 November 2010 in St James Church Hall from 10.00am till 12.00.**

There will be a home bake stall, plants and flowers and various other stalls for your perusal.

You are all warmly invited to come along and bring your friends and enjoy a lovely cup of Fair Trade coffee and some delicious home baking!

We are turning our attention to this very worthy cause this year; please help us in the next push to raise the £3,000 needed for furnishings at the Chitambo Midwifery School.

Val McGavin

Children exposed to 'inappropriate' TV

The Mothers' Union says children should be protected from sexualised advertising campaigns.

Last month they conducted a poll. A survey of 1,004 parents of under-18s has suggested that two-thirds of UK parents believe children are exposed to inappropriate content on television prior to 9pm. A further 80% said they felt films and video games with sexual or violent themes were too easily available. The research also showed most parents think television, films, magazines and the internet make children sexually aware at a younger age than they would be otherwise.

The findings are included in the charity's report *Bye Buy Childhood*, detailing the impact of advertising and marketing on children's happiness.

The charity has called for a ban on marketing or selling goods of a sexualised nature to children under 16.

The charity also said it was concerned about so-called "peer-to-peer" marketing, in which children are recruited by marketing campaigns on the internet. The report said that under these schemes, children are encouraged to pass email addresses of friends to advertisers and promote products to other children in the playground

MU worldwide president, Rosemary Kempell, said: "Mothers' Union is concerned at the increasing levels of marketing aimed at children. Brands deliberately encourage a culture of 'pester power' or use manipulative techniques such as recruiting young people as conduits for peer-to-peer marketing. This is having a far-reaching effect on children's values, and their family life. Marketers play on the need that children have to fit in with their friends, to belong. We believe exploiting children for profit is wrong."

The MU ***Bye Buy Childhood*** campaign aims to empower families to challenge the commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood through positive action.

Join our campaign to say "bye bye" to buying childhood.

Mothers' Union has launched this campaign in Britain and Republic of Ireland to:

- Challenge children, their parents or guardians and wider family to think about their consumer habits

- Empower families to address the influence of commercialisation within the home
- Engage with the commercial world and take positive action to challenge instances of inappropriate marketing or selling
- Hold the UK Government accountable on the pledges made in the coalition's **Programme for Government** to
 - address the commercialisation and sexualisation of children; and
 - raise awareness amongst other political representatives across the UK and Ireland.

Material submitted by Angela Sibley

Created/Tearcraft

The new Created catalogues are now at the back of the church. It looks good!

I will be taking orders for your Christmas gifts as usual but please remember that there will be no Tearcraft stall this year.

Val McGavin

Parcels4Troops

Again many thanks to those who contributed. I have put the 'Thank you' letter on the notice board. I shall also put a list of suitable items up. This is ongoing and there is a box at the back of the Church for contributions or if you want to do your own parcel and bring it to Church it must weigh up to 2 kg. Thank you all again. *Margaret Coull*

Doors Open Day

On Saturday 11 September St James, after a year off, participated once more in Midlothian Doors Open Day 2010 with great success. A total of 11 visitors saw round the church, were treated to organ and piano recitals, cups of tea with delicious scones and cakes, and were able to view the archives and photographs on display. What they lacked in numbers was made up by enthusiasm, with one ex-choir member from Haddington delighted to be able to identify himself in an old photo!

The enthusiasm of the visitors was matched by that of the many helpers on the day and we owe them a debt of gratitude for their time

and effort. Surprisingly, as entry fees are not allowed, the sale of teas and buns and donations raised £66 on the day. *Nigel Johnston*

Omega group

A reminder first of all about what *Omega* is all about. The group aims to provide an introduction to progressive Christianity and recent biblical scholarship. At times, what we study can seem to threaten most of our cherished beliefs, but we can emerge energised by the realisation that our faith is about 'being' rather than 'believing', and that we can establish a fresh relationship with Jesus, our Emmanuel (God With Us). Some of what we have read in the Bible or believed can become more true, not less. *Omega* is ideally suited to outsiders for whom Christian dogmatics have no appeal in the 21st century. However, if 'The Church' is to grow sustainably, some churches will have to offer an alternative to the old religion that recaptures the magnetic appeal of Jesus' lifestyle and original teachings. If 'churched' and 'unchurched' can meet together, and the former show willingness to bend some of their traditions, both may be invigorated.

You will see in the next *Town Crier* a separate appeal to the outsider - IF (and it's a big if!) it attracts anyone, we could meld them into *Omega*. In the meantime, the plan is to prepare ourselves for such openness by studying

**Marcus Borg's ' The Heart of Christianity'
in five sessions starting on Tuesday, 12 October
at 7.30 pm at 44, St James Gardens, Penicuik.**

There is a Study Guideline to keep us on track. If you didn't come to the first *Omega* meetings don't be put off - taste and see; nobody will mind if you decide it's not for you. Please ask me, Tony or Ruth about experiences to date and future plans if you are at all interested. *Neville*

To Ponder!!

What diet? (contributed by Val McGavin)

In the beginning God covered the earth with broccoli, cauliflower and spinach, with green, yellow and red vegetables of all kinds so Man and Woman would live long and healthy lives.

Then using God's bountiful gifts, Satan created Dairy Ice Cream and Magnums.

And Satan said "You want hot fudge with that"?

And Man said "Yes!". And Woman said "I'll have one too with chocolate chips".

And lo, they gained 10 pounds.

And God created the healthy yoghurt that Woman might keep the figure that Man found so fair. And Satan brought forth white flour from the wheat and sugar from the cane and combined them.

And Woman went from size 12 to size 14.

So God said "Try my fresh green salad".

And Satan presented Blue Cheese dressing and garlic croutons on the side.

And Man and Woman unfastened their belts following the repast.

God then said "I have sent you healthy vegetables and olive oil in which to cook them".

And Satan brought forth deep fried coconut king prawns, butter-dipped lobster chunks and chicken fried steak, so big it needed its own platter. And Man's cholesterol went through the roof.

Then God brought forth the potato, naturally low in fat and brimming with potassium and good nutrition.

Then Satan peeled off the healthy skin and sliced the starchy centre into chips and deep fried them in animal fats adding copious quantities of salt.

And Man put on more pounds.

God then brought forth running shoes so that his Children might lose those extra pounds.

And Satan came forth with a cable TV with remote control so Man would not have to toil when changing the channels.

And Man and Woman laughed and cried before the flickering light and started wearing stretch jogging suits.

Then God gave lean beef so that Man might consume fewer calories and still satisfy his appetite. And Satan created McDonalds and the 99p double cheeseburger. Then Satan said "You want fries with that?" and Man replied "Yes, And super size 'em". And Satan said "It is good." And Man and Woman went into cardiac arrest.

God sighed - and created quadruple by-pass surgery.

And then Satan chuckled and put the Government in control of the National Health Service.

Rotas

October 2010

	3 October Harvest	10 October	17 October	24 October	31 October Matins
	Pentecost 19	Pentecost 20	Pentecost 21	Pentecost 22	Pentecost 23
11.00am Organist	Jean	Mike	Mike	David	Mike
St Mungo's Organists	Mike	Jean	David	Mike	Jean
Sidesmen	Young Church	McGarvas	Isobel Stenhouse Catherine Pow	Frantoms	Tom Moffat Richard Phillips
Bread and wine	Young Church	Leavys	Barretts	Dicksons	-----
1st reading	<i>Lamentations 1:1-6 or Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4</i>	<i>Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 or 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c</i>	<i>Jeremiah 31:27-34 or Genesis 32:22-31</i>	<i>Joel 2:23-32 or Sirach 35:12-17</i>	<i>Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 or Isaiah 1:10-18</i>
	Young Church	Brigitte Fuge	Adrian Marchant	Gill Amos	Marion Mather
2nd reading	<i>2 Timothy 1:1-14</i>	<i>2 Timothy 2:8-15</i>	<i>2 Timothy 3:14-4:5</i>	<i>2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18</i>	<i>2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12</i>
	Young Church	Ian Fuge	Val McGavin	Geoff Mather	Sue Crosfield
Gospel	<i>Luke 17:5-10</i>	<i>Luke 17:11-19</i>	<i>Luke 18:1-8</i>	<i>Luke 18:9-14</i>	-----
Prayers	Andy Longmore	Alan Murray	Elizabeth Clark	David McGavin	-----
Pray for	Early Birds Prayer Groups	Fabric Team	J Tots	Jubilee Scotland	-----
Server	Angela/Alice	Martin/Steven	Val	Angela	-----
Coffee	Gillian Miller Marion Mather	Isobel Stenhouse Jean Wright	Marchants	Mrs Neish & Family	Frantoms
Flowers	-----Kathryn Topham-----				
Cleaning	Gill Amos Isobel Stenhouse	Gill Amos Isobel Stenhouse	?????????????	Ros Hay Sue Crosfield	Ros Hay Sue Crosfield
Welcomers	Nigel Johnston	Elizabeth Clark Andy Longmore	McGarvas	Robert Clerk Andy Longmore	Elizabeth Clark Nigel Johnston
Care Van Pentland House			St James		

November 2010

	7 November	14 November	21 November	28 November
	Pentecost 24	Remembrance	Sunday before Advent	Advent 1
11.00am Organist	Jean	David	David	David
St Mungo's Organists	David	*****	Jean	Jean
Sidesmen	Young Church	Marchants	Margaret Coull Elizabeth Clark	Nigel Johnston Andy Longmore
Bread and wine	Young Church	Johnstons	Frantoms	Clerks
1st reading	<i>Haggai 1:15b-2:9 or Job 19:23-27a</i>	<i>Isaiah 65:17-25 or Malachi 4:1-2a</i>	<i>Jeremiah 23:1-6</i>	<i>Isaiah 64:1-9</i>
	Young Church	Andy Longmore	Joyce Black	Fay Clerk
2nd reading	<i>2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17</i>	<i>2 Thessalonians 3:6-13</i>	<i>Colossians 1:11-20</i>	<i>1 Corinthians 1:3-9</i>
	Young Church	Gillian Little	Margaret Coull	Georgina Phillips
Gospel	<i>Luke 20:27-38</i>	<i>Luke 21:5-19</i>	<i>Luke 23:33-43</i>	<i>Mark 13:24-37</i>
Prayers	Geoff Mather	Sue Crosfield	Mike Hay	Andy Longmore
Pray for	MU	Mauricewood House Group	Vestry	Clergy Team
Server	Angela/Steven	Val	Martin/Alice	Angela
Coffee	Mona Bennett Margaret MacLennan	Kathleen Cox Sue Crosfield	Hays Smiths	Margaret Vesco Joyce Black
Flowers	***** Gill Amos *****			
Cleaning	Marion Hunter Sue Crosfield	Marion Hunter Sue Crosfield	?????????????	C & M Leavy
Welcomers	Andy Longmore	McGarvas	Nigel Johnston Andy Longmore	Elizabeth Clark Robert Clerk
Care Van			St James	
Pentland House	St James			

Visit to Frank and Jean's Church

It was lovely to visit Frank and Jean Lindsay, and dear Rusty the dog, in Pembrokeshire, over the summer, and to be given a guided tour of their church, St Mary's at Begelly.

They have just celebrated the Church's 800th Anniversary. It was originally dedicated to St Bugail (meaning Shepherd in Welsh) and hence the name of the area, Begelly. The church has the tallest tower in Pembrokeshire which was used as a watchtower during WW2. The nave leans over to the south and is not straight – thought to resemble Christ's leaning position on the cross. It has a 'squint' which could be used by lepers in the side aisle to see the altar. Frank tells me that the technical term for a squint is a hagioscope.



As you can imagine, Frank and Jean are very involved in the life of St Mary's and Jean sings in the choir. It is a beautiful church full of history and

the prayers of those who have gone before and has a wonderful spiritual atmosphere.

Ros Hay

[A beautiful corner of Pembrokeshire - God bless them both (and Rusty!) - Sub-Ed]

Mothers' Union News

MU Scottish web address is: <http://www.muscotland.org.uk> or via St James web page link.

Provincial

MU Retreat: Tuesday 5 to Thursday 7 April 2011 - £97

To be led by the Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway, the Rt. Revd. Dr. Gregor Duncan.

Diocesan Events

Monthly Intercessions

All members are welcome to St Ninian's Church, on Monday 11 October at 12 noon for midday prayers and intercessions followed by a bring and share lunch. Please note change of time and venue. During the winter months (October - March) Monday intercessions will be held at 12 noon on 2nd Monday of month at St Ninian, 39 Comely Bank, EH4 1AF.

St Ninian's church is situated between Waitrose and the Bank of Scotland opposite Flora Stevenson School. Metered street parking nearby or free (2hr limit) at Waitrose when purchase made. Buses: 24,29,42, stop outside; 19,37,47, at bottom of Orchard Brae; 38 Craigleith Road/Crewe Road South.

Please send requests for prayer to Julia Mason (0131 343 1165)

revdjuliamason@btinternet.com

or Jennie Ritchie jennieritchie@sky.com

MU Branch

Syllabus September - December 2010

- 13 Oct Service and lunch. Speaker Alison Burnley - Glimpses of Quakerism through the Quaker Tapestry
- 27 Oct Mission to Seafarers - talk by Jim McRae
- 10 Nov Father Emmanuel from Cape Coast
- 26 Nov Wave of Prayer at 64 Deanburn
- 8 Dec Advent tea and Carols

On Saturday 28 August the Branch had a book stall at the Penicuik Street Fair in aid of the Overseas Fund, also selling some cards made by Rose MacKenzie. We raised £43.30. Sue Crosfield joined us with some of the MU cards and had a successful morning, selling some

Christmas cards to our local MP, David Hamilton. He read the file which I had prepared about the work of the MU and was impressed by the range of work done. David had been in South Africa last year looking at HIV/AIDS work so took a particular interest in that aspect of MU work. Another visitor was the Enrolling Member for the Deanery branch in Lancaster. She was thrilled to see a Mothers' Union stall and was wearing her MU badge Thank you to Joyce Black and Gillian Little for their help and to Alan Sibley who transported the books.

Margaret Coull

Broomhill Day Centre - Keeping it in the family.

Angela Sibley has just retired as Chairperson of Broomhill Day Centre after 6 years in the position. Angela was one of the founder volunteers when the Day Centre began in St James' Hall 27 years ago. She has worked tirelessly since then, with the members, on the management committee, as Chair and has often been seen helping in the kitchen when needed! Is there no end to her talents!

I am pleased to say that Mike Hay has agreed to take over from Angela. Mike has been on the management committee for two years. Mike and Ros also give up their time to come and play and sing for the members in the afternoons which is always greatly appreciated by everyone.

You might like to know that Nigel Johnston and Rose MacKenzie are also serving on the management committee and their involvement is valued too.

So St James is still very much involved with Broomhill after many years and we wish Mike God's blessing on his new venture.

Val McGavin

Glenalmond 2010

I was trying to decide the best way to give you a sense of what *Glen* is like for our young people – no easy task given that its experience is different for each child. So I've decided to give you the extracts from Bishop Mark's Blog – at least this is a first hand account.

Bishop Mark's Blog

Glen is a youth event specifically designed to provide a safe environment for young Episcopalians to explore their faith and to be

free to talk about the things they believe. The handbook for the leaders makes this statement,

“We are not about telling these young people what to think or believe. Our role is to encourage our young people to think deeply about their lives and their churches and to consider seriously what they believe”.

Glen isn't about large super charged event; it is about giving opportunities for young people to grow in love, faith and fellowship. To do this we have always striven to keep a family feel to the camp, it is about being large enough to feel the excitement of companionship with others and being small enough for trust and respect to grow.

This year the majority of delegates come to us in ones and twos, not from large church youth groups. These are young people who week by week sing and serve, read and pray in our churches but often without the companionship of other young people. Glen lets them see that they are not alone in this church of ours.

This year our theme is “I am here to worship” and the house group material which they all work through is looking at the things we do during our worship in church and why we do it. The delegates are also trialling some material for the Liturgy Committee and offering suggestions to them; I suspect this could be good.

Sunday

The leaders have all arrived, twenty people who are giving up holidays to volunteer for this ministry. In that number we have three who are undertaking our Youth Leaders Training scheme, we have an administrator, first aid and medical teams, house group leaders, activity organisers, musicians, artists ... and one bishop! At 2.00pm the delegates are queuing up to be registered, parents shouting goodbye before heading off to the nearest coffee shop to begin a week of freedom. Rooms are allocated, photos taken, the rules explained and the opening Eucharist is prepared as everyone gathers outside the chapel.

The chosen hymn is a traditional favourite “O Lord My God, when I in awesome wonder” and as the diocesan crosses are carried in, the sense of anticipation reaches boiling point; Glen10 has started.

That first evening we hold a quiz. I had asked that the photo round of famous people should include some over the age of 30, so I was at long last able to assist my team by yelling “That's Elton John!” (how embarrassing, as for the other faces - not a hope! Our team almost won but the Bishop (oops) got the tie break question wrong, it was all

about how old Noah was, I only meant that they should include people of my age not those over 600! The traditional Crocodile of delegates then wound its way to the boarding houses we use and the day ended for the delegates with night prayer and hot chocolate, for the leaders, a staff meeting and for me a brief meeting with the trainee leaders.

Monday

Up and out in time for the morning Eucharist at 8.00am. This isn't a compulsory part of the programme, people can choose to attend if they wish, it is good though to know that some of our delegates decide to attend every morning of camp as a form of retreat. Breakfast is next, a full cooked breakfast with cereal and fruit as well; the catering staff at the school treats us very well and in fact have become old friends over the years. This morning I am landed with a drama workshop to run, thankfully Alicen and Nadine, two of the trainee leaders are with me, so I directed from the settee while they ran around, a fair division of labour methinks.

In the afternoon I turn into a tour guide as this year rather than going shopping in Perth we are running sightseeing trips in Perthshire. (I really couldn't face another 8 days of wandering round the fair town.) Today it was the delights of Crieff, the sweet shop especially, oh the excitement of it all!

This evening the worship was led by housegroup 'Benedictus' We sat in the music room and sang Amazing Grace, the acoustic is stunning and the sound electric.

The evening ends with the traditional Glen Ceilidh, one dance requires the gentlemen to fly around the room like dainty butterflies, I was behind Tembu, we tried but dainty we ain't.

Tuesday

This is murder mystery day and this years other theme is Alice in Wonderland. So who did kill the victim? Was it the Queen of Hearts or the Mad Hatter, did the knave do knavish things or is Alice not as innocent as she looks? As usual I hadn't a clue (well not one I could understand) but the delegates probed and questioned until the truth came out...

'Epiclesis' had organised worship today, opening on the lawns and ending with prayer in the music room, the theme "I believe"

Wednesday

You know those Hollywood films where the hero is in danger and the

call goes out to all his old buddies and they drop what they are doing and rush to his aid? That is what it felt like today. The amble through Gorthywood required a number of characters from the Alice books and the call had gone out over cyberspace. I can't really describe the emotions I felt as the call was answered, cars began to arrive, from Inverness to Kelso and out jumped former delegates who had given up a day to help us, no questions asked they simply wanted to help and soon the woods were full of caterpillars, identical twins and mad march hares, what wonderful people they are.

To night worship was led by 'Anamnesis', outside we offered our gifts by writing them down and placing them on the altar, I simply gave thanks for such good friends.

Thursday

DISCO (Do I really need to say anymore?) Worship was led by 'Oblation', a re-enactment of the last supper and a cameo of the 1929 Scottish Liturgy!!!! .

Friday

It rained, and rained and rained, I took a sight seeing trip to Innerpeffery Church and it rained, we went to the shops and it rained, the delegates and leaders entertained each other through the G Factor show and it rained, we went outside for the final Eucharist and the rain stopped ... and the tears began, some will not be back next year and the emotion gets to you.

Worship was led by 'Sanctus', looking at the Lord's Prayer, in many different styles, including our own!

Saturday

All Packed, Worship over, Slide show laughed and cried over, final blessing and they are gone. I get home and there it is again the excitement and anticipation, next week Beth and Mara are coming, the atmosphere is electric, Think I will just close my eyezzzzzzzzzzzzzz

Caireen's comments:

So what of the children sponsored by St Mungo's, West Linton and St James the Less Penicuik? This year we sent four children: two girls and two boys. Although, you are in some way responsible for a fifth child's attendance too, as one of the boys whom you sent last year attended again this year, sponsored by another church – that has to be progress, right?! Of the four you sponsored, one girl left half way through the week for personal reasons, but reports enjoying her time there. The remaining three all had a wonderful experience and the two boys in

particular have now asked three times if they can go again next year! I suppose that's your answer as to how they got on.

There are some issues to discuss, however. Bishop Mark reminds us of the purpose of Glen in his opening statements... *"Glen is a youth event specifically designed to provide a safe environment for young Episcopalians to explore their faith and to be free to talk about the things they believe ... These are young people who week by week sing and serve, read and pray in our churches but often without the companionship of other young people."* None of the young people you sponsored meets these criteria, and although some of the boys attend Catholic school, none is an active member of any church - *Glen's* function is not outreach. That said however, these children experienced the sense of belonging and "family" of *Glen*, when family can be difficult; the love and nurture of other children their age, when children can sometime be mean; the opportunity to "consider seriously what they believe" in a world that often doesn't support them in exploring their own rôle in a church community. This cannot be measured and should not be dismissed. Given their social situation and lack of family connection to church, attending Glenalmond is one opportunity for these children to meet in fellowship with other Christians their own age to develop their own church connections. These children are asking to be part of something within our church and I believe we have a responsibility to continue to help them become a part of the body of Christ. I will be working over the next year to continue to plug them into youth events across the Diocese, where I hope the seeds you have planted can continue to grow.

Thank you to all at Glenalmond whose hard work has resulted in these children feeling part of the "*Glen* group" and asking to attend again next year, to Chris and Laura, who helped enormously with care and support, and to all at St Mungo's and St James, as without your financial support, none of this would have been possible.

Caireen

Churchwomen's Fellowship

Dates for the next two meetings of CWF are 11 October and 15 November.

Bookstall

Many thanks to all who have bought books from the Mothers' Union book table. Now that winter and long, dark nights are approaching, perhaps we need to get a stock of books to read. The book table will continue throughout the winter. *Angela*

Financial Matters

Collections	May	June	Jul	Aug
Cash	219	214	93	170
Gift Aid Cash	14	13	22	22
Envelopes	885	952	731	947
Direct Giving	<u>1745</u>	<u>1745</u>	<u>1545</u>	<u>1725</u>
Totals:	2863	2924	2391	2863

Special Collections

Bishop's Lent Appeal	120			
Chitambo M S Appeal		10		
British Heart Foundation		226		
Mary's Meals		385	10	
Mission to Seafarers			125	

Your prayers are asked for.....

Please pray for all those known and unknown to you who through sickness, need, bereavement or any other trouble are in need of God's comfort and support.

Pray for Florence Petrie, Mae Mann, Elizabeth Black, Ruby Graham, John Ford, Irene Hair, Ruth Haig and Eric Marchant. Also for Kathryn Topham's aunt and uncle, Paddy and Geoff, in Hull who are still going through a difficult time. Pray for Julia Clerk in New Zealand, fighting cancer, and all her family. Continue to pray for the ongoing recovery of Jim McGarva, Alan Murray and Mairi. Pray for Viv Bremner, mourning Douglas, and all who have lost family and friends. Please continue to pray for Lauren and her baby Charlotte, for Jean and Ralph and their

family and for baby Rory McGavin. Pray for all those suffering from depression.

Pray for all who are victims of natural disasters throughout the world; for the helpless and the helpers as they seek to rebuild their lives. Pray that aid reaches those for whom it is intended.

Pray for continued progress towards peace and reconciliation; for the work of Penicuik for Africa. Pray for the release of all who are enslaved, for those held captive unfairly or illegally and for the work of Amnesty International. Pray for those suffering under corrupt and uncaring political regimes, remembering especially the people of Zimbabwe. Pray for people of countries torn apart by conflict and civil war. Remember also the British troops and the families of those overseas or about to go overseas, particularly those based at Glencorse Barracks. Pray for the work of Jubilee Scotland.

Pray for all members of the new Parliament at Westminster; for the Government that they may seek not personal glory but the common good. For those who staff the Bethany Trust Care Van as they minister to the homeless on the streets of Edinburgh, and for the homeless themselves.

(The Prayer Request book is either to be found in the chapel or on the altar, waiting to be used. Please do make use of it by adding your concerns and prayers. The requests are prayed for on other days as well as on Sundays. Also let the clergy know the progress of the person held in prayer. The list is updated every two to three months. Thank you!)

Some lines from hymns to ponder

Contributed by the Choirmaster

- Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;
- Jesus, strong to save - the same yesterday, today, for ever....
- Cleanse me from within and make me holy.
- A joy that knows no limit

Events coming soon...

October 2010

- Sun 3 Oct Harvest Sunday
Sat/Sun 2-3 Oct Flower Festival in St James
Wed 6 Oct 7.30pm Vestry
17 - 24 Oct One World Week
Sun 24 Oct One World Week Service of Peace and Reconciliation
Special Congregational Meeting/Sea Sunday Brunch
Sat 30 Oct Requiem Mass for John Farrant, St Bride's Glasgow

November 2010

- Sun 7 Nov 6.30pm Evensong for All Saints
Sat 13 Nov *Created* (Tearcraft) Coffee Morning 10am-12noon
Sun 14 Nov Remembrance
Sun 21 Nov Deadline for AGM reports
Thu 25 Nov 8.15pm Vestry

December 2010

- Sun 5 Dec Bishop's visit
Sun 12 Dec 12.15pm St James AGM
Sun 19 Dec 7.00pm Nine lessons & Carols

Outreach can also be viewed on the St James website: <http://www.stjamespenicuik.co.uk> ***The November 2010 edition will be published on Sunday 7 November. Information about events, and contributions, should be with the Editor, Georgina Phillips 661039, Merlewood, The Loan, West Linton, EH46 7HE, phillg13@toucansurf.com, by Wednesday 27 October at the latest. If sent by email, please copy to Mike Hay, mike@hayfamily.co.uk.***

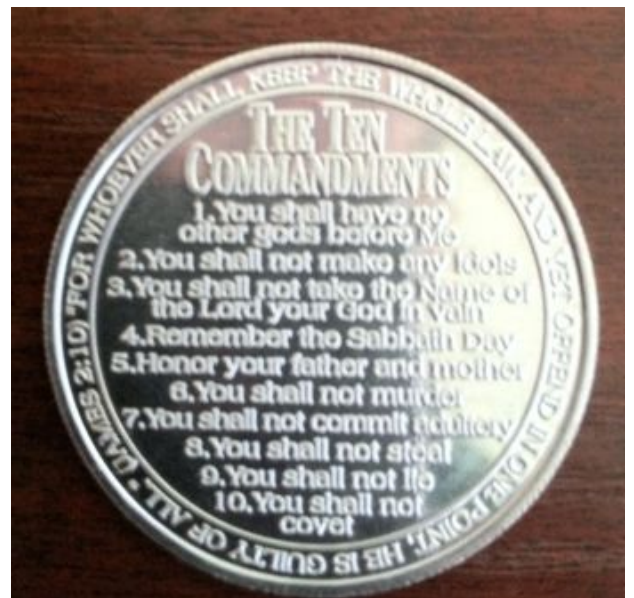
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Our prayers go with Stephen as he leaves for Afghanistan to support our troops



... and the coin that each soldier is given before they leave for Afghanistan



**Street Fair Helpers
August 2010**



The J-Tots Stall at the Penicuik churches' Outreach Day