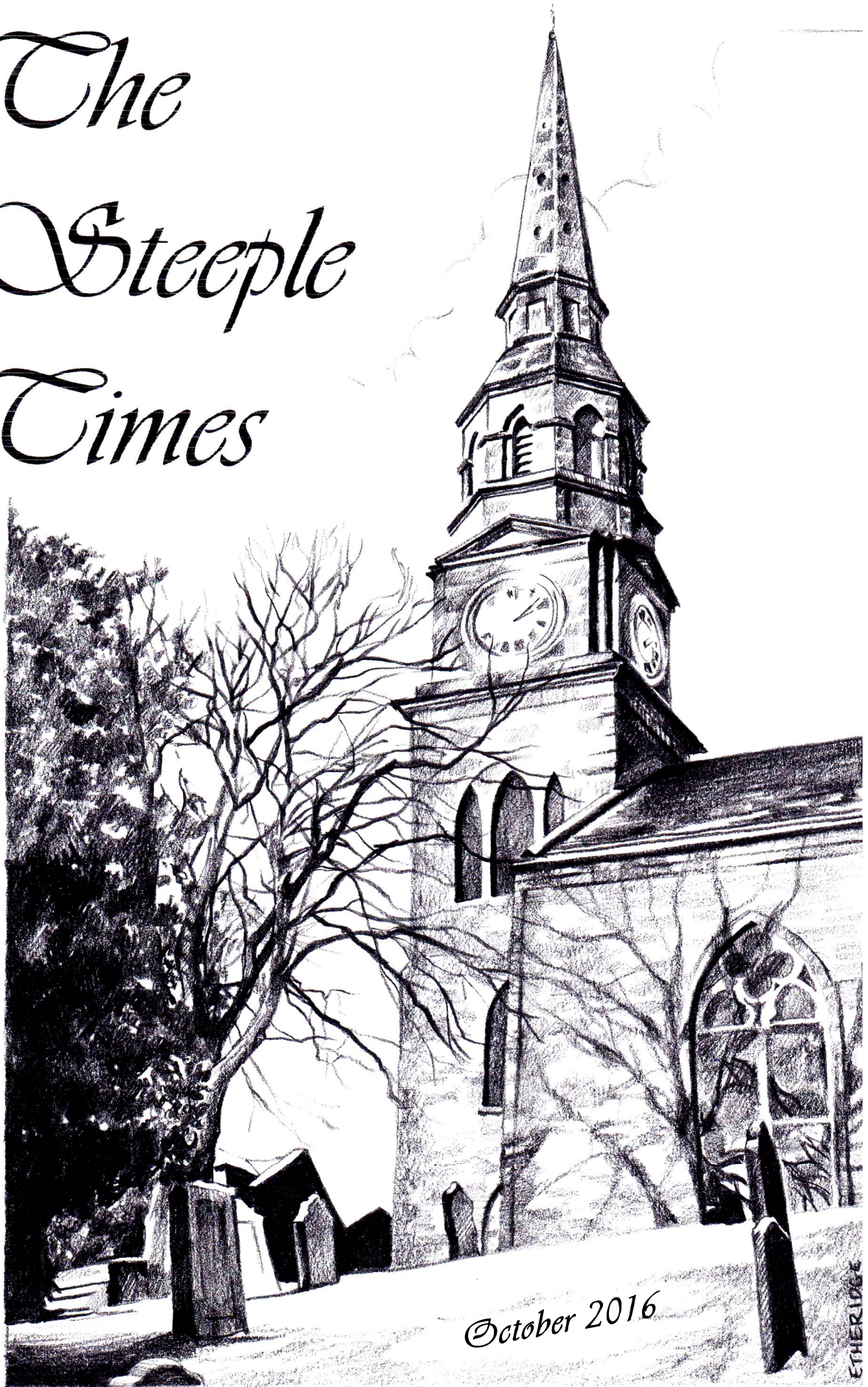


*The  
Steeple  
Times*



*October 2016*

ETHERIDGE

**Services of Public Worship:**

Every Sunday at 11. a.m.

A short service is also held on the first Sunday of each month at 9.30 a.m. and on Wednesdays at 12.10 p.m.

**Minister:**

The Rev. Barbara Ann Sweetin B.D.

The Manse

Lour Road

Forfar DD8 2BB

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E-mail: [bsweetin@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:bsweetin@churchofscotland.org.uk)

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**Church E-mail:** [eando\\_office@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:eando_office@yahoo.co.uk)

**Scottish Charity No.:** SC004921

## FROM THE MANSE

October 2016

Hello my dear friends

Once again our editor Elma has informed me that my opening letter in the Steeple Times is due and I did comment yet again that it seems to come around really quickly and it does not seem like two months since the last letter. Elma did admit that we are a couple of weeks earlier because she is off on holiday and needs to get the work done! That means that the next letter will be due in 2 months and 2 weeks!!! Not that I am counting Elma!!! I hope you have a great holiday!

I thought I would let you in on a little secret in this edition – the month of September is as busy for ministers as the month of December! These are by far the two busiest months in a minister's calendar. The reason September is so busy is because it is normally when everything starts back up after the summer and it is meeting after meeting after meeting! I am writing this letter after morning worship in the second week of September and during the last week I have been at three different meetings in Edinburgh on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday (I am glad the Church of Scotland pays the train fares!), Tuesday night was the first meeting of Presbytery in the new session and even though I am the moderator this year and like quick meetings I knew it was not going to be possible for a quick meeting on that night because of what was on the agenda – and it was not a quick meeting! Then on Saturday I travelled to Irvine to conduct the AGM of Girls' Brigade Scotland and then tomorrow Monday I have a meeting in Perth!

I am sorry to say that is only a very small selection of what happened last week in my busy diary. As I listen to many of our members I also realise that they too have very busy diaries and if it is not church activities they are involved in then you the members are usually involved in other voluntary work or hobbies and I know the members of East and Old do a fantastic amount of work elsewhere. I have mentioned to you before that I take ten minutes at either the beginning of the day or the end of the day to read my bible and reflect for my own faith journey but during September and December even that is sometimes difficult to maintain. I have placed two acrostics on my notice board on the wall in front of my desk in my study regarding busyness.

**B** - Be still and know that I am God  
**U** - Use your time wisely  
**S** - Stop and be silent  
**Y** - Yearning to know God more

Another analogy for busy is ASAP - as soon as possible but I have amended that to

**A**lways

**S**ay

**A**

Prayer

If we go rushing around in our lives going from one thing to another and very rarely stop to listen and talk to God, to see and feel and touch this wonderful world that we live in - then we need to rethink our day to day lives or maybe the church should start a 'manage your time better' class! As the hymn quite clearly states - BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD! Now that is a piece of advice that I am giving to myself and I hope you will too!

Every blessing to you and your families

*Barbara Ann*

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

The biggest occurrence that has happened since the last edition of the Steeple Times is that the work on the church has finally commenced. It is so good to see the work beginning and many people have been inspired at seeing the work in progress. We would like to point out right from the start the church will not be open for Christmas. We have been given a date of late January but we will want to complete other sections for ourselves so it may be slightly later than January before we get back into the sanctuary. Please note that the wall and pillar at the front of the church which has been taken down will be restored after the work has been completed.

Our worship services in the church hall are going well and all the bumps along the way appear to be settling down. Due to health and safety restrictions we will be unable to access the choir room and session room as we had previously thought therefore another few changes needed to take place.

Monday -	The Hub suspended until we re-open, Knit n'Natter in the BB Hall, Music Cafe in the OAP Hall.	
Tuesday - Couttie's Wynd	Wee Blether and Cosy Corner in the Masonic	Rooms in
Wednesday -	Mid Week service in the BB Hall, Accord and Choir Practices in BB Hall	
Thursday -	Heavenly Bites suspended until we re-open	
Saturday -	Film Club now in the Church Hall	


All our other activities are on as normal in their normal venues.

Thank you to the OAP Hall, our BB and the Masonic Lodge for their assistance at this time.

Due to the ongoing works in the church our insurance company has increased our policy. Our annual policy costs have been increased and we will now be required to pay an additional £2200.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to St Margaret's Church Kirk Session and minister Maggie Hunt for allowing us the use of their sanctuary for funerals and also to hold the Harvest and Christmas Assemblies for Strathmore Primary School. Lowson Memorial Church have also kindly offered us the use of their sanctuary also.

A big thank you once again must be given to the men of the church who worked all week to empty the church of everything that was required for us to function out with the church building. It was an enormous task and ten men responded to the plea to come and help - thank you guys it really is appreciated!!!

Our thanks once again to the men of the church for the work on the shop front. The Dispatch  very kindly ran our story about our dilemma regarding the painting of the shop front and we were delight when Councilor Colin Brown stepped in to help us. What a difference it makes to the street frontage and over all appearance of East High Street.

On talking of the shop we must say a huge thank you to Nicola Wilson who took up the task of managing the shop and staff when the shop opened a year past February. Nicola dedicated a huge amount of time to the shop which must have been difficult when she holds down her own job too. Nicola has decided it is time to step back and we really thank her for all her time, effort and dedication to this project but she has left the shop in a very good way and we are delighted to say that Muriel Fairley and Elma Sim have agreed to take over the running of the shop.

We wish them well and pray that people will come forward to offer them help in the shop and that as members and friends of East and Old we will continue to look out all our unwanted goods and the goods that we have too many off!!! To date after expenses over the period have been deducted our shop has brought in an amazing amount of money which is included in our DIF money.

### **MINISTERS APPEAL**

Our minister would like to say a big thank you to those members and friends of East and Old who have responded to the ministers challenge. To date this challenge and appeal has brought in excess of £30K which has helped greatly.

Wednesday 27th July was the **STRAWBERRY AFTERNOON TEA** and what a feast it was. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets, attended the event, supplied the goodies and worked at the event. We were asked 'when is the next one!'

**EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO** - on Thursday 11th August fifteen people from East and Old headed down to Edinburgh for the Tattoo. The minibus once again driven very well by Billy Sweetin arrived at 5.45pm and everyone went their own way to see the sights and enjoy some food. What a busy place is Edinburgh during the Fringe. Everyone met up again once they were in their seats at the Tattoo and what a great night it turned out to be and even the rain stayed away. Thanks to Mabel Martin for getting us great seats and maybe this should become an annual event for the church!

On the 24th August members turned out to hear **CONNIE ANDREWS** tell her story and testimony about her call to serve in the Philippines. God works in wonderful and exciting ways and even though we sometimes find it difficult to hear God's call at times it is there for us to respond to which Connie did.

### **MEN'S NIGHT OUT**

Many of you will be aware that our men's night out is in the Queen Street Tavern on the last Thursday of the month which holds a quiz night. Our men do not normally do very well at the quiz and the ladies are forever saying that is not good enough so the men challenged the ladies to attend their night at the end of August! What a night it was! At the end of the quiz both the men and women were joint LAST!!! It all came down to the tie breaker!!! The men handed in their answer and the quiz master gave it back to them and said 'don't be so stupid' and the men were given another chance!!! Because of this helping hand the men won the tie break but our minister said they should not have won because they got a bible question wrong - a very easy bible question! What was the first bird to leave the Ark? The men answered ..... a dove! Wrong!!!! It was a Raven which the ladies got right!!! The men and women agreed to call the evening a draw!!!

You may be aware that our minister is also the **MODERATOR OF ANGUS PRESBYTERY** this year and Barbara Ann was invited to Knox's Church as the moderator on Sunday 28th August. Barbara Ann said it was a lovely service to be involved in with Knox's Church celebrating being in existence for 150 years. At the service also was the Moderator of the General Assembly the Right Rev Russell Barr who Barbara Ann already knows through her work with the World Mission Council. We wish Knox's Church every blessing in the years to come.

**ARBIRLOT CHURCH** linked with **CARMYLLIE CHURCH** have a new minister. As you know Barbara Ann was the interim moderator for Arbirlot and Carmyllie but that position finished when Rev Brian Dingwall was inducted to this charge on Tuesday 30th August. Arbirlot and Carmyllie Churches thanked Barbara Ann for all her work with them and we ask God's blessing on Brian and the members of Arbirlot and Carmyllie Churches.

**Book Club** - and it is with joy we report that the Book Club members are pretty happy with their current selection of books! Praise the Lord! The first three books that the group have read in this season have all been given the thumbs up.

On Wednesday 31st August nine members of the group travelled to New Kilpatrick Church in Bearsden for a joint Book Club meeting with them. Thanks to Billy for driving the minibus and the evening started well with a lovely Italian meal in a local restaurant before meeting the numerous members of New Kilpatrick Book Club. We have 13 members in total and they have over 20!!! They laid on a lovely supper which was taken during the meeting as we discussed the book 'The Immortal Life of Henriette Lacks' which was given a good review by all the people there. In a year's time they will select a book for us to read and they will travel to East and Old for the review.



Just as the group were leaving the Bearsden group handed out the book they are about to read 'Life after Life' and when our group saw the book they let out a universal 'oh no' because our group had read this book and it did not go down well!!!

Duke of Edinburgh - on the same weekend as the BB camp our Duke of Edinburgh participants were out in the glens completing their 10 mile expedition hike with one overnight stay camping under canvas. We are delighted to say that all of our participants passed with flying colours! Well done to our team who trained them up for this hike.



On Sunday 4th September our minister hosted a lunch for the **GROOVY GRYPHONS** at the Manse and by all accounts it was a big hit.

Pringles were a firm favourite and Barbara Ann had bought in two new flavours; Pizza and the second Flame Grilled Steak. The Pizza flavour was a big hit but some of the children found the flame grilled steak a wee bit spicy. During the time together the GG came up with some new flavours that Pringles may want to hear about so it was decided they would write to them. Watch this space!

Because our editor was going on holiday and the magazine was printed early, some of the information you would normally have in this edition is missing so we will give you an update in the next edition regarding **OUR CHURCH COFFEE MORNING AND THE CHURCH CEILIDH AND THE CAR TREASURE HUNT** organized by the leaders of the Groovy Gryphons.

We look forward to updating you on the dedication service of the Groovy Gryphons, the BB's and The Guild which took place on Sunday 25th September.

**WHAT'S COMING UP & WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR**

Our **HARVEST SERVICE** is going to be a little later this year due to commitments in the church calendar and the school holidays. This year our Harvest Service will take place on **SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER** and we ask you to bring along some bags of groceries please? Start buying a couple of items each week so that when the day arrives your bag is brimming over not only with food items but with love also.



**SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER** afternoon communion in the Church Hall with afternoon tea to follow. This communion service has proved to be very popular since we started it and we look forward to welcoming you along and please remember to bring along your communion cards. If you require transport then please contact your elder, Jean Alexander or Barbara Ann.



**SUNDAY 24TH OCTOBER** is our main communion services - please note it is not the last Sunday in October as October this year has five Sundays. The church hall is of course smaller than our church sanctuary and to avoid any congestion on communion Sunday when it is so good to see so many people in the church we are holding three services on that day - 11am, 2.30pm and 6.30pm.

**LEPROSY MISSION COFFEE MORNING**

Will be held in the church hall on **SATURDAY 22ND OCTOBER**. Tickets are priced at £2 and we look forward to seeing you there for your tea/coffee, pancake, cake and candy stall and gift table.



Please come along and support this very worthwhile cause which the churches in Forfar support. Remember we are always looking for cake and candy for the stall!

**A SPARKLING NIGHT AT THE MANSE**

All our members and their families are invited to join Barbara Ann and Billy at the Manse on **SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER** at 6pm for some soup and breadies followed by fireworks and lots of sparklers. Please come along and join in on the fun it will be a night to remember.





## MORE DIARY DATES & CHANGES

Tues	11	Oct	Ladies Night Out
Mon	17	Oct	Bible Study
Sat	19	Nov	Mistletoe Market in Church Hall
Sun	20	Nov	Guild led service for morning worship
Fri	9	Dec	Community Christmas Tree competition in the Church Hall at 6.30 pm
Sun	11	Dec	Salvation Army Band in Lowson Memorial Church at 6.30 pm
Sun	18	Dec	Nativity Service at 11 am
Sun	18	Dec	Nine Lessons & Carols at 4 pm
Sun	18	Dec	Big Sing for Christian Aid in St Margarets Church at 7 pm
Sat	24	Dec	Christingle Service
Sun	25	Dec	Morning worship (shorter service)
Sun	1	Jan	Morning worship (shorter service)

### HELP

Would anyone like to help our minister out? Barbara Ann is involved with the World Mission Council at 121. Her team is hosting a coffee morning in 121 on Thursday 24th November at 10am.

Barbara Ann is asking if some people would be interested in baking some goodies and if anyone would like to come down in the minibus to help serve the goodies.

If everyone in 121 come at their tea breaks between 10am and 11am there could be over 220 people! Who knew that many people worked at 121!!! Once the coffee morning finishes Barbara Ann thought a little Christmas shopping could be done by everybody in Edinburgh.

## THANKS

As in many areas of life there are many rules and regulations and many ts to cross and Is to dot and that is certainly the case with fire regulations. Stewart Davidson who is one of our members and happens to be a retired worker from the Fire Brigade very kindly offered to complete a fire safety document for our church hall. It is a comprehensive piece of work which costs churches a significant amount of money. Stewart completed the report which is hundreds of pages long free of charge and has made a number of recommendations which we are grateful for.

This information will be passed onto the property team and also the Kirk Session. Many thanks Stewart for this report and the hours it took to inspect the halls and compile the report.

## AROUND THE GROUPS

### GUILD NEWS

The Guild held their first event of the new session on the 7th September - a cream scone tea. This was a very successful well attended social gathering.



By the time you read this we will have had the Church singing group Accord at our opening meeting.

We have a very varied programme of speakers and activities to suit all tastes, under the Guild theme Go in Joy, in the coming months. Our syllabus will be displayed in the church hall. Our fortnightly meetings are open to all and you will receive a warm welcome at any of the meetings.

### OUTREACH

**A SPARKLER AND FIREWORKS** evening is to be held in the Manse Garden, Lour Road on Sunday 6th. November at 6pm. Elders will deliver an invite to each household along with the Communion cards. Keep a look out for it and please come along and join in the fun.

It is also proposed we set up a "**YOUNG WOMEN'S GROUP**" in the Church - a weekly or whatever social evening get together - to be arranged.

If you are interested please either add your name and contact number to a list at the Church [Hall] door or phone 01307 464836.

### ART GROUP

The art group meets on Thursdays 1.30-4pm. New members are welcome. We do have some materials available if you are a beginner or returning to art after a long break.



Our art group calendar should be on sale at the beginning of November price £5 with all proceeds going to the church.

The Art Group will not meet in December, but restarts Thursday 12th

## 2nd FORFAR BOYS BRIGADE

The Company has now settled back into their first session.

Thank you to all three primary schools for passing out our recruiting leaflets to their boys. We have gained a few new members but still have room for a few more.



Our Boys' Brigade Camp took place from Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th September at Scott Lodge in Glen Doll and was a resounding success. 15 boys attended and 4 leaders. One of the leaders had to call of due to illness and at very short notice Jim Nicol, Billy Sweetin and Andy Lovegrove joined us on the Saturday and took the boys out walking. Although the weather could have been better this did not stop the boy's enjoyment and they had a whale of a time.

The BB invited Barbara Ann and Billy up to join them for dinner on the Saturday night where everyone enjoyed huge platefuls of mince and tattles, peas and carrots followed by apple or rhubarb crumble with hot custard.

### WALKING GROUP

The Group are walking on the following dates. Venues have not yet been decided.

**24th September (afternoon walk)**

**15th October**

**29th October**



Please meet in The Myre Car Park at 10 am and bring along a packed lunch.

For more details contact Billy Sweetin on 01307 248228 or [bjs801@talktalk.net](mailto:bjs801@talktalk.net)

### FILM CLUB

Saturday 22nd October 6pm in the Church Hall

EDDIE THE EAGLE starring Taron Egerton and Hugh Jackman.

Saturday 19th November 3.45pm in the Church Hall

HOLIDAY INN Starring Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire

Get in the mood for Christmas with a bit of nostalgia

## FRIENDS OF EAST AND OLD

The Friends **ANNUAL WALK** this year was to Pitlochry on Saturday 6th August with tea at the Ardler Inn on the way home. Once again (the second year running) the weather was not particularly kind to us but it did not dampen our spirits. Some people stayed in Pitlochry for shopping and a cuppa while the rest went on the walk. A really nice walk, an easy walk which took the walkers by the Pitlochry Theatre. This is where we met up with Esther Kidd who was at the theatre and came out at the interval to find E&O members enjoying a cuppa and also Marion and Alf Birse's son and daughter-in-law Scott and Liz who were in Pitlochry for the weekend. A good time was had by all during the walk and then it was off to the Ardler Inn for tea which was enjoyed also. Thanks to Mary Daun and Sheena Benvie for organising this.

The Friends team held their **QUIZ NIGHT** on Saturday 27th August with quite a number of teams taking part. It certainly was not the easiest of quizzes but a good night was had by everyone there even though at times some people said they felt quite 'thick'. The A to Z quiz at the interval was also good fun and got everybody thinking about "Islands". Many thanks to everyone who bought tickets, attended the event and supplied and served the tea/ coffee, crisps and biscuits. A big thank you to Sheena Benvie who made up the quizzes and was also quiz master on the night.

Friends of East and Old **RENEWAL NIGHT** takes place on Saturday 29 October in the Church Hall at 7pm for renewals and 7.30pm for the entertainment. This year the entertainers are the Strathspey Reel Society and for a short time Bill Carr and Alf Birse - come along and join us for entertainment and some refreshments at a great price of £5. If you are not a member of Friends of East and Old why not think about joining. It costs £10 per annum or £150 life membership and this is a way to say that you support all the effort that East and Old undertake and are glad to be friends of East and Old.

## THE BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER GROUP

This group restarted after the holidays on Thursday 29th September at 7.30 p.m. in the Manse and the focus will be on Human Trafficking, with material prepared by the World Mission Council.

Dates till the end of the year are 20th October, 17th November, then there will be Advent Reflections on 1st, 8th and 15th December, all again in the Manse."

The "Listening, sharing, planning" roadshow and will be in Aberdeen on 22 October and Perth on 9th November to listen to the voice of people in the local Church - to hear your views on what we need to do to enable a flourishing Church into the 2020s and beyond.

## PARTNER NEWS

I had a lovely long letter from Lynda Samuel who recently returned from Chennai, India and Dubai, In Dubai they stayed with Raj's niece Anita and her husband Heber and baby Emma. Heber kindly showed them round Dubai Mall, the largest shopping mall in the world with an aquarium and an ice rink. All religions are allowed to meet and here are many new Christians with 1500 in the church they attended. They return there in December when Raj is to conduct a seminar on The Wonder of Incarnation of Christ.

The Samuel Chorus is to be held at 7 pm on Sunday 3rd December at Fowlis outside Dundee.

## CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

### DEATHS

Apr	7	Gladys Etheridge	56 Threewells Drive, Forfar	34
July	4	Ann Carnegie	80 Lordurn Place, Forfar	*
	11	William Morrison	Finavon NH Forfar	*
	13	Elizabeth Cameron	56 Thornton Park, Forfar	32
	13	Sheila Brown	68 Brown Avenue, Clydebank	*
	14	George Robertson	Lisden NH Kirriemuir	*
	25	Agnes Duncan	101 Strathmore Avenue. Forfar	22
	21	Barbara Young	8 Sheriff Park Gardens, Forfar	*
	22	Margaret Whisny	St Davids Glamis Road, Forfar	*
Aug	21	Michael Sutherland	9 Yeaman Street, Forar	4
	24	Ann Carcary	St Davids, Glamis Road, Forfar	42

### Weddings

Aug	27	Kirstin Smith to Darren Hart
Sep	3	Ashley Sim to Nathan Jones.

### BAPTISMS

Aug 21 Eva Isobelle Copland

### MINISTRY OF FLOWERS

Oct	9	E Nicoll	Nov	13	I Duthie
	16	A Mitchell		20	M & A Birse
	23	COMMUNION		27	J & M Herron
	30	Mrs Todd	Dec	4	Flower Group
Nov	6	Catriona and Janice		11	Flower Group

## **HAVE A COMPUTER? THEN YOU CAN HELP**

You can help raise funds for East & Old's Dedicated Improvement Fund by clicking on the links below. It costs nothing but will help our funds.

Do you shop online then click on <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/forfareastoldparish/> then follow the simple steps on how to register then every time you shop online always go here first then shop. The best way is to make this a bookmark or favourite.

Even if you don't shop online you can still raise funds by clicking on <http://forfareastoldparish.easysearch.org.uk/> and use this every time you want to search the web. This uses Bing, Yahoo and Ask.com to search the web. Again the best way is to make this a bookmark or favourite.

For more information click on <http://www.thebigkirk.co.uk/church-information/easyfundraising/> Why not try it. If you need help setting it up please contact Billy Sweetin 01307 248228

**NEED A VENUE FOR CONFERENCES MEETINGS ETC?  
THEN LOOK NO FURTHER**

**FORFAR EAST & OLD HAS IT ALL .**

**MULTI MEDIA FACILITIES WITH PLASMA TELEVISIONS,  
SOUND SYSTEM AND WI-FI.**

**ENQUIRIES TO :- BILL DUTHIE ON 01307 465895**

## **PARKING AT THE CHURCH**



There are two available car spaces beside the east door of the church for members with poor mobility.

Other members can park around the front of the church.



Do you need Transport to Church -The Forfarian bus is available on the first Sunday of each month. Please telephone Liz Nicoll on 462480 or Jean Alexander on 463860.

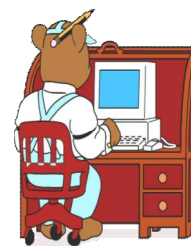
## **Next Issue of the Steeple Times**

The deadline for submission of articles for the **December 2016** issue is

**SUNDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2016**

Material can be given/sent to the Editor or e-mail

**[elma.milne@virgin.net](mailto:elma.milne@virgin.net)**



Session Clerk	Lexi Smart	01307 464330
Depute Session Clerk	Margaret Scrimgeour	01307 469145
Church Secretary	Karen Kelly	01307465043
Treasurer	Paula Stewart	From June
FWO Treasurers	Jean Alexander	01307 463860
Gift Aid Convener	Bruce Martin	01307 462713
Roll Keeper and Editor Steeple Times	Elma Milne	01307 463821
Organist & Choirmaster	Bruce Simpson	01307 468179
Property Convener & Lets	Bill Duthie	01307 465895
Groovy Gryphons Leader	Susan Forbes	01307 465200
Flower Group	Marlene Sim	01307 466616
Guild Contact	Jean Smith	01307 463308
Life & Work	Esther Kidd	01307462701
Prayer Group	Margaret Robertson	01307 463613
2nd Forfar Co. The Boy's Brigade	Irene Duthie	01307 465895
Friends of Forfar East & Old	Bob Kidd	01307 462701
Minibus Hire	Billy Sweetin	01307 248228