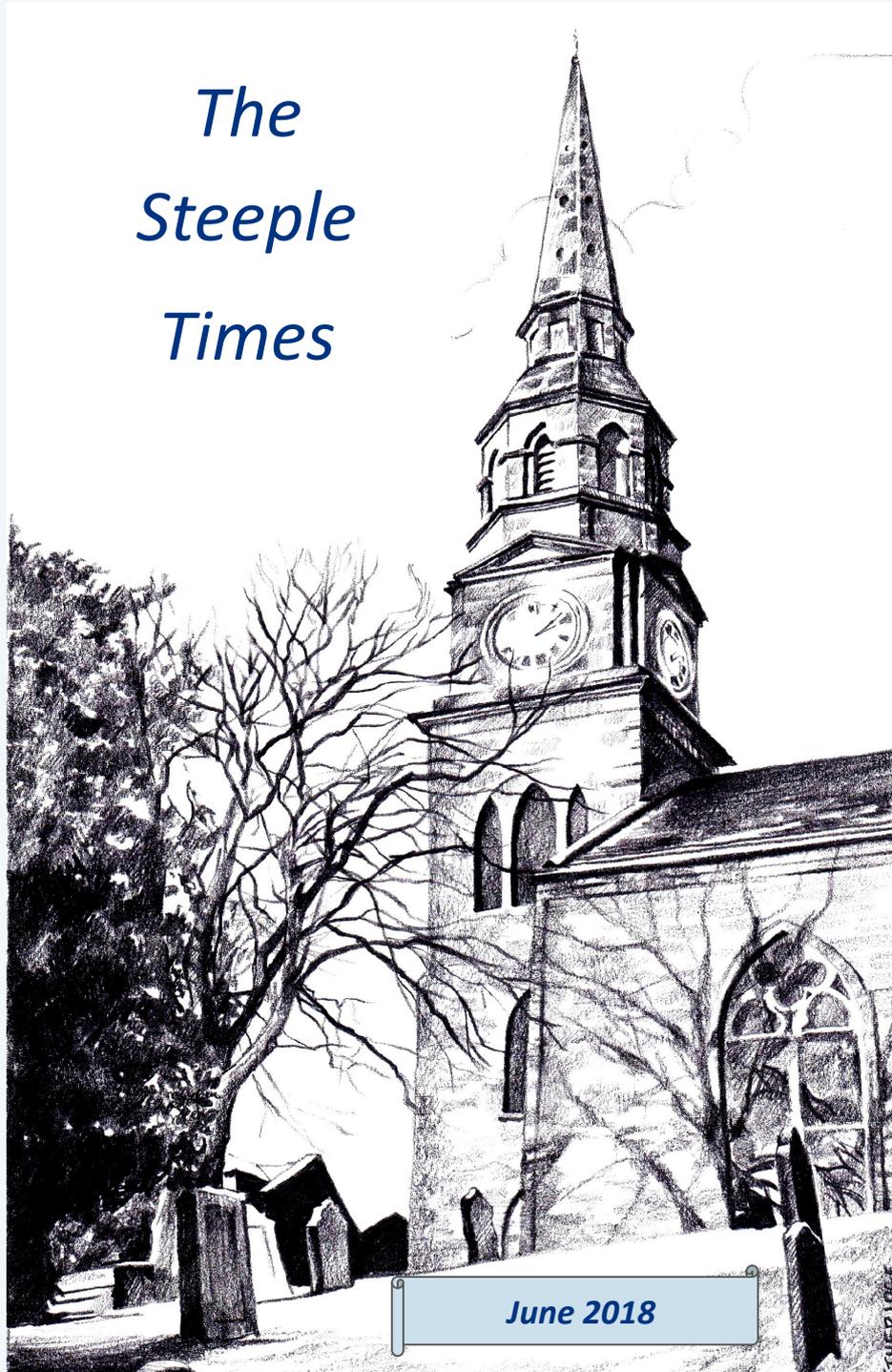


*The
Steeple
Times*



June 2018

EAST AND OLD
PARISH CHURCH
FORFAR



Services of Public Worship:

✝ **Every Sunday at 11:00am**

✝ **Additional services:**

⇒ First Sunday of the month: Informal Communion at 9:30am

⇒ Second Sunday of the month: Breakfast Service at 9:30am

⇒ Last Sunday of month: 6:30pm Contemporary Evening Service

✝ **Midweek Service every Wednesday at 12:10pm**

Minister:

The Rev. Barbara Ann Sweetin B.D.

The Manse

Lour Road

Forfar DD8 2BB

Tel: 01307 248228

E-mail: bsweetin@churchofscotland.org.uk

Church website: www.thebigkirk.co.uk

Church E-mail: eando_office@yahoo.co.uk

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LETTER FROM THE MANSE

My dear friends

What a wonderful time we have had in East and Old over the last two months since the last edition of the Steeple Times!

As I write this letter we have just said a fond farewell to our guests from Switzerland and Germany and I have been asked if I would host two ladies from Malawi and one gentleman from Poland on the last weekend of May at the end of the General Assembly! Billy and I enjoy having visitors from other lands but not so much the washing and especially the ironing after everyone has left!

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who interacts in any way with our guests when they are here - from hosting to speaking to them in the Church on a Sunday morning.

This year alone and we are only five months into the year, East and Old have welcomed people from South Sudan, Hungary, Switzerland, Germany, Malawi and Poland! In July, twenty-four of our members are heading off to Switzerland to join the Swiss, the Germans and the Hungarians – how wonderful is that! Karen Liddle is in charge of our twinning committee but at a recent event I promoted her to head of our international relationships!

Jesus commanded us to love our neighbours and to go to other nations spreading the Good News. That is not just Scotland going overseas and spreading our particular take on what the Good News is – it is also to learn from others who have also been given these commands! Through interacting, listening and discussing with the other countries and churches we can all learn from one another, both the good points and the not so good points. There are some issues the same worldwide and some issues

that affect only certain areas or countries, but once we know this, we can work together to further God's mission in this world that we live in.

Added into this mix you will know that I have also recently returned in the last two months from a trip to Israel and Palestine and also to Nepal.

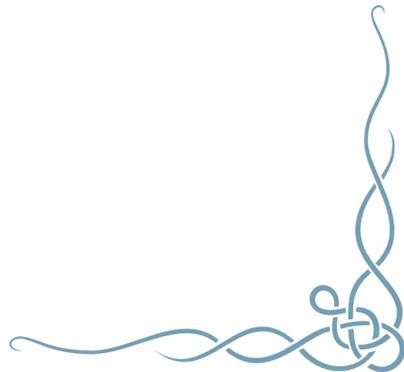
The trip to Israel and Palestine, which you will read about later in the issue, was a business visit looking at everything the Church of Scotland does there - from working with partner churches to the hotel and churches we own. The overview aim was to discover if everything we do in these countries works towards a 'Just Peace.'

The trip to Nepal with Irene Duthie was to establish the work that is going on there in connection with the money that East and Old and the National Church raised in the 'Let us Build a House Campaign'. You will hear more about the Nepal trip later in the magazine but I would like to say to you that we as East and Old Church and also the Church of Scotland are indeed helping our neighbours but learning from them also.

Thank you once again for all you do in East and Old, for the National Church and for the Worldwide Church.

Every blessing to you all

Barbara Ann



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Israel and Palestine Trip

Many of you will know that I was in Israel and Palestine in March representing World Mission Council along with 10 other people. Every day we were involved in meetings and meeting other people but we did manage to get some sightseeing in also.

The Church of Scotland owns a hotel in Tiberius so our trip started there and the hotel just happens to be on the Sea of Galilee - how amazing was that! You may be surprised to learn that the Sea of Galilee has been receding for many, many years but it was wonderful to see the Sea and the surrounding hills, while understanding that Syria was only 15-20 miles away as the crow flies. We were given a tour of our Church in Tiberius and met with our Mission partner. The Church does not have a lot of members - under ten - but they have lots of visitors. After a couple of days in Tiberius we headed off to Jaffa to visit the school owned by the Church of Scotland. We were given a guided tour by the children and then spent a few hours talking with the staff. Both staff and pupils are from different countries and different faiths which is very unusual in Israel. The pupils are taught in English, which for some of the children is their fourth language, and most of the children can speak Hebrew, Aramaic, Russian and other languages. We then headed to Jerusalem to the guest house we own there where another warm welcome awaited us. We didn't arrive until after 8pm so sent out for pizza's! Once again most our time was taken up in meetings with the staff and then we met some of the agencies that we work alongside: Sadeel, Augusta Hospital and the YWCA Palestine. Their stories were very interesting and they are all involved in vital work trying to help the peace process. While in Jerusalem we attended the farewell party of the Rev Ramon who was our minister in Jerusalem and then attended the ordination and induction of Rev John McCulloch to our Church in Jerusalem. We again managed to get a little sightseeing done and walked through the streets of Jerusalem and visited the various gates going into the town: Damascus Gate,



Jaffa Gate, New Gate to name a few and then to the Holy Sepulchre which is where they believe Jesus was crucified. On another day in the late afternoon we visited the Garden Tomb which was where they believe Jesus was buried after his death.

We held meetings in Bethlehem and visited Rev John McCulloch at his home where we met his wife and three young children. The highlight of the visit had to be taking part in the Palm Sunday procession from the Mount of Olives, passed the garden of Gethsemane and into Jerusalem. Needless to say I cannot mention what the outcome of our meetings were as what was discussed will go to the General Assembly in 2019. The other members of the team left on the Monday morning but on the Sunday night my friends picked me up in Jerusalem and took me to their house just outside Tel Aviv to stay for two days. We visited Tel Aviv - the beautiful beach and shops and a lovely restaurant and then the next day they took me to the Dead Sea - which was amazing. Looking over the Dead Sea you could just about make out Jordan in the distance and as like Galilee the Dead Sea is also receding. I did not get a great spiritual experience from being in Israel and Palestine and some of the sights were a bit commercialised, but it did not detract from being in the Holy Land and knowing that Jesus had walked in those areas.

School Visit

Primary 3 from Strathmore Primary came to visit on the morning of Maundy Thursday for a behind the scenes tour of the Church, to find out the real meaning of Easter. Our Session Clerk, Lexi Smart, had organised Bill Duthie for the tour, Angus Spence



to find and show a film clip about the real Easter and Mary Daun and Lexi would give the talk. How glad were they to discover that the minister got back on the Wednesday night and came along on Thursday morning. Just before the minister came to the Church that morning, she had been to Chimes Playgroup to tell the children about the Easter story and the Easter message. The children had learned a new hymn for her visit "I Danced in the Morning" and it was wonderful said Barbara Ann.



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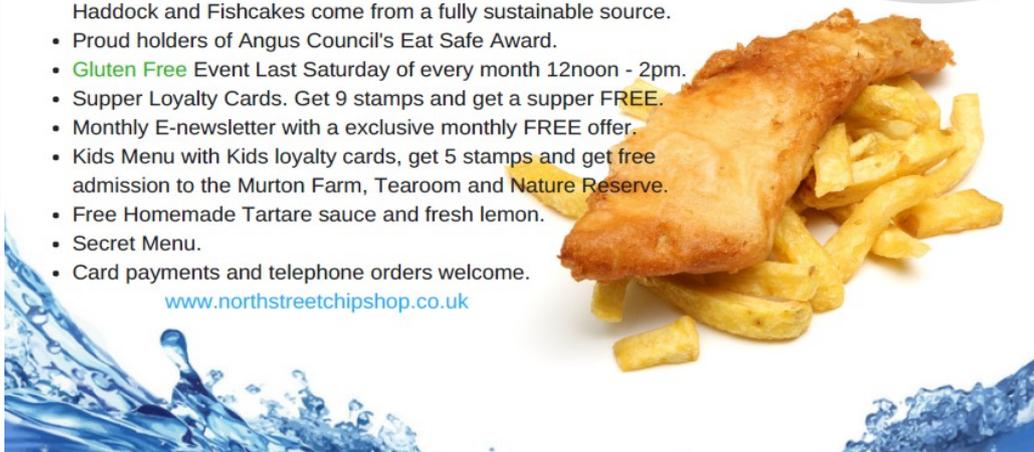
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Maundy Thursday and Good Friday evening services were once again a success but sadly numbers are still sitting just about 30 people. This is one of the most important times in the Christian calendar and it would be good to see more people at these services. Our minister left us reflecting on what it means to be a follower of Christ at these two very special services.

Easter Sunday was a great day again starting with the early morning service at the Forfar Loch, followed by rolls and bacon at St Margaret's which were very nice indeed. We then had our 11am service and it was wonderful to see so many families in attendance. The Easter Egg hunt was a success as usual and during the hymn after the hunt, little Jack Myles walked along the rows giving away all the eggs he had found to our members - what a star! Most of you will know that our minister has had a sore back for some time now but she carefully joined in with the Groovy Gryphons Easter game which involved her running about, jumping up and down and even lying on the floor - we have photographic evidence to prove it!

Baby Blether up-cycle event – this was a wonderful idea thought up by Paula Stewart who is our treasurer and also runs the Baby Blether group. If you could have seen the clothes, toys and accessories that were for sale, you could have opened a store quite easily.



Some of you will know that Barbara Ann and Billy are going to be Grandparents in September so Barbara Ann went on a buying spree! Thank you to Paula for organising the event, the people who took stalls, the visitors and the Church members who ran the café on the day—just over £500 was raised!

Communion Services – we held our normal two services on the 4th Sunday of April and then an afternoon service the following Sunday. When you add all the Communion cards together it was the worst attended Communion since Barbara Ann arrived in Forfar and to say she was disappointed is putting it mildly. Barbara Ann would like to know if there is any particular reason as to why people cannot attend.



That is why she started the afternoon Communion and the Communion on the first Sunday of every month so that our members have options! Barbara Ann is always open to hear from our members on any subject so why not speak to her.

Nepal Visit—Many of you will be aware that our minister and Irene Duthie were recently on a trip with the World Mission Council to Nepal to see the work being done with the money that was raised from the 'Let us build a house' campaign. Overall the Church of Scotland raised £310,000 which is the most amount of money ever raised by the World Mission Council and of course we raised over £2000 of that in East and Old. Barbara Ann and Irene left on the 7th April and flew from Edinburgh to Doha, then Doha to Kathmandu which took the best part of 22 hours including travelling from Forfar and time spent in Doha airport. In total there were 18 people on the trip with slightly more females than males and ages ranging from 23 to 75! The travel went well until the descent into Kathmandu which could simply be described as a roller coaster ride due to the turbulence which lasted for over 40 minutes. Not only was the plane moving about, but so was everybody in it and a few people on the plane had to use their sick bags!



There is so much they want to inform you of their time in Nepal that it would fill every page in this edition of the Steeple Times! The first thing that they noticed was the pollution - it was everywhere - in the air, the streets, the rivers - everywhere! There was the rubble, buildings destroyed and buildings being rebuilt one after another. Scooters galore and traffic jam after traffic jam and that was all in the first 2 hours of arriving! After being given a briefing by the Church of Scotland Mission partners the United Mission to Nepal (UMN) the adventure began.

The next day the group travelled to Dhadingbesi which was relatively near the epicentre of the earthquake three years ago. If the group found the hotel in Kathmandu a bit basic then they were in for a shock at Dhadingbesi - it maybe reached a one star! However the staff at the hotel were excellent. If we see any rice or Dahl Baht (lentils in a slightly spicy watery gravy) again it will be too soon as they were served at every lunch and dinner!

The journey was hot and long and was delayed as when the group arrived at the airport they needed to exchange some sterling to Nepalese Rupees. They were only allowed to change £20 each and before they all got their money the exchange shop ran out of Nepalese Rupee which

meant a further stop on the way to Dhadingbesi at a bank - where it took an hour to change £200 ! The road to Dhadingbesi defies explanation as does the driving, but the bus driver was excellent. After five hours in the bus they reached the hotel and their jaws dropped!

The next few days were the highlight of the visit with 11 people heading to north Dhading and 7 staying in the south. Both teams witnessed remarkable people who have strength, determination, endurance and a relatively happy life. The areas visited do not often see visitors from other lands and they were welcoming and gracious. The two groups visited new homes being built, schools, irrigation systems, churches to name a few and were delighted to see the schools that the Church of Scotland money is being used for. Our money has also helped to train 520 masons to build the houses and schools and a tour of the building structures was given by the engineer. There are so many other areas that our Mission partners are involved in but too many to write here. The Nepalese people do not expect handouts and are very grateful for all the agencies that are helping them. Barbara Ann and Irene also listened to women of the area who run micro-credit schemes and how it benefits both them and the community. Most of the men in Nepal work away from home in other lands where there are jobs and only come home now and again so the women do their bit at home: rearing goats, chickens and a number of other initiatives. The money that the Church of Scotland sent to the UMN is being used wisely and helping the people of Dhading.



The last day and half was spent back in Kathmandu in a lovely hotel and some sightseeing! The main attraction is of course is Kathmandu Durba Square which was filmed a great deal after the earthquake and the destruction and damage there is very, very evident as is the construction. The Palace is being rebuilt using American money but the majority of the old palace is still waiting to be demolished and by the look of it ,may fall down before that happens! Irene would like to say thank you very much for the support from the Kirk Session, the financial support she received from East and Old members and for their good wishes and both Barbara Ann and Irene thank you for keeping them in your prayers during their journey.

New Elder - In the last edition of the Steeple Times we introduced you to our new Elder Anne Watt, well in this edition we are delighted to introduce you to Robin Watt (Anne's husband). Robin heard our minister's plea for elders and decided it was time for him to take up the reigns again as an elder (no arm twisting involved). This happened on 6th May. Robin was ordained an elder over 40 years ago – welcome Robin!



Christian Aid – Christian Aid week has just finished and we would like to thank the members of East and Old who contributed with the filling of their envelopes. A number of people also contributed by placing money in the retiring offering on 20th May. Their quiz was once again available to buy and was pretty difficult – well done to everyone who managed to complete it! A total is not yet available but once it is we will let you know. All the churches in Forfar support this very worthwhile agency.



Friends R' Us – this is our new group for widows, widowers and single people and it's off to a great start. They meet the second Tuesday of every month in the Church at 2pm to catch up, chat and also to arrange events and outings. They have been to the cinema, a walk around the Loch, out for car runs, exercise classes, coffee stops and lunches to name but a few. Most people try to make the Tuesday meeting and attend the other events if and when they can – whatever takes their fancy and it is never awkward being on their own because they are all in the same position!



Walking Group



Our walks for June and July are on:

Saturday 9th June

Saturday 23rd June

Saturday 21st July

Meet at 10:00am at the Myre Car Park and bring a packed lunch.

Friends Walk – our Annual Friends walk will take place on **Saturday 4th August** in the Braemar Area with our evening meal at the Strathmore Golf Club. There is a sign up sheet is on the notice board in the social area. This is a very popular walk but if walking is not your thing then spend a few hours in Braemar itself.



FINANCES – we have mentioned a few times in the magazine that our general finances are not in a good position. So we thought we would try and make it clearer for everyone. **During the first quarter this year, our monthly outgoings averaged £11432 but we only had income of approximately £7000 leaving us a deficit of £4432.** This has nothing to do with the building improvements – it is our basic running costs. Barbara Ann has asked members to pray about this situation and to look at their weekly, monthly and yearly givings and a big thank you must go to those members who have answered this plea. Please consider increasing what you pay through the bank or in your envelopes each week as every extra pound counts!

Volunteering – In the weeks leading up to Pentecost and on Pentecost Sunday Barbara Ann has spoken on a range of topics relating to service and using your time and talents to further God’s work. Our minister loves to see people on a Sunday morning and what excites her more is when people volunteer to help in the church without their arms being twisted up their back! We need extra volunteers for the following roles and none of them involve a great deal of time or energy – why not try helping at: Cosy Corner – our lunch club, Friday Fling – Dancing for Dementia, Shop Assistants to work in the Big Kirk Shop, escort duty on the Forfarian – helping people on and off the bus on a Sunday morning and also refreshments on a Sunday morning. All of these roles are on a rota basis and you would not be called upon very often.

Come on – give it a try!

Swiss Visit – our eagerly anticipated visit from 28 Swiss and 2 German guests eventually arrived on 9th May. Meeting so many people at the airport was quite a challenge but it all went well. Billy was driving the minibus and Barbara Ann, Doug Robertson, Doug Findlay and Robin Watt also took their cars down to meet and greet our visitors.



Jim Stewart went down slightly later to bring one Swiss person and the two Germans up to Forfar. After a lovely lunch at Dobbies in Kinross, it was up the road for our guests to meet their hosts—Barbara Ann and Billy, Susan and Johnny Forbes, Karen Liddle, Alison and David Liddle, Margaret and Ron Scrimgeour, Mary Pickstone, Mary Daun, Jean and Charles Alexander, Arlene Nelson, Sheena Ewart, Edith Watson and Elizabeth and Hebbie McLeod.

Our two German guests were staying in a Bed and Breakfast did not turn out to be very nice but Barbara Ann quickly found them a much better one in Roberts Street. A lovely meal awaited everyone at the Church with members of East and Old out to meet and greet our guests.

Thursday a tour of Forfar and the Loch and a visit to Tiffins for coffee and cake and then in the afternoon McLarens Bakery and Station park. Lunch was provided in the Church by our social team. On Friday they were off to St Andrew's for the day and visited St Salvator's where John Knox preached, then a Ceilidh at night and once again a two course meal provided by the social team. Thank you to James Robertson our piper, the Loraine Waddell school of dance for the dancers (too cute by far), the band, Accord and our Swiss guests for the entertainment. Margaret Robertson's and Liz Nicoll's shortbread and tablet went down a storm. Saturday it was a day trip in Edinburgh to visit the Castle, the shops, St Giles Cathedral, both John Knox statues, John Knox House, the Scottish Parliament and Holyrood Palace. On their return to Forfar it was off to Forfar Golf Club for a High Tea. On Sunday morning Breakfast Church was supplied by Groovy Gryphons and over 65 people attended. At the main service the Swiss choir sang and



worship was led by our minister with greetings being brought from Rev Catherine and Rev Jorg from Switzerland and Rev Joachim from Bavaria. Lunch was once again supplied by our social team with canapé Bridies from Saddlers.

The afternoon saw us off to Arbroath and then it was Fish Suppers all around for our tea which we ate at St Andrew's Church before joining them for their evening service. Monday with cases packed and left at the Church it was off to Glamis Castle before heading back to the airport and arriving there at 4.30pm. However, before our guests left the Church to head to the airport they informed us that they had held a whip-round and presented us with £1150. We were of course delighted to accept it!

It was a wonderful visit and everyone involved including some Church members also learned a bit more about John Knox and our Church history and they look forward to finding out more about the Reformation when they visit Switzerland in July where there will be members of the Swiss, Scottish, German and Hungarian Churches in attendance – a real international faith gathering!

We cannot finish this section without thanking Bill Duthie for his organisation within the Church and Church halls and to Irene Duthie for organising and co-ordinating the food on the numerous occasions. So many other people also helped and we thank Jim Stewart for doing a lot of running around and donating bottles and bottles of wine and Schloer, Susan Forbes for keeping us right on Gluten Free, everyone who donated, prepared and served food, Jim Nicol for taking lots and lots of photographs and the numerous people who used their cars to take our guests where they needed to be. North Street Dairies came to our rescue by donating a huge sack of potatoes for the stovies and Karen Murray at McLarens had her shop shelf just about cleared! We may have probably forgotten to mention some specific people but wish to thank everyone very much for making this a wonderful visit.



Dedication Nameplates - The Kirk Session agreed that Nameplates could be attached to the rear of the Church chairs with anyone you wish to be dedicated. It can be yourself as a member or friend of East and Old, the name of a child that was baptised or in memory of a loved one. The nameplate will be gold in colour with bold black letters with ONE NAME only on it (no other writing). A sign-up sheet is in the reception area for you to add your details if you would like a nameplate.

The cost of each nameplate is £25.

Book Club – The book club meet at the end of every month and the last selection of books that the group read have been mostly good but with so many opinions it will always be difficult for them to agree as to which books are the best! The book club have chosen their next books from June to January 2019 and they know that some of our members read them even though they are not part of the book club meetings.



<i>DATE</i>	<i>AT</i>	<i>BOOK TITLE</i>	<i>AUTHOR</i>
Tue 26 th June	Esther's	Three Sisters, Three Queens	Phillipa Gregory
Mon 30 th July	Linda's	Lady of Hay	Barbara Erskine
Wed 29 th Aug	Marion's	Hagseed	Margaret Attwood
Thu 27 th Sep	Sheena's	Echo Park	Michael Connelly
Mon 29 th Oct	Mary's	Garden of Eden in Hell	Malissa Muller & Reinhard Piechocki
Tue 27 th Nov	Lexi's	This is going to hurt	Adam Kay
Fri 4 th Jan	(MEAL)	Hiding in Plain Sight	Susan Lewis
Mon 28 th Jan	Jean's	Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine	Gail Honeyman

*Guild Report — Our Guild session has now wound down and we are looking forward to our **Edinburgh Trip on Thursday, JUNE 21st**.*



We'll leave Forfar at 11am from the Church gate for the Royal Yacht Britannia at Ocean Terminal, Leith.

Once we've been round the ship or the shopping centre, we'll head off for High Tea at the George Hotel, Perth.

As we write this there are still 4 places available, but watch the notice board in the social area for the final update.

The committee are planning a varied and interesting programme of meetings for the new session starting in September 2018.

We'd be delighted to welcome you ladies and gentlemen to any of our evenings on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month at 7.15pm.

Enjoy the summer, Esther & Bob (Joint Conveners)

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WHAT'S COMING UP

Leprosy Mission Event – Just as this issue is being delivered, the Leprosy Mission Committee in Forfar which is chaired by our minister is holding an awareness raising event in the Royal British Legion on Sunday 3rd June from 2pm. The guest speakers will be Linda Todd, the CEO of Leprosy Mission Scotland and International Director – Brent Morgan.

Groovy Gryphon Prize Giving and Party – On Sunday 24th June it will be the Groovy Gryphon prize giving and they are hoping that many of you will stay for the party afterwards which will have food, games and lots of prizes - the party starts during morning worship!

A quieter time – as a Church we have been very, very busy recently - the next couple of months will allow us to re-charge our batteries – enjoy the rest because

Friends of East and Old

Tapas Night – Get your tickets soon for our Spanish night which takes place on Friday 8th June at 6.30pm. There will be tapas type food, Spanish music, dancing and entertainment.

Handbag Party – once again Irene from the Handbag Party

Company came along with a large collection of handbags, scarves & accessories and it was a great night. Handbags



and scarves were literally flying off the shelf. We were given 12.5% of the takings amounting to £135. This with the ticket & raffle money means over £500 was raised. Thank you to all who attended and look out for the next Handbag Party which will take place on 13th November just in time to buy your Christmas gifts!

REGULAR EVENTS	Mon	Knit'n Natter *	1:30pm
		Music Café *	2:00pm – 3:15pm
	Tue	Wee Blether *	10:30am – 11:30am
		Cosy Corner *	12:00noon – 1:00pm
	Wed	Prayer Group in the Church	11:00am
	Thu	Art Group *	1:30pm – 4:00pm
	Fri	Baby Blether *	9:30am – 11:30am
		Friday Fling in OAP Hall (fortnightly)	2:00pm – 4:00pm
<i>* held in the Social Area</i>			

FRIDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER

GLITZ & GLAMOUR EVENING

This is going to be **Friends of East & Old** major fundraiser this year. Tickets will be £25 per person or buy a table for 6 or 8 people. As well as a 3 course meal and drinks there is a raffle, lucky envelope, pick a balloon, an auction and some wonderful professional entertainment! **Put the date in your diary.** We also need your help with prizes and we're asking as many of you as possible to pop a bottle of Prosecco and/or



wine into your shopping trolley every second or third shop that you do – we are looking for over 100 bottles! Do you have a good item that could be auctioned off? Maybe a one week holiday in your holiday home/flat; if you have a special talent and can offer your time; vouchers for meals; a four ball at St Andrews; a selection of whisky; an iPad; digital camera etc. Speak to Angus Spence, Jim Stewart or Barbara Ann.

Stamp Appeal

The appeal for the Giffen Institute of Theology in South Sudan raised £2194 in 2017.

From April 2018, the appeal is for the Hungarian Reformed Church in Ukraine, which supports children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities. They help to run a number of day care centres, which help young people to live life to it's fullest.



The Ukrainian Government is unable to provide support for people with disabilities — please keep your stamps coming in to support this year's appeal.

Liz Nicoll

Art Group — meets every Thursday from 1:30pm to 4:00pm. Anyone who enjoys painting is welcome to come along.



The group will stop for the holidays from Thursday 7th July, restarting on Thursday 9th August.

The Annual Art Exhibition will run from Saturday 18th to Saturday 25th August.



GREEN TEAM HINTS & TIPS



Now the weather has improved, there are plenty weeds to gather in the garden! Remember to place in your Green bin or take to the Recycling Centre in Forfar.

N.B. The opening hours have improved and it's open from: -
10:00am - 4:00pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
1:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday
1:00pm-4:00pm on Saturday and Sunday.

If out for a walk with friends or on a picnic, please either take your rubbish home with you to recycle in the correct bin or place in litter bins where provided.

If you can when shopping, try to buy fruit and veg that are loose and weigh separately without placing in a plastic bag. Take an old shopping bag for this purpose. Remember that's what your mother used to do!

If you are "Spring Cleaning", remember the church shop is always open for your goods to recycle thereby helping the Church to thrive.

NB—new volunteers to assist in the shop are always welcome.



Do you need Transport to Church ?

The Forfarian bus is available on the first Sunday of each month.

Anyone requiring the bus please call Jean Alexander on 01307 463860.

Please leave a message with your name and phone number if there is no answer and your call will be returned.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

DEATHS

Ma 27 Mark Turnbull 3 West Hemming Street, Letham

Apr 8 Allister McEwen 45 Potters Park Crescent, Forfar

Ma 11 Isabella Milne 10 Bankhead Terrace, Forfar < 22 >

BAPTISM



Apr 29 Delilah Grace Winter Grimes

MINISTRY OF FLOWERS	
3 JUNE Morag Milne	8 JULY Lorraine Dick
10 " Ruth Stewart	15 " Sheila MacTavish
17 " Alistair McDonald	22 " Betty Bain
24 " Mrs Morris	29 " Stewart Davidson
1 JULY Barbara Ann Sweetin	5 AUG Margaret Anderson

*Please pass your donations to Catriona Milne or Irene Duthie
Thank you*

The Big Kirk Shop

Charity Shop - wide range of "second user" goods for sale

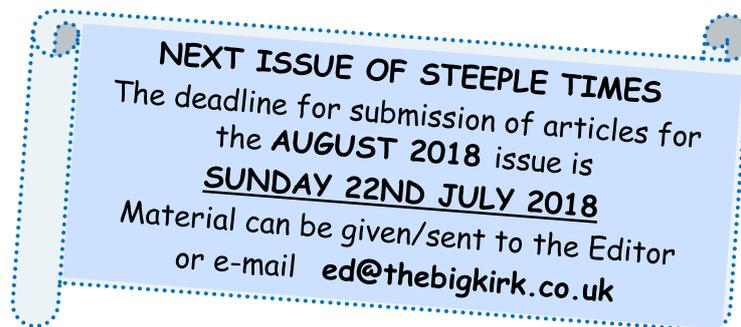
East High Street - FORFAR

Fantastic bargains on sale

The first few months have been a challenge this year what with being really cold and the snow and unfortunately we had to close for a few days during the really bad weather for health and safety reasons. We have received our figures from the Treasurer which shows a drop in takings but we are confident that we will recover during the summer period.

As always we are looking for more staff as we are having to use our reserve list each week. An advert for staff in the shop window is getting a good response and in fact we have a new recruit starting soon. We also have an offer of help from someone who has never done "shop" before but have reassured her that this is not a shop in the real sense. A few others are interested on coming on board or going onto our reserve list—any members who have maybe thought the shop is not for them might also want to give it a try.

We pride ourselves in promoting the shop as a community spirited hub with the main aim to make money for the Church. A meeting was held for all staff in March which was well attended and the notes from that will be available for shop members to view in the Shop. We are also planning another afternoon tea for shop members as a thank you for their continued support.



Session Clerk	Lexi Smart	01307 464330
Depute Session Clerk	Margaret Scrimgeour	01307 469145
Church Secretary	Karen Kelly	01307 465043
Treasurer	Paula Stewart	01307 641700
FWO Treasurer	Jean Alexander	01307 463860
Gift Aid Convener	Mabel & Bruce Martin	01307 462713
Editor of Steeple Times	Catriona Milne	07962065936
Organist & Choirmaster	Bruce Simpson	01307 468179
Property Convener & Lets	Bill Duthie	01307 465895
Groovy Gryphons Leader	Susan Forbes	01307 465200
Flower Group	Catriona Milne	07962065936
Guild Contact and Life and Work	Esther Kidd	01307 462701
Big Kirk Shop Organisers	Muriel Fairley	01307 463936
	Elma Sim	01307 465049
Prayer Group	Mary Pickstone	01307 466569
2nd Forfar Company of The Boy's Brigade	Irene Duthie	01307 465895
Friends of Forfar East & Old	Mary Daun	01307 464935
Protection of Vulnerable Groups	Isabel Farquharson	01307 462053
Minibus Hire	William Sweetin	01307 248228