The Steeple Times





EAST AND OLD PARISH CHURCH FORFAR



Services of Public Worship:

☆ Every Sunday at 11:00am

Minister:

The Rev. Barbara Ann Sweetin B.D.

The Manse

Lour Road

Forfar DD8 2BB

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Scottish Charity No: SC004921

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LETTER FROM THE MANSE

My dear friends!

Many of you know that I write material for an all-age worship publication along with a few of my colleagues in the ministry (all the money that comes in from that goes to educational charities). So at the moment I am writing material for February/March 2022. In my to-do-list which sits on my desk I am already working on Remembrance Sunday and planning Christmas material also! And I wonder where the year has gone!

Once again we have exciting news in East and Old. The Kirk Session took the decision that we needed to employ someone to do the many day-to-day jobs that revolve around church life so to that end we spoke and then interviewed Paula Stewart our church treasurer to ascertain if she would be interested in expanding the role that she does at present. We are delighted to say she did and has agreed to work for us for 24 hours a week as our treasurer and administrator. Paula will be based in the new church office (former choir room) Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm and working at home for a short period also. If anyone has any church queries, would like to visit/view the church, book a room/hall or have any gueries they are now to contact Paula on 07897 456655 or email her on eastandold@yahoo.com. As Paula is now working from 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday to Friday we have informed Paula that she is only to answer work calls/emails and texts during these hours so please do not expect an immediate response

from her outwith these hours.

The other piece of exciting news is that we are working in conjunction with the Woodland Trust and Angus Council to help the environment by planting a wooded area. Wooded areas need to be planned and permission sought (you can't plant any type of tree anywhere you want as it might not be beneficial to that area and the impact would be lost). The area chosen by the council is at Padanaram and we are to raise the funds to cover a guarter of the site. The trees are between £15 and £30 and if enough money is raised we also hope to plant willow trees which are more expensive. Angus Council have agreed we can donate the wooded area in memory of the Coronavirus Outbreak and to the many people affected by this disease through death, illness, long Covid, bereavement and to all the essential workers during that time. Another added bonus is that we will be able to help in the planting of the trees. All donations can be handed into the church – it is open Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm – did you know that? Or at church on a Sunday or The Big Kirk Shop.

God's work is never done, God's mission never finishes and we can't stand still or we become out of date and stale. Great work is happening in East and Old and the community of Forfar and we are all part of that.

God Bless

Your friend and minister

Barbara Ann

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Summer Fun Days – Get into Summer Campaign



andmark Adventure Park — a big thank you to Paula Stewart for going on this trip as the church rep after Barbara Ann's week became too busy and she had to pull out. The trip was quite long for all the families but they had a great time and the photographs proved that! The families found these trips over the summer months very beneficial and would be very grateful if we were to run them again.



ilm Afternoon – this event did not turn out as we had hoped. It was a bright and sunny day and fortunately the company came early to set everything up in the manse gardens and Barbara Ann took the decision to send it all away – you

could not see the screen for the sun. Everyone received a message via their phones saying head to the church but alas in the late afternoon in the church the sun comes in the west windows and you couldn't see the screen in the church either so everyone turned their chairs around and watched it on the large TV screen on the balcony, however the kids had a great time with lots of sweets, crisps, popcorn and juice – don't blame us if the kids were sick!

hurch Renovation



What a great day this turned out to be. Balloons and banners out front and then a welcoming committee, photographs, tour guides, information with tea/coffee and shortbread abound.

Thank you to everyone who contributed in the

cleaning beforehand, the preparation, the flowers, photos, food, drink, information, those who gave their time and also those who came along on the day. We had over 150 people through the building and lots and lots of memories shared. Due to the open day and the great coverage by Lynne Rankin on STV and our media team we have had numerous new bookings for the church premises which as well as helping the community gives us a source of income.

hurch Coffee Morning – with the relaxation of rules we held our first coffee morning since February 2020 and it was so good to see so many familiar faces once again from church members and the community.

All protocols were followed and it gave everyone a

good chance to catch up with people they had not seen for a while. A grand total of £540 was raised and a big thank you goes to the social committee, all the volunteers and helpers and those who supplied baking and raffle gifts.

Walking Group – the group are out walking again with relatively local and short (4/5 mile) walks just to get everybody up to speed once again. As they walked they took in the sights and then had their coffee break where they were able to chat and put the world to rights! Well done everyone.



t is great to see a few extra ladies coming along to our nights which are held every month in Chapter and Verse. Watch out for info when the next ones are on social media and also during the notices in the church.



he men were a bit slower getting out the starting blocks for their night out but it is now up and running. Why not join the men of the church who usually meet once a month on a Thursday night at the Queen Street Tavern and join in on the quiz night – we don't like to admit it but sometimes they really need help!



The book club members are once again meeting face to face once a month and would be delighted if more people could join them. You don't have to read all the books and can just join in if you are reading or have read one of the books on their list which was in the August issue of the Steeple Times. Speak to Barbara Ann.

B oys Brigade and Girls Brigade – it is so good to have our BB/GB company meeting in the church every Thursday evening. Our Girls' Brigade Company does not have any funds to speak of so the Kirk Session took the decision to give them a £250 start-up fund but if anyone felt they could offer them a few pounds to help them get off to a good start without worrying about fundraising it would be very much appreciated.

ast & Old Prayer Group - During Covid lock-down and further restricted activities, East & Old Prayer Group have continued to operate every Wednesday morning 11:00am to 12 noon.



We have joined in prayer separately in our own homes and consequently have covered more areas of need than perhaps we would have done if we were still meeting together in the church. So at present we keep on praying albeit separately in our homes!

We have continued in our role of prayer support for Rev Barbara Ann, our minister and for the church congregation and their needs, also seeking a clear view of our role in praying for the community in Forfar and Angus also remembering the community needs worldwide.

Individual members have concentrated on issues connected with Covid, praying for areas most affected by the virus. Also praying for issues we have read about or heard in the news. We have also called on the phone and prayed for members of those people who are visited in our Pastoral group. We have used the phone to keep in touch with them, thus assuring them of our prayers

We are very much looking forward to meeting together again in the church and hope to have a date and time in September to recommence the Prayer Group in the church.

We know, we and the whole country really need to pray together, we hope and pray more members will think to join us when we restart the East & Old Prayer group.



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FITTING SERVICE





The Big Kirk Folk evening

This is a brand new venture for the church which is being run by Alf Birse and John Young of the church. It is being held on the third Wednesday of every month from 7:30pm to 10:00pm.

Alf and John and few others will perform their songs and everyone can come along and listen to the music and sometimes it will be an 'open mic' night where others just get up and do a turn. Entry fee is £5 with tea/coffee and soft drinks being served or BYOB!



The first event was held on 15th September. Future evenings arranged for 20th October and 17th November.

The Sunday Club

We have a new name! After returning from our summer break, we decided it was time for us to have a new name and after some discussions, we settled on the Sunday Club.



Our first big project since we returned has been our Virtual Balloon Race fundraiser.
The children have had a great time selling virtual balloons to the members of the congregation.
Thank you to everyone who bought a virtual balloon for the race!

During the weeks leading up to the October break we did a Parables of Jesus Escape Room. Some of the mysteries were quite hard to solve but by working together, we all managed to escape in the end.

The next session for us is going to be an exciting one with lots of activities and projects on the horizon including our annual Nativity play on Sunday 19th December.

If your child or grandchild would like to join us, they would be most welcome. We meet in the church from 10:45am every Sunday and finish around noon (during school term time).

Matthew, Joyce, Frances and Karen



New starts all round – not only have we started our new session as a joint venture, but we started in new premises too, with 2nd Forfar Girls Brigade moving from Lowson Church and 2nd Forfar Boys Brigade moving from the BB Halls in Queen Street, we would like to thank Barbara Ann, the Session, and the congregation for welcoming us into the East & Old Church family.

Although we are still two individual companies by name, we certainly are not individual companies on a Thursday night.

We started our session on 26th August with an open night where parents could pop along and register their children and also have a look around the premises. At the moment we have a very small number of children, but hopefully in time we will get the word spread and be able to attract more to come along and join us.

A typical Thursday night consists of the Explorers and Anchor Boys joining together for some bible stories, crafts, games, and we are also doing some experiments, while this is happening the Juniors are practicing their marching and then the Junior Boys and Girls are going into two separate groups to do some badgework. The Company Section Boys meet later in the evening, where they will be doing a number of different things.

Our enrolment service will be held on Sunday 26th September.

We are always looking out for more members, so if you know of anyone who would like to join us, please get in touch, or pop along any Thursday night during term time and speak to one of our leaders.

GIRI	LS	BOYS		
Explorers (P1-3)	6:00 – 7:00pm	Anchor Boys (P1-3)	6:00 – 7:00pm	
Juniors (P4-7)	6:00 – 7:30pm	Juniors (P4-6)	6:00 – 7:30pm	
		Company (P7+)	7:30 – 9:00pm	
Contact – Elizabeth McDougall		Contact – Betty Lovegrove		
Tel: 07850 518394		Tel: 01307 466467		
Email: secondforfargb@btinternet.com		Email: lovegrovesuphill@hotmail.com		



e are delighted that Anne Watt has taken on the role of Convener of this group. The group met and some activities have been planned between now and Christmas. Our renewal evenings have been poorly attended in the past so we will take your renewal money of £10 at any of these events or in church. Just put your money into an envelope with your name on it, mark it Friends of E&O and place it in the offering plate or give it to either Anne Watt or Barbara Ann.



Monday 18th October - Flick N' Chip Night
 - £10 and the film being shown is
 'The Blind Side' with Sandra Bullock. A great film based on true kindness and humanity.

Saturday 6th November - French Night with a three-course meal and themed entertainment. Cost £15 and bring along a few pound coins for some fun and games!





Tuesday 14th or Friday 17th December - Christmas Musical evening - £10 and includes a variety of Christmas drinks and food.

There will be sign-up sheets in due course.



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arvest Sunday and Boys Brigade & Girls Brigade
Dedication Service – Sunday 26th September – at the
time of writing this event has not taken place but you will
hear all about it in the next issue.

A ccord entertainment group — are about to perform for the first time since December 2019 (except for in church). At the time of publishing this issue the performance was still to take place so again you will hear about it in the next edition.



WHAT'S COMING UP



ommunion Sunday <u>is always the fourth</u>
Sunday in October which this year is
24th October at 11:00am and 2:30pm –
there is no evening communion.

Please remember the fourth Sunday is not the last Sunday of the month in case you get them mixed up!

There will be a retiring offering in aid of the Church Fabric Fund.

Pritish Summer Time ends on Sunday 31st October at 2:00am — please remember to turn your clocks back one hour





Remembrance Sunday is 14th November at 10:45am

There will be a retiring offering in aid Poppy Scotland and Erskine Hospital

WALKING GROUP



Saturdays: 23 October

20 November

18 December

Meet 10:00am at the Myre Car Park, most of our walks will be about 4 miles and relatively easy, bring along a packed lunch

Any enquiries to Billy Sweetin, email bjs801@talktalk.net or Tel 07450883184.



uring the October school holidays, here at the church, we are running a festival called the 'Tattie Festival' – well it is the tattie holidays is it not? Some of the days will be for children, others for families and others for adults, we felt we needed to promote part of the heritage of our area.

TATTIE FESTIVAL EVENTS

Monday 4th October 10:30am to 12:30pm – Tattie Craft Event

Tattie Power

◆ Tattie Painting
 ◆ Tattie Writing

◆ Tattie Starch
 ◆ Tattie Fabric Bag
 ◆ Dress the tattie

Lunch – Tattie soup and tattie and leek soup



Wednesday 6th October 9:30am to 11:00am – Tattie Brunch

Tattie scones

Tattie scones and bacon

Tattie scones and sausage

Rolls

Tea / coffee / juice

Monday 11th October 10:30am to 12:30pm – Tattie Games Event

- ◆ Tattie & spoon race
 ◆ Hot tattie
 ◆ Tattie balance

- ◆ Tattie scoop
 ◆ Tattie roll
 ◆ Tattie harvest
- ♦ Words from potato
 ♦ Word search
 ♦ Tattie drive

Lunch - McDonald's Chips



Wednesday 13th October 2:00pm to 4:00pm **Tattie Memory Dreel**

Tea and cake / biscuits / macaroon

Memory Box and visual aids

Remember, reminisce & share the tattie holidays



Friday 15th October 5:00pm to 6:30pm – Tattie Tea

Stovies

Oatcakes

Macaroon

Poem, songs, video



GUILD NEWS

Our new session has started with a coffee afternoon that we held in the church social area on Wednesday 15th September and as we go to press an opening social that will be in the church social area on 22nd September with the members being entertained by "Accord".

The Coffee Afternoon went very well and it was lovely to meet up with friends we may not have seen for a very long time, we even managed to raise £400 towards our funds.

Our new syllabus is ready and we have a variety of speakers coming to inform, involve and entertain us. In October we have Lynn Devine, who is "Champion for the elderly in Angus" and then Heather Munro who is the convenor of our church Green Committee who will be discussing the various things that the church have done to obtain the Eco awards.

In November we have a joint meeting with the other guilds in Forfar with a speaker from one of our projects then on the 24th, Ms Ballantine will tell us about "Faberge, jeweller to the Tsars".

In December on the 8th, we will have our Christmas meal then a break till we start again near the end of January. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, so if you think you may be interested, why not come along and join us and you will always be sure of a warm welcome.



DIARY: October & November Mon 4 October Tattie Craft Event - 10:30am to 12:30pm: Wed 6 Tattie Brunch - 9:30am to 11:00am Tattie Games Event - 10:30am to 12:30pm Mon 11 Wed 13 Tattie Memory Dreel - 2:00pm to 4:00pm " Wed 13 The Guild: Lynne Devine "Champion for the elderly in Angus" Tattie Tea - 5:00pm to 6:30pm Fri 15 18 Mon Friends of East & Old: Flick n' Chip Night -The Blind Side Wed 20 " Folk Evening - 7:30pm to 10:00pm 23 " Walking Group - Meet 10:00am at the Myre Car Park Sat " Sun 24 Communion Sunday: services at 11:00am and 2:30pm Wed 27 The Guild: Heather Munro ~ church Green Group Convener 31 British Summer Time ends: at 2:00am clocks go back 1 hour Sun Sat 6 November Friends of East & Old: French Evening Wed 10 The Guild: Joint Meeting of the Forfar Guilds Remembrance Sunday: retiring offering in aid of Poppy Scotland Sun 14 and Erskine Hospital Folk Evening - 7:30pm to 10:00pm " Wed 17 Sat 20 Walking Group - Meet 10:00am at the Myre Car Park Wed 24 The Guild: Ms Ballantine - Faberge, jeweller to the Tsars



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MINISTRY OF FLOWERS



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3	OCT	Margaret Myles	7	NOV	J Gair & C J Milne
10	ű	Liz Nicoll	14	u	Irene Duthie
17	u	Alan & Irene Carnegie	21	"	Marion Birse
24	u	Marjory MacLean	28	u	Mr/s J Herron
31	u	Isobel Farquharson	5	DEC	Lorraine Dick

Please pass your donations to Catriona Milne, Irene Duthie or pop your money in an envelope and hand it in to Jennifer at PRIMA Thank you

The 2022 Flower Calendar will be available for choosing your date from mid November.

We are always on the look-out for additional volunteers to join the team of ladies who place the blooms in church each Sunday - if this is something you would be interested in doing, please speak to either Catriona Milne or Irene Duthie.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

DEATHS

August	5	Elizabeth (Betty) Milne	(member)
	7	Allan Fletcher	(member)
	24	James Duncan	(parish)
	30	Baby Courtney Stewart	(parish)
September	7	Marshall Irons	(member)
	9	Margaret Petrie	(member)



~ NEXT ISSUE OF STEEPLE TIMES ~

The deadline for submission of articles for the **DECEMBER 2021** issue is **FRIDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2021**

Material can be given / sent to the Editor or e-mail **steepletimeseditor@gmail.com**

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Big Kirk Shop Organiser	Muriel Fairley	01307 463936
Prayer Group	Mary Pickstone	01307 466569
2nd Forfar Company The Boys Brigade	Betty Lovegrove	01307 466467
2nd Forfar Company The Girls Brigade	Liz McDougall	07850518394
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