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Editor of Steeple Times	Catriona Milne	07962065936
Organist & Choirmaster	Bruce Simpson	01307 468179
Property Convener & Lets	Bill Duthie	01307 465895
Groovy Gryphons Leader	Joyce Archibald	01307 469519
Flower Group	Catriona Milne	07962065936
Guild Contact and Life and Work	Esther Kidd	01307 462701
Big Kirk Shop Organisers	Muriel Fairley Elma Sim	01307 463936 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

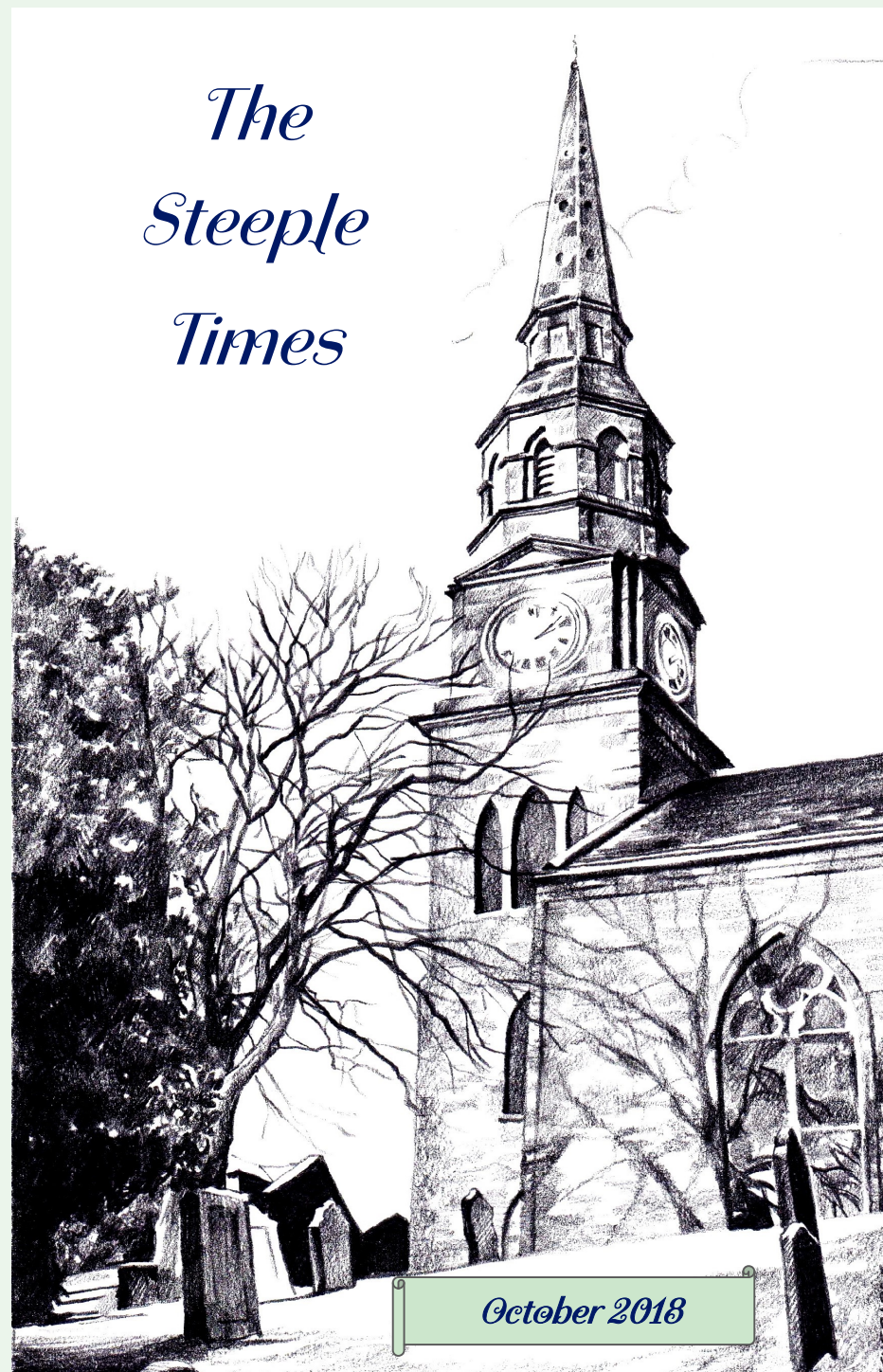
**NEXT ISSUE OF STEEPLE TIMES**

The deadline for submission of articles for the **DECEMBER 2018** issue is

**15TH NOVEMBER 2018**

Material can be given /sent to the Editor or e-mail [ed@thebigkirk.co.uk](mailto:ed@thebigkirk.co.uk)

# The Steeple Times



*October 2018*



## Services of Public Worship:

✠ **Every Sunday at 11:00am**

✠ **Additional services:**

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

✠ **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](mailto:bsweetin@churchofscotland.org.uk)

**Church website:** [www.thebigkirk.co.uk](http://www.thebigkirk.co.uk)

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

**Scottish Charity No:** SC004921

find us on **facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/thebigkirk/>

## FLOWER GROUP

*The Flower Calendar for 2019 will be in the church foyer from mid November for you to choose your Sunday slots.*



*We ask for a minimum donation of £20 which*

*pays for the weekly church flowers and a percentage of this money is also allocated to the flower delivery fund – delivering flowers to those who need to know that our church community are thinking of them during difficult times.*

*Fiona Clacher who has delivered the flowers to our members over the last few years is stepping down and we would like to thank her for being the face of the church in this role on many occasions – we are looking for a new person to take over this role. It is not a job that needs doing every week, only when required, but it is a vital part of our work in the church – please speak to Barbara Ann if you think this something you could do.*

*Thank you to everyone who contributes to the flower fund and to the team of volunteers who beautifully arrange the flowers for each Sunday. We are also seeking additional volunteers to join our team of flower arrangers - if this is something you would be able to help us with, please have a chat with either Catriona Milne or Irene Duthie.*

### **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

### DEATH

July 24 John Copland Lochbank Manor, Forfar < 30 >



### WEDDING

Sept 15 Josh Forbes and Katie Easton



### BAPTISM

Aug 5 Leo Alexander Napier

	<b>MINISTRY OF FLOWERS</b>	
7 OCT	Sheena Benvie	4 NOV J Gair & C J Milne
14 “	Liz Nicoll	11 “ Irene Duthie
21 “	Margaret Myles	18 “ Marion Birse
28 “	Isobel Farquharson	25 “ J & M Herron
<p><i>Please pass your donations to Catriona Milne or Irene Duthie. Thank you</i></p>		

## LETTER FROM THE MANSE

*Hello my dear friends*

*I receive a lot of good feedback from you our members and also from many, many people who are not connected to our church on how you and they really enjoy reading our Steeple Times which is music to my ears! There is so much involved in getting each edition out to you from the variety of people who write various articles, finding good photographs, the editing (the most difficult job!), the printing and folding to the delivery! I would like to say thank you to all the people involved in the various stages of getting our magazine out to you.*

*East and Old Church is truly blessed with its members and friends. Whenever we have people coming through our doors whether it is mid-week or at the weekend the comments are always the same – what a warm and welcoming church - once again music to my ears! In this letter to you I want to say a big, big thank you to our members and friends who attend our many and varied worship services and various events and activities but also for giving of your time, talents and your money and many of you do all three in excess!*

*If I was to list the time and talents that the people in our church and also non-members of our church, voluntary give to further God’s mission, it would fill this whole edition of the Steeple Times and the editor has already told me it is a bumper edition! East and Old members and friends are involved in so many aspects of God’s mission and we are looking to become more involved in the future. We talk a lot in the church about caring for our neighbours near and far, we talk a lot at committee levels but as well as talking we put our ideas into action.*

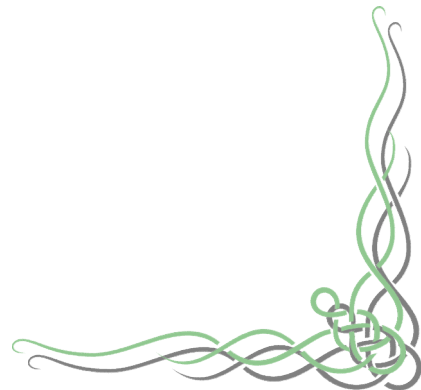
*When you receive this edition of the Steeple Times it will be the beginning of the Tattie Holidays – a two week holiday for the school children.*

Over the summer there were news reports that many school children will go hungry during the school holidays due to not receiving free school meals or breakfasts. After a discussion (more talking) with Mrs Garnes, the head teacher at Strathmore Primary School, it was decided the best way to help in this area was to run a lunch club during the school holidays. So from Monday to Friday during the two weeks of school holidays East and Old Church will be offering a free two-course lunch to any children in the community and if they don't like what is on the menu then there is always Heinz Tomato soup! Our words and talking being put into action.

As a church and members of the Forfar community, we also want to get involved in the community in a variety of ways so if you know of any concerns, pressing issues or areas that we need to look at, then let us know. We have recently been informed about the lack of buses coming in from the Gowanbank area so one of our committees is looking at that and then we were informed the other day about a change at our Shelter Housing complexes which again our committee is looking at. Maybe our next Faith Discussion group meeting and the next Bible study meeting should concentrate on Jesus and his challenges to the authorities in his day!

Every blessing to you all, your minister and your friend

*Barbara Ann*



## GREEN TEAM HINTS & TIPS



Autumn is upon us already so lots to clear up  
In the garden! Save your fallen leaves in a black bag for mulch for your shrubs next year and don't forget to fill your green bin with other garden debris or put it on the compost heap.

In the home, think about decluttering...one room at a time or the Japanese way....pile all your clothes and shoes in one room and select your recycled materials from there (Marie Condo's book)

In the environment try to use your car less by walking, using the bus or if you can - cycle!

### The BigKirkShop

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

The shop has done well over the Summer and is now getting ready for the Autumn and Winter seasons with lots of COSY WINTER CLOTHES for Men Women and Kids. We also have Shoes, Boots, Handbags, Bed Linen, Bric-a-Brac, Curtains, Jigsaws, Toys and Furry Toys.

Why not pay us a visit and feel free to bring in your donations - they are much appreciated.

Shop Open: Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00am to 4:00pm

*Elma and Muriel*

## WALKING GROUP

Meet at 10:00am at the Myre Car Park and bring a packed lunch\* on the following Saturdays:



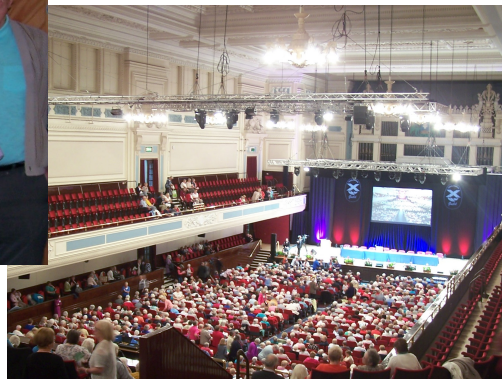
- ◆ 13th\* October
  - ◆ 10th\* November
  - ◆ 27th\* October
  - ◆ 1st\* December
  - ◆ 22nd December
- Plus Christmas Lunch



## GUILD REPORT

The new session has now begun with the theme:  
**Seeking The Way**

Sat	Sep 1	A few of us attended the Annual Gathering in the Caird Hall. The project speakers were informative, the Moderator was humorous and the singing uplifting
Wed	Sep 5	Our Afternoon Tea was successful with £473 raised. Well done everyone!
Sun	Sep 23	The Guild were dedicated at morning worship
Wed	Sep 26	The Opening meeting featured the Dee Ukes, a ukulele band from Dundee
Wed	Oct 10	7:15pm - Rev Barbara Ann will conduct Communion and talk on her trip to Israel
Tue	Oct 23	11:00am-3:00pm - The Guild Roadshow at St Margaret's presented by the Head Office team from Edinburgh
Wed	Oct 24	7:15pm - Joint meeting at Lowson - project- Seema's House
Wed	Nov 14	7:15pm - Pam Robertson of Angus Optix will talk on her optical charity work in 3 <sup>rd</sup> world countries
Sun	Nov 18	11:00am - Guild Week service in Church
Wed	Nov 21	2:00pm - Joint meeting in social area - Lynn Rankin of STV
Wed	Nov 28	7:15pm - Bowling with Ian Stewart
<i>Members and visitors will be made most welcome at any of these events. The Guild is a Christian organisation for men &amp; women</i>		



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

### Sundae on Sunday - 29th July

So many people stayed behind after the morning service for their ice-cream and toppings and what a selection was available! Numerous flavours of ice-cream with at least 10 different toppings and the social team even made jelly! Thank you very much everyone for a tasty treat and to all who stayed behind and left donations amounting to £150 which went into our social fund.

### Art Exhibition - 18th to 25th August



This annual event once again took place in our church with quite a number of people viewing the paintings. Two paintings in particular were very popular: the poppies and the Highland Cow! A number of paintings were sold with a donation being made to the Church. Our artists that had paintings on display on were: Esther Bruce, Mary Daun, Tom Durie, Pauline Greenhill, Mary Smith and Ruth Wilson. We did not keep a tally of visitors – there were quiet times and busier times with many local people visiting but also quite a few from Dundee and Angus. As a result of the exhibition the group have 2 new members and the art group donated £136 to the Church.

### Inspiration Orchestra - 24th August

What an inspiring event! The Orchestra is made up of people who are severely disabled both physically and mentally. FACT organised this event which was hosted in our church and what a blessing it was to everyone who was there. Their conductor Ian White has a wonderful relationship with the members and their families. The night before the concert started, a few of the members were upset because one of their friends had suddenly died. However Ian spoke to them, empathised and consoled them and the show went on! Over £900 was raised on the night through donations given at the end. Rev Maggie Hunt, the chair of FACT this year, also presented the Orchestra with a cheque for £2700 from FACT because the Inspiration Orchestra was FACT's chosen charity for the year. We wish them every blessing for the future.

**Coffee Morning for Zuglo Trip - 25th August** — some of you will be aware that 10 people from our church will be travelling to Zuglo Church in Budapest in October. All the Groovy Gryphon leaders are going along with two young folk. The World Mission Council of the Church of Scotland awarded us two grants to help with flights so they were given to Matthew Scott and Alisha-Louise Rattray however it only covers the cost of flights, not hotel accommodation which is £200 per person. The Kirk Session felt that we also needed to help the leaders cover some of the costs as it is £410 per person for the trip. Thank you to everyone who baked, served, donated and helped in anyway at this event and a big thank you to everyone who supported it - the total raised was £610.

**Songs of Praise - 26th August** - this was a new venture which was organised and run by our worship team. The service lasted 50 minutes and at the end a number of people said they could have sat and listened and sang for longer as they enjoyed it so much. Thank you for sharing your stories of your faith and why you picked your chosen hymns. The next Songs of Praise will be held in January 2019!



**Forfar Action of Churches Together (FACT)**

The new season has started with Rev Maggie Hunt as chair and our minister and session clerk as joint secretaries. The charity for this year is once again the Inspiration Orchestra which we were all happy to support. The other members of East and Old on the FACT committee are Isabel Farquharson and Jim Nicol. FACT now has a diary sheet and the hope is that each church will check it for dates before scheduling any event to avoid any clash.

**Glitz and Glamour Evening - 1st September** - this event

turned out to be a lovely evening which everyone enjoyed. Over 80 people attended on the night and £7000 was raised for the building fund. A lot of hard work and presentation went into the evening and a very big thank you to the Steering Group, Bill and Irene Duthie and Busy Hands alongside Margaret Myles and Liz Nicoll. On the night special thanks to the ladies who helped with the food, organising, serving, washing and clearing up — they did the



**Boys Brigade** - We started our session this year with a late summer camp—our weekend in Scott Lodge, Glen Doll which was a great success. The weather was kind to us most of the time. The boys climbed up to Loch Brandy on Saturday - well done to all of them. Sunday dawned with the arrival of parents and families for a BBQ lunch and Fun Day. All went home exhausted - the sign of a good camp! The sections are now settling in to their badge work and we have two new recruits in the Anchor Boys and a mum keen to become a leader. More boys would be very welcome. At our enrolment service Declan Lovegrove received his President's Badge - the second highest award to be gained in the Boys Brigade. He will now work towards his Queens Badge in two years' time - good luck to him.



**Friends of East and Old**

**M & Co Fashion Show - 15th October**

This event proves to be very popular each time so let's hope this year is no different. The shop is ready, our models are ready, the tickets are on sale - we just need you to put the date in your diary and come along to buy yourself something new or to buy some Christmas presents! £5 per ticket including wine, Schloer and shorties!

**Friends Renewal night - 26th October**

The Friends renewal night is open to all whether you are a Friend of East and Old or not. Our entertainers this year will be the Carnoustie singers and we are looking for a good turn out because there are 40 in the group and it would be embarrassing if there were more of them than us - so please put the date in your diary! Tickets will be the usual £5 including refreshments and a bite to eat. The renewal fee is £10 as per usual and if you are not a member (and why not!) you can join at any time. Rather than pay £10 per year you can become a lifelong member for £150.

**Handbag Party - 13th November**

Once again back by popular demand and with a new range of handbags and accessories.

**The Handbag Company** will be with us on **13th November at 7:00pm**. Tickets are £5 and include Prosecco, wine, Schloer and tasty bites. Remember your cash, cheque or card!





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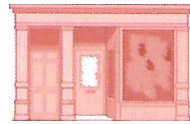
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work voluntarily while the youths who served and cleared the tables were paid! A big thankyou also to Neil Cameron and Elizabeth McLeod for organising the food, Ian Christie and our entertainers who were first class and thank you to everyone who donated Prosecco, chocolates, raffle gifts and the fantastic auction items - thank you very, very much!

### Faith Discussion - Questions

Over the years the faith discussion group have discussed so many topics: abortion, homosexuality, dementia, assisted suicide, euthanasia, debt, voluntary work, giving of time, talents and money and so much more! However following on from a recent mid-week service our minister was asked if some of the questions from the meeting could be discussed more at the faith discussion group, so here are a few of the questions for you to consider also.

- 1) In *What's Wrong with the World* (1910) G K Chesterton wrote: 'The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult; and left untried.' Do you agree?
- 2) What makes it difficult for you to stand firm in your faith? Does Paul's use of military imagery help in this generation? If not, can you identify more helpful imagery about standing firm in your faith today?
- 3) How should we respond to the complainers in our congregations? Is there a point when we need to confront complaining?
- 4) How easy do we find change? How can we encourage one another when life in our church seems to be full of challenges that disturb our peace?
- 5) In what ways does our church building inhibit or limit our ministry? In what ways might our building extend our mission and ministry?
- 6) Is 'evangelism' a bad word in your church? Is having a building with a sign out front enough of an invitation to faith?
- 7) In what way is your church's life together an attraction for others to Christian faith?
- 8) How can we grow in abundant love?
- 9) How can we share the love of God with others throughout the world?
- 10) Can we just speak about God's love or do we need action too?



The new term has started once again for Angus

Presbytery. Our representatives at Presbytery are our minister and session clerk Lexi Smart. Lexi is on the Mission and Development committee while our minister is convener of Forum 2 and also on the Business Committee so she attends a minimum of three meetings a month for Presbytery! At a recent meeting the new Ministry and Mission allocation was announced, this is set by the Stewardship and Finance Department at 121. Last year East and Old paid 121 a total of £73500 which is the second highest amount in Angus Presbytery and this coming year it has been **increased again by another £3000**. Our minister felt that this was going to be very difficult to achieve and pay for over the coming year as last year we barely covered our expenses and relied heavily on fundraising. Two other ministers voiced their concerns also and it was agreed the matter should be taken a step further, however that will not change the amount for next year - so once again we need people to consider raising their weekly/monthly/yearly offerings if they have not done so already. Presbytery understand how some churches are feeling!

**S**trathmore Primary — Our minister has been going into the school every week for assembly. One week it is a whole school assembly at 2.30pm and the following week the assembly is split for P1-3 at 2pm and then P4-7 at 2.30pm. Our minister will also be attending some courses that the school are running for the teachers: resilience training and then mental health training in working with children. The Primary 6 and 7's will be helping Busy Hands this year in creating a display for Remembrance Sunday and the Busy Hands team will be going into the school to help out. Over the next month we will be starting a campaign to help the children at Strathmore Primary involving toothpaste, toothbrushes, gloves and other items. If you are out shopping please buy these items ready for the collection later in the year. Once again the school will be taking part in Johnson Rock Challenge which is a lot of hard work and lots of fundraising for costumes, props and transport. Last year they were very grateful for part of the retiring offering after the Christingle Service and at the actual competition Strathmore Primary came in second - well done everyone!



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## Hot Chocolate Competition

The competition is open to children and adults alike as well as any of the organisations. You can enter one or both parts of the competition. **Part one** - serve a cup/mug of Hot Chocolate to someone in an unusual place; **part two** - serve a cup/mug of Hot Chocolate to someone special. Somewhere unusual could be in a telephone box, at the top of Bummie or on horseback. Someone special could be a local celebrity, a pilot, a relation, a teacher or the local councillor. All you need to do is send us or give us a photograph of the Hot Chocolate being served telling us where and when and why the person is special to you. This competition runs through the whole of November with the two children and two adult winners being announced at our Chocolate Morning on Saturday 8th December in the Church hall and Church. If you are emailing your entry send it to [ed@thebigkirk.co.uk](mailto:ed@thebigkirk.co.uk) no later than 30th November or hand it into the church or The Big Kirk Shop both on East High Street.



**G**roovy Gryphons — It's great to be back with the children after the summer holidays, the congregation have enjoyed hearing them share news of what's been happening since June.



In the last edition Barbara Ann wrote about the congregation in our church getting older, that also appears to be the case with the Groovy Gryphons.

We are delighted to welcome back some of our secondary school age children as well as a few younger ones. They have enjoyed learning about the temptation Adam and Eve faced in the Garden of Eden and talked about how they may also be tempted in their own lives. Jealousy between brothers and sisters or friends at school also raised some good points when they were learning about Cain and Abel.

The group have fun meeting their friends, playing games, making crafts and discussing stories from the bible and how they relate to things happening in their own lives at home, school and other clubs they attend.

We would be delighted to welcome any new children (age 3+) to join us on Sunday mornings, why not bring along your children/grandchildren/nieces or nephews with you and they too can enjoy being part of our group.

*Joyce, Frances, Matthew and Karen*



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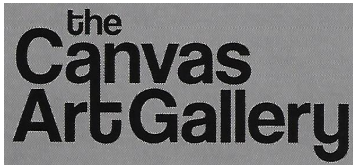
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## Fireworks Night on Sunday 4th November in the Manse garden

Due to the popularity and successful nights in the past, we are once again holding a fireworks night in the Manse garden. The Kirk Session members donate the money to buy the fireworks and the social committee organise the soup and bridies although we will need to buy extras this time as we ran out last year. Put the date in your diaries and we look forward to seeing you and your families at 6:00pm for food and 6:30pm for the fireworks.



## Remembrance Sunday - Sunday 11/11/18 at 11:00am

This year the 11th November falls on a Sunday so the town parade will be at the Cross at 10:50am for the two minute silence. The parade sets off from the Myre Car Park at 10:40am.



For our members who will not be at the cross, a two minute silence will be held in our own church at 11:00am with someone from our worship team leading this as Barbara Ann will be at the Cross. Our worship service will start at approximately 11:20am and will be a shorter service.

**Gift Service - 2nd December** - Once again East and Old are happy to help out the Angus Toy Appeal and we ask you to bring in your new gifts for children aged from birth to 16 years of age on Sunday 2nd December. The gifts can be wrapped with gender and age on the outside but the collectors would prefer them to be unwrapped. We have been such good and strong supporters of this charity for many years and they are very grateful for our donations. If anyone would like to buy a gift but may struggle to get out and buy something please let our minister know as Barbara Ann is more than happy to take your money and buy something with it on your behalf!

**Chocolate Morning - Saturday 8th December** in the church hall with the tea room in the church. What an event this is going to be! Chocolate hamburgers, chocolate hot dogs, chocolate onions, chocolate cakes, chocolate tray bakes, chocolate hampers, chocolate crafts, chocolate tombola and even a Tunnocks stall! Ticket price is £3.50. To run this event we need many, many donations of anything chocolate - boxes of chocolate, chocolate spread, coco pops, tins of chocolates, children's chocolate sweets, Smarties, Crunchies, anything chocolate!

## Leprosy Mission Coffee Morning - 20th October

East and Old Church are once again delighted to host this event. Tickets are on sale now and there will be a baking stall, gift stall and raffle as well as your tea, coffee and pancakes. Come along and see old and new faces and have a great natter while raising funds for a worthwhile cause. It is great to see all the churches coming together for this charity which is so close to many Christian's hearts. At the recent meeting of the committee it was suggested that each church holds a retiring offering on the last Sunday in January - 27th January 2019 which is World Leprosy Mission Day and follow St John's example who have collected money for many years on this day.



## Communion Sundays - 21st October and 28th October

Our April attendance at communion was relatively poor and we are hoping for a better turn out this October. We would love to hear from you if you find it a problem to attend these services. Is it the dates? Is it the time? Is it transport? All of these can be overcome! On the 21st October it is our afternoon communion at 2:30pm with tea, coffee and cake afterwards. The following week the 28th the services will be at 11:00am and 6:30pm. We look forward to seeing you there and remember transport is available for all these services - just speak to the minister or Lexi Smart or Jean Alexander. A warm welcome awaits you all no matter when you last attended church.



## Midnight Service on Wednesday 31st October starting at 11:30pm

When our minister was in Finland she spoke to someone in the Finnish Church where they hold a midnight service once a month. Always on the lookout to offer different types of services Barbara Ann will be holding a service at 11:30pm on Wednesday 31st October in the church taking us into 'All souls day'. We hope a few of our members will come along and worship God at this different time for a different type of service.



## Heavenly Bites has moved to the third Thursday of the month.

We'd love to see more of our members and friends coming along to this lunch. The children love being at the church, making and serving the food but are not so keen on the washing up! Two future dates are not the third Thursday's so instead of cancelling we've moved the dates: **February it is the second Thursday** and in **April it is the last Thursday**. At the recent Heavenly Bites in September only three people turned up to the café! Come along folks and enjoy a two course meal and the company of your friends in the church and the children.



## Open Doors Weekend

Once again we would like to thank the Outreach committee and our members who volunteered to staff our church during the open doors weekend. Although we were not very busy, those who passed through our doors were appreciative. There was one lady who was abrupt and rude in giving her opinion and that is a reminder to us that our minister keeps telling us that we need to respect other people's views and ideas - maybe this lady should attend church and learn more about a life of faith.

## Service of Remembrance - 9th September

This was a new venture in our church to remember our loved ones whether family or friends and to celebrate their lives. Those who attended were moved by the service and left knowing that God was with them and their loved ones and that God fills us with hope for the future. The remembrance tree is in the church so if you would like to add a name to it just put your loved ones name on the tag and hang it on the tree.



**New Minibus** - Thank you to Eleanor Stewart who donated the money to the church to buy our new shiny red minibus. It is fitted with a lift for ease of access and for wheelchairs. The bus was dedicated on Sunday 9th September at the end of the service in memory of her two daughters Joyce who died as a young child and Hazel a member of our church who passed away in December 2017. The bus will be regularly used for church work and for the wider community. The first people to use the minibus were the walking group and they said it was wonderful - no draughts coming in windows and doors, ease of finding seatbelt holders, no rattling and slamming of doors to get them to close.

**Defibrillator** — Stewart Davidson donated money from the Lorna Davidson Memorial Fund (in memory of his late wife) to buy our defibrillator which was installed in early September and 6 people have been trained to use it. More people will be given training and the shop staff will have a key to the church so that in an emergency in the vicinity of the shop, access to it will be available. It is a great piece of equipment for the church and the community of Forfar. Karen Kelly one of our elders gave us some basic training and George McLean will be giving an advance training and training in emergency first aid during the month of October. Thank you to everyone involved.

**Christian Aid Coffee Morning - 22nd September** — East and Old Church are very good at supporting the numerous charities that hold their events and this Coffee Morning was no different. Thank you to Isabel Farquharson and Kathleen Ritchie who are our representatives on the Forfar committee and thank you to everyone who bought tickets, attended the event and helped at it. At the Christian Aid collection in May and through the retiring offering a good amount of money was raised: East and Old - £522.10; Lowson Memorial - £425.01; St Margaret's - £184.50; Street collection - £205.02. Quiz sheets raised £184, with the winner being Mrs P Allan.

**Dedication Service - 23rd September** — What a fun filled service with bubbles everywhere! The Groovy Gryphons, Boys' Brigade and Guild were all dedicated before God and each organisation given a blessing. East and Old Church are blessed that we have these organisations within our church and offer them our support. We also thank these three organisations for what they offer and contribute to the life of East and Old Church. We also had three visitors at this service who were staying with Barbara Ann and were over in Scotland attending Interfaith conferences. All the guests were Christians but work in their own countries in an interfaith role and keeping the lines of communication open between so many different faith groups. The three interfaith events were very interesting with a great deal of knowledge passed to those who attended and hearing the good and not so good stories and testimonies. We hope Rev Ebenezer Joseph of Sri Lanka, Mr Kasta Dip from India and Ms Jennifer Jivan from Pakistan enjoyed their time in Scotland and especially in Forfar.

*Because Church of Scotland ministers work on their own it has been a great benefit to me in getting to know your pastors Janos and Naomi and discussing and talking to them about various aspects of the bible and preaching. It is good to bounce ideas of one another even when they are not in total agreement – it opens up the mind.*

*Each year we now hold a service where Zuglo Church and Hungary are the focal point of the service – after God of course! We stand for some prayers, sit to sing some hymns, our offering at the end of the service is put into the offering box rather than collected during the service and we also have a Hungarian lunch after the service of Goulash! Zuglo church and the members are in our prayers every week and I give the church updates about what is happening in both Hungary and Zuglo Church when I hear about it. Once again opening people's minds to the happiness and sadness of others across the water.*

*Being in a partnership with Zuglo Church has opened so many doors for us both in Forfar and further field. The more we talk about Zuglo Church and Hungary, the more we point out the fruits of the twinning relationship and more people are getting to know our members. Then through that, hearing more about Christ and God's worldwide mission.*

*East and Old Church have a love for Zuglo Church and its members and through the twinning partnership it has brought us and hopefully you so much joy. We can clearly see the goodness and kindness radiating from your church and we thank you for the many acts of kindness you have shown us. The most important aspect of this partnership is the faithfulness of our love of Jesus Christ and trying to become more like him and our faithfulness in working together as twinned churches.*

*Wishing everyone at Zuglo Church every blessing in Christ's name*

*Your sister in Christ*

*Barbara Ann*

Mihaly also sent over some Hungarian goods for our auction at the Glitz and Glamour evening and that raised £45 – thank you Mihaly.

Mihaly also suggested that maybe our Book Club could read a Hungarian Book that has been translated into English which the Book Club are happy to do. It is called 'The Paul Street Boys', written by Ferenc Molnar - we will let you know how the Book Club get on reading it.

Are there any other ways you would like to see our church interacting with Zuglo church? If so, please let Karen Liddle or Barbara Ann know.

Our minister was asked to write a piece for the Zuglo newsletter which she sent to them at the beginning of September. Here it is in English for you to read!

*I would like to thank you my dear friends and brothers and sisters in Christ for asking me to contribute and article to your newsletter.*

*In Galatians chapter 5 we find the 9 fruits of the Spirit, Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-control. I believe that in these we are being moulded, shaped, and transformed into the image of Jesus Christ. God wants to make us into a better and more holy people, he wants to transform us by the renewing of our minds and he wants to put right thinking into our thought process. The partnership between East and Old Church and Zuglo Church has developed and shown so many fruits of the Spirit in our personal lives and in our church and faith life – Zuglo Church and the members of Zuglo have become fruits in our life and we are so thankful to God for that and for the opportunity of getting to know one another over these last few years.*

*Many churches in Scotland do not think outside their own church building or community that in their heads they know Christianity is worldwide but in their hearts Jesus is just for them in their own area. It has been a real blessing in discovering Christians in another land and getting to know how they live their life of faith both within the church, their community and also in their everyday lives and that these are intertwined and interwoven into the fabric of their daily living. Our partnership clearly shows a right thinking in our thought process.*

*So many friendships and acquaintances have been made and both I and the church have learned a lot about Hungary: worship style, current issues in the country, the history, the food (Goulash), the drink (Palinka) and even an odd word of Hungarian (a dash beka a shay) We have so many factors in common out with our love of Christ – issues that are affecting both our countries and national churches and it is good to talk about these when we are together. Even though we have a number of differences both theologically and in our lifestyles God has installed in us an understanding that each church and each country has different ways of worshipping God and following Christ and this can be a renewing of our minds and brings with it patience and self-control.*

*The gift of music not only with your choir but also the singing before and after food and working with the young people and families at family camps and youth groups has been inspirational to myself and East and Old Church, along with the openness of everyone to share their stories and interact with us.*

## Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

*A huge thank you go to Glenda Robertson and Karen Liddle for their great work with the youths.*

The young people in the Duke of Edinburgh group and their leaders have had a busy summer. Firstly, in June our silver participants, and then our bronze group had their kit checks in Arbroath and then the bronze participants had their qualifying expedition at Tarfside. They did brilliantly and struggled through the pain of Kirsty's blisters and Fraser having to carry a very large rucksack.

In July Glenda and Karen took the silver group on a practice hill walk up Glen Clova to Loch Brandy. It was a very hot day and the girls set off apace. They put their navigation skills to good use and kept to the route. Echo the church mascot also joined them for the day (in Karen's rucksack) but Echo, Glenda and Karen struggled to keep up and were glad of a rest at the top for a picnic lunch! When we all got to the bottom Glenda treated us all to an ice-cream from the Clova hotel to cool off.

In August the silver girls went off on their qualifying expedition, this time up to the Aviemore area. The girls were looking forward to

the stop-off on the road up as Rikki the expedition leader had promised them fish and chips. Then later in August we were back in Arbroath another twice for the kit checks on preparation for the final expeditions. Finally in September we had the silver final expedition. They passed with flying colours although there were a few war-wounds along the way: Lauryn burned her leg when a pot toppled off the stove, Beth's boot came apart and had to be taped together with duct tape and Rachael got a tick bite. However, after 2 days solid walking and 2 nights under canvas the girls were glad that the campsite had showering facilities - a luxury in D of E terms! After a quick kit swap at the church, the bronze final expedition took place the following week near Aberfeldy. No such dramas on the bronze expedition - all went well and Fraser coped well being the only boy amongst 4 girls! Now that everyone has completed their expeditions, we are busy completing their final reports, menus and diaries ready to submit to their assessor. What a busy summer the group has had. The young people have worked incredibly hard and are looking forward to receiving their awards in church very soon.



## Church Coffee Morning - Saturday 29th September

As this edition is being printed we will be hosting our church Coffee morning and we hope it will be a great success. Unfortunately the generous offerings our members and friends donate do not cover our expenses so we always need to fund raise. Thank you in advance for your support. Look out for an update in the next edition.



**H**arvest Sunday - 30th September - Again this service falls as the magazine is being produced. A report will be in the next edition but remember we have so much to be thankful for in our own lives and the life of East and Old Church. Our food donations this year will be going to some families from Strathmore Primary School and also to Lowson Memorial Church who supply extra food to families in need. Thank you once again in advance for your generous donations.



**B**ible Study Group - at the recent bible study it was decided to look at **Isaiah 43:1** which is the bible study that our group going to Hungary will be looking at while at Zuglo Church in October. When our group comes back they will compare notes, views and interpretations of the passage.



**F**riday Fling - this group has now ended due to diminishing numbers. The Friday Fling started more than six years ago and during that time a lot of people came through the doors and lots of support and help was given. Our thanks must be expressed to all who helped over the years with this project but especially to all who volunteered including Pat Brodlie, Maureen Black, Mabel Taylor, Stewart McKay and Jean Alexander.

## Friends of East and Old—Annual Walk- this year at Braemar

What a lovely day in Braemar! The weather was great, the company was great and the walk was lovely! A great time of companionship and fellowship on the walk and then a super time at the Strathmore Arms for our dinner on our return. We were disappointed that the resident of Balmoral Castle did not invite us in for a cup of tea - but maybe the next time!



**P**rayers Group - Our weekly Prayer Group is held every Wednesday Morning 11:00am through to 12noon. Around 6 or 7 people gather to pray at present but we would like more people to come and join us in this powerful exercise. It is quite amazing the way God responds when we pray earnestly for all that's going on in our congregation, community and the world.



WE have seen God at work, in response to our prayer on several occasions. We usually begin with recording any answers to prayer within that week or past months and then move on to whatever is on our hearts and minds to pray for, and things we have heard or seen in the news which is of concern to us and to God. We are also reminded to pray for world issues by notice from our world mission council and individual needs of members of our congregation.

If you have a need for prayer for anyone or anything please inform either the group leader or one of the group members who will present your request to the group for prayer, or why not attend the group yourself and receive prayer on the spot. You will be most welcome. We are in the business of working together to pray for a better world.

## WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR!

**Z**uglo Trip - on the 4th October, 10 members of our church will fly to Budapest to be with our twinned Church Zuglo. The aim of this trip is to see and experience how Zuglo Church work and operate with their children and youth both at school and in the church. Our minister will be preaching on the Sunday and then leading a family bible study in the afternoon. The group will also get a chance to visit the Church of Scotland in Hungary. All the Groovy Gryphon leaders will be there plus two of our teenagers. Rev Catherine McMillan will also be joining us from the Thursday through to the Monday continuing the link between Scotland, Hungary and Switzerland. All those who are going would like to say thank you very much for those who contributed with their time, talent and money to help fund this trip.

