

**Church of Scotland
Scone & St Martins Parish**



Church News

August/September 2020

Parish Register

Deaths

25 May 2020	Mary Brown, Balhousie Coupar Angus Care Home
31 May 2020	Jack Allan, Corrie Place, Scone
6 June 2020	Christina Ross, 19 Lynedoch Road, Scone
8 June 2020	Catherine Martin, 5 Abbey Crescent, Scone
28 June 2020	James Scott, Balgarvie Farm Road, Scone
1 July 2020	James MacRae, Meadowbank Care Home, Forres
3 July 2020	Catherine Kulvear, Viewlands House, Perth
13 July 2020	James Jackson, 15 Greystanes, Scone
16 July 2020	Janet Reid, Catmoor Care Home, Scone

Church News

Material for the August edition should be forwarded to the church office (tel 553900; email sconeandstmartinschurch@talktalk.net) or to the editor Moira Daly (moiradalyscone54@gmail.com) by Thursday 24 September 2020. Please send in any items you think will be of interest to the congregation.

Electronic Version of Church News – If you would prefer to receive your copy of Church News directly to your inbox, please let the office know or complete the form below and hand it in.

Name

Address

Email

If you know of anyone who requires a visit from the minister or an elder, please hand in the details at church on Sunday or to the church office.

Church Office

Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.15 am to 12 noon

Address: Balformo Road, Scone, PH2 6QX

Contact: 01738 553900 or email sconeandstmartinschurch@talktalk.net

Dear Friends,

Hot off the Press – Our Church is Opening!!! Three hearty cheers! Thank you Mike Moir for such cheering news and for your work towards it! I leave Mike Moir, to give you the detail.

I hope this finds you in reasonable fettle! Indeed, may the sunshine make for health and happiness. This little note is being written the morning after the thunderstorm. It was quite a night! I did pop out at 10 pm for a quick message before the local shops shut for the night and at that time the area was enjoying bouts of deluge, some thunder and lightning, but wow it was a night to be remembered when all things got underway. I did have someone on the 'phone who was none too keen on the weather conditions and I enquired if they were phoning me from under the bed. No they said, alas there are drawers under the bed. It was then they shared with me one of the best dreams I've heard recalled. They found themselves at the Autumn Fair, and it was a grand gathering. Well, the music struck up for the Gay Gordons but my friend on the phone and her friends decided they would like the tune rocked up a bit. So it was that they approached the Organist who listened to them, watched them take their place, and proceeded to play a selection of hymn tunes! (She didn't say what they were). Next, my friend on the 'phone continued that she found herself on Abbey Road following the Pipe Band and a smartly dressed Boys' Brigade Company as folk lined the road and cheered! What a magical dream to have shared as the thunderstorm was preparing to get underway!

Well, were Joseph asked to interpret that dream? Maybe he would say that the lady dreaming the dream was yearning for the social and spiritual experience of life in the local Kirk. Maybe he would say that she was yearning an upbeat experience, wishing she could dance, and all things get energised. She was also longing to have a good sing. Perhaps Joseph would say that the dream was suggesting that the skirl of the bagpipes should be heard when the Church doors open and maybe the words Sure and Steadfast and the Advancement of Christ's Kingdom should be ringing in all our spirits! And what about the Autumn Fair? Whereas it will not happen in August, keep positive focus!

I did enjoy the sharing of the dream! Dreams and Visions – let us keep them alive. Yes, there is travelling and working and praying to be done to turn them into reality in the here and now. A number have been doing just that! Our Kirk Doors will open on Sundays, 23 August, from 2 – 4 pm onwards at the Old Kirk and on Wednesdays commencing 26 August from 2 – 4 pm at the New Kirk and at St Martins and all things being equal hopefully regular worship, month about, will commence on the second Sunday in September in the Old Kirk at 10.45 am and 3 pm, as we are restricted in numbers attending. There will be a 9.30 am service that Sunday in St Martins. The dreams of God sure are worth living. One of mine has come true! **We have permission to open the Church!!!**

Keep youthful, healthy, happy and upbeat, and keep spiritually alive!

Love and Blessing,
Maudeen

THANK YOU - to Mike Moir, Robin Walker, Kate Carswell who have worked to get the Church open. And to Kate Carswell, Mike and Helen Moir, Ross and Madge Merson, Ian Baillie and Gordon Pirie, Stuart Urquhart and Ellen Simpson, for getting the Church organised for opening. Thank you to Christine Munro, Communications Convener, who

has worked on the posters, and to Moira Daly, Magazine Convener, and to the many who have volunteered for Rota Duty. Thank you to the Kirk Session for their interest, generous responses and decision making in difficult circumstances.

DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST - It is my intention to offer one or two Songs of Praise services on the web and though you may not be able to travel far I invite you to travel with me via YouTube to some lovely places in Scotland and elsewhere associated with the theme of the day. It is easy to find our worship on the website. You can click on via the main page. I have had emails from various parts of the UK and places further flung, so that has been nice.

THANK YOU - Thank you to all who have sponsored my weight loss which formally came to an end on the last day of July. It was successful from the weight loss perspective. Sponsorship is still coming in and should be directed to Robin Walker, Church Treasurer. I have a sum in excess of £400 here to hand over to the Treasurer, some from in town and some from out of town.

THANK YOU VJ DAY & VE DAY - Thank you to all who rang the bells and a special thank you to Caitlin McPhee who rang the bells on VE Day. Caitlin composed a special peal which she played and we hope she can play it on a future occasion when the congregation can hear it.

RECIPES - Please keep the recipes coming in. The time for receiving these will end in the first week of September so the Recipe Book can be produced in time for Christmas. Thank you so much to those who have responded.

VIRTUAL SATUDAY CLUB FOR THE YOUNG - See the website. This can be accessed each Saturday and during the week that follows.

BB, SCOUT and GUIDE MEMBERS - If you are interested in working with me on offering a regular short Youth Service with those of school age participating in the leading of worship, prayers and readings, being on duty at the door, taking up the offering, carrying the Bible in, participating in drama etc., playing the music for the service, let me know. Leave your name and a message on 551942, always with the permission of your parents.

HERE IS AN IDEA FOR ALL AGES! - A Sunday of Worship sitting in your car in the Car Park – now there's a thought!

PLAN POSITIVELY - Whilst being sensible, let us plan in positive spirit. This old world of ours can be a place of shrinking violets or we can prepare to embrace autumn and winter in colourful dynamic. Do enjoy all the sunshine you can get and if you require vitamin supplements be sure to take them. Why not buy something colourful for the winter to wear or/and to enjoy about the house. Make sure you know where the Christmas lights and decorations are. Why not plant bulbs in September and keep them in the dark and give them as gifts at Christmas. It will not be long until it is time to make blackcurrant jam and bramble jelly and won't these be good for you in colder days. Stock up now with things that will keep. We hope the recipe book will be available by then, as well. Keep things simple and don't get stressed.

Have you thought of books to read? Maybe we could have recommendations in the next issue of the magazine. It would be good to have someone enlighten us in advance to

good programmes, films and the like that are appearing in the winter months. Have you given thought to a new topic you might research on the web or a holiday you might enjoy via the web? Artists, musicians, authors, poets, geographers, geologists, historians, sports participants, are among my interests, and I could easily add to the list. You can take off on an interesting journey on the world-wide web courtesy of following up some of your natural interests. It can be at least as good as stepping on to the magic carpet of your childhood and taking off for adventure accompanied by a good imagination.

Now, have you read your Bible recently? There are plenty of good stories there to set you thinking. If you feel like reading a Gospel right through why not start with Luke. In the Old Testament you might like to re-read Genesis and Exodus or the Book of Ruth. You might enjoy in the New Testament delving into the Book of Acts, Ephesians, Galatians and James are among the shorter Letters/Epistles. You might really appreciate the experience when you get started. There are also good CD's of the Bible.

Now there is one room in the house that I keep as especially relaxing. My sister has described it as my grotto. In addition to all else, I have these words: *God has not promised skies ever blue, flower strewn pathways also for you. God has not promised sun without rain, joy without sorrow, peace without pain, but God has promised strength from above, unfailing sympathy, undying love.* I first read these words as a child and they set me thinking. I guess now that I've lived long enough to appreciate their essence. Above them I have the 23rd Psalm and to the right of them is the window that reflects life's seasons.

I conclude with that lovely blessing: Deep peace of the running wave to you, Deep peace of the flowing air to you, Deep peace of the quiet earth to you, Deep peace of the shining stars to you, Deep peace of the gentle night to you, Moon and stars pour their healing light on you, Deep peace of Christ, Of Christ, Of Christ, the light of the world to you, Deep peace of Christ to you.

And so may you know Blessing,
Maudeen



Telephone Prayer Chain

A Telephone Prayer Chain is available to support in prayer any person/s in the church or community, or their family or friends whether living here or elsewhere, particularly if urgent prayer is required for matters such as illness, operations or other problems. Phone requests to Lilian at 553651 or, if she is unavailable, Ina at 551607 or Helen at 01821640560. You can write your request on a prayer request slip, sign it or leave it unsigned as you wish, and place it in the Church Prayer box on a Sunday morning.

Lilian Murchison, Prayer Convener

Opening of Churches

We have now received approval from the Presbytery for the re-opening of our churches, initially for individual prayer and meditation, and, we hope, in mid-September for limited church services.

The opening will start on Sunday 23 August at Scone Old from 2.00 – 4.00 pm and at Scone New on Wednesday 26 August at 2.00 - 4.00 pm; these will be on a weekly basis. St Martins will also be open on Wednesday 26 August at 2.00 pm but will be on a fortnightly basis.

There will be all the necessary precautions in place when you arrive at church, and you will be directed by those on duty as to where to sit and how to exit the building. Families can obviously sit together but otherwise you must maintain the two metre rule. You will also be required to give your name and telephone number for test and trace purposes and this information will be held for 21 days and then destroyed.

If you have any queries about attending church, please contact me on 551549.

The Kirk Session looks forward to seeing those of you who feel comfortable in coming to church but if you have any qualms about attending, please follow how you feel and stay at home.

Mike Moir
Depute Session Clerk

Blythswood Shoebox Appeal 2020

We have checked that the appeal is going ahead this year and it is. We are waiting for leaflets to come. For some of us, it will not be easy to fill a shoebox with the current COVID 19 restrictions. If you can, then we are more than happy to take them to the depot. The alternative is to donate via our Treasurer, Robin Walker. Cheques should be made payable to Blythswood Care.

As soon as the leaflets are available, we will let you know by whatever means possible, or you can contact us as follows

Marian – 552064
Moira – 552773

We will also do our best to source ready wrapped shoe boxes as we all know how frustrating wrapping shoe boxes can be!

Marian Forgan and Moira Daly

Social & Fund Raising

Unfortunately no decision as yet has been taken by the Government re any gatherings for Coffee Mornings or any other Fund Raising events which we would have been running this year.

The Committee are disappointed re this as these events are a huge part of our Church where we meet and make lots of friends.

Please be patient with us until these restrictions are lifted.

Watch further issues of the magazine for updates, but if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me. In the meantime please take care everyone and stay safe.

Anne Lamond, Social & Fund Raising Convener, tel 01738 552262



GREETINGS FROM CHRISTIAN AID

Dear fellow members of Scone and St Martins church, I hope that you are keeping well during the present crisis.

I am frequently receiving information from Christian Aid and thought that I would share the latest email I received with you.

As part of the DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee), we're asking you to once more support those at greatest risk around the world.

The coronavirus pandemic has hit the most vulnerable communities and refugee camps. Families who have been forced to flee their homes and who have lost everything now face this deadly threat.

Millions are living in cramped conditions, in tents and makeshift shelters with no running water. In these conditions it is impossible to social distance. Many have little food and are already malnourished. Limited access to soap and water makes regular handwashing almost impossible. They are all extremely vulnerable to the virus.

Coronavirus cases have been reported in every country where Christian Aid works. In these countries there have been over 2 million cases and close to 100,000 deaths. We need your help to reach the most vulnerable people.

Thank you for your generosity. If you would like to donate christianaid.org.uk/donate

Peggy Lamond for Scone and St Martins Christian Aid committee (01738 553582)

A PRAYER FOR GLOBAL PANDEMIC (from Christian Aid)

'Love....bears all things, Believes all things
Hopes all things, Endures all things
Love never ends
(1 Corinthians 13 7-8)

Loving God
Strengthen our innermost being
With your love that bears all things
Even the weight of this global pandemic.
Even the long haul of watching for symptoms
Of potentially waiting for this to pass
Watching and waiting
Keeping our gaze fixed on you,
And looking out for neighbours near and far.
Instil in our shaken souls
The belief and hope that all things
Are possible with your creative love
For strangers to become friends
For science to source solutions
For resources to be generously shared
So everyone, everywhere, may have what they need.
For your perfect love that knows no borders
May cast out any fear and selfishness that divides.
May your love that never ends
Be a comfort, strength and guide
For the wellbeing of all and the Glory of God.
AMEN

Sunday School

Just to let Jorja, Lucie, Lucy and Amy know that we haven't forgotten about them and hope that everything has gone well with returning to school/nursery. Hope it won't be too long until we can all meet again.

Sylvia, Rae and Helen

Lockdown Covid 19

What shall I do when at last I am free?
What will it feel like? how will it be?
How will it be to be rid of frustrations
Go out as I please, accept invitations
For weekends with friends or meals out with relations
What will it feel like, how will it be
So, what will I do then?
Ah well, knowing me I'll probably stay in and watch the TV!

Margaret McMillan

The Hub Community Café

It seems such a long time since we met up with friends at the Hub for coffee and mid-week chat. We have missed you all and we hope that you have stayed safe and well during lockdown.

We send our love and good wishes to Gena Brown, Val Grossart and Ann Gellatly who have all been in hospital but are now convalescing at home. Friends of Jim McIntyre will be interested to know that he is still in Vietnam awaiting a flight home. He is amongst friends however and is being looked after very well.

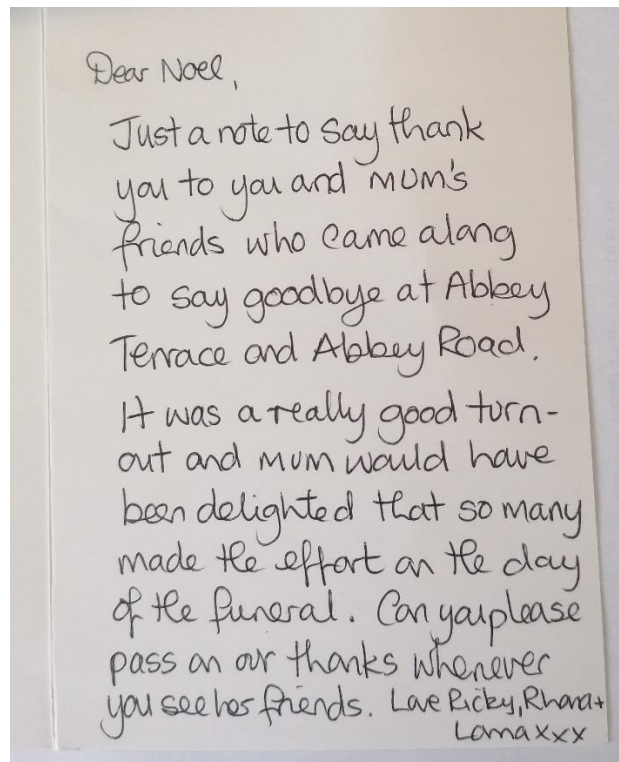
We were very sad to lose Kitty Martin during lockdown – she was a regular attendee of the Hub. Along with other friends, a number of us stood on the village Green as the cortege left Kitty's home.

It is obviously impossible to say when the Hub will reopen but when it is safe we will open again and we will keep you informed.

From the Team at the Hub

Thank You

Noel McKinnie has passed on this letter which he received from the late Kitty Martin's family thanking all her friends for saying goodbye.



Church Calendar

Due to the current situation, all activities are cancelled until further notice.



GUILD

As you read this we would normally have been looking forward to the Guild Summer Gathering and the Church Fair but as we are all aware cancelled as a result Covid-19. We would also be looking forward to the new session of the Guild but as yet we have no idea when the session might start.

One of the casualties of the virus is the Annual Gathering which was scheduled to take place in the Caird Hall, Dundee on Saturday 5 September. However, a 'Virtual' Gathering has been organised so if you have a smartphone, tablet, computer etc you can join in by going to the Church of Scotland website at 11.00 am on 5 September where it is to be streamed. Hymns, music, contributions from various people are to be included along with communion which you can participate in at home.

The National Council has agreed that, going forward, the incumbent National Convener, currently Marian McIntyre, will chair the Annual Gathering and in the afternoon the new Convener will take over. The new National Convener this year is Mabel Wallace.

This being the beginning of the final year for the current projects and not being able to hold traditional fundraising activities, we'll have to think of other ways of raising funds for our nominated projects – this coming session our branch will be supporting the Sailors' Society and Malawi Fruits.

In the not-too-distant future the National Council will be considering projects to partner with for the next 3-year strategy. If you are aware of any Christian charity that may be interested in applying to be a project partner for 2021-24 ask them to contact the Guild office.

Plans are still in hand to hold a Big Sing at St Georges Tron in Glasgow on Friday 4 December following all guidance in place at the time. Further details will be issued later.

If you have access to email you can sign up on the Church of Scotland website to receive the Guild Enews. The following is taken from the issue on 20 July –

The Lord Himself will lead you and be with you. He will not fail you or abandon you, so do not lose courage or be afraid.

Normally at this time of year we would be thinking about holidays, and perhaps some of us are. Many of us however will have had to cancel a holiday or be uncertain about when we will feel able to go on holiday. As happens at times of uncertainty, we take comfort from looking back to the past and remembering people and places important to us, and we look forward and plan.

"It's been a journey" is a phrase often used when someone has experienced a change in circumstances. The idea of life as a journey is common in many cultures and a phrase we could certainly use at the moment to describe our position. The Bible is full of journeys

led by faithful men and women, chosen by God, from Abraham and Moses to Paul and of course the earthly journey of Jesus Himself.

Life is a journey; faith is a journey. We remember those who have guided and encouraged us on our life journey and have brought us to faith. The Guild has been on a journey for more than 130 years and in the last two years we have considered how we will continue the journey and with whom we have travelled and will travel, each choosing, with God's help, the right path for us. We are now ready to think about going the Extra Mile. We have no shortage of examples of people who have gone the extra mile for family, friends and neighbours in the last few months and we could make a long list of when God has gone the extra mile for us.

We look to the future in the knowledge that wherever we go, whoever we journey with and whatever challenges the journey brings, we do not travel alone for God is always with us, leading us and sometimes carrying us when we are too weak to continue. What a comfort and what strength we gain from knowing that we are always in God's presence.

In Exodus we read how God trusted Moses to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt to the promised land. God was with them day and night, as He is with us.

During the day the Lord went in front of them in a pillar of cloud to show them the way, and during the night He went in front of them in a pillar of fire to give them light, so they could travel night and day.

God guides and cares for us on our journey, showing us the way forward whatever that might be. We trust in Him completely. In the words of the well known hymn:

**As I travel through the bad and good, keep me travelling the way I should;
Where I see no way to go, you'll be telling me the way I know.**

Go well and safely
Helen Eckford, National Vice-Convener

The Committee has not been able to meet to organise the syllabus for next session but hopefully we will eventually have many interesting and informative meetings reflecting the topic of 'The Extra Mile', the last of the 'One Journey, Many Roads' strategy.

Christine Munro

Days of Covid 19 – The Pandemic

I start with a disclaimer. These are just thoughts and reflections of the last months gathered randomly, mostly about people and events that have been caught in my memory which I might say is even more useless than before all routine disappeared and facts relate to the time of writing. For all those with special moments and events not recalled or named here I extend my love and good wishes and ask you to get in touch if you have news you want to share. Some say life in Covid lockdown has been like the war years. Born in 1944 I wouldn't really know about that but it does seem that stories of communities then are all about people coming together whereas this virus/pandemic has created an isolation, 'distancing' keeping people and families apart. It might feel as though life has come to a stop in these strange days but events have come and gone, though often so low key they have been barely noted. I've almost forgotten how very cut off and restricted we were in the early days after 23 March but it was then that Margaret and Mike Christie celebrated their Golden Wedding. The best laid plans - isolated as they were, home cooked dinner for two was the reality of their celebration event. In June Ross and Madge Merson were able to have family in the garden, though the sun didn't shine, to share their Ruby wedding day and more recently Mike and Helen Moir's family 'Golden Carry Oot' was allowed in the house. We thank them all for many years tireless service for our church and wish them congratulations and continuing good health and happiness together.

There have been many birthday celebrations, big and small. Helen Simpson is a great gran (good wishes too, to Helen in her retirement), Fiona Williamson and Peggy and Iain Lamond (welcome back to Scone) have new babies in their families and are now able to see them in real time. Being kept apart from grandchildren and especially new babies has been a real sadness for many over these months. Best wishes to these growing families and many blessings on all young ones born in these strange times. Big 'O' Birthdays! -- In RDM Home Beryl McArthur celebrated her 90th and Mary Menzies her 102nd! Surely she is Scone's 'Senior Lady'. Congratulations to them and all others enjoying special birthdays including Kate, Margaret x 2, and Zena.

Quite a number of the well kent in our congregation have experienced the care of the NHS during these last months. Dorothy Traynor made a very good recovery after surgery right at the start of lockdown. It is good to know that Alec Collie is back in the care of Alice and the family. Nessie Burns, I hear from Campbell, still has her sense of humour and Marlene Myles is home and feeling stronger. Marian Forgan, who has done so much for us in her time as session clerk, has gained strength in her arm after her heavy fall and fracture and is able to rest a bit in retirement (Mike Moir is acting session clerk meantime). Anne Gellatly told me of the rather strange experience it was to be a patient in Ninewells when all the staff wore full PPE. Ina McGregor is home after a wee spell in PRI and our thoughts are with Dorothy Manson and Rena Grant who are currently in-patients. It has been difficult to keep going sometimes in the last while even when well, so special thoughts and good wishes to all who have been feeling poorly, or undergoing treatment. The family of our church and village has also suffered loss and our hearts go out to those who have lost loved ones, family and friends, especially during the awful circumstances of the virus and lockdown. In time these events, sad or happy, will be the memories of the year 2020. May we live in hope for the future, caring for one another. Remember that God works often in small and mysterious ways and any one of us may have our own part in that plan.

Margaret McMillan (551560)

Hub and Fellowship Lunches

Hello all bakers, cooks, diners, helpers and all associated with these social events. Oh how we miss the scones, soup and coffee but most of all we miss the company, news and blether round the tables, meeting and making new friends. I do hope you have been able to cope through these strange times. I know some people have gone back to discovering their old soup recipes, and other folk started baking again with rock buns a quick and easy favourite. I have made soda and yeast bread but I don't think it will ever make a Fellowship lunch menu.

I'm sorry to say I have no news of a definite date when we might pick up these social events in the church halls again. Sadly, I can say there will not be a Fellowship Lunch bus outing this year. We are ruled in these things by the caution of Government and Church of Scotland Admin, who are working to keep us safe but how good will it be when we can gather as friends to eat and share together. It will happen and we are working on ways and means. Just don't know when! In the meantime if you want to share thoughts and ideas, volunteer as a helper come the day or just want a chat, we would love to hear from you - phone Anne Gellatly - 552370 or Margaret McMillan - 551560.

Take care, stay safe and God bless, Margaret McMillan

Children's Story Five Countries – Five Stories

INDIA - A family lived in India. The men wore white robes and the women wore colourful saris. They were very poor. They were so poor, they had no house in which to live. In a field nearby lay a row of huge drain pipes. These were waiting to be buried underground to carry the water supply. The family moved into one of the large pipes. Soon every single drain pipe had a family living in it.

BRAZIL - A young man moved from the country into the town to look for a job. He had no money, no home, no friends. At night he went out of the town to a tall tree. He stretched a net among the branches of the tree. That is where he slept.

ZAMBIA - In the village in which a little girl lived, there was no more pure water. The rainshed had not come. There was not even a river nearby where she could get water. Every day she placed a large tin can on her head and walked a long way to find water. She filled the can from a muddy hole in the ground and walked the long way home.

PAKISTAN - One day a strong wind blew. It was so strong it blew down houses, shops, schools and hospitals. One little boy's house was blown clean away by the fierce wind. He had nowhere to live, nowhere to sleep, nowhere to eat.

SCOTLAND - The Church people in Scotland give money to "Christian Aid". The money is sent to poor people in other lands, to help families like the one in India; young men like the one in Brazil; little girls like the one in Zambia; little boys like the one in Pakistan.

This is part of the work the Lord Jesus gave his Church to do in the world

Children's Prayer

Dear God, when I am scared, please help me to remember that you are stronger than anything that frightens me. Help me to enjoy the things I have and not to always want more.

Anne Lamond

Prior to the collapse of Communism in 1989 there was no religious education in Romania's schools. Since then it has been reintroduced, supported with few and often inadequate materials. For the most part children do not enjoy the religious classes and therefore do not have the chance to discover the message of the Bible. The religious classes are optional and there is the risk that children's participation in this subject will decline.

The Bible Adventure Programme is a real and successful adventure for use in schools that creates enthusiasm which is good motivation to learn and discover the Bible.

Please pray for the implementation of the Bible Adventure Programme in schools in Romania. Pray that children will be inspired by the Bible through this adventure.

Jim Currie

Prayer Notes

In times of distress and worry, Edward Joy's hymn "All your Anxiety" reminds us of Christ's tendon entreaty – "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" Matthew 11 v 28.

- Is there a heart o'erbound by sorrow?
Is there a life weighed down by care?
Come to the cross, each burden bearing;
All your anxiety - leave it there.

- *Refrain:*

All your anxiety, all your care,
Bring to the mercy seat, leave it there,
Never a burden He cannot bear,
Never a friend like Jesus!

2. No other friend so swift to help you,
No other friend so quick to hear,
No other place to leave your burden,
No other one to hear your prayer.
3. Come then at once; delay no longer!
Heed His entreaty kind and sweet,
You need not fear a disappointment;
You shall find peace at the mercy seat.

Jim Currie

Scone & St Martins Parish Church Finances
Receipts for 6 months ended 30 June 2020
(excluding Guild and Clubs)

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2020	2019
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Offerings	30,103	34,945
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	6,524	6,788
Donations	1,520	923
Weddings & funerals	610	460
Hall Lets	5,926	12,019
Contributions from congregational organisations	1,300	1,445
Fundraising events (net income)	1,319	2,592
Other income (net)	<u>837</u>	<u>984</u>
 Total receipts	 <u>48,139</u>	 <u>60,156</u>

Notes:

- Offerings are down by 14% on last year, due to the absence of church services since late March. Many of our members have helped to sustain our finances by sending us wfo cheques and other donations during lockdown.
- We received a £1000 donation from our Boys' Brigade in June.
- Fundraising was from the March coffee morning (£1074) and the start of contributions for the Minister's sponsored slim.

We continue to be in a difficult period for Church finances. Our deficit for January to June in unrestricted funds was over £13,000. By the end of July, the estimated 2020 deficit may reach about £17,000. Our bank balances remain strong enough to be able to last well beyond July, but the continuing loss into the autumn of income from hall lets, fundraising, and part of our regular offerings will lead to a very big dip in our resources.

Some of the congregation who normally make their offerings in cash through freewill offering envelopes, or the open plate, may wish to consider switching to payment by monthly standing order through your bank. Information on this is available from Margaret Nicol (01738 552232) or Robin Walker (01738 551936). Alternatively, cheques payable to Scone & St Martins Parish Church can be sent to Robin Walker, c/o Scone & St Martins Church, Balforno Road, Scone, PH2 6QU, quoting the wfo number if applicable. Many thanks to those of you who are already taking such action.

The Minister's Sponsored Slim has already produced some early donations. It is due to conclude at the end of July. Please use the same method as outlined above to send cheques (and sponsorship forms if these have been prepared) to the Church office.

Thank you again to everyone for your continuing support, which has been crucial in keeping our deficit down.

Robin Walker, Treasurer

CONTACT DETAILS

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Session Clerk	
Deputy Session Clerk	Mike Moir Tel 01738 551549 Email: mikemoir@blueyonder.co.uk
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Pastoral Care	Margaret McMillan	01738 551560
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Safeguarding	Helen Simpson	01738 248223
Social & Fundraising	Anne Lamond	01738 552262

USEFUL CONTACTS

Boys' Brigade	Kenny McAlpine	01738 553038
Christian Aid	Peggy Lamond	01738 553582
Church Flowers	Margaret Buchan Val Grossart	01738 621814 01738 551348
Church Office	Roksolana Clark	01738 553900
Church Transport	Hamish Breckenridge Iain MacKinnon	01738 551072 01738 551975
Fellowship Lunch	Balformo - Iain MacKinnon Burnside - Margaret McMillan	01738 551975 01738 551560
Free Will Offering Envelopes/Gift Aid	Margaret Nicol	01738 552232
Guild	Christine Munro	01738 628349
Hub	Iain MacKinnon	01738 551975
Knit n Chat	Sheila Simpson	01738 551773
PACT	Hamish Breckenridge	01738 551072
St Martins	Ellen Simpson	01821 640342
Sunday School	Sylvia Bryan	01738 551398
Treasurer	Robin Walker	01738 551936

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