

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



**Church News**

**February/March 2026**

## **Parish Register**

### Deaths

7 December 2025	Betty Hendry, Scone
2 January 2026	Dorothy Manson, Scone
7 January 2026	John Gray, Wolfhill
7 January 2026	Gladys Smith, Scone
8 January 2026	Paddy Doherty, Scone
11 January 2026	Margaret Buchan, Perth
13 January 2026	Neil Townend, Scone

### New Members

Greta Barnicoat  
Martin Barnicoat  
Linda Maitland-Gardener  
Laura Oxburgh

## **Church News**

Material for the next edition should be forwarded to the church office (tel 553900; email [sconeandstmartinschurch@gmail.com](mailto:sconeandstmartinschurch@gmail.com)) or to the editor Moira Daly ([moiradalyscone54@gmail.com](mailto:moiradalyscone54@gmail.com)) by Thursday 26 March 2026. Please send in any items you think will be of interest to the congregation.

## **Church Office**

<b>Opening hours:</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9.30 am to 12 noon</b>
	<b>Friday</b>	<b>4.30 pm to 6.00 pm</b>

<b>Email and Phone only:</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>9.30 am to 12 noon</b>
	<b>Friday</b>	<b>9.30 am to 11.00 am</b>

**Address:** Balformo Road, Scone, PH2 6QX

**Contact:** 01738 553900 or email  
[sconeandstmartinschurch@gmail.com](mailto:sconeandstmartinschurch@gmail.com)

**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.**

Dear Friends,

It is time to start looking out for your first snowdrop of the year!!! Go to it!!! Given recent weather conditions I wonder if we should commence with our eye, if not ourselves, underneath the hedges!

By the time you read this, it will be Candlemas and the Church will be filled with Candle-light. Remember, we are in the Old Kirk, Burnside, in the month of February, and you will have only 27 more days until the Meteorological Spring!!! I hope you will let that thought lighten your heart!!!

On the 17<sup>th</sup> February, Pancake Tuesday is celebrated. If you consider that you are no use at pancake making, this is the day to set aside for improvement exercises. Our Presbytery has set it aside to discuss the pastoral care of ministers so I hope the organisers will have their home-made pancakes at the ready!

The 18<sup>th</sup> February is Ash Wednesday. When I commenced my ministry in the Livingston Ecumenical Experiment, as it was then, ordained, inducted, and appointed, by the Presbytery of West Lothian, as it was then, considered fitting, the Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church informed me that "he regarded me as one of his men while I ministered within the parish". No women were ordained in the Scottish Episcopal Church at that time, 1978, so, in addition to celebrating the Sacraments at 9.30am as an Episcopal priest, and at 11am as a Church of Scotland minister, Methodist and Congregational, there were other days in the Liturgical Cycle to be addressed, and one of these was Ash Wednesday. I prepared the Ashes and Imposed them.

Ashes may be imposed on the heads of participants in the Ash Wednesday service as a sign of mortality and penitence. The ashes are imposed with the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (BCP, p. 265). Ashes are typically imposed by inscribing a cross on the forehead. The imposition of ashes has been practiced on Ash Wednesday since the ninth century. The Service pre-dates the Reformation.

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> is the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent, and the Sunday following we are in the New Church, Balforno Road, on the journey to Easter, returning on the 5<sup>th</sup> April to the Old Kirk, Burnside, for our Easter Day Celebration.

You may be interested to know the following:

March 1<sup>st</sup> is St David's Day. It is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent and St David is remembered by many branches of the Church on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Themes of Lent follow through. On the 15<sup>th</sup> March it is Mother's Day/Mothering Sunday; the

17<sup>th</sup> March is St Patrick's Day; the 22<sup>nd</sup> March was once called Passion Sunday; the 29<sup>th</sup> March is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. Maundy Thursday is on the Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and Good Friday is on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Look out for detail on the Web.

Do mark 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL in your diary and prepare to bring any family or friends staying with you over Easter to the Easter Day Celebration. That's witness to all your Faith means to you.

Thanks be to God for Resurrection Faith and remember Resurrection Living began and begins in the Here and Now!

In Love and Blessing,  
Maudeen

### **GOSPEL READING FOR EASTER - Jesus Has Risen**

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

<sup>2</sup> There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. <sup>4</sup> The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

<sup>5</sup> The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

<sup>8</sup> So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

You know, I despair on one level, when I hear and read arguments against the Resurrection, some arguments I find ill-informed, and at times spurious. If you wish to give thought to the Resurrection, give me a buzz, and we'll fix up a discussion or study group. In our world right now, many seem obsessed with Retribution. It makes for appalling living. Where-in is your Life Force and Spirit? Our world requires more healing and mercy, and world leaders of integrity, who uphold good values over life-denying evil pursuit. In this day and age, surely, we put before an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, justice, mercy, pity and peace. Opportunity to reform; recognition of a reformed life; and the New Commandments of Jesus: "Love God, Love Your

Neighbour as you love yourself, Love your enemy also”, surely take precedence over the puny and judgemental ways of the worldly. I flinch when I hear folk think they are God and when their understandings and judgements fall so far short of Christ’s. Among the wonders of Christ’s Resurrection is that hearts and minds and spirits were affirmed then and are affirmed now, in his promise, offer and fulfilment, of New life, Full life, Abundant Life. Experienced in early times, such Joy has travelled through the centuries and is and must be celebrated and witnessed today, by all who profess to follow Christ, by his people of the Way. So, please feel free to accept this statement of faith: He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!!! And let Christ’s New Life and Resurrection Life ring forth in Joyful and positive Proclamation and Service, this Easter.

“I am the Resurrection and the Life”, says the Lord. Since the commencement of 2026, we have commended to God’s Peace four loved members of Scone and St Martins.

We lovingly remember Dorothy Manson who diligently shared with us in worship and prayer and Christian service. Life became very challenging for Dorothy in recent times, and her release from this world was merciful, but we remember all the good times and times of blessing she shared with others on life’s journey. To her stepson Duncan and to Caroline and their families we send our sympathy.

We remember Gladys Smith who knew incapacity in her latter years and for some time has been unable to share with us as once she did. Worship in Catmoor House, I am sure would be comforting to her and to the friends she had there. To her daughter Morag Riddel and to her loved ones we send our sympathy.

It was with sadness we heard of the passing of Neil Townend, Elder, who until recently was a diligent attender, and a devoted elder to the end of his life. He truly was faithful, as was his life with Christine and the family. An able man, he was modest with it, and for his example in living life, his family and friends, indeed, all who knew him give thanks. On all my visits to him, never did he fail to ask how things were going in the Church, and to give a word of encouragement. An elder, in Scone New, when he arrived from Perth, he readily embraced the two sanctuaries in Scone as an Elder of Scone and St Martins. He took a joy in all generations and this was evident in his embrace of the very young, right to the end. I could write a long appreciation but a further tribute will be published in the next edition of Church News. To Christine, his dear wife, and to all the family we send our sympathy in their loss.

It was with sadness we heard of the passing of Margaret Buchan our Organist. Margaret was a devoted organist right to the end. She and I communicated weekly on the hymns and we kept this interest going throughout her illness. Margaret knew the Introit for Worship on the Sunday she died. She passed to her rest as we were singing, "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness". A daughter of the Manse, she and I shared interesting perception, and updates. She loved special services and selected voluntaries to the theme for the day, and she enjoyed spirited singing. She loved services with the young and very young in attendance. She had great collections of hymns. Margaret enjoyed indulging and advising those planning their wedding, and she had sensitivity to the Sacraments of the Church. She was also a very fine Guild Secretary, Flower Convener, and she had a special gift for writing a pastoral letter, in all circumstances. Margaret Buchan brought her special ministry to congregational, presbyterial, and community life, and we give thanks. Much more could be written but the Session Clerk, Mike Moir, long-time friend, and the Guild and Pastoral Committee have tributes in the magazine. To Marian and Katherine, her daughters, we send our sympathy in their loss.

Nunc Dimittis – Canticle of Simeon: Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.



## **Session Clerk's Report**

As you will know, we have submitted our request to the General Trustees with regard to the decision of Perth Presbytery to alter the boundaries of the parish in the St Martins area and to reduce our ministerial post from a fulltime one to that of 0.5 on the retirement of our current minister. So, I was a little perplexed to receive an email from our Presbytery Clerk citing the congregation to attend the Presbytery meeting to be held on Saturday 7 February, with specific regard to the Presbytery Mission Plan. Since there was no attachment with the email of the updated plan, I wrote and asked for a copy of the plan, only to be told that the Planning Committee "are still working on it."

I find it very strange that our submission for a review is with the General Trustees, and yet the Planning Committee of the Presbytery are working on an updated plan at the same time, which may or may not alter the proposals for Scone and St Martins.

### **Margaret Buchan**

Margaret was our organist for over thirty years and she will be sadly missed by all members of the Session and congregation. Despite her health problems in recent years, she never missed a Sunday and was a faithful member of the Kirk Session, who was always ready to put forward her views on matters under discussion. You could always find Margaret at one of the churches on a Thursday morning as she came out from Perth to practise for the weekend service or for any other church service. She was a very kind-hearted person who was always ready to give time to people and was very generous with the time she gave to the church.

Margaret was also secretary to the Guild for many years and as Flower Convener ensured that there was a regular weekly delivery of flowers to those who were ill, just out of hospital or just to let people know that the church still cared.

It is twenty years since her husband, Jim, died. Jim was a Reader in the Church of Scotland and was Bruce Thomson's right hand man for many years. The service for Margaret will be on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 11.00 am in Scone Old Church and interment in Inverkeilor cemetery, Angus.

### **Neil Townend**

A full appreciation of the life of Neil Townend will be in the next issue of Church News.

Mike Moir, Session Clerk

## Glebe Orchard Project

I am glad to report that we are making good progress with the Glebe Community Orchard Project. There will be a Coffee Morning on 21<sup>st</sup> February at 10.00 am – 12 noon in Burnside Hall at which more information will be made available about what is intended to happen, with the first trees to be planted in March. If you wish, you can put your name down if you wish to have a tree to commemorate a loved one. Or if you wish to assist with the planting and maintenance of the orchard area, you can volunteer to help.

Mike Moir



Margart Buchan, December 1944 - January 2026

Margaret played such an active and vital part in the life of Scone and St Martins Church. Not least, for us in the Guild, she has been secretary and pianist for many many years. In church matters a supportive Pastoral Committee member, flower service administrator, baker for all things – cheese scones and custard creams being special favourites. An elder in the Session, Margaret rarely missed a meeting, regularly sharing her thoughts and experience. And of course, Sunday by Sunday she has played the organ in Scone Old and latterly has been organist in both churches, blessing our services and special occasions with lovely and thoughtful music. Throughout her life, from early days playing for her minister father's parish services she build up a wealth of experience and feeling for hymns and church music.

Despite her mobility problems and increasing frailty, Margaret never complained. A good and generous friend and a good servant to her God. We, in Scone and St Martins Church have much to thank her for in life and ask the Lord to bless her and keep her, to make his face shine upon her and give her rest and peace. Our love and sympathy go out to Margaret's daughters, Marion and Katherine.

We had an excellent Christmas Lunch at Brown and Black's in Scone in December. Our grateful thanks go to Katie and her team who ensured that we had a great time of fun and fellowship with good food and, of course, Santa's sack made an appearance.

Our first meeting of the year was well attended, and our speaker was Gordon Lindsay, Chairman of Perth in Bloom. Their vision is to make Perth a better place to work, live and visit. The charity started in 1989 as Beautiful Perth and then Take a Pride in Perth. It is run by volunteers. We saw a presentation of all the work that the charity is undertaking throughout Perth.

Our annual fund-raising Quiz is on 24 February 2026 at 7.30 pm in Burnside Hall. Tickets are £5 each and include refreshments. Teams of 4 are required but come along and you will be put into a team if necessary. This is always a popular evening with Mike Moir as the quiz master.

Forthcoming meetings:

10 February	2.30 pm at Burnside Hall	Robert Burns - Jonathan Buchan
24 February	7.30 pm at Burnside Hall	Fund Raising Quiz
10 March	2.30 pm at Burnside Hall	Rev John Duncan MBE - Forces Chaplain
24 March	7.30 pm at Burnside Hall	AGM

## Sunday Club



The Sunday club has now returned after the festive break and we are looking forward to the months ahead. So far we have been looking at the theme of kindness and how God asks us to be kind to others. In February we will be looking at the story of Noah's ark with lots of fun games and crafts and heading into March we will be looking at the Easter story.

As always we would absolutely love to see some new faces at Sunday Club, everyone will be made very welcome. We meet at 11:40 am on Sunday mornings.

The Sunday club will take a break during the school holidays in February which is Sunday 15th February, returning the following week Sunday 22nd.

Laura Oxburgh



Thank you to everyone who has handed in used stamps. Please keep up the good work by collecting your stamps and handing them into church in aid of the Scottish Bible Society. Frances Moir

## Pastoral Care

2026 – A New year with all its possibilities. Good wishes to all for health and strength in days to come.

Our Christmas events were well attended and appreciated. One of these - the carol singing in the RDM and Catmoor residential homes was quite a moving experience. This special sharing of Christmas spirit was repeated again, when led by the Minister a small group of carollers visited some members who are mostly housebound. As one of the group said the activity had lifted the visitors and visited alike. I would wish that this might be repeated in future years.

**Film Lunch** - On 22 January we watched Billy Elliott and the next lunch will be on Thursday 12 March, £5 at 12 noon in Burnside Hall. The film which will be shown will be announced soon. Please register interest on 01738 551560/07393851332 if you intend to come.

This has been a sad time for many in the congregation on the death of people known, loved and cared for as family and friend. Our thoughts, prayers and sympathy go out to all who have been bereaved. May they and their families find comfort and strength and love in the church community.

The Pastoral Team are especially touched by the passing of Margaret Buchan, who was an active, contributing and thoughtful member of the committee. I know that acknowledgement of Margaret's life will be found elsewhere in the newsletter and just wish to note how much she has given and will be missed within our team and the congregation.



I am now covering the diary for church flower donations for both churches. If you wish to contribute flowers or a money donation towards flowers, please contact me to make arrangements. Any help with this will be much appreciated.

In these times when all seems challenging I am remembering hymn 755 which has held me together in past days:

Be still and know that I am God ...  
I am the Lord who saves and heals ...  
In you Lord God I put my trust ...

## Fellowship Lunch

Christmas Fellowship Lunch was as usual a grand occasion – special thanks to the shoppers and cooks. In January we toasted in the New Year and now look forward for continuing the warm fellowship of monthly lunches.



Lunch dates are:

5 February, 5 March and 2 April

All are welcome to eat and share the fellowship at 12.30 pm at a cost of £5.

Margaret McMillan, Pastoral Care Committee, 01738 551560/07393851332

## Christian Aid News



Many thanks to all who contributed and helped at 'Mince Pie Sunday' on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December. We were able to send £306.66 to the Christian Aid Appeal. This year the first £125,000 of the Christmas appeal will be matched pound for pound - doubling the value of donations and their impact. All donations will go straight to supporting families whose lives have been torn apart.

Your donation makes a real difference. Obed Buhendwa, Christian Aid's Senior Programme Officer, based in Bukavu, South Kivu Province says: 'We are aware that alone, we won't make enough progress, but, with the help of others, we can move forward and build a prosperous Congo where peace is a reality'. Together, with our trusted partners, we support families to survive violence and poverty against all odds.

We pray that children whose young lives have been torn apart by conflict will one day know peace and comfort, because, when we give, act and pray together, we're united by hope. With hope, a brighter future becomes possible.

A very big thank you to Margaret Breckenridge who stepped in at short notice to play for the carol singing in Dobbies, Perth on 13<sup>th</sup> December. This was enjoyed by all who took part and those who heard us. Please consider joining us this year when again we will be singing carols to remind people shopping of the real meaning of Christmas and raise funds for Christian Aid. This year we collected £230. More details nearer the time.

Christian Aid Week this year runs from Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May until Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Please make a note in your diary. More details to follow in the next 'Church News'.

Peggy Lamond (Scone and St Martins Christian Aid representative)

December was an excellent month for fund raising. We had a fantastic coffee morning with the hall filled for most of the morning and approximately £1100 was raised. The Christmas card delivery service raised another £400. Many thanks to all who came to the coffee morning and also to the SPAR and Sweetie Shop who took in cards and sold stamps. At the coffee morning the lads did well helping out and we are grateful to the parents/Peggy/Margaret who put in a power of work in the kitchen.

The Battalion was invited to the community Christmas Service at Strathallan but it coincided with the arrangements for the Christmas card procedure so we were not well represented. It was a lovely evening. One of the readings was well delivered by Ben Wylie. A former member of the Company who gained his King's Badge last year. Ben is currently Head Boy at Strathallan.

In January we took part in the Battalion Volleyball competition which was held in a very cold gym hall at Strathallan. Our team of Eoin; Liam; and Daniel came out top. Their last game was a very hard fought encounter with a team from Kinnoull. The first game went to a 16-14 win and the second game was won 11-9. In each game the lead passed back and forward. The games were played with great gusto and saw some of the best play ever at this tournament.

We missed the first night of the new session due to the weather but we are now under way. Pleased to say that in the Juniors/Anchors we have increased numbers with one boy returning having been away from Scone and a "newbie" having signed up. Still the same stalwarts in the Company/Seniors but they are great lads. As you know 4 of them are working towards their King's Badge, the top award in the BB. Part of the requirement is to complete a certain amount of community service. If anyone knows of anything that the boys could tackle please let me know.

Iain Lamond

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Iain Lamond on receiving the British Empire Medal in the latest Honours List. The award is for his work with the Boys' Brigade over many years and is very well deserved. Iain is not sure where and when he will be presented with the award but it will be an occasion to be remembered for the whole family.

Mike Moir

## Social and Fund Raising

The winner of the Quiz re Scottish Castles was won by Donald Ewen from Scone. Thanks to all who participated and to Margaret Breckenridge for compiling the quiz which raised £290 for church funds.

On **Saturday 7 March** from 2 pm to 4 pm there is a Scottish Country Dance in the Balforno Road Hall with live music by well known local accordionist Jim Lindsay. If you are not a dancer, but would like to come along and listen to the music you will be made very welcome. Admission fee is £4 per person. Tea/coffee and home baking will be included and there will be a prize draw.



**Saturday 15 March** in the Burnside Hall - Coffee Morning from 10.00 am to 12 noon. Baking for the Cake and Candy stall and the teas, also prizes for the Prize Draw are required. Help is also required for the kitchen and serving. Thank you.

### Friday 17 April 2026

Bingo Tea in the Burnside Hall -  
Eyes down 7.30 pm

Could I please ask again for Bingo prizes, prize draw gifts and baking for the teas. All donations will be greatly appreciated.



Please contact me or a member of my committee with names of people wishing to help in any way, at any of these events. Thank You.

I wish to remind everyone that these fund raising events are for the whole of our parish, Scone and St Martins. Let's make 2026 a really good year.

Dates for other Fund Raising events will appear in the next edition of Church News ie April/May 2026.

Anne Lamond, Social & Fund Raising Convener, Tel 07711394452

## Children's Story – Jesus

There were two boys. One had no friends; he was very sad; he had a sad face. The other had many friends; he was very happy; he had a happy face. It's good to have friends!

There once was a man who had a friend, a very good friend - a horse! Yes, a horse! It was white all over (a white horse is called a "grey" don't ask me why!) with some touches of black in the tail. He called the horse Trigger. Every day he went riding on Trigger. He fed him the best Oats. He spoke to him. He sang to him. He lay on the ground and the horse did the same and they rolled about together on the grass. Once they went for a trip throughout Europe, a long journey. It lasted a year and a half. How would you like a snowman for a friend? It would be rather cold on a wintry day and somewhat wet on a warm day! How would you like a Pirate for a friend? He might want to play at walking the plank - and it would be you who would do the walking.

The story of Jesus in the Bible is about God giving us a friend. The friend is Jesus. Many will tell you that he has been their friend for any years, a good friend, their best friend. He wants to be your friend too!



### Children's Prayer

Thank you Father for the Birds. Many will be coming back to our country when the weather becomes warmer and they will be looking for somewhere to build their nests where they can look after their young.

**\*\*NOTE\*\***you may find a bird's nest in a hedge or tree or even in your shed or garage. Try not to disturb it until the young have flown. Find out where the migrant birds have come from and wonder at their ability to survive such long journeys.

Anne Lamond



### The Hub - Community Café

We look forward to seeing you at the Hub at Balforno Road Hall on Wednesdays from 10 am - 12 noon for tea/coffee, home baking and good company - cost £3. All Welcome. Ann Gellatly, 01738 552370



## **Argentina - Adriana's Story: "I Was Blind and Broken, Until I found God's Word Through My Braille Bible"**

"My name is Adriana Tello. I'm 53 years old, I live in Tucumán, Argentina - and I am blind." Adriana's voice carries both strength and tenderness as she shares her story. Many years ago, she encountered God and began her walk of faith. But life's storms came, and slowly, she drifted away. Then came a tragedy that shook her to the core: the loss of her oldest daughter at just 26 years old. *"I knew only God could give me the peace and comfort my heart needed. But I felt so far from Him, so unworthy of approaching Him, that it was very hard to come back."* For years, Adriana longed to read the Bible again, but as someone who is blind, access was nearly impossible. She couldn't read regular print, and she didn't have access to screens. Her heart ached for God's Word, but the door seemed closed. Then, one day, everything changed. She got a Braille book from the Bible Society in Argentina. Not just any Book but Inside was the book of Psalms a part of the Bible. Adriana remembers the moment vividly:

*"I received it with great emotion because I had wanted to read the Bible again for a long time, but I didn't have access. When I had it in my hands, the first thing I did was open it and read Psalm 23. And as I read it, I cried. I cried because I felt that the Lord was waiting for me, that He hadn't let go of my hand, that He was still there. It felt like a hug from heaven"*. That moment marked the beginning of a new chapter in Adriana's life. She started reading every day. Soon, more books arrived Proverbs, John, Genesis. With each page, her faith grew stronger. She began to pray again, to feel God's presence in her home, in her thoughts, in her heart.

*"Today I can say that the Word of God in Braille was the tool the Lord used to bring me back. I can't read regular print, I don't have access to screens. But Braille opened the door to a new stage of my life. And not only that: it encouraged me to share what I was experiencing with other blind people"*. Adriana's renewed faith sparked a passion to help others. She began inviting friends and other blind individuals to her home to read together. Many of them didn't even know the Bible existed in Braille. *"I didn't just go back to reading, I went back to believing. I went back to living. And now I want to help others have that experience too. The Word of God is alive, and it transforms even when we think there's no more hope. I am a witness to that."* Adriana's story is a powerful reminder that God's Word changes lives.

Frances Moir

**Scone & St Martins Parish Church Finances**  
**Receipts for 12 months ended 31 December 2025**  
(excluding Guild and Clubs, and subject to year-end adjustments)

<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>	2025	2024
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	£	£
Offerings	59,982	61,950
Appeals	2,182	2,441
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	13,208	13,946
Donations	7,279	6,035
Legacy	5,000	5,000
Weddings and funerals	2,046	2,190
Contributions from congregational organisations	2,230	2,265
Hall Lets	20,126	23,180
Fundraising events (net income)	8,165	8,433
Other income	5,562	5,003
Withdrawals from Consolidated Fabric Fund	<u>3,000</u>	<u>2,900</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b><u>128,780</u></b>	<b><u>133,343</u></b>
 <b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>		
Giving to Grow contributions etc	60,710	61,672
Staffing costs	25,641	25,807
Building costs (incl heat & light)	32,803	36,184
Other costs	<u>9904</u>	<u>9,570</u>
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b><u>129,058</u></b>	<b><u>133,233</u></b>
 Unrestricted (-) Deficit/Surplus for year	 <u>-278</u>	 <u>110</u>

Notes:

- Offerings showed improvement in the final quarter, but still 3% down on last year.
- The 2025 Appeal has raised £1,767 so far, a big thank-you to all who have donated.
- Other donations include £2,000 from The Hub, £1,200 from Fellowship Lunches, and £1,371 in respect of after-Services teas and coffees.
- Last year we received a legacy from the estate of the late Bob Wallace. This year, a £5,000 legacy from the late Graham Watson's estate has been received.

- The contributions from congregational organisations are from the Belleplate Group (£350), Badminton Club (£430), the Guild (£500), the Knit & Chat Group (£150), and the Country Dance Club (£800).
- Fundraising is from the Quiz (£262), Movie Lunches (£444), Country Dances (£752), Coffee Mornings (£2,224), the Bingo Tea (£1,222), and Summer Fair (£3,261). Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make these events successful.
- Other income includes £405 for sale of St Martins furniture, and £4,665 bank interest and dividends.
- Our heating and lighting costs were down this year, due partly to price reduction.
- Giving to Grow was also reduced a little in 2025, but there will be an increase in 2026.

Thank you to everyone, for your contributions to our financial health!

Robin Walker, Treasurer

### **Salvation Army Christmas Gift Day 2025**

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed towards our Gift Service in December. The Salvation Army was very pleased to accept our donations and thanked us for our support and generosity. Gifts were distributed to children and adults.

Marian Forgan and Moira Daly



### **Knit and Chat**

Next meetings for Knit and Chat are 4 February, 4 March and 1 April at Balformo Hall at 10.30 am. All welcome.

Anne Gellatly 01738 552730

### **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 01738 553651 or, if she is unavailable, to Frances at 01738 552681.

## PARISH DIARY

Feb 3	7.30pm	Kirk Session Meeting	Burnside Hall
4	10 am - 12 noon	Hub Community Café	Balformo Hall
	10.30 am	Knit n Chat	Balformo Hall
5	12.30 pm	Fellowship Lunch	Burnside Hall
8	9.30 am	Morning Worship	Balbeggie Hall
	10.45 am	Morning Worship	Scone Old
10	2.30 pm	The Guild	Burnside Hall
	7.30 pm	Kirk Session Meeting	Burnside Hall
11	10 am - 12 noon	Hub Community Café	Balformo Hall
15	10.45 am	Morning Worship	Scone Old
18	10 am - 12 noon	Hub Community Café	Balformo Hall
21	10 am - 12 noon	Orchard Coffee Morning	Burnside Hall
22	9.30 am	Morning Worship	Guildtown Hall
	10.45 am	Morning Worship	Scone Old
24	7.30 pm	The Guild Quiz	Burnside Hall
25	10 am - 12 noon	Hub Community Café	Balformo Hall
Mar 1	10.45 am	Morning Worship	Scone New
4	10 am - 12 noon	Hub Community Café	Balformo Hall
	10.30 am	Knit n Chat	Balformo Hall
5	12.30 pm	Fellowship Lunch	Burnside Hall
7	2.00 pm	Scottish Country Dance	Balformo Hall
8	9.30 am	Morning Worship	Balbeggie Hall
	10.45 am	Morning Worship	Scone New
10	2.30 pm	The Guild	Burnside Hall
11	10 am - 12 noon	Hub Community Café	Balformo Hall
12	12 noon	Film Lunch	Burnside Hall
14	10 am - 12 noon	Church Coffee Morning	Burnside Hall
15	10.45 am	Morning Worship	Scone New
18	10 am - 12 noon	Hub Community Café	Balformo Hall
22	9.30 am	Morning Worship	Guildtown Hall
	10.45 am	Morning Worship	Scone Old
24	7.30 pm	The Guild AGM	Burnside Hall
25	10 am - 12 noon	Hub Community Café	Balformo Hall
29	10.45 am	Morning Worship	Scone New
Apr 1	10 am - 12 noon	Hub Community Café	Balformo Hall
	10.30 am	Knit n Chat	Balformo Hall
2	12.30 pm	Fellowship Lunch	Burnside Hall
5	10.45 am	Morning Worship - Easter Sunday	Scone Old



## Scone Rotas

	Welcoming Party	Reader	Beadle
Feb 8	Rosalene West, Ian Baillie Hamish Breckenridge	Hamish Breckenridge	Ross Merson
15	Kate Carswell, Moira Daly Marian Forgan	Marian Forgan	Mike Moir
22	Anne Lamond, Peggy Lamond Linda Massie	Anne Lamond	Bob Murray
March 1	Margaret McMillan, Ross Merson Mike Moir	Margaret McMillan	Robin Walker
8	Dorothy Morrison, Robin Walker Linda Thomson	Robin Walker	Ross Merson
15	Marian Forgan, Rosalene West Ian Baillie	Marian Forgan	Gordon Pirie
22	Hamish Breckenridge, Kate Carswell, Moira Daly	Hamish Breckenridge	Ian Baillie
29	Marian Forgan, Anne Lamond Peggy Lamond	Marian Forgan	Ross Merson
April 5	Linda Massie, Margaret McMillan Ross Merson	Margaret McMillan	Paul Stewart

## Teas

	Tea Duty	Milk and Money
Feb 8	Peggy Lamond, Linda Massie, Dorothy Morrison	Peggy Lamond
15	Noreen Hunter, Linda Thomson, Rosalene West	Noreen Hunter
22	Marian Forgan, Moira Daly, Kate Carswell	Marian Forgan
March 1	Cona Beatson, Viv Croal, Daphne Forbes	Cona Beatson
8	Val Grossart, Christine Townend, Margaret Lobban	Val Grossart
15	Margaret & Hamish Breckenridge, Kate Carswell	Margaret Breckenridge
22	Joan Gilchrist, Rae Farrow, Marian Forgan	Joan Gilchrist
29	Moira Daly, Aileen Hamilton, Anne Lamond	Moira Daly
April 5	Peggy Lamond, Linda Thomson, Dorothy Morrison	Peggy Lamond

## Flowers

	Donating	Delivering
Feb 8	Freda Scott	Dorothy Traynor
15	Vacant	Norma Walker
22	Marjorie Murray	Margaret Baillie
March 1	Merson/Short Families	Margaret Breckenridge
8	Kate Carswell	Kate Carswell
15	Donation	Audrey Cooper
22	Moira Daly	Moira Daly
29	Vacant	Rae Farrow
April 5	Margaret McMillan	Val Grossart

## CONTACT DETAILS

Minister	Rev Maudeen MacDougall Tel 01738 551942 Email: <a href="mailto:Maudeen.Macdougall@churchofscotland.org.uk">Maudeen.Macdougall@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>
Session Clerk	Mike Moir Tel 01738 551549 Email: <a href="mailto:mikemoir@blueyonder.co.uk">mikemoir@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
Rollkeeper	Kate Carswell Tel 01738 551174 Email: <a href="mailto:katecarswell@hotmail.co.uk">katecarswell@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Editor Church News	Moira Daly Tel 01738 552773 Email: <a href="mailto:moiradalyscone54@gmail.com">moiradalyscone54@gmail.com</a>

## CONVENERS

Communications	Christine Munro	01738 628349
Finance	Douglas Calderwood	01738 553399
Pastoral Care	Margaret McMillan	01738 551560
Property	Mike Moir	01738 551549
Safeguarding	Marian Forgan	01738 552064
Social & Fundraising	Anne Lamond	01738 552262

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Boys' Brigade	Iain Lamond	01738 553582
Christian Aid	Peggy Lamond	01738 553582
Church Flowers	Margaret McMillan	01738 551560
Church Office	Roksolana Clark	01738 553900
Fellowship Lunch	Margaret McMillan	01738 551560
Free Will Offering Envelopes/Gift Aid	Margaret Nicol	01738 552232
Guild	Helen Moir	01738 551549
Hub	Ann Gellatly	01738 552370
Knit n Chat	Ann Gellatly	01738 552370
PACT	Hamish Breckenridge	01738 551072
Sunday Club	Laura Oxburgh	07789014142
Treasurer	Robin Walker	01738 551936

Scottish Charity No SC007094