

Paisley Abbey



Abbey Herald

April 2017

April 2017

Dear Friends

The Paschal Triduum or Great Three Days are the most sacred time in the church's calendar taking us from Maundy Thursday through Good Friday to Easter Day. This month I offer some prayers for each of these days so that all of us may enter more fully into meditating and reflecting on the events commemorated.

Maundy Thursday: Holy God, source of all love, on the night before he died Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts. Give us the will to be the servant of others as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Good Friday: Almighty God, look graciously, we pray, on this your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross; who is alive and glorified, with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, Amen.

Holy Saturday: Grant, Lord, that we who are baptised into the death of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ may continually put to death our evil desires and be buried with him; that through the grave and gate of death we may pass to our joyful resurrection, through his merits, who died, was buried and rose again for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Easter Day: Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son, you have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory, who, with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and for ever, Amen.

Alan D. Birss
Minister at Paisley Abbey

ELDERS ON DUTY

APRIL

Cath McCord's Team

MAY

Robin Craig's Team

Articles for inclusion in May issue of the Abbey Herald should be handed into the office or e-mailed to cathycraig73@aol.com or robincraig73@aol.com **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NO LATER THAN 12.30 PM ON SUNDAY 23 APRIL**

FRIENDLY HOUR

Friendly Hour 9th March: Sylvia Jenks and Sally Cook shared their memories of their Vietnam and Cambodian holiday. Fortunately we had a good turnout of members and friends who appreciated the amount of work which Sally and Sylvia had done to produce such an interesting and entertaining presentation. We all enjoyed the commentary and choice of photographs which taught us so much about the very different architecture and customs of these countries. On 6th April Tom Campbell's subject is Shakespeare. Please come along and join us. The final meeting of this session will be held on 20th April. It will be an informal meeting which means we all enjoy a 'cuppa' and a chat. Please come along and join in.

FOODBANK

The next collection date for the Food Bank will be Sunday 30th April.

Last month there was a shortage of potatoes. Tinned or packets (Smash) would be suitable.

Thank you to all donors.

Margaret Sharp

Gift Aid

April 6th is the start of the new tax year and from 2017 there are several changes which may affect some people who donate to the Abbey through Gift Aid.

Firstly the tax-free allowance is raised to £11,500 resulting in some people paying no income tax which means that their charitable donations no longer qualify for Gift Aid. Anyone in this situation should inform the Abbey so that Gift Aid is removed from their donations.

This raised tax-free allowance may also mean that some people pay insufficient income tax to cover the amount claimed back in Gift Aid – again please inform me if this applies.

Tax payers in Scotland now have different tax allowances and payments from the rest of the UK and while there is currently no difference to the standard rate of income tax the Scottish Government has introduced a lower starting level of allowance for higher-rate tax - **£43,430** rather than the **£45,000** that applies elsewhere. This Scottish rate applies if you live in Scotland – it doesn't matter where you work or receive your income. However higher rate taxpayers can receive an additional income tax relief on their donation by claiming back the extra tax on their annual self-assessment form e.g. for every £133.33 donated they can claim back £33.33.

If the new lower level Scottish rate of £43,430 just pushes a tax – payer into the higher rate band it is feasible to return to the standard rate tax band by giving a donation through Gift Aid. This is because when you donate to a charity using Gift Aid, the amount given, grossed up by a further 0.8%, is added to the basic-rate tax band allowance.

All donors giving by Gift Aid must have a liability to income or capital gains tax of at least the amount of tax relief claimed in this way.

Please contact me if you require more information; would like a Gift Aid form; or to inform me of a change of address.

Deryk Docherty
Gift Aid Convener

PARISH REGISTER –MARCH 2017

Funeral

14 March Robert Craig

New Members

Dr. Christopher Garrigan
Mrs Margaret Bell

PANCAKE DAY QUIZ

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the Pancake Day Quiz

A good night was had by all and £351 was raised for Abbey funds

Thank you

SHOP NEWS

New in the shop this month are beautiful Paisley scene cards by Liliias. They would make lovely gifts framed!

Also new in is 'Paisley Pin' silver jewellery- earrings, brooches, cufflinks and pendants. Do come and have a look!

Have you tried the delicious Orkney shortbread, fudge and tablet yet? If not do give it a try!

New stock always arriving so please visit the shop!

Carol Birss

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- | | |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15 April | Coffee Morning and carwash organised by the Scout Group |
| 22 April | Coffee Morning followed by a Recital with the Abbey Strings |
| 27 May | Coffee Morning followed by a Recital with Jillian Christie (Soprano) and Catherine Herriot (Piano) |
| 17 June | Coffee Morning followed by a Recital with Andrew Laird (Clarinet) and Donald McIntosh (Piano) |

Tickets for the lunchtime recitals cost £5 and can be purchased at the door

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE ROYAL STEWARTS

Clackmannan to Grangemouth

The last walk undertaken by our band of twenty five merry pilgrims was from Clackmannan Parish Church to Zetland Parish Church in Grangemouth. It is only when one walks into the market place of Clackmannan that one can appreciate the picturesque nature of this village. The name Clackmannan derives from the Gaelic: Clach Mhanainn which means the Stone of Manna. The stone a pre-Christian stone is part of a monument next to the Tollbooth Tower dating back to 1592.

We started the walk from Clackmannan Parish Church by turning right along High Street to where it intersects Port Street. Turning right we continued to walk in a southerly direction on what has now become known as the 'Lookabootye Road'. The motto of the county is "Look about ye". The 'Lookabootye Road' is named after words said to have been spoken to King Robert Bruce when he lost his glove during a hunting expedition. After a search it was found on a slope to the south of the present site of Clackmannan town.

An arch in a stone wall a sign post indicates a footpath 1½ miles to Kennet Pans. The first panning was undertaken by the monks of Kennetpans Abbey. The Abbey is thought to have closed during the reformation c1520s. In medieval times salt was used for preserving food for the winter months. Salt was obtained by evaporating sea water in large cast iron pans over coal fired furnaces.

This practice continued into the late 18th Century. At one time there were 35 salt pans in existence between Kennetpans, Kincardine and Culross. This had decreased in number to 23 by 1750.

We follow the path past an old walled garden. This is undoubtedly what remains of old Kennetpans House which was demolished in 1945. We turned towards an imposing ruin of a building which was an old distillery. Kennetpans House was built in the 1770's by John Stein very close to a distillery. It is thought the Steins extended their land holding at the reformation, upon

the dissolution of Kennetpans Abbey, where they learned the act of distilling from the friars. The Steins revolutionised both the Scottish and Irish whisky industries. Daughters of the Stein family married into both the Haig and Jamieson families, thus becoming two of the greatest Scottish industrialists of their time. This story makes interesting reading at: - www.kennetpans.info

Although there had been some rain I had hoped that the walk alongside the River Forth would be possible as it was scenically good and filled with mini excitements. The river is tidal at this point and during our recce we realised that we had been walking below the high water mark for some of the time. It had rained heavily too. Luckily the tide was on the turn but the large pebbles were quite wet so care had to be taken. We then entered Rudyard Kipling type tiger hunting country. The pathway was barred by a curtain of tall grasses but on closer inspection there was a distinct path trampled through, by some considerate soul, thereby allowing us safe passage on compressed reed matting. The whole experience of the waving reeds above our heads transported me back to black and white illustrations of tiger hunts on elephant back in the 'Just So' stories.

By this time the rain had started but only that mild sort of drier, dampness which tends not to soak through clothing, so all was well. Our way across the Forth was via the Clackmannanshire Bridge. "Right now-all hats will need to be tied on firmly", was the cry. Robin had nearly lost his on the recce. The Clackmannanshire Bridge was officially opened by Alex Salmond on the 28th November 2008. It was designed to accommodate about 20,000 vehicles per day. The bridge is 1.2 kilometres (0.75 mi) long, weighs 35,000 tonnes and sits on 25 piers which are each filled with 840 tonnes of concrete. The final cost of the project was £120 million. We proceeded along the A876 for a short distance before taking a track off to the right. We followed the path running parallel with the A876 known at this point as the South Approach Road. Sign posts indicated that this was part of National Cycle Route 76. It has become a friend in times of need on several of our routes.

NCR 76 runs the full length of the country from Carlisle to Inverness.



Once we crossed the road we found that our rescue drivers were already in situ with litted oranges and flapjack at the ready..... but what was this ?.... a roadside catering van was preparing cups of coffee and said that if he had known we were coming he would have prepared for us. How nice of him. I bet he thought that all of his birthdays had come at once.

The weather had now turned duller and colder and as we prepared to move on I think everyone was happy to get up and go. We were now treading a route which we had followed before on our way to Kincardine but how different it looked in reverse. So much so that some of the walkers swore that it was not way we had been before. Continuing to follow the NCR76 signs to Grangemouth we eventually pass signposts indicating Grangemouth.

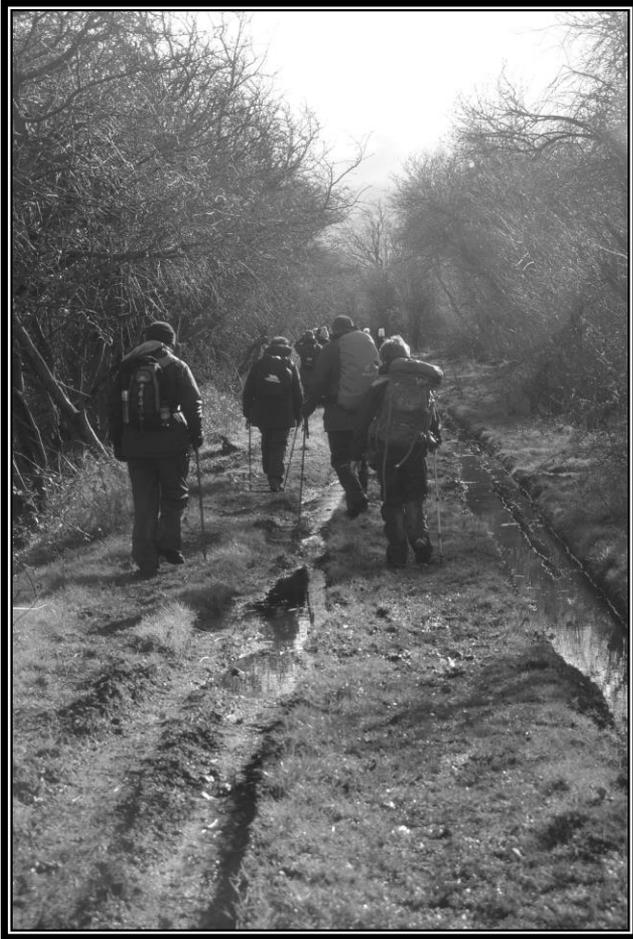
We pass Powfoulis Manor. The Powfoulis Estates had been in the hands of the Bruce Family since the early 16th Century. In 1451 Alexander Bruce became the 1st of Stenhouse and Airth by Royal

Charter of King James III. In 1512 his Grandson Andrew Bruce received Land Charters to Powfoulis Estates and became the 1st of Powfoulis.

Just as the sun came out we continued towards a copse of trees on our right and two large ponds on the left. Although the walkers were prepared for mud the soft surface below our feet was interesting as it slurped and sucked at our tired feet changing our boots into heavy, muddy lumps of clay. Eventually we came to a kissing gate marking the end of this particular path as we made our way, now alongside the River Carron. Our friends the Kelpies were very much in evidence as we made our way towards the bridge over the river to join the canal towpath leading to the Carron Sea lock. The sun caused many a walker, now, to take off a layer!

The rest of the route took us through an industrial estate of warehouses and factories before veering to the right. Following signs for the Town Centre we find ourselves in Zetland, Ronaldshay Crescent and Zetland Parish Church where we were made most welcome.





Scots song "Lads O' the Fair":

For ye can see them a', the lads o' the fair
Lads frae the Forth an' the Carron Water
 Workin' lads an' lads wi' gear
Lads that'll sell ye the provost's dochter
Sogers back frae the German Wars
 Peddlers up frae the Border

Grangemouth



With the revival of the nearby ancient settlement of Camelon by the Forth and Clyde canal a new initiative was introduced.

Sir Lawrence Dundas regarding the "propriety of building a village and quay" at the junction between of the River Carron and the canal. The building began in 1777 the village is now Grangemouth. Originally it was called Sealock but later became Grange Burn Mouth. (We actually crossed this burn) By the 1780s it became Grangemouth. With links, to rapidly expanding Glasgow via the canal, it soon became the principal landing place on the Forth.



The previously established church at Zetland Place was , built in 1865 by Alexander Black, architect, and enlarged 1879, was abandoned (and demolished) to allow the railway company to develop on the site.

The Church foundation stone was laid in 1910. It took the name Grangemouth Old Parish Church in 1929. The congregation united with Grange Church on 14 March 1991, and the new congregation took the name Zetland Parish Church.

THE GRANGE: This was the county seat of an Abbot, around which there was a rampart and ditch, with a drawbridge at the SE corner. Nothing now remains of the building. Lands transferred to Holyrood in 1237.

SCOUT GROUP NOTES

The main news for this month must be the Group Camp at Lapwing. Despite the cold and wet weather, 45 intrepid Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers braved the wilds of Lapwing Lodge for a fun packed weekend. The weekend was especially memorable as it was the first time that the Beavers stayed over at the camp.

From games, to Cubs constructing bird tables, from Beavers and Cubs cooking sausages over an open fire, to Scouts and Explorers cooking full meals on an open fire, from cubs doing archery, to Scouts doing canoeing in March, it was nonstop activity.



Lapwing is getting some new huts built at the back and we could not go outside for a campfire. That didn't stop Akela and we had a great indoor campfire with a video of a crackling open fire in the background!

Overall it was a great weekend for all sections

There were many badges gained by the Beavers and Cubs over the weekend, however the highlight was the presentation of Chief Scout Silver Awards to 7 cubs, this being the top award you can get in that section.



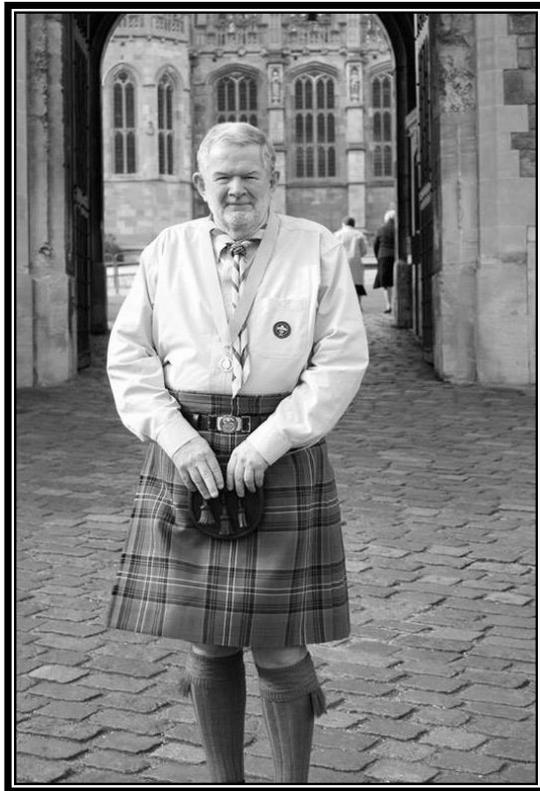
The month ended with 10 cubs moving up from Cubs to Scouts. The young people were invested in the Troop on the same night having completed 4 visits to the Scout Troop during the month.

It is with great sadness I write this report this month. When I came back as Group Scout Leader 2 years ago, it was with the intention of completing at least 5 years in the role. Unfortunately I am moving to Thailand with my work for two years and have no choice but to step down. It felt strange as the camp ended and I realised what has been an over 50 year association with the Scout Group was drawing to an end. May I wish the Group ongoing success in the years ahead I will follow with great interest, their further adventures on the Group Facebook page.

Danny Harper

Group Scout Leader

In his article this month, Danny mentioned that he is relinquishing his position as Group Scout Leader due to his going abroad with his work. Danny has worked tirelessly for the Group as GSL and his phenomenal fund-raising skills along with his wise counsel and approachable manner will be very much missed. In the article Danny said that, with the move, his 50 year association with the Abbey Scout Group was coming to an end. The leaders and the Group as a whole hope very much that this is just a break rather than an ending and that when his two-year stint in Thailand is over, he will return to an active role within the Group. Along with the leaders and young people of the Scout Group, Danny's many friends in the Abbey Church wish him well in his overseas work and look forward to him coming back to the Abbey's Scout Group when he returns to the UK.



EASTER JOY

Jesus came to earth,
To show us how to live,
How to put others first,
How to love and how to give

Then He set about His work,
That God sent Him to do;
He took our punishment on Himself;
He made us clean and new.

He could have saved Himself,
Calling angels from above,
But He chose to pay our price for sin;
He paid it out of love.

Our Lord died on Good Friday,
But the cross did not destroy
His resurrection on Easter morn
That fills our hearts with joy.

Now we know our earthly death,
Like His, is just a rest
We'll be forever with Him
In heaven, where life is best

So we live our lives for Jesus,
Think of Him in all we do
Thank you Saviour, Thank you Lord,
Help us love like you!

Joanna Fuchs

Services: 9 April to 7 May 2017

Sunday 9 April – *Palm / Passion Sunday*

- 11 am *Morning Service with distribution of palm crosses and reading of the Passion narrative according to Matthew*
Music: Open thy gates *Harrison*
Hosanna to the Son of David *Gibbons*
Ave verum corpus *Byrd*
- 7.30 pm *Compline*
Reading: St. Matthew 21. 33-46
Music: Lamentations of Jeremiah *Tallis*

Monday 10 April

- 7:30 pm *Holy Week Service*
Readings: Isaiah 42. 1-89
St. John 12. 1-11
Music: Psalm 36: 5-11 *Trent*
Nunc Dimittis *Tonus Peregrinus*
Call to remembrance *Farrant*

Tuesday 11 April

- 7:30 pm *Holy Week Service*
Readings: Isaiah 49. 1-7
St. John 12. 20-36
Music: Psalm 130
Nunc Dimittis *Tonus Peregrinus*
Light of the world *Dankworth*

Wednesday 12 April

- 7:30 pm *Holy Week Service*
Readings and meditations based on Howell's *Requiem*.

Thursday 13 April - Maundy Thursday

7:30 pm

Holy Communion

Readings: Exodus 12. 1-14
1 Corinthians 11. 23-26
St. John 13. 1-7; 31b-35

Music: Psalm 116: 1-2; 12-1
Ubi caritas

*Camidge
Duruflé*

Friday 14 April - Good Friday

12 noon

The Three Hour Vigil

Readings, meditations and music to mark the final three hours of our Lord's agony on the Cross

12 noon: Stainer's Crucifixion (with the Choir)
c. 1pm: The Passion according to John (read)
c.1.25 pm Meditations around Haydn's *Seven Last Words* (with a string quartet)

EASTER DAY Sunday 16 April

11am Holy Communion

with sermon, choir and orchestra

Mozart *Coronation Mass K317*

Byrd *Haec Dies*

Dutch Carol arr. McPhee *This joyful Eastertide*

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

Sunday 23 April – Easter 2

11 am Morning Service

Readings: Acts 2. 14a, 22-32
1 Peter 1. 3-9
St. John 20. 19-31

Music: Psalm 16 *Havergal*
Jubilate Deo *Stanford in Bb*
Surgens Jesus *Phillips*

12.15pm Holy Communion

Sunday 30 April – Easter 3

11 am Morning Service with Holy Baptism

Readings: Acts 2. 14a, 36-41
St. Luke 24. 13-35

Music: Benedictus *Ireland in "F"*
Blessed be the God and Father
Wesley

12.15pm Holy Communion

4 pm Evening Service on the Eve of St Philip and St. James (the Less)

Readings: Isaiah 40. 27-31
St. John 14. 1-14

Sunday 7 May – Easter 4

11 am Holy Communion

Readings: Acts 2. 42-47
St. John 10. 1-10

Music: Missa iste confessor *Palestrina*
The Lord is my Shepherd *Howells*