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### Magazine Material

Material for the March 2009 issue of the Magazine should be submitted by *Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February* so that the magazine will be available on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Material can be supplied as usual on paper but (preferred option) as a computer file on floppy disk or by e-mail to the editor at: [raanderson1@btinternet.com](mailto:raanderson1@btinternet.com) All Saints’ material: please post or deliver to the editor (19 Craighdu Road, Milngavie, G62 7TH). St Andrew’s material can be given to the editor at church, as usual.

The new Charities References in Documents (Scotland) Regulations 2007 require us to include charity information in documents from April 1<sup>st</sup>. The Magazine needs to carry this information as an “official publication”

All Saints Church is a charity registered in Scotland, No: SC005552  
 St Andrews Church is a charity registered in Scotland, No: SC008683  
 Drumchapel Church is a charity registered in Scotland, No: SC023102

## PASTORAL SECTION

### Pastoral Letter

February, 2009

Dear Friends,

Time flies and probably never faster than in the early part of the year, when Christmas is followed so quickly by Lent and Easter. In our dark winter months with our changeable weather, this may be no bad thing, so when in the middle of February we become aware of the daylight stretching out towards six in the evening we can feel a lifting in the spirits. Not everyone would share this view, particularly the young people at school, who feel the holiday period all too soon passes and the shadow of prelims looms upon them. In the world of work deadlines, end of year balances etc. can seem to hasten on and affect the enjoyment of the moment.

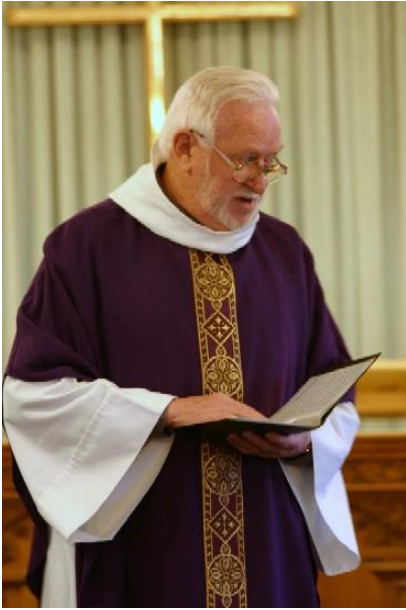


Reflecting on this we see the conflict between a sense of joyful expectation and the pressing concerns of our own individual situations. A time to take stock then? This is why Lent is such a valuable time, a time of refreshment, and a time of opportunity for future growth. In this context, note that both our congregations are offering Lent courses, which should take us beyond inward looking concerns about our own future or status, with All Saints linking up with their Church of Scotland neighbours, and St. Andrew's thinking in depth of what a famous passage of scripture can mean for us today. I would commend both approaches, and hope that they will prove to be stimulating and help us to be more fully Christians in our lives and in the world. Perhaps we might even live up to the (probably fictitious) church poster that the late Bernard Miles claimed to have seen:

‘NEW CHRISTIANS MADE AND OLD ONES MENDED,  
COME IN AND BE RESOULED’

Fraser.

## Ken Shaw's Sermon on The Epiphany



Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, traditionally the time when the Wise Men found Jesus at Bethlehem. As our Gospel reading told us, *'When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage'*.

What kind of a picture does this story of the Wise Men conjure up in your mind? Is it perhaps the memory of some childish representation of the account? Something like that expressed in a very small play performed by four children before their parents in their tiny living room? The stage setting consisted of a switched-on torch - wrapped in 'swaddling clothes' - lying in a glove box. In came Rex (aged six) dressed in his father's bathrobe, and carrying a broom handle. He was followed by Nancy (aged ten) announcing *'I am Mary and Joseph'*. Next came Trudy (aged four) with flapping pillowcases over her arms, lisping *'I am an angel'*. And finally Anne (aged eight), riding a camel. At least she moved as if she were riding a camel, because she was wearing her mother's high heeled shoes. She bowed three times before the 'Holy Family' and announced *'I am the three Wise Men. I have precious gifts. Gold, Circumstance and Mud'*. And that was it.

No doubt we have all seen or heard a similar re-enactment of the story, usually guaranteed to raise at least a smile - although not meant to. But we have to get beyond such simplifications and ask ourselves what this piece of poetic representation of truth is saying to us. Some time ago I was asked by a non-churchgoer - what is Epiphany? I was not happy with the answer I gave. It seemed to be rather trite even though it was scripturally correct. In hindsight I think I was asked the wrong question. Perhaps it might have been better if I had been asked to explain what Epiphany means.

In this day and age there can be no dispute about the supremacy of

science over our daily lives. What is less certain is the benefit it confers in terms of human happiness. It was once thought that the reign of science would bring about an era of peace and plenty; and of mutual understanding. Sadly, we know from history that, in addition to its many benefits, science has produced a variety of tensions and disasters - tensions and disasters that, all too easily, could be allowed to culminate in the annihilation of civilisation as we know it.

The only answer to this dilemma lies in the attention the world gives to the lesson of the Epiphany - the showing of the infant Christ to the whole world. The Wise Men - the Magi - were scientists, steeped in the lore of their day, and particularly in astronomy. They were pioneers. They spent their lives searching out the mysteries of the stars and seeking, somehow, a way out of the destiny apparently laid down implacably by the heavenly bodies. They were men who wanted to be open to the future, who wanted to be free to seek their own destinies.

And they stumbled on the truth at Bethlehem. At the cradle of the 'Man born to be King' they threw down the tricks and the tools of their trade, the spells and the mysteries, the gold and frankincense and myrrh, as they became aware of the fuller revelation of God. In adoration they began to find meaning, and a new purpose, at the feet of the infant King.

Many of the men and women who made our world what it is today were pioneers too. Take Abraham for instance. He left his home and culture not really knowing what the future held in store for him; but trusting God nevertheless. Likewise the Pilgrim Fathers, in their frail ship, sailing across the Atlantic with the words of their old chaplain ringing in their ears, '*God hath more light and truth to break forth from his holy word*'. Pioneers are people who push back the frontiers of knowledge by a combination of experiment and imagination. Madame Curie in her discovery of radium. Crick and Watson in their revelation of the role of DNA in genetics. And men like Sadat of Egypt and Rabin of Israel, who paid the ultimate price in trying to bring reconciliation between men and nations. These are the people who have followed in the steps of the Magi.

But the Magi were not just scientists, they were kings too - or so we are told. Matthew, the only evangelist to record their visit did not refer to them in such terms. Nevertheless, they were men of power in their own countries - and we who live in an age of power and of advanced science and technology know all too well what that means. The doctrine of naked power has never been preached so unashamedly as it has during the last century - and has never

before been so accepted without question over such a large portion of the world. Dictators of old were armed with much less overwhelming power than their present day counterparts. And governments too, for the very achievements of technology have placed unparalleled resources of power in the hands of all central authorities.

The Epiphany is a parable of the consecration of power. The three kings, and there may have been more than three for Scripture gives no number, came and laid their offerings at the feet of a new-born baby, whose sovereignty they acknowledged. By their obeisance they confessed that any earthly ruler, no matter how powerful, has a supreme overlord, a master whose authority does not depend on brute force but the intrinsic claims of law, justice, morality and love. Quite simply, the three men became more conscious of their stewardship, and less of their earthly power.

So the first meaning of Epiphany is one of unity. Today, in the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we still find ourselves in a situation desperately searching for unity. The Wise Men who followed the star represent different creeds and differing needs. Yet, as they knelt before the crib, they were united with the humble shepherds who had joined with them - the workers of the earth united with the rulers of the earth by a fellowship of worship. Before the King lying in the manger differences fall away and all are one with each other. Between nations unity comes about when rulers and governments freely acknowledge the authority of divine law, and confess that the justice of God is more important than national self-interest. Between different classes and races unity springs from the recognition that God's love is bestowed freely on all men and women.

Giving up their time to follow the star, the Wise Men offered their worship and their gifts at the end of their search. There is no doubt that we should do likewise. In this sacred place we offer our worship to God through Jesus Christ, at the same time handing over bread, wine and money as our gifts to set forward God's kingdom. But we need to offer our lives as well as our wealth. In the coming days and years we can, like the Wise Men, follow the clues given by nature, by the Scriptures, and by intuition, as to where our salvation is to be found.

The poet W.H. Auden sums this up beautifully when he comments that the conversation of the Wise Men during their journey could have gone along the following lines - The first one says, *'To discover how to be TRUTHFUL now, is the reason I follow this star'*. The second replies, *'To discover how to be*

*LOVING now, is the reason I follow this star'. And the third one comments, 'To discover how to be LIVING now, is the reason I follow this star'- But all together they say, 'To discover how to be HUMAN now, is the reason we follow this star'.*

*Sacred gifts of mystic meaning;  
Incense doth their God disclose,  
Gold the King of kings proclaimeth,  
Myrrh his sepulchre foreshows.*

This verse from an old hymn gives us the second meaning of Epiphany. The message is clear. The Wise Men travelled long distances as an act of faith, not knowing what the outcome of their journey might be, in order to bring their gifts to the infant Christ. As Christians we too set out on a journey of faith seeking to offer such gifts as we have. But over the years we experience something of a change of heart in the expression of our Christian faith. It is not that we believe less or are less committed. It is simply that, over the passage of time, our outlook may change. Our response develops according to who we are, what we are, perhaps what we are becoming, and our experience of life.

So, for example, the young person explores the faith to see what it is made of. Rather than accepting blindly what appears to be on offer, as a child does, the young person needs to reach a personal understanding of what Christianity involves, in what way it can enrich his or her life, and whether he or she can make a personal commitment to it. In the fullness of life, we actively express the practical side of our Christian belief. Ours is an incarnational faith - God became human in Christ, lived our life to the full, and in love and compassion, expressed our life at its best. So we who follow him seek to live out that same quality of life through our love and concern and compassion for those around us. It is an active ministry that we share in common with all Christian people. In later years, when we may not be able to sustain that same degree of activity, our contribution may be quieter, more reflective, more meditative, and perhaps even more prayerful. From experience of life and the accumulation of years, there can be more to pray about, more to thank God for, more common concerns to lay before him.

All in all the Epiphany concentrates our minds on offering. The gifts, which the Wise Men brought, and their act of offering, have inspired artists and poets down the centuries. As Christian people, we seek to offer God our best and our most in recognition of his best and his most, the gift of his Son, the incarnate Lord. But the offering that we make cannot - must not - be static. It

must grow and develop, as we ourselves grow and develop continually in the love and the knowledge and the presence of God.

For in Christ we have a glimpse of what to be truly human means. As Cardinal Newman expressed it, *‘Lord Jesus, do not remain so hidden in me! Look through my eyes, listen through my ears, speak through my life, act with my hands, walk with my feet ... may my poor human presence recall, at least remotely, your divine presence.’* That is the meaning of the Epiphany. And when you live out Newman's words, then you will find that that is your own, individual, Epiphany.

Ken Shaw

### **Finding a new Rector**

The Draft Profiles for All Saints and St Andrew's have been seen and approved by the Dean, and are now with the Joint Focus Group, who will produce a combined document, to be finalised in early December by both vestries and the Dean, which will then be used in the recruitment process for the new Rector. Advertisements for the post will be placed in the ‘Church Times’ and ‘Inspires’ for January/February, and a deadline for applications is expected to be set for the end of February or mid-March, with interviews likely to be scheduled after Easter.

Please pray for all those with responsibility for this important task.

Jean and Alex.

### **Leading Your Church into Growth: Four Studies and a Party**

Before Christmas, the Tuesday House Group spent 5 weeks following a course “Leading your Church into Growth”, which had been introduced by the Diocese earlier in the year. The course was led by Helen Ball, who with Janet Stack had attended the Diocesan introduction in the spring. The first four weeks, were taken up with four studies:

1. Vision in the Wilderness;
2. Becoming a Mission-shaped Church;
3. Mission strategy;
4. Presence to persuasion.

Each encompassed a short Bible study and consideration of some important question(s) suggested by the titles.

The purpose of this summary is however to collect the output from the 5<sup>th</sup> week, the Party, in which we sought to summarise practical answers to the questions posed in the first four weeks. Here, in no particular order and certainly not edited, are our thoughts. Hopefully they will provoke some discussion.

### **1. Vision – What do we need to do?**

Grow – strengthen from inside, increase our numbers, be more open about our faith.

Arrange attention-arresting services / events.

Attempt to reach out to people at appropriate / key / critical moments in their lives, e.g. marriages, funerals.

Use an open Church as a sort of sanctuary.

More of what we're already doing but spread over the year.

Be more outgoing. Convert once per year attendees into several times per year.

### **2. Becoming Mission-shaped – What do we want to do?**

Offer postcards with comforting word of e.g. prayer, scripture, reflections on life, “footprints”.

Bring back the lapsed, keep hold of the young.

Make the building more inviting with glass doors “like a supermarket”.

Get more young people to join the Choir.

Encourage the congregation to bring someone to one event in the year.

### **3. Strategy – What do we plan to do?**

Increase active youth membership. With prayer and guidance choose the right Rector.

Enhanced social programme.

Make the services more visitor-friendly.

Make the back of the Church more inviting with user friendly information boards. Church groups could each maintain a board.

### **4. Presence to persuasion – What are we going to do it for?**

Families and friends.

The unchurched and lapsed Church members.

God and new members.

If you would like to take issue with our suggestions come along to the feedback meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> February – details on the Church notice sheet.

Andrew Long.

## Stamps and Postcards for the Sudan

A big thank you for all those who bought stamps over the Xmas period – I sold over 700 stamps. Thank you also for those who have given me their stamps from Xmas cards – and over the year - and also your postcards.

Many thanks for your support.

Jane Lewis (Tel. 563 8226)

## Advent Opening at All Saints 2008



**Free! All Welcome!**  
**All Saints Church, Bearsden**

**Mince-pies and Coffee** in the church  
**10 - 12noon Saturdays in December**  
 before Christmas



**!! Do drop in ... and bring your friends ... no charge !!**

During Advent, the Faith Development Group arranged for All Saints to be open each Saturday morning as last year. This year we produced invitation slips, as above, inspired by the Leading Your Church into Growth course, which volunteers handed out to parents who were bringing children to Saturday classes in the halls, with other brave volunteers standing outside the shops opposite the church handing out invitations to passers by.

Inside the church we arranged candles and music along with display boards and welcome leaflets. Outside we laid a trail of ‘mince pie footsteps’ from the gates and the hall into the church. We were delighted with the response. The visitors were very appreciative and interested in our church, our activities and our displays. We had drawing activities for children and chocolate Santa Clauses for them to take home – as well as plenty of mince pies and coffees. More than one hall user asked ‘where is the church?’ and several asked ‘where do we go in?’-in spite of the open door and banners.

Encouraged by the LYCIG course that success in terms of increased numbers does not happen overnight, maybe the seed is sown over time. Some of our visitors were members of other churches and we had no intention of ‘poaching’, but, who knows, maybe they will come into contact with someone looking for an Episcopal Church! We attempted to provide a friendly welcome

on bitterly cold mornings, and judging by the reaction of those who came, this was a success. They certainly ate a lot of mince-pies!

Janet Stack.

### **Drumchapel News**

Happy New Year Everyone. Ours started on a sad note, when we learned that Marie Cooke, our ecumenical youth outreach worker was leaving us to take up a new job in the East End of the city. It was a shock for us, but we wish Marie Good Luck in her new venture. The plans Marie had for our wee Church are being picked up by Eildon, our ecumenical team leader, and Sheila our community liaison worker. They are hoping to start a new project in our Church in early February, which I will be able to tell you about in next month's magazine. Eildon is starting a Lenten Bible study in our Church on Thursday evenings at 6 30 p.m., starting on 26<sup>th</sup> February, all welcome.

We are now the very proud owners of 14 beautiful new blue cushioned chairs. This was made possible by a very generous donation from the Mothers Union and another donation from Barrie & Ethne Page. A very big THANK YOU to all at Mothers' Union, Barrie & Ethne, from all at Drumchapel. With our wee Church being newly painted inside and new chairs, we really are moving up market in the community. Please feel free to visit us whenever you can: our services are at 9 30 a.m. every Sunday.

On a much happier note, my 1<sup>st</sup> granddaughter was born on Christmas morning. Eilidh Jean Kerr decided to make her appearance at 10.57 a.m., weighing 7lb 9oz. Our Christmas dinner ended up as cheese sandwiches in the Queen Mother's Hospital, but hey, who cares when you've got the most wonderful gift from God?

To Peter and Andrew and anyone else who is awaiting a new addition to their family, I hope the Lord gifts them beautiful babies to love and cherish. God Bless from all your friends in Drumchapel

*[Editor's Note: as Drumchapel Church is now fully established within the Drumchapel Churches Partnership and is no longer formally linked to All Saints and St Andrew's, the Covers of the Magazine have been updated to reflect this. The congregations of All Saints and St Andrew's will, however, continue to enjoy the many informal links they have with Drumchapel and look forward to regular updates in future.]*

## NOTICES

### **Bishop's Lenten Appeal**

The 2009 Bishop's Lenten Appeal is for Aquaboxes but for logistical reasons, churches will not be asked to fill the aquaboxes themselves - unless they choose to - but instead the money raised will be passed to Rotary for the purchase of Aquaboxes. More information on Aquaboxes can be obtained in the Diocesan News and at:

<http://www.aquabox.org/project.asp>

### **All Saints Lent Study, March 2009**

This year New Kilpatrick Church, Bearsden have invited us to join with them in running a Lent Study, which seems an excellent idea. We have found a Lent Study, "Spot the Difference" by Nick Fawcett, that ties in superbly with Ken Shaw's sermon on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, especially with the final question he asked of us, which is also the final question of the course:

**"If you were put on trial today for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?"**

Five qualities of a Christian life are explored, one each week: a quality of love, a spontaneity of witness, a disposition of joy, a generosity of spirit and a vibrant inner faith.

The plan is to run 2 nights each week, Wednesday at New Kilpatrick small hall, Thursday at All Saints, Glenburn Hall (only suitable night the hall is free), **starting on March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m.** – choose which night suits you.

The Revd David Scott plans to hold a communion on the final evenings. Of course, it would also be open to people from other churches to join. It would be lovely if as many of you as possible joined one or other of the evenings each week - and bring a friend too if you would like!

For further details please contact Janet Stack 942 3921 or email:

[janet.stack@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.stack@btinternet.com)

### **Lent Course in St Andrew's**

The recently produced York Course under the title 'These Three ... Faith, Hope and Love' will be used on five Wednesday evenings in Lent in the church, starting on 4<sup>th</sup> March. The course explores the famous passage in I Corinthians 13. Five recorded interviews of about 15 minutes each feature Tom Wright (Bishop of Durham), Christopher Jamison (Abbot of Worth) and Anne Atkins (novelist and broadcaster) answering questions posed by Canon Simon Stanley. Each discussion has a closing reflection by Methodist minister, Professor Frances Young. There are suggestions for discussion and other resources for each session, which will last for one hour. The session titles are Believing and Trusting, The Peace of God, Faith into Love, The Greatest of These, and All Shall Be Well.

### **The Way Ahead Group (A Stroke Club for Bearsden)**

A Fund Raising Gala Concert presented and performed by the Paisley Musical and Operatic Society will be held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 7.30 p.m. in Milngavie Town Hall. Tickets priced £10 can be obtained from any Helper or Member, or the Secretary, Greta Paterson (563 7938).

### **Stop Press**

**Christian Aid**



### **Gaza crisis**

Christian Aid is supporting its local partner organisations in Gaza. They desperately need funds to respond to the dire humanitarian situation. The 1.5 million people of Gaza need your help now.

Please give generously.

Go to: <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

## CHURCH GROUP ACTIVITIES

### Mothers' Union



The committee wishes everyone a happy New Year. In December our meeting was the annual party with friends, food, fun and festivities in the Glenburn Hall, getting us all in the mood for Christmas. Thanks to those who brought the food and to Elaine for thinking up the games.

This session we have held two afternoon meetings and the January one was particularly well attended. The speaker told us about the Maggie's Centres which provide support to cancer sufferers, based near large cancer treatment centres. The first was started at the Western General Infirmary in Edinburgh and the Glasgow one is based in the old gatehouse at the Western. Glasgow this year will be the first city in the UK to have two centres when the new one opens at Gartnavel General.

Next month we will be holding our AGM, followed by a 'Bring and Buy' sale, and also pizza and a glass of wine.

#### Dates for your diary:

<b>January</b>	Fri	30	Intercessions in choir vestry, followed by Bring & Share lunch.
<b>February</b>	Mon	9	AGM followed by a Bring and Buy Sale, Pizza and Wine
	Wed	11	Holy Communion, 10 a.m.
	Sun	28	Intercessions, Choir Vestry, 10.45 a.m.

June Roach

## GLASGOW & GALLOWAY DIOCESAN NEWS

February 2009, Issue 82

### ***THE FUTURE'S NOT ROSY FOR MIDGES***

**ONE of the highlights of last year's General Synod was, for me, the arrival of the MiDGeS, writes JOHN RICHES.**

This was the Overseas Committee's imaginative way of drawing our attention to the importance of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs, geddit) which we're supposed to be achieving by 2015, a prospect which is not, at the moment, looking too rosy.

The Overseas Committee wished to encourage us to become like midges, annoying and needling people into doing something about these goals.

There's a theological principle at stake. God has created a world in which people should be able to live without fear: without fear of starvation, persecution, homelessness, poverty, ignorance, torture.

Human rights - on which the MDGs are based - is another way of talking about our God-given human dignity. So, at the risk of harping on, let me do a bit of midgy work.

Among the MDGs is that of banishing hunger and food insecurity. Initially, some progress was made towards this goal but recently things have got worse again.

More of the world's crops are being used to fuel our greedy cars; more grain is being used to feed animals for the table, as living standards rise in India and China. Generally this pushes food prices up, making life harder for the very poor.

In December I visited Malawi as part of a Scottish Government project, looking for products to import into the UK. One of the principal aims was to visit the rice-growing area in the north of the country, as we (the Balmore Coach House with our partners Rainbow Turtle in Paisley) are planning to bring in a container of rice early this year to serve in schools and to sell in shops and on church stalls.

I spent a fascinating day touring round the country areas around Karonga, which are intensively farmed.

Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world, with a per capita income of US\$ 170. For Africa it's densely populated, with 13.5 million people. Some 85 % of the population derives its living from agriculture; 90% of all farmers are small holders.

Typically such farmers will own 4 acres, but farm only about half of it, will have a hoe as their basic tool, will use 60% of their production for food and 40% as a cash crop.

Daudi Phiri, a 'model farmer' whom I met, farms all his land, uses 1.5 acres for maize and cassava and the remaining 2.5 acres for rice, producing an amazing 2.4 tonnes.

Most of this he sells to purchase agricultural implements, seeds and fertiliser, to improve the family's housing, to pay for health care and for secondary education.

Unusually, Daudi Phiri owns a plough and oxen. Nevertheless the achievement of planting, weeding (three times during the growing season) and harvesting/threshing 2.5 acres *by hand* is extraordinary.

It is more than many can achieve, partly because of the cost of seed and fertiliser, and of

agricultural implements, partly because of the sheer scale of the labour involved.

How can we help poor farmers in Malawi? By providing them with an international market where they can get a better price for their crops and so begin to work their way out of poverty.

**If all you can do is grow just enough to live off, you will never make progress.**

If you can grow a surplus, get a better price for your crops, then you can start to buy some basic tools, spend more on seed and fertilizer, and send your children to secondary school. You can plan and build up your family and your community.

Over the last year we have had a tremendous response from Episcopal churches across Scotland to appeals to sell the products we import from Swaziland.

If over the next few months you hear an annoying buzz, it means we're after you again to try some rice as well.

Or, of course, you could just give in and contact the Coach House on 01360 620254/742 before we strike.

*Revd Canon Prof John Riches is a director of the Balmore Trust.*

## **Music workshop**

TUNES, Chants and Choices, a workshop on hymns and music in the Liturgy, will be held on Saturday 31 January, 9.30am to 3.30pm at St John's Greenock. The leaders for the day are Revd Darren MacFarland, Ian McCrorie, Revd Anne Tomlinson and Friki Walker. Lunch and refreshments provided. Booking essential by 26 January. Contact Linda Whitby of Education Action Network, 01294 276838, email [lindawhitby@btopenworld.com](mailto:lindawhitby@btopenworld.com)

## ***New festival of arts, culture & faith***

**HAVE you ever been to Greenbelt (the annual, edgy Christian arts festival in Cheltenham)?**

Have you never attended, but know of the concept?

Have you ever thought it would be good to have a similar festival in Scotland? Not MacGreenbelt, but something distinctly Scottish, arty, cultural and relevant to today.

Think faith meeting culture-arts-theology-ecology-politics-philosophy-spirituality-justice.

If so, read on for the background to 'The Project'.

Last August's Greenbelt hosted a conversation for anyone interested in 'doing something like Greenbelt' in Scotland.

At a second meeting in Perth in November, Dot Reid, John Cross and Graham Maule were appointed to take the idea of a Scottish festival a step further by asking people to join a steering group.

Graham Maule, of Iona Community's Wild Goose Resource Group, explained: "This we are doing.

"People are currently being approached, and in the meantime we have done a little bit

more thinking and a little more organising so that we have more of a presence and more opportunity for people to join and have a voice in this thing.”

The working name of the project is ‘The Project: a Scottish festival of arts, culture and faith’.

Graham added: “We agreed in Perth that a series of smaller gatherings would be a good thing to shape the bigger event and to create a community of people willing to invest their time and energy in it.

“That will be the first task of the Steering Group – to call us together a couple of times in 2009.”

Visit [bebo.com/theprojectscotland](http://bebo.com/theprojectscotland) to keep informed.

### ***News and events in brief . . .***

TRAINING in media relations may be arranged by the Diocesan Information and Communications Network if there is enough demand.

A course over one or two Saturdays might cover topics such as writing press releases and making the most of media opportunities.

To register interest, e-mail [dns@episcopalglasgow.com](mailto:dns@episcopalglasgow.com) with some details about the skills you’d like to work on.

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THE congregations of All Saints Bearsden and St Andrew’s Milngavie are looking for an enthusiastic, ecumenically-minded and inspirational new rector who can build on the strengths of the two linked congregations and help develop their mission together and in the community. To download the parish profile visit the home page of the diocesan website. Application closing date is 6 March. For more information, contact [mairi.e.ross@btinternet.com](mailto:mairi.e.ross@btinternet.com).

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BASED on the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon family groups provide non-professional, free and confidential support for families and friends of alcoholics. Information can be obtained by visiting [al-anonuk.org.uk](http://al-anonuk.org.uk) or by calling the Glasgow information centre on 0141 339 8884 where volunteers can tell you your nearest group meeting.

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CHURCHES Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) will partner BBC Radio 4 and BBC Local Radio on a worship and prayer resource for Lent. This year’s theme is Sense Making Faith, based on the five senses. Visit [sensemakingfaith.org.uk](http://sensemakingfaith.org.uk).

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A BACK to Church Sunday meeting takes place on Tuesday 27 January at Renfield Church Centre, Glasgow, 10am-3.30pm. Contact Darren McFarland, Diocesan Mission Core Group (01505 812359).

FROM Saturday 28 February to Sunday 15 March is the sixth Edinburgh International Festival of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace. Build-up events include a Middle Eastern Film Festival at Edinburgh Filmhouse, taking place from 31 January to 19 February. Visit [mesp.org.uk](http://mesp.org.uk).

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THE Glasgow Academy music department presents a concert at St Michael and all Angels Helensburgh, Thursday 26 February, 7.30pm, with

performances from the concert band, the percussion ensemble, the pipes and drums, two choirs and soloists. Tickets £8 and £6 from church members or the Academy (0141 342 5488)

### ***BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL***

THE Bishop's Lenten Appeal this year is for Aquaboxes.

Run by Rotary International, Aquaboxes are a fast and economical way to deliver water purification supplies to communities at risk of water-borne disease. They have been used extensively in disaster areas.

Cash raised will be passed to Rotary to buy Aquaboxes. Rotarians in our congregations may be able to arrange a speaker and/or additional publicity. Visit [aquabox.org/project.asp](http://aquabox.org/project.asp) for more information.

### ***The drama of the Passion***

**The Arts Chaplaincy in Scotland with the Actor's Church Union in Scotland will present a conference on 'The drama of the Passion' next month.**

It will be in the Concert Hall, Mill Street, Perth, on Saturday 21 March, 10am–3:30pm.

The conference is open to anyone in the SEC who might be interested in links between drama and theology, between drama and liturgy.

The programme will be: 10:00 - Assemble and coffee. 10:30 - Welcome and introduction - Ann Mazur (Scottish Area Chaplain, ACU). 10:45 - Two Planks and a Passion; Theatre or Church - Chris Taylor (Chaplain to the Arts in Cumbria). 11:45 - Tour of the new Concert Hall. 12:30 - Lunch. 1:30 - Britten's Billy Budd -A Secular Parable of Salvation - Michael Fuller (Provincial Ministerial Education Officer). 2:30 - Literature and the Passion - Donald Orr (Secretary to the Arts Chaplaincy in Scotland).

A charge of £2 will be made to cover the costs of coffee/tea throughout the day. (Lunch can be purchased from the Concert Hall cafeteria.)

There is no charge for the day itself.

Spaces are limited. Bookings should be made as soon as possible with Revd Ann Mazur at [ann@mazur.org.uk](mailto:ann@mazur.org.uk)

### **COMPANIONS TOGETHER WORLDWIDE**

*Gill Young outlines a conference on Companion Links*

**NEXT month delegates from around Scotland will gather in Glasgow to exchange ideas on how to strengthen Companion Links with Dioceses overseas, building on relationships developed at the Lambeth Conference.**

Before last year's Lambeth Conference a number of overseas bishops and their spouses visited dioceses here in Scotland.

Many were from our Companion Dioceses and this time shared was clearly appreciated by our visitors.

Sharing in the life of other dioceses enabled many within our congregations to feel a closer link with our Companion Dioceses.

But where did that lead us?

The need to keep such conversations going has to be a high priority.

With that in mind the Provincial Overseas Committee will host a conference on 21 March in Glasgow to examine how we can develop our Companion Links with Dioceses overseas.

Chaired by Revd Canon Duncan McCosh, convener of the Overseas Committee of the SEC, the conference will be opened by our Primus, Bishop Idris Jones.

Bishop Idris said:

“First and foremost Lambeth 2008 was an experience as a result of which we felt ourselves to be part of a living and lively community that was of great relevance in the world at large.

“Ongoing dialogue is of the utmost importance to the future of the Anglican Communion. Mutual sharing and support increases the sense of partnership with dioceses that are far from us in physical distance and reduces emotional and theological distance too.

“Also we must not forget the needs of the poor as expressed through the walk of witness that bishops and spouses shared together through the centre of London and the commitment of the Communion to support those agencies working to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.”

Bishop Idris will open the discussion with a scriptural introduction to companion linkages and a reflection on what he has brought back from his overseas experiences, and a discussion exploring what global links are for.

Other speakers include Revd Canon Edgar Ruddock, director of the international relations team at USPG: Anglicans in World Mission.

He will speak about how mission works in practice in today’s world and how has it changed.

Revd Canon Stephen Lyon, general secretary of PWM (Partnership for World Mission), will offer practical advice for making Companion Links work and lead a discussion on what can we do to respond to the agendas.

Speakers will also share experiences of Companion Links in the Scottish context.

At the end of the day delegates can expect to have identified actions building on the value of the pre Lambeth Hospitality Initiative to develop and deepen the quality of Diocesan Link relationships and workings. These are expected to include ways in which we can:

- Seriously engage with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Five Marks of Mission;
- Renew and refresh relationships;
- Live out the challenge of the Lambeth Conference of ‘listening and learning’;
- Develop stronger more informed prayer links;
- Build on successes by sharing stories.

An on-line registration form can be found at [companionstogether.org.uk](http://companionstogether.org.uk), or contact me on 0141 332 2160, or e-mail [info@companionstogether.org.uk](mailto:info@companionstogether.org.uk).

## Getting the message over

### **IN the Diocesan Information and Communications Action Network (Infocomms for short) we work to help us all get our message over effectively.**

Below we sum up what Infocomms has been doing over the past year.

Probably the most prominent area of the Network's activity over the past year has been the newly designed and restructured diocesan website.

Here, much effort and technical expertise has gone into reconciling the requirements of the diocese with the ExpressionEngine content management system.

The effort has been rewarded and the website has been well received, Though the process of finding a suitable design theme was longer than expected, we are now able to offer free websites to charges in the diocese.

The object is to provide a basic design which is easily maintained using the WordPress content management system.

Some 15 charges have expressed an interest so far. Full details will be made widely available in February.

For several years now the Network has been using and recommending Yahoo Groups for running email lists. ClerumList and ClergyExchange are two that will be familiar to clergy members.

However, this free service has become increasingly cumbersome and unattractive.

We are now switching to Your Mailing List Provider (ympl.com) for announcement lists and to SimpleLists (simplelists.com) for discussion lists.

Both carry a small fee, but are easy to administer and do not carry advertisements. Church magazines play a major role in informing, equipping and mobilising congregations.

It's a testament to their dedication that 22 magazine editors and helpers travelled from as far afield as Kirkcudbright and Dumbarton in October to take part in an Editors Day.

The event was arranged by Infocomms, with presentations from journalists and seasoned church magazine editors.

Topics included gathering copy, making schedules work, design, artwork, copyright and technology. A session on privacy and protection of children and vulnerable adults was particularly well received.

Just as important was the opportunity for editors to meet, share ideas and pool experience.

Each left the host venue, St Margaret's Newlands, with a bundle of resources including DTP software and copies of one another's magazines.

For the coming year, we are taking soundings on demand for training in:

- *speaking to an audience with confidence and clarity;*
- *media relations.*

We are also exploring how we can make Diocesan News (DNS) more useful. To start the process, we have been asking magazine editors how it's used in each charge.

Our members are: Ian Ansdell, Revd Ali Chesworth (convenor), Susi Cormack Brown (DNS editor), James Currall (diocesan representative on the Provincial I&C Board), June Gray and Marilyn Pope.

Together we combine professional experience in ICT, adult and child education,

journalism, PR and publishing, as well as years of editing church and diocesan publications.

We are keen for someone to join us who can bring marketing expertise to the team.

*Susi Cormack Brown*

Diocesan Synod

THE 2009 Diocesan Synod for Glasgow & Galloway will be held on Saturday 28 February in the Glynhill Hotel, Renfrew, at 10am. Registration is from 9am.

## **GO ON — MAKE MOTHER’S DAY**

**Mothers’ Union again is highlighting its work with mothers and carers facing adversity, through its Make a Mother’s Day virtual gifts with Mothering Sunday cards.**

For example, a £28 birthing kit equips MU-trained birthing attendants with sterile medical equipment, vaccinations for the baby, and newborn essentials such as towels, soap and blankets.

That’s important when 10 % of all mothers in the developing world die in pregnancy or childbirth. Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia account for 86 % of these deaths.

Other gifts include a place on a MU literacy circle, plants, livestock and latrines.

Supporters can also choose a gift in memory of their mother.

Last year the campaign raised £159,000 to help mothers, and carers of vulnerable and bereaved children. Visit [www.makeamothersday.org](http://www.makeamothersday.org) to order. Orders must reach Mothers’ Union by 13 March to ensure delivery before Mothering Sunday, 22 March.

## **What’s good about being 104? No peer pressure.**

**IT was hailed the best quote from a conference on old age jointly backed by the Scottish Episcopal Church, ACTS and Faith in Older People.**

‘Wasteland or Harvest Field?’ was an ecumenical exploration of the needs of older people and the benefits they bring to churches.

In all, 120 people attended the successful one-day gathering held at Gillis College in Edinburgh. It drew speakers and participants from as far afield as Inverness and Norwich.

The purpose was to share recent work on old age and spiritual care.

A spokesman said: “Demographic change alerts us to the importance of considering the needs of the older members of our society not least within our congregations.

“We hoped to encourage those involved in training pastoral carers, elders, clergy, chaplains and all who visit or work with older people on behalf of our churches to take the topic seriously!

“We had to refuse places to 40 people as the conference was fully subscribed so we hope to offer a similar event in May in Inverness.”

To subscribe to the Faith in Older People quarterly newsletter email [info@fiop.org.uk](mailto:info@fiop.org.uk).

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**DIARY SECTION**  
**List of Preachers at Sunday and Midweek Services**

		<b>ALL SAINTS</b>		<b>ST ANDREW'S</b>	
<b>January</b>					
Sunday Epiphany 3 (G)	25	11.00	SE Revd Ken Shaw	9.15	FE Revd Ken Shaw 3.30 EP Sue Clarke
Tues	27			10.00	Ecumenical Prayer Group
Thurs	29			10.00	MP
<b>February</b>					
Sunday Presentation of Christ at the Temple Candlemas (W)	1	11.00	FE Revd Ken Shaw and Family Service Group 6.30 NP Andrew Long	9.15	SE Revd Ken Shaw 5.00 Candlemas Carol Service
Tues	3			10.00	Ecumenical Prayer Group
Thurs	5			10.00	HE Revd Ken Shaw
Sunday Epiphany 5 (G)	8	11.00	SE Revd Ken Shaw	9.15	SE Revd Ken Shaw 3.30 EP Jan Macdonald
Tues	10			10.00	Ecumenical Prayer Group
Wed	11	10.00	HE Revd Ken Shaw		
Thurs	12			10.00	MP
Sunday Epiphany 6 (G)	15	11.00	SE Revd Ken Shaw 6.30 NP Susan Gray	9.15	SE Revd Ken Shaw
Tues	17			10.00	Ecumenical Prayer Group
Thurs	19			10.00	MP
Sunday next before Lent (G)	22	11.00	SE Revd Ken Shaw	9.15	FE Revd Ken Shaw 3.30 EP Mary Finlayson

Tues	24		10.00 Ecumenical Prayer Group
Ash Wednesday (P)	25	10.00 HE and Imposition of Ashes Joint Service at All Saints, Revd Ken Shaw	
		7.30 p.m. SE and Imposition of Ashes, Joint Service at St Andrew's Revd David Wostenholm	
Thurs	26		10.00 MP
<b>March</b>			
Sunday Lent 1 (P)	1	11.00 FE Revd Ken Shaw and Family Service Group	9.15 SE Revd Ken Shaw
		6.30 NP Mike Graham	
Tues	3		10.00 Ecumenical Prayer Group
Thurs	5		10.00 HE Revd Ken Shaw

HE	= Holy Eucharist (said)	RS	= Reserved Sacrament
HE(H)	= Holy Eucharist (with hymns)	EP	= Evening Prayer
SE	= Sung Eucharist	FS	= Family Service (non-Eucharistic)
FE	= Family Eucharist	NP	= Night Prayer

### Church Notes for February

**Ash Wednesday**, the beginning of Lent, falls on 25th February. Joint services for All Saints and St Andrew's are:

**10 a.m.** Holy Eucharist with the imposition of ashes, at All Saints, Bearsden

**7.30 p.m.** Sung Eucharist, with the imposition of ashes, at St Andrew's, Milngavie

## READINGS AND ROTAS

### All Saints' Sidesmen

If unable to attend, please arrange for a swap

		<b>Morning</b>		<b>Evening 6.30 p.m.</b>
		<b>8 a.m.</b>	<b>10.15 a.m.</b>	
January	25	8 a.m. service suspended during the vacancy	Bill Sharp Roy Thompson	No Duty
February	1		Richard Kingslake Kate Ross	Brian Dorrington
	8		Joyce James Colin Campbell	No Duty
	15		Ashraf Ayoub John Harrington	David Wheatley
	22		Alan Bisset Simon Lewis	No Duty
March	1		John Sherwood Bryan Peck	Roy Thompson

### All Saints' Readers and Intercessors

		<b>10.15 a.m.</b>		<b>6.30 p.m.</b>
		<b>Reader</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Reader</b>
January	25	Brian Dorrington	David Simmons	John Harrington
February	1	TBA	TBA	Maxie Richards
	8	Ann Wheatley	Susan Gray	
	15	Christine Smith	John Duncan	Preacher
	22	Dorothy Peck	David Hamblen	Andrew Long
March	1	TBA	TBA	Maxie Richards

### All Saints' Sunday Morning Coffee Rota

February	1	<b>Gillian Kingslake</b>	Sheena MacDonald	Barbara Thompson
	8	<b>Dorothy Peck</b>	Sheila Gray	Jane Lewis
	15	<b>Ruth Paxton</b>	Margery Pollock	May Campbell
	22	<b>Janet Stack</b>	Joyce James	Kate Ross
March	1	<b>Ann Wheatley</b>	Christine Fry	Sheila Benson

*Name in **bold** to supply milk. Thank you for your support. Jean Stirling.*

### All Saints' Readings and Hymns

Sunday	Morning Readings	Morning Hymns	Evening Readings	Evening Hymns
<b>Jan 25th</b> Epiphany 3	Genesis 14. 17-20 Revelation 19. 6-10 John 2. 1-11	9 404 61 170	Evening Prayer at St Andrew's, Milngavie, 6.30 pm	
<b>Feb 1st</b> Candlemas	Malachi 3. 1-5 Hebrews 2. 14-18 Luke 2. 22-40	TBC	Exodus 13. 1-16 Romans 12. 1-5	Night Prayer
<b>Feb 8th</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent	Isaiah 40. 21-31 1 Corinthians 9.16-23 Mark 1. 29-39	105 510 519 521	Evening Prayer at St Andrew's, Milngavie, 6.30 pm	
<b>Feb 15th</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent	Proverbs 8. 1,22-31 Colossians 1. 15-20 John 1. 1-14	222 21 359 S17	Duteronomy 8. 1-10 Matthew 6. 25-end	Night Prayer
<b>Feb 22nd</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday before Lent	2 Kings 2. 1-12 2 Corinthians 4. 3-6 Mark 9. 2-9	266 323 269 172	Evening Prayer at St Andrew's, Milngavie, 6.30 pm	

### St Andrew's Readings and Hymns

SUNDAY	MORNING READINGS	MORNING HYMNS	EVENING READINGS
<b>Sunday 1 February</b> Presentation of Christ in the Temple Candlemas Setting: Grayston Ives	Malachi 3.1-5 Hebrews 2.14-18 Luke 2. 22-40	266 55 184 Nunc Dimittis 214(ii)	<b>5.00pm</b> Candlemas Service of Lessons and Carols on the theme of Light.
<b>Sunday 8 February</b> Third Sunday before Lent Setting: Grayston Ives Psalms of Patience, Protest and Praise	Isaiah 40 . 21-31 1. Corinthians 9.16-23 Mark 1. 29-39	105 PPP 147 315 402 519	<b>3.30pm Evening Prayer</b> Jeremiah 26.1-16 Acts 3. 1-10 Psalms 2,3

<b>Sunday 15 February</b> Second Sunday before Lent Setting: Grayston Ives Psalms for Singers	Proverbs <b>8.1,22-31</b> Colossians <b>1. 15-20</b> John <b>1. 1-14</b>	13 PFS 104 41 396 323	
<b>Sunday 22 February</b> Sunday next before Lent Setting: Grayston Ives Organist: Hugh Macdonald	<b>2.Kings 2. 1-12</b> <b>2. Corinthians 4. 3-6</b> Mark <b>9. 2-9</b>	MISSION PRAISE 79 50 728 67 468	<b>3.30PM Evening Prayer</b> Exodus <b>12. 12-end</b> <b>2. Corinthians 3.</b> 12-end Psalms 27,150
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>25 FEBRUARY</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>7.30 p.m.</b> Setting: The Galloway Mass Organist: Sue Harrington	Isaiah <b>58.1-12</b> 2. Corinthians <b>5. 20b – 6. 10</b> Matthew <b>6.1-6,16-21</b>	359 444 438 35 466	
<b>Sunday 1 March</b> The first Sunday of Lent Setting: Galloway Mass Organist: Hugh Macdonald	Genesis <b>9. 8-17</b> <b>1. Peter 3.18-22</b> Mark <b>1.9-15</b>	333 103 438 440 595	
<b>Sunday 8 March</b> The second Sunday of Lent Setting: Galloway Mass Green Book Organist: George Inwood	Genesis <b>17.1-7,15,16</b> Romans <b>4. 13-25</b> Mark <b>8. 31-38</b>	270 114 172 409 (ii) Green 13 (CH4. 533) (Play in duple time)	<b>3.30pm Evening Prayer</b> Isaiah <b>51. 1-11</b> Galatians <b>3.</b> 1-9, 23-end Psalm <b>105.</b> 1-6, 37-end

### St Andrew's Rotas

Month	Date	Depute Church Warden	Eucharistic Assistant	Intercessor	Coffee
Feb	1	Pamela	Steve	Mary	Wilma
	8	Rosamond	Robert	Pamela	Pamela
	15	Steve	Sue	Sue	Margaret
	22	Robert	Fraser	Fraser	Nan
March	1	Jan	Steve	Jan	Clare

### St Andrew's Readers' Rota

*Note: the Loop system will be in the 'ON' position*

Jan	Sun 25	Caroline Logan 3.30 p.m. Mary Finlayson
Feb	Sun 1	Jan Macdonald 5.00pm Readers as advised
	Sun 8	Steve McVey 3.30 p.m. Rosamond Falconer
	Sun 15	Pamela Rutherford
	Sun 22	Betty Smith 3.30 p.m. Mary Finlayson
	WED 25	7.30 p.m. Sue Brough
Mar	Sun 1	Clare McVey
	Sun 8	Richard Booth 3.30pm Rosamond Falconer
	Sun 15	Dai' Smith
	Sun 22	Wilma Williams 3.30 p.m. Mary Finlayson
	Sun 29	Sue Clarke

### St Andrew's Diary

<b>December</b>		
Tues	2	Joint Vestry Meeting, All Saints, 7.30 pm
Sat	6	Prayer Breakfast, St Paul's, breakfast 8 a.m., prayers 8.45 a.m.
Sat	13	Christmas lunch
<b>February</b>		
Sun	1	Candlemas Carol Service, 5 p.m.
Mon	2	Joint Vestry Meeting, St Andrew's, in Church at 8 p.m.
Sat	7	Prayer Breakfast, breakfast 8 a.m., prayers 8.45 a.m.
Wed	11	Vestry Meeting, 7.30 p.m.
Wed	25	Ash Wednesday, Joint Service at 7.30 p.m.
<b>March</b>		
Wed	4	Lent study group, in the Church, 7.30 p.m., also on 11, 18, 25 March and 1 April
Wed	18	Vestry Meeting, 8 p.m., after Lent Study group