

**ISSUE No 145
OCTOBER
2011**

KARAIL

Crail and Kingsbarns Parish Magazine



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**Kingsbarns Christmas Eve Service 8.00 pm
Crail Watchnight Service 11.30 pm
Crail Christmas Day Service 11.15 am**

**Printing of this issue of Karail is supported by donations from Crail Pharmacy
and from the Rotary Club of Anstruther and District**

THE PARISHES OF CRAIL AND KINGSBARN

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Crail Parish Church of Scotland
Charity registered in Scotland: SC001601

Kingsbarns Church of Scotland
Charity registered in Scotland: SC012192

The next issue of Karail will be February 2012
Copy for the magazine to the editor by 15th January at the latest please

Editor meets Minister



Dr Allison, welcome and thank you for agreeing to talk to me. I wonder if you could start by telling us something about yourself – your background and how you came to the Ministry?

I was born and brought up in Paisley, going to Lochfield Primary School and then on to Paisley Grammar School where I developed a passion for chemistry. On leaving school I attended Glasgow University where I studied Chemistry and Agricultural Chemistry along with other mainly science based subjects. I worked for 4 years before returning to Glasgow to read for a Ph.D. It was at this point that I married Jim. After completion of my studies, I worked in the food industry for a year or two before taking a career break during which time Linda and David were born.

During the career break, I became more involved with the church through Presbytery as a Sunday school Adviser, through a variety of roles as a volunteer with Christian Aid and as an elder. It was at this time also that I became aware that I was being called to ministry; the call was tested and I returned once more to Glasgow to train. I served my probationary period at Paisley Abbey before going to St Andrew's Erskine Church in Dunfermline where I have been for the past 11 years.

Can you tell us how you came to a decision to join us here in the East Neuk. As a newcomer myself I feel very privileged to live here, but the past months have clearly been upsetting on many levels and for many people?

I became aware about 18 months ago that my time at St Andrew's Erskine was coming to an end. I could see no forward vision, which included them and me – we were coming to the end of the road – in the nicest possible way. I needed a new challenge – they needed someone else to lead them through the next phase of their journey. I have to be honest and say that I knocked at a few doors before Crail & Kingsbarns, but something seemed to click with the parish profile and after finding out some more from the Interim Moderator, the Revd. Iain Paton, I decide to submit my application. At all stages of the process there was a warm friendliness – like a courtship. Your nominating committee clicked with me – I clicked with them. When asked to preach as Sole Nominee I immediately withdrew other applications. I believe very strongly that this was God showing me that Crail & Kingsbarns was where I was being called. The congregation affirmed that on Sunday 26th June when they voted for me. The East Neuk is a beautiful place to be and I am looking forward to walking round and meeting people.

We are all placed into categories by our peers and Ministers of course are easy targets! – ‘does a good sermon’ ‘good with the children’ ‘good at visiting’. What do you make of it?

One person's idea of a good sermon is not necessarily the same as another's. One thing I have learned over the years is that no matter how much a minister visits, there will always be someone who says “the Minister didn't come to see me when I was ill in hospital.” That's probably because the Minister didn't know!!! Please, please, don't assume someone will have told me – I don't mind how many phone calls or e-mails I receive – that way I can act. I don't do crystal balls!!! I enjoy working with children although I'm sometimes not very up to speed with their current trends and fashions – I'm certainly not up to speed with their musical likes and dislikes but I enjoy storytelling and engaging in a rapport with them.

Continues on page 4

The more than two thousand years of Christian worship has witnessed many changes as societies have changed. Today we can read comment in the press about faith and belief, often with labels attached – ‘traditional’ ‘evangelical’ ‘liberal’ and so on. Journalists make much of the danger of schism in the Church of Scotland and the challenges it faces. What are your own thoughts?

Labels have a habit of pigeon-holing people into narrow categories which I believe can be dangerous and can ultimately give the church bad press when journalists begin to play one side off against another. Life is not that simple – faith & belief are not that simple. Over the 2000 years, there have been many issues, which have caused disagreement and splits in the church. It is an inevitability – but don’t attribute it to one labelled group or another – there are shades of grey. The Church of Scotland is a broad church with a wide range of opinions. It needs to work through these. And has done so on many occasions. Perhaps we can liken the church to oysters, which as everybody knows sometimes make pearls; but it seems pearls aren’t automatic. When an oyster gets a bit of sand inside its shell, then one of two things will happen. The oyster will either create a pearl, or it will die. The pearl, a thing of beauty and value, is the oyster’s way of staying alive after something very irritating has got past its shell, into its heart.

We - and indeed the church itself, in this and every generation - need to work on these bits of sand very carefully. They will not go away; and we will either make pearls, or, in one way or another, we will die.

The biggest challenges, which I believe the church is facing at the moment are falling numbers, falling incomes and rising costs.

Many feel that our society is increasingly secular and would say that church-going is just for the elderly – what would you say to that?

I wish I could strongly disagree, but sadly, society is increasingly secular and it would appear that only older people are going to church. However, I believe that one of the reasons why we don’t have young people in church (or not many) is because faith as we express it has little or no relevance for younger generations. That does not mean that young people don’t have the capacity for faith & belief – simply that the culture of church as we know it bears no relation to their culture. We expect them to come on our terms instead of accepting them where they are culturally.

Do you have a favourite form of church service – of worship – that you feel has particular relevance and value for us today, in our world with all its pressures, conflicts and demands?

I would describe my style of worship as contemporary traditional – in other words, a fairly standard style of worship. However, within that, I ensure that all parts connect. I am delighted that both Crail and Kingsbarns churches are using the 4th edition of the Church Hymnary. It is a wonderful resource of newer hymns which are more relevant to the context in which we live, as well as a wealth of old favourites – there is something for everyone there and I look forward to developing worship with you over the next few months.

How would you like to see our church and, especially, your Ministry develop for the future – do you have a dream?

Perhaps my hopes and aspirations for both churches and my ministry are best contained in the words of this hymn by Marty Haugen (b 1950)

*Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive;
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:*

*Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground,*

*where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:*

*Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:*

*Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.*

*Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:*

One final thing I should mention. We recently adopted a Golden Retriever from the Dog’s Trust. He’s a beautiful dog but he has one bad habit, which we are working on at the moment and trying to discourage. Whenever an opportunity arises, he likes to go for a wander on his own – he was obviously used to getting out with a previous owner. We would simply ask that if you see a Golden Retriever wandering about on his own that you check with us at the manse first before contacting the dog warden or taking him to the police station.

Letters to the editor

Lynne & Craig Allen would like to thank most sincerely everyone for their good wishes, get well cards and presents given to Ethan after his diagnosis of Lymphoma, we have been overwhelmed.

We thank all our family and friends for looking after Owen while we have been away from home, we have all missed him incredibly. It's their love and support that gives us the strength to get through this difficult time.

Ethan is in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh and is making great progress with his treatment. He's an amazing

wee boy whom we are very proud of. His bravery is an inspiration to us. He is getting the best care at the hospital, all the doctors and nurses are wonderful and we can't thank them enough.

Ethan will get some days at home and get back to school sometimes to see his friends – he's really missing them all and even missing the school work!!

Hope to see you in Crail sometime.

Parish Register (*denotes Kingsbarns)

New Members

We wish them every joy and happiness in our midst

*Mr Leslie and Mrs Alison McCoss, 2 The Square, Kingsbarns.
Dr Christine Rauer, Bank House, St Andrews Road, Crail

Marriages

Whom God has joined together

*1 July

Brian Boyle to Elizabeth Barr

23 July

Jennifer Keyden and Christopher Cummings

10 September

Laura Christian and Scott Cowie

Baptisms

Suffer the little children to come unto me

*24 July

Lachlan Ian Blair Weston, born 7/4/2010

*24 July

Alexander David Ewan Morgan born 11/4/2010

24 July

Alexander Vaudry, son of Xavier and Claire

21 August

Alex Collingwood Kennedy

21 August

Evie Hammond Kennedy. Son and daughter of David and Carrie.

Deaths

I am the Resurrection and the Life said the Lord

26 May

Mrs Sophie Miller

11 August

Mrs Margaret Bridges

11 August

Prof. Paul Wilkinson

9 September

Mrs Chris (Martha) Redfern

OCTOBER

The gilding of the Indian summer mellowed the pastures far and wide. The russet woods stood ripe to be stripped, but were yet full of leaf. The purple of heath-bloom, faded but not withered, tinged the hills... Fieldhead gardens bore the seal of gentle decay; ... its time of flowers and even of fruit was over. - *Charlotte Brontë*

News and Information

KINGSBARNs

MEMORIAL HALL.

Games for all in the memorial hall on Mondays 2 – 8 pm

Inside for table tennis, skittles, quoits, board games (Scrabble, Dominoes, Chess, Cards, Monopoly - or bring your favourite game).

Outside in fine weather - play Badminton, French Boules & Swingball.

Parking - only necessary parking behind the hall on fine days, to leave space for games.

Thank you!

Entry is £1.50 per individual, £2 Family.

Refreshments available. Half of income to Hall Funds. **Come and have fun**

The Strawberry Teas organised by the Memorial Hall Committee and helpers raised the sum of approximately £350 and grateful thanks are due to all who supported or helped in any way.

ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW

This year again the weather was not kind to exhibitors of flowers and vegetables in the run-up to the Annual Flower Show but what maybe lacked in quantity was certainly made up in the excellent quality of all the exhibits. On the day itself the weather was good which enabled the delicious teas to be served outside as well as inside. Again many thanks are due to the Committee, exhibitors, supporters and all who helped in any way,

LADIES WORK PARTY

Another year gone, but much work has been done! The main fund raising events were the Christmas Fayre in December, an Easter

Coffee morning in April and a Soup and Sweet Lunch in September. Money has also been raised through filling Smartie boxes with 20p coins and other individual efforts. Donations have been given, first and foremost, to the Church and also to Rymouth Home in St Andrews, Bopath Therapy Centre and Alzheimers Research.

Jumpers have been knitted for Save the Children and squares for blankets for Blythwood Care. At present shoe boxes are being filled for the Blythwood Care Christmas Appeal.

Monthly meetings resumed on Thursday 6th October in Memorial Hall and new Members are always welcome.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported our activities over the year.

The next event is the Christmas Coffee morning on Saturday 3rd December. - *Anne Orr*

KINGSBARNs ART GROUP

The group was set up over two years ago and now has a waiting list. Many who joined had never done any art and lacked confidence in their ability. However, under the excellent teaching and encouragement of Susan Forsyth, they now can produce some 'lovely work' (to quote their tutor)!

On 3rd July they held their second Annual Art Exhibition in the Kingsbarns Memorial Hall. On show was an excellent variety of works of art. Afternoon tea was served and the proceeds were donated to Marie Curie Cancer Care. Many thanks to everyone who supported the event - *Anne Orr*

A cat dies and goes to heaven. God meets him at the gate and says 'you have been a good cat all these years, anything you desire is yours – all you have to do is ask'. The cat says 'well I lived all my life with a poor family on a farm and had to sleep on hard wooden floors'. God says 'say no more' and instantly a fluffy pillow appeared.

Some days later six mice are killed in an accident and they also go to heaven, to be met at the gate with the same offer made to the cat. The mice said 'all our lives we've had to run – cats, dogs and even men with shovels have chased us. If we could only have a set of roller skates we wouldn't have to run anymore'. Instantly each mouse is fitted with a tiny set of skates.

About a week later God decides to check how the cat is doing and finds him fast asleep on his new pillow. God gently wakes him and asks 'how are you doing – are you happy here?' The cat yawns, stretches and says 'I have never been happier – and those meals on wheels you've been sending over are the best!!'

Thanks from Rotary

Sunday 29th May saw the second of our Charity Coastal Path Walks. The weather was dry and 160 walkers took part enjoying a 'blustery' walk - before returning to Crail for refreshments and a medal. Fortunately the wind was blowing just about directly towards Crail!! But still a challenge - **thank you and very well done to everyone.**

We don't yet know the final total that walkers raised for charities - but at mid September it stood at about £10,500. This year walkers decided which charities they wished to support with a wonderful result so far – ADAOS, Alzheimers Scotland, Bethany Christian Trust, British Red Cross, Cancer Research UK, CHAS, Fight for Sight, First Responders East Neuk, Help for Heroes, Macmillan Cancer Support, Maggies Centre Dundee, Marie Curie

Scotland, Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, Rotary Charities, Scottish Fisheries Museum, Sick Kids, SSPCA, St Monans Playgroup, The Dogs Trust, The Eve Appeal, Water Aid and Yorkhill Children's Foundation.

We have just celebrated our 60th year of service and we think this result, for so many charities has been a great cause for celebration.

We will again be running our now-traditional local Christmas card delivery service, which also helps us to raise money for charities. Please keep a look out for our advertisements.

If you would like to know more about our work, please give me a call (01333-310714) or visit our website (www.rotaryanstruther.org).
Derek Mathie, club president.

Crail Museum faces up to changes !

For an organization more used to looking at the way things were, plans are now being made for changes to come into effect for the 2012 opening season.

Help with staffing and some financial support, which has been provided by VisitScotland and its predecessors for many years, is to come to an end. After considering options, the museum has decided to become a 'Partner' with VisitScotland. This offers benefits, particularly in marketing - but it does mean that the team of volunteers will need to reorganize, in order to fully manage the operation and staffing of the museum.

The volunteers all see the museum as an important asset to Crail and are facing up positively to the changes needed and the task ahead – but extra help would be very welcome. If you feel you might be able to give some time, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Museum Curator, Mrs Sue Bradman on 01333-450565.

And finally please don't forget - the museum will be open and for gift shopping 8th & 9th October, the 26th & 27th November & the 3rd & 4th December. Saturdays 10.00 am – 4.00 pm and Sundays 12 noon – 4.00 pm.

STUNNING Festivals!

Starting with the first ever Food Festival 17th – 19th June and thought by the organisers to have attracted 2,000 visitors spending perhaps £15,000 to the benefit of the local economy. It was a great event with music from King Creosote, an interesting (and very tasty) food hall and an excellent and colourful event in the harbour.

Then on to the now well-established East Neuk festival of chamber music in local venues, attracting many first class musicians and of course another amazing sand sculpture - of Beethoven - by the talented 'Sandinyoureye' artists.

And rounded off with an outstanding Crail Festival at the end of July – and a memorable final concert with Dougie MacLean.



MUGA OPENS – from Ronnie Webster – CRAIL COMMUNITY SPORTS

Crail Community Council has been trying for many years to provide sports facilities for locals and visitors. Finally in September we opened the Crail Community Sports, in Beechwalk Park. It can be used for many sports, including football, tennis and basketball. It is for children and adults of any age and it is **FREE!**

We have a small group of volunteers to ensure that this new facility is used and not abused and early next year we shall introduce a booking system. If coaching is required, this can be arranged individually or in groups with qualified coaches and with payment made directly to them.

This is a community facility for the benefit of Crail and district and of visitors to the area. We hope this facility will be utilised, enjoyed and looked after for many years to come.



Scottish Country Dancing now in full swing! – every Wednesday in Crail Town Hall, 7.30 - 9.30 pm until March (with a break over Christmas & New Year) All welcome. Further details from Elspeth Hunter 01333-451442.

FLOWERS

East Neuk Flower Club

Meets in Elie Church Hall on Tuesdays at 7.30 pm
October 4th, November 1st December 6th.

Crail & District Horticultural Society.

Thanks to all who came to the Annual Crail Flower Show on 20th August 2011 in the Community Hall. The entries in the Cut Flower Section were down on previous years, although the entries we had were wonderful. I think the rotten weather just before the show made things very difficult for all! The Vegetable, Fruit, Industrial and Craft Sections were well supported and the Society was most grateful for the efforts of all entrants. We hope to have similar or even better support at the Annual Chrysanthemum and Vegetable Show on the 12th November.

More information is available from Ron Campbell - Show Manager at 01333 451190, Kate Eggo at 01333 450643 or from our web site - www.crailhorticulturalsociety.co.uk.

Trophy winners 2011

The Sandeman Cup – Ron Campbell

The Burgess Trophy – Gregor Anderson

The Central Flour Mills Trophy – Mrs Jill Dewar

The Hutchison Trophy – R. Hain

The May Isle Cup – Tara Stockwell

The Mary Carmichael Cup – J. Finlay

The Strachan Trophy – J. Finlay

The Double Dykes Bowl – Mrs Betty Kitching

The T. L. Johnstone Trophy – Wm. Louden

The Innergellie Trophy – A. N. Weepers

The Carstairs Salver – R. Hain

The Kathleen Milne Trophy – Tara Stockwell

The Bob Rodger Trophy – R. Hain

The David Keith Quaich – Wm. Louden

The Neuk Trophy – Wm. Louden

IT'S SILVER GILT AGAIN!

Crail again won a Silver Gilt Award in the 'Beautiful Fife 2011' competition and was also awarded an extra Certificate for Horticultural Achievement. Congratulations to all and many thanks to Crail Preservation Society, Small Gardens Open, Rotary Club of Anstruther & District, to Jack and Victor for the planter on the St Andrews road, to Stewart for making the 'Crail Crab' box and to ALL who so willingly help with the planting and watering throughout the year.

We will be planting for the winter displays on Saturday, 29th October. Everyone is welcome to come and join in - experience not necessary! We will meet at Kathleen Main's pend - 17 Marketgate North - at 10.00 am. Hope you can come? – from Kate Eggo and the 'crail in bloom' group

Crail Art Group exhibition and sale of unframed paintings and other works Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th December. 11.00 am – 5.00 pm in the Legion hall. Free refreshments. Raffle in aid of the RNLI.

Royal British Legion

CHRISTMAS FAIR - 10th December in Crail Legion Hall

2.00 pm **AFTERNOON TEA**

In aid of

- Erskine hospital
- The Gurkhas
- BLESMA



The Guild

Summer has slipped by taking with it quite a few successful events. The Summer meeting of Guilds held here at Crail church in June was very moving with the Signing Choir of Edinburgh (profoundly and partially deaf members). They used signing to interpret hymns and spiritual songs encouraging the congregation to sign along - which we did. The Kirk Sale teas in July were successful; along with our friends from Holy Trinity Church we supplied teas for the Small Gardens later in July. The weather was lovely, which was a bonus. The Guild committee served refreshments at the annual children's holiday club at the beginning of August. It was lovely to see so many children enjoying themselves - the helpers also appeared to enjoy it as well.

The Crail Guild Dedication Service was held on Sunday 2nd October, being taken by the Rev. Ian Petrie - which was his last service. (We have enjoyed meeting Andrew and Hope each week with lovely prayers coming out of their little house.) They deserve a rest now, as

we welcome the Revd. Dr. Ann Allison and her family into our community. Dr. Allison will be one of our speakers at the Guild in March 2012 on Christian Aid.

We have more very interesting speakers lined up for the 2011/2012 session which started on October 6th. Dates and topics are on the 'dates' page of this Karail. (Don't forget the Guild Coffee Morning, Saturday 19th November at 10.00 am in the Kirk Hall – with home baking, gift stall, raffle and lots of chat). As you will see, most of our meetings will take place at 2.15 pm. This is because of the availability of speakers, the distances they have to travel, and the very bad winters we have had to endure for the last two years - which also makes it difficult for some of our members to venture out at night. You are all welcome to come along and join the Guild - Ladies and Gentlemen - you will receive a very warm welcome. *Margaret Robinson and Jan Diggelmann*

The Witches of Wormiston - Panto 2011

Crail Strolling Players proudly present 'The Witches of Wormiston' in the Community Hall, Crail, Friday and Saturday 9th & 10th December at 7:30 pm.

Tickets on sale at The Beehive from Monday November 7th.

*'Are you a good witch or a bad witch?' – 'Oh, I'm not a witch at all!
I'm Dorothy from Kansas'
(The wizard of Oz)*

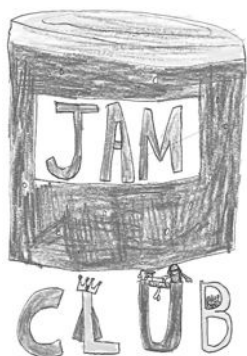


JAM 2011 – another happy week enjoyed by children and helpers too!

The **J**esus **A**nd **M**e children's holiday club met in the first week of August and this year's theme was Kings – King David, King Darius, King Herod and Jesus, the King of Kings. Over the week forty children enjoyed a wide range of activities, painting, games, making things, puppets just a few comments from the children

“.....the best jam club I've ever been to. I really enjoyed it this year because we got to go outside. I also enjoyed making things.

“It was really good....Jam club is the best!!



“We had a great time.”



‘A brilliant storyteller in Sheila Kininmonth – she had us spell bound. And also our own Ian Petrie who came to tell us stories too’.

The Annual Stated

Church-speak for the annual financial accounts - and the accounts for both Crail and Kingsbarns for the last financial year have now been inspected, approved and safely sent off to OSCR – the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator – to the requirements of which, all Scottish charities now have to conform. Copies of accounts are available from church treasurers.

Whilst showing some increases in costs and some reductions in incomes, generally things were reasonably in balance for the last year.

However recent weeks have seen steeply increased expenditures. Our very fine Crail church has needed quite expensive work to its heating system – and needed before the onset of winter. But the real shock has been the extent of work needed to the shared Manse.

When a start was made on the necessary cleaning, decorating and upgrading work, in preparation for the arrival of Dr Allison, some serious troubles were unearthed. Dry rot, wet rot, lead piping and other unsuspected horrors were found.

One thing seemed to lead to another – unfolding almost like a bad episode of ‘Grand Designs’ on the TV.

Work has been completed in time (just) thanks to very dedicated Property Convenors, and to the many skills of local plumbers, joiners, decorators, gardeners, cleaners and more. Bills have still to be paid! but the Manse is now in fine condition and the work that has been done will last for many years to come. *Raeburn Archibald, Hon. Treasurer, Crail Church.*

After church the woman at the door was embarrassed before the minister. ‘I hope you didn’t take it personally when my husband walked out during your sermon’.

‘I did find it rather disconcerting the minister admitted’

‘It’s not a reflection on you at all’ she assured him ‘Ralph has been walking in his sleep ever since he was a child!’

SCHOOL PAGE

CRAIL Primary School Notes

It has been a busy start to the new school session at Crail Primary School. We have welcomed several new pupils and staff members. Primary 1/2 are enjoying working on their 'Under the Sea' topic. Primary 2/3 are learning about 'Water' and P4/5 are doing a topic on 'Australia'. P5/6/7 have been studying the 'United States of America' and doing a science topic on water. Next term the whole school is going to be studying a 'Seafood Theme'.

We have been grateful to our Parent Council for donating money to the school to enable us to buy playground equipment. The children are enjoying playing with the toys, which are already in school and we are looking forward to the rest of the order coming in.

Upcoming Dates:

Monday 3rd October from 3:30-5:30 pm: Parent/Teacher meetings and Curriculum for Excellence Information Sessions

Wednesday 5th October from 6:00-8:00 pm: Parent/Teacher meetings and Curriculum for Excellence Information Sessions

Wednesday 21st December: Christmas Performance 6 pm
From Lucy Jess (Acting Head)

KINGSBARNs Primary School Notes

Kingsbarns Primary Term 1 - Kingsbarns Primary has had a busy start to the new session. We have a new teacher in P1- 4 called Mrs Cunningham. We also have new pupils in P1, P5 and P6 who are settling in well. This term the whole school are doing a project on farming and are hoping on going to Boghall farm to learn about farming. Kingsbarns Primary have also just started a house system. We have 4 house captains for our 3 houses, named after the beautiful Scottish lochs, Ossian, Scavaig and Coruisk. The children were all sorted into their houses in Harry Potter style.

P5 - 7 are looking forward to doing their own choice of personal project. Ideas are ranging from William Shakespeare to Greece to African Animals. The p7's are going on a two-night course on Friday the 2nd of September to Lagganlia. They are all extremely excited. On Wednesday 31st of August, the Scottish Society of Preventing Cruelty to Animals, (SSPCA) visited Kingsbarns School as part of the farming project.

by Lucas Burnside and Scott Laird

Boys and ghouls come out to play!! It's almost Halloween again; a time for tumshie lanterns, apple dooking, guising, dressing up as ghosts and witches - and parties.



Jack-o-lantern, Jack-o-lantern you are such a funny sight.
As you sit there by the window, looking out into the night.
You were once a sturdy pumpkin, growing on a curly vine.
Now you are a Jack-o-lantern, see your nightlights shine



Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 12th – 23rd September 2011 – *from Joan Forrest*

Monday 6 am saw Betty Kitching and me heading out of Crail en route for Edinburgh Airport to meet up with the other twenty four people who would make up our party of pilgrims led by Rev Iain Paton. Our homes stretched from the east to the west of Scotland, with one brave soul (an adopted Scot by the end) venturing from deepest Lancashire. The eleven days that followed were jam packed with information given by our superb guide Oliver who managed to combine history, theology, geography, geology with a smidgeon of politics and make it understandable.

We walked through the streets of Jerusalem, ascended mountains, Temptation and Tabor, by cablecar, crossed the Judean wilderness by bus (driven by Ali, the best driver in Israel), and sailed across the Sea of Galilee on what the locals call a Jesus boat! All this in temperatures of 90 – 100 degrees and all in the company of other pilgrims from throughout the world.

Most of the holy places are crowded, with people

trying to see, touch, kiss or just photograph objects of veneration.

The different Christian denominations vie with each other over ownership of the sites – not edifying – and there is what is called the “status quo” which means that nothing gets done! be it cleaning or repairs.

Two oases of calm are the Garden Tomb and the Mount of the Beatitudes where one can contemplate and simply catch one’s breath.

Highlights: Visiting the al-Shurooq school for the blind, run by Helen Shehadeh a former elder at St. Andrew’s Church of Scotland in Jerusalem; the Church of Scotland school at Tabeetha in Jaffa, and floating in the Dead Sea!

Lowlights: Viewing the wall built between Israel and the Palestinian territories and having to go through checkpoints to get to Bethlehem.

Would I do it again? **You bet!**

Number 7 – lucky for some

Mathematicians tell us that number seven is a prime number (as well as having many other characteristics). There are seven colours of the rainbow, seven cardinal virtues, seven deadly sins, seven days of creation. On the seventh day of the siege of Jericho, Joshua and seven priests marched around the walls of the city seven times, at which point the impregnable walls fell down.

The Bible uses the number seven over 700 times. There are seven churches, seven spirits, seven stars seven seals, seven trumpets, seven vials, seven personages, seven dooms and seven new things.

The ancient Greek Aristotle said every action must be due to one or other of seven causes – chance, nature, compulsion, habit, reasoning, anger or appetite.

The seventh son of a seventh son is thought to have special healing powers. Running round a grave seven times will raise a ghost.

Thomas the Rhymer went to live in the faerie kingdom for seven years.

In Hindu mythology there are seven worlds in the universe, seven seas in the world and a celestial group of seven stars.

There were seven voyages of Sinbad and part of the Muslim wedding ritual is for seven happily married women to touch the bride’s dress for good luck. And in the Islamic tradition there are seven Heavens and seven Earths. The number of fires in hell and the number of doors to both the heaven and the hell is also seven.

Nowadays you can even get a Life Path Numerology consultation via the Internet and based on seven. But how did it all start? – Karail would like to hear from you.

The world is round and the place, which may seem like the end may also be the beginning.

Ivy Baker Priest

After 18 months we have said goodbye to our Locum Ministers – Revd. John Cubie and Revd. Ian Petrie; we are indebted to them. They have given selflessly to the communities of Crail and Kingsbarns; providing pastoral care as well as conducting Sunday services, baptisms, marriages and, sadly, funerals too. Here are some thoughts from the last of their Sunday addresses – ed.

‘**Christians ought** to have a name for honesty, integrity, reliability – all the more so in a world where these simple virtues are ever more violently assailed by political spin and the TV docu-drama and the lurid half-truths of the tabloid opinion column’.

‘At a London theatre last month. We went to see a very funny stage version of *The 39 Steps*. The programme notes contained some comments on John Buchan, author of the original novel. The metropolitan compiler of the programme notes mentioned that Buchan had been brought up in a Scottish Presbyterian manse, and indicated his expectation that such an upbringing would be grim, narrow and austere; and, with pleasing honesty, his surprised discovery that Buchan senior had been a gentle, warm, kindly soul whose wife had to ration out his pocket money because he was forever giving it away to tramps and beggars’.

‘One of the more meaningful honorific titles of the Pope is PONTIFF, which translates as bridge-builder. That’s a reminder that the church, that you and I, must be made by God into a bridge between His love and human ignorance. We are in touch with God, imperfectly, infrequently, but undeniably. We are in touch with people of all sorts – strident atheists and earnest agnostics and shrugging ‘never think about it’ punters. Our task is to communicate some fraction of our vision to these sightless neighbours – to be a bridge of living stone between the darkness and the light. We are the human link between God and the pagan world – and no less His bridge between the separated sections of humanity. One of the first recorded actions of the authorities of Glasgow Cathedral was to build a bridge across the Clyde, a bridge that unified

two separate communities. That kind of bridge the church must BE as well as build. Last week (*the riots in English cities*) threw into sharp relief the sad divisions of generation and income and class and race within our troubled society. Bridges are desperately needed – and a bridge of reconciliation is just what the all-age, multiracial, dukes-to-dustmen church of Jesus Christ can be’. *John Cubie*

‘**Quite amazingly**, just one week after the 10th anniversary of 9/11’s horrific demolition of the twin towers in New York’s World Trade Centre, amid all the deep sadness there is little if any despair, but exactly that sweetest nothing of all namely the eternal love of god through Jesus Christ, from which nothing can separate us neither life nor death most surely the sweetest nothing of all’.

‘But after 9/11 and the continuing and unwinnable war on terror have we learned anything? It doesn’t seem so as I read these challenging words from Canon Kenyon Wright, a founder member of the Scottish Parliament: ‘It is reliably estimated’ he writes ‘that a month of the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan could eradicate illiteracy throughout the world’. Just think for a moment about the illiteracy and innumeracy here and ask the question – why?’

The stopped clock

‘Time stands still Lord, for this clock no longer ticks from the present to the future. We live in the present, but stuck here as time, apart from this stopped clock, is well and truly moving on, accelerating into a fast moving future.

The really sad thing, Lord, is that so many of us wish that this stopped clock, once started again would move not forward, but backwards to the very imaginary good old days which, in truth, were very much like the bad new days.

We should listen to our ticking heartbeat, which, of course, will eventually stop in your good time. Whether it is ticking or stopped, Lord, we should always look forward and never backwards, in hope and not fear’. *Ian Petrie*

Dates for your diary

**Friendship is a single soul dwelling
in two bodies.**
Aristotle

October

- 1 Saturday Fellowship 'Pot Luck Supper' Crail Kirk hall 7.30 pm
 2 Sunday Guild dedication service, Crail church 11.15 am
 3 Monday Monday Club, Crail Community Hall 2.15 pm. 'Under the Red Duster' Jim MacDonald.
 6 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 2.15 pm. Rev Caroline Taylor 'Iona'
 7 Friday Induction Service and Church social in Community Hall. 7.00 pm
 8 Saturday Crail Museum Christmas opening 10.00 am – 4.00 pm
 9 Sunday Rev Dr Ann Allison preached in. Crail Church 11.15 am
 9 Sunday Crail Museum Christmas opening 12 noon – 4.00 pm
 9 Sunday Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal
 10 Monday Monday Club, Crail Community Hall 2.15 pm. 'Songs & Poems' Catherine Brunton & Evelyn Anderson.
 15 Saturday Inner Wheel coffee morning, 10.00 am – 12 noon. Crail Legion Hall. Proceeds to 'Mary's Meals and Macmillan Cancer Care'
 16 Sunday Morning Service and Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Crail Church 11.15 am.
 17 Monday Monday Club, Crail Community Hall 2.15 pm. 'Maoris & the Milford Track' Joy Ingram
 19 Wednesday Kingsbarns SWRI 'Sniffing out the Baddies – Police Dogs' 7.30 pm Memorial Hall
 20 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 2.15 pm. Bette Hunter 'Tours of Scotland'
 21 Friday Crail Preservation Society Wine tasting with Pete Wood. Town Hall 7.00 pm
 21 Friday Film Club 'Funny Girl', 7.30 pm
 22 Saturday Charity Christmas Card & Gift Sale, Crail Community Hall, 10 am – 4 pm
 23 Sunday Holy Communion, Crail Church 11.15 am and 3.00 pm
 24 Monday Monday Club Crail Community Hall 2.15 pm. 'Magic' Jim Craig
 29 Saturday East Neuk Friends of CHAS Xmas Bazaar 10.00 am Kingsbarns Memorial Hall
 31 Monday Monday Club Crail Community Hall 2.15 pm. 'St Andrews in Focus' Flora Selwyn

November

- 1 Tuesday East Neuk Flower Club Elie Church Hall 7.30 pm
 2 Wednesday Kingsbarns Flower Show AGM. 7.15 pm Memorial Hall
 3 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 2.15 pm. Yorkhill Children's Foundation 'Our Brave Youngsters'
 3 Thursday Kingsbarns Ladies Work Party AGM. 7 pm Memorial Hall
 6 Sunday Communion, Kingsbarns Church 9.45 am
 7 Monday Monday Club Crail Community Hall 2.15 pm. 'Shipwrecks & Protected Wrecks in the Forth' Ian Archibald
 13 Sunday Remembrance Service, Kingsbarns Church 9.45 am
 13 Sunday Remembrance Service Crail Church. 11.00 am at Church gates.
 14 Monday Monday Club Crail Community Hall 2.15 pm. 'Gardens in the Borders' Andy Johnson
 16 Wednesday Kingsbarns SWRI business meeting 7.30 pm Memorial Hall
 17 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 7.15 pm. Phylis, Pathead Nurseries 'Christmas Arrangements'
 19 Saturday Guild coffee morning Kirk Hall 10.00 am
 21 Monday Monday Club Crail Community Hall 2.15 pm. 'Movie Showtime' Anstruther & District Rotary Choir. Jessie Lyon
 26 Saturday Scottish Night, Crail Kirk Hall 7.30 pm
 26 Saturday Crail Preservation Society Ceilidh. Community Hall 7.30 pm
 26 Saturday Crail Museum Christmas opening 10.00 am – 4.00 pm
 27 Sunday Crail Museum Christmas opening 12 noon – 4.00 pm
 28 Monday Monday Club Crail Community Hall 2.15 pm. 'Scottish Islands' Eldon Zuill

On the side of a large van spotted outside the Manse on the day Revd. Allison moved in
‘Bishop’s Move’
Is there something we should be told?!!

December

- 1 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 2.15 pm. Mrs Kathleen Collier ‘Capercaillie Kilts’
 3 Saturday Kingsbarns Ladies Work Party Xmas Sale & Coffee Morning. 10 am – 12 noon Memorial Hall
 3 Saturday Crail Museum Christmas opening 10.00 am – 4.00 pm
 3 Saturday Crail Art Group exhibition & sale. Legion Hall 11 am – 5 pm. Raffle for RNLI.
 4 Sunday Crail Museum Christmas opening 12 noon – 4.00 pm
 4 Sunday Crail Art Group exhibition & sale. Legion Hall 11 am – 5 pm. Raffle for RNLI.
 5 Monday Monday Club Crail Community Hall 2.15 pm. ‘Nepal’ Edith Cormack
 6 Tuesday East Neuk Flower Club Elie Church Hall 7.30 pm
 9 Friday Pantomime ‘The Witches of Wormiston’ Crail Community Hall 7.30 pm
 10 Saturday Pantomime ‘The Witches of Wormiston’ Crail Community Hall 7.30 pm
 10 Saturday Macmillan Cancer Relief Musical Coffee Morning 10 am – 12 noon Kingsbarns Memorial Hall
 11 Sunday Gift Service, Crail Church 11.15 am and Christingle Service at 6.00 pm
 12 Monday Monday Club Christmas party. ‘Hot Air’ Jean Bell & Friends
 15 Thursday Guild Christmas Lunch. Musical entertainment by Betty Kitching
 16 Friday Kingsbarns Carol singing around village. Meet at Church gates, 6.30 pm. Tea, coffee, goodies later in church vestry.
 18 Sunday Sunday School Nativity play, Crail Church 11.15 am. Choir Lessons and Carols 6.00 pm
 21 Wednesday Crail School Christmas Service. 6.00 pm
 24 Saturday Christmas Eve Service, Kingsbarns Church, 8.00 pm.
 24 Saturday Watch Night Service, Crail Church. 11.30 pm
 25 Sunday Christmas Day Service, Crail Church 11.15 am.

January

- 12 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 2.15 pm. Mrs Judith Hutton ‘DEBRA’
 26 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 2.15 pm. Mhairi Brown ‘Domestic abuse’

February

- 9 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 7.15 pm. Rodger Watson jnr ‘Life as a Crail fisherman’
 23 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 7.15 pm. Prof. Ian Carradice ‘Treasures of St Andrews University Museums’

March

- 2 Friday Crail Church. World Day of Prayer
 8 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 7.15 pm. Malcolm Stewart ‘Life as a Vet’
 22 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 2.15 pm. Revd. Dr. Ann Allison ‘Christian Aid’

April

- 12 Thursday Guild meeting Kirk Hall 7.15 pm. AGM and social evening

For more dates and information visit the ‘About Crail’ website
<http://www.aboutcrail.co.uk/whatson.html>



Gone electronic? – we can email you a digital (pdf) version of Karail – just let the editor have your email address