

ISSUE 159 AUTUMN/WINTER 2016

# KARAIL

Crail & Kingsbarns Parish Magazine



REMEMBRANCE  
SUNDAY

CHRISTMAS  
CELEBRATIONS

EVERYTHING FALLS INTO PLACE WHEN YOU FOLLOW JESUS

FRONT COVER DESIGN BY CRAIL CHURCH JAM CLUB

# COMING EVENTS

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- Remembrance Sunday
- Halloween
- Christmas Celebrations
- And lots more ...

## SERVICE TIMES

Crail 11.15am

Kingsbarns 9.45am

## CONTRIBUTING TO KARAIL MAGAZINE

It's that time of year again when we ask for your support to help cover the cost of printing this parish magazine. With the building of more houses, 1300 copies of each edition (in February, June and October) are now produced and distributed free of charge to households in Crail and Kingsbarns. We are very grateful to those already making donations towards the cost – but there is always a shortfall. If you have enjoyed reading this magazine and would like to help, please use the enclosed envelope, which can be left at the Manse or the churches in Crail or Kingsbarns.

Thank You

## THE PARISHES OF CRAIL & KINGSBARNES

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# MINISTERS NOTES

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## My Friends

I sit here in my study on a beautiful autumn day, pondering what to tell you all this time around. It has been a good summer overall. Our worship team which has been attending a “Weaving Worship” course run by the Presbytery of St Andrews has successfully led 4 early morning services over July and August and in due course will be accredited by Presbytery. We look forward to them participating and planning more in worship.

I have been involved in a Macedonian Ministry Cohort here in St Andrews Presbytery since its inception in September 2015, the first outside USA. Macedonian Ministry began in Atlanta, Georgia in 2008 with the goal of helping ministers become more faithful and effective leaders in their congregations and local communities. Ministers are often faced with numerous challenges that can lead to a sense of isolation, discouragement, and despair; the urgent need for clergy renewal cannot be overstated. Through the Macedonian Ministry program, ministers are provided with an array of tools to connect with fellow ministers, renew their ministry, and strengthen their relationship with God.

The name Macedonian Ministry, draws from the Biblical passage, Acts 16, in which the apostle Paul heard a call in a dream from a man of Macedonia saying, “Come over and help us.” This narrative captures well the heart of Macedonian Ministry, as we respond to the call of the Spirit, and encourage ministers to come over and help one another.

The mission of Macedonian Ministry is to serve the church of Jesus Christ by

- (1) renewing ministers,
- (2) transforming congregations, and
- (3) impacting communities with the gospel.



With the first of these taken care of through cohort meetings etc, a team from Atlanta (Rev Dr Sue Westfall and Rev Adam Borneman) visited the Presbytery in September and spent a week with a variety of meetings with a variety of groups, naturally including the cohort.

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup>, they were able to be with the congregations of Anstruther and Cellardyke who had chosen to unite, becoming one congregation, now called St Ayle (pronounced isle)

And on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>, at the “Cellardyke campus” of St Ayle there was an elders conference for congregations all over presbytery, whose minister, interim moderator and/or locum was involved in Macedonian Ministry. The purpose of this conference was to make the case for change, identify key areas for change and wise approaches to transition. Our own Presbytery Clerk, Rev Nigel Robb, put some myths to bed over things we thought were “aye been” but in fact are relatively recent. Change has been happening steadily in the Church of Scotland for the past 450 years!!! We shared with each other over coffee and lunch – Koinonia (fellowship, sharing, participating, contributing) was the overwhelming sense that we had.

What an amazing day finishing with the sacrament of holy communion which can only be described as a “God moment”. The bottom line is that we need to prepare for change but God goes ahead of us and shows us the way.

Wishing you God’s richest blessings

Your Minister and friend

*Ann Allison*

# PARISH REGISTER

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## DEATHS

*Committed to God's merciful keeping in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life*

May 24 Leslie McCoss, Kingsbarns

May 31 Lewis Lawson, Balnacarron, St Andrews

June 1 Catherina (Nan) Wright, Arrighi Crescent

June 9 John S. Bell, Ladywalk House

June 25 Gillian Pairman, Kingsbarns

July 22 Derek Walker, Carr Crescent

Aug. 8 Margaret Taylor, High Street

Aug. 16 Jean Murray, Bow Butts

## MARRIAGES

Those whom God has joined together.

18<sup>th</sup> September Nikki Banner to Timothy Gibson, Leith

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## GUILD DATES

**Sunday 9 October 2016**, DEDICATION SERVICE, 11:15am Crail Kirk

**Thursday 13 October 2016, 2:15pm**, Tai Chi, Margaret Inglis

**Thursday 27 October 2016, 2:15pm**, The Good Scots Tongue, Rev Jim Campbell

**Thursday 10 November 2016, 2:15pm**, Holiday Home, Rosalie Wilkie

**Saturday 19 November 2016, 10:00am**, GUILD COFFEE MORNING

**Thursday 24 November 2016, 2:15pm**, Christmas Floral Decorations, Margaret Bell

**Thursday 8 December 2016, 2:15pm**, Poetry and Paper Folding, Jean Fogan/Francis Winton

**Thursday 15 December 2016**, Christmas Outing

**Thursday 5 January 2017, 2:15pm**, Riding for the Disabled, Christine McDowall

The British Legion are hosting another hugely popular afternoon tea this year on the **10<sup>th</sup> December**

**at 2pm** in the Legion Hall.



## The Monday Club Meetings

The Monday Club meets every Monday at 2:15pm in the Community Hall.

Everybody is welcome.

The programme for the Autumn is itemised on the Dates for Diary pages

# NEWS & INFORMATION

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As Crail Folk Club approaches the end of another very successful year we look forward to 2017 which marks the club's 30th Anniversary. This year we have had some great shows with further increases in attendance. The good news is that we still have two guest nights left this year plus a Singers Night and our annual FREE Christmas Party. Coming up this month we have two of Scotland's most revered multi-instrumentalists, Mairearad Green (accordion and bagpipes) and Anna Massie (guitar, banjo and fiddle) - their singing is pretty good as well! The Poozies and Blazing Fiddles are amongst the various bands of which they are members. K T Tunstall said of them 'amazing playing'. In November we have Ewan McLennan who, in a very short space of time has come to be known as a top guitarist, balladeer and storyteller.

Ewan is now a regular on BBC 2's Transatlantic Sessions.

We already have some acts booked for 2017, the rest will be finalised as Karail goes to print. In such a celebratory year we get off to a big guest night month in February. First up is another celebration as Richard Digance is doing a few clubs to mark his 50th year on the road before he does a major concert tour of the UK - we will be one of those clubs. Richard will be joined as support act by up and coming stars of the folk circuit, the Broadside Boys. We then have top Scottish/Canadian band Outside Track (in the Community Hall) - on a previous visit (before they were famous) they sold out the Town Hall. There will be advance tickets for both these shows.

Later in the year we have guitar legend Wizz Jones who

has not long released an album as a duo with Ralph McTell. We also have Bob Fox fresh from the London stage where he has been the Narrator in War Horse for a couple of years we have a new website [www.craifolkclub.org.uk](http://www.craifolkclub.org.uk) and a relatively new Facebook Page so it is easy to keep up to date.



I should like to thank the many people in Crail and Kingsbarns who have so willingly given their spare time, effort and support to help me over 20 years to raise money in the Door to Door collections for the RNLI.

During this time, these collections have raised over £20,000 entirely thanks to their efforts and to the generosity of all the people in Crail and Kingsbarns, who have so generously supported Lifeboats over the years.

It is a matter of great sadness to me that the Executive of the RNLI have decided to end the Door to Door collections in the whole of the U.K.

*Mary Boulter*

# NEWS & INFORMATION

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## Traidcraft for Christmas

The new Traidcraft catalogue is now available containing the full range of Christmas goodies from Advent calendars, decorations, cards, food and gifts. I shall have these available to browse and order from October at Chatbite. Although this seems early it is better to get your order in to avoid disappointment as the popular items do run out.

*Diana Brown*



## Crail Beavers & Cubs

Over the past year we have had a steady number of boys & girls in both sections in Crail and each section has been working on badges for the children to gain. We all joined together for a sausage sizzle on Roome Bay Beach where we cooked lots of sausages and marshmallows, then sang songs around the fire.

In June we all went off to Wormiston to enjoy the annual camp. This year's theme was Jungle Book as the cubs are celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Lots of fun was had by all despite the weather not being great. Two of our local Explorers were lucky enough to earn a place at the Blair Atholl Jamboree for 2 weeks in July which they really enjoyed. This also meant that 8 Scouts attended the Satellite camp for the middle weekend. After all this experience we have managed to also secure places at the Northern Ireland Jamboree next summer.

Over the next few months the Beavers & Cubs are going to be having a joint Halloween Party and Christmas Party.

Anyone who would like to join either section can contact *Lisa* on 450035.



## Calling All Children - Join Our Jammers!

The JAM Club are a small but enthusiastic bunch who like to have fun! We meet at Crail Church on a Sunday morning before heading across to the Kirk Hall for discussions, crafts and games. This term we have enjoyed a picnic in the new Kirk Hall garden, helping with the Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal as well as practising for our, once again top secret, Nativity Play on Sunday 18th December.

Topics this term have included Serving and Being Served, Lost and Found, The Cost of Being a Disciple and Consequences. We have also enjoyed a variety of new games, a favourite being Bridge the Gap, which involves a great deal of jumping!

If you would like to give us a try then we would be delighted to see you any Sunday morning at 11.15am at Church or phone me on 450393, thanks.

*Mandy Guthrie*

# NEWS & INFORMATION

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## Crail Art Group

We had a very successful Easter Exhibition this year with 37 of our members exhibiting and sale generated for 28 artists.

Total sales from paintings, crafts and cards were £2,806.

The Crail Kirk receives all the money from the raffle, donations and teas plus 10% of the sales which this year amounted to £598. Crail Art Group received £150 for its funds.

Auriol would like to thank everyone who helped with the exhibition. It takes considerable number of "volunteer hours" to ensure this annual event takes place, whether it be helping with the handing in, hanging and collection of all the works, helping with the teas, raffle, signs, flowers, "office work" such as cataloguing, manning the sales desk and other necessary jobs too numerous to mention. THANK YOU.

The painting kindly donated by Eric Dewhirst was won by Murray Padkin who was delighted.

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA

September took us to Portugal, to sun, heat - and the opportunity to visit many of the country's historical sites.

Among these was Fátima; a central Portuguese town that's home to the Sanctuary of Fátima, a Catholic pilgrimage site.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima (***Nossa Senhora do Rosário da Fátima***) is one of most famous Marian shrines in the world. Some four million people visit each year, drawn by apparitions of the Virgin Mary reported by three local shepherd children in 1917.

We read that, on the 13<sup>th</sup> of each month from May to October, the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared to the children - Lúcia dos Santos (age 10) and her cousins Jacinta (age 7) and Francisco Marto (age 9) - in the fields outside the village of Aljustrel near Fatima. According to Lúcia's account, Mary exhorted the children to do penance to save sinners. Most importantly, she asked them to say the Rosary every day. This was at a time when many young Portuguese men, including relatives of the visionaries, were fighting in the first world war.

A number of predictions were also made to the children and Pope John Paul II came to believe that the third of these foretold the attempt made on his life. On May 13, 1981, in St. Peter's Square,

Story continued over page...



**Come Shopping  
at  
Crail Museum & Heritage Centre**



Out of Season Opening Hours  
Sat. and Sun. 26 & 27 November  
Sat. and Sun. 3 & 4 December  
Sat. and Sun. 10 & 11 December  
Mon. and Tues. 2 & 3 January

**BIG SALE!!!**



# OUR LADY OF FATIMA

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exactly 64 years after the first apparition of the Virgin Mary to the three shepherd children, the Pope was gravely injured by four bullets in an assassination attempt.

It is written that while he was in the hospital, Pope John Paul considered especially the 'Third Secret of Fatima'. He became convinced that Our Lady of Fatima had saved his life. As a measure of his gratitude, John Paul gave the bullet that was extracted from his body to the shrine; the bullet today forming part of the crown of the statue there.

We found that the site for visitors is now very large, but despite the presence of many people on the day of our visit there was an air of peace and tranquility. The respect being shown by everyone could be clearly felt. There are special provisions for pilgrims and it was both moving and humbling to see penitents walking on their knees down a long marble pathway to the shrine. This in a temperature of perhaps 38 degrees Centigrade.

The short time we had was just enough to admire the many fine buildings and sculptures and to visit a most impressive modern chapel. We took time to pause and light a candle for a friend. This was startling, as we were confronted by a fiery furnace. Perhaps the heat of the day had caused candles to soften and collapse – but the end result was the spectacle of fierce flames rising through the stands of candles and quickly consuming them.

Imagination conjured up some sort of 'Heath Robinson' machine that quickly gathered up the molten wax to instantly create new candles - to be transported once again for sale!

With time running out, a small café provided life-saving caffeine and cake and a slightly surreal view through the window to a sign offering free parking at the Aleluia Hotel – perhaps the earthly commercial side to a shrine that has an important human history and one that is of great significance to many people of faith.

And the three children? Francisco and Jacinta succumbed to the 'flu epidemic of 1918. They are buried at the Sanctuary of Fátima, and were beatified by Pope John Paul II on 13 May 2000. At age fourteen, Lúcia went to the school of the Sisters of St. Dorothy in Vilar and then to Dorothean convents. She later left the Dorothean order and joined the Carmelite Order in a monastery in the ancient university town of Coimbra, where she died on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2005, at the age of 97 years.

*Eric & Patricia Dewhirst*





# NEWS & INFORMATION Parish of Kingsbarns

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## **KINGSBARNs CHURCH ORGAN REPAIR**

In our Church we are very fortunate in having a very fine Forster and Andrews 2 manual/pedal/ pipe organ. It was formerly situated in Cambo House and was purchased new in 1882 by the Erskine family and donated to the Church in c1954. The organ has been described by a professional pipe organ consultant as 'a significant (and rarely encountered) surviving example of the output of Forster & Andrews for the rarified domestic market'. The wood casing, pipes and the metal pipework being of exceptional quality and the instrument has been registered with the Scottish Historic Organ Trust.

However we were advised by the tuners and the independent pipe organ consultant that serious remedial work requires to be done in the near future to the bellows and some of

the pipework. This is entirely due to general wear and tear and we have been advised that it would be a worthwhile exercise to have these works carried out, particularly given its quality and general condition (apart from the advised works). Since the organ was installed in the Church in c1954 the only major expense incurred was in 1982 when it had an overhaul and cleaning at a cost of c. £3000 which, due to a lot of hard fund-raising work, was raised in a relatively short time. Overall the organ has not cost the Church a lot over the years – just general periodic tuning required by all pipe organs. It is unfortunate that due to the specialist nature - labour intensive and highly specialised materials - of these types of works result in large sums of money required to carry them out. However works of this type only require to be done once in a very long period of time and we advised that this should keep the organ in good working condition for a considerably long period of time. We have sought quotes from 3 different repairers and all have made similar remarks to the consultant about the instrument and its type, make and quality.

There are very few small churches like Kingsbarns who possess a working pipe organ of this type.

### **The choice is yours**

Good morning. What will I eat today?  
Breakfast; Cereal, toast and marmalade and of course my tea to set me up for the day  
Morning coffee; cup of coffee and a scone and butter  
Lunch; cheese sandwich and a glass of milk  
Afternoon tea; A cuppa and a wee cake as a treat  
Dinner; Fish, chips and peas, apple pie and cream  
Supper; Tea and crackers and cheese.

Oh: What a wonderful day's menu.  
Wake up John. It was all a dream. I got a food bag from the food bank yesterday. Let's see what I got to eat. What have I got?  
Twenty-one items for the week, 3 items per day.

A bottle of milk	tin of tomatoes
Tea bags	tin of peas
Sugar	tin of macaroni
2 tins of soup	tin of carrots
pasta	tuna
2 tins of meat	pot of jam
Tin of fruit	2 sauce mixes
Tin of custard	beans
Cornflakes	small packet of biscuits

I'll never be able to win Great British Menu but I will not starve. I will survive. Thanks to everybody who has donated this food:  
Donations, either a one off or weekly, can be made at Crail Church, Kingsbarns Church or at Chat bite.

# PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

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## News from Kingsbarns Primary

This term has been busy. So far, we have welcomed our new P1-2s into the school. They are enjoying school life and learning lots. We have also started two projects, the Olympics and Into the Forest. Into the Forest is a forest school at Cambo woods with Catherine. Some people have sharpened sticks and made a flag out of fabric and painted on it with their sharpened sticks. Others have made sawdust from old logs that are in our learning area. At Kingsbarns we enjoy imaginative writing so we have started to create a woodland character to write about. Some people have made fairies and others have made elves. Some of us opted to make animals but use our imagination to make them more interesting to write about.

Our Olympic project has been good too. We have made flags and torches and have been learning a little bit about South America as well. Our Olympic rings look good high up on the wall. We have also done writing about a chosen Olympic athlete and have become really inspired, especially by the Paralympic athletes who, despite their disability, do amazing things.

Jamie Falconer

We have had a very busy few months with lots of learning happening at Crail Primary School. Here is a flavour of what has been happening at our school...

Over the summer holiday our building and renovation work for our new classrooms was completed. The classrooms are looking fantastic and provide a great learning environment for our children.

We welcomed our new children and their families to our Nursery. This year we have 17 children attending our morning Nursery sessions. All of our children have settled in really well and they are beginning to learn the Nursery routine. Our pre-school children have been supporting our younger children, helping them to find their way around the Nursery and discovering all of the exciting opportunities that are on offer.

Our children have enjoyed exploring their new environment and have been busy making plans to improve their outdoor area. We would like to thank Tom Hutchon for all of his hard work and for helping our children to plant lots of lovely flowers. The outdoor area is looking so much better already. If anyone has any of the following items at home we would really appreciate your donations: pots and pans, palettes, piping, guttering, shells, drift wood, cones and stones to name but a few. We also have a parent committee who are working together to improve our outdoor area. If you are able to help us then please contact the school office. The children have come back to school ready to work hard and to enjoy learning. This year we have 83 children in P1-P7. Our P1s have settled in really well and have enjoyed learning about our school routines and spending time with their P7 Buddy. We have also been learning about our brain and fixed and growth mind-sets. We

recently had a Brilliant Brain workshop with Gareth Miles from St Andrew University. This was a great learning experience as our children were able to look closely at neurons using a microscope and were able to look at a mouse's brain and a human brain. They were even given the opportunity to hold a sheep's brain. Our P4-7 children are currently participating in the First Minister's reading challenge. This challenge runs until May/June 2017 and the aim is to encourage children to read as many different texts as possible and to promote reading for enjoyment outside of school. We look forward to telling you in future editions how we are getting on. Our Fundraising Committee is busy organising a variety of events over the forthcoming months. (see dates for diary)

Best wishes from everyone at **Crail Primary School**.

# CRAIL FESTIVAL

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The putting green was open from 25 June to 28 August. There was a Street Market on 23 July. Performance events and the Art Exhibition ran from 20 through 30 July. Although audience numbers were disappointing for some events, the wonderful performers we are fortunate to attract to Crail ensured the Festival was a great success.

A distinctive feature of the Festival is the children's programme. The Sandcastle Competition, Afternoon at the Movies, Rock Pool Guddle, Crabbing Competition, Fossil Hunt, Putting and Workshops (Art, Drama, and Ceramics) are always popular. Innovations included Balance Bikes; Magic Skills and Circus Skills; a Great Crail Bake Off; Workshops in Fused Glass and for Krafty Kids with a seaside theme. Zoolab permitted the handling of exotic creatures. CSI Forensics, with Dundee Science Centre, revealed secrets seen on TV programmes like NCSI Los Angeles.

Music is central to the adult programme. The Jimi Shandrix Experience led the Festival Ceilidh; Opera Bohemia's 'La Traviata' had Catriona Clark giving an outstanding singing and acting performance in the role of Violetta; Richard Digance performed humorous songs and told very funny stories; Claire Hastings and Jenn Butterworth's folk music prompted a standing ovation, as did Christine Bovill's songs associated with Paris; Matthew McAllister's classical guitar recital reflected his growing national and international reputation; Jimmie McGregor's short version of his 'Gathering of Songs, Stories and Famous Folk' took an entranced audience down memory lane; and Buddy Holly and the Cricketers brought the Festival to a rousing close.

Other events included a performance by the Illyria Company of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' in the Castle grounds – in the worst weather of the Festival, the hilarious performance warmed a cold audience to the very talented troupe of five actors – how do they do it?; Les Barker's zany poems had the audience in fits of laughter from the first stanza of the evening; Tony Kingsbury led Clive Russell, a prominent Scottish actor, through his choice of Desert Island Poems at an event – afternoon tea with Prosecco - that also featured harpist Rachel Newton; and Kirkcaldy's "own" Val McDermid talked with Russel D McLean about the characters and influences in her work.

The 2016 Festival as always benefited from generous gifts of raffle prizes by many local businesses. Other businesses and an army of volunteers gave invaluable assistance. We are indebted to the family of the late Sheriff Graham Cox for allowing us to use the Castle grounds; Crail Community Trust for use of the Town Hall; Crail Branch of the Royal British Legion for the Legion Hall; the Session of Crail Parish Church for the Kirk Hall; the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh for Crail Catholic Church; Fife Council through Lindsey Brown for the Community Hall, and especially John, the Hall Keeper, for his unstinting help in mounting our various events there.

Caroline Rodger looked after the Festival website; Arthur Nuttall's team ran the Art Exhibition; Helen Byres organised the Street Market; Jenny Gowans led the children's programme and managed the putting green and its preparations throughout the year; the technical team led by David Fraser and Dennis Gowans ensured that events were well staged, lit and heard; Tony Kingsbury secured a wide range of excellent performers; and the hard-working Committee - Susan Aird, Ian Brown, Graham Guthrie, Evelyn Michie, Ian Mooney, Ronald Sandford and Valencia Sowry - small in number but big in heart and energy, worked like Trojans throughout the year, my final one as Chairman of the Festival Society. To all of them, along with the Friends of the Festival for their donations, the Byre Theatre for their assistance with ticketing, and the advertisers in the brochure, the warmest of thanks are due and gladly given.

Geoff Robinson

CRAIL FESTIVAL 2017 will run from 19 to 29 July – do support us.





# NEWS & INFORMATION

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## **Crail Community Choir**

Do you enjoy singing? If you do, why not come along and join us any Monday night at 7.30pm - no audition or need to read music necessary. We meet in the Town Hall or Kirk Hall or if you would rather hear us, come along to our Musical Evening for St Andrew's Day on 30th November in the Community Hall at 7.30pm. There will be no tickets on sale just a silver collection at the door.

If you want any more information, please ring Elis on 450693 or Catriona on 450398.

## **The Rotary Club of Anstruther & the East Neuk**

Would like to thank everyone who made this year's Coastal Path Charity Walk a great success and raised £17,014 for 28 charities.

The next big Rotary fundraiser is the now-traditional Christmas postal delivery service, which will run from 8th to 21st December. Price remains at a bargain 25p per card! Please keep a look out for more information nearer the time.

Since 2010 when the Walk started a fantastic £95,154 has been raised for a great range of local, national and international charities.



## **Food Festival Continues To Shine**

Despite atrocious weather this year's annual food festival was hailed a success after organisers learned that for the 3rd consecutive year visitor spend increased again.

Of course the weather played its part and the harbour activities which are always free and fun were completely washed out, indoor venues fared well and several thousand visits were made to the individual sampling, tasting, exhibition and cookery theatre venues. Evening events were completely sold out and no rooms were available at the numerous hostels in Crail. Over 60 % of attendees travelled from out with Fife and many self-catering outlets were also utilised, visitors came from as far afield as Italy

and the United States, including the festival as part of their trip to Scotland. Given the reach of the festival and despite the drop in attendance an economic impact of £315,000 was generated for the local economy. Within that, local fundraising for local community groups continued to feature as an integral part of the weekend programme. Some businesses reported lower trading figures compared to previous years, undoubtedly linked to the dramatic drop in visitor levels due to the awful weather.

Planning for 2017 has already commenced and a collaborative approach with members of the Festivals In Fife group has been made to Event Scotland with a view to celebrating the Year Of History Heritage and Archaeology as part of an event in Crail.



It is now clear that the existing management team need additional help and key personnel are now sought within areas such as programme development, treasury, social media and logistics. If anyone has an interest to work with the festival, then in the first instance just pop a quick mail to Graham at The Honeypot who will be pleased to hear from you.

Best Wishes, *Graham Anderson (01333 450935) Mail : info@honeypotcrail.co.uk*

# LETTER FROM PRESBYTERY

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Dear Friends,

September, 2016

I hope this letter finds you well in Christ.

As the new convener of Strategy & Resourcing, I'm writing on behalf of the presbytery's committee to introduce myself, our work and remit. There is a great deal of change already happening in the organization and resourcing in our Church, and more is on the way. We want to make sure you are aware of how the national picture is impacting on our local resources, which we hope may go some way to explaining current and changing circumstances.

The S&R's remit is to oversee the implementation of the Presbytery Plan. Each presbytery in the Church of Scotland submitted a Plan to the Ministries' Council in 2014, and at that year's General Assembly those Plans were agreed upon. The 2014 Plans, agreed by Assembly work several years ahead to 2024, offering projections for how many working ministers will be in the Church of Scotland. These projections are based on several factors, including how many trainees are up and coming, how many ministers are due to retire in the next few years together with how these numbers sit, when weighed against population numbers in parishes.

Our presbytery of St Andrews is a relatively small one, and in a short space of time we have lost almost a third of our parish ministers, through retirement and translation. Some of our church families have been vacant for over a year and some have more recently become vacant. So what is the national picture? The Ministries' Council statistics for the number of working parish ministers show a steep decline in a short time. 80% of parish ministers currently in post are over the age of 50, with an unprecedented number due to retire in the next few years. According to the Ministries' Council report to this year's General Assembly, 2014 Presbytery Plans have allowed for 800 parish ministers (plus an additional 150 different types of ministry) whereas, the facts on the ground mean there will be 600. Clearly we have people in training for ministry, and the Decade for Ministry is up and running and working hard to increase numbers. However, presently the numbers retiring and leaving parish ministry are far outnumbering those entering the call.

When I was ordained in 1999 I joined the ranks of 1200 parish ministers. It seems almost within two decades these numbers will be halved, which is potentially exciting because it means we are being called to be ever more creative, risky and courageous to ensure the Gospel is preached and shared by today's Christians in this corner of Fife.

Another statistic which is forcing change and transformation is the declining number of church families which are able to be self-supporting. If a congregation/linked charge is paying a Ministries and Mission contribution of less than £49,000 per annum, this means they are being supported by other congregations. Current figures show only around 35% of congregations/linked charges are able to be self-supporting, and this number is threatened too. This means almost 70% of church families rely on financial support from brothers and sisters elsewhere.

In brief, at this point in time, with our current Presbytery Plan agreed in 2014, we are eligible to appoint 19.6 fte (full time equivalents). The S&R committee has agreed to work to this figure while we can. The next possible projection is for 16 ministers by 2024, and depending on the national picture, this availability might decline to 14 or 12 fte in St Andrews presbytery in 2024.

It is important and energizing to bear in mind that *ministries* not only apply to the traditional model of parish ministry, but may also reach to encompass more creative ministries by lay people, trained and skilled in, for example parish nursing, spiritual care for elderly people including those with dementia, youth work, development workers, etc. ... I commend to you the Ministries' Council

*Statistics for Mission* which are based on the last census figures and which give a comprehensive breakdown of your local demographic and complementary areas of need. All you have to do is enter *Statistics for Mission* for the Church of Scotland on your computer, type in your church's post code and the stats pop up. These are invaluable for discovering what, where and who local need is - which is a wonderful tool for any parish church, called to work beyond their walls.

If our human resources are going to be more stretched as the forecasts tell us they are, I hope these suggestions are helpful tools for being as relevant and focused in our work as we can be.

Brother and Sisters in Christ, we believe there is no doubt we are being called to work in good relationship across traditional parish boundaries, in deeply challenging times for the Church. To help us reach one another and find faithful ways of working, the presbytery is divided into 6 areas or clusters which are geographically determined. It is inevitable that almost every cluster will face a reduction in the amount of ministry allocation in a relatively short time, and our plea to you is to talk together and discover your collegiate call. The S&R committee commends growing cluster co-operation - that in discussion together with brothers and sisters in Christ you discover the vision and call Christ has for you. This is deeply preferable than no such collegiality taking place - which inevitably will mean change is imposed which is not good, and not the way the committee wishes to work.

The Gospel is deeply counter-intuitive and is foolishness to the world's way of understanding. Therefore, it is our foolish and fervent hope that our dwindling human resources may, in the cradle of Christ's hands produce a multiplication of un-foreseen gifts, wrought in the heat and furnace of brand new fellowship. Our committee meets each month, and your cluster rep is there to represent you and your work and to feedback any and all knowledge and information which we pray is helpful to you.

Meanwhile, it is our joy to serve you, and to help you bear burdens which while shared, do not hinder you. Please be in touch if you have any queries or concerns, and be assured of our prayers in Christ's name.

May peace, joy and newness of life in Jesus be yours for the discovering.

*Rev Jane Barron on behalf of the Strategy & Resources Committee*



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Guild Dedication Service, Crail 11:15am
10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "A Musical Afternoon" by Cathie Murray & May Muir
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Guild in Kirk Hall, 2:15pm. "Tai Chi" by Margaret Inglis
14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Crail Museum Cheese & Wine Evening and Grand Raffle Draw 7.30 Legion hall
16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Worship Team taking the service at Crail and Kingsbarns 11:15am
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "Landscape Photography" by Brian Clark
19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	SWRI 7.30pm Kingsbarns Memorial Hall
21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	"Torpedo Attack". Talk by Commander David Hobbs with Refreshments 7.30pm Kirk Hall
24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "Laurel & Hardy" by Martin Hepworth
27 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Guild in Kirk Hall, 2:15pm. "The Good Scots Tongue" by Rev Jim Campbell
29 <sup>th</sup> Oct	10am-12noon CHAS Christmas Bazaar Memorial Hall
30 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Communion Service in both churches
31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "Forth Bridge" by Jack Jarvis
2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	7.15pm Kingsbarns Flower Show AGM Memorial Hall all welcome
3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	7pm Kingsbarns Ladies Work Party AGM Memorial Hall
5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Charity Christmas Card Sale in Kirk Hall, 10am-1pm. Various Charities
7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "Six National Rotary Club Choir" by Jessie Lyon
10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Guild in Kirk Hall, 2:15pm. "Holiday Home" by Rosalie Wilkie
11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Quiz Night and Auction at 7.30pm in The Golf Hotel for Crail Primary School
13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Remembrance Sunday, 9.45am in Kingsbarns, 10.50am at Crail Church Gates, 11.15am in Crail Church
14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "The Surrender of the German Fleet" by David Hobbs
16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	SWRI. 7.30pm Kingsbarns Memorial Hall
19 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Guild Coffee Morning in Kirk Hall 10am
21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "The Glasgow Garden Festival 1988" by David Mann
24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Guild in Kirk Hall, 2:15pm. "Christmas Floral Decorations" by Margaret Bell
26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Crail School Fair in Community Hall from 10am -12pm, all welcome



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY cont.

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26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Pot Luck Thanksgiving Supper in the Kirk Hall, 7pm. Entry by donation + plate of food
28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "Scottish Islands" by Eldon Zuill
30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Musical Evening for St Andrew's Day with Crail Community Choir, Community Hall, 7.30pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Crail School children decorate the Christmas tree
3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Crail Tree Lighting 5pm, all proceeds to The Sick Kids in Edinburgh
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "Christmas Songs" by School Choir
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Turning on of Kingsbarns Christmas Tree lights: the Square at 2.30pm.
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	SWRI 7.30pm Kingsbarns Memorial Hall
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Guild in Kirk Hall, 2:15pm. "Poetry & Paper Folding" by Jean Fogan/Francis Winton
10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	British Legion Afternoon Tea, Legion Hall 2pm
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Gift & Chringle in Crail Church 11:15am
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "Christmas Party"
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Carols round the village: Kingsbarns Square at 6.00 pm. Please bring a torch and dress warmly. If wet, Wednesday 14th December
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last Chat bite of the Year, Free entry. Restarts 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2017
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Guild Christmas Outing
17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10-12am Coffee Morning with Music in aid of Alzheimers, Memorial Hall
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Nativity Service in Crail 11:15am
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Crail Choir Carol Service
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Kingsbarns Church Carols by Candlelight 8pm
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Watchnight Service at Crail Church. 11pm Carols, 11:30pm Service
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Joint Christmas Day service at Crail starting 10:30am
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Joint New Years Day service at Kingsbarns (time to be announced)
5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Guild in Kirk Hall, 2:15pm. "Riding for the Disabled" by Christine McDowall
9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Monday Club, 2:15pm Community Hall. "Kingsbarns Distillery" by Caroline Rodger
19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Guild in Kirk Hall, 2:15pm. "Life as a Padre" by Rev Danny Connelly
21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Scottish Air Ambulance Coffee Morning in the Legion Hall 10am-12noon.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Guild in Kirk Hall, 2:15pm. "Leprosy" by Linda Todd/ Rosalind Smith
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Guild in Kirk Hall, 2:15pm. "MacMillan Cancer Support" by Gilford Bradley

