

SPOTLIGHT



MAY



LETTER FROM THE MANSE



VISIT BY SURESH FROM IVM



GRANITE CITY BRASS CONCERT



KILWHANG RINGERS -COFFEE AND BELLS



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK



... AND MUCH MORE

Stonehaven Dunnottar Church of Scotland

(Scottish Charity Number (SC013165))

www.dunnottarchurch.net

SPOTLIGHT ON SPOTLIGHT

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Whether we want to admit it or not we all spend the months of March, April and May hoping that the sun will come out and we will have warm spring/early summer weather. Now that the clocks have gone forward, we believe that summer must be on its way, so, to cheer ourselves up on yet another coolish Spring day in the windy north east of Scotland, we say things like "Look at how light it is at 6pm" because light evenings means it's summer! Being realistic we also don't take long to answer the question "Should I take a jacket?" Inevitably in Scotland, even in midsummer, the answer is yes.

In this edition of Spotlight there are signs that we are coming into the summer months. The Sunday school has included details of their picnic arrangements, the Guild has had its last meeting for the session, the bowlers have put their indoor bowling gear away and the badminton players have hung up their racquets until October.

There is still plenty to do while waiting for that summer weather to arrive (and hopefully stay) as you will see from the calendar entries and reports from the organisers of the various activities, with two musical events to put into your diary. Granite City Brass is giving a concert in Dunnottar Church on Saturday 6th May and the Kilwhang Ringers have a coffee morning in St Bridget's on Saturday 13th May.

Another sign that summer is on its way is the fact that the next Spotlight is the summer edition covering the months of June, July and August. Please send any items for inclusion in that edition to jenniferrmacdonald@hotmail.com by 6pm on Thursday 18th May.

Editorial Group:

Diane Dart	Morag Duncan
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clipart from openclipart.org

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**Email address for secretary: -
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LETTER FROM THE MANSE

LETTER FROM THE MANSE -MAY

"And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven." Luke 24:49 NLT

Scripture tells us that, after the Resurrection at Easter, Jesus the Risen Christ, appeared to his followers over a period of 40 days before his Ascension into heaven.

His parting words included the command to wait: to wait for the promised power sent by God which would counsel and comfort them... which would challenge and change them ... which would empower and encourage them... so that they might fulfil their part in God's mission to the world. That promised power arrived at Pentecost.

This year Ascension does not fall until May 25th and we find ourselves in this church community, even as we celebrate and reflect upon the encounters of the Risen Christ with people of the many generations since, we find ourselves waiting. We find ourselves waiting for a clearer idea of how we may proceed together as the Church of Scotland here in this place. We have been given a wonderful vision of a way forward but now we are unexpectedly waiting for the necessary power to begin to make this vision a reality.

Waiting is a mixed blessing. Some will see it in a positive light. Waiting gives us the appropriate time to ensure we are making the best decisions and help us formulate thoughtful and thorough plans. Others may view it as frustrating: an unhelpful delay which will allow enthusiasm to dwindle and combined forces to drift apart.

So how should we wait?

Let us take some guidance from Scripture. It is written:

*"Unless the LORD builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted".
Psalm 127:1 NLT*

But we are also told that after the early disciples waited in obedience the power that came ... in God's time ... enabled them to speak, to act, to be the people of God in ways beyond their human imagining.

*"Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles."
Acts of the Apostles 2:43 NIV*

continued/

LETTER FROM THE MANSE continued

LETTER FROM THE MANSE –MAY *continued*

Let us therefore take heart and wait in faith and in trust believing that, in God's time and with God's blessing, our shared plans will come to fruition.

Meantime let us pray for one another in our families, in our congregations, in our community and beyond.

Grace and peace to you and yours.

Rosslyn

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

BAPTISM

"... baptising them in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit."

April 9th Bernice Christina Urquhart
daughter of Steve and Michelle, Newtonhill

CONGRATULATIONS !

The Spotlight editorial team wishes a happy Diamond wedding anniversary to Adam and Eileen Reid, Riverside Drive, who celebrate their anniversary on 27th April 2017.

SPRING SALE AND COFFEE MORNING

The total income from the spring sale and coffee morning on Saturday 18th March was £1105-86. This total came from the cake and candy stall, the bottle stall, the produce stall, the Books and DVD's and the Easter Eggs stall as well as the sale of tickets and donations.

Thanks to everyone who supported this event.

The winner of the bouquet for guessing rugby score was Hilary Cooper.

Smiles can hide so much... fear, pain, sadness, tears. But then again they reflect one thing: strength.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

MAY

Tues	2	Bowling - St Bridget's	2 - 4pm
		Bowling - end of season buffet and prize giving-St Bridget's	7 - 9pm
Thu	4	Scottish Election: St Bridget's - office closed	
		Craft Group - South Conservatory	2 - 4pm
Fri	5	Lunch Club - St Bridget's	12.30pm
Sat	6	Granite City Brass Concert Dunnottar Church	7pm
Sun	7	Sunday Worship- South Church	10.30am
		Visit by Suresh of IVM	
		Service at Edenholme	2.30pm
Mon	8	Bible Appreciation Group 17 William Mackie Crescent	2 - 3pm
Wed	10	Whist at St Bridget's	2 - 4pm
Thu	11	Friendship coffee at St. Bridget's	10 - 11.30am
		Craft Group in South Conservatory	2 - 4pm
Sat	13	Kilwhang Ringers coffee morning St. Bridget's	10am - 12 noon
Sun	14	Sunday Worship - Dunnottar Church	10.30am
Mon	15	CHRISTIAN AID WEEK	
Wed	17	Dunnottar kirk session -Upper Room	7pm
Thu	18	Friendship coffee - St. Bridget's	10 - 11.30am
		Craft Group - South Conservatory	2 - 4pm
		Summer Spotlight copy due	by 6pm
Sat	20	Start of General Assembly in Edinburgh	
Sun	21	Sunday Worship - South Church	10.30am
Wed	24	Mowat Court service	2pm
Thu	25	Friendship coffee - St. Bridget's	10 - 11.30am
		Craft Group in South Conservatory	2 - 4pm
Fri	26	Close of General Assembly in Edinburgh	
Sun	28	Sunday Worship - Dunnottar Church	10.30am
		Service at Clashfarquhar	2.30pm

Hall Booking - David Macdonald - Tel 764 750

*" I have seen great intolerance shown in support of tolerance"
Samuel T Coleridge*

SUNDAY SCHOOL/ KILWHANG RINGERS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will be meeting during May and as usual we will welcome any child for stories, craft and possibly outside activities during our time together.

We are meeting with Kids' Praise from the South Church for our annual picnic and games at Luthermuir Park on Saturday 27th May at 1pm. Please bring your own packed lunch but snacks will be provided after the activities.

Contact: Helen Sang, 764 611

KILWHANG RINGERS COFFEE MORNING AND PERFORMANCE.

On Saturday 13th May the Kilwhang Ringers will be holding their annual Coffee morning and performance at St. Bridget's Hall from 10am until 12 noon.

There will be a variety of stalls and tickets will be available at the door. Ticket price is £3. Come along and enjoy the fellowship and music.



A BIT ABOUT THE KILWHANG RINGERS

The Kilwhang Ringers, a Handbell ringing group, was established in September 2007. The name, 'Kilwhang Ringers' was chosen by members of the group, Kilwhang being an old name for Stonehaven. 'Kil' means church, but 'whang' is more difficult to trace. It is thought to mean 'Comman' (Quhoan) and Kilwhang may therefore mean the church of St. Comman. Another possibility is that whang means 'long road'. Kilwhang, 'church on the long road'.

Current membership is around fourteen and the group is open to anyone who has an interest in making music. Handbells can be played by people of any age. Rehearsals are from 10am until 11.45am in the Upper Room at Dunnottar Church on Mondays during term time.

WORSHIP THEMES FOR MAY

MAY

**Sun 7th SOUTH
CHURCH
10.30am**

MORNING WORSHIP

VISIT BY SURESH AND ROJA OF IVM

John 10:1-10
The Good Shepherd

**Sun 14th DUNNOTTAR
CHURCH
10.30am**

MORNING WORSHIP

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

John 14: 1-14
Jesus the way to the Father

**Sun 21st SOUTH
CHURCH
10.30am**

MORNING WORSHIP

John 14:15-21
The promise of the Holy Spirit

Service led by Robert Bell

**Sun 28th DUNNOTTAR
CHURCH
10.30am**

MORNING WORSHIP

John 17:1-11
Jesus prays for his disciples

Service led by Ros Marshall and the Joint
Worship Team

Be patient with everyone, but above all with yourself. I mean, do not be disheartened by your imperfections, but always rise up with fresh courage.

St Francis of Sales

FLOWERS / DUTY ROTA

FLOWERS FOR MAY

 14th Maureen Criggie

 28th Kate Mathers

The Flowers will be delivered after the services in May by Kate Mathers

Contact: Ruby Still, 668 067

DUTY ROTA FOR MAY

Sun 7th
SOUTH Bus J Macdonald

Sun 14th
DUNNOTTAR

Bus	A MacCallum
Sound	D Macdonald
Duty	M Duncan, A Swan, D Begg
Reader	B Sim
Prayers for others	D Macdonald
Flowers	M Criggie
Coffee	M Cairnduff, K Mathers

Sun 21st
SOUTH Bus D McRae

Sun 28th
DUNNOTTAR

Bus	J MacCallum
Sound	B Sim
Duty	M McRae, M Whittet, J Balsillie
Reader	J Macdonald
Prayers for others	H Paterson
Flowers	K Mathers
Coffee	E Sim, C Sang

YOUR MONTHLY DIARY OF EVENTS

GUILD

On Tuesday evening St Bridget's Hall was filled with the sound of music! We were delighted to welcome about twenty members from Stonehaven Chorus to our final meeting of the session and they provided us with an evening of singing under the able leadership of Paul Mackay.

They thrilled us with a mixture of songs from various parts of the world including one from Russia which was sung in Russian and also a few Scottish melodies. The music and the melodies blended beautifully together and everyone felt uplifted at the end of the programme. The Chorus is holding a Coffee Morning and Afternoon Tea in St Bridget's on Saturday 6th May with entertainment in the afternoon and I would certainly recommend a visit to this event. **

The members of the Guild wish everyone a very happy summer break and we look forward to welcoming you all at the start of our next session on Tuesday 12th September.

Contact: Hazel Paterson, 767 589

Eileen Sim, 762 038

** *Tickets for the afternoon tea are available from Jennifer Macdonald, May Arthur, Elaine Craig and John Balsillie.*



The Granite City Brass will be giving a concert
on **Saturday 6th May** in **Dunnottar Church** at **7pm**.

Ticket price is **Adults £5** and **Children £2** which includes light refreshments.

Tickets will be available soon from Ros Marshall and Hazel Paterson.

Proceeds from this concert will be divided between Christian Aid and India Village Ministries.

Unfortunately we cannot offer transport this year from the Square to the church. However if folk have a spare seat in their car perhaps they could offer it to someone.

Come along and enjoy some wonderful brass music.



YOUR MONTHLY DIARY OF EVENTS

THE LUNCH CLUB

The next lunch will be on Friday 5th May, and, as this will be the last one for this session, we look forward to seeing you all at St. Bridget's at 12.30pm, for some time of friendship and chat.

Can I, in advance, thank everyone who has helped me with the lunches, both serving and in the kitchen and those who attend each month. I hope that you will all join us again when we resume later in the year.

Contact: Deb Blacklaw, 07796 173864

FRIENDSHIP COFFEE GROUP

The Friendship Coffee group continues to run every Thursday morning and we are always delighted to welcome new faces to our weekly get together. Our doors are open to all, be it once in a while or on a regular basis. There is always a choice of tea or coffee and a wide selection of home baking. The cost of a hot drink and something to eat is £1.00 per person.

We are always happy to welcome new volunteers who would be prepared to give a few hours of their time to help us continue this very worthwhile activity. At times we are struggling to have enough help on a Thursday, and would not like to be in the position where we have to consider cutting back on the number of days we are open each month. If you would like further information please speak to one of the ladies on duty. At present our volunteers only 'do' one Thursday in the month, starting at 9.00am until about 11.45am.

This 'get together' on a Thursday morning provides an important time of fellowship in the life of the church and, from the ever-increasing number of customers, it has become the 'in' place to be on a Thursday morning! Money raised by the volunteers who run Thursday Coffee is normally donated to the Church to help provide equipment when required. It has also allowed us through our contact with India Village Ministries to assist them in their extremely valuable work looking after children in India. We now sponsor two children in the centre run by IVM and we look forward to hearing from Suresh in person about the progress of the children when he speaks at the service in the South Church on Sunday 7th May.

Please note, however, that there will be no weekly coffee morning on Thursday 4th May as St. Bridget's Hall is in use as a Polling Station. 'Normal service' will resume on Thursday 11th May at the usual time. Without all our very faithful customers St. Bridget's Hall would be very quiet on a Thursday morning! Look forward to seeing you all again then.

Contact: Margaret Coutts, contact through church office

YOUR MONTHLY DIARY OF EVENTS

BADMINTON CLUB

Numbers have been dwindling during the month of April but that is what happens when the finer nights come in.

Badminton has now finished for the summer so here's hoping we have some good weather over the next few months. Play will resume on the 5th October. Enjoy the break everyone.

Contact: Eileen Begg, 766 291

BOWLING

As the bowling season draws to a close, three more afternoons and one more evening to go before the Finals evening on 25th April when the singles and pairs finals will be played.

Singles are between Neil Murray and Allan Cairnduff and the pairs between Ali Ironside/Bill Masson and Brian Taylor/Allan Cairnduff. Allan, with 30 points scored in the Points matches over the year, is this year's champion, with Alastair Campbell the runner-up on 26 points..

The End-of-Season buffet (£4 a head) will be held on the evening of Tuesday 2nd May when the trophies will be presented. Contributions for the free prize draw would be appreciated. Our thoughts and best wishes are with Kath Low and Jim Underwood, who are ill at the moment.

My thanks to Eileen Begg for being a most efficient secretary/treasurer for another year. Thanks too to Fiona Murray and her helpers for organising a tasty buffet and to Rosalind Russell for organising the welcome tea break in the afternoons.

We are planning to commence the 2017/18 session on Tuesday 19th September with sessions at 2pm and 7pm. **New members will be warmly welcomed.**

Contact: Allan Cairnduff, 763 387, Eileen Begg, 766 291

RAINBOW WHIST

A warm welcome is extended to anyone interested in a few hands of whist, played in a friendly atmosphere, with a cuppa at half time. Play begins at 2pm and we are usually finished by 4pm. A modest charge of £2.00 is made to cover prizes.

The last Rainbow Whist of this session will be on Wednesday 10th May at 2pm in St. Bridget's Hall.

Contact: George Coutts, contact through church office

WORLD MISSION

WORLD MISSION

Christian Aid We were hoping to run another Walk and Prayer Breakfast at Dunnottar in May but Christian Aid Sunday is the 21st and we are at the South that day, so we will organise this at a later date – still for Christian Aid since this takes place all year round.

India Village Ministry - Suresh presents his annual video update on Sunday 7th May at the South so we will see how the boys' dormitory building is progressing. He really works amazing wonders for Christianity in this part of India in what is very much a minority faith. Let's keep supporting this valued work in the wider world.

Cyrenians We continue to collect for the Cyrenians so please drop off any items in the boxes at the various locations.

Contact: Eileen Sim, 762 038



60 Years of Christian Aid Week

Envelopes for your Christian Aid Week donations will be available in the Pews at morning service on Sundays 14th and 21st May.

"Just as Christian Aid itself had its origins 70 years ago in the need to alleviate the refugee crisis in Europe after the Second World War, so Christian Aid Week was born 60 years ago out of the same compelling need to help the world's displaced." (Christian Aid Magazine)

1947 - Refugee Crisis in Europe - formation of Christian Aid.

1957 - Refugee Crisis in Europe - first Christian Aid Week.

2017 - Refugee Crisis in Europe - our turn to rise to the challenge?

Nejebbar fled Afghanistan with her family after the Taliban threatened to kill her husband, Noor, who was a teacher. 'The last days and weeks in Afghanistan were the hardest,' says Noor. 'When I went to work, my heart was beating harder. I didn't know if my family was going to be alive when I got back. 'When the family arrived at the refugee camp in Greece, they thought they would only stay for 10 days. But they've been there six months now and there's no end in sight.

Nejebbar is the rock at the centre of her family, holding them together throughout all this uncertainty. She has even welcomed Faraidoon and Farzad into the family, two brothers who don't know where their parents are, or if they're even alive. 'We still have some hope for our children's future,' says Nejebbar. 'We only want a peaceful life. We want our children to go to school. The most important thing is our children.'

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/christian-aid-week/nejebars-story>

David Macdonald

SESSION MATTERS

SESSION MATTERS – MAY 2017

The Kirk Session doesn't meet again until 17th May so there's not a lot of update this month. We should just make the deadline for the Summer Spotlight so see next month for any exciting news. Thanks to all those who listened to the Treasurer on 26th March and I hope you understand where we are in terms of income.

The Property team are looking further into the church roof situation and Bill Smith has been doing further sterling work on this. We still can't get the exact picture because the potential problem areas are hidden. Session has to take some important decisions soon and Presbytery has to be involved in granting any approvals to proceed.

The three Stonehaven Churches of Scotland Sessions met on Tuesday 21st March when the three Kirk Sessions' Elders reviewed the options for the Stonehaven "Hub" in accordance with Presbytery's instruction. Nothing yet decided since this was a discussion evening – Sessions can only make formal decisions once they have been suitably convened by their Moderator. For Dunnottar, this will be discussed in our May meeting. We also have to report to Presbytery at their May meeting on the situation of our union with the South.

Presbytery doesn't meet in April either so nothing I can update you on there.

FROM THE ARCHIVES FOR MAY

1907 – Rev Barron and 8 elders accepted the resignation on health grounds of Mr Douglas, Organist and Choirmaster. The post to be advertised and a Special Meeting to be held once a successful candidate had been found.

The Oil Engine used for heating the Church to be cleaned and the Church Officer to receive an additional £2 annually to start the engine weekly – on a Saturday afternoon for the Organist practising!

1923 – Rev Barron intimated his intention to retire, on medical advice, from the Ministry and noted he had served Dunnottar for over 38 years. Session noted that the relationship between Rev Barron and the Elders had always been "most cordial".

1937 – Rev Campbell and 11 Elders accepted the resignation of Miss Mitchell, organist, and thanked her for her service. (*Seems a popular time of year to resign as Organist!*)

SESSION MATTERS / SPOTLIGHT ON PROPERTY

1947 – Rev Campbell and 19 Elders discussed the provision of a War Memorial for the fallen in the 1939-45 conflict. Options included a plaque in the vestibule, using panels in the East Gallery, using panels in the East and West Galleries, using panels at the Organ and East side of pulpit and using Back Gallery panels. They agreed to consult an expert to advise them before deciding.

(It was not until September 1947 that the idea of stained glass windows was formulated)

1967 – Rev Roy and 19 Elders agreed to proceed with the conversion of St Bridget's into a Hall Church at a cost not exceeding £6/7 thousand – a committee to be formed with powers and take professional advice if necessary.

1977 – Rev Rankin and 19 Elders agreed that a "Christian Aid Week" service would take place at Fetteresso on 15th May at which all 5 Stonehaven Churches would participate.

Earlier in April, the Kirk Sessions of the three Stonehaven Churches of Scotland had rejected Presbytery's proposal for a single "Community Parish" in Stonehaven.

Brian Sim, Session Clerk

SPOTLIGHT ON PROPERTY

The Property Committee meeting in April focussed on our 5-year plans for maintaining and developing the Church buildings.

As well as routine maintenance, we have programmed in redecoration and refurbishment for each building over the next 5 years. Each member of the Committee has at least one item to follow up during the next month and I hope that you will see the results of these endeavours in the near future.

We are also reviewing the use of stepladders in St Bridget's and the Church. We need to agree on what jobs (if any) it is appropriate for us to do with the assistance of a stepladder and then to purchase a stepladder designed for these jobs. As a first step we have put the Health & Safety executive's guidance beside each stepladder along with a register showing who is currently authorized to use this equipment in our Church buildings.

**David Macdonald, Property Convener, 764 750
davidmacdonald153@gmail.com**

THE HEALER

I felt terrible this morning
"Aye ye look it, "said ma man.
"Just stay in bed, ma dearie,
An I'll help ye all I can"

As I lay back on my pillows
Content to just get weel
I put aside the notion,
That every man is feal.

He appeared again in minutes,
It was fifteen at the most.
A tray was shoved in front of me
Wi tea and weel-fired toast.

He looked so pleased,
"How nice" I had to say.
Well you try eating burnt toast
Wi' your teeth two rooms away!

I settled down and tried to sleep,
I was sure was feeling worse.
I just hoped I would survive
The good intentions of my nurse.

"The washing's on" I heard him say
"I've just chucked a'thing in,
But there's bubbles flowing a'way
And there's sic an awfae din."

"Noo Ill just awa an Hoover
Is there anythin' ye need?
Oh help I've sooked up the budgie
When I meant to sook the seed."

"Here, they claes are a funny colour,
I thocht yon powder made things white.
I'll have to make the denner noo
And hing this washin' oot at night"

That was it. I'd had enough,
I was miraculously cured.
Ma man can work mair wonders
Than was ever seen at Lourdes.

*Poem by Noreen Sime
Dunnottar Guild "Mixed Spice"
Winter 2004*

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNICS

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNICS

You will have read that the Sunday school children are going on their annual picnic to Luthermuir on Saturday 27th May. It's good to see that the tradition of the Sunday school picnic is still going strong for our children in the Sunday school and Kids Praise.

I wonder what you remember about the Sunday school picnics you went on when you were young?

I lived in Edinburgh and our picnics sometimes took us to Fife with the excitement of travelling across the Forth Bridge by train. It was the old type of train with carriages and windows that opened and as we went over the Forth Bridge, we threw old pennies out of the windows (so much for the health and safety of anyone in a boat below!). On other occasions we went by bus to venues around Edinburgh...the journeys there and back were as much fun as the picnic itself.

When we got to the picnic spot, there were games to play and races for the children and for parents and of course there was the picnic itself which was provided. We had to queue up to receive a white or a brown paper bag containing such items as a filled roll, a sausage roll or a meat pie, a cake and a bottle of lemonade. The bakery items were delivered to the picnic spot and items distributed from the baker's boards by the Sunday school teachers. I think there were crisps too...no ready-salted ones then (and no wide range of flavours). It was a wee bag of plain crisps with a little blue twist of salt in the bag..(remember these?) . If there was fruit, which I have to admit I don't remember getting, it would have been an apple. I only remember one picnic being rained off just after we reached the park so the buses turned round and we had the picnic and the games and races in the church hall instead.

I will finish with a story from an anonymous contributor I found on the Keith and District Heritage website about the little girl who did not want to go to the Sunday School Picnic.

Everybody was excited and getting dressed to go to the picnic except for one wee girl.

Her mother scolded and said 'why are you not ready for the picnic?' She replied 'well I was in Bowman and Watson' (a Bakery in Whitehills) 'when Henry came in to order the food for the picnic and he ordered something substantial but nae very dear. I dinna ken fit something substantial and nae very dear is but I am nae gaun because I dinna think I'll like it'.

She went of course.

A BIT ABOUT MAY DAY / QUIZZES

WORTH GETTING UP EARLY FOR ON 1ST MAY?

May Day, the first day of May, is said to be the first day of summer. Traditionally this was celebrated in Northern Europe as a chance to say farewell to winter, and an opportunity to have a celebratory bonfire.

Some of the oldest May Day traditions are connected with dew. According to tradition, the dew on 1st May has magical properties and anyone who washes their face in it will have a flawless complexion for the entire year. May dew was also said to be able to remove spots, freckles and pimples.

This belief was widely accepted by city folk. Samuel Pepys, the diarist noted that his wife went to Woolwich on the night of 30th April 1667 to collect May dew the following morning "which Mrs Turner hath taught her is the only thing in the world to wash her face with."

A traditional rhyme says that the maid who rises early on May morning "And washes in dew from the hawthorn tree, will ever after handsome be." Others suggest that the dew had to be collected from ivy leaves, or from grass under oak trees. The one factor universally agreed upon is that the dew is only effectual at or just before sunrise. So you know what you need to do on Monday 1st May... and remember to set your alarm clock the night before.

QUIZZES

APRIL

The April quiz proved more challenging than last month's quiz so congratulations to those who managed to work out all the answers. The winner is Mrs M Robertson. Congratulations - a prize is on its way.

The answers were as follows:

1 Escort, 2 Seraph, 3 Rinse, 4 Sure, 5 Deli, 6 Lance, 7 Deposit, 8 Aghast, 9 Three, 10 Enslave, 11 Organ, 12 Froth, 13 Enraged, 14 Generate, 15 Respect, 16 Nebular, 17 Elapse, 18 Endorse, 19 Sedate, 20 Bookends, 21 Adverb, 22 Brigade, 23 Dissert, 24 Retina.

MAY

This month, the answers to all the clues are words ending in -ful. We hope you enjoy trying to work out all the answers.

Entries to one of the editorial team by Thursday 18th May.

A WEE SMILE

Shona, the minister's six-year old daughter was somewhat stubborn and had been naughty during the week, so her mother decided that as a punishment she couldn't go to the Sunday school picnic on the Saturday.

When Saturday came, she felt that perhaps she had been a bit harsh and changed her mind.

"Listen, dear," she said to her daughter. "I've changed my mind. You can go to the picnic."

"Oh no!" replied Shona.

"But I thought you would be happy to go?" said her mother.

"It's too late" said Shona. "I've already prayed for rain!"

Sammy decided to introduce his granny to the Internet. He sat the old lady down in front of his computer. He showed her how to log on then said they should try his search engine.

"Ah'm a wee bit nervous on this internet thingmy," she exclaimed.

"Listen Gran," he said, "All you have to do is type in a question. Just pretend you're asking someone a question."

"Aw right, Sammy," she said. Ah'll gie it a go."

She then typed in: "How is ma sister in Pitlochry keeping?"

The minister of a country parish was shaking hands at the door of the church after the Sunday service.

An elderly man shook hands with him and said, "Meenister, your sermon today made me think of the peace and mercy of God and the milk of His word."

The minister was flattered and asked the man how his sermon had encouraged such thoughts.

The man replied, "Your sermon passed all understanding, endured forever and should have been condensed."

One day a minister was walking down a street in Dundee. He saw a wee boy on the front porch of a house, trying to reach the doorbell. The boy was standing on tiptoe, then jumping up and down, but he still couldn't reach the bell.

The minister went over and said, "Let me help son," and rang the bell.

"Now what?" asked the minister.

"Run away as fast as you can!" shouted the lad.

"What's your age?" the sheriff asked the court witness. "Now remember madam you are under oath"

"Thirty-nine and some months."

"How many months?" the sheriff persisted.

"A hundred and twenty" she replied.

PRAYERS

Lord, You are the peace of all things calm
You are the place to hide from harm
You are the light that shines in dark
You are the heart's eternal spark
You are the door that's open wide
You are the guest who waits inside
You are the stranger at the door
You are the calling of the poor
You are my Lord and with me still
You are my love, keep me from ill
You are the light, the truth, the way
You are my Saviour this very day. Amen

Celtic oral tradition - 1st millennium

Circle me, Lord.
Keep protection near and danger afar.
Circle me, Lord
Keep hope within, keep doubt without.
Circle me, Lord.
Keep light near and darkness afar.
Circle me, Lord.
Keep peace within, keep evil out. Amen

David Adam

May the blessing of light be on you - light without and light within.
May the blessed sunlight shine on you like a great peat fire,
so that stranger and friend may come and warm himself at it.
And may light shine out of the two eyes of you,
like a candle set in the window of a house,
bidding the wanderer come in out of the storm.
And may the blessing of the rain be on you,
may it beat upon your Spirit and wash it fair and clean,
and leave there a shining pool where the blue of Heaven shines,
and sometimes a star.
And may the blessing of the earth be on you,
soft under your feet as you pass along the roads,
soft under you as you lie out on it, tired at the end of day;
and may it rest easy over you when, at last, you lie out under it.
May it rest so lightly over you that your soul may be out from under it
quickly; up and off and on its way to God.
And now may the Lord bless you, and bless you kindly. Amen.

A Scottish Blessing

SOME USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

MINISTER	Rev R P Duncan	762 166
SESSION CLERK	Mr Brian Sim	762 038
ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER	Contact through the Minister	
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT	Ms Helen Sang	764 611
ROLL KEEPER	Mr George Coutts Contact through church office	
HALL BOOKINGS	Mr David Macdonald	764 750
TREASURER	Mr Sandy Duncan	762 166
ASSISTANT & FWO TREASURER	Miss Moira Marshall	765 532
GIFT AID TREASURER	Mrs Diane Dart	767 588
PROPERTY CONVENOR	D Macdonald	764 750
FLOWER CONVENOR	Mrs Ruby Still	668 067
SAFEGUARDING	Mr David Macdonald	764 750
YOUTH CONVENOR	Mr David Macdonald	764 750
LIFE & WORK CONVENOR	Mrs Margaret Ross	763 316
SPOTLIGHT CLERICAL ASSISTANT	Contact through J Macdonald	764 750
SPOTLIGHT EDITORIAL GROUP	See page 2	