

Rosyth
Methodist Church



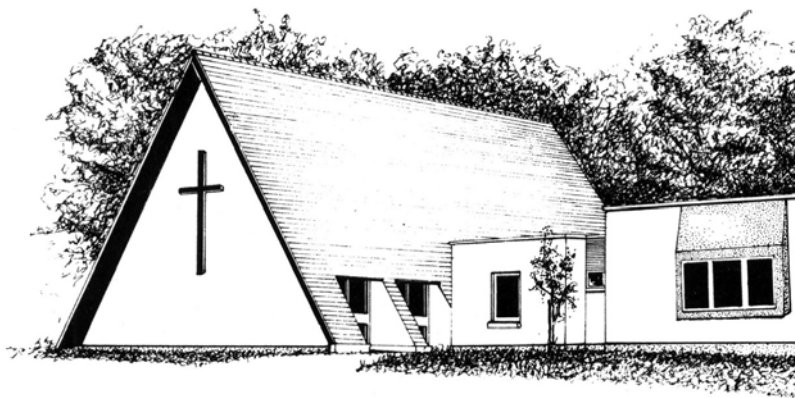
St Margaret's Scottish
Episcopal Church



Contact

the newsletter of the partnership between

Rosyth Methodist Church and
St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church



Issue 83
February/March 2016

Rosyth
Methodist Church
Scottish Charity SC028559
www.rosythmethodist.org.uk

St Margaret's Scottish
Episcopal Church
Scottish Charity SC028426
www.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk

in partnership

Our partnership is formally recognised as a Local Ecumenical Partnership,
with a constitution and Covenant signed on 14 June 2000

Minister:

Rev Dr Helen Jenkins
on maternity leave — call the
Circuit Office on 0131 662 8635

Coordinating Steward:

David Salthouse 01383 889212

Pastoral Secretary:

Gwyneth Kirby 01383 624779

Church Council Secretary :

Sandra Wilson 01383 415885

Treasurer:

Dave Ward 01383 414944

Rector:

Rev Alison Cozens 01383 732654

Vestry Secretary:

Sandra Young 01383 415021

Treasurer:

Alan Taylor 01383 823902

our regular pattern of worship

Sundays (except 4th)

9.30am Episcopalian Sung Eucharist
(occasionally 9.15am—see diary pages for details)

11.00am Methodist Morning Worship
(including Sunday School)

2nd Sundays (during term time): for the Young Church

9.00am Breakfast and “Messy Church”

4th Sundays: Worship together

11.00am Joint Communion Service

6.00pm “Sunday @ Six”

where to find us

On the road: our postal address is Queensferry Road, Rosyth, Dunfermline, KY11 2JH, and you'll find us at the junction of Queensferry Road and Woodside Avenue. This is a short walk from Rosyth Rail station. The car park is behind the church. Local on-street parking is limited, but there is much more parking space at the junction with Park Road.

From the Editor's Desk

Not surprisingly, given that the 100th anniversary of Rosyth Methodist Church falls in March, this issue starts with a focus on that theme. The scene is set for forthcoming events below and on p 4, and an insight on how it all began is given on pp 5–6. But we must not forget that we are part of the wider community of Rosyth, whose formation as a Garden City in 1916 is also being celebrated; and that 2016 is also the 20th anniversary of the St Margaret's congregation joining the Methodists in shared use of the same church building.

But such celebrations should not be just a matter of looking back. Indeed, as the article on the halcyon (p11) shows, recollections of the halcyon days might mislead. Looking forward

is very necessary, an emphasis that came over strongly in the previous issue, with its overarching theme becoming “The *future* of our community”. In the present issue, the discussion of what is meant by “Christian perfection” (pp 7–10), “What does faith involve” (pp 22–24) and the insights into the community-based work of the Nehemiah Foundation (pp 25–26) all provide food for thought and challenge us as to how we decide our direction of travel.

Finally we hope you enjoy the innovation of a Puzzle page by Dave Ward and Sue Masson in this issue.

Howard Kirby

100 Years of Methodism in Rosyth 1916–2016

When discussions first began about how to celebrate our Centenary, 2016 seemed a long way in the future but we are now only a few weeks away from the start of our big year.

And what a start that will be! You will have received with your copy of Contact an invitation to our Service of Celebration on Sunday March 13 at 11.00 am. This Service will be led by The Revd The Lord Leslie Griffiths, Minister in charge of Wesley's Chapel

in London. (See profile overleaf.) We are very privileged to have such a renowned preacher visiting us in Rosyth, and I urge you to make every effort to join us in our celebration. The Service will be followed by a buffet lunch and it would help us with catering if you would let us know if you will be there.

You will also have received a second copy of the diary of events for the year of celebration in case you have put the

Continued from page 3

first one in such a safe place that you can't find it! Please have another look through it and decide which events you would like to support. There is something for everyone and we hope that you will invite friends and neighbours to come along too. Some of the events will be ticketed but we will keep you up to date about when and how to buy tickets. Most events will not be ticketed.

In March, as well as the Service of Celebration, we have a talk by Martin

Rogers, member of our church and local historian, entitled "100 Years of Methodism in Rosyth". You will have two opportunities to hear this talk – at 2pm and 7.30pm on 17 March in Rosyth Methodist Church. Each talk will be followed by light refreshments.

We look forward to seeing you at many of our events throughout the year.

Gwyneth Kirby

The Reverend the Lord Griffiths

Superintendent Minister of Wesley's Chapel, London
who on 13th March will lead the service to celebrate our Centenary

Leslie Griffiths was educated at Llanelli Grammar School before studying for a BA at University College, Cardiff 1960–63. He spent a year there as a Research Fellow before becoming an Assistant lecturer in Medieval English at St David's College, Lampeter.



He trained at Wesley House, Cambridge for the Methodist ministry. He spent much of the 1970s as a minister in Haiti either in community development work or in education. Since his return to the UK in 1980 he has served the church in a variety of posts in or around London. Since 1996 he has been Superintendent minister at Wesley's Chapel.

In 1994–1995 he was President of the Methodist Conference. He has been a member of various Committees reflecting his interests in Higher Education, Broadcasting and Ecumenical Relations. He broadcasts regularly on Thought for the Day and The Daily Service and writes for The Methodist Recorder, The Tablet and the Church Times. He has published seven books. In 2004 he was awarded a Life Peerage.

He is married to Margaret and they have three children and two grandchildren.

Rosyth Methodist Church — how it all began

As we approach our 100th anniversary it is interesting to look back to our roots. We don't have a specific event we can relate to such as the holding of a public meeting, a first church service or an opening ceremony for a building. Our Society (to use an old Methodist term) simply evolved. Fortunately we have some personal accounts from our first minister and a former member which helps give some substance to this. These 2 accounts written in 1958 form the basis of this reconstruction of events.

Our first minister was the Rev Richard Wilding Charlesworth. He was a missionary in the British West Indies and he and his wife returned to Britain in 1915 on a year's furlough. He was asked if he would go up to Rosyth to be the officiating clergyman for Methodist men afloat. The Admiralty offered 5 shillings (25p) per day so the Methodist Missionary Society had this and Mr and Mrs Charlesworth lived on their furlough allowance. The only lodging to be had was in South Queensferry. During his time in the area Mr Charlesworth says that he held a service of some kind, weekday or Sunday, on 200 different warships.

Mr and Mrs Charlesworth had passes to go where they liked in the prohibited area of Rosyth. On weekdays they would usually go from South Queensferry to Rosyth on a

naval barge. One day after visiting the dockyard they decided to walk to Inverkeithing to catch a train home. Seeing the temporary Tin Town houses at Rosyth they knocked on a few doors enquiring about Methodist services but nothing of that kind existed there. In one house they met a Mrs Alec Gardner whose husband worked in the dockyard. She at once said if they would conduct a service they could hold it in her house and she would supply tea afterwards. Another lady promised to scrub the floors after the service. Mr Charlesworth agreed without realising what it would entail. He had naval duties morning and evening so it would have to be in the afternoon. They found out that no boats ran from Rosyth to South Queensferry on Sunday afternoons so the only way to reach Rosyth was by the ferry to North Queensferry then through the railway tunnel (unused on a Sunday) and along the road to



It was in a house like these that the first Methodist Services were held

How it all began – Continued from page 5

Tin Town. Mr Charlesworth recalls that the room was always full of women and children and describes them as a hearty appreciative people.

The other account is from Mr Gardner in whose house the services were held (15 Bruce Street). There are some slight differences in the two accounts but I have not attempted to reconcile them. The Chairman of the Scotland District at that time was the Rev Wilcox Stocker and he was stationed at Dundee. Among his congregation in Dundee were relatives of Mr Gardner's wife and, having heard tales of about 25 Wesleyans in the Rosyth area, he arranged to meet up with Mr Gardner in about March or April 1915. Mr Gardner knew nothing of the presence of a number of Wesleyans and Mr Stocker promised to keep the matter in hand. Not long after that Mr Stocker wrote to Mr Gardner advising him that Mr Charlesworth was coming to Rosyth for Fleet work and suggested he meet with him. Mr Gardner recalls meeting Mr and Mrs Charlesworth on a Sunday morning and, as he was about to go up river on a job, he suggested to Mr and Mrs Charlesworth that they go up to his house where Mrs Gardner had lunch ready. When Mr Gardner arrived home his wife told him that they had arranged to have a service in the house at 3 pm on Sundays. Mr and Mrs Charlesworth promised to do some visiting and Mr Gardner thinks they probably visited every house in the place and services started soon

after in about February 1916. There was always a good congregation and they were hard put to find seating for everybody. Some even sat on the bed in the adjoining room. Mr Gardner couldn't recall how long the services went on but as his eldest daughter was due to arrive in November he thought that the services had to cease for the time being in about October 1916 and there was a lapse of some weeks before the building in Castle Road was opened in February 1917.



Mr Gardner's membership ticket 1916

So it is from these humble beginnings that our present Methodist Society has descended. The road has not always been an easy one but obstacles have been overcome and the Society has continued. The world today is a lot different from what it was in 1916 but there are some attributes from these two accounts which are just as relevant today as then – commitment, outreach, fellowship and tea drinking!

Martin Rogers

[Ed: see Issue 82 for Martin's account of the early days of Rosyth churches]

Christian Perfection

The sermon by Prof John Sawkins on 17/01/2016

From Paul's letter to the Philippians chapter 3 and verse 12 "I have not yet reached perfection, but I press on, hoping to take hold of that for which Christ once took hold of me."

Introduction

What is your ultimate aim in life? What do you want to aspire to, and what do you want to achieve? What gives you the impetus to do the work you do, and live the life you lead?

I guess most of us don't really stop and ask ourselves that question very often. We're too busy getting on with our lives, earning a living, running a home, keeping active, to wonder about where it's all leading.

And anyway, perhaps it's a question that we ask ourselves when we are young. A question we turn over in our minds when we decide what we want to study, or what career we want to pursue, or what we want to give our time and energies to outside our work. Once we hit middle age we may dismiss the question as self indulgent. By that time we are often settled into some sort of pattern in our lives—some may call it a rut.

We have responsibilities that we can't just give up in pursuit of some single goal. So we settle for a mixture of more modest goals—enough money to run a home and save for a decent pension. Enough control over our own

lives so we can decide where and when we are going to do things. No big aim or grand objective. We just muddle along, doing the best we can for ourselves and other people.

The risk of course is that without direction or purpose our lives drift. We just do the next thing that needs to be done, the years roll on, and we end up feeling dissatisfied or unfulfilled.

Is it too much of a leap for me to claim that many of us feel like that over our Christian discipleship as well?

We lack a clear sense of what our ultimate aim in the Christian life is.

We are unclear as to what it is that we should aspire to.

Or perhaps we had known once, but we have forgotten, and a by-product of that forgetting is that our life of faith lacks meaning and purpose and depth?

What is the aim of our life as would-be disciples of Christ?

I have the answer.

The answer lies deep within our Methodist DNA, and may be found in our distinctive doctrinal emphases [first formulated by the founder of the Wesley Guild, a Rev Fitzgerald in 1903]:

- All need to be saved,
- All can be saved,
- All can know they are saved,
- All can be saved to the uttermost.

It is in the fourth of these that our answer lies. All can be saved to the uttermost – which is our Methodist shorthand for what others would call, sanctification or the filling of the Holy Spirit, or Christian Perfection.

Bold claims for the doctrine

John Wesley famously unpacked the phrase ‘Christian Perfection’ in one of his 44 Sermons – the standard set of writings much loved by local preachers who will no doubt all be able to tell me after the service just which number of sermon Christian Perfection is! [35]

Wesley had a very high regard for this doctrine. [On 17th September 1790 he wrote,

“This doctrine is the grand deposit which God has lodged with the people called Methodists, and for the sake of propagating this chiefly He appears to have raised us up.”]

A strange phrase

But the doctrinal emphasis has not had an easy ride. Wesley had to overcome bitter opposition to his preaching of it. And in his standard sermon he emphasises time and again its solid foundation in scripture. This isn’t some wild speculation, it flows directly from the gospel.

But one can sympathise with those that think ‘Christian Perfection’ a strange phrase. The Victorian preacher, Charles Spurgeon, complained,

“I have only ever met one perfect man, and he was a perfect nuisance!”

And to the modern ear it sounds pretty peculiar so before we throw our weight behind it, we must clear up what it means.

What it is not

In his sermon on Christian Perfection, Wesley set out as plainly as he could what Christian Perfection was NOT.

First, perfect Christians are not perfect in knowledge. Obviously there are things you and I don’t know and can never know.

Second, perfect Christians are not perfect in judgement. Look no further than Peter or Paul to find errors of judgement. That too is true of us all.

Thirdly, perfect Christians are not perfect in the sense of being free from temptation. Jesus himself was tempted in the wilderness, in Gethsemane and on the cross.

So what is Christian perfection?

What it is

The word perfection is the troublesome one. And perhaps a better way

of putting it, a way that is consistent with Wesley's own writings—especially his 'A Plain Account of Christian Perfection—is to use the phrase 'Perfect Love'.

Love, here, is taken to mean an act of will on our part to do the very best we can for our neighbour. To act in a way that promotes their best interests, and to keep doing that in the face of rejection or opposition or plain hostility.

Love your enemies – that is a commandment that can be fulfilled only through a conscious decision on our part to do it. It has more to do with our head than our heart. It's almost the opposite of that vaguely sentimental sort of feeling that we would like to be nice to a person because they have been nice to us. That's not love in the sense meant here. That's just a convenient 'you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours' self interest.

Love here has more to do with our attitude towards others and towards God than our feelings towards them, which come and go.

Loving people are not sinless. Loving people can and do make mistakes. Perfect love or Christian perfection is not about being sinless. Perfect love or Christian perfection is not about infallibility. Perfect love is the perfection of our will, the perfection of our attitude to God and to other people that means we will always act in a loving way: not because we feel like it at the time, but because we have decided to do so.

Wesley argued that the perfection of our will towards loving God and other people was possible, not in our own strength, but in the strength and with the help of God's Holy Spirit. Interestingly he didn't argue that he himself had attained perfection, instead it's a statement of faith in the Holy Spirit's power to work in us and transform us and remove from us the very root of our sin.

Or to put it another way, an attitude of love worked out in our lives is evidence of God's Holy Spirit at work in us. And the fruit, the visible evidence of that work, will be the well known set of virtues: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

The possibility of perfection is simply the recognition that there is no limit to what the Spirit can do in us and through us. That is a remarkable claim.

A springboard for our life as individuals and a church

In his 2007 sermon on Christian Perfection, Rev Martin Turner, minister at Westminster Central Hall, said

“A person is as holy as he or she wants to be.

God loves us. God gives his Holy Spirit to work in us

God says we should aim for Perfect holiness, perfect love

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And if we don't make progress, that is because of the choices we make...

God will never force us to follow him. Never force us to take steps we don't want to take. He loves us freely and longs that this love is freely given back."

The question for us then, is this. Will we as individuals allow God to change our lives and influence the choices that we make?

- What we say.
- How we behave at home and in the work place.
- How we treat other people.
- How we spend our money.

Will we as a congregation allow God to change our life and influence the choices that we make?

- What we say.
- How we behave at church and in our church meetings.
- How we treat other people.
- How we spend our money.

If we as individuals, if we as a congregation, really did make Christian Perfection our aim, if we were thinking and praying and longing to live as God would have us live, then I would assert that our Christian pilgrimage would gain (or recover) the motivation and direction and the purpose and the meaning and the depth we so desperately want and need.

God's love would not only work in us — but also through us.

Yes, there will be disappointments and setbacks and defeats. That is true for every one of us. Christian perfection is the work of a lifetime.

But let us, from now on, resolve to make this our own goal, as individuals and as a congregation. Let us begin, or pick up again, that work now,

As Paul has it in his letter,

"... forgetting what is behind and straining towards what lies ahead I press towards the finishing line to win the heavenly prize to which God has called me in Christ." (Philippians ch 3 v 13-14)

No matter what age we are, no matter what stage in life we are at, no matter what has happened to us recently, or what we look forward to or fear in the future, let us forget what is behind and look ahead to our goal—Christian perfection. Always seeking to act in love towards God and those around us.

Let us put our mind and our will to the job. And let us ask for strength and God's grace to press on every single day of our life on this earth. "[We] have not yet reached perfection, but [we] press on, hoping to take hold of that for which Christ once took hold of [us]."

Amen.

Halcyon days?

Extracted and adapted from a sermon by Rev Alan Whitson on 17/01/16

In this centenary year you will have the gift to look back and celebrate. You will revisit the times when your building was almost not big enough and yet other times when your membership shrank by 77% in one year. Ups and downs are the norm, and the down times are less enjoyable than the up. The halcyon days will be the most readily remembered.

But what is meant by that term? The halcyon is a bird of Greek legend and the name is now commonly given to the European kingfisher. The ancients believed that the bird made a floating nest in the Aegean Sea and had the power to calm the waves while looking after her eggs. Fourteen days of calm weather were to be expected when the halcyon was nesting—around the winter solstice, usually 21st or 22nd of December. So halcyon days were associated with periods of calm, and our current use of the term tends to be nostalgic, recalling the seemingly endless sunny days of youth—despite the fact that the original halcyon days were in the depths of winter.

As the kingfisher bird, the halcyon can be as seen flying around today, its iridescent blue upper body and pinky-orange under body readily noticed and remembered. However, these colours are not the true colouration of the plumage, but an artefact of the

bird's feather structure.¹ The bird's true colour is a dingy brown. The colours we see are a trick of the light. So should we think of the kingfisher as a colourful bird that inspires us, or as a bird that misleads us?

Similarly, the halcyon days of memory may be bright and colourful, remembered over the years as the times when things were calm and enjoyable. Such memories can keep us going when things get tough. But should we remember too that the halcyon's colours are an illusion, and that we need to look more closely to see its true colours?



Perhaps the answer lies in recalling that Jesus described himself and his disciples as the Light of the World. Light that is simply absorbed in a murky surface does not shine bright. Light that is transformed by a surface can be very attractive. Let then the celebration be not just a joyful appreciation of past times but a cheerful assertion that after 100 years we continue to seek to be, like those early disciples, a light in the world – and asking ourselves what transformative effects might then happen?

¹ <http://wildlifearticles.co.uk/kingfishers-are-not-blue/> and <http://qi.com/infocloud/kingfishers>

Young People in Rosyth (1)

Messy Church

Christmas really got underway with our Christmas Messy Church with lots of different crafts – some messier than others! This was followed by our Messy Church Christmas Party on the Sunday before Christmas. After a delicious party lunch all the traditional games were played and Father Christmas managed to fit us into his schedule, with presents for everybody – although he did manage to upset one of the group by announcing that his sack was empty before she had received a present! Everything was sorted quickly and smiles restored!

The highlight of Christmas for me is the All Age Nativity play on Christmas Eve, which this year had its biggest audience yet. Obviously our reputation is growing! This truly is an all age performance and we are always happy to include any children who turn up on the day, and manage to costume them all. (Some of our costumes are getting a bit small now as our children grow so if there is anyone out there who would like to

make us some new ones for next year I would love to hear from you!) Two members of the audience even found themselves unexpectedly taking part as two inhospitable inn keepers. In just half an hour we managed to tell the Christmas story in a slightly modernised way, sang lots of carols and sent everyone home really prepared for Christmas Day. Well done to all those who took part in any way and helped to make my Christmas special.



January's Messy Church seemed to come very quickly after all the excitement. It seemed a very good time to learn about the Baptism of Jesus so we were busy

making sandals, origami doves and amazing locusts among other activities.



Our next Messy Church will be on **14th February**. Please note that **in March only, Messy Church will be on the first Sunday (6th March)**. That is so that all who want to join in the Centenary celebration on 13th March can do so!



(Continued on page 13)

Young People in Rosyth (2)

This time last year the children agreed to try to collect £3 a month to send to Water Aid. This is a charity which aims to give as many people as possible clean water to drink. In fact we were able to send £100 to the charity thanks to the generosity of our Messy Church families and the children have chosen to continue supporting Water Aid for another year.

Finally, please remember all our young people in your prayers. You may not see them in Church but they are very much part of our Church family as they share in Messy Church.

Gwyneth Kirby

Rainbow Guides

Apart from the congregations at Sunday worship, our church building is home to many diverse organisations and clubs. Over the next few issues of Contact, an insight into these organisations and clubs will be published.

We begin with ***Rainbow Guides***, commonly known as just ***RAINBOWS***. This is the youngest section of the Guide association. Its aims through badge work focus on LOOK, LEARN, LAUGH and LOVE. The Rainbow section is open to girls from the age of 5 to 7, meeting between 6–7pm on a Monday evening. At present there are 18 Rainbows, led by Susan Warren, assisted by Samantha Thomson and

Skye Fraser. There is a weekly subscription of £2.00, which allows them to enjoy and take part in a variety of activities, including Arts and Craft (you ought to see the wall in the room the Rainbows use, you will be suitably impressed). They also learn and sing songs, play various games, practice dancing and have even been known to do the odd simple experiment.

In the Summer they do have organised trips away. For example, they have been to Dynamic Earth, the Zoo, Fordell Firs, the soft play area of the Brewers Fayre and other interesting places. Nearer Christmas they often take in a Pantomime and they also enjoy other seasonal parties.

The catchment area for our Rainbows is mainly Rosyth schools but there have been girls from Dunfermline and Inverkeithing in the past.

One thing that impressed me when talking to the leaders is the enthusiasm they have for what they are doing.

Our Rainbows are in very good hands.

Dave Ward

Fellowship news

Under the weather

John Cowell is recovering from his illness and is now able to go out for two hours when he has someone to stay with Rosemary. **Rosemary** is bright and quite content to remain in the house. They are still waiting for a new ramp for the back door so that the wheelchair can get out. If anyone wants to visit please phone John (412 516) before going.

A welcome back to Mary Kidd after an absence due to a chest infection followed by a slipped disc.

Group news

Ecumenical Study Group For Lent this group will be looking at *Approaching Jesus*. This is a CWR book of six practical and personal studies which will take us through the 40 days of Lent. The aim is to help us approach Jesus again as we look through the eyes of people who approached Jesus in the gospel of Matthew. This group will meet at Rosyth Parish Church on Mondays from 7.30pm and is open to those from any church or none.

EDWJ Group. This group is led by Jack Fowell, uses the 'Every Day with Jesus' booklets as an aid to study and prayer. Meetings are held in the home of Mary Kidd in Limekilns. Currently 11 people are involved in it, and others are still welcome!

The Three Cs. The Tuesday evening craft club started up by Jean Hall and

friends attracted 13 people at the launch. Next meeting, 1st March.

Triangle Coffee-shop. An update from the Treasurer on takings. Up to the end of December the café had been running for 30 weeks, and total income was £1,789, with expenditure £232, so a surplus of £1,557. So well done to all who contributed time and food and to those who spend time on a Friday with friends new and old.

Congratulations ...

... to Claire Kirby, who became a Fellow of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine early in December at a ceremony in London. Claire will be taking up a post as consultant at Newham in April.



... to Jeremy Masson and Carleen Thomas who got engaged on Christmas Day. They plan to get married in July next year at the Parish Church in Bramley, Hampshire.



... to Alison Kirby and Siva Anandaciva who got engaged in early February.

Diary for February to March 2016

Sunday 31 January

Epiphany 4	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Alison Cozens
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Mr Edward Idle
Tuesday 2 Feb	7.30pm	Coffee, Cake and Crafts: the inaugural meeting of a monthly evening craft club run by Jean Hall and friends	
Wednesday 3 Feb	2.15pm	Wednesday Fellowship: Opening Meeting with Hilary Henderson	
Friday 5 Feb	9.30am	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall	
	onwards	tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	International Feast at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Dunfermline . Tickets from Dorissia Forsyth. Donations taken on the night	

Sunday 7 February

Sunday before Lent	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Alison Cozens
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Mrs Margaret Freeman Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)
Monday 8 Feb	7.00pm	Property Committee Meeting	
	7.30pm	Ecumenical Lent Study Group at Rosyth Parish Church, <i>Approaching Jesus</i> . For details see p14.	
Tuesday 9 Feb	10.00am	EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at Limekilns	
Wednesday 10 Feb	2.15pm	Wednesday Fellowship: Guest speaker: Norman Liddle from Scottish Bible Society	
Ash Wednesday	7.30pm	Sung Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes All welcome from both churches	Rev Ross Kennedy
	7.30pm	Local Preachers and Worship Leaders meeting at CEMC. "Challenging Conversations" with Rev Andrew and Deacon Belinda Letby	
Friday 12 Feb	9.30am	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall	
	onwards	tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	Choir practice	

Diary for February to March 2016

Friday 26 Feb 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 28 February

Lent 3 11.00am Joint Communion Service Rev Alison Cozens
 Traidcraft goods on sale after the service
 6.00pm Sunday@Six

Monday 29 Feb 7.30pm Ecumenical Lent Study Group at Rosyth Parish
Church. *Approaching Jesus* Week 4 (see p14)

Tuesday 1 Mar 7.30pm Coffee, Cake and Crafts—a Welsh Easter theme but
bring own crafts. Run by Jean Hall and friends

Wednesday 2 Mar 2.15 pm Wednesday Fellowship:
Guest speaker tbc

Friday 4 Mar 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
 2.00pm World Day of Prayer Service at Inverkeithing Parish
Church (see pp 20–21)
 7.00pm Choir practice

Saturday 5 Mar 11.00am MWiB Scotland Lenten Quiet Day, Armadale
to 3.00pm Methodist Church, led by Jill Baker and Margaret
Law. Bring your own lunch. Tea/coffee provided.

Sunday 6 March

Lent 4 9.00am Messy Church and Breakfast

Mothering Sunday **Note:** Change in Sunday this month only

 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens

 11.00am Morning Worship Mr Iain Hampson

Monday 7 Mar 7.30pm Ecumenical Lent Study Group at Rosyth Parish
Church. *Approaching Jesus* Week 5 (see p14)

Tuesday 8 Mar 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at
Limekilns

Wednesday 9 Mar 2.15 pm Wednesday Fellowship:
Guest speaker Richard Lloyd—Mary's Meals

Diary for February to March 2016

- Friday 11 Mar 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
- 7.00pm Choir practice
- 7.00pm Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society "Spring Excursions
(Rugged Landscapes)". Dunfermline High School.
Tickets from Adrian Masson.
- Saturday 12 Mar 9.30am Diocesan Synod, St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth
- 7.30pm Dunfermline Choral Union Spring Concert "A Night
at the Opera". Favourite chorus and arias. The Vine
Church, Dunfermline. Tickets from Gwyneth Kirby
and Myra Tarr
- 7.30pm Scottish Chamber Choir Concert featuring "The
making of the Drum" by Bob Chilcott. Palmerston
Place Church, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, See
Martin Tarr for details

Sunday 13 March

- Lent 5 9.30am Said Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens
- 11.00am Joint Service of Celebration for 100 years of
Methodism in Rosyth
Led by The Revd the Lord Leslie Griffiths
followed by Buffet Lunch in the Hall
- 3.00pm Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society "Spring Excursions
(Rugged Landscapes)". Old Kirk, Kirkcaldy. Tickets
from Adrian Masson
- Monday 14 Mar 7.30pm Ecumenical Lent Study Group at Rosyth Parish
Church. *Approaching Jesus* Week 6 (see p14)
- Wednesday 16 Mar 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Hymnformation
- Thurs17 Mar 2.00pm 100 years of Methodism in Rosyth, an illustrated
and 7.00pm talk by Martin Rogers
- Friday 18 Mar 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
- 7.00pm Choir practice

Diary for February to March 2016

Holy Week

Sunday 20 March

Palm Sunday	9.30am	Sung Eucharist with distribution of palms and Retiring collection for Bishop David's Lent Appeal	Rev Alison Cozens
	11.00am	Morning Worship with distribution of palms	Mr Ian Paterson
	3.00pm	Service at Orchardhead House, Rosyth	
Monday 21 Mar	7.30pm	Ecumenical Lent Study Group at Rosyth Parish Church. A meal representing the Last Supper	
Tuesday 22 Mar	10.00am	EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at Limekilns	
Wednesday 23Mar	2.15pm	Wednesday Fellowship: Holy Week Communion	Rev Alison Cozens
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Liturgy of the Last Supper All welcome to attend from both congregations Retiring collection for Bishop David's Lent Appeal	Rev Alison Cozens
Good Friday	12noon to 1.00pm	An hour by the Cross led by the Rev Alison Cozens	
Easter Day	11.00am	Joint Sung Communion and blessing of the Paschal Candle	Rev Alan Whitson
	6.00pm	No Sunday@Six	
	7.30pm	Resurrection led by the Exile band, Origin Praise Choir (with members of the Cape Town Gospel Choir) and the Exile Chamber Orchestra. Usher Hall, Lothian Road, Edinburgh. Tickets, are free , available now, but offering towards expenses.	
Wednesday 30 Mar	2.15pm	Wednesday Fellowship: Daffodil Tea fundraising event	
Friday 1 Apr	9.30am onwards	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	Choir practice	

Note: Sunday Bible Study will resume on 17 April, 8pm to 9.00pm, at the Rectory.

World Day of Prayer—Friday 4th March

Background

Every year Christians from all over the world, of many traditions and all ages, celebrate a common day of prayer, on the first Friday in March. We bring the needs of the world and of a different country in particular each year, before God.

The themes for the World Day of Prayer services are chosen and allocated to the different countries years ahead. Yet isn't it amazing how often that, when their year comes round, the writing country is already in the news? In 2011 we rejoiced with the people of Chile following the successful rescue from the Copiaco mine a few months earlier. In 2014 our thoughts were already with the Christians of Egypt when it seemed that the hopes they had written about in their service were to be dashed. This year we think of the people of Cuba as they hope and pray for an end to the longstanding embargo, which has done so much harm to their economy. One of the grievances of Cuban women mentioned was the effect that the embargo has had on their country. By the time the Service is held this year their situation may have already changed, but their expression of the theme, 'Receive children, receive me', remains the same.

Local arrangements

The service for our local district will be at the Parish Church of St Peter in Inverkeithing at 2pm. There will be a preparatory meeting there some time in February, details of which will appear in our weekly notice sheet nearer the time. Our own representatives are Sandra Young and Lesley Yellowlees for St Margaret's, and for the Methodist Church Mary Dempster and me. Anyone wishing to join us will be very welcome. Help us to share ideas, ask questions, join in discussions and help make our World Day of Prayer a learning, sharing and caring experience for the entire Christian community that lasts the whole year. Follow us on Facebook, or find out more on our website for Scotland at www.wdpscotland.org.uk.

Mary Kidd

A meditation for the Day: Receive children, receive me

And you know I remember this. I was there.

It was a hot, dusty day but people crowded round him, listening, trying to get a better view. I hadn't meant to go. I was on my way to see my mother and I had Philip with me, and Naomi. They always look to see what's going on if there's a crowd; but it's hard to drag them away, little monkeys, and this time they got themselves near to

the front. I was quite proud of them actually. They looked so tidy and were hanging on to every word. I don't know if they understood or not. I saw Ruth with her little one, Sarah. In fact, there were a lot of my friends there with their children. Trying not to be conspicuous; it was really a talk for the men, I think.

Then he came out with those words.....

And the children seemed to know that he was gentle. I was really glad that Philip and Naomi were looking tidy. You don't want them to show you up, do you? But it was as if the Red Sea had parted all over again. As he stretched out his arms all the children passed through the crowd. There was nothing the men could do. They could see that he wanted the children close to him. There were a few grimaces among his followers I can tell you. But there they were, the children. Philip and Naomi got near to the front. I could understand him wanting Philip near him. Well he's a boy isn't he? Could grow up to be a rabbi, needs to begin learning. But he smiled at Naomi too and you could see she was at ease with him.

Then I could hardly believe it, some of those beggars' children got in close too, dirty smelly things they are, no manners. And that boy with the crooked legs was struggling towards him. As he got close, Jesus put out his arms and helped him onto his knee. What's a boy like that got to offer? Can hardly put one word after

another. Then from the back two girls, obviously from Samaria, came striding through as if they owned the village. Lucky to be here, I'd say. But you'd think Jesus didn't know where they'd come from; he called out to them to come and join in.

Receive them and we receive him? Isn't that a bit much to ask?

Who is this man? The Holy Man from Galilee, they call him. From Galilee! And he loves children. Look at them all. I stand on the edge watching with the other women. He doesn't send us away.

Look, his eyes see me. Such kind eyes, full of love. They pierce my very soul. Something is moving deep within me. The world falls away – the fear, the envy, the worry.....that gaze is magic, pure love. My heart leaps and joy overwhelms me. I have never felt like this since I was a child.

I am blessed.

World Day of Prayer Scottish Committee – SC020446

One Minute Please

What did Jesus say?

“I am with you always

To the very end of the age”

Matthew 28 v 20

What does faith involve? Learning from Nehemiah

Reflections by the Rev Andrew Letby for the Covenant Service on 24 January
The readings were Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10 and Luke 4:14–21

Background

Today's reading from Nehemiah places us in the period after the fall of Babylon, defeated by the Persians—in other words the 5th century BC. In the history of the Old Testament this is significant in that the people of God, the Israelites, have been allowed to move back to Jerusalem from Exile in Babylon. The Exile and the return are not neatly quantifiable events—probably only the wealthy and influential people were taken to Babylon in the first place, with a slow and incomplete return later. However, what is significant is that the City of Jerusalem had been pretty much destroyed – and the return to that place and attempts to rebuild were deeply symbolic to the people.

One of those to return from Exile was Ezra, a priest and teacher (and a name always associated with Nehemiah). By the time Ezra returned to Jerusalem the Temple had been rebuilt.

But whilst the physical symbol of the Israelites had been restored, Ezra was distressed to find that the religious practice and general lifestyle of the people had not been restored. He was particularly exasperated that even after all that had previously befallen the nation (put down to Israel's disobedience) people did not seem to be obeying the Law anymore. Many of

the Jews had seemingly married partners from other nations—a serious transgression in Ezra's eyes—and he tried to put a stop to such practices. In true fairytale tradition of course Ezra did change people's minds and they turned to God with new joy.

But the hero for this story is Nehemiah, so where does he fit in?

At the beginning of the story, Nehemiah was in Babylonia—a cupbearer for King Artaxerxes of Persia. That seems to translate as some sort of court wine taster (Nice work if you can get – possibly! – the purpose in tasting the wine was to check that it wasn't poisoned.)

Far away from Jerusalem he received word that things were not right in Jerusalem—the new enthusiasm generated by Ezra had obviously been short-lived. It was no easy matter convincing Artaxerxes that he should be released from his duties to go to Jerusalem and sort out the moral decay. But permission was granted — and Nehemiah's great claim to fame was the rebuilding of the city wall destroyed during Nebuchadnezzar's invasion. The work was completed we are told in 52 days (he was obviously a pretty forceful Clerk of Works).

Bringing people back to faith

The completion was celebrated by a reading of the Law— and the people are, to use the vernacular, gob-smacked by what they heard.

I suppose this shows that Ezra and Nehemiah were right in being so worried about the state of society. For the “chosen people” to be surprised by the reading of the Law is a real indictment of how bad things had become.

But significantly the people were not just surprised—they came to life. What we read of is a celebration. Once they understood that the rebuilding of the city wall was not just a physical achievement—but that it was a symbol of God’s sovereignty they wanted to party!

Once again the people were in touch with their roots.

So Nehemiah succeeded where Ezra apparently failed in bringing the people back to true obedience.

But all was not perfect—we learn later that Nehemiah after a spell back at the day job returns to Jerusalem—only to find that the people have slipped back to their old ways.

And so the task starts again. And leads us on to the extracts we read this morning.

Three lessons

I want briefly to take 3 lessons from that history lesson.

Faith requires a vision. Both Ezra and Nehemiah had a vision of how things should be.

The Jewish people had been through an experience in the Exile, which had threatened to kill off their identity. The very fabric of society had been torn away. Whatever the rights and wrongs of Ezra and Nehemiah’s hard line approach to restoring obedience to the Law – we cannot question their motivation.

It seems to me that one of the problems we face in the contemporary society (and that includes the church) is that we have lost clarity of what we are about.

As Christians we have no business in giving up on the society in which we live. We share our lives with all of God’s creation—each person in the world is part of that creation—and whilst we can see so much going wrong—so much sinfulness (if you want the theological term)—we cannot just shake our heads and hope we will be safe.

That is to me the core of faith—keeping faith with the world in which we live. By doing so we will be being faithful to God’s purpose—and in that we shall surely find joy and fulfilment. That may sound hard going—but remember we have a vision of how it should be—it’s found in the Gospels—

Continued from page 23

God's vision for the world, revealed in Jesus.

Today is Homeless Sunday, a reminder of our responsibility to the most vulnerable and fragile in our society. This week we will mark Holocaust Memorial Day, a reminder not just of tragedies long past—but of difficult situations still very real.

True faithfulness allows us to live in harmony with God and as a consequence can lead to joy and fulfilment.

The people of Jerusalem made a joyous discovery—God loved them and cared for them—and he wanted them to celebrate all of that. My reading of the passage from Nehemiah makes me think this was some party — and encouragement comes from the religious leaders that it is quite all right to enjoy the celebrations.

Perhaps like the people of Jerusalem we have forgotten how to celebrate — and instead have become apologetic. We apologise for our country, we apologise for our church...

Faith is about keeping faith even when the odds seem to be against us.

I think this is the thing that impresses me most about Nehemiah—he came back and he wasn't apparently that downhearted when it seemed that all his previous hard work had been forgotten. He came back to start rebuilding over again.

Today is about committing ourselves afresh to the life of faith. It is about our mission—personal and corporate. My favourite, straightforward definition of mission in a Christian context is:

'find out what God is up to in the world and join in...'

It's not predicated on great learning, constant bible study, giving money; it doesn't need charismatic leaders – or ministers to take the blame for everything—it simply requires being open to the signs of transforming grace in our everyday encounters and embracing this with enthusiasm

And, what is God up to?

I simply quote the words Jesus himself quoted:

*'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to
the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's
favour.'*

Andrew Letby

[Ed: See also next page for an extract from Rev Alison Cozens' sermon to Holy Trinity, also on 24th January, in which she recalls the work of the Nehemiah Foundation in her previous parish. Further details of the Foundation are given by Martin Tarr on page 26.]

Wednesday Fellowship

It's that time of the year when we look forward to longer daylight, and the appearance of the first snowdrops in flower; hopefully the arrival of Spring is not too far away! Members of the Wednesday Fellowship look forward to the start of our new session on February 3rd, weather permitting, after a well-earned break since we had our Christmas lunch together at The Elgin Hotel.

The new syllabus is now available, and posters are on display in the Crush Hall and around the church. We have quite a varied and interesting programme to look forward to. We would love to see new members join, and cordially invite you to join us. Maybe you would like to come occasionally if something appeals to you. We meet in the church lounge at 2.15pm, and usually begin with a time to meet and greet each other, before a short time of devotion. We are grateful to Hilary Henderson who again begins our Spring session. Most afternoons we have a guest speaker; we do appreciate these people who give of their time to come and share with us their interest. Each week we finish with refreshments and another opportunity to chat to our friends.

Hope to see you there!

Mary Kidd

Going into the community

Extract from Alison Cozens' sermon

In Leicester, I was privileged to work with a group from the Nehemiah Foundation [*Ed: details overleaf*]

It was so named because they were sent out into communities across the UK, rather like the scouts who went unseen into the city in Nehemiah's time, to find out exactly what was going on among the people and in this case, among people of different faith traditions and cultures living and working in Leicester.

Our Nehemiah community worker was a bright young Muslim man who went about the parish linking people up across cultural boundaries. He now he works as a consultant in the Diocese of London helping to build good relations between communities where trust has broken down.

As Christian people we are called to go out into our communities and to find out what is going on and how we can bring the good news to people's lives.

We know that there is poverty in Dunfermline. You can provide support through your choice of charities and by giving something to the Foodbank when you do your weekly shop. Remember too in your prayers that poverty is not just material poverty, but poverty of spirit and poverty of wellbeing...

Alison Cozens

What is the Nehemiah Foundation?

Martin Tarr has explored their website (www.nehemiahfoundation.co.uk) and adapted some of its information for our readers.

The Foundation recognises that faith, spirituality and religion are important to many people in many different ways, and part of the inspiration motivating its founders was their own practical outworking of the faith values with which they were familiar.

Their primary purpose is to build what they call “resilient neighbourhoods”, where people thrive, care, and live together well, by working with people both of faith and no faith, to achieve the common good.

They chose to be called after Nehemiah because there were things about his character, and about the process of rebuilding he led, that they felt were relevant and offered practical wisdom and insight for today.

They liked that:

- Nehemiah was both a civil servant and a person of faith
- he was released to do something that needed to be done
- there were no fanfares and big announcements of money to bring about change and improvements
- he undertook a quiet reconnaissance to find out the real situation before starting work
- he inspired and motivated leaders and communities to work together for a common good.

They also noted his ability to:

- deal with cynicism, opposition and hostility
- adapt working practices constantly to adjust to changing circumstances
- ensure people were honoured and treated well.

Nehemiah Partners take part in inter-faith activities (see our last issue on p34 and the back cover) and, as one of the trustees (a Baptist minister) puts it, “The Foundation enables real people to cross boundaries and barriers that so often prevent us from tackling real issues in our communities and neighbourhoods.”

The Foundation is a registered charity, but sadly its area of operation is just England. As yet there seems to be no comparable organisation in Scotland...

[Ed: given that the contributions in the issue by Andrew Letby and Alison Cozens have each been inspired by Nehemiah, should we jointly consider whether there is scope for a Scottish initiative, with initial inputs from staff of the Foundation?]

Keeping the show on the road

Property Improvements

In the last edition of Contact I reported on plans to make some improvements to the front and back entrances of the church, viz to put down vinyl flooring in the back entrance and the crush hall, to replace the back door with an aluminium one, to replace the motley collection of cupboards in the back entrance and to refurbish the coffee bar. This was dependent on a grant application to Awards for All being successful and I am very pleased to say that we have been given the grant we asked for (£6,900). A generous donation of £1,000 has also been made by a church member and the balance of the cost will be met from a bequest received from Malcolm Trew's estate.

The plan is to have the crush hall flooring replaced in time for our 100th



St Margaret's Centenary gift

Church anniversary on 13 March. The timing of the remainder of the work is still uncertain.

Martin Rogers

100th Anniversary Appeal

In March the Methodist mark their anniversary with an appeal, and this year is no exception! Donations are invited from both individuals and organisations associated with the church, and are an important part of our budgeted income.

Please give what you can, using the Centenary Appeal envelopes included with this issue of CONTACT and available at the church. Please use the Gift Aid

Declaration on the envelope if that is appropriate. Every gift-aided donation of £10 is worth £12.50!

Dave Ward

Puzzle corner from Sue Masson: Can you match up sets of 4 linked words?

Samba	Avon	Salsa	Rumba
Ketchup	Forth	Times	Dee
Head	Arrabiata	Tango	Three
Sever	Bossa Nova	Thames	Napolitana

A fruitful gathering

Extracted and adapted from a sermon by Alison Cozens at Holy Trinity on 24/01/16

This last week I was with the other clergy from the Diocese of St Andrews Dunkeld and Dunblane for the annual clergy conference, which was organised by Rev Thomas Brauer, Diocesan Missioner, who had preached at Rosyth the previous week.

it was a good experience to meet almost all of the other Rectors, including six of us who were new, as well as the two newly ordained curates and one or two of the retired clergy. We were quite a varied group in terms of background: English and Scottish and Welsh and Irish.

It was as if the passage from St Paul's letter to the Corinthians was coming to fruition before our eyes, as priests together we discovered we had many different gifts and among our congregations many of the same challenges. There was though a sense of unity which I found heartening, our unity in Christ and our support one of another.

Bishop David, as Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, shared with us the trials and tribulations of the Columba Declaration and the Primates' meeting. As we stood and prayed with him after hearing his heart-felt concerns, the sense of the Spirit was strong... [Ed: These are weighty matters. For a summary of the Columba Declaration, see Martin

Tarr's article on the opposite page; and for Bishop David's take on the Primates' meeting, see his blog his article for the Church Times.]

Rev Professor Trevor Hart, the Rector of St Andrews church in St Andrews, spoke about the power of the imagination, and how important it is for us to hear once again the good things God has done for his people and to relate those stories to our own stories of faith.

There are times when we feel we are on the mountain top and can see the glory and those other times when we wander in the spiritual wilderness; and yet, like the people of the Old Testament, we are called always to trust in God's promises.

One of the things Trevor noted in his talk was the fact that we don't talk enough about debt, the debt that troubles people's lives as well as the debt carried by the developing nations and not least how that theme relates to what Jesus did on the Cross for us in setting us free. He noted that in the Lord's Prayer, one translation reads 'forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors'. I trust you will be pleased to hear that I have invited Trevor to come and preach on the second Sunday of June both at Holy Trinity and in Rosyth.

On the last day of the clergy conference one of the themes was how to encourage wellbeing among the clergy! So we talked about the need for spiritual renewal through regular retreat, achieving a balance in our lives through a rule of Life, paying

attention to time for work and study and rest and play, in the Benedictine way. I am pleased to tell you that on that last day one of our number stood up and said that he thought we were a strong diocese and in good heart...

The Columba Declaration

An explanation by Martin Tarr

For those who haven't heard about it, the Declaration, made just before Christmas, was billed as "an historic agreement" that recognises the long-standing ecumenical partnership between the Church of Scotland and the Church of England. But in what position does this put the Scottish Episcopal Church? After all, the SEC is already in full communion with the Church of England.

There has been much debate since, and much unhappiness expressed.

Again, you can read about it on Bishop David's blog and elsewhere on-line. The latest situation (29 January) is that the whole of the report of the Joint Study Group – entitled '*Growth in Communion, Partnership in Mission*' – of which the Columba Declaration is but a part, has now been published (see it at <http://tinyurl.com/jkswkxu>).

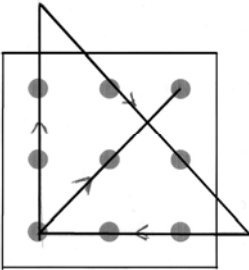
In response, the SEC Faith and Order Board has issued a background note (available at <http://tinyurl.com/z4b52hs>) which ends "*Growth in Communion, Partnership in Mission*' now provides an opportunity to build on the warm relations which the Scottish Episcopal Church already enjoys with the Church of Scotland and very much looks forward to continuing discussions. The Board similarly looks forward to strengthening our relationship and mutual regard with the Church of England."

Working together at a institutional level is clearly difficult! It's encouraging that, at the grass roots in Rosyth, "our unity in Christ and our support one of another" (to quote Alison's sermon in another context) continues to bring us together as a partnership.

Puzzle page

With puzzles from Dave Ward and musical quizzes from Sue Masson

First, the answer to the puzzle in the previous issue



Here is an easy one

J F M A M J J A S O N _

What is the last letter in the sequence?

Here is a Question that appeared in the film Labyrinth with David Bowie

There are two guards, each covering a door.

One guard always lies while the other always tells the truth, but you do not know which,

One door leads to freedom, the other to certain death, but you do not know which; but they do,

You are allowed to ask one question to either of the guards.

What do you ask and to whom?

Here is a puzzle for the bakers!

You have to cook a cake for exactly 45 minutes,

But you have only two wax tapers, both of which take exactly one hour to burn away.

Armed with only a box of matches, how do you work out the exact time?

And now for a music quiz set by Sue Masson

Some composers left this world in distinctly memorable ways. Can you name them from these clues (initials are also given)

- 1) Who dies at the organ in Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris? (L V)
- 2) Which composer died on the same day as Stalin? (S P)
- 3) Which composer caught a chill when he returned home from the theatre to find that his wife had locked him out? (H P)
- 4) Who drowned after the boat he was in was hit by a torpedo? (E G)
- 5) Which composer died suddenly whilst dancing? (A B)
- 6) Which composer had a fear of the number 13 and died on Friday 13th July? (A S)

Contact points and meeting times

This list supplements the list of formal contacts given on the inside cover, and is for the activities and organisations run by the Methodist Church Council, St Margaret's Vestry, and by affiliated but independent organisations.

Church activities

Methodist Gift Aid enquiries to
Stuart Fowell 01383 823936
Stuart.Fowell@btinternet.com

Property matters & letting enquiries:
Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

St Margaret's Choir
Sue Masson 01383 824887
susan.masson@btinternet.com

St Margaret's Gift Aid enquiries to
Marc Tempelhoff 01383 410151
marct@talktalk.net

Sunday School and Messy Church:
Gwyneth Kirby 01383 624779
gmkirby@hotmail.com

Toddlers' Group (Wed/Fri 0930-1100)
Elaine Lambert 01383 417071
elaine.lambert1@sky.com

Traidcraft
Myra Tarr 01383 723989
myra@mtarr.co.uk

Wednesday Fellowship (Wed 1415-1600)
Mary Kidd 01383 872332
cmarykidd@btinternet.com

Organisations meeting in our premises

Parahandies Disabled Club (Mon 0930-1400)
Peter Merckel (sec) 01383 822940
peter.merckel@yahoo.co.uk

Scout Group

Group Scout Leader
see Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

Beaver Scouts (Tue 1730-1830)
David Sinclair 01383 410255
davidgraeme31@yahoo.co.uk

Cub Scouts (Tue 1830-2015)
Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

Scouts (Fri 1900-2115)
Alan Connery 01383 731391
scouts_13th_fife@btinternet.com

*Explorer Scouts (Fri 1900-2115)
Gary Dewar 01383 411938
gary.dewar@sky.com

Guide Unit

Rainbows (Mon 1800-1900)
Susan Warren 01383 414355
susarren@aol.com

Brownies (Mon 1800-1930)
Nicola Byrne 07956 005996
NicolaByr44ne86@hotmail.com

*Guides (Thu 1800-2030)
Linda Wallace 07455 213809
6throsythguides@gmail.com

** An asterisk indicates a change since the last issue (in either meeting time or contact details or both)*

Please let the Editor know of any changes or additions to this list, preferably by email to: editor@rosythmethodist.org.uk

Ministers of Rosyth Methodist Church 1916–2016

Rev Richard W Charlesworth	1916–1920
Rev George H Barnard	1918–1919
Rev John Hughes	1919–1920
Pastor William Lord	1920–1923
Rev Louis P Porri	1923–1926
Rev Frederick W Atkin	1928–1930
Pastor Cyril Dorsett	1930–1931
Pastor Hubert F Oxbrough	1931–1932
Pastor J Gordon Hill	1932–1935
Pastor Edward T Hobbs	1935–1939
Rev Eric Harrop	1939–1944
Rev Frank Foxon	1944–1949
Rev G Raymond Gostelow	1949–1953
Rev James Mack	1953–1959
Rev Robert H Collens	1959–1964
Rev Thomas B Dutton	1964–1969
Rev Roger Tate	1969–1971
Rev Eric Patton	1971–1976
Rev Barrie J Cash	1976–1983
Rev John Johnson	1983–1989
Rev Malcolm F Trew	1989–1999
Rev Dr Gordon Murray	1999–2002
Rev Eddie Curliss	2002–2003
Rev Paul King (interim)	2003–2004
Rev Deborah Cornish	2004–2009
Rev Eric Potts (interim)	2009–2010
Deacon Sarah McDowall	2010 –2015
Rev Helen Jenkins	2015

CONTACT on-line

You will find this issue, and many previous issues of CONTACT, on the archive pages of both of the church websites, where you will get the benefits of colour without the extra printing cost

To all our contributors

Grateful thanks to all those who have contributed to this issue. The next issue will be published in early April, so please let us have your contribution by the end of play on Thursday 24th March. You can send it to editor@rosythmethodist.org.uk.