

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 84
April/May 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

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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 Episcopalians 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

Howard Kirby reflects on implications of the Centenary sermon

The magnificent response to the service celebrating 100 years of Methodism in Rosyth is well remarked on below and later in this Issue. Here I focus on some points Rev Leslie Griffiths made in his sermon that seem relevant to proposed discussions on strengthening the relationship between the Ecumenical Partners.

Shame that the Methodist Church and Anglican Church have not got an agreement that provides “an interchangeability of ministers, with a more functional approach to their joint activities, saving an awful lot of bureaucracy and double-think”. But – maybe we can go almost beyond that.

Christians need to stop defining themselves against other religions. “The real cultural forces against which people of faith now have to define themselves are secular and not religious”

“Jesus bids us ‘Shine with a pure, clear light’ and shine is what we have to do.”

“It’s not enough for Anglicans and Methodist to join in a kind of way. They must all enlist in the army that fights against godlessness, amorality, selfishness, post-modernity and all the forces that assail us in this age”

At the end of his sermon Leslie told of a dream of a great vessel in which we might sail into a future that cannot be seen. He at first called it “HMS Rosyth Methodism and Rosyth Scottish [Episcopal Church] Anglicans – but then called it simply “HMS Christianity”. Is all this a hint that we should think more widely?

A testimonial from our Episcopalian partners

We at St Margaret's offer our partners Rosyth Methodist Church congratulations on 100 years of Methodism in Rosyth and wish you a successful and happy year of celebration.

Most of our congregation were present on 13th March when we were privileged to hear the renowned Rev Dr Lord Leslie Griffiths preach such an eloquent and apt sermon. The church was beautifully decorated and there was an exciting buzz everywhere. The

rousing singing, the happy and relaxed atmosphere with old friends being reunited and some new friendships formed, the tasty buffet lunch afterwards, all added to the enjoyment of the day.

Thank you to all who helped in whatever way to make the day so special- a perfect start to a year of celebration at the church.

Sandra Young

Centenary Celebrations

What an amazing start to our year of celebration! The Church was packed, the singing amazing and people are still talking about Leslie Griffiths' sermon! And I still don't know how many folk were fed after the Service. But it was worth every sleepless night. Thank you to everyone who was there for making it such a memorable occasion.

But the Service was just the beginning of a very busy year. You should all by now have a copy of the diary of events for the year. Please take time to look through it so that you don't miss anything. It's a very mixed programme with, I hope, something for everyone.

You may have already missed our first event in March – a talk by Martin Rogers on 100 Years of Methodism in Rosyth – but this will be followed by a Church History Walk – again led by Martin Rogers – on Sunday 17 April,

starting at 2.30 (more details of this walk are available on page 31 of this copy of Contact). Martin's talk and slides were fascinating and it will be interesting to see the actual sites of former Methodist Churches.

Our event in May will be an exhibition of naval uniforms, costumes and clerical dress dating from 1916. The exhibition will be open on Thursday 26th May from 2.00 to 4.00, Friday 27th May from 10.00 to 12.00 (why not combine your visit with a visit to The Triangle Coffee Shop?) and Saturday 28th May from 2.00 to 4.00.

And now is the time to start thinking about your entry for the Flower Festival from June 17 19, when you will also be able to enjoy a lovely afternoon tea.

We look forward to welcoming you to these events.

Gwyneth Kirby

Some reactions to the Anniversary Day

A few words of thanks

We thank the Rev Dr Lord Leslie Griffiths for his leading of our Service of Celebration and his sermon with its touches of humour. Thank you, sir.

We thank those who had travelled the length and breadth of the United Kingdom to join with us.

We thank those who came from sister churches in the Circuit and locality.

We thank those who came because of experiences of younger days in times past. Come back, come back where a warm welcome awaits you.

We thank those who prepared for the day's arrangements which gave us a most wonderful day.

We remember all those dear relatives and friends, no longer with us, but who in so many ways helped to lay the foundations of our Methodist community throughout the 100 years of our existence.

We thank those who sent their greetings to us – even from far away Australia.

Jack Fowell

Thoughts—and the future

We started planning this event 3 years ago. As with most things in the future they seem a long way away in the beginning. BUT in the twinkle of general church busyness and what seems like no time at all we were into 2016 and we, the stewards and leadership team, were getting down to the proper business of putting everything into action. Our plans changed almost weekly with the numbers of people expressing their intention to attend rising. Our sit-down lunch soon became an impossibility, and thank goodness we became aware of this in time.

As a relative newby of only 10 years at Rosyth it was wonderful to see such a crowd of people entering our doors in anticipation of meeting and greeting so many friends from years past. The joy and smiles washed over me even though I was very busy with varied duties.

I have heard Rev Dr Lord Leslie Griffiths speak on many occasions, from Ordinations to Conference and Ministers retiring and church re-openings after refurbishments and he never fails to make each event appropriate and individual as well as enjoyable and amusing. Not forgetting his primary calling to preach the Word of God into each gathering. We are truly blessed to be able to invite him across our threshold.

His message, of course, had to not only recognise the journey through the many years past but also to point us toward the future. We are the people on the ground now with this new job to do here in Rosyth. Let us plan, pray and work to that end.

We have been very ambitious in planning a whole year of events and look forward to their success as the months roll round through the year of our Centenary.

With thanks to everyone who bought their own varied gifts to a splendid event.

Evelyn Kenny.

A memorable day

The service of celebration and thanksgiving held on 13th March 2016 to mark the centenary of Rosyth Methodist Church was memorable in many ways.

As the day drew nearer, the numbers indicating a wish to stay to the buffet lunch just grew and grew. eventually reaching 150 and forcing changes in the meal plans and in the seating plans. Happily all were able to be accommodated without an overflow into the crush hall! The pictures give an idea of how full the church was becoming before the service started.



The church filling up before the service



We were honoured to have as our Preacher, and to lead the service, the Rev Dr Lord Leslie Griffiths. After Mary Kidd had introduced him he set the right tone from the start by saying "There's only one Lord in this place and its not me!"

A feature of the church on the day, and indeed throughout March, were the 69 panels that Martin Rogers had prepared on various aspect of the history of our church building and fellowship. These were well set out on 8 display boards kindly loaned by the Rosyth Garden City Association. Part of one of these shown here features both our Centenary logo and that developed to celebrate the centenary of Rosyth Garden City itself, about which see also page 12. It is envisaged that a booklet based on these panels will be available at the close of our Centenary year.



Of course the highlight of the service was the sermon itself, delivered without notes and with a compelling sense of our history, of our ecumenical partnership and the implications of the Gospel message for the future. He bade us "Shine". You can read a full transcription of that sermon on pages 24-31, or hear it on a CD or by downloading it from the website.

Throughout, our singing was enhanced by the support of St Margaret's choir, seated on the stage, whose rendering of John Rutter's "Clare Benediction" closed the service beautifully.



There followed presentations of commemorative crystal plaques to Rev Leslie Griffiths and Rev Andrew Letby, whose production of a 1917 Bible before he read the Gospel caused amusement later as it appeared to have trumped Leslie's production of Michael Ramsey's Bible later.



Presentations I



Then came the cutting of the Centenary cake, kindly made for the occasion by Jean Hall, with tack Fowell and Heidi Cameron representing the range of ages in the congregation. For a picture of the cake-cutting, see the Young People pages!



Of course, the occasion was one in which there was much interaction between folk before and after the service, and reunions celebrated, as these two pictures below show. Sadly, not all who wanted to come could come and amongst the letters of regret and best wishes received were those from the Revds Sarah McDowall, Eric Potts, Deborah Cornish, the now late Eddie Curliss, John Johnson, David Easton and Lily Twist. A special message of best wishes was also received from Bishop David.



Christian Aid Week & Sunday@Six

This is a picture of Morsheda, a young mother of four. Her husband has left. She has no land. No assets. No savings. And the only work she can get is back-breaking manual labour for as little as 74p a day. Her home has been flooded several times, and last August it flooded again. She's our neighbour, and she desperately needs our help.



On Sunday 15 May our Sunday at Six service will be an evening of films & food to raise awareness about and money for Christian Aid. Come and learn about more about Morsheda and help Christian Aid give her a new chance at life, a chance to build a better future.

Across the UK and Ireland we will deliver 7 million envelopes to our local neighbours to raise money for our global neighbours in need. It's an opportunity to reach out to our community, and to make sure some of the world's poorest people have enough to eat and a safe place to live.

Would you like to help organise our Sunday at Six? Can you deliver and collect Christian Aid envelopes to your neighbours to help our church raise money this Christian Aid Week? If you can, do phone or email me 07535 757526/jbenvie@yahoo.co.uk.

Jan Benvie

The Church Army

A report on an Area Council meeting

At the first Area Council meeting of 2016 the Rev Nick Green gave a great presentation, telling us about the History of The Church Army and its founder Wilson Carlyle.

Wilson Carlyle was an Anglican rector of St Mary's Kensington (1892) who believed that the best way for the church to engage with its people was to mobilise its lay members. He believed that the ordinary working man could explain the gospel in the workplace better and foster outreach and evangelism. Wilson Carlyle knew William Booth who founded the Salvation Army. They were both keen musicians who encouraged each other with their ideas of religious evangelism.

The Church Army was known locally as the Gypsy Evangelists because they used caravans to get to communities. The Church Army captains lived and worked in these caravans. The first motorised caravans were used in 1908. Beach Missions were also popular.

The Church Army grew out of unemployment and strife. During the First World War Church Army members drove ambulances, manned Kitchen cars at the front and provided recreation huts for the men.

During the 1920's Mission walks were popular and the Church Army used motor vehicles to provide mobile

cinemas to the people. The key to their success was their ability to use innovative ideas and provide what the people needed.

During WW2 the Church Army once again manned the tea wagons and provided spiritual support to the soldiers on active service. The Church Army also ran hostels and Homes for orphans. The women of the Church Army were called sisters, whilst the men were known as captains. Nick showed us very inspirational and moving film of these elderly sister's and captains taking about what inspired them to become members of the Church Army.

Nick then spoke about what the Church Army is doing today, and the new generation of church Army captains and sisters. He also spoke about his own journey of faith in the Church Army and his commitment to Christ. He showed film of the Church Army working with young people on the streets. The Church Army uses buses to get from place to place where the young people are. They provide a non-threatening, comfortable place where they can discuss their needs and ask about Christ. The film showed young people talking about what the Church Army means to them and how it has changed their lives. The film was a real eye-opener.

The talk conveyed well Wilson Carlyle's vision of turning the church inside out, becoming less inward and generating what we would these days call 'Fresh Expressions' of church.

The Church Army has since 2008 been establishing Centres of Mission across the UK. The Dundee Centre of Mission is a partnership between the Church Army, St Luke's Church Downfield in Dundee, the SEC Diocese of Brechin and the international development agency Signpost International. Its objectives include growing new expressions of Christian community and inspiring mission and evangelism within the Scottish Episcopal Church. For example, St Luke's Downfield is doing some very innovative work using the cafe church as their model.

For more info on the Church Army go to www.churcharmy.org.uk. I promise it will be an interesting read.

Valerie Leslie



Church members engage with Gilbert & Sullivan once again!

Young People in Rosyth

It was lovely to see some visiting children at our Service of Celebration on 13th March. During the service we went out to enjoy some games, and then spent some time talking about celebrations, centenaries and Methodism. We just had time to finish a banner to decorate the hall for lunch before returning to the Service in time for the cutting of the cake.



Messy Church

Messy Church was a week early in March because of the Centenary Service, which meant it coincided with Mothering Sunday – a great opportunity to make lots of things for our Mums, to say thank you for all that they do for us. Our crafts included posies of flowers, cup cakes, cards and bracelets. And all those at church benefitted too – all the ladies received posies and everyone shared the cup cakes which had been made by the children.

To celebrate the centenary with our Messy Church families all the children



were given a Centenary mug – these families are a very important part of our Church family.

Our next Messy Church will be on April 10th and we will be returning to our theme of “Miracles of Jesus”.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Gwyneth Kirby

Brownie Guides

In the last issue we started our series about the various organisations that use the building with an introduction to the Rainbow Guides, and continue with other Guide Organisations.

When a Rainbow Guide reaches 7 years old, she can then go on to the next Section which is the Brownies (Brownie Guides).

The Brownies meet on a Monday night (the same night as Rainbows) but from 6 to 7.30 pm. This section is open to girls 7 to 10 years old, and there is a monthly subscription of £13.50.

This section is run by Leaders Nicky Burns and Sharon Gradon, with help from Unit Helper Megan and Senior Section Guide Breege.

At present there are 23 Brownies (almost their limit), split into 4 Sixes: POPPIES, DAISIES, THISTLES and SHAMROCKS. In charge of each Six, is a Sixer and a Seconder: these are normally the older and more experienced Brownies.

The catchment area for the Brownies at Rosyth Methodist Church is Inverkeithing and Rosyth.

To become a Brownie one has to learn by heart the Laws and a Promise that they have to repeat to the Leader. Once completed a girl is invested and gets the appropriate badges to wear on their uniform (which, naturally, is itself brown).

On a Monday night the Brownies have a variety of activities from handicraft (making things like Easter cards), playing games, learning songs and doing badgework.

Badgework consists of completing set-down tasks like basic cookery, needlework, collecting items of interest (stamps etc) and healthy living tasks. There is quite a list to choose from. Once completed satisfactorily the Brownies are awarded Proficiency badges which they wear with pride on their uniforms.

Our Brownies have been to the Ceramic Café, the Ice rink skating and

have attempted archery amongst other activities and outings.

Now is a good time to be a Brownie!

Dave Ward

Youth Week—Glen 2016

Youth Week happens each year at Glenalmond College, in Perthshire when young people and leaders from all over Scotland gather together for a week of fellowship, worship activities, sports and evening events. Organised by the Scottish Episcopal Church, it's a fun - filled holiday week with a difference — there is plenty of time to relax, make good friends and generally have a great time.

This year it runs from Sunday 24 to Saturday 30 July and is open to anyone in secondary education up to and including July 2016; also those under 18 who have left full-time education. You must be sponsored by your local congregation. The title of this year's event is *'Out of this World' – Living the Christian Life*.

Want to know more? Read the leaflet on the notice board in the Crush Hall or check www.facebook.com/secpyc

Centenary memorabilia (still available)



Scottish Church Census

Some readers may know that there will be a church census among churches in Scotland in May, the Census Sunday being 8 May. This is a comprehensive survey of most denominations and local churches in Scotland. The Scottish Episcopal Church is one of the sponsoring bodies, but the Methodist Church is not. [Ed: see footnote*]

The census will measure trends in church-going, and also explore certain factors which are thought to lie behind some of the recent changes in churchgoing patterns. St Margaret's will be involved as the Diocese has endorsed the census.. We will be asked to count all the people coming to our service on 8 May and members of the congregation will be asked to fill in a short proforma.

The study is being carried out by a national Steering Committee with members from the major denominations and representatives for the smaller ones.

The results will help national church leaders to plan strategically for the whole country as well as their own denomination. At a local level, it will be possible for individual congregations and groups of churches to identify issues specific to their area, and thus to develop appropriate strategies for ministry and mission.

Further information can be found on the notice board, and details about the proforma will be given nearer the time.

Sandra Young

** Methodism in Scotland is numerically weak, so in principle it is counted as one of the 'other small denominations'. However there appears to be an anomaly, in that we should surely be included in the survey if only as one of those small denominations. Further clarification is being sought on this issue. HRK*

Rosyth celebrates its Centenary

A 40-page booklet prepared by the Rosyth Centenary Group has been distributed to some 6.500 households in Rosyth. It commemorates the 1916 occasions when the first house in Rosyth Garden City was occupied, the dockyard became fully operational and the battlecruiser fleet based in the Forth engaged in the battle of Jutland..



See our Diary on 13th April for a talk by Martin Rogers and on 23rd-28th April for the Exhibition by Rosyth Garden City Association.

Diocesan Synod Report

At the Diocesan Synod in Perth on 12th March, the Bishop spoke about his year as travelling ambassador for the Scottish Episcopal Church, with travels to South Africa (to attend the Eco mission conference), the USA and India. Of the St Columba declaration (between the Church of England and Church of Scotland, see p 29 in the previous issue), he voiced his disappointment that he was not consulted on the matter, which he described as a 'bomb shell'. He reminded synod that "what matters most of all is that the declaration should not disturb the warm feelings that the SEC has for the Church of Scotland", and thanked the clergy for

their continued prayers and support on this matter.

Thomas Bruer, Diocesan Missioner spoke about his vision for the future in growing disciples and meeting Christ in his mission. He expressed gratitude to all those church leaders who were taking forward the task of leading mission; whether amongst children, young adults or those of a more mature age. The approach was based on the values in Casting the Net.

For a more detailed discussion of the Synod, please see the Synod report for the Vestry.

Valerie Leslie

Fiesta Finale

Valerie Leslie reports that this year's International feast 2016 was the best yet, enjoyed by 52 people. Organised by Dorissia (sadly, after 9 years, for the last time), it celebrated 140 years of the Mothers' Union (MU), with an

anniversary cake baked by Pam Pryde (see picture). Some £490 was raised for MU overseas and relief funds. A massive 'well done' to all those who helped make it such a success.



Fellowship news

Wednesday Fellowship News

We were all saddened at the Passing of one of our members, Irene May. She was a genuinely a nice person, sitting quietly until she got involved in a chat. Irene enjoyed singing and had been a member of the Woodmill Singers for many years. Already we miss her on our Wednesday afternoon.

Our programme for the second part of our Spring session looks very interesting, so write up your diaries with the following: April 6th fire safety in the home; 20th April Rev. Elizabeth Fisk, St. Ninian's Church twinning with a Church in Norway; 4th May Morag Hogben on her work as a Chocolatier; and of course our Lunch at the the Elgin Hotel. The other dates have interesting speakers too so do come along, you will be made very welcome.

Church family news

Congratulations to Mary Kidd on the arrival on 22nd March of her new granddaughter, Eleanor Mary Kidd. We will be introduced to Eleanor soon, as she and her Dad and Mum, Andrew and Andrea, will be staying in Limekilns for a few months.

More congratulations to Mary Kidd – her grandson Jamie Donohoe was awarded a Gold Medal for Matsubayashi Ireland in the European Karate championships (Under 10s

Kata) held in Brussels, in February. Very well done, Jamie.

On Maundy Thursday (24th March) in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, we had our very own representative there receiving the Maundy Purse was Janet Murray. She was delighted that her daughter Helen was able to be with her. Congratulations Janet we will look forward to hearing all about your special day.

Valerie Leslie has donated a crystal cruet set and tray to St Margaret's to give thanks for the joy given to her by her grandchildren, Callum, Ruby, Alex, Sophie, Emily, Jessica and Charlotte and the special joy that the St Margaret's family gives her: fellowship, music and a special spiritual oneness with God. We thank Val for her kind gift.

The Gathering—for all ages

We have received advance notice of this year's Gathering which takes place on Saturday 18 June at St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth . Further details will follow in due course, but for those of you who would like to attend this interesting and popular Diocesan event please note it in your diary.

[Ed: See page 11 for information on a Youth Week for teenagers.]

Diary for April to May 2016

Sunday 3 April

Easter 2	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Ross Kennedy
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Mrs Hilary Henderson David Salthouse (Worship Leader)
		followed by Church AGM	

Tuesday 5 Apr	10.00am	EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at Limekilns	
	7.30pm	Coffee, Cake and Crafts – a monthly evening craft club run by Jean Hall and friends	

Wednesday 6 Apr	2.15pm	Wednesday Fellowship: Guest speaker Paul Cunningham – Fire safety in the home	
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Friday 8 Apr	9.30am	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall onwards tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	Choir practice	

Sunday 10 April

	9.00am	Messy Church and Breakfast	
Easter 3	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Dr Marion Keston
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Dr Deidre Homer

Tuesday 12 April	7.00pm	St Margaret's Vestry meeting in small lounge	
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Wednesday 13 Apr	2.15pm	Wednesday Fellowship: Guest speaker Richard Lloyd – 'Mary's Meals' update	
	7.30pm	Rosyth's Centenary. An illustrated talk by Martin Rogers. At Rosyth Parish Church. Arranged by Rosyth Garden City Association and preceded at 7pm by the Association's AGM.	

Friday 15 Apr	9.30am	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall onwards tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	Choir practice	

Diary for April to May 2016

Sunday 17 April

- Easter 4 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens
- 11.00am Morning Worship Mr Lyn Smalridge
 Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)
- 2.30pm Church history walk, led by Martin Rogers. Starts from opposite McColl's shop in Hilton Road. Lasts about 1 hr. Finishes at current church, with light refreshments. More details on p 31.
- 3.00pm Service at Orchardhead House, Rosyth

Tuesday 19 Apr 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at Limekilns

- Wednesday 20 Apr 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:
 Guest Speaker the Rev Elizabeth Fisk
- 7.30pm Final post-Easter meeting of the Lent study group at Holy Trinity Church when we will look at the resurrection in Luke's gospel chapter 24

- Friday 22 Apr 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
 onwards tea, coffee and home baking
- 7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 24 April

Easter 5 11.00am Joint Communion Service Very Rev Jim Mein
 Traidcraft goods on sale after the service

 6.00pm Sunday@Six celebrating Shakespeare in word and music organised by Sue Masson and Valerie Leslie

Tuesday 26 Apr 7.30pm Joint Vestry/Council Meeting in Church Lounge

Wednesday 27 Apr 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:
 Guest Speaker Bill Tulloch – Desert Island Books

- Friday 29 Apr 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
 onwards tea, coffee and home baking
- 7.00pm Choir practice

Diary for April to May 2016

Sunday 1 May

Easter 6	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Alison Cozens
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Rev Paul Singh David Salhouse (Worship Leader)
	8.00pm	Bible Study in the Rectory for readers on Sunday 8 May and anyone else interested	

Monday 2 May 7.30pm Ecumenical Study Group at Rosyth Parish Church

Tuesday 3 May	10.00am	EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at Limekilns	
	7.30pm	Coffee, Cake and Crafts – a monthly evening craft club run by Jean Hall and friends	

Wednesday 4 May 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:
Guest Speaker Morag Hobden, Chocolatier

Thursday 5 May 7.30pm Sung Eucharist for Ascension Day (tbc)

Friday 6 May	9.30am	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall onwards tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	Choir practice	

Sunday 8 May

Easter 7	9.00am	Breakfast and Messy Church	
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Alison Cozens
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Mrs Jane Peers
	8.00pm	Bible Study in the Rectory for readers on Sunday 15 May and anyone else interested	

Wednesday 11 May 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:
Guest speaker Lou Davies – Haiti update

Thursday 12 May	7.00pm	Rosyth's Got Talent Christian Aid Concert (ticketed event) Primary Schools Annual Concert, Rosyth Parish Church	
	7.30pm	Local Preachers and Worship Leaders meeting at CEMC	

Friday 13 May 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall onwards tea, coffee and home baking

Diary for April to May 2016

7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 15 May Christian Aid Week

Pentecost 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens
11.00am Morning Worship Mr Will Carroll
Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)
3.00pm Service at Orchardhead House
6.00pm Sunday@Six (note the change in week this month)
for Christian Aid organised by Jan Benvie
8.00pm Bible Study in the Rectory for readers at the joint
service on Sunday 22 May and anyone else
interested

Tuesday 17 May 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at
Limekilns

Wednesday 18 May 12.30pm Wednesday Fellowship Lunch at the Elgin Hotel,
Charlestown

Friday 20 May 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 22 May

Trinity Sunday 11.00am Joint Communion Service Rev Linda McMurray
1.00pm "Heart and Soul" 2016, Church of Scotland
to 6pm celebration of the whole church in Princes Street
Gardens, Edinburgh. Theme "People of the Way"
see www.heartandsoul.org.uk
8.00pm Bible Study in the Rectory for readers on Sunday 29
May and anyone else interested

Monday 23 May 10.00am Rosyth Garden City Association Annual Exhibition
to 4.00pm At Rosyth Parish Church. The exhibition focuses on
Saturday 28 May the centenaries of Rosyth town, the dockyard
becoming operational and the Battle of Jutland

Wednesday 25 May 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship AGM, Tea and Close of
Session

Note: Meetings resume on Wednesday 7 September

Diary for April to May 2016

6.00pm Rosyth Garden City Association Annual Exhibition
to 8.00pm At Rosyth Parish Church. See Mon 23 May for
details

Thursday 26 May 2.00pm Exhibition of naval uniforms, costumes and clerical
to 4.00pm dress dating from 1916 in Rosyth Methodist Church
7.30pm St Andrews West Area Council, St Peter's Church,
Kirkcaldy. Rev David Mackenzie Mills will lead a
workshop on Church Music (postponed from 25
Feb) [tbc]

Friday 27 May 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
10.00am Exhibition of naval uniforms, costumes and clerical
to 12noon dress dating from 1916 in Rosyth Methodist Church
7.00pm Choir practice

Friday 27 May 7.30pm Kingdom Singers Annual Springtime Serenade
and Saturday 28 May Concert, St Margaret's Church, Touch

Saturday 28 May 2.00pm Exhibition of naval uniforms, costumes and clerical
to 4.00pm dress dating from 1916 in Rosyth Methodist Church

Sunday 29 May

Pentecost 2 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens
11.00am Morning Worship Rev Helen Mee
David Salthouse (Worship Leader)
8.00pm Bible Study in the Rectory for readers on Sunday 5
June and anyone else interested

Tuesday 31 May 10.00am EDWJ Group meets in Mary Kidd's house at
Limekilns

Friday 3 Jun 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice

Diary for early June 2016

Sunday 5 June

Pentecost 3	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	Rev Alison Cozens
	11.00am	Morning Worship	
	8.00pm	Bible Study in the Rectory for readers on Sunday 12 June and anyone else interested	
Monday 6 Jun	7.00pm	Property Committee meeting	
	7.30pm	Ecumenical Study Group at Rosyth Parish Church	
Tuesday 7 Jun	7.30pm	Coffee, Cake and Crafts – a monthly evening craft club run by Jean Hall and friends	
Friday 10 Jun	9.30am	Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall onwards tea, coffee and home baking	
	7.00pm	Choir practice	

Beware of these contagious diseases in church!

*Spotted by Martin Tarr in Baptist and Methodist church magazines**

Frontophobia: A morbid fear of the front seats in church. The sufferer is struck by an attack just inside the church door and collapses in the nearest back seat.

Ear Frequency Destruction: Caused by sitting near the loudspeaker when a minister is singing full at volume or off-key into the microphone.

Sermonic Throat: A dreaded choking caused by the start of the sermon. The sufferer unwraps a sweet very slowly and noisily, which seems to effect a complete cure.

Double Auricular Clearance: A condition due to the simultaneous opening of both ear ducts, which

allows sound to enter one ear and leave the other without any absorption thereof. Condition is most acute during Bible reading and sermon.

Accelerated Vocal Response: A condition which causes the sufferer to try to sing faster than the organ.

Theexits: A condition where the sufferer rushes for the exit before the minister gets there.

Church Meeting Paralysis: This can strike suddenly, when a post in the church needs filling. A good dose of enthusiasm works wonders with this sad affliction.

**Ed: this version from Wesley's Chapel!*

Shetland ministers star in BBC's Island Parish

Featuring former Circuit Superintendent Rev David Cooper

Those of you who are watching the latest series of the BBC2 programme "**An Island Parish**" will have recognised our former Circuit Superintendent, the Rev David Cooper, who features in the series which follows the fortunes of the communities living in the Shetland Islands



This series will show us a year in the life of the people living in the most northerly part of the British Isles: the islands of Unst and Whalsay. These Shetland island communities range from small to tiny. Whalsay has the largest population with approximately 1,000 residents, followed by Unst, home to about 600 people and Fetlar with 60.

Rev. David Cooper has been the minister for the united parish of Unst and Fetlar for the last seven years. He's also minister for the parish Yell, population 900. He lives on Yell and travels to the other islands to hold services and work with his congregations.

"It's a life determined by ferry timetables," he says. "So, for example, the Kirk Session meets at 7.15am because I will be getting the five to seven ferry from Yell. And we must finish by twenty past eight so that I can catch the quarter to nine ferry back. If I miss that the next ferry is not until 10.30pm. It's a good discipline for us all."

The islands are more cosmopolitan than you might think because of their historical role as a key part of the UK's defence, he says. The Saxa Vord RAF base on Unst was home to a military community until it closed in 2006. Today Saxa Vord is a natural and cultural heritage activity centre with several types of accommodation and a restaurant serving locally brewed 'Valhalla' beer.

Without military families, Unst School lost about half its pupils, Rev. David Cooper says. "Now some fear that like many island schools its future could be at risk as local education authorities struggle to make ends meet"

One Minute Please What did Jesus say?

"I am the resurrection and the Life"

John 11 v 25

They are interested in the whole life of the place," says Rev Irene Charlton, minister for the Church of Scotland in Whalsay. "Church members will be part of that because nothing that happens on the island happens without church members, whatever name they are working under. The church is the heart of the island."

Fishing, farming and tourism form the backbone of the economy. Rev. Irene Charlton says Whalsay is a prosperous island, because it is a centre for herring and mackerel fishing.

"A lot of the catch goes to Scandinavia and they get good prices," she says.

Between Christmas and New Year when the days are shortest, the sky can still dazzle with displays of the Northern Lights. Then in January and February, as the dark days of winter recede, several communities celebrate Up Helly Aa, the ancient Viking fire festival.

"The Viking roots in the islands are very much pursued," says Rev David Cooper. "The Jarl and his squad visit the school, the care centre and sheltered housing - everyone gets involved. Finally they set fire to a galley and there is a grand party with food and drink, music and dancing and a lot of homespun entertainment."

In summer the light never quite leaves, he says.

"In June you can generally read a newspaper out of doors at midnight," he says. "Maybe it's just the headlines but you can read it."

Living in extremes of dark and light is something you never quite get used to, he says.

"A lot of people have difficulty sleeping when it's such long daylight. You just have the sense you should be up and doing because so often in rough weather you are trapped indoors. You never get used to it. It's just a given and you live with it."

Originally from County Durham, Rev David Cooper first came to mainland Shetland 30 years ago as a Methodist minister. Two of his children were born there before the family moved to Oxfordshire and then to Edinburgh for 16 years. After that assignment ended, Scotland had no appropriate Methodist vacancies. Offered the chance to fill a Church of Scotland ministry in Shetland, he and his wife said an enthusiastic, "Yes."

When he retires in two years, he plans to move again -from Yell to Unst. "Now we are fully embedded here," he says. "The longer you are here the better people know you and you know them. You can't just drop into people's lives. It takes time."

Ed: This is an edited extract from an article that first appeared in June 2015 at www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news

Letter of congratulation on our grant

Dear Rev Jenkins

RE: Rosyth Methodist Church's award from the Big Lottery Fund

I was delighted to receive the news that Rosyth Methodist Church has recently been awarded £6900 from the Big Lottery Fund's Awards for All Scotland programme.

I understand that the award was granted to help the church improve the entrance spaces for community use.

It is great to see local organisations, like Rosyth Methodist Church, being awarded grants to enable them to better serve the local community. Churches provide important and much needed facilities for community groups and it is great to know that the Methodist Church is active in serving the needs of local people in Rosyth.

I wish to congratulate you on your recent award and I wish the congregation and the community users of the church's facilities well for the future.

Best wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely

Annabelle Ewing MSP

Sue Masson's Puzzle Corner

This issue's question

What word links the following:

- A 1970's pop group
- An element on the periodic table
- A symphony by Haydn?

Last issue's answer

The 4 sets were:

Latin dances – Samba, Tango, Bossa Nova, Rumba

Major UK rivers – Thames, Avon, Severn, Dee

Tomato based sauces – Salsa, Ketchup, napolitana, arrabiata

Radio – Forth, times, head, three

Shine!

Rev Leslie Griffiths' sermon at the service to celebrate the Centenary

Well it was nice to hear Andrew using his Superintendent's 'Privilege'. In 1990 he came as a young stripling to me to be trained in the ways of the Methodist ministry and I think I must have urged him then, never to be afraid of exercising his Superintendent's 'Privilege'. [Ed: to what this is about see p31.]

Anyway it's very nice to be here and to have had all the warm welcomes that has seen some of you from time to time in London at Wesley's Chapel and to see you again here in your natural habitat.

I've never to been to Rosyth before but as I've read about it I felt strangely at home. The little village – well, 6000 or 7000 people – that I grew up in in South Wales bears many resemblances. We had not a Naval dockyard built at the beginning of the 19th Century [sic] but a Royal Ordnance factory. We had pre-fab houses, just as you did – where two of my Sunday School teachers lived -- it was quite late on before they got rid of them; and also we had a garden suburb as we were already a town. You were created out of nothing, out of the dust of the earth it seems to me. So you were a Garden City but we were already a town and therefore our garden community was called a garden suburb. We had docks, I lived not two minutes' walk away from them. Not a Naval Dockyard but my brother and I used to dive off the

gantry cranes that used to take the trucks full of anthracite coal and load them in to the little coastal shipping vessels that took them around Britain. So yes I feel quite close to it all really, the garden city, 100 years old just as this church – this Methodist Fellowship – is 100 years old and I'm very glad therefore to come with a kindred spirit from another devolved part of the United Kingdom.

But it's also interesting to me that the first person who welcomed people into his, or to their home, that they are the beginning of Methodism in this place. That's often the story of Methodism, it was someone in their home or a soldier on duty, or a ship's captain or a tradesman, or you know that sort of person going about their ordinary everyday business who just got a few people together and that was the seed for all that happened afterwards. I hope all of you have seen the wonderful irony of the fact that that first hospitality was offered by a Mr Gardner from the garden city. That's not bad is it to, I mean it could have been Mr Spice-Monger or Mr *I don't know* Collywobble or anything really but it was Mr Gardner and Mrs Gardner, and if you wonder about why I have chosen this verse from the Epistle to the Hebrews as a kind of text for my sermon there it is

“and having been made perfect, he became unto all them that obey him, the author of eternal salvation”,

you only have to think that that was the very verse that was written on the first Class Ticket that Mr Gardner had. So from the very outset this has been the verse under which the evolving fellowship here in Rosyth has developed. I could of course at this point just emphasise the fact that whatever we think we are doing today, we are actually wanting to do homage to Christ, for without him there is no dispensation for us to enjoy fellowship at all. It is his name, his example, his teaching, his suffering, his death, his resurrection, and ascension that are the core of everything that we stand for. And it says here

“having been made perfect, for all those who obey him he is the author of eternal salvation”.

If we want to know what wholeness, what the truly deeply meaningful life is all about it is through obeying him that we will, not only find it, but be given it. Well that’s what I could have done but I didn’t in the end decide to do that. It is interesting that having been made perfect is how that verse starts. In the recent, the most recent issue of Contact under the editorship now of Professor Kirby, just let’s remember that there is a photocopy of that first Class Ticket with this text printed on it and on the opposite page when you open the magazine there is a sermon about *Perfection* by Professor Sawkins. And I read it with great interest and a pretty good fist he makes of it too.

But it’s about how we can be, or are called to be perfect and I have to say that if ever there was a confusing piece of theology done by John Wesley it was on the Doctrine of Christian Perfection. He changed his position more often than our leading politicians, who want us to get in or out of Europe at the moment, have changed theirs. But its basic understanding is that we are not to be static in our faith but that we are to go on working at the things of faith in the hope that we will grow in love, perhaps towards a perfection that we couldn’t possibly achieve in our own right. Well I’d like to think that’s what it is but in the verse from Hebrews it’s not we who are being made perfect at all. It’s Christ who has been made perfect and in his perfection lies the secret of us having anything to grow towards at all. So we give proper honour to Christ and no Anniversary, even a Centenary Anniversary, even a Centenary Anniversary in Rosyth, can neglect to focus its attention on that fact.

Talking about perfection, a friend of mind once dared to ask his congregation if anybody in front of him could say that he was perfect. And, well of course he expected the answer “no” but a man at the back put his hand up. “What”, said the preacher – I mean it is dangerous to ask a congregation questions, by the way; and any budding preacher here should be warned never to do it because you’ll get answers – “*but you say you’re perfect?*” He said, “Well, not

exactly”, he said, “I’m speaking proxy for my wife’s first husband!”

Now another reason for being drawn to this verse from Hebrews and this passage from Hebrews was rather special, but once again the Superintendent has used his ‘Privilege’ in bringing this great big historical artefact along that reminds us of the relationship between those who met in Fellowship and the dockyard and the very early nature of the cementing -- of course....Richard Charlesworth

was himself a Chaplain to the dockyard and so did most of his work on the ships anyway. So this is a terrific piece of proof of how closely embedded in the psyche of this community the Methodist Fellowship here is. But I was interested because I also have a special Bible but you can see how puny mine is compared to the one the Superintendent, using his ‘Privilege’, brought along. But mine is special too. This is the Bible that was given to Michael Ramsey, the 100th

Archbishop of Canterbury, when he was consecrated as Bishop of Durham in 1952. When Michael Ramsey was near to death, he gave this to a priest who was Chaplain to him through his last time on this earth. And that priest himself came to the end of his life and he wanted to give it to somebody and so he chose us at Wesley’s Chapel, me I

have to say, although it will end up at Wesley’s Chapel; because he said Michael Ramsey had wanted with all his heart the unity of Anglicans and Methodists that was put forward in 1969 and whereas Methodists accepted it by the necessary majority, and effectively voted themselves out of existence, the Anglicans weren’t so brave. And although they voted in favour in all three houses of the convocation they didn’t arrive at the necessary percentage to effect the transition.



Leslie Griffiths, holding Michael Ramsey’s red Bible

It broke Michael Ramsey’s heart, he really wanted to resign from being Archbishop of Canterbury, just read his biography, you’ll see all about it. And so when this old priest came towards his death he wanted to hand this on to a Methodist to be used on Ecumenical occasions just as a living memory of the commitment of Michael Ramsey and of so many others in the Church of England and I’m sure of the Episcopal Church of Scotland to the cause of

unity. I think they’d have got great pleasure from the way things have happened here with two congregations meeting in this place. But when I showed this Bible to the Bishop of London, he took it from me in a cavalier sort of way, he’s a princely Bishop is the Bishop of London, and he took it and he said “ha ha” he said “I thought that” he said he

just thumbed through it, "Just what I thought, the old boy never read it. It's pristine, it's pristine, just look at it, look at it. Never been opened" Well... that isn't quite true, much of it might not have been opened, but the Epistle to the Hebrews has been opened, read and re-read and underlined and all the passages that have been underlined in the Epistle to the Hebrews relate to priesthood.

Priesthood. Is Priesthood all about being bigger and better than people who aren't priests? Having authority over them, a bigger voice than theirs, a better place in the scheme of things? Nice processions and wonderful garb, is that what being a priest is all about? The Apostolic succession, coming down one after another, unbroken since the time, is that what it's all about? Is it doctrinal, is it liturgical, is it aesthetic, is it historic, what is it, this priesthood that we seek to belong? Well in Jesus's case he cared for none of that. The order of Melchizedek, that had no lineage or background or justification. In the school of suffering and service, Jesus did his work and offered whatever it was that his priesthood was all about. I just love this aspect of Michael Ramsey's life. And it obliges me to look at your realities here. Yes, he would love the fact that you have a covenanted relationship, that you are committed formally to enjoin fellowship and developing it between you; the Episcopal Church of Scotland and the Methodist Church here in Rosyth. He'd love that, indeed he love it down at Wesley's Chapel too,

because we have a covenanted relationship with St Giles, Cripplegate, our parish church. And we stand at each other's altar and we share each other's patronal festivals and we have study days and pilgrimages and all kinds of things, it's a brilliant relationship, wonderful.

Now Michael Ramsey would love all of that. It still grieves me that the Methodist Church and the Anglican Church have not found an even stronger unity, with an interchangeability of ministers, with a more functional approach to their joint activities, saving an awful lot of bureaucracy and double-think and so on, it grieves me; but I have gone almost beyond that. On Wednesday of last week, my Korean colleague at Wesley's Chapel gave a talk about the origins of Christianity in his country. It's only 100 years old, about the same age as this church, Christianity in Korea. From 0 percent it's got up to 31 or 32 percent. But when the earliest missionaries came to South Korea, or to Korea, because it wasn't divided then, they were not wanted at all, in that land. They were rejected, they were thrown out and the one who was particularly key was killed but he threw, he had time to throw his Bible back on to Korean soil and one of the devotees of Christianity, not allowed to practice it, took the pages of that Bible and wallpapered his house with it. He wasn't allowed to have a Bible but he was allowed to have wallpaper. And the first fellowship came along with people going into his house to read the Bible

on his walls. That's pretty cool isn't it really when you think about it? But he was saying, was our Kido, when he talked to us last Wednesday, he was saying that in order to have a hearing on the streets of the cities of Korea, they had to adopt a kind of loud presence to draw attention to themselves because Confucianism, Buddhism, Shintoism, and Shamanism were the prevailing cultural as well as religious forces. And so, a very Pentecostal, very loud, very ebullient, sort of style of worship evolved. They are only just beginning to modify it now.

But that's how Christians defined themselves against the other religions that they met. I lived in Haiti for many years. There we Protestants had to define ourselves against the prevailing Catholic hierarchy and social dominance. Down in London why we non-conformists have to define ourselves against the Church of England; the prevailing almighty established church. In Scotland I guess the prevailing cultural forces are Presbyterianism and Catholicism? And for Methodists as a minority cause, and indeed Anglicans as a minority cause, you have to hold hands together and define yourselves against the prevailing cultures. Now I think that we've reached a point where those kinds of equations no longer matter. The real cultural forces against which people of faith now have to define themselves are secular and not religious.

It is now the time, well if we don't do it now we will never do it, if we don't join forces to present a united front, to a world that is increasingly secularised, godless amoral. If we don't join forces to fight that battle, then we deserve to die, each in our little corner, unloved and unwanted. Do you remember the Sunday School hymn about you in your small corner and I in mine? Jesus bids us "Shine with a pure, clear light" and shine is what we have to do. It's not enough for Anglicans and Methodists to join in a kind of way. They must all enlist in the army that fights against godlessness, amorality, selfishness, post-modernity and all the forces that assail us in this age. Thinking of how bewildering a time it is to be alive, well we can do something about it together, we can't do much apart. Yes that's a big vision but then you didn't ask this fancy fellow from London to come on up and just tell you nice trite little things about Rosyth and how lovely it is to meet some beautiful Scottish people and how I'll be praying for them when they play their rugby match this afternoon. You didn't want me to do all of that. You live on a bigger map, my friends, a bigger map and Christ didn't die to save the people of Rosyth.... alone! He died to save the whole world.

You know we have this great moment at Wesley's Chapel, one of the unforgettable moments, we have 55 different nationalities represented in our congregation. We have over 20 mother tongues spoken by our people and I did make the mistake of asking

people what their favourite Bible text was. I had a sermon I'd laboured long and hard on, it was beautiful, it was crafted, it was stylistic, it had all the qualities of genius, to be quite honest but I made the mistake of asking people what their favourite verse was and I got all kinds of answers:-

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want",

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God",

"God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself",

"Jesus said I am the bread of Life",

Oh, so many, until someone said "John 3:16":

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Begotten Son that who so ever believed in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life."

And once that was out of the bag, that became the favourite of the day. So then I said who can say it in a language other than English? And the hands went up, and we heard those wonderful words spoken in Japanese, Tagalog from the Philippines, and Korean, Chinese. We heard it, at that time there was a civil war going on in Sri Lanka, but we heard it in the Tamil and the Sinhalese languages of that island so that although people were killing each other in a civil war, the truth was that God did not send his only Son so that Tamils, who believed in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life, or Sinhalese but that the whole world should be saved; the

author of eternal salvation. And then we came into, well we had Greek and we had Arabic, down into Africa with Swahili, in Setswana and we had Fante and Gar and we had Yoruba, and then right down to the tip of Africa we had Hausa, the language of the oppressed during the apartheid years and Afrikaans, the language of the oppressor. And once again neither side of that dispute could claim that what God had done in Christ was for them. God so loved the world, not the Afrikaners, the world, not the African tribal constituent parts of the South African rainbow people. And so it went on, we had it in French but not from France but from Haiti; in Spanish, but not from Spain but from Argentina. It was wonderful.

"Dieu a tant aimé le monde qu'il a donné son Fils unique, afin que jamais que celui qui croit en lui ne périsse point, mais qu'il ait la vie éternelle"

Because wherever you are and whoever you are, even if you come from Rosyth you are covered by the net that is thrown out to catch you. You are reached by the love that gets in to your hearts. You are claimed by the God who made you for a purpose. So I just feel that we people of faith have got to find better ways or presenting our faith to the world. Not contenting ourselves in days of decline with turning inwards upon ourselves, just to keep our spirits up, just to create a chummy, clubby kind of feeling. We are here to serve and it is when we obey him, that we'll know

that He is the ‘*author of eternal salvation*’.

Now when I was at our parish church, where we have a covenanted relationship – the church of St Giles at Cripplegate is our parish church – the first time I preached there I remember just standing in front of the congregation, about 20 or 30, like this ready to preach. I just looked down, just to remind myself of what I wanted to say and I saw that the stone in front of me in the floor carried the words

*“here lie the last mortal remains of
John Milton”.*

Gosh! A student of English Literature is what I am and I just couldn’t remember what I wanted to preach about any longer, so I gave them the first dozen or so lines of *Paradise Lost*. And they were totally bewildered.....as I expect you to be now because you’re going to have them too.

“Of man’s first disobedience, and the fruit of that forbidden tree, whose mortal taste brought death into the world, and all our woe and loss of Eden, sing, Heavenly Muse.... Thou from the first wast present, and dove-like satst brooding on the vast abyss and mad’st it pregnant: what in me is low, raise; what is dark illumine; that to the height of this great argument I may assert the ways of Eternal Providence, and justify the ways of God to man.”

It’s a great, great calling that is ours, we trivialise it at our peril. We turn it into potted meat suppers at our peril. It’s a great task: it’s to rescue the world from its stupidity. Well, all of that arising from the verse that was on the Fellowship Card and the verse that I found underlined in Michael Ramsey’s Bible. Obeying Christ is what we are called to do, becoming Christ-like so that we can recognise Him. Not 100 years, not the finest people but Him. As the person who inspires us, who guides our history, who takes us forward into the future. We’ll thank Him for all that is past and trust him for all that is to come.

So I can only wish you well as you start your second 100 years. And no doubt in a 100 years time there will be another Superintendent who will claim the ‘Privilege’ of presenting a big book like this and trumping the visiting preacher’s ace. But let me just end in a different way. I’m a member of the House of Lords. My wife thinks that it’s gone to my head a bit and she thinks that I even dream of greater things than that because she’s heard me – I think it must be because I talk in the night or something – but she’s heard me dream a dream where I’m standing on a rickety platform at the side of a deep river where ships are being built. I thought this was apposite for here even if they are not being built any more. So here am I on this rickety platform with this great vessel in front of me called ‘*HMS Rosyth Methodism and Rosyth [Episcopal Church] Anglicans*’. Here am I with this great vessel and I have

in my hand an enormous bottle of Methodist de-alcoholised Champagne, which is the only kind worth wasting. And I throw it across the bows of HMS Christianity Rosyth and I watch the vessel slip backwards into a future it can't yet see. As it takes to the waters of its second century of existence, and all I can do is that I ask God to bless this vessel, is to ask him also to bless all those who sail in her. May God bless you richly. Make you the force that transforms society which I'm certain is His will for all of us.

Amen

Church history Walk

The next event in our centenary programme is a Church history walk on Sunday 17 April. Martin Rogers, who will be leading the walk, is asking folk to congregate opposite McColl's shop in Hilton Road for 2.30 pm.

The walk should take about an hour, possibly a little longer. The route we will be following is along Castle Road (uphill unfortunately), along Admiralty Road to Norval Place, down Norval Place and Backmarch Road to Parkgate and then along Queensferry Road to the church.

Light refreshments will be available at the church. Arrangements can be made on the day to reunite car drivers with their cars after the walk!

The Superintendent's 'Privilege'....

On going to the lectern to read the Gospel, Rev Andrew Letby referred to the privileges of being a Superintendent, and produced a different Bible. Of it he said:

"I was shown this Bible just as I came into church and I think it says something very important to us today. As I proclaim the Gospel there needs to be a reminder to us that the Gospel is only of value when we live it. And here is a piece of history that shows Rosyth Methodist Church living the Gospel from its very earliest days."

He went on to read the inscription:

"Gratefully presented to the Wesleyan Methodist Church Rosyth by the Wesleyans of H.M. Ships stationed in the Forth during the World War. May 1917."

and concluded "The Gospel lived and proclaimed in this place."

The actual historic inscription is pictured below. It is also engraved on our communion silver.



Things I've learnt about worship

adapted by Martin Tarr from a blog by Rev Pam Webster

In the last few months, a few things have been driven home to me about the physical act of worship. These things should have occurred to me years ago, and I am sorry I never twigged.

I'm not pointing the finger at anyone in particular, because I have done all of these. I love diversity in worship, it is vitally important for everyone to be able to grasp the huge concept of God. We also need to challenge people's perceived ways of meeting with God, but ...

Some people are cantankerous – that is a fact. Many more are struggling to deal with life, and church, and can't necessarily vocalise it in a way we can get – or are we just not listening? So just a few thoughts from my experience. This is not an exhaustive list, just some of the things that have been buzzing round my head.

Singing is lovely.

Not necessarily so if you can't join in – and certainly not when it seems to be the thing when all the service hangs on.

Loud lively music is joyful, powerful, uplifting.

But, it can be a sensory overload. It just makes worship uncomfortable at best, at worst painful.

Videos are great for different learning styles. I love videos for bringing a different angle or looking at a theme in a different way. Video is very much my thing.

But not if you can't cope with moving image, can't hear, distinctly or at all, or see what is on the screen

It might be lovely to **get people to move to a different place** in church.

But does someone sit where they do for a reason? Does asking them to move create a problem for them?

Who doesn't want to be met by a cheery "Good Morning"?

Well actually perhaps not everyone is having a good morning. Perhaps they have come to church for solace and comfort, in mourning and sadness, not for enforced jollity. There is a difference between a genuine heartfelt welcome and seeming to be a club for the happy.

Perfume – a beautiful aroma pleasing to the Lord.

But it can be a real struggle for some people. Scented candles, flowers, incense – especially incense!, even the scent someone near you is wearing can set off migraines, asthma, allergies or again just be uncomfortable.

Different activities are brilliant for getting the message across. I love cutting, colouring, thinking in a creative space.

But are we asking people to do something outside their cognitive or physical abilities? Are we making something show up that they may not want to reveal? Are we making them feel uncomfortable and as if they cannot contribute?

Getting people to **'come to the front'** is great. It makes them feel included, valued and important.

How much the opposite can be true if you cannot get to the front, or couldn't emotionally deal with it if you did.

None of these things in itself is bad. We need a good mix in worship. I am known for being passionate about having different things to appeal to different senses. But, we need to be aware that in making some more comfortable we are making others, with good reason, uncomfortable. Not just stropy, but physically, emotionally, cognitively, physically struggling.

Have we noticed people missing because they fear what is coming? Or sitting through it struggling? Or are we caught up in what is good for x or y? In our desire to make church easier for some, are we making it harder for others?

It's a difficult balance, a fine tightrope to walk, but are we really acknowledging the needs of everyone? If today is for one group, may another day be for another group that needs something different – physically, emotionally, and cognitively? Remember, not all problems are visible or obvious. Not everyone will say: some may put up with it at their own detriment; others may just disappear without saying anything.

So I have to give careful thought as to whether my way and my needs might be against what someone else needs. And I'm sorry to all those I have thought of as 'awkward' or not wanting to try new things. When all they were doing was trying to keep it all together and find a way they could engage with and worship God.



Don't forget! See the article on page 8

Puzzle page

With puzzles from Dave Ward and musical quizzes from Sue Masson

New puzzles

1) Consider

B C D G J

A E F H I

On which side of the line would you put K L M N & O — high or low?

2) A man has to work out which of 3 switches works which of 3 lights in a building. The problem is he is only allowed to go into the building once, and there are not any windows for him to look through, Can he work it out? If so how?

3) A woman takes a short cut home from the market where spent all her money on apples.

She comes to a toll bridge, but because she has no money she has to pay a toll of half the Apples in her bag plus half an apple. She pays the toll and carries on.

She then comes to a second toll bridge, the fee is the same , half the apples in her bag plus half an apple. She pays the fee and carries on.

She finally comes to a third toll bridge and the fee is again the same, half the apples in her bag plus half an apple. She pays it and continues.

She soon gets home and finds she has only one apple left. How many did she start with?

Answers to previous puzzles

(set in Feb/March issue, #83)

A) Last letter in the sequence is D (being months of the year).

B) The question to ask any guard is:- "What would the other guard say is the door to freedom?"

What ever the answer, take the other door.

C) Bakers should light both tapers, one from one end the other from both ends,

When the one lit from both ends goes out , 30 minutes have elapsed,

Then light the other taper from its other end. When that goes out, 15 minutes have elapsed. giving a total of 45 minutes.

... and to the music quiz

(about unusual deaths of composers)

Louis Vierne [died at the organ in Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris]

Sergei Prokofiev [died on the same day as Stalin]

Henry Purcell [returned home, wife had locked him out, caught chill]

Enrique Granados [drowned when a torpedo hit the boat he was in]

Alexander Borodin [died suddenly whilst dancing]

Arnold Schoenberg [feared number 13, died on Friday 13th July]

[Ed: See also Sue's puzzle corner, p23]

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

The Rosyth Gothenburg Trust

The Rosyth Gothenburg Trust was formed in 1995 from the sale of the Rosyth Hotel Association's assets in accordance with their constitution which stated that any profit from the sale must be returned to the Community of Rosyth. The Rosyth Community Council at that time put forward a proposal from Mr Alex Latto, a local policeman, for a trust to be formed which would benefit any Rosyth Resident or group based in Rosyth. This was accepted by the Rosyth Hotel Association's trustees and a constitution was drawn up in accordance with their wishes forming the Rosyth Gothenburg Trust.

The Rosyth Gothenburg Trust holds Charitable Status (being registered Scottish Charity SC023652) and the Capital, formed from the sale of the Rosyth Hotel Association's assets, is invested to produce a yearly interest to enable the Trust to award grants solely for Rosyth Residents as well as Groups & Clubs based in the community of Rosyth.

Since it was formed, the Trust has awarded over 200 grants giving assistance to individuals and groups covering a wide range of purposes, including sport, education, disability and other interests.

Any Rosyth Resident or Group/Association based in the Rosyth Community, who feel they may qualify for a grant or need financial help towards a certain purpose, can make enquiries by telephoning the Secretary (Mrs C M Syme) on 01383 419494 and if their needs come under the terms set out in the constitution of Rosyth Gothenburg Trust, an application form with guide lines will be sent to them outlining the closing date. Two meetings each year are held to consider grants, one in March and the other in September. Groups and Clubs must be able to produce a constitution and the latest two audited accounts with their applications

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 June, 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.