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FREE LINK MAGAZINE

Summer/Autumn

2022

SUMMER EVENTS



Articles and letters

The Link welcomes articles and letters, which can be sent by e-mail to **cafair-holm@outlook.com** or by post. All communications should bear a name and, if possible, a telephone number. Anonymous contributions will not be accepted.

Copyright

May I ask you to ensure that any article submitted is either one you have written yourself or one that you have had permission to reprint.

Editor

Hire of church hall

If you are thinking about hiring the hall in the future We have a new system available for booking the Church Hall. To enquire about renting the space, please visit the "[Bookings](#)" tab of the church website and fill out the enquiry form - the hall convener will get back to you as soon as possible. The new "What's On" calendar may also be useful to you in seeing what the Hall availability is like on your chosen date/s.

<https://www.standrewsmoffat.org>

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to this edition of the Link Magazine— Local businesses and of course our regular contributors. All the contributions make for an interesting and varied read.

We trust you have a peaceful and safe summer. The winter edition of the Link is due out in November The Editor.



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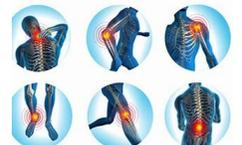
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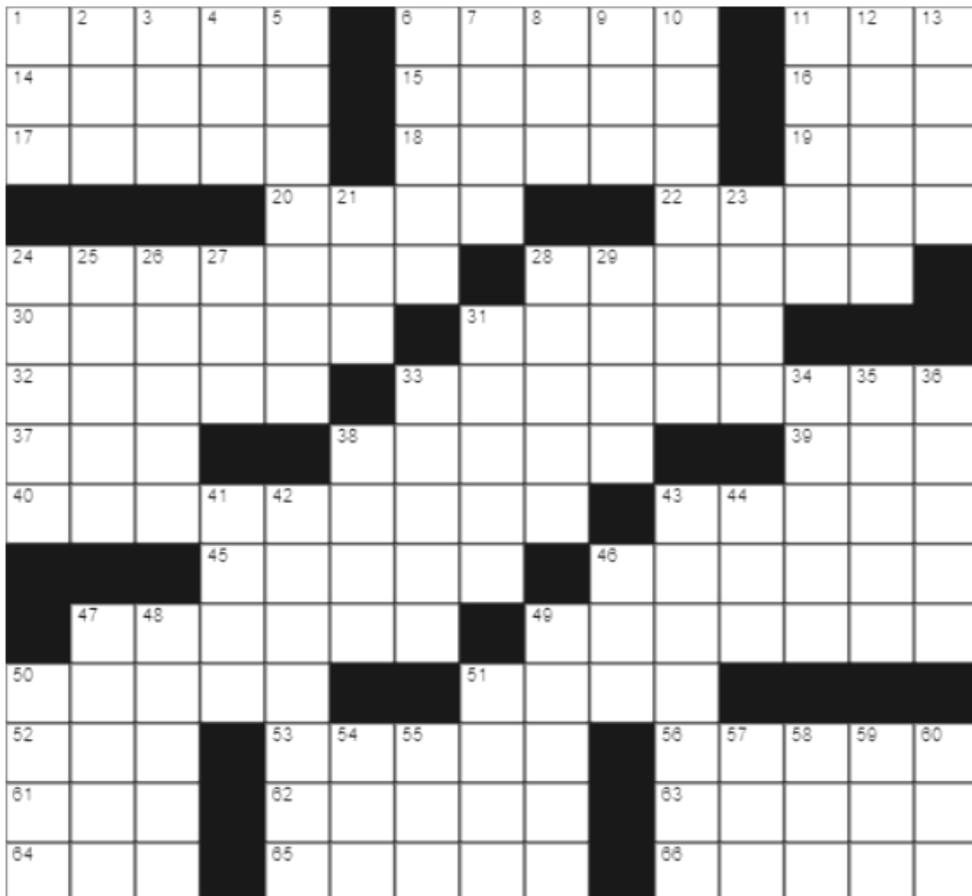
Sylvia Crosby—physio2UMoffat

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Across

1- Snares; 6- Leash; 11- RR stop; 14- Last letter of the Greek alphabet; 15- Golden Horde member; 16- Yes, in Yokohama; 17- Short literary composition; 18- You ___ right!; 19- Bruins great Bobby; 20- Othello villain; 22- Former Russian rulers; 24- Wiry; 28- Inhabit of the grassland; 30- Monetary unit of Tonga; 31- Marshal; 32- Wrong; 33- Inhabitant of the grassland; 37- Hanoi holiday; 38- Heavy footwear; 39- Give ___ rest; 40- Institute; 43- Japanese beer brand; 45- Crucifix; 46- "I, Robot" author; 47- Writer; 49- Repeat; 50- Leg joints; 51- Actress Singer; 52- Conger; 53- Chirp; 56- Sonata movement; 61- Toothpaste type; 62- Cowboy's tool; 63- Do ___ a Waltz?; 64- Hit sign; 65- Oil of wintergreen, e.g.; 66- Very much;

Down

1- Water tester; 2- Apt. divisions; 3- Loser to DDE; 4- Links org.; 5- Maxims; 6- Histrionic; 7- Poi source; 8- Road with a no.; 9- Small batteries; 10- Extremely variable; 11- Shallow water; 12- Dawdle; 13- Melodies; 21- Turkish title; 23- The ___ the limit!; 24- Sudden outpouring; 25- Gets under control; 26- Singer Bonnie; 27- Social connections; 28- Anger; 29- Greek goddess of strife; 31- At ___ for words; 33- Composure; 34- Heat home; 35- Dumas dueler; 36- Born yesterday, so to speak; 38- Amoeba-like alien: The ___; 41- Farm measure; 42- Stiff coarse hair; 43- It's a relief; 44- Highly respectful way of addressing a man; 46- ___ Lingus; 47- Scoff; 48- Big fiddle?; 49- Helicopter part; 50- Frat party purchases; 51- ___-majesté; 54- Has been; 55- Part of i.e.; 57- What have we here?!; 58- Miss-named?; 59- Rockers Steely ___; 60- Old California fort;

ST ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

(Charity registration number: SCO12236)

<https://www.standrewsmoffat.org>



MINISTER

Rev. Elsie Macrae



Elsie.Macrae@churchofscotland.org.uk

OFFICE BEARERS

Session Clerk: Donald Walker

Treasurer: Mrs Ann Sanders



Dear friends,

So much has been happening and it is great seeing some great warmer days to enjoy. It is nice hearing different people talk about summer plans and different places people are going to take time out. As exciting as the future holds and a lot of things moving to the new 'norm', there are still a lot of bothersome news. The radical changes the Church of Scotland is planning and closing buildings, The delays in seeing medical treatment, the deaths of loved ones and who would have thought Covid is still in our midst and still causing isolation. I like the words of this song Jesus calls us o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea; day by day his voice invites me, saying "Christian, follow me. As the words of the song ring in my eyes I am suddenly drawn to this Psalm.

Psalm 23: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever [KJV]

This is one of the most popular psalms either as a reading or song, very popular as well at wedding, funerals, and baptism as well as usual Sunday worship. When would be the last time you stopped and reflected or read to see what the Psalmist was trying to write? It is a reassuring one as it draws the image of the shepherd. A shepherd though we no longer see in our country landscape and yet a Shepherd is a guide, guards the sheep against all danger and feeds his flock. The Psalmist here confidently writes how God is that shepherd that guides us his people in paths of righteousness.

As you read the verses something sticks out, vs 3 talks about God Refreshing one's soul and being a guider in right paths and yet vs4 takes a different turn of walking through the valley.

Cont..../

We are living in a world where nothing is stable, we are being stretched beyond our capabilities mentally, financially, and emotionally, indeed trouble, trials and temptations seem to await every path we take even though it feels like we are on the right path.

Believer or not we are all face different struggles as we journey on this earth, but in this Psalm we find comfort, For God promises us that no matter what we are going through in life he will be there to guide us, to love us and to give us the strength to face tomorrow. The shepherd will take us higher to pastures and will never leave us or forsake us. Reading this Psalm brings peace and rest it is like worries and cares melt away, how assuring to know that through our daily struggles, Yahweh commits to being our Shepherd.

Yours in Christ

Elsie

Dates for the Diary

- 28th August Communion at Kirkpatrick Juxta
- 4th September 2:15-2:45 Lord Dowding Service - Station park
- 11th September Communion Wamphray
- 18th September Communion at St, Andrews Moffat
- 25th September Kirkpatrick Juxta Harvest Service
- 2nd October St. Andrews Moffat and Wamphray Harvest Service
- 13th November Remembrance Sunday



Crossword Solution—Spring magazine

1	C	H	U	B		5	G	O	O	N	S		10	T	B	S	P			
14	A	O	N	E		15	P	A	N	E	L		16	O	L	I	O			
17	D	O	W	N	F	O	R	T	H	E	C	O	U	N	T					
20	E	R	O	D	E					21	O	R	I	O	L	E				
22	T	A	R		23	E	Y	E		26	U	G	H		27	N	B	A		
30	S	Y	N	C		32	E	M	S		34	H	A	L	O	E	D			
					36	E	S	T	E	E	M		39	B	A	S	E	D		
					40	T	A	K	I	N	G	A	D	I	V	E				
42	43	F	A	R	S	I			44	D	O	N	A	T	E					
45		B	R	E	E	D	S		47	S	E	T		48	R	A	G	S		
52		I	C	E		53	R	P	M		55	S	A	C		57	N	A	M	
					58	F	L	O	R	A	S			61	R	H	Y	M	E	
63	64	T	H	R	O	W	I	N	T	H	E	T	O	W	E	L				
67		S	O	O	T				68	T	O	U	R	S		69	W	A	T	T
70		P	E	G	S				71	E	R	N	S	T		72	L	Y	E	S

Jesus asks us to be like spice. He doesn't require us to compose like Bach or Mozart, to sound like Armstrong or to improvise like Fitzgerald. All he asks is for us to play our part diligently, a part that others may not notice unless they really look hard but without which our church- and the world- would be a poorer place. The difficult times in which we live and the challenges the church currently faces don't require virtuosic solos from us; just a commitment for us to provide the solid back beat for God's Kingdom here in north Annandale.

Andy Shuttleworth.

St. Andrews hall activities

to book a space on one of the following courses please contact Ally Kirkwood— 01683 478149

Monday: 7-8pm Pilate

Tuesday: 10-11am Tai chi

Tuesday: 4-5 D&G Youth

Wednesday: 7-9pm Yoga

Drop in Wednesday—see above

Every 2nd Wed 10-12am Drop- in

Thursday: 10-11am Easiearobics

Friday: 10-12am Mother and Toddler group





TOOLS
As you may know Martin Brown ran a Tool shop in Waterloo London and a good amount of the stock from that shop came up to Lochhouse Farm. If anyone is interested in tool which are old but never or hardly used please ring me 01683 300 451, and you will be welcome to have a look round, and purchase.

Mary Brown

Flower rota Summer/Autumn 2022

July 3rd	Mrs E McShannon	August 7th	Mr & Mrs F Lockerbie
July 10th	Mrs M Thorburn	August 14th	Mrs J Shuttleworth
July 17th	Mrs M Brown	August 21st	
July 24th	Mrs S Dalling	August 28th	
July 31st	Mrs M Rankine		

September 4th	Mrs F Paterson	October 2nd	Mrs J Aitcheson
September 11th	Mrs I Borthwick	October 9th	-
September 18th	Mrs M Porteous	October 16th	-
September 25th	Mr P Newsome	October 23rd	Mrs Shuttleworth
		October 30th	-

November 6th	Mrs S Hayley
November 13th	Mrs J Printer
November 20th	Mrs J Printer
November 27th	Mrs M Rogerson –
Advent 1	



Local support services

Minister- Rev Elsie Macrae 07512186317/ 01683225146	Samaritans. Tel. 01387 253555
DRI. Hosp. 01387 246246	Dr's Surgery Moffat 01683 220062
Citizens advice 01387 252456	Dumfries Council. 030 3333 3000
Social Work Dept. 01387 273660	Criminal Social justice 0303 333 3001
Dentist's surgery 01683 220753	Chemist Moffat. 01683 220024
Town Hall 01683 221102	Food train. 01556 288427
Alcoholics Anonymous 03301 596 494	Women's Aid. 07710 152772
Childline 0800 1111	Health Visitors 01576 205531
School Nurses 07795 291296	

SCAN TO GIVE

If you wish to give a donation all you have to do is use your phone to scan the QR code on this poster! You will find the poster displayed in the church. The scan to give is not a replacement for regular congregational envelopes or standing orders but for adhoc giving, perhaps in response to a particular event or a retiring collection for instance.



**Just hold your phone camera on the pink dot
and follow the instructions to donate.**

THANK YOU

Not sure how to use the QR code? Just enter the URL
standrewsmoffat.bee-online.com into your browser!



Earlier in the year we appealed for new Committee members and were pleased to have Pat Brown and Laurie McVeigh join our team. Thank you ladies for answering our call. Our 46 volunteers got on the streets to deliver envelopes, or collect with cans and buckets and an amazing total of £4042 was achieved.

We are truly grateful to everyone who helped in any way and we know Christian Aid can be trusted to use the money wisely and get it to where the need is greatest. Your support is helping to bring relief in desperate situations around the world, brought about by earthquakes, war or climate change. The news headlines may move on to another story, but the support of Christian Aid must continue for much longer, sometimes for years. Thank you to everyone involved for being part of that relief.

With heavy hearts we say 'farewell' to Christine Cameron who served on our committee for many years. She will be a huge miss to our team. Our thoughts are with her family and friends.



Following Christ in North Annandale- and all that jazz

As we slowly come to terms with what it means to be 'living with Covid', one of the great joys has been to be able to attend concerts and musical recitals once again. We have been fortunate to have been able to hear a range of recitals in St Andrew's over the last few months ranging from classical to folk, jazz, and blues; from accomplished professional musicians to talented and enthusiastic amateurs and with ages of performers ranging from school-aged to the over seventies. It has been a joy!

Our location, together with the plans for St Andrew's to be more of a venue for events will help us to attract some of the best musical talent around and in so doing make a real, positive impact in our communities. One of the things we enjoy most about all great artists is their virtuosity. Whether it is the classical pianist, the rock guitarist, the solo piper, or folk singer we love to hear them pushing the boundaries of their art. This is particularly true in the world of jazz, a genre of music of which I am very fond. The outstanding ability of people like Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, Charlie Parker and Duke Ellington have rightly made them household names. Their talent in putting their own interpretation on both new music and classics, arranging the notes in a way previously unheard of, particularly when improvising- essentially 'composing on the hoof'- still leaves fans and pundits alike in awe.

But one of my favourite jazz musicians and a giant of his craft was a guitarist named Freddie Green. Chances are, unless you are a Count Basie fan, you won't have heard of him. Although a gifted musician, he was not known for scintillating solos, but was renowned as a key part in the rhythm section of one of the greatest jazz bands of all time. His style of 'comping', playing chords in the background, was unique and involved strumming his guitar in a manner that would drive the beat along with the drums and bass. Unlike most of his contemporaries he would often play on only two or maybe three strings at a time, avoiding playing notes that might clash with what the other musicians would play (he called it 'keeping out of the way') to ensure he didn't compromise their sound. And yet he still managed to create a powerful, driving rhythm unrivalled to this day.

Count Basie regarded Freddie's playing as essential to the overall sound of the band. But the strangest thing is that, if you listen to a recording of the Count Basie Orchestra, you will barely be able to hear Freddie's comping. And yet, if you remove it, the difference to the sound is phenomenal. I once read an interview where Green described his playing as being like the spice in a dish. 'Often you are not even aware that it is there, but you will sure notice if it's not!'

Cont.../

KIRKPATRICK JUXTA PARISH CHURCH

(Charity registration number: SCO05701)

Minister: Rev. Elsie Macrae	Session Clerk: Mrs Mary Brown
	Treasurer: Mrs Jackie Shuttleworth

OFFICE BEARERS

Kirk session: Mrs Mary Brown, Mr Graham Gardiner and Mr Andy Shuttleworth

Church officer: Mr. Andy Shuttleworth	Fabric convener: Mr Andy Shuttleworth
Christian aid: Mrs Thelma Boncey	Flower convener: Mrs Mary Brown
Life and Work Magazine: Mrs Fay Paterson	Gift aid: Vacant
Sunday Service 10am	Social/fund-raising committee: Andrew and Jackie Shuttleworth and Mrs Mary Brown.

Session Clerk Report

Just this morning I have said goodbye to a John o'groats to Land's End Walker, who has stayed with me for two nights on his journey south. He was not just a 'customer' at my Bed and Breakfast, he was a friend from my time in Wimbledon. You can imagine that we spent most of the time catching up on twenty odd years since Martin and I left the Wimbledon Methodist Church and many friends. My walker, Patrick, has in the intervening years become a Methodist Minister, had three daughters and he and his wife are fostering a severely disabled boy.

It was wonderful to hear about people we had spent many hours and weekends with, during our middle years, and lots of memories were brought to mind. It was good to reminisce and remember good times and sad.

In sharing, it was good to see how so many lives lived with a faith in God, have grown and flourished in so many difference areas, all of them on a journey with Jesus. One small congregation in Wimbledon has spread out across Scotland and England but also to America and across the Channel to Europe. Wherever we end up in life those ties forged through a shared love of God will last all our lives.

Mary Brown



Drop in Wednesday takes place in a fortnightly basis in the church hall from 10- 11a.m. It is as the name suggests a matter of dropping in for a cup of tea or coffee and scones. Most of all it is a time for fellowship and chat. We ran from September 2021 to June 2022 and we plan to restart in September.

There are a number of regular lively attenders but we also welcome folks from our local community who are not church members and those visiting our town either on coach tours, visiting the caravan park or just passing through.. we are here to serve all! We feel that our service is offering a safe meeting place for those who may feel isolated, lonely or who just want another space for a chat. The chatter and laughter generated at the sessions suggests that it improves well being and this was borne out by comments made in a recent survey of those attending.

There is no charge for the refreshments and scones as we do not want this to be a barrier in any way. However over the year our donations box resulted in over £450 being raised and this was all given to the church for the use of the hall and heating. We thank all those who contribute but would remind folks that it is your presence, your chat and your friendship that we value most .

If you have not attended in the past or intend to come again look out for our posters, in the usual places in the shops, or listen for the intimations. You never know we may even go high tech and put a notice online in our church website and Moffat online! We also intend to issue small hand bills with dates for your diary and may change our time slightly as a result of our survey. Watch this space!

Thanks to all for their support and to those who lend a hand! **Your Drop in Wednesday** needs you! Come along and let's have a natter over a cuppa and a scone. You will feel better as a result !
Jeff Brown



Spike Aware UK has been chosen for the next round of the Co-op Local Community Fund. The funding round will run for 12 months until 22 October 2022. During this time, Co-op Members will be able to select us as their cause.

<https://co-operate.coop.co.uk/groups/spike-aware-uk/>

This would be a great way of bringing in additional funding to support our campaign.

Local Business Owners Campaign Against Spiking

Mandy & Colin Mackie will be known to many in the town, as the owners of Glamorous Gifts & Beauty at 5 Holm Street, Moffat. Their local shop is there to supply residents and tourists with gifts for any occasion, as well as balloon displays for any event. The beauty section is for those that want to look that little bit special, be it shiny nails, brow wax or the ever popular spray tan. Something for everyone.

However, what you may not know is the couples dedicated campaign against Spiking*. Five years ago, they lost their 18yr old son Greg, to this growing crime. Going through the torment of having lost their boy, they quickly realised there was no one there for them to turn to. No organisation for support or advice, something they felt had to change. So, by 2018 after a lot of work, the charity group Spike Aware UK was born.

Since founding Spike Aware UK the couple have taken their message to schools and colleges all around the country, raising awareness of the dangers of Spiking. Attending events like the Youth Beatz festival in Dumfries, and student events as far away as York, to give away Anti Spike Kits and hand out advice.

However it's not all about educating youngsters, its also about educating those in power to create change. The Mackie's have taken their campaign to Politicians at Holyrood and Westminster, the Police and the Media in their bid to make Spiking a stand alone offence. The group that consisted of just the two of them at the start, has grown to over 2 thousand members with three other branches now on board.

With more people offering support, the group now has a powerful voice in the places that matter and are determined to make that difference. If you want to know more about their work, just drop in to Glamorous Gifts or checkout www.spikeawareuk.co.uk. There's also the Spike Aware UK Facebook page.



*Spiking is a term used to describe cases where someone adds a certain substance for example to the beverage of someone else. Criminals spike drinks for a variety of reasons.

WRI

Come join 'The Rural', friends would say
And although I couldn't see that day,
Here I am in my twilight years,
Enjoying life with all my peers.

A varied Programme every meeting,
You're always sure of a friendly greeting,
There's fun and laughter, making friends.
We learn a lot and keep up with trends.

At last it's time for the Federation.
When members show their determination,
So with ovens blazing and needles clicking,
Their entries are ready for the picking.

Sultana loaves and lots of baking.
Handcrafts, flowers and fun in the making.
Everyone's thrilled when their efforts look good.
And everything appears just like it should.

So here's a thought! Don't sit and yearn.
Just go ahead, have fun and learn.
Join the WRI, they'll keep you cheery.



A 'Rural' Poem

It's grand to hae a gossip wi yer friends at the WRI,

Swappin recipes and patterns and new crafts foreby,

We gae out entertaining, the rehearsals are a plaster,

We even tried an Abba song but that was a disaster.

I had to wear an Abba frock two sizes ower little

I couldn't get a breath and was in a bonny pickle.

I've aye enjoyed the Rural and the federation show

When I dinna win I blame the judges

They dinna really know

That I've backed ten gingerbreads, six cakes and chocolate logs,

Hubby's seek o' eating them and ge'en them tae the dogs.

But if yer feeling lonely and ye want good company

The Women's Rural Institute is the place to be.



There are some cases where a person would spike another person's drink purely as a joke, without meaning any harm nor realising the potential consequences. In other cases, however, the criminal would spike the drink of their victim for reasons such as to assault them, either physically or sexually. There are also some criminals who would spike their victim for the purpose of theft. A newer element of the crime is needle Spiking, which appeared in 2021. It is important to know that Spiking can happen to anyone, at any time, in any place and can KILL.



Moffat and District Men's Shed

The Moffat and District Men's Shed has been in existence for approx. 5 years, our original shed was located in the Moffat CAN building, we have since moved to Holm Industrial Estate near the Fire Station.

The original concept of Men's sheds started in Australia literally in a garden shed. The concept of men getting together to socialise and getting involved in various projects then expanded world wide. The idea of a Men's shed is to allow men to meet in a safe environment, there is no joining fee simply a form to complete to comply with insurance regulation.

We are one of 234 sheds located across Scotland which continue to expand each year. We are members of the Scottish Mens Shed Association.

The age limit starts at 18, but here is no upper limit, if you are able to attend then you are able to be a member of our shed. There is very relaxed atmosphere in the shed. There is no smoking or alcohol allowed within the shed. We tend to avoid discussions on politics and religion. But our members both male and female come from all types of backgrounds and jobs. Quite few have travelled and worked all over the world, others have been employers, and some are ex-military. However, there are many who have built successful lives in Moffat and surrounding area. What is common in all sheds is we share a common vision of being an active part of our local community.

The activities in the shed range from a fully equipped workshop where you can make things for home, the community, or individual projects. We have a social area where there is much chat and banter alongside card games mainly cribbage and dominos. Tea and coffee are plentiful. If you can afford to put a £1 in the tea box it helps to cover our costs. Home baking appears on a regular basis from members of the community. All edible donations are very welcome by the shedders. The shed has its own computer donated from Age Scotland connected to the internet. Our next project is to create an online mens shed for those who cannot attend in person. You may have seen some of our projects within the community such as the new memorial bench installed at the church, the community notice board at the town hall installed by the shed, benches for

In addition, we have produced such items as birdboxes & tables, planters, wishing well, squirrel boxes etc in response to individual requests.

But if you are only seeking the company of others or a friendly cup of tea you are more than welcome to visit the shed. If you enjoy your visit perhaps you will consider becoming a member.

Our Contact Details are

moffatmensshed@gmail.com 07894038153

Facebook – Moffat Mens Shed

Men's Breakfast

The Men's breakfast has been operating on the last Saturday in the month for several years. The organiser Jim Paterson sends out an E mail or a phone message and it is intimated in Church. In the past we met in the Buccleuch Arms Hotel but unfortunately Covid brought a halt to the gathering .

We have resurrected the group and at present are meeting in St. Andrew's Church Hall between 8.30 a. m and 9.30 a.m. This gives us a time for fellowship over bacon rolls, cereal , fruit juice, coffee and tea ti set the world to rights !

We end rather than begin with the grace as we do not want the rolls to get cold and know the Lord understands. The group is open to all believers and non- believers from wherever as long as they wish to chat or listen .

Please feel free to join us but contact us in advance to help with catering and reduce food waste. We guarantee an entertaining chat!

Contact Jim on 01683.220299

Or Jeff on 01683 220475



I just love the design of you boat, who was the Architect?



CHURCH FLOWERS Summer/Autumn



July 3rd	Sandra Lairdlaw	August 7th	Elizabeth Harper
July 10th	Moira Hogarth	August 14th	Fiona Richardson
July 17th	Lynne Thomson	August 21st	E J Wilson
July 24th	Helen Harrison	August 28th	Gayle Lamont
July 31st	Mary Scott		
September 4th	Margaret Shearer	October 2nd	F;lora Scott
September 11th	Lorna Sloan	October 16th	Lynn Scott
September 18th	Mary Starkey	October 23rd	Helen Braid
September 25th	Harvest	October 30th	
November 6th	Denise Dempster	December 4th	Christmas Decorations
November 13th	Remembrance	December 11th	
November 20th	Rosemary Cowan	December 18th	
November 30th	1st Sunday Advent	December 25th	
		December 31st	

WAMPHRAY PARISH CHURCH

(Charity registration number: SCO07536)

MINISTER

Rev. Elsie Macrae

OFFICE BEARERS

Session Clerk: Mrs Helen Braid

Clerk to Congregational Board: Mrs Linda McMinn

Treasurer : Mrs Sheila Thomson

Session Clerk Report

Incredible to think we are half way through another year 2022. The longest day then sadly the night's begin to draw in. Covid is still around, we had five positive cases just after the Platinum Jubilee. Latest statics say one in forty so not nice news.

We held our Good Friday Service and Easter Service which were well attended. Services continue every Sunday which are fairly well attended. We have lifted all the COVID restrictions apart from hand sanitizer. We have to try and move forward. We wish our organist Marlene Mailey a lovely holiday in Feurtoventura, she will be back in October. We are indebted to Robert McVeigh, Arthur Milton and Jeff Brown who help with Pulpit Supply while Elsie is at the other two charges.

Platinum jubilee. Community Council and SWI came together and held a BBQ and disco in the Village Hall on Saturday 4th June. About fifty people attended. It was a glorious evening with the Parish Children receiving Commemorative Mugs. Ladies of the SWI baked individual cakes for our cuppa later in the evening. We enjoyed burgers, link sausage and square sausages on rolls earlier in the evening.

We continue our Jubilee Celebrations with bunting in the Church and Cake and Coffee after the Service. Our donations are going to the Ukraine people.



We have supported Mary's Meals for several years and benefitted from a visit from Sheila Smith, a community ambassador for the charity. On Sunday 20th March, she took a joint church service for St Andrews Church, Kirkpatrick Juxta at Beattock and Wamphray Parish Church, to tell all three congregations about the amazing work of the charity. This charity works with the children in many countries throughout the world, to make sure that they are able to go to school and are fed when they are there. The collection after the service raised £350.30 for the charity. Subsequently, we also held a coffee morning, on Saturday 9th April, which raised another £270.47. We would like to thank everyone who supported these events, which has allowed a cheque for £620.77 to be sent to Mary's Meals.

The June Coffee after church raised another £68. We will continue to support this charity whose vision is; 'to provide every child with a daily meal in their place of education, and that all those who have more than they need, share with those who lack even the most basic things.'

To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, we held a Cream Tea on June 3rd. The afternoon was very busy and everyone enjoyed the occasion. The magnificent sum of £511.50 for the church redevelopment fund was raised. Special thanks go to all who baked, served and provided raffle prizes.

It was lovely to see the hall so busy with everyone enjoying themselves after the lockdowns and covid restrictions. Hopefully we will be able to hold more events in the near future.

Anne Gibbard

Moffat Academy—Were back!! They held their end of term service at St. Andrews, with youngsters from P1 up to S6 attending. After such a long time, it was great to be back celebrating school achievements together .



Session Clerk Report

With thanks, I am pleased to say that our church services are now back to a more normal footing with the removal of the mandate to wear face masks and social distancing. These measures as well as hand sanitising are of course still able to be done on a voluntary basis. It is amazing to see the difference that a warm smile of welcome greeting can make, and the happier attitude being palpable in church.

We have now received full planning permission to proceed with our renovation project. Verbal approval for the building warrant is also with us, although we still await the written confirmation of this. We are also hopeful of getting presbytery approval before the end of June, when our project will then be presented for the approval of the General Trustees. Our architect is busy preparing the final plans and documentation to issue invitations for tenders.

During May, the steering committee organised two presentations which were held in the church on a Tuesday afternoon and Thursday evening. These presentations were well attended and consisted of speakers describing the background, the cost and the perceived need for changes to be made in order to sustain the character and function of our church as a place of worship and religious activity, as well as becoming a much more useful asset for community use. There were also slides of other places where similar changes had been done, and computer generated images of possible future activities in the church.

It was gratifying to see members of the local council as well as a broad range of interested people from the community attend the evening meeting and express their concerns, questions and future vision and aspirations for the building once it becomes multiuse with the reconfigured interior and heating system.

The feedback from people about the presentations and the future use of the church was very positive and there is an excitement about the possibilities for the uses and the cultural benefit of the revamped building to the community.

With the Presbytery plan pushing us towards a Union with Kirkpatrick Juxta and Wamphray, we are now embarking on the principle of having joint services, including communion, in all our churches. These are excellent and really enjoyable services with a different atmosphere pervading in each of our three churches. Transport sharing is always organised and therefore not a problem for those who do not drive, and I strongly encourage more people to attend these joint services.

Our youth activities and the use of the hall continue to grow and expand, although this is sometimes constrained by the physical size of the hall and number of different spaces available.

With best wishes for a safe, enjoyable summer and autumn.

Donald Walker

What's on in Moffat?

July 9 - July 14 Moffat Gala Observation Trail	July 23 RSAC Scottish Rally
July 9 - July 14 Moffat Gala Foreign Object Competition Moffat Town Hall	July 24—10:00 am - 4:00 pm Mass Garage Sale
July 10—10:30 am - 3:00 pm Moffat Farmers' Market Moffat Town Hall	August 6 - 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Clan Moffat Dinner Annandale Arms Hotel, Moffat
July 12—2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Moffat Gala Run Moffat Town Hall	August 14 - 12:00 pm - 11:00 pm Picnic in the Park Hope Johnstone Park, Moffat
July 13—7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Moffat Gala Bingo The Proudfoot Institute	August 26—7:30 pm - 10:00 pm Lucy Rowan - Flute and Piano Recital Old Well Theatre
July 14—7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Moffat Gala Day – Fun of The Fair Park Circle, Moffat	August 27 Moffat Agricultural Show Raehills Meadows, Moffat
July 16 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm Moffat Gala Day—Dressed Lorries 2:00 pm - 2:30 pm Crowing of Queen Moffat Town Hall	September 4 - 2:25 pm - 3:00 pm Air Chief Marshal Lord Hugh Dowding Memorial Service—Station Park, Moffat
July 16 - 10:00 am - 10:30 am Moffat Gala Day – Fancy Dress Station Park, Moffat	September 16 - September 18 Moffat Eagle Festival 2022
July 16—2:30 pm - 5:00 pm Moffat Gala Day – Entertainment Hope Johnstone Park, Moffat	September 24 Macmillan Cancer Support Fundraiser Moffat Town Hall
July 16 - 10:00 pm - 11:00 pm Moffat Gala Day - Torchlight Procession & Bonfire High Street, Moffat	September 30 - October 2 Moffat Walking Weekend

Church Flowers

July 17th	Jane Crawford	August 7th	Helen Moors-Poole
July 24th	Sandra Taylor	August 14th	Alison Murray
July 31st	Eileen Benson	August 21st	Margaret Buchanan
		August 28th	Laurie McVeigh
September 4th	Margaret Blacklock	October 2nd	Marie McIntosh
September 11th	Pamela Booth	October 9th	Ms Hinchliffe
September 18th	Elsie Roberts	October 16th	Hilda Saville
September 25th	Jessie Ritson	October 23rd	Peggy Gowley
		October 30th	E. Benson
November 6th	Jessie Newlands	December 3rd	Christmas Decorations in Church
November 13th	Myrtle Little		
November 20th	Liz Brown		
November 27th	Pat Yeamans		

As people get older or leave us our Flower Rota gets less. We still require donations of flowers for the Church vases each Sunday. If you don't have the time to arrange the flowers you donate perhaps you would consider a donation of £10 or £15 per year. Following the service on a Sunday the flowers are given to folk who are ill or going through a tough time, the flowers are always appreciated by those who receive them. Please consider how you can assist us to continue this practise. Thank you so much to those who continue to donate both time, flowers and money. Every Blessing to you all.

Anne College 01683 220446

If the only prayer you say in your entire life is "thank you", that would suffice. - Martin Eckhart

CHURCH FINANCE

As reported in the last edition of the Link Magazine, the financial results for the year ended 31 December 2021 showed a deficit of just over £8000 for the year. While a deficit- more money being spent over income received- is never satisfactory in the very difficult circumstances we had reason to be grateful.

Unfortunately, in the current year to date this trend of the Church having to spend money from reserves, i.e., investments, to meet the day to day running costs of the Church continues. In the year to date we have incurred a deficit of approximately £9,000. It is a trend which cannot continue indefinitely as, eventually, the Church will simply run out of money.

The need to generate more income for the Church in the future is one of the many factors in the plans for the Church Redevelopment programme which were laid out in detail at recent afternoon and evening meetings of the Congregation and Community. The fundraising for this major project is already under way by way of application for grants from other charitable bodies as well as the essential efforts of our own Congregation with the support of the Community of Moffat.

An excellent start was made with the Strawberry Afternoon Tea to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which raised over £550 – very hard work but a most enjoyable afternoon for those of us who enjoyed the delicious baking!

The outcome of our redevelopment programme will hinge on the level of commitment from the Congregation and Community. We can only hope – and pray- for it's success

Anne Sanders

Treasurer

A new Commandment—I give unto you that you love one another as I have loved you! John C13 V34

Love is...not just about me. Love is...more about you. Love is ...opening your arms in welcome. Love is ...spending time with people. Love is... forging relationships. Love is ... kneeling down in the dirt to help. Love is... listening. Love is... holding hands. Love is... sharing ourselves. Love is... healing. Love is... all this and more. Love is -.Father. -Son. - Spirit. - a glint of God. May love be...Amen

Joint presbytery report from

Wamphray, Kirkpatrick Juxta. and St Andrews churches. June '22

*And he (Jesus) said to them "Go into the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation". Mark 16:15

*A new command I give you : Love one another. As I have loved you, so must you love one another. John 13:34.

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Following on from the Information in the Spring magazine - here is where our three charges are at the moment.

Our time as part of Annandale and Eskdale Presbytery is nearly over. There is a sadness about that. Over the years the presbytery will have dealt with many changes, many differing needs from both churches and peoples. It has also developed support structures, new skills and friendships within all our congregations over many years.

But as we move to be part of the newly formed presbytery of South West of Scotland we need to be aware that there will be changes to many charges in our presbytery . Previously there were 14.6 Word and Sacrament posts (ministers) throughout our presbytery. This is having to be reduced by 42% to 8.5 posts. This is why group ministries and charges uniting are now necessary.

Our three charges - Wamphray linked with Kirkpatrick Justa linked with St Andrews, Moffat met on Monday 28th March 2022 at Moffat. This was a well-attended meeting where elders, members of the congregations and members of the presbytery met together to discuss the changes. The outcome of the meeting was a consensus that we would work towards a

Union of the three charges by December 2025. This will mean one combined session with probably different committees to organise the business of church life, one pot of money and fewer meeting being held which will make it easier for our minister.

We have also been asked to include the parish of Johnstonbridge into our present parish. We need to consider what mission opportunities this presents to us.

Change always brings with it worries as well as new challenges. As we wait for our presbytery's mission plan to be finalised and agreed by the Church of Scotland let us go forward with a strong sense of respect for all and remember Christ's command to " love one another".

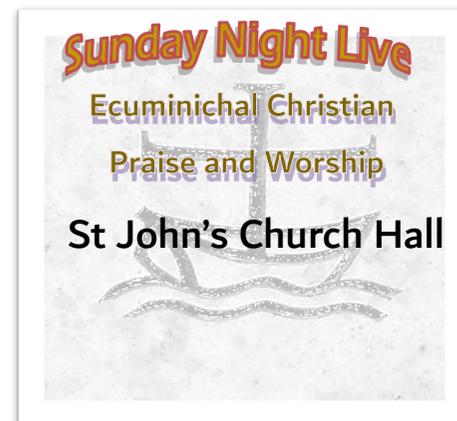
Linda, Andy, Laurie

Presbytery elders.

There is a time to be quiet- and a time to speak up. -Ecclesiastes 3:7

Areas of responsibility and those in charge St. Andrews

Church cleaning	Mr Donald Walker	220707
Church flowers	Mrs Anne Colledge	220446
Finance convener	Mr Adam Anderson	221164
Free-will offering	Mrs Marion Little	220922
Gift aid	Mrs Anne Sanders	222850
Guild president		
Hall lets	Mrs Alison Kirkwood	478149
Keeper of the congregational roll	Mrs Hilda Saville	221827
Life and Work & "The Link"	Cheryl Fairholm	478367 (cafairholm@outlook.com)
Moffat Toddler	Mrs Alison Kirkwood	478149
Organist/Musical director	Ms Kate Durran	220742
Pastoral care	Mrs Hilda Saville	221827
Property committee	Vacant	
Safe Guarding Office	Liz Tait	
Seekers 316	Mrs Fiona Paton	220164
Session clerk	Mr Donald Walker	220707
Treasurer	Mrs Anne Sanders	222850



THE Thursday MESSAGE

The Thursday Message evolved out of the Drop in Wednesday Message which was sent out during the lockdown period of the pandemic when we could not use the church building .

Once the mainline services were back in place we thought we should contact folks to see if the service should continue. We found that a number of members of our congregation were housebound or could not attend church for other reasons on a

full time or temporary basis and wished us to continue so the Thursday Message was born.

It consists of a reflection, a bible reading, a prayer and a him suggestion which are mainly in line with the lectionary reading for that week.

At present 18 people have it hand delivered by Evelyn and Bryan Atkinson who also print it. Another 6 households receive it online .

Helen Bell a resident at Bankfoot reads it to others who cannot access it and they discuss it.

If you would like to be part of the circulation either online or by personal delivery please contact Jeff on 01683 230475.

The Good News is for all to share in whatever form suits your personal needs.



On 20th April my younger daughter, Jenny and I set out to tackle something that has been on my wish list for a very long time – To walk the West Highland Way.

Having learnt to walk again twice in my adult life after knee surgeries, It was something I never thought I would be able to ever achieve but we did it . We had an amazing time, blessed with fabulous weather.

The views were spectacular and our accommodation was very comfortable along the way. It was a surprisingly social trip. We met up with very interesting people as we walked, and chatted as they passed us as we took a rest or we passed them as they rested and very often caught up with them again in the evenings.

Jenny had downloaded music on to her phone and we walked along happily singing to a huge variety of songs with many hymns, modern music, old Scottish songs, songs from our childhoods , from camps etc. “One more step along the world” and “Onward Christian soldiers” and “I love to go a wandering” amongst them . Many people had told us of their favourite hymn and we were able to think and pray for them as that piece of music played .

The German lads we met loved to know what we were singing each time we passed each other and loved “Donald where’s your troosers.” We came into Fort William to Highland Cathedral and then “Keep Right On ‘Til the End of the Road.” It seemed like the longest two miles of the whole trip until we found the statue marking the end.

Having wanted to walk 100 miles (instead of the 96 for the West Highland way) we actually achieved 122 over the 9 days. There were a few days that were a shorter distance to our next stop off point and having reached there by lunchtime and with nothing else to do in the afternoon, we decided to go for another walk Apart from being tired and a bit achy at the end we were none the worse of our adventure and thoroughly enjoyed it and am so delighted that I was able to do it.

We are overwhelmed at the generosity and delighted to say we have raised £3000, far more than we ever hoped for but this will make such a difference to the people in Kitega and Katungalu. It is exciting to think that with the money raised we can not only equip the treatment room but also pay the salary for a nurse for a year The building is coming on well and getting videos of the work on the roof while we were away really spurred us on.

A massive thank you to everyone who supported us not only financially but with prayers and messages of encouragement.

Ally Kirkwood



Flowers wanted

Anyone willing to supply and arrange flowers once or twice a year or donate £20 for purchase of flowers, please phone Anne College 01683 220446



The fewer the words the better the prayer. Martin Luther

Many of you will have been fascinated hearing Euan McIntyre from EMMS International sharing some stories in the service on " Hope" recently.

The Logo of EMMS International is "Health for today Hope for tomorrow ". and using examples from rural areas in India, Nepal, Malawi and Scotland emphasised how EMMS has helped to transform healthcare in many areas where facilities and staffing are often very limited.

A particularly sobering story was hearing a young Mum in labour going 20km to the hospital on the back of her Mum's bike but EMMS has been working hard to improve all maternity services in rural areas in these countries so that all care would be of an adequate standard.

It was also encouraging to hear about the partnership with VOCAL who provide essential respite for family and carers in the beautiful surroundings of Blair Atholl. This project was first started in the 1800s when an Edinburgh woman, Margaret Sanon gifted her home to EMMS to provide for those with ill health and limited means to relax and enjoy clean air. The need is still there today.

June 22nd is the launch of Champion of Change project and EMMS would be delighted to have any new supporters join the team.



Seekers

April-June

In Seekers the leaders have been busy organising hopefully interesting things for our young people.

Chris took the children round Station Park at Easter and talked about stations of the cross, and how Jesus must have felt. The children tried to piggy back each other on their backs and imagine how heavy the cross must have been to carry. On Fathers day Chris and I took the seekers round Station Park again and we had an ice cream and played bowls and quoits, it was getting very competitive at one point!

Fiona made cake pops with everyone and we all took turns in decorating them, then enjoying eating them. She also talked about the parable of the sower and how the seed fell on different ground. The seekers then planted wild flower seeds on different types of ground to represent the different soils in the story. They then had a fabulous slow motion movie taken of them throwing the may blossom in the air.

Cont/.....

Platinum Jubilee



On Sunday 9th January 2022 a rowan tree was planted, in the rain, to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth in St. Andrews Church grounds, Moffat, by Rev. Elsie McCrae, Minister of St. Andrews and Bro. Craig Todd, Right Worshipful Master of Lodge Hartfell, No. 728. The ceremony was attended by the elders, members of the congregation and members of Lodge Hartfell.



To Commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of
 Queen Elizabeth II on 6th February, 2022
 This rowan tree was planted by
 Rev. E. Macrae, Minister St. Andrews
 W. Bro. C Todd RWM Lodge Hartfell No 728

The former Royal Protection Officer Richard Griffin talking about the Queen



On these picnic sites you meet nobody,
but there was two hikers coming towards us.
The Queen would always stop and say hello,
and it was two Americans on a walking holiday.
It was clear from the moment we first stopped that
they had not recognised the Queen, which is fine.
The American gentleman was telling the Queen where
they came from, where he was going next
and where they had been in Britain.
I could see it coming and he said to Her Majesty
"and where do you live," she said "I live in London but I have a holiday home
just the other side of the hills"
and he said "how often have you been coming up here,"
she said "I have been coming up here ever since I was a little girl,
over eighty years."
You could hear the clock ticking, so if you've been coming up here for eighty years,
you must have met the Queen, as quick as a flash she says,
"I haven't but Dickie meets her regularly" so the guy says to me,
"so you've met the Queen what's she like?"
Because I was with her for a long time, I knew I could pull her leg,
I said "she could be very cantankerous at times, but she has a lovely sense of humour,"
The next thing I knew the guy comes round puts his arms around my shoulder
and before I could see what happens he gets his camera and gives it to the Queen
to take a picture of the two of us.
So we swap places and I take a picture of them with the Queen.
We never let on and we wave goodbye and Her Majesty says to me
"I would love to be a fly on the wall when they show this photograph to their friends in
America
and hopefully someone tells him who I am."

Ally has been talking about our senses, she asked the children which sense would they least like to lose. They then talked about how important our senses are and that we should never take for granted all the wonderful things God has given us to see, taste, smell, touch and hear.

I talked with the seekers about love and what we think love is and we made a poster that we put on the notice board. We also discussed the things that everyone has enjoyed doing so far.

Looking forward we have our end of term Ice cream Sunday and our first ever camping trip at Wiston in August with Imogen and Graeme and Elsie.

Always give thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5.20

Prayer of Thanks 2022

God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
You made every element
You are the source of all that is good, beautiful and true
You are fair and just
You see everything but still have compassion and forgiveness
You are love, light in the darkness, good against evil, hope to give us strength

That you think of me is amazing
That you forgive me is awesome
That you love me is evident every day in every breath I take
That you delight in me is beyond all reason, and delights my inner core

Thank you and thank you and thank you, forever
Let me thank you every day all my life

(Lucy Sloan gave permission to share this prayer she wrote about giving thanks)

