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# LINK MAGAZINE



## 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 safe, peaceful and wonderful winter and Christmas. The spring edition of the Link is due out in March. The Editor.



How far that little candle throws its beams! So shines a good deed in a weary world -  
William Shakespeare

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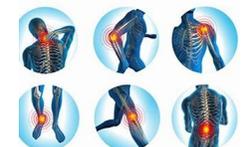
**email: alexander.borthwick@btopenworld.com**

### Sylvia Crosby—physio2UMoffat

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**ACROSS**

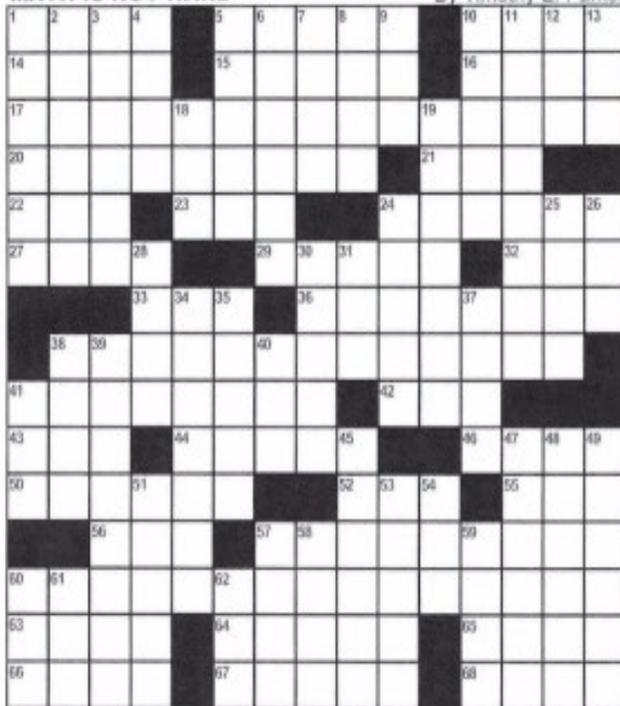
- 1) "Beg pardon ..."
- 5) Much, slangily
- 10) It's far from a flattop
- 14) Handed-down history
- 15) Hole-\_\_\_ (golf coup)
- 16) Common roller-coaster feature
- 17) They include numerators and denominators
- 20) Providing bearings
- 21) Tiny carpenter
- 22) Thing picked up at the beach
- 23) Animated Olive
- 24) Drunk, in slang
- 27) Not us
- 29) Short choral composition
- 32) Tokyo of long ago
- 33) "Much \_\_\_ About Nothing"
- 36) Fence for defense
- 38) It includes angles and shapes
- 41) Jon Bon Jovi, for one
- 42) "What \_\_\_ the odds?"
- 43) Notable period of history
- 44) Golden Horde member
- 46) D.C. veterans
- 50) Spanish capital
- 52) Clairvoyant's favorite letters?
- 55) Lobster eggs
- 56) Moray, e.g.
- 57) Evolution adherent
- 60)  $X = 3$ ,  $X + 2 = 5$ , and others
- 63) Pavarotti solo
- 64) Tossed with force
- 65) Singing club
- 66) Like much lingerie
- 67) Make fun of
- 68) Half a matched set

**DOWN**

- 1) March family creator
- 2) "Yippee!" alternative
- 3) Ferret's cousin
- 4) Humorous internet image
- 5) Full of dryer fluff
- 6) Photographed or taped
- 7) In a quandary
- 8) It might produce a run
- 9) Former nuclear power agcy.
- 10) Flared dress style
- 11) Shoes, sandals, sneakers, etc.
- 12) Director Howard
- 13) Photo \_\_\_ (media events)
- 18) Plastic \_\_\_ Band
- 19) More moth-caten, e.g.
- 24) Historic Alabama city
- 25) Challenge to a canoeer
- 26) Bambi's mother, e.g.
- 28) Bit of Halloween attire
- 30) Musical with its own glasses?
- 31) "The \_\_\_ of Pooh"
- 34) Concentrate, in a way
- 35) Group of eight
- 37) It's used to take flight?
- 38) When doubled, a Society Island
- 39) Campus VIP
- 40) Gangster's gun in old films
- 41) Sleep phenomenon
- 45) "The Twilight Zone" telecasts, today
- 47) Baltimore's bird
- 48) Body shop convenience
- 49) Has a hunch
- 51) One way to get out of debt
- 53) Metal-shaping tool
- 54) Place for an orchestra
- 57) Take out, to an editor
- 58) Lung opening?
- 59) Approaching, in romantic poetry
- 60) "Do the Right Thing" pizzeria owner
- 61) Common savings vehicle
- 62) Little salamander

**MATH IS NOT HARD**

By Timothy E. Parker



# ST ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

(Charity registration number: SCO12236)

<https://www.standrewsmoffat.org>



**MINISTER**

**Rev. Elsie Macrae**



[Elsie.Macrae@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:Elsie.Macrae@churchofscotland.org.uk)

**OFFICE BEARERS**

Session Clerk: Donald Walker

Treasurer: Mrs Ann Sanders



Dear friends

I cannot believe this will be our third Christmas in Moffat. Our first was strange in the middle of covid when many of us were in fear of catching covid. Many of us never left our houses as we were not allowed to meet and mingle with others. It was indeed a bizarre one- No Christmas markets, no parties, no festive celebration to take our children, no meals with family and friends and we were living in fear of the unknown.

Christmas 21 was different as we found some normality in a few things but there was still fear hanging in the air of what may happen.

And now the present, I was amused on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October as I passed some houses and spotted their beautifully lit Christmas trees, but after a moment I wondered why not? After all the shops are already lined up with things sadly many of us will not be able to afford this year. Yet again this Christmas poses more unknown fears. Once more we are on uncharted territory. There was a time when our televisions showed countries very far from our own which were controlled by fear; fear of war, fear of starvation, sickness or death was impacting peoples lives and we could only look on or give a mere £2/month to elevate some of the problems.

Winter of 2023 is different. We do not need to switch the telly on, but just look at our neighbours to see the fear that is currently controlling lives, the fear that is impacting our very existence, for many are suffering in our streets, in our neighbourhood, and country. Fear is affecting our basic needs of food, healthcare, fuel, and our country's leadership.

Many of us will not even have £2 to spare this year. However, there is something else much deeper that can be shared without a cost. We read in the Bible that God is 'love' and when we take residence in God, He comes to live in us too, and love drives out fear. Jesus says, 'I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly.' John10:10 and Matthew 25:40 Jesus explains that however we treat our brothers and sisters we are doing it for Him.

...cont/

Let us challenge the norm and not let fear of the unknown grip us but rather rejoice in love. For, love does not want what it does not have, love does not strut, does not force itself on others, love puts up with anything, love trusts God and it always looks for the best and never looks back, it keeps going enduring all things, hoping all things, yes, love never dies 1 Corinthians 13:3-8. As we struggle to grapple with everything that is out of our control let us not be fearful, but trust God will see us through and whatever you cannot share through material things, share it in love- Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.

Prayer by Bishop Basil the great (330-379)

‘O Lord our God.... Steer the ship of our life to yourself, the quite harbour of all storm-stressed souls. Show us the course which we are to take, Renew in us the spirit of docility. Let your Spirit curb our fickleness, guide and strengthen us to perform what is for our own good, to keep your commandments and ever to rejoice in your glorious and vivifying presence. Yours is the glory and praise for all eternity’.

Stay blessed this winter,

Your Friend, Elsie

## Dates for the Diary

- 18th November Simon & Garfunkel concert
- 25th November Swap Shop
- 26 & 27th Nov Christmas Tree Festival
- 27th Nov Joint Communion at Moffat St. Andrews**
- 27th Nov 6:30pm Advent Service St Johns
- 4th December 6:30 pm Advent Service St Andrews
- 7th December Wreath Making
- 11th December 6:30pm Advent Service St Lukes
- 18<sup>th</sup> December 6:30pm Open air Carol service at townhall (Please bring lantern/light)
- 21st December 7pm Christmas Carol Service
- 24th December 11:30pm Watch Night—St. Andrews
- 25th December 10am Christmas Day Family Service (Kids bring along a present)
- 22nd January 6:30pm—St. Johns “Christian Unity 2023” ...cont/



## Church Diary

- 20<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm **Joint Communion followed for time to discuss the Union of our three churches.**
- 27<sup>th</sup> November at 11.15am **Joint Communion with St. Andrew’s Church.**
- 24<sup>th</sup> December 2022 6.30pm **Carol Service, Carols and Readings Christmas Eve**
- Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> usual time 10am **Christmas Day Service**
- 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 10am **New Years Day Sunday**
- 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023 10am **we will meet for morning Worship in Beattock Village Hall**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023 10am **Palm Sunday return to the Church**
- 9<sup>th</sup> April 2023 10am **Easter Sunday**



If I'm honest, I was a wee bit disappointed. I was secretly hoping that he would have told me I had witnessed a modern-day miracle and consequently, to boost church funds, we could have charged people to come into KJ to see our miraculous amplifier. But then it struck me- I go through that process myself on a regular basis. In fact, every time I go to church, every time I talk to God, regardless of how badly I have malfunctioned as a Christian that week or that day, it's as if I had simply been switched off and then switched back on and- Hallelujah! Everything is made right again, and I can start afresh. And that's a maintenance contract with a lifetime guarantee.

**Flower rota Autumn/Winter/Spring**

November 6th Mrs S Hayley	<i>Christmas Decorations</i>
November 13th Mrs J Printer	
November 20th Mrs J Printer	
November 27th Mrs M Rogerson	
Advent 1	
January 1st Mrs Walker (Minto)	February 4th Mr & Mrs Lockerbie
January 8th Mrs. F Paterson	February 12th Mrs E Reid
January 15th Mrs W Murray	February 19th Mrs M Brown
January 22nd Mrs J Printer	February 26th—
January 28th—	
March 2nd—	April 2nd Mrs P McWhan
March 9th—	April 9th Easter Flowers
March 16th Mrs T Bonce	April 16th Mrs C Borthwick
March 23rd—	April 23rd Mrs M Porteous
March 30th Elders	April 30th—



Flower this year will still be arranged in a vase, and Sourced as locally as possible. If you would like to Provide flower for one Sunday which has a special meaning For your or your family, please contact Mary Brown on -1683 300 451

Thank you to everyone who has donated this year and for those who have arranged them in vases.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate the flowers from the Church on a particular occasion please let me or one of the elders know.

- 28th February 7-8:30 pm St. Johns Hall Lent Talks 2023
- 3rd March 2pm St. Lukes WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023
- 7th March 7-8:30 pm St. Johns Hall Lent Talks 2023
- 14th March 7-8:30 pm St. Johns Hall Lent Talks 2023
- 21st March 7-8:30 pm St. Johns Hall Lent Talks 2023
- 2nd April 6:30 Palm Sunday St. Johns Ecumenical service
- 7th April 8:50am Walk of Witness
- 9h April (Easter Sunday) 7:am St. Johns Easter Service

**WALK OF WITNESS 2023**  
 This has now become an established part of our Holy Week. It takes place on Good Friday morning (7th April 2023) at 8.50am and has a route around the town centre beginning from the "boat" flower bed at the Station Park carpark. All welcome to join the walk.

**Local support services**

Minister- Rev Elsie Macrae <a href="tel:01683225146">01683225146</a>	Samaritans. Tel. <a href="tel:01387253555">01387 253555</a>
DRI. Hosp. <a href="tel:01387246246">01387 246246</a>	Dr's Surgery Moffat <a href="tel:01683220062">01683 220062</a>
Citizens advice <a href="tel:01387252456">01387 252456</a>	Dumfries Council. <a href="tel:03033333000">030 3333 3000</a>
Social Work Dept. <a href="tel:01387273660">01387 273660</a>	Criminal Social justice <a href="tel:03033333001">0303 333 3001</a>
Dentist's surgery <a href="tel:01683220753">01683 220753</a>	Chemist Moffat. <a href="tel:01683220024">01683 220024</a>
Town Hall <a href="tel:01683221102">01683 221102</a>	Food train. <a href="tel:01556288427">01556 288427</a>
Alcoholics Anonymous <a href="tel:03301596494">03301 596 494</a>	Women's Aid. <a href="tel:07710152772">07710 152772</a>
Childline <a href="tel:08001111">0800 1111</a>	Health Visitors <a href="tel:01576205531">01576 205531</a>
School Nurses <a href="tel:07795291296">07795 291296</a>	

# 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](http://standrewsmoffat.bee-online.com) into your browser!



## Have you tried switching it off and then back on again.....?

One of my favourite comedies of the last few years was Channel 4's 'The I.T. Crowd', a series about two I.T. 'geeks' with very limited social skills and their ambitious female boss who knew nothing about technology all of whom were forced to work in the basement of a major company. Their stock answer whenever someone phoned up about an I.T. problem- any I.T. problem- was, "Have you tried switching it off and then back on again?" This, of course resonates with many of us as that seems to be the solution for just about any problem in our modern digital world. And, to be fair, it does seem to work quite often.

Recently, during an Elder-led service at KJ, our sound system packed in just as we were about to start our third hymn. There was a bit of a shriek (from the speakers, not the preacher) and suddenly all went quiet. Not only were we unable to get any of the music to play, but there was no sound from either of the microphones. It seemed there was nothing we could do. We got through the rest of the service well enough by just trying to project our voices. That in itself makes one marvel at the skill and stamina of pastors in bygone days when there were no sound systems other than the reverberation from the preacher's throat and the design of the sanctuary. It was also very enjoyable to hear unaccompanied singing from our small congregation, something which added significantly to the atmosphere.

After the service I had a look to see what I could and decided that we had probably blown the speakers. It is an old system, well out of its guarantee so, somewhat despondently, I switched everything off as usual and headed home. The next morning, I went round to the church early to try to ascertain the full nature of the problem. Was it just the speakers that weren't working or had we damaged the amplifier too? I powered up the system to do some tests and Hallelujah! It came back to life. In fact, it seemed to be working as well as it ever had. I was, of course, delighted with this, not least because it saved me a lot of time and trouble but also because of the potential cost of replacing some of the equipment. But I was also a bit uneasy with not knowing exactly what had gone wrong and why it had mysteriously righted itself.

When I got home, I contacted a firm who have considerable experience of installing sound systems in churches. I described the situation in detail and was advised that most amplifiers have a safety feature which operates when they are overloaded. In our case, there had probably been a power surge with an associated 'spike' in the current. So, the safety system had just closed everything down. "Once you went through the powering up process," the young man told me, "the system reset. It does this to protect the system as a whole and all the individual parts".

"So, what you're saying," I replied, "is that all we had to do was switch it off and then back on again and it would have worked fine."

...cont/

## The Thursday Message

At the heart of the gospel message is spreading the "Good News" and mission to our congregation and parish. We continue to deliver a Thursday Message. Some folks have it delivered by hand because they have not got access to a computer and others get it by E mail. If you are interested in being on either list please phone 01683 220475 or 07841073259.



## KIRKPATRICK JUXTA PARISH CHURCH

(Charity registration number: SCO05701)

<b>Minister:</b> Rev. Elsie Macrae	<b>Session Clerk:</b> Mrs Mary Brown
	<b>Treasurer:</b> Mrs Jackie Shuttleworth

### OFFICE BEARERS

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

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

## Session Clerk Report

As we approach Christmas and a New Year we are looking ahead to changes. We won't talk about the Parliamentary changes! as there are going to be many changes afoot for all of us within our church setting.

Looking back over the years I can think of many times both in my church life and my personal life, when change has come, either by my own decisions or outside events. In general, I enjoy change, and I can remember that when I was a stay-at-home mum and the children were starting school, I would be at home and change the furniture around in the lounge. So that when everyone came home, they didn't know where to find anything and their favourite chair had been moved and most of the time they didn't enjoy my efforts. I am still changing furniture around now, but its only me to be upset or satisfied by the changes, so that's ok.

However, we view change, it is a time for reflection and our imagination to be used, a real chance to make things better, not just with changing furniture around but a deeper change in our attitudes, our vision, our understand of what God wants from us.

The first Christmas was when God sent his Son to earth to show His people how He wanted them to live. Jesus changed the world.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and an exciting and challenging New Year.

Mary



## Wednesday's Drop in Sessions

These continue to take place and we are convinced that given the comments from folks who attend they provide a warm haven for people to be together and to chat in a comfortable supportive environment.

We are not large in number but as well as the core group we have had the pleasure of welcoming people who are visitors to the town and others who live in the town but are obviously looking to become part of the community.

The little crosses, hearts and thoughts disappear not in large quantities but enough to let us know that it is worth providing them.

Hosting the Drop In Sessions has been the work of a team of volunteers This reinforces our belief that we are all only threads in an enormous tapestry sown together in and with Christ love The Lord always provides, and we all need to do is to ask for help from others and "let go and let God."

An additional spin off is that the Church is benefitting from the voluntary donations which people make for the tea and the coffee. We do not ask for these, but folks are generous. As the chorus says "freely, freely you have received and freely, freely, you give.

We are keen for others to come along, all are welcome! For information on dates please look at the posters in the town the Church notice board and the church intimations.



## St. Andrews hall activities

Mondays 10-11am -Inspire dance classes for toddlers 4pm -choir meets in the church 6-7pm Pilates class 7-8pm Pilates classes	Tuesdays 10am Tai Chi , 2.30pm on 2nd and 4th week Guild, 6-8pm Slimming World
Wednesday – Drop in Wednesday every 2nd Wednesdays per month – relaxed time for everyone to enjoy coffee , scones and a catch up	Thursday 7pm – Masons one meeting per month
Fridays 10-11.30 Toddler group	Saturday 8.30-9.30 Mens breakfast club- last
Sunday 11.30 Seekers 12.15 Tea/coffee after service	Our calendar is on the front page of the website <a href="http://www.standrewsmoffat.org">www.standrewsmoffat.org</a> or contact us if you want details about hiring the hall - Alison 07715574666



**Hartfell Hill Running Club** have had a great year. Kicking off the new year with the Winter Championships a series of races that accumulate points including the local Wamphrey Glen run a trail race of about 4.5miles through the beautiful countryside.

We have just concluded our summer championships with the highlights too many to account all of but here are some that took place round the Moffat hills. We started off with a race round the Moffat hills in conjunction with the MMRT (Moffat Mountain Rescue Team) a mixed weather day, but fun had by all. The next local race was the Beeftub race - approx. 10miles starting with the ascent of Hartfell before heading around the hills at the top of the Beeftub before descending back down to the Annan Water Hall. This once again had a good turnout, though unfortunately no views from the summit of Hartfell, which was holding the clouds. However, all were treated to excellent cakes afterwards. Stag to Hind Hill saw over 40 runners from near and far show up for this short but fast 3mile race to the top of Hind Hill and back. The Eagle Race a relatively new addition to the race calendar was also a great success and ran in conjunction with the Eagle Festival. This race taking in both Hind Hill and Greyghillhead provided some spectacular views back across Moffat. Also, quite excitingly trials for the World Championships were held in Moffat this year and HHRC were involved in the marking of the course and marshalling on the day. Then the British Fell Running Relays took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> October of which Hartfell are entered teams and now we are back to the Winter Series which started with the Tinto hill race on the 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Individually some members have completed some amazing feats. Sarah Ball completed the Bob Graham Round a 24hr challenge taking in 42 fells in the Lakes District and covering a whopping 66 miles. Kev Plummer completed the 56miles of the Annandale Way in 11hrs xmins giving him the male, fastest known time (FKT) for completion and Elysha Ramage completed in 12hrs 48mins giving her the female FKT and was supported by Steve Ramage running with her. Elysha's run was raising money for Scottish Association for Mental Health, Ian Padley and Jennifer Lee completed 56miles of the West Highland way at the Highland Fling race.

Danielle Gibson and Sarah Ball completed the Abrahams Tea Round – 30miles and just shy of 11,000ft of elevation in just under 9hrs 30mins. Elysha and Steve Ramage also completed this separately coming in at 10hrs and 52mins. Finally local ultra-legend Norman ‘Tubby’ Nelson ran 100miles of the Southern Upland Way raising money for charity.

In December Lorna Hellem will be running the equivalent of Everest up Criffel which will equate to about 18 reps, 60miles and 29029ft of elevation. She is raising money for the Mayo Clinic in memory of her uncle and the link to her page is here <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/lorna-hellam-everest12> Please sponsor her if you can

Check out our current training schedule: <https://www.hartfellhillrunningclub.co.uk/> or check out our Instagram page @Hartfellhillrunningclub

## Summer edition crossword solution

1	T	2	R	3	A	4	P	5	S		6	S	7	T	8	R	9	A	10	P		11	S	12	T	13	A	
14	O	M	E	G	A					15	T	A	T	A	R							16	H	A	I			
17	E	S	S	A	Y					18	A	R	E	S	O							19	O	R	R			
						20	I	A	G	O					22	T	S	A	R	S		23						
24	S	25	T	26	R	27	I	N	G	Y		28	W	E	E	K	L	Y										
30	P	A	A	N	G	A				31	A	R	R	A	Y													
32	A	M	I	S	S					33	P	L	A	I	N	S	34	M	A	N		35		36				
37	T	E	T							38	B	O	O	T	S						39	I	T	A				
40	E	S	T	A	B	L	I	S	H					43	A	S	A	H	I		44							
						45	C	R	O	S	S				46	A	S	I	M	O	V							
			47	S	48	C	R	I	B	E				49	R	E	P	R	I	S	E							
50	K	N	E	E	S									51	L	O	R	I										
52	E	E	L			53	T	W	E	E	T				56	R	O	N	D	O		57		58		59		60
61	G	E	L			62	L	A	S	S	O				63	I	H	E	A	R								
64	S	R	O			65	E	S	T	E	R				66	N	O	E	N	D								



The Millennium Award!



Wamphray SWI Trophies!



Dumfriesshire Federation Show 2022!



Winner of the Wamphray School Rosebowl!



This is harvest!

As well as races and socials we have weekly training. Our training consists of a social run of about 6miles on a Tuesday, strength training at a gym in Dumfries on a Wednesday and structured training on a Thursday. We have welcomed new members and paid to train up some new coaches to help with weekly training. There is also the Hartfell Hill Walkers for those that fancy exploring the hills in company at an easier pace!

As always, our motto is friends first, competition second so if you ever have fancied a go at hill running all are welcome. From age x onwards. Introductory training sessions are run for those new to hill running. Any new member enquiries should be directed to Alison at [membership.hartfellhrc@gmail.com](mailto:membership.hartfellhrc@gmail.com)

### Moffat Civic Pride

Once more , Moffat Civic Pride have excelled themselves with their floral displays this summer. It takes a lot of work by their members to achieve the end results. By the time you read this, the spring planting plus bulbs will have been completed .November marks the end of their season with a final litter pick and a well deserved rest until next Spring.

Rosemary Thomson



### Improvements to children's garden.

The sad, neglected garden at the back of the church is under going a wonderful transformation with thanks to donations from Action earth, Simon Kerr fund, Arnold Clark, NHS SHAP. The men shed provided planters and built our wonderful little Wendy house . Many of the parents and toddlers were involved in designing, painting and manual labour and huge thanks to Colin Macrae for his wonderful artworks which are appearing on the wall. The area is now safely fenced in and boasts a sandpit, an outdoor kitchen, bug hotel , tyres to jump on as well as a trampoline and pond and is a calm restful garden ( unless its full of toddlers ) for anyone to make use of and enjoy. Please take time to have a look at the improvements when you are next at church and enjoy a seat

“If you don’t have a sense of humour, you probably don’t have any sense at all” God has made laughter, laughter for you and me! - Anon

### Men’s Breakfast

Saturday mornings once a month 8.30- 9.30 a.m. in the church hall. We realise that this is a bit early for many, but it does not deter the 8 – 14 chaps who attend.

Bacon rolls or healthy cereal and fruit juice if you desire! Tea, coffee and lots of chat and banter. A group of what some would describe as “ geezers” whilst others would describe as “refined gentlemen” or maybe a mixture of both have fun eating and setting the world to right.

To date there have been no calls from those in power at the S.F.A., the S.R.U, the National Church, Government Departments in Edinburgh or Westminster or multinational companies, for advice. I wonder why!

The impact of the Men’s Breakfast can be best measured in the level of perseverance of those who manage to arrive for 8.30 a.m. the volume of laughter and noise which ensures during the breakfast.

It is proving to be a very effective way of developing fellowship and probably giving those at home a bit of peace! The church is also benefitting from the voluntary donations made by the “men”.

Calling all men, come and join us, you will enjoy !



### *a prayer by the English poet Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)*

*O Lord, Jesus Christ, who art as a shadow of a great rock in a weary land, who beholdest thy weak creatures weary of labour, weary of pleasure, weary of hope deferred, weary of self; in thine abundant compassion, and fellow feeling with us, and unutterable tenderness, bring us, we pray thee, unto thy rest.*

### Church Services for the Future:

**Remembrance Service** will be on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 10 50 am., Arthur Milton will conduct the service.

Blue Service no date as yet,

**Wamphray Christmas Eve Service** will be 7pm. All welcome.

**No service on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2022or 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023.**

We have Knit Natter and Nonsense on a Wednesday once a fortnight.

Carpet Bowling every Thursday 7.30pm all welcome!

### CHURCH FLOWERS Autumn/Winter/Spring



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	
January 1st	Christmas Decorations	February 5th	Mandy Welbourne
January 8th	Ann Braid	February 12th	Kirsty Scott
January 15th	Karen Currie	February 19th	Christine Dix
January 22nd	Helen Braid	February 26th	Sandra Johnstone
January 29th	Sheila Thomson		
March 5th	Sandra Laidlaw	April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Elizabeth Harper
March 12th	Maira Hogarth	April 9 <sup>th</sup>	EASTER
March 19th	Lynne Thomson		
March 26th	Mary Scott		

## 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

Autumn is upon us, as the colours to orange, gold's and russets, That nature has arranged .bringing to the landscape a palette of delight, For us to savour and enjoy, this season's lovely sights.

We have had a quiet summer no fundraising to date COVID is still with us sadly.



We had a lovely Christening on Sunday 14 th August 2022.Orla Sandra Elizabeth Jones daughter of Mark and Ellie. Orla was born on the 19 th March 2020. The start of what was to be Lockdown. Orla never got to see any one for a while after she was born. Orlas day was very special to all her family and friends.We had a nice get together in Wamphray Hall afterwards!

We had our Harvest Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September.Donations of non perishable items were received and were given to needy families in Moffat.Rev Elsie Macrae took the items to Moffat We had a good turnout for this service where Graham Braid also received the Millennium Award.Graham fully deserved this award as he keeps our hedges well trimmed every Autumn and the roadsides.Grahams family were there to see him receive his award.Well done!

We have quite a good SWI at Wamphray with some new members and old ones came back after COVID which is promising. Ellie Laidlaw President is presenting Mary Duncanson with the Wamphray School Rosebowl . Competition was 3 Malteeser Buns.Well done!

Dumfriesshire Federation SWI held their Show at the weekend, Wamphray received a Trophy for the most points in the Baking Section and also Jams and Jellies.Linda McMinn had the most points in the Jams and Jellies section. Well done also Breakfast on a Tray we came 3<sup>rd</sup>.Congratulations to everyone who took part! (photos of the success on page 28)



Greetings from the Kitega centre, we are excited to share our latest update.

The last quarter has been filled with activity – inspiring hope in so many lives.

In Katungulu, the community is celebrating the progress of the community Health Centre – this is a dream come true and community members visit the Health centre frequently to help and monitor progress.

The health centre is being furnished and will soon be ready to be equipped to operate.

A successful VICOBA – plus camp was held at the centre in July, a great opportunity for all the VICOBA members to reconnect, network, share and learn after two years of the lock down.

As usual the celebration was evident, every VICOBA member had a story to share, lots of capacity building trainings organised, fellowship and networking, all these were highlights of the VICOBA camp 2022.

Covid 2019 disrupted activities and frustrated community gatherings, Hope has been our message during this time and the camp was a good opportunity to look back and celebrate the VICOBA ethos and to revive and inspire going forward. The participants left inspired, ready to go and become “change agents “in their communities.

Around East Africa in partnership with African Road Inc, VICOBA plus hubs are flourishing and bringing lasting change in communities. The centre welcomes volunteers all year round, and we have had the privilege of hosting some volunteers for the last quarter.

We hosted Professors from the Univeristy of Polytechnica Valencia – working of food and agricultural research in partnership with the centre; several workshops and visits were held, learning and sharing with the local communities and together developing sustainable solutions for the locals.

We are thankful for health, one of our students, Rachel was very ill but has now recovered from severe malaria

We have been able to provide the basic Medicare for our children.

The team is working hard to have the more children employed to support independent living. The post Covid 19 period has affected progress of several activities but the centre is hopeful to realise this.

Umoja house completion will also facilitate the establishment of employment opportunities for some of the children.

The centre still has several children on the waiting list, however the current capacity doesn't support admission of more children.

We are hopeful that we will have a more sustainable approach in the near future and also support community initiatives to support children with disabilities.

Thank you for your love and support and may God bless you all.

# Session Clerk Report

It has been nice to get back to regular services in church, and with a much more relaxed arrangement of seating and health protection measures. The attendances have been increasing over the last number of months, and we seem to be back to somewhere between 60 and 80 people attending each Sunday.

An enormous amount of work and effort by many people has been going into the progression of the Redevelopment Plan of the church. We are now in possession of full Building Warrant and Presbytery approval, with the General Trustees meeting this week, at the end of October, when hopefully their permission will be gained as well as a financial contribution from central funds.

Our architect and quantity surveyor have invited tenders for the work from five companies, three of which furnished a tender offer, and we now have a preferred bidder for the work. More financial details will presumably be given under the finance report. Suffice for me to say that there is now an active appeal underway for members and others, to gift or pledge their personal contributions towards the scheme.

Repairs to the roof slates and the installation of 16 roof vents has been completed, which should hopefully result in many less leaks coming into the building, while maintaining a well-ventilated attic space.

The installation of the electric winding mechanism and overhaul of the clock has now been completed, and we gratefully acknowledge and thank the donor of the funds which permitted this to be done.

During July, August and September, volunteers opened the church to visitors for about four hours each Monday, Friday and Saturday during this time. Visitors have greatly appreciated seeing inside the building and have come from many parts of the world as recorded in the visitors book. We have had about 700 visitors during this time which is really incredible, and I offer my sincere thanks to all those volunteers who made this possible.

As we race on towards Christmas with this year disappearing very fast, I pray for God's Blessing, help and guidance for us all, as we go forward in Faith.

Donald Walker



# Something to colour

## CHRISTMAS countdown calendar



## Church Flowers

<b>November 6th</b>	Jessie Newlands	<b>December 3rd</b>	Christmas Decorations in Church
<b>November 13th</b>	Myrtle Little	<i>Christmas Decorations</i>	
<b>November 20th</b>	Liz Brown		
<b>November 27th</b>	Pat Yeamans		
<b>January 8th</b>	Lynda Lyons	<b>5th February</b>	Fay Salmon
<b>January 15th</b>	Monica Proudfoot	<b>12th February</b>	LaurieMcVeigh
<b>22nd January</b>	Helen Moors Poole	<b>19th February</b>	Margaret Blacklock
<b>29th January</b>	Alison Murray	<b>26th February</b>	A. Hinchcliffe
<b>5th March</b>	Hilda Saville	<b>2nd April</b>	J. Crawford
<b>12th March</b>	Ann Walker	<b>9th April</b>	Anne Johnstone
<b>19th March</b>	Liz Brown	<b>16th April</b>	Wendy Simpson
<b>26th March</b>	Marion Little	<b>23rd April</b>	Anne Colledge
		<b>30th April</b>	Margaret Richmond

The notice for decorating the Church for Christmas will go up in the hall nearer the time. Have a very Happy Christmas season.

Best wishes to you all

Anne College 01683 220446



## CHURCH FINANCE

### Redevelopment Project Update

Over the past few months, a lot of work has been undertaken to research funding opportunities to enable the Kirk Session to take forward our major redevelopment project.

We have been fortunate to secure grants totalling £109,000, with other funding applications to the value of £54,000 still being considered by the grant funders. However, even if all these grant applications are successful, there remains a significant shortfall of at least £50,000 between the tender quotations and funds secured.

The tender price for the work is £651,651 which together with Professional Fees of £37,200 is a total of £688,851 inclusive of VAT. As a Listed Place of Worship we will be able to reclaim VAT of around £100,000 making the net cost £599,851

The current financial projections can be summarised as follows:

Grants	£109,000	Funds from Legacy	£357,000
Members one off payments	£ 7,835	Members Pledges 2 or 3 years	£ 13,220
Fundraising	£ 2,028	Donation Box and Car Park	£ 778
Other donations	£	Total	£493,515
3,654			
<b>Funds required</b>	<b>£ 95,336</b>		

These projections are the most up to date figures available to us but they do not take account of any contract overruns or additional ancillary expenses or Audio Visual equipment.

While we are very grateful to all who have donated already either at the events which have been organized and to those members who have responded to our appeal with their donations, we urgently need increased financial support if this project can proceed. It is essential that we can commit to financing this project before signing a legally binding contract for the development work

Donations, no matter their size, will be gratefully received and can be sent to the treasurer (details available on request) or handed to the session clerk, elders, or minister. Gift aid declarations for those who are UK tax payers can also be provided to enable the church to reclaim 25p for every £1 you donate from HMRC.

As part of the redevelopment the existing pews will be removed from the downstairs area of the church. If any church member or local resident would like to retain a little of St Andrews in their home or garden you can reserve a pew for yourself. The side pews will be available at £125 and the centre pews £250. Please remember that the side pews only have "one leg" as the other end is secured to the wall – easy for a joiner to add an additional leg for you. If you would like to reserve a pew, please contact Donald Walker.

Having taken note of views submitted by three members unable to attend the meeting on 16th November the Kirk Session voted unanimously to accept the tender submitted by Brick & Steel Construction Ltd to carry out Phase 1 of the redevelopment of the Church and continue to work towards completion of Phase 2 which includes floor coverings, ...cont/

audio visual equipment and chairs.

This decision has been taken in the knowledge that without urgent action to replace the heating system our Church building would become unfit for use and the belief that major renovation is justified to secure its future as a place of worship and realise its potential to contribute meaningfully to the life and welfare of all within our community.

We go forward in faith and pray that all members of the congregation will in that spirit support, where they can, our current and continuing fundraising activities.

**Your church needs your help!**

Adam Anderson (Convenor)



**Dance for Adults**

It can't have escaped everyone's notice that there has been a glut of television programmes recently on health and well-being in adults; and being a "lady of a certain age", I have watched them all with interest.

As a dancer I grew up being very aware of my body and its capabilities – possibly more than most of my peers, but as a young woman I always just took for granted that my body would continue to serve me well and I'd be able to do anything. However, recently my body has reminded me that I am getting older and I have realised that I will need to take better care of myself going forward. It started with the involuntary noises as I rose from the chair or got out of the car, then progressed to stiffness in the morning, which previously my dancers body only encountered after a summer break, but which now led me to wonder what on earth I had done that day in terms of physical exertion to warrant such aching limbs and back. But dance is the one thing that I am determined not to give up, as it has so many health benefits.

Adult dance classes are good for the body and good for the soul. So let's start with the soul.....

I want all the adults that attend my classes to believe that they can.....

Believe that they can learn a new skill, believe that they can remember steps, believe that they can improve their muscles tone and balance and believe that they can be co-ordinated, graceful, strong and light on their feet.

At our age, most adults start to doubt their capabilities. Their memories aren't as good as they used to be – we all need to write things down more often. Their balance isn't as good as it used to be – we are concerned about slips, trips and falls, or if we've already had a fall we worry it could happen again.

**Areas of responsibility and those in charge St. Andrews**

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

**St. Andrews Hall**

The hall has been very well used for a number of groups and classes throughout the year These are the regular activities going on, but the hall is often used for other activities including coffee mornings, ceilidhs, birthday parties etc. Our calendar is on the front page of the website [www.standrewsmoffat.org](http://www.standrewsmoffat.org) or contact us if you want details about **hiring the hall -Alison 07715574666**



**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**  
26th & 27th November

St Andrew's Parish Church  
Moffat

**Enjoy a festive display of what Moffat has to offer!**

- open 10 am til 4pm Saturday & 1pm til 4pm Sunday at St Andrew's Church
- £3 entry includes tea, coffee, seasonal treats
- crafts, teddies and other festive goodies for sale

Charity No. SC012236

Our ability to learn quickly isn't what it once was, so we worry that we can't try new things and keep up with the rest of a class. If this sounds familiar please don't worry.....we are all in the same boat – try a class and you'll see. A great teacher's job is to make sure you leave their class feeling good about yourself, it should be uplifting, it should give you confidence and most of all it should be FUN!!!!!!

Now for the health benefits of which there are many. For ladies – a reduced risk of osteoporosis; dance gives a low impact workout for the skeleton which helps strengthen bones.

For anyone trying to lose weight – it doesn't feel like going to the gym or swimming lengths or running or walking for miles, because your brain is occupied at the same time, so no-one is counting repetitive movements – before you know it you're at the end of a class – where has the time gone!

As we get older there is a decrease in muscle tone. Dance keeps those muscles working which ultimately keeps us all moving improving our ability to balance. The worst thing you can do for the creaky, achy, arthritic joints is to keep them still – you've got to keep them moving.

Another thing we must keep active is our brains – whilst dancing you are thinking all the time – which leg moves next, which arm goes where, what direction am I moving in, am I in time to the music, so with all that thinking going on, it's neither wonder that a class passes so quickly.

Oh and finally, I mentioned fun earlier. As a dancer you make some life-long friends and as a teacher of Adult dancers I have made some more. The social aspects of Adult dance classes are great – end of term lunches, coffees after classes, it's a wonderful thing to make new friends at whatever age.

1.45pm until 2.45pm – Adult Line dancing      2.50pm until 3.50pm – Adult Ballet

All classes cost £7 if you book the block, or £8 if you book them one at a time

<https://bookwhen.com/fhsd>

Fiona Henderson



The Guild meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoons 2:30-4pm from September to March., in St. Andrews Church hall. We started again this year on the 27th September with a talk from our minister.

October 11th a talk from Angus Sinclair, October 25th Mary and I held a 'making cards'session, judging by the amount of laughter, I would say it went well. All cards were to be given to someone to make them smile.

The Guild support six projects every 3 years, we will be hearing about them later on this session. We would love to see more people joining us.

Thelma Boncey

# Presbytery Report

The following is a report by the new Clerk -Mrs Christine Murray -of the Presbytery of the South West.

"Over 150 people gathered together in St Marnoch's Parish Church, Kilmarnock, at 10.30am on a rather wet and blustery Saturday to attend the historic first meeting of the Presbytery of the South West. Representatives of all six former presbyteries took part in a very moving service, which included a brief reminder as to how we had reached this point and the Installation of our new Moderator, the Rev. Brian Hendrie. The Presbytery Clerk, Mrs. Christine Murray, was sworn in before a small amount of essential business was conducted. Once our new Treasurer and Safeguarding Officer had been introduced, and the Standing Orders adopted, Presbytery passed a Deliverance which allows each of the former Presbytery areas to progress their Mission Plans without having to wait until all six plans have been centrally agreed. The meeting then paused to allow Presbyters to enjoy a soup, sandwich and doughnut lunch in the Howard Centre and then our afternoon session began. This was an opportunity to meet our Committee Convenors, learn a little of their plans and to be inspired by their enthusiasm for the challenges ahead."

I attended this meeting and am glad to have experienced this initial get together of the new presbytery. When you get a group of church folk singing hymns in a beautiful old church the sound is wonderful and it was quite a moving short service before the business of the day.

At lunch we were able to meet and greet folk from the far reaches of the presbytery. I sat and chatted to Stranraer folk along with presbytery friends from Gretna area. It will be good to see new faces I recognise at the next presbytery meeting by zoom. We reconvened and the chairs of the various new committees identified themselves and gave us a short potted history of themselves and their intentions. As we left we were urged to move forward with new presbytery challenges through faith and with enthusiasm. The next meeting of South West presbytery is Dec 6th by zoom. Laurie McVeigh

## Nativity story

A five year old girl was watching as the nativity scene was set up for the carol service. She was mesmerised by all the figurines, especially the baby Jesus. When she asked what the manger was, her teacher explained that there was no crib for Jesus, so they had to lay a blanket on the hay and lie him there. The little girl thought about that for a minute, and then asked "Did they have to use a manger for his car seat too?"



## Church Pews

Would you like St Andrews pews for your church or garden?

When redevelopment begins pews will be available as follows:

**Side pews £125**

**Centre pews £250**

Remember side pews only have one end/leg (left or right) as the other side is attached to the wall.

Anyone wishing to buy a pew should note their interest to Donald Walker, Session Clerk, (Tel 01683 220707) by **25<sup>th</sup> December 2022**. When pews are available (date unknown at present) you will be contacted to collect, or arrange delivery at cost.

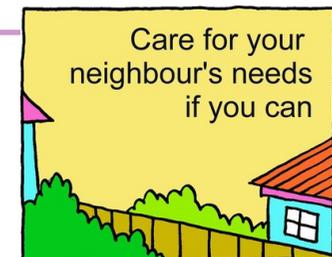


## Please donate food items



**A collection box is situated in the foyer, each week any items will be delivered to the school. The school are aware of those who require the items.**

With the high cost of living, more and more folk need assistance in providing meals and hygiene essentials for their families. The food box is situated in St. Andrew Church foyer, please donate what you can.





## WHAT'S GOING ON WITH SEEKERS

Imogen Paterson & Graeme Paterson

Well, it's taken me ages to get round to writing this – it probably should have been written for the last issue! Oh well, here we are now. You might have heard about the Seeker's trip to Wiston Lodge in the Summer but nothing about what they got up to and I'm sure

you'd like to know.

We took 11 of the church & community's young people away for a 2-night camping trip back in August and it was a blast! Not only did the sun not stop shining but we didn't have to cook (a relief for me and dad), no one had to pay for the trip (thanks to funding) and the young people got to partake in a variety of challenging – but fun – activities.

We arrived on the Tuesday afternoon where we set upon setting up camp, pitching tents and the like, then got fed dinner. We enjoyed a campfire in the evening with marshmallows (always a hit). Then on the Wednesday everyone had a go of climbing the high ropes course which was all about challenging themselves to go out the comfort zone and reach new heights - pun intended. The afternoon consisted of shenanigans on the pond, learning to canoe and having a splash which was very much enjoyed in the Summer heat. The second evening was lived out back round the campfire where the young folk got to try lighting their own fires and toasted even more marshmallows! The morning we left we had to take down the tents (aww) and tidy up then had one last round of fun working together doing team challenges, lifting each other up (once again, pun intended – can you tell my sense of humour comes from dad?) We also got a surprise delivery on the Wednesday night with a big box of Seeker's hoodies delivered up by mum (Jane Paterson) which everyone enjoyed. These were meant to be given instead of books at the end of term but arrived a bit later than expected, but none the less thoroughly appreciated by all.



It was so wonderful to see all the young people bond and look after each other over the trip. They were so good at working together, taking the others into consideration, challenging themselves and relaxing into the group. They all had so much fun – minus the midges and the cooler nights in tents, even though they slept very well. My personal highlight was in the in between times where the kids would play football or tig and just enjoyed mucking about letting anyone and everyone join in, even myself and dad!

We've already got feedback for next year – some of which being can the parents go instead (that one was from the parents), less tents but more cabins or rooms and for a little bit longer – so it's safe to say we'll be planning again for next summer, and hopefully with more spaces so we can bring even more young people along to join in the fun (so please let me know if you want to come and help lead!). Roll on 2023!

For every minute you are angry, you have lost 60 seconds of happiness! Anon

## The Christianity of Columba and the Celtic Tradition

For a long time as a student of history and theology I have been very interested in Columba and Celtic Tradition and that has resulted in several visits to Iona. Like many others I feel I found it to be a deeply spiritual place where there is the of sense the presence of Christ in the tranquillity, the encounter with the elements, the music, the poetry and the architecture. These elements have been influential in the creativity which is present in the following tenth century prayer which radically restores the Spirit in its plea for the simple life which Iona offers in abundance. I trust in reading it and thinking of Iona you will also encounter the peace it brings me

### “The Wish of Manchan of Liath - a modern setting.

Grant me sweet Christ the grace to find-  
Son of the living God-  
A small hut in a lonesome spot  
To make it my abode.

A little house where all may dwell  
And body's care be sought.  
Where none shows lust or arrogance,  
None thinks an evil thought.

A little pool but very clear  
To stand beside the place,  
Where all men's sins are washed away  
By sanctifying grace.

And all I ask of housekeeping  
I get and pay no fees,  
Leeks from the garden, poultry, game,  
Salmon and trout and bees.

A southern aspect for the heat,  
A stream along its foot,  
A smooth green lawn with rich topsoil  
Propitious to all fruit...

My share of clothing and of food,  
From the King of fairest face,  
And I to sit alone  
And pray in every place.



We continue to provide a listening ear and appropriate caring support. With the help of a wonderful band of volunteers, flowers that are kindly displayed in church on Sundays, are taken out

to people who appreciate the lift of the beautiful, colourful, perfumed fresh flowers to brighten their day. Cards are sent in a variety of circumstances just to let their recipients know that they are in our prayers and cared about. We have had several "very significant" birthdays to celebrate this year. Congratulations to you all!

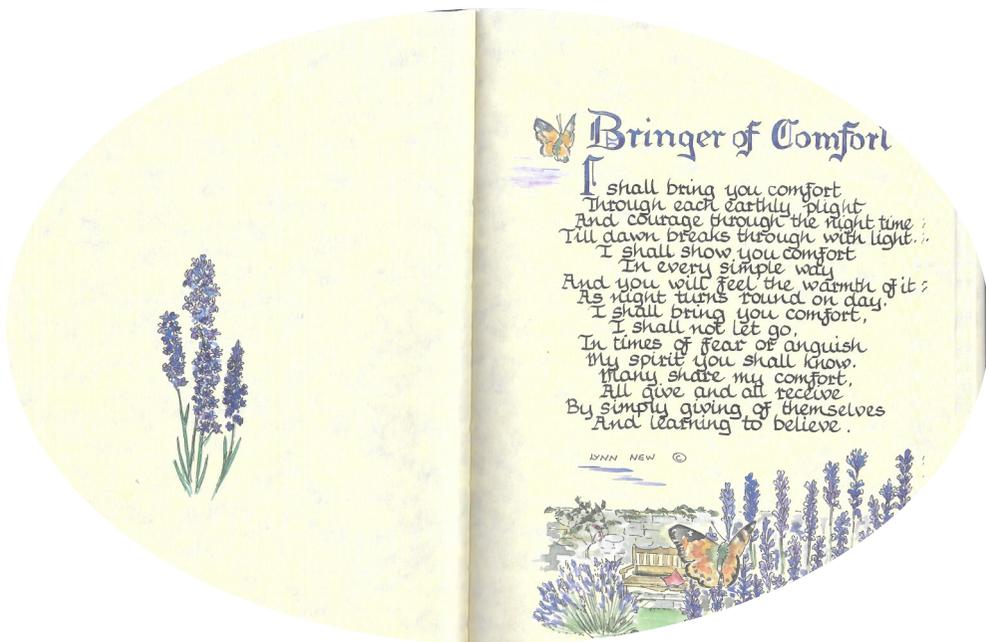
Before long, we shall be thinking about Christmas cards and, again, be grateful that our numbers of helpers to write and deliver them will swell to make this manageable, possible and low-cost.

We rely on being informed when someone is unwell, in hospital, or needing someone to talk to - so please contact one of our group if you think that our prayers and ministrations could help someone you know.

We are: Rev. Elsie Macrae, Jeff Brown, Laurie McVeigh, Ally Kirkwood and myself.....

Sincerely yours and sending every blessing to you all,

Hilda Saville



## Teddy Bear Festival

If you go down to the church today, you're sure of a big surprise! That was definitely the case at St Andrews over the weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October. The first Teddy Bear Festival in Moffat was organised to help fundraise for the church's redevelopment plans to make the building accessible to everyone. The church was full of

bears (over 100) – all up to different things, from baking cakes, to playing games and indeed a couple getting married with a teddy minister in attendance of course. Having had a tiring day on the Saturday the bears had a sleep over and took part in the service on the Sunday before welcoming more visitors to the church. Everyone who took part, volunteers and visitors left St Andrews beary happy and with smiling faces. The whole event has been hailed a success by everyone with the grand total of **£670** being raised. A big thanks to the bear's mum, Elma, who organised the whole display with help from her daughter Alison.



As well as the Teddy Festival the fundraising group have also served teas and coffees to walkers during the Walking Festival, fed the visitors hog roast at Picnic in the Park and hosted a fashion swap shop. So far, the events organised by the group have raised over £1000 towards our redevelopment.

### Several events planned up to the end of the year.

With a **Fashion Sale** on **10<sup>th</sup> November**, **Ceilidh** on **12<sup>th</sup> November** and **Simon and Garfunkel** tribute concert on **18<sup>th</sup> November** there is something for everyone.

As the run up to Christmas starts it is planned to hold another swap shop where people can swap winter clothes and perhaps the odd Christmas jumper. The date for your diary is **25 November 2022**.

We will be joining in the Moffat Christmas festivities with St Andrews hosting our very first **Christmas Tree Festival** over the weekend **26/27 November**. Organisations from our community will decorate Christmas trees which will be displayed in the church. Entry to the see the trees will include refreshments and there will be the chance to browse our craft and sales stalls.

Jane will be organising a wreath making evening on **Wednesday 7 December** at 7pm. Come along and create something beautiful for your front door – all you need to bring is secateurs, old wire coat hangers (or wreath ring), some ribbons and greenery. Cost £5 per person including refreshments.

The final event of the year will be a **Christmas Carol Service** to be held on **Wednesday 21 December** at **7pm** in the church. The service is free for all to join, but donations will be welcome. An opportunity to sing along to some well-loved carols as well as hear our praise band play some favourites too. The evening will be rounded off with mulled wine and mince pies in the church hall.

Information on all our events will be posted on the church website, our social media pages and on posters in the church and usual Moffat poster sites.

The redevelopment fundraising team would like to thank everyone who has supported our events by attending them or organising, volunteering at, or donating items for sale.

**Redevelopment Fundraising Team.**