

Sidlaw conneXion



Auchterhouse
Monikie & Newbigging
and Murroes & Tealing

The Church of Scotland



October 2015

Scottish Charity Numbers SC016717 / SC012137

Modern Communication

To help us keep in touch we would like to be able to send out our new church news letter and other announcements by way of the internet. With this in view if you are on line will



you please send your email address to the editor at billharper11@btinternet.com This will not only save time and money but you will receive your copies much quicker. Thank you for your co-operation. The church's new web site will soon be up in operation. Watch out soon for the online date

From The Manse

Dear Friends,

Harvest is an appropriate season to re-launch our church magazine, a time to appreciate the fresh-picked flavours of foods grown locally in field and garden, a time when all of us in our rural parishes join with our farmers in thanksgiving, not only for our local harvest, but also for the world-wide harvest which contributes to the richly varied diet we all enjoy. So much of our food and drink comes from abroad — think about our cups of tea or coffee which depend on farmers as far away as India, China, Brazil, Uganda and Malawi to name but a few. Even staple foods like rice depend on crops grown thousands of miles away, while the bananas we enjoy (and on average each of us in the UK eats around 100 bananas a year) come to us from the Windward Islands of the Caribbean, Ghana, Uganda, Brazil and Colombia, again to name but a few.

So, as we celebrate our harvest, it's good to remember that our food connects us to farmers and agricultural workers around the world, many of whom do not share our prosperity. And it's for this reason that we support the Fair Trade Foundation. See www.fairtrade.org.uk for information about fair-trade products and how they are transforming the lives of many whose harvest finds its way to our tables.

Here, we look forward to celebrating our Harvest Thanksgiving with you, in Murroes on Sunday 25th October at 11.00am, and in Auchterhouse and Monikie on Sunday 1st November at 11.00am and 11.15am respectively. We also celebrate the Sacrament of Communion in Auchterhouse at 9.30am and Monikie at 11.15am on Sunday 25th October, and in Murroes at 9.30am on Sunday 1st November.

Having directed you to the internet to find out about Fair Trade, we soon hope to communicate better with you through the internet. We are currently working with a leading website developer to produce a new Sidlaw Churches website to augment our weekly Intimation Sheet and Church Magazine, both of which will be available in print and online. We hope to have further news of this in our next magazine.

An improved website is just one of several initiatives which I hope we can complete before I retire next summer. By that time I will have been with you for over ten years. It has been a great privilege to be the minister of Auchterhouse, Monikie & Newbigging and Murroes & Tealing and I shall miss the people of our churches and their surrounding communities, but as I explained to our Kirk Sessions last week, I have decided to retire at sixty-five while I am still fit enough to pursue other interests and to serve the church in other ways.

Your minister,



Rev David Collins.

The Children Born To Die.

Can you bear to look at your TV screen
do you turn away your eye,
at the twisted bodies and broken limbs
of the children born to die?

Do their tortured faces haunt your dreams
does it make you want to cry
that in this rich and well fed world
there are children born to die?

Do you walk along on the other side
and silently pass them by?
"These are your neighbours" Jesus said
How can we let them die?

Do you remember the words he spoke,
the man from Galilee?
"In as much as you do it unto them
You do it unto me"

So don't turn away from your TV screen
don't be afraid to cry,
let the spring of love in your heart overflow
for the children born to die.

When springs flow together to form a stream

of love that will never cease
then children all over the world will have
a tomorrow of hope and peace.

Anon

Sidlaw Regnal

The Regnal is a men's group which meets in Murroes Church Hall on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from September till April at 7.30 pm. As can be seen we have a varied programme and visitors are welcome to any of our meetings. We have various speakers and visits to places of interest. During the early summer break we have our annual Stewards Trip. The location is decided by the members and our Steward (our leader) organises the rest. Previous trips have been to a preserved steam railway, a museum of flight and an Ecco Church at Bankfoot.

At present we have 19 on the roll and are always looking for additional members to add to our number. For further information please call our secretary, Bill Harper on 350200

PROGRAMME 2015

Oct 12th T B A

Oct 26th Visit to Kingsway Fire Station

Nov 9th Books Abroad Ray Edwards

Nov 23rd David Collins

Dec 14th Christmas Dinner (venue T B A)...



The Regnal with friends and members from Glasgow on our visit earlier this year to the Eco Church Bankfoot. On the left is the Very Rev. James Simpson, former moderator of the General Assembly, who gave us a very amusing talk after our snack lunch. On the right, our former minister, the Rev Syd Graham who helped to organise the outing. A visit to Dunkeld Cathedral was also included in the trip

CHURCH GUILDS



“Be Bold, Be Strong, Go in Peace”

Auchterhouse

13th October	Land's End to John O'Groats	President Mrs E Millar 380219
November	Gardyne Theatre,	Rev E Kay
8th December	Christmas Crafts	Annie Get Your Gun”
2016		Mrs S McCallum
12th January	Benefits of a Raw Food Diet	Ms C Allan

9th February	Street Pastors	Mr S Scrimgoeur
8th March	Mary Slessor Centenary Visit to Calabar	Mrs B Elwell-Sutton
12th April	Haiti Project	Mr H Henderson
10th May	AGM	
4th June	Coffee Morning	

Murroes & Monikie

Leader Mrs Una Harper 350200

Oct 21 th 7.30pm	Street Pastors	
Nov 18 th 1.30pm	Norway Journey	Rev M Paton High Kirk
Dec	Christmas outing T B A	
2016		
Jan 20 st 1.30pm	University of Third Age	Mrs P. Garland.
Feb 17 th 1.30pm	Home Safety	Angus Fire Brigade
March 16 th 7.30pm	Mars Ship Talk	Gordon Douglas
April 20 th 7.30pm	Glee Club Concert	
May 18 th 7.30pm	Chair Exercises	Mrs J McArtney

Guild Week
15th-22nd November 2015
World Day of Prayer
4th March 2016

A warm invitation is extended to all to attend any or all of the above meetings. The Guild is no longer a Woman's Guild, it is now for both women and men and we would welcome those of the male gender to our meetings.

Auchterhouse meets in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm each evening.

Murroes and Monikie meets in Murroes Church Hall also at 7.30pm except for Nov, Jan and Feb when we meet in the afternoon at 1.30pm..

For further information please phone Elizabeth on 380210 for Auchterhouse or Una on 350200 for Murroes and Monikie.

AUCHTERHOUSE CHURCH KNITTING CIRCLE

Do you enjoy knitting or crochet or would you like to learn? We are a small group who meet in each other's houses every couple of months to decide which charity we would like to support with our knitting over coffee and chat. At present we are knitting small shawls to go in the memory boxes for Sands (Stillbirth and neonatal death charity) and we have supported many charities in the past - notably Blytheswood and our local hospice in Forfar.

Most of the knitting is done in our own home and in our own time; there is no pressure and we do as little or as much as we like.

The next meeting is on Nov.5th at 10am and will be at the home of Joyce Barr. We would be delighted if anyone would like to join us particularly anyone from Tealing, Murroes or Monikie. For more information please phone me - Sue Stewart - at 01382 320339 or email at drummuir1@btinternet.com.



Fund Raising

Congratulations and thanks to all who helped in any way in the running of our recent Flower Festival in Monikie Church also the many who supported it by their attendance. The sum realised was a very healthy £2900 for church funds, A great result.



2015 Christmas Fayre. M&N and M&T

Our Christmas Fayre will be held on **Sat. 28th November**. in Monikie Hall 2.00pm till 4.00pm

There will be all the usual stalls and your donations and support will be gratefully received.

Make a note in your diary now.

Film Night

Following on from the success of our last film night we will be having another in Tealing



Hall early in 2016

The programme will consist of some shorts followed by our feature for the evening

Watch out in the next news for details

Eco Congregation Scotland

This is an ecumenical movement helping local groups of Christians link environmental issues to their faith, reduce their environmental impact and engage with the community. Auchterhouse Church has registered as an Eco-Congregation. Registration is free and initially is a recognition of our intent, that our Church is concerned about the environment and wants to do something about it in the future.

The **vision** of the Eco-Congregation movement is:

“A Scotland that cares for God’s creation, now and forever more”.

Their **mission** is:

“In prayer, worship and conversation we discover what it means to care for God’s creation.

We put that care into action individually, locally, nationally and globally, desiring to live justly in a transformed world. We commit ourselves to campaigning on urgent threats to the web of life in our vulnerable world.”

These may sound daunting statements but in reality we have all taken the first steps by enjoying the lovely countryside around us. As gardeners or farmers we already have a good understanding of the amazing way that God’s creation works throughout the seasons.

What we have done in Auchterhouse is to go through the questionnaire on the Eco-congregation website, to find out where we are now and what steps we can begin to take to gradually fulfil some of these aspirations. Our planet is very precious to us all, in providing the air, the water and the food we all need to live now and in the future. We are small congregations individually, but working together perhaps we can unite to achieve some of these increasingly important actions.

Have a look at the website www.ecocongregationscotland.org. There is a wealth of information and ideas of projects we can undertake, small and large. Please let me know if you are interested in this growing organisation and together we can make a difference.

Shiona Baird
shionabaird@hotmail.co.uk
01382 320435



The background to well-known hymns

The story behind ... JUST AS I AM The hymn “Just as I am” must be one of the most famous in the world. It has been sung by tens of millions of Christians at Billy Graham Crusades the world over, just for starters! Yet it was not written by a professional who was “aiming” at a specific market, as many songs seem to be written today. Instead, it was written by an artist in Victorian times.

Her name was Charlotte Eliot, and she was born in Clapham in 1789. She grew up in a well to do home, and became a portrait artist and also a writer of humorous verse.

All was well until Charlotte fell ill in her early 30s and slid into a black depression. A minister, Dr Caesar Malan of Switzerland, came to visit her. Instead of sympathising, he asked her an unexpected question: did she have peace with God? Charlotte deeply resented the question and told him to mind his own business. But after he left, his question haunted her. Did she have peace with God? She knew that she did not, that she had done some very wrong things. So she invited Dr Malan to return. She told him that she would like to become a Christian, but would have to sort out her life first. Dr Malan again said the unexpected. “Come just as you are”. The words were a revelation to Charlotte. She had assumed that she would have to put her life in order before she could hope to be accepted by God. Instead, she realised that Jesus wanted her just as she was – and he would take care of the sin. Charlotte became a Christian that day. 14 years later, in 1836, Charlotte wrote some verses that summed up how it had been between her and Jesus that day.

They ran: Just as I am, without one plea, But that thy blood was shed for me, And that thou bids’t me come to Thee O lamb of God, I come! I come!



Just as I am, tho tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt Fightings within, and fears without, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

Charlotte could not have dreamed that 150 years into the future, her verses would be sung by millions of people all over the world, as they responded to the Gospel presented at many great Billy Graham crusades, and made their way forward to do as the hymns describes – to come to Jesus Christ, despite sin and fear and doubts, to come “just as I am”.

Monikie Memorial Hall

"The AGM of Monikie Memorial Hall is on Wednesday 21 October at 7.30pm. The Trustees look forward to hearing your concerns or suggestions.

Monikie Memorial Hall offers a variety of interests and activities for all ages from toddlers through to older toddlers. It is an excellent venue for parties, celebrations, receptions and family events. Please visit our website www.monikiememorialhall.co.uk to find out about the facilities and the calendar to find availability.

Email: monikiememorialhall@gmail.com Tel.07864565104"



M&N and M&T Church Register

Disjunction by death

Mrs Jenny Baird May 2015,
Mr William Keillor May 2015
Mr Bill Ritchie July 2015
Mr Arthur Moodie Aug.2015
Mr Bill Officer Aug. 2015



Situations Vacant We have a need for some additional helpers for the serving of tea and coffee after the service at Murroes. The duty comes round about every 5 or so weeks, less often the more we have. If you can help please contact Una Harper on 350 200. Your assistance would be much appreciated.



Dates for your Diary

25th Oct Auchterhouse Communion 9.30am

25th Oct. Murroes Harvest thanksgiving 11.00am

25th Oct Monikie Communion 11.15am

1st Nov. Auchterhouse Harvest Thanksgiving 11.00am.

1st Nov. Monikie Harvest Thanksgiving 11.15am

1st Nov Murroes Communion 9.30am

8th Nov Remembrance Sunday: Auchterhouse 9.30am; Murroes 11.00 am; Monikie 11.15am; Acts of Remembrance at our five War Memorials Auchterhouse 10.15am, Tealing, Murroes, Wellbank and Monikie(hall) at around 12.30pm.

14th Nov Auchterhouse Desert Island Hymns (details below)

28th Nov Christmas Fayre Monikie Hall



DESERT ISLAND HYMNS:

Rev Mike Mair will be the castaway in our *Desert Island Hymns* on Saturday 14th November at 6.30pm in Auchterhouse Church. A warm invitation is extended to all. Come and hear Mike, sing his choice of hymns, and, if you need to, try out the new church toilet!



Next issue of the Church News will be in late Nov.. The dead line for inclusion of items will be 8th Nov. Email billharper11@btinternet.com

This will be our Christmas Edition

Church Contact Numbers

Ministers

Rev. David A. Collins 778874

Rev Mike Mair 530538

Session Clerk
Elizabeth Millar
380219

Auchterhouse Elders

Andrew Barr	361221
Eva Bell	568359
Alan Clark	320218
Sally Clark	320218
Christina Duncan	380225
Judy Goodfellow	320284
Heather Heggie	320305
Graham Leese	320214
Elizabeth Millar	380219
John Skea	320257
Garry Stewart	320339
Alec Strang	380228
Robert Wallace	825143