

# Keystone

The Newsletter of St Andrew's Church of Scotland - Corby

**AUTUMN 2017**

## Welcome to St Andrew's Church...

This is the message we see on our screens every Sunday morning, but what does it actually mean?

Welcome is an ancient greeting whose roots go back a thousand years. It stems from the Old English words 'wil' - meaning *pleasure* and 'cuman' - meaning *come*. So when we say 'welcome', we're actually saying 'we're pleased you came'.

Whether you're a regular, a more infrequent visitor, or have never set foot inside a church, it's nice to know that there's a heartfelt welcome awaiting you here every Sunday.

We're also welcoming a new style of Keystone newsletter this issue. It's a new smaller format, which we hope will be more

handy for coat pockets and handbags, but still contains all the same news - and a few extra bits.



If you'd like to contribute to the next edition, or just give us suggestions, please get in touch - all ideas welcome!

# A letter from the Manse...

Harvest Thanksgiving throughout history has always been a special time, especially for the farming community who as workers of the land, labour to prepare and plant the seeds whilst at the same time, acknowledging that God alone provides the conditions for their crops to grow.

In the Ancient Near East, lack of rain would inevitably lead to drought and famine! Famine brought death and disease and often wiped out entire communities. And so the people made sure they gave God His due and would flock to the Temple of Jerusalem to worship Him and to offer their thanksgiving to Him. They would sacrifice the very first-fruits ie the very best of their crops because that was the fitting and appropriate response to the grace of God in providing sustenance and survival for yet another year.



We in the West sometimes don't know we're living; we take so much for granted and moan whenever we get 'bad weather'. In our generation, so many have turned their backs on God and have not given Him what is fitting and appropriate. The children's charity, UNICEF's 'Jar of Grace Appeal' reminded us that malnutrition contributes to one in three of all deaths in children under the age of five. It is a scandalous situation that any child should die when we have simple and low cost solutions.

In the New Testament, Luke who wrote the book of Acts, once again reminds God's people that the source of all things is the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them.

"Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy." (Acts 14:17)

*Honour the LORD with your wealth, with the first-fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.*

*(Proverbs 3:9,10)*

The purpose of tithing (giving 10% of our wealth) is to teach us to give to God our very best; to always put God first in our lives. God doesn't need our money. He wants what it represents: our gratitude, our priorities and our faith. It also represents our ability to take our place in the world and put an end

to famine, to malnutrition and to injustice wherever it is found.

Note that these verses in Proverbs do not say "Honour the Lord by giving him the leftovers of all your income"

*Continued over...*



*Continued*

It says, "Honour the Lord with your possessions and with the first produce of your entire harvest ...." In other words you give to God first, before anyone or anything else, right off the cream of your income. And as a consequence, here is God's promise that follows our faithfulness in action: "...then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

You and I are called to give back to God as an act of gratitude, but also as a demonstration of our priorities in life. And it is a demonstration of our faith and trust in his promise.

In Malachi 3:10, God says, "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse ...." That refers to the place where you worship. Then God says, "Put me to the test!" In a sense, he is saying, "Test me and see how I will then bless you for your obedience."

God promises to always provide for our needs.

If you aren't faithfully giving back to God, perhaps now is a good time to reflect on God's Word and your commitment to the journey of faith. See it as a step of faith, a concrete way of demonstrating your belief in God's promises.

And always remember, God's blessings flow only after we first take that first step of faith.



Your Minister



# The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry

A work of art that celebrates our Scottish heritage

Now I don't know about you, but I didn't even know what the word Diaspora meant until a couple of months ago when I heard about this amazing work of communal art. It turned out that it means 'the dispersion of a people from their original homeland' and what a great story the Scots have to tell on this subject over the centuries.

The Scottish Diaspora is a tapestry that celebrates this dispersion of Scots across the globe.

I actually heard about this amazing work of art one Sunday morning at St Andrew's church when it was reported that it was being displayed in Westminster during April this year.

Now, it's not always easy for everyone to get down to London, so I thought I'd share a few images with you via the newsletter.

St Andrew's church even has its own panel thanks to the talents of Eileen Smith, Vida Brown, Margaret Martin and Margaret Senior!



**St Andrew's Church (GBE 04)**

The St Andrew's tapestry panel celebrates the Scottish community's establishment of a church of their own in Corby.

*Continued over...*

It's suggested that more than 30 million people [six times the population in Scotland] across the world proudly claim and celebrate their Scottish descent! So a very a rich subject for a work of art that would end up being 90 metres in length, composed of 305 panels stitched by over 1,000 people in 34 counties. Five panels were completed by Corby people and these now form a piece of art/history that tells the story of Corby in the context of its lives, work and faith.

### **'It's Corby for me!' (GBE 01)**

Sheena Adams, Jean Redfern

In 1903, A & J Stewart and Menzies Ltd, a large Glasgow-based iron and steel works, combined with the English company Lloyd & Lloyd Ltd. In 1933 Stewarts & Lloyds began clearing land at Corby in Northamptonshire for the creation of Britain's largest combined steel-works: the first blast furnace was lit on 8th May 1934



### **The Grampian Society (GBE 06)**

Diana Sharvill, Jacqueline Woollard, Rita Grant

For over forty years The Grampian Club has flourished in Corby. The Corby Scots often still demonstrate their roots through their social activities, from the Burns society to the pipe band and highland dancers. News of a less common Scottish-themed activity – a world record attempt for eating the most bowls of porridge – was heard by the Apollo 11 mission, resulting in a crater on Mars being named after the town.



The tapestry project was conceived in Prestonpans, and communities all over the world were identified to contribute - Corby being one of these. Stories and events for commemoration were submitted. Artist Andrew Crummy then set about the designs which were then sent back to the communities for the tapestry to be embroidered. Two whole years later, the panels were completed and went on tour before returning to Scotland for the 'Year of Homecoming 2014' celebrations.

### **The Pluto Pipeline (GBE 03)**

Christine Gilson, Jane Parker, Judy Caine, Lella McLean

The Scottish steelworkers at Corby were amongst those called upon to commit their skills to the war effort in the 1940s. Operation PLUTO (Pipe Lines Under The Ocean) was a major industrial effort to provide fuel supplies to the Allied armies operating from Normandy after the D-Day operations of 1944



### **Corby New Town (GBE 05)**

Alyssa Robinson

In 1931, before the steelworks arrived, Corby's population numbered around 1,300. By 1950 that number had risen to 18,000 and Corby was selected to be designated as a New Town. Over the next few years much of the town was regenerated to a new plan designed to incorporate both green space and the car-friendly layout which modern living required.



Images courtesy of  
Prestonpans Arts Festival  
Photos: Gillian Hart.



# Items from your Acting Session Clerk

*John Wiseman*

## Welcome / Door Duty teams

You may have noticed in the past few months that the size of the Welcome teams at the Church door on a Sunday morning has thinned somewhat. The teams used to be made up from members of the Kirk Session and members of the Congregational Board (now dissolved as a result of our new Unitary Constitution) but, as a result of a number of members finding it necessary to step down, we are now seeking new people to come forward and help bolster the numbers in the teams. As we presently have five teams in operation, it would mean a commitment to be present at the door once every five weeks and to assist with the collection of the Offering during the service as well as helping out with counting the collection at the end of the service. If anyone would like to offer themselves to join one of the teams, would they please advise me and I will include them in the rota for the remainder of this year and into next year.



## Ministries & Mission Contribution

Annually, each Church in the Presbytery has to remit to Edinburgh an agreed sum to cover their contribution to the Ministries & Mission Fund. In 2017, the figure for St. Andrew's was originally set at £31,813. However, each Presbytery has the opportunity to grant a small percentage of relief against the total contribution and for 2017 the Presbytery of England decided to grant a sum of relief to each Congregation who could justify it for a specific project towards Mission. Having submitted an application back in September 2016, St. Andrew's was granted a significant sum of relief which was used towards the installation of the Audio-Visual system in the Sanctuary in May 2017.

## St. Ninian's Church

Just over three years ago, in May 2014, our sister Church of St. Ninian's held a series of events to celebrate their 50th Anniversary of being established. We have now been advised by their Session Clerk, Mr. Ben Bruce, that they are about to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the building of the Church. On Friday, 15th September at 7.30pm they are holding a Concert with Singers (Music Group, C.A.T.S. etc.), Highland Dancers, Piano recital, plus other acts. Tickets cost £5 including Tea, Coffee and a biscuit at the interval. On Saturday, 16th September there will be Fun Day at the Church with Games for all and Tea and Coffee. The celebration will conclude on Sunday, 17th September with an Anniversary Service followed by a Buffet Lunch. Members of St. Ninian's are very hopeful that they will be joined in their celebrations by many members of our own Congregation.

## 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

Our good friend from the Lutheran Church, Rev. Dr. Roy Long, has advised about a service to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The service has been organised by the Anglican-Lutheran Society, an international society which aims to improve knowledge and understanding between Anglicans and Lutherans worldwide and will take place at the Roman Catholic Cathedral of our Lady and St. Thomas, Kingsthorpe Road, Northampton (NN2 6AG) on Saturday, 4th November 2017 at 12 noon. The Preacher will be Rev. Jana Jeruma-Grinberga, former Bishop of the Lutheran Church in Great Britain and now Chaplain at the Anglican Church in Riga, Latvia. It will be an ecumenical service in the Lutheran tradition and will be a time to come together for worship, to make links between and within our traditions and to pray for an increase in mutual understanding. Refreshments will be served after the service.

All are cordially invited to attend the service and further details can be obtained from either:



Rev. Dr. Roy Long at  
[roy.long485@btinternet.com](mailto:roy.long485@btinternet.com),  
or from Mrs. Sally Barnes at  
[sally.barnes3@btopenworld.com](mailto:sally.barnes3@btopenworld.com).

## Presbytery

The most recent meeting of the Presbytery of England was held in St. Columba's Church, Pont Street, London on Tuesday 13th June and the main points arising from this meeting were :-



The Moderator, Mr. Michael Stevenson and the Presbytery Clerk, Rev. Alistair Cumming conducted a service of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper for members before the commencement of business.

The names of Rev. Graeme Glover (Jersey, St. Columba's), Mrs. Charlotte Bradford (London, St. Columba's) and Dr. Peter Mills (London, St. Columba's) were added to the Presbytery Roll.

Practicing Certificates were granted to Ministers – Anderson, Brown, Cairns, Dowswell, Fidler, Lunn, Lyall, Mather and Woods.

The Presbytery Clerk outlined the details of the Registration of Ministers Act (Act 11 2017) advising how each Minister and Chaplain would be categorised and advised that he would complete the Register as soon as possible. He reported that Practicing Certificates would cease to be issued from 1st January 2018.

Rev. Dr. David Coulter advised that the Liverpool, St. Andrew's Fund was now fully established and that

the distribution of funds should be agreed at each February meeting of the Presbytery.

It was agreed that TWD, the firm that carried out the last Presbytery Property Survey, be appointed to carry out the Survey in 2017.

Mr. Hamish Keane (Jersey, St. Columba's) had circulated a Receipts and Payments Account for the period to May 2017 together with a Finance Report and these were accepted by the meeting.

It was agreed a former member of Presbytery, Mr. George Thain (Jersey, St. Columba's) would attest Presbytery Accounts and that Mr. Alan Blair (Jersey, St. Columba's) and Mr. Colin Somerville (London, Crown Court) would attest Congregational Accounts.

It was reported Rev. Graeme Beebee had accepted a Call to Cameron linked with St. Leonards, St. Andrew's and this was supported by the Presbytery. It was agreed that Miss Elizabeth Fox (London, St. Columba's) be appointed as Interim Moderator for the Vacancy

at Guernsey, St. Andrew's-in-the-Grange and that the Presbytery Clerk take on the temporary role of Locum Minister for the charge.

It was reported that the Local Church Review for Corby, St. Andrew's would take place before the end of 2017.

Rev. G. Beebee reported that the involvement of Guernsey, St. Andrew's-in-the Grange with the Path to Renewal Project had been paused as the charge was just about to move into vacancy.

The Clerk advised that Mrs. Susan Pym had stood down as Data Protection Convener and it was agreed that Mrs. Elspeth Gordon (London Crown Court) be appointed to the role.

A written Safeguarding report from Mrs. Sheena Clark was tabled and Rev. James Mather (Presbytery Property Committee) gave a report that an Architect has been appointed for Corby, St. Ninian's and is working on a preliminary scheme for the alterations at the Church.

Rev. Andrew Anderson gave a report about his work as Chaplain to the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies and Rev. Mike Binks gave an update on the work of Churches Together in England.

Rev. Philip Majcher (Presbytery Training Convener) advised that a candidate had been unsuccessful in his attempt to progress further following the recent National Assessment Conference.

Brief reports and due diligence was given by a number of the Commissioners to the 2017 General Assembly.

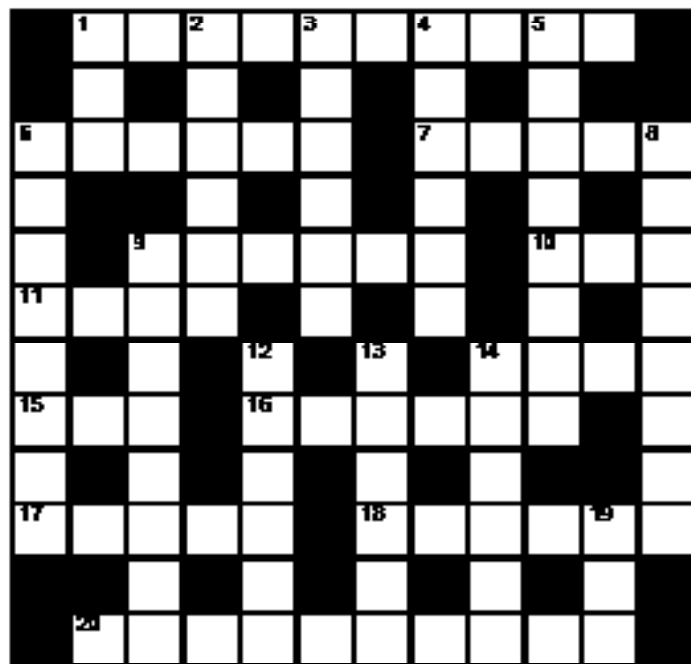
A letter from Guernsey, St. Andrew's in the Grange was tabled seeking permission not to hold a Church service on Sunday 27th August 2017 in order that the Congregation are able to hold their annual "Away Day" on the island of Herm and this was accepted by Presbytery.

It was agreed that Presbytery would cover 50% of the cost of sending 3 delegates to the 2017 National Youth Assembly.

Rev. Norman Nicoll passed on the thanks to Presbytery of all at Corby St. Andrew's for the relief they had received on their Ministries and Mission contribution for 2017 which allowed them to proceed with the installation of the new AV system in the Sanctuary in May.

*A copy of the full Minutes is on the Church Hall noticeboard or available from John Wiseman.*

## Coffee Time Bible Crossword



by Philologus

BiblePuzzles.org.uk

### Down

- 1 Take Flight (3)
- 2 One of twelve (6)
- 3 All living things (6)
- 4 Response (6)
- 5 Guardians of Eden (8)
- 6 The father of Levi (8)
- 8 Grow (8)
- 9 Forbearance (8)
- 12 Second longest Book (6)
- 13 Statue metal (6)
- 14 Sister of Lazarus and Mary (6)
- 19 Wood splitter (3)

### Across

- 1 Remorse (10)
- 6 Consecrate (6)
- 7 Break a commandment (5)
- 9 Make a hole (6)
- 10 Pot (3)
- 11 What Ai became (4)
- 14 This initially watered the earth (4)
- 15 Samuel's mentor (30)
- 16 Small river (6)
- 17 Mount that Moses climbed (5)
- 18 Prophet in David's time (6)
- 20 Biblical garden (10)

Make yourself a coffee and try your hand at this bible-themed crossword.

The answers will be on the Hall noticeboard at the end of the month (and published in the next edition of Keystone).

## Finance Team

There isn't a lot to report from the Finance Team, but the figures to the end of June are as follows:

Income: £26,432.72

Expenditure: £32,999.65

It is quite obvious that the above figures do not show a healthy picture.

Within the income there were donations from the Scottish Country Dance Club and St Andrew's Society. The hall rent is also a useful source of income and that continues satisfactorily.

The major spending has been partly the new interactive screens in the Church and ongoing running costs. So far there have been no other expenses for repairs etc.

I must also remind members of St Andrew's that our Treasurer, Margaret Callaghan, retires at the end of August. Although it has been intimated many times in the Keystone and at the Congregational meetings, we have not been able to find a new treasure. The situation means that unless we have a treasurer in place, St Andrew's cannot function.

Again, I urge anyone who is interested in taking up the post of treasurer to speak to Margaret or the minister for more information.

*Lella McLean Convener*

## Fund Raising Team

A Quiz and Fish Supper will be held on Friday 29th Sept at 7.00 p.m. Tickets will be priced at £7. We are sorry to have to increase the ticket price, but the fish supper prices have gone up and take quite a large part of our profit. This event has been very popular in the past, so get your tickets early!

It has also been suggested that we could sell books during the coffee after the morning service also any garden produce should anyone have a glut of tomatoes, apples etc. We would be grateful for any unwanted books once you have read them or produce from gardens, the proceeds going to church funds. Thanks.

*Yvonne Lambert*





## Property Team

Many thanks to the members of the Property Team for keeping the grounds looking so good despite the changeable weather we had through the end of May, June & beginning of July. Extra thanks must go to Diane and John McPhail for the excellent job they have done in strip-ping back and re-varnishing the font insert.

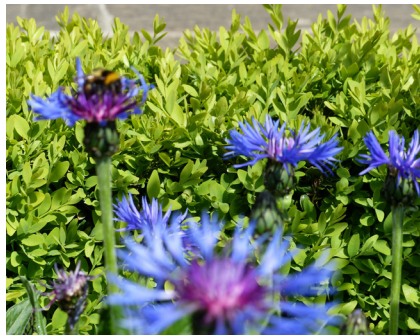
Cutting back of the old mortar in the front wall has started so it can be re-pointed later. Weed killing has started on the border to the west of the church so it can be stone dressed as at the front.

Following a repair on the radio mike it was suggested a spare might not be a bad idea and was explored, we were offered a nearly new set at a bargain price which was bought.

Our grass strimmer has defied all attempts to get it to work so a replacement was bought, this has attachments for hedge trimming etc so this will remove the need for group members to bring their own power tools down on a Tuesday.

Finally at the time of writing we are in the process of sourcing a replacement fridge freezer for the Manse.

John Malcolmson Fabric Convener





# Picnic in the Park

The weather was 'Average' but the stage was set.

Corby and District Churches Together's Picnic in the Park on 16th July started off with a rousing song from the Worship Band of Hope Church. Over the afternoon the band played more or less continuously lifting hearts with words of praise and encouragement.



The stage in Coronation Park is huge and could well have accommodated a host of folk but the band occupied the space wonderfully, the natural amphitheatre that surrounds the stage slowly started to fill with individuals and families bringing chairs and their picnic baskets. It was great to see so many denominations had turned out to support the event, there were lively conversations going on all round the park as friends greeted each other and folk reconnected.

It was nice to see some of the residents from around the area come and sit and enjoy the music just because they had heard something start up in the park.

This was not a huge event, just a gathering of Christians, sometimes chatting, sometimes involved in the worship of the songs, sometimes just enjoying God's gifts of food, environment and fellowship. Most of those who came asked that it be repeated next year and your Churches Together group will certainly look at that possibility.

As always, rejoicing in our fellowship with Jesus and with his family....

Rev'd Mike Binks

Secretary Churches Together in Corby and District

## A Slice of Humour...

"The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible"

*George Burns*



*It's always lovely to see new faces, young or old, to St Andrew's. John's Grand Daughter Esmay was a recent visitor who delighted everyone!*

## Scottish Country Dance Club

As I write this, it is early July and I'm enjoying the current spell of warmth, although it does leave us hot and sticky after an evening of dancing!

Our club will break for the summer next week with a 'bring and share' supper as well as our usual dancing. With the holiday season already upon us most people are ready for a few weeks' rest.

Our annual dance in May was, once again, a great success with a good number of visitors making it an enjoyable and social occasion. As we are a small group, we rely very much on the wider dancing community to support our annual dance and they never disappoint!

The months from March to June are always a busy time with several clubs holding their annual dances during that period. Many of these have 'live' music rather than recorded music and though it costs more, it is worth it for the added pleasure it gives.

Our new term will begin on September 6th when we hope all the familiar faces will be back with us.

I would like to record our thanks to Marion, who provides the CDs for our Wednesday evenings. We are also indebted to Hamish who opens the hall, dances all evening and locks up after we've gone. We are very appreciative of the facilities of the hall – in particular the excellent floor, so good for dancing.

Eileen Smith  
Secretary

### A pause for thought

Paul tells us that faith can be harnessed. Faith comes by choice not chance and is a response, not to fate, but to God's offer of loving care. But once adopted, says the apostle, you need to "work out your salvation". In other words, it's up to the believer to build on the possibilities faith provides.

If you want to develop your faith, you would do well to heed this timeless truth.

## NOTICES

### MARRIAGES

#### May

Joanne & Brian Doctor  
*(Renewal of Vows)*

#### June

Karen Russell & Alexander Booth

#### July

Rachael Gibson and Aaron Jones

### DEATHS

#### May

Graham McIlwain  
*Holland*

#### June

Catherine Russell  
*173 Rockingham Road, Corby*

#### Mary Latta

*Wollongong House, Corby*

#### Laurence Wood

*Great Longstone, Derbyshire*

#### July

Adria Cubberley  
*35 Bede Close, Corby*

### Credits:

Images: Annie Spratt (cover)  
and Hey! Andrew (harvest)  
on 'Unsplash'



## Calling Guild Members - *Past and Present!*

You are warmly invited to share an **afternoon tea** on Tuesday September 5th at 2.30pm in the Church Hall.

Please pop it in your diary and let me know if you can make it.

*Jean Smith*

Talking of tea, why not join us in the Church Hall after the Sunday service each week for tea, biscuits, a catch up on the week's news or a chat about the sermon!



**St Andrew's Church of Scotland**  
Occupation Road Corby NN17 1EB

Sunday Services held weekly at 10.30 a.m.

Communion Services held on the 1st Sunday  
of March June, September and December

Registered Charity No. SCO43458



### Useful Telephone Numbers:

<b>Minister and Moderator</b>	Rev Norman Nicoll	07930-988863
<b>Kirk Session Acting Clerk</b>	Mr. John Wiseman	01536-395382
<b>Treasurer</b>	Vacant	
<b>Team Leaders</b>		
Finance	Mrs L McLean	07982249995
Property	Mr J Malcolmson	01536-261037
Stewardship	Mrs M Callaghan	01858-464370
Pastoral Affairs	Mrs M Myles	01536-207554
Outreach	Mrs E Milligan	01536-205259
Educational	Mrs E Milligan	01536-205259
Publicity	Mr J.C.Pawson	01536-770953
Gift Aid Convener	Mr J.C.Pawson	01536-770953
Free Will Offering Convener	Mr. J. Wiseman	01536-395382
Hall Convener	Mr. J.C.Pawson	01536-770953
Scottish Country Dancing	Eileen Smith	01536-515460
Flower Convener	Mrs E Green	01536-771035

### PAPER OR DIGITAL?

We see some great things on the web - particularly on the Church of Scotland's own website, but not everyone has access to a computer, so we've printed some of the most interesting ones and popped them up on the Hall noticeboard. Take a look next time you're in.

And to keep things in balance, the next edition of Keystone will be available in both paper and digital forms, so if you like your news electronically, you can help the environment and save the Church a bit of money on printing at the same time!