

DORNOCH PARISH MAGAZINE

APRIL 2019

Scottish Charity No. SC000315



Dornoch Sunrise Easter morning 2018
Will you be there this year?

- Minister The Rt Rev. Susan Brown B.D Dip.Min Chaplain in Ordinary,
**If anyone needs the services of a minister during the
absence of the Rt Rev Susan Brown**
Please contact Revd Mary Stobo
e-mail:- mstobo@churchofscotland.org.uk
Phone 01863 766868 Mobile 07710504403
- Session Clerk Mrs Kisha Black,
Park House, Fleuchary, Dornoch, IV25 3NH
- Editor Jonathan Creed
16 Tower Street, Golspie, Sutherland, KW10 6SB
e-mail:dpn@creedservices.co.uk

LENT 2019

7pm Lent Studies in the West Church Hall
Each Thursday till 11th April.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Monday to Wednesday

6.30pm Each night in the Cathedral.

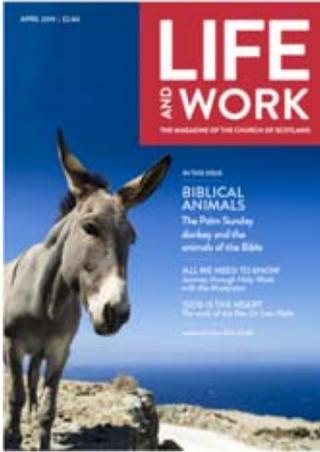
Thursday 6.30pm

Celebration of the Last Supper
when all are invited to share around the table.

Good Friday Service 7.30pm

EASTER SUNDAY

5.45am Dawn Beach Service.
11.00am Easter Morning Service.
6.30pm Evening Emmaus Service.



LIFE AND WORK

APRIL 2019 EDITION

Biblical Animals

As the humble donkey takes centre stage on Palm Sunday, Jackie Macadam focuses on the stories of the animals in the Bible.

'All We Need to Know'

Journey through Holy Week with the Moderator of the General Assembly

God is the Heart

Interview with vicar and author the Rev Dr Sam Wells

150 Years of Care

Continuing to celebrate the Church of Scotland's care legacy, Thomas Baldwin hears about the work of The Bungalow, an award-winning home for adults with multiple and profound disabilities

Youth Column

Connor Macfadyen describes his faith journey

Walking Together With the Guild

A new project bridging the generations

Power and Powerlessness

Continuing his series on themes of slavery in the Bible, the Rev Richard Baxter emphasises the importance of grace

Making the Most of Lent

The Very Rev Dr John Chalmers reminds us of the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness

Plus news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords

Online visit us at www.lifeandwork.org for regular news and exclusive features, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @cofslifeandwork
Subscribe online from £12, or download a digital copy for £1.99;
or speak to your church's Life and Work coordinator.

ROTAS For DOORS & EVACUATION DUTY APRIL 2019

Door Duty: E.Calder J.Calder, S.Boyce, F.Wilkinson, R.Cattanach
Evacuation Duty: M.Macrae, L Dickenson, R.Cattanach

READERS FOR APRIL

7th Fergus Robertson
14th Morag Sutherland
21st Ian Shearer
28th Tony Rundle

Duty Rota for both Oversteps and Meadows 21st April

Leader: Anne Barclay Pianist Eleanor Gray

NEXT DEACONS COURT (WCH)

Tuesday 28th May at 7.00pm

Cathedral Register Funerals

Mr Alasdair Murray Reefton St Gilbert Street Dornoch
Mrs Margaret Knight 27 Elizabeth Crescent, Dornoch
Mr David'Dave' Franklin 9 Muldearg Place, Fearn.

FUTURE DEADLINES FOR ISSUES OF UPCOMING PARISH MAGAZINES

May Issue: April 18th (Easter is 21st)
June Issue: May 19th
July Issue: June 23rd
August Issue: July 21st
September Issue: August 18th

THE CATHEDRAL 250 YEARS AGO.

Some time ago, when we were looking in our papers for something else entirely, we came across some curious letters from an English county record office about work done on the Cathedral in the eighteen and early nineteenth century...

The fabric is well known to have suffered much over the years. Cromwell is the one person who did not knock the Cathedral about a bit, but a lot of other people did - in 1567, 1570, & 1655, to name only a few occasions. There was a partial rebuilding at the beginning of the seventeenth century and another at the end. A new roof was put on at the time of the 1715 rebellion was destroyed during the '45.

In 1770, another new roof was put on. The estimate came to £205 for the wood, £70 for slating, £7.10 for the glazing and 2 guineas for a new Venetian window in the East gable (what's a Venetian window?). A tall steeple would come to £86. but if the heritors agreed to a lower one, the price would be halved. As we can all now see, they went for the budget option.

Untill 1777, there was no flooring. The pews were on the earth, and they had to be moveable to permit burials. There were three galleries, called the Guildry, the Sutherland loft, and the Gordon loft, elaborately carved by a baile of the town. Access to them was by way of doors knocked through the outer walls, and stone stairs from the aisles which were on either side of the nave (until 1837 when they were cleared away as part of the rebuilding of the nave). The flooring laid in 1777 was made of Baltic timber from the cargo of a ship wrecked on the sands.

If you look closely as you leave by the west door and pass the recumbent statue of Sir Gillbert de Moravia, you will see that the head was once detached from the body and then cemented back on. This happened during the Victorian work to make the crypt at the east end, where the statue was then half-buried. The masons, not knowing there was any figure there, broke it (as well as the lid of the coffin).

Bill and Margaret McKay
March 2019.

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

This informal prayer group meets on a Sunday morning before the church service. We meet a little before 10am for coffee and chat upstairs in the West Church Hall, and then start a session of open prayer until 10.40am. We pray for each other's concerns, and those of our church, wider community, and the World.

If you would like to join us any time, you will be made very welcome. If you would like to pray with us but aren't able to join us in person, we invite you to join your prayers with ours just where you are, and know that you are also being prayed for.

TUESDAY TOTS PLAYGROUP

A playgroup for pre-school children
Tuesday mornings from 10-00 - 11.30

NATTER & NOSH.

APRIL 15th and 29th

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Dates for Fair Trade Coffee Mornings 10.30 - 12.00

FRIDAY 26th APRIL

&

FRIDAY 24th MAY

WEST CHURCH HALL- LOST PROPERTY

Ladies grey leather gloves with buttons.

Boys 6 year old 'Heritage Division' grey hooded jacket.

Bright blue 'george' rainjacket 7 - 8 years

Bright pink 'Mountain Warehouse' padded jacket 9 - 10 years

Girls black hooded jacket with pink heart lining 9 - 10 years.



JOSEPH NOW AND THEN

Saturday 6th April
West Church Hall
2.00pm and 7.30pm

The Dornoch Cathedral Youth Theatre Group have been meeting on Mondays for the past two months and soon will be putting on their performance of:-
“Joseph Now and Then”.

The Script is self-penned and includes several well-known songs. The young performers (from P6 to S1) have been working hard and having lots of fun.

They would really love to see you there!

SATURDAY 6th APRIL
West Church Hall
2.00pm and 7.30pm

Tickets are available from Margaret Robertson tel:-01862 811615
e-mail mags_mccarthy@yahoo.co.uk

There is no charge for the tickets, but there will be an opportunity to give a donation, with all proceeds going to both the Cathedral and “Common Ground”

The Show is expected to last about an hour and there will be refreshments.

Colours of India.

The AGM of Dornoch Cathedral Guild was held on Tuesday 26th March at 2.30 pm in the West Church Hall.

After the AGM we were taken on a photographic visit to India by Anne and John Chambers.

Although this followed closely after Mary Stobo's account of travelling to India with Susan, it was in different regions and with a different focus.

Anne and John had been so amazed by the 'Colours of India' their lasting memories are of clothes, to rival Joseph's dream coat and flowers which anyone would be thrilled to have in their garden. Buildings are decorated to catch one's eyes and even the bananas come in a variety of colours.

India is definitely a fascinating country with many diverse regions and cultures. It was altogether a wonderful experience.





Silently gleams the dawn,
Hastily flees the night
Quav'ringly falls the dew
Welcome, Oh-the morning light
Christ is risen;
He's alive!

Evelyn Miranda- Feliciano



A story behind the painting of Da Vinci's Last Supper is extremely interesting and instructive as two incidents connected with this painting afford a most convincing lesson on the effects of thought in the life of a boy or girl or of a man or woman...

The Last Supper was painted by Leonardo Da Vinci, a noted Italian artist. The time engaged for its completion was 7 years. The figures representing the twelve apostles and Christ himself were painted from living persons.

The live model for the painting of the figure of Jesus was chosen first. When it was decided that Da Vinci would paint this great picture, hundreds and hundreds of young men were carefully viewed in an endeavour to find a face and personality completely devoid of dissipation caused by sin. Finally, after weeks of labourious searching, a young man of nineteen years of age, was selected as the model for the portrayal of Christ. For six months Da Vinci worked on the production of this leading character of the famous painting.

During the next six years he continued his labours on his sublime work of art. One by one, fitting persons were chosen to represent each of the eleven apostles, space being left for the painting of the figure representing Judas Iscariot as the final task of this masterpiece. This was the apostle, you remember, who betrayed his Lord for 30 pieces of silver.

For weeks Da.Vinci, searched for a man with a hard callous face, with a countenance marked by scars of avarice and deceit, who would betray his best friend. After many discouraging experiences in searching for the type of person required to represent Judas, word came to Da Vinci that a man whose appearance fully met the requirements had been found. He was in a dungeon in Rome, sentenced to die for a life of crime and murder.

Da Vinci made the trip to Rome at once, and this man was brought out from his imprisonment in the dundgeon and led out into the light of the sun. There Da Vinci saw before him a dark, swarthy man, his long shaggy and unkempt hair sprawled over his face. A face which portrayed a character of viciousness and complete ruin. At last the painter had found the person he wanted to represent the character of Juduas in his painting.

By special permission from the King, this prisoner was carried to Milan where to fresco was being painted.

For six months the prisoner sat before Da Vinci at appointed hours each day, as the gifted artist diligently continued his task of transmitting to his painting this base character in the picture representing the traitor and betrayer of the Saviour.

As he finished his last stroke, he turned to the guards and said, 'I have finished, you may take the prisoner away.' The prisoner suddenly broke loose from their control and rushing up to Da Vinci, crying as he did so. 'Oh, Da Vinci, look at me! Do you not know who I am?'

Da Vinci, with the trained eyes of a great character student, carefully scrutinised the man upon whose face he had constantly gazed for six months and replied; 'No, I have nver seen you in my life until you were brought before me out of the dungeon in Rome.'

Then lifting his eyes up toward heaven, the prisoner said, 'O God,have I fallen so low?'

Then turning his face to the painter, he said 'Leonardo Da Vinci, look at me again, for I am the same man you painted just seven years ago as the figure of Christ!'

This is the true story of the painting of the Last Supper that teaches so strongly the lesson of the effects of right and wrong thinking of an individual.

Here was a young man, whose character was so pure and unspoiled by the sins of the world that he represented a countenance and innocence and beauty fit to be used for the painting of the representation of Chirst.

But during the seven years following a life of sin and crime, he was changed into a perfect picture of the most notorious character ever known in the history of the world.

***“Hello, WELCOME to Dornoch Cathedral*”**

Yes, it's nearing that time again - we know it doesn't seem possible, but

The Cathedral Welcome Table

..... will be opening up again in the Spring and, as always, we really NEED the HELP of more VOLUNTEERS. For those of you who are already long serving and much appreciated members of our welcome team, we very much hope you will be able to help us again this year. If you have not already confirmed this one way or another, please would you do so? However, if this is all NEW to you, here are the details:

- The Cathedral Welcome Table operates from mid-May to mid-September and is open from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.
- Volunteers work in pairs (old friends, husbands and wives, and of course new friends together) covering a two hour shift.
- We organise a Rota which tries to produce one two-hour shift once a fortnight per pair, so the commitment is not too onerous.
- If any of you feel able to commit to a weekly shift - that would be wonderful!
- The volunteers run the sales table and also welcome our visitors into the Cathedral.
- This year we are hoping to offer more new items for sale, so for our faithful members - there will be different things to enthuse over!
- Last year we raised nearly £6,000 towards Cathedral funds. A tremendous and much appreciated effort by all our volunteers.

Please, please consider helping us with this useful and enjoyable way of raising money for our lovely Cathedral and also benefit socially from the fun and interest to be gained by working in a team and meeting visitors from all over the world. **We really do need you.**

Sue Boyce (810415); Anne Chambers (811520); Lisa Dickenson (810973)

Thank you



The Gardener: Easter. by George Mackay Brown

Now it's Spring, there's not much to do.
Daffodils open, then tulips
(The roses very doubtful this year.)
The blackbirds open their throats.
The masons have finished the tomb, and gone away.

Soldiers go past, a bronze column.
Trouble in the city.
Always trouble, in the street and hill, these days.
The quietest place is my garden.

I worry about the rosebush.
Has the worm gotten in?
The worm eats the coat of white roses, often.
To a rigging of rags, a scarecrow.
Ten summers ago, it all but died.

Nightingales sang all last night.
I hardly slept.
Joseph came with my wages, a silver piece, in the morning.
Then a rout of children
Pleading at noon, for olive leaves

Crowds going past, surging, lingering, herded by soldiers.
Among them one,
A young man carrying his tree of death.
(I dare not look at that.
I nip the tainted buds from the rosebush.)

Joseph at my door at sunset. *Hurry, man!*
Bring jars of oil. Bring
A web of fine linen.
It is not my business
Who is to be the guest in the hollow rock

A woman crying beside the fountain.
The last stars.
Two of those fishermen, I think,
Hesitant at the gate, watchful.
I should send those folk about their business.
A dove furls in my dead tree
At gray of dawn.
And now the tree is clusters of light and incense!
Joseph of Arimathea's Garden.

The happenings, which we should be able to recognise.

“Something prevented them from recognising him”, so says Luke in his Gospel as he describes the ‘happenings’ to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus.

How many of us are prevented from recognising Jesus as we walk through life. We are prevented by many things. We revel in the luxuries of life, strive and work hard for those extra things which make our physical being so much easier, but do they help our mental state! Certainly they leave us more time for recreation, but our lives then tend to become imbalanced, and we are left breathless, tired and incomplete.

I do not decry man’s bid to make living easier, man will always strive to survive, but his needs must be channelled into the right grooves and in the right proportions. Make life easier by all means, have more time to help those who are unable to help themselves, give that time to help the elderly, the infirm, the broken in heart. Spend more time as a family unit, inspire them with new ideas, new outlets and the mysteries of life start to reveal themselves.

Perhaps too, we are obsessed with someone or something, and our whole being is geared to that obsession, cutting out all realities. That obsession may be a hobby, a project, a D.I.Y., fanaticism, all things creditable in their true perspective but that perspective must not be too narrow a vision, cutting out the Light of the World.

As we walk that road to Emmaus we can perceive more clearly the things around us, hear the birds in joyous song, appreciate all the beauty of nature all around us - catch a glimpse of the sun striking water and displaying a star burst, perhaps a momentary thing, before it is lost to sight as cloud disperses the magic.

May our eyes then be opened to recognise the Christ on our journey through life; to recognise Him in the Eucharist as he was recognised at Emmaus “When he was at table and he took the bread and said a blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other ‘Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road’”

As we set our sights on holidays just now, or other seasonal activities, perhaps we could raise our eyes, look around and take in the ‘happenings’ and there the serenity we so often miss.

(Written by the late Miss Betty Payne.)

PROMISES AUCTION

4th MAY 2019

WCH

On Saturday the 4th May, the Cathedral Women's Group are holding a Promises Auction in the West Church Hall, to raise money for Cathedral funds. In order to involve the whole congregation, we would like to issue a Lent Challenge to all members to think of a personal contribution they could make and pledge to ensure the success of the day.

These pledges could range from: driving someone to an appointment; a bag of kindling; accompanied visits; maintenance; shopping; golf lesson; a special occasion cake; a fly casting lesson; baking lesson; gardening; ironing; meal preparation; original greeting cards; flower arrangements (never forgetting the bags of manure!). The possibilities are endless. We would be very grateful for any of the above or any other 'Promise Lots' to include in our auction, but would also like to know of any requests/wishes that we can try to match up with a promise. Please speak to any member of the Women's Group for further information.

DORNOCH SWI

Members of the Insitute held a most enjoyable evening with Pat Smith from Brora as their speaker. Pat who hails originally from the USA gave us an insight into her American roots and how as a young mum she had initially made dolls for her children and for those of friends and family, until eventually she had requests for her dolls coming from all over America.

When Pat and her husband came to live in Brora a few years ago, Pat continued her passion for doll making and set up her own business 'Little Lads and Lassies' producing the most endearing soft bodied dolls. Every detail from their beautiful smiling faces to their gorgeous removable outfits could not fail to make any of her dolls become a very much loved companion to a small child. Many of her creations are made to specific requests for skin tone, hair colour, outfit choice etc, designed especially for a particular child - though judging by the look on the faces of the ladies present, you may not have needed a child for an excuse to own one of these!

Pat and some fellow crafters are about to embark on another adventure when they open their new shop in Brora, and in thanking Pat for such an interesting evening, Catriona Wood wished them every success with their new venture.

Pat then judged the Flower of the Month competition as follows: Gold-Brenda McNeil & Maureen Mackay; Silver - Mora Douglas, Stella Pettit and Catriona Wood.

Margaret MacRae and Fergus Robertson will join us for our next meeting: April 16th, to tell us about their trip



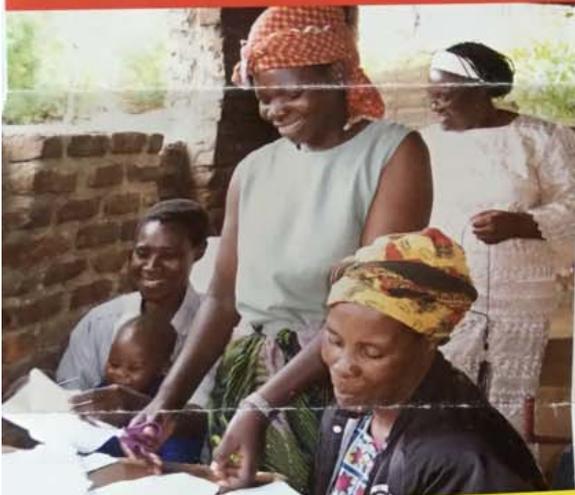
The Church of Scotland



STAMP
APPEAL

50
YEARS
1969-2019

Join with us in celebrating the 50th anniversary of both the World Mission Council Stamp Appeal and Chigodi Women Centre (Blantyre, Malawi).



By collecting stamps we will be supporting the Chigodi Women Centre to deliver a broad range of skills training to address the challenges faced by women in Malawi. The Centre aims to improve the women's socio-economic status and increase their future chances of employment.

CAN YOU COLLECT 50 STAMPS?

- Join with us in celebrating 50 years and take part in the 50 stamp challenge.
- Download and build our fun post van collection box from the website

For more information visit: www.churchofscotland.org.uk/stamps

Return stamps by Feb 2020 to: World Mission Stamp Project, PO Box 9191, Wishaw, Lanarkshire, ML2 0YB

Scottish Charity Number: SC011353

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Dornoch Cathedral Guild

Following our regular worship on **Tuesday 12th February 2019** we welcomed **Colin Carmichael**, regional worker for North Highlands, Western Isles & Orkney with **Scripture Union (SU)**



The symbol is an oil lamp

The **SU** motto is taken from Psalm 119 v105:
“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

Josiah Spears began **SU** in 1867 in Islington.
The message grew after he wrote “God is Love” in the sand of
a beach-side town in Llandudno, Wales.

The vision at **SU Scotland** is to see that children and young people
of Scotland can explore the Bible and learn the significance of Jesus.

SU is now active in schools, organises holidays and gap years. **SU** has active links with
Ukraine which Colin visited recently.

There are various ways we can help: sign up to their newsletter, receive prayer news,
volunteer, pray, donate and attend a prayer meeting in Lairg.
For further information visit their website: www.suscotland.org.uk

On **Tuesday 26th February 2019** we warmly welcomed **Rev. Mary Stobo**, who said
she was blessed to have had the opportunity to accompany **the Moderator, Rev. Susan Brown**
on some of her home and worldwide trips. Mary gave us a splendid talk of their recent trip
to **India and Pakistan** using some wonderful photos and videos to bring the trip alive to us all.

In **Nagpur** they visited All Saints Cathedral, a Peace Centre, a village wedding and the
Mobile Training Project which provides tutoring in tailoring and hairdressing.
Other places of interest were the Inauguration of **Sialkot Dispensary** where Susan was
honoured to be asked to cut the ribbon, **Kewra Salt Mines** and much, much more.

People dressed elegantly in vibrant colours especially in orange as a symbol of saffron
which represents holiness and respect. Food is often served on banana leaves.

Other memorable sights ranged from people playing cricket, mosques,
bountiful market stalls and varying modes of transport including motorbikes, donkey carts
and tractors piled high with sugar cane. They have a great love of
using their horn and there was one sign that said “Horn Please”.

Susan officiated at a baptism which was blessed by a Bishop
who arrived on a motorcycle. They were welcomed to many events
with music and dance.

Our heartfelt thanks to Mary.

