



## Kirkliston Parish Church Office Bearers

- MINISTER**                   REV G KEATING M.THEOL, MTH  
THE MANSE, MAIN STREET  
KIRKLISTON  
TEL: 333 3298  
Email: kirkglen@aol.com
- SESSION CLERK**           DAVID BUCHANAN  
21 ALLAN PARK  
TEL: 333 3393
- CLERK TO BOARD**       JANET WEMYSS  
68 ALLAN PARK  
TEL: 333 4228
- TREASURER**               ROBERT BRECHIN  
5 THE SQUARE  
TEL: 333 3252
- ROLL KEEPER**            JOE HENDERSON  
41 MAITLAND ROAD  
TEL: 333 3309
- GIFT AID CONVENOR**    BRIAN HEPBURN  
64 NEWMAINS ROAD  
TEL: 333 1656
- ORGANIST**                DAVID DENHOLM  
22 MANSE ROAD  
TEL: 333 1834



# Kirkliston Parish Church

We invite Visitors, Neighbours and Friends to share in Sunday Worship

Volume 3, Issue 1

Spring 2007.

## Newsletter

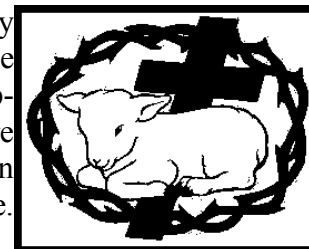


FROM THE MINISTER

Did you hear about the farmer whose land flooded during a huge storm? As the waters rose around him, he prayed to God to save him. Just about that time a man on a raft floated by and offered him a hand, but he stayed put and prayed even harder. As the waters kept rising, he climbed up to the rooftop where he saw the police officer waving to him from a motor boat. But again he refused to leave, confident that God would save him. Finally, an Army helicopter lowered a rope ladder down to him, but he refused to grasp it.

So he drowned and found himself in heaven where he began to complain to God. "I prayed so hard, why didn't you save me?" Whereupon God replied, "I sent you a raft, a motor boat and a helicopter- what else did you want Me to do?"

Friends, you will **never** find yourself in any situation where He won't be with you. The problem is never His Presence; it's our perception. We are fast approaching Easter where Jesus was crucified for us. God gave His Son to die for us with the promise of eternal life. That means now and in the hereafter.



After the Crucifixion, two discouraged disciples were walking home to Emmaus, their hopes lay buried in a tomb. As they walked along a 'stranger' began walking beside them, warming their hearts with His presence and comforting them in their loss. At the journey's end, they shared a meal together and suddenly the 'stranger' revealed Himself to them, then disappeared. **It was Jesus!** He had been with them all the time! And He is with you –and me- too! His presence is not always ac-

(Continued on page 2)

**Inside this issue:**

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Minister's Letter       | 1  |
| Prayer Breakfast        | 2  |
| Dates For Your Diary    | 3  |
| Boys Brigade Report     | 4  |
| Roll Keeper's Report    | 5  |
| Evening Praise          | 6  |
| Dorcas Lunch Club       | 6  |
| Church Register         | 7  |
| Church Without Walls    | 8  |
| Child Protection        | 8  |
| BABE & Youth Fellowship | 9  |
| Miscellany              | 10 |
| Poem—"Power of love"    | 11 |
| Transforming Scotland   | 11 |
| Creche Update           | 12 |
| Traidcraft              | 12 |
| 40 Day Prayer Guide     | 13 |
| Queensferry Care        | 13 |
| Transport Rota          | 14 |
| The Guild Report        | 14 |
| Treasurer's Report      | 16 |
| Sunday School News      | 17 |
| Flower Calendar         | 18 |
| Social Committee        | 19 |
| Guild of St. Luke       | 19 |
| Office Bearers List     | 20 |

*(Continued from page 1)*

accompanied by clouds of smoke or loud drum rolls, but if you look for Him today- you will find Him. That's a promise!

Come and praise God at Easter for the precious gift of Jesus in our lives.

A happy and blessed Easter to you all.

**Prayer Breakfast**

Our prayer breakfasts continue on a regular basis in the church centre at 9.30am and are announced on the back of the Sunday order of service.

There is also an opportunity each week to meet for quiet prayer in the Media room at 10.30am before the Sunday service. All will be made most welcome.


***"You will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you."***  
Jer. 29, verse 12

**Social Committee.**

Last year we held a Christmas Carol Concert in the church on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Both members and first time visitors, to the church, enjoyed a very well attended concert. The Ferry Singers led us in our carols ably assisted by the children of Kirkliston Primary School. The Rotary Club will host the Carol Concert this year in Kirkliston Parish Church.

The Annual Congregational Dance will take place in the Bowling Club on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March. Tickets are on sale at £8.00 each including buffet. Tickets can be obtained from any Social Committee member. Make sure you get your ticket quickly as there are only a limited number available.

Rob Keating  
Social Committee Convenor



**RADIO MAST**

Proposals have been received by the Congregational Board from a company who are interested in erecting a radio mast for mobile communications within the Church Centre steeple. The mast would be completely contained within the steeple and there would be no outward signs of its presence. The Church of Scotland approves such schemes.

Views are sought from the congregation about these proposals. Please address any thoughts to the Clerk to the Board or any other Office Bearer

***GUILD OF ST. LUKE***

***We continue to meet on the second Monday of the month from 7pm. - 8pm in the Church Centre, for prayer and to update our prayer list. If you know someone who needs prayer for healing, please use the prayer cards supplied in the pews and put them in the boxes provided at the doors to the Church. If you would like to join us in our prayer ministry, please come along on the second Monday of the month. Even if you are unable to come along to every meeting but would like to commit to praying everyday for those on our prayer list, please join us. "The prayer of a good person has a powerful effect" James 5.***

## Flower Calendar April to June 2007



|              |    |   |
|--------------|----|---|
| <b>APRIL</b> | 1  | MRS GLASS, RATHO STATION  |
|              | 8  | EASTER  |
|              | 15 | MRS ROBERTSON, THE GLEBE  |
|              | 22 | MRS COLQUHOUN, THE GLEBE  |
|              | 29 | VACANT  |
| <b>MAY</b>   | 6  | MRS McCREADY, LISTON PLACE                                      |
|              | 13 | MR&MRS ARCHIBALD, GLENDINNING ROAD &<br>MRS CADZO, MUIREND FARM |
|              | 20 | MISS INNES, THE GLEBE   |
|              | 27 | MRS CLOSE, ALLAN PARK   |
|              |    |   |
| <b>JUNE</b>  | 3  | MRS PROVAN, ALLISON PLACE                                       |
|              | 10 | VACANT  |
|              | 17 | MRS SIBBALD, KIRKLANDS PARK GARDENS                             |
|              | 24 | MARGARET GRAY, MAIN STREET                                      |

### FLOWER DELIVERY

|              |                                  |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>APRIL</b> | MS SMITH, MS GRAY                |
| <b>MAY</b>   | MRS COLQUHOUN, MRS NAYLOR        |
| <b>JUNE</b>  | MRS H MacDONALD, MRS M MacDONALD |

Thank you to those who have made donations to the flower fund and provided flowers in the past months. There are two vacancies in this quarter, if you would like to supply the flowers any of these Sundays please let me know. If you know of anyone who is in need of a cheering up please tell me or the ladies who are on the flower deliveries.

JOYCE BROOKS  
Flower Convenor Tel: 0131 333 3710

**SEND YOUR NEWS, VIEWS, AND POINTS OF INTEREST TO THE EDITOR:  
BILL MCKAY, 26 MAIN STREET, KIRKLISTON ..... BILLMCKAY@BTINTERNET.COM  
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: SUNDAY 6TH MAY 2007**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February:** Holy Communion 11am in the church and 6.30pm in the Church Centre

The Kirk Session meets on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March.**

Worship for Easter:

**Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup>** Palm Sunday 11am in the Church.

**Wednesday April 4<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm in the Church Centre

**Thursday April 5<sup>th</sup>** (Includes Holy Communion) at 7pm in the Church Centre.

**Friday April 6<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm in the Church Centre.

**Easter Day April 8<sup>th</sup>** at 11am in the Church and there will be a Praise Service at 6.30pm in the Church Centre.



**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May:** To celebrate Community Brass Band Week, there will be a Songs of Praise in the Church, featuring Queensferry Community Brass Band. We will be looking at the hymns of Charles Wesley with a couple of separate items from the Band. Admission free but there will be an offering after the concert. All are very welcome.

For some time now, some of us have been thinking about an annual Memorial Service for the families of those who have been bereaved in the last year or so. We have decided to hold such a service on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 7pm in the Church.** Those of you who have lost a loved one in the last 12 months should receive an invitation to attend (if for some reason you don't get your invitation but would still like to come, please do). Please note however that this service is for anyone who feels they would like to come along. Also we welcome people of any denomination. Refreshments will be served in the Church Centre after the service.

# 1st Kirkliston Boys Brigade



Here we are into February already, and the nights are getting lighter as we leave behind the short dark days of winter and look forward to springtime

Our last term ended on the 18<sup>th</sup> December, we had a party for the Anchor Boys, with the usual food, fun and games, and it was a very good night. I'm afraid I had to leave the other Anchor staff to clear up (quite happy to actually!) to help take our Junior and Company boys, ten pin bowling at the Deer Park. The boys were determined to beat the staff scores, but I am not telling who won through in the end!

We started back on 8<sup>th</sup> January, and had more new recruits waiting to join, our number of boys on roll still stands at 38, as we had a few drop out last term, but the company is the strongest it has been for many years.

Six of our junior section boys, took part in the "try a sport day" at Deans High School on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January, where they were able to mix with the other companies in West Lothian Battalion and participate in swimming and a variety of sports and games. The most popular stop off as usual was the tuck shop, for the chips. They all returned home tired but happy, after a good day out.

Company section boys are off to Alien

rock next week, for their post Christmas treat.

With such a strong number in our junior section, we are hoping to enter the figure marching competition this year, but they need a lot of practice first, and Craig is putting them through their paces every week, Watch this space for a progress report.

To check on future events and view photos log on to our website (see below).

We have unfortunately had some problems this year with gangs of youths trying to disturb our meetings, by shouting at the boys through the windows, and hanging about outside the doors. We were eventually forced to contact the police for advice, as the numbers escalated and our boys became increasingly disturbed by their presence.

We have a really good company of boys, and we would hate to lose any of them, so please keep them all in your prayers.

At least their parents know where they are and what they are up to on Monday nights.

Valerie Edwards  
(OIC Anchor/Junior sections)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School resumed in January after the Christmas break and has been very well attended. Our latest series of lessons is about Animals in the Bible which will take us up to Easter.

We started with Daniel in the lions' den, then we had the story of Moses and the bronze snake on a pole. Next we heard the story of Elijah and the ravens and by the time we have finished all the stories, we will have enough to fill Noah's Ark!! The children have been very enthusiastic and attentive and seem to be really enjoying the stories and activities, which is very encouraging for us all. We have also been learning a new song, which the children hope to sing in Church.

There are two new training courses in February and March and all of our staff hope to attend these. Hopefully we'll come away with

lots of new ideas and share some of our own with the other participants too.

Sunday School will run right up until the Easter holidays when we will take a break for the three Sundays of the holidays.

As you will know, there are a lot of new houses in the village and if you know of any children new to Kirkliston, or children in the street where you live, please tell them about the Sunday School. We would love to have them join us.

*"How can they believe if they have not heard the message? And how can they hear if the message is not proclaimed?" Rom. 10.v14*

Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Linda Moss,  
Sunday School Superintendent.

The story about school children being told Jesus was Jewish reminds us of the line Alf Garnett used on the same subject: "Only on his mother's side."

## TREASURER'S REPORT

This newsletter does not contain the usual income & expenditure information as the financial year for the Church ended on the 31<sup>st</sup> December. The audited accounts for the year ending 31.12.06 will be presented to the Congregational Board at the next meeting & will be available there after.

### The following monies were raised by the congregation as Special Collections for Other Charities

|                     |              |   |      |
|---------------------|--------------|---|------|
| EMMS                | 909          | Earl Haig (retiral)   | 259  |
| Christian Aid       | 3049         | Christmas Appeal<br>(Shared by Fresh Start, Bethany , The<br>Rock Trust & EMMS) | 1143 |
| ALPHA               | 301          | 229 Crossreach  | 202  |
| ASIA EARTHQUAKE     |              | Bethany Christian Trust   | 917  |
| The Prostate Cancer | 1054         |   |      |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>8,063</b> |   |      |

100% of all monies raised were disbursed to the charities listed.

Kirkliston Parish wholeheartedly supports any charity promoted by the Church. This year has been no exception, with the community responding to the appeals for help at home & abroad in a most generous manner. I highlight this generosity of giving.

### Statistical Information

#### Membership

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Number of Communicants at 31/12/2007          | 333 |
| Number of Adherents at 31/12/2007             | 56  |
| Number of Free Will Offering Envelopes in use | 162 |
| Number of Members Using Gift Aid              | 66  |

£8,000 of tax has been recovered and repaid to the Church as a result of members giving their offering along with a Gift Aid Certificate. This form of giving is at no extra cost to the taxpayer & makes a huge difference to the finances of the Church. Please consider giving in this way. Gift Aid Certificates are available from the Treasurer Rob Brechin, Brian Hepburn or the Minister.

#### Insurance Values at May 2006 - (Revised each year at renewal)

|                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Church                  | £3,141,066.30 |
| Manse                   | £271,185.24   |
| Thomas Chalmer's Centre | £2,756,251.10 |

## KIRKLISTON PARISH CHURCH

### Communion Attendance & Membership

|             | Jan  | Mar | Jun | Oct | 4 Times | 3 Times | 2 Times | 1 Time | At least Once | Roll |
|-------------|--|-----|-----|-----|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------------|------|
| <b>1998</b> | 211  | 179 | 165 | 197 | 67      | 89      | 73      | 71     | 300           | 434  |
| <b>1999</b> | 208  | 191 | 172 | 214 | 89      | 86      | 51      | 66     | 292           | 448  |
| <b>2000</b> | 206  | 215 | 184 | 181 | 80      | 89      | 63      | 75     | 307           | 441  |
| <b>2001</b> | 203  | 188 | 166 | 189 | 72      | 92      | 60      | 60     | 284           | 440  |
|             | 76 members were transferred to the Supplementary Roll at the end of 2001 |     |     |     |         |         |         |        |               |      |
| <b>2002</b> | 196  | 173 | 161 | 186 | 67      | 92      | 57      | 55     | 271           | 374  |
| <b>2003</b> | 204  | 179 | 154 | 168 | 65      | 89      | 58      | 51     | 263           | 368  |
|             | Feb  | May | Aug | Nov | 4 Times | 3 Times | 2 Times | 1 Time | At least Once | Roll |
| <b>2004</b> | 190  | 155 | 166 | 165 | 88      | 56      | 51      | 54     | 249           | 357  |
| <b>2005</b> | 168  | 171 | 141 | 154 | 73      | 70      | 40      | 52     | 235           | 343  |
| <b>2006</b> | 159  | 159 | 122 | 144 | 71      | 57      | 41      | 49     | 218           | 333  |

24 movements in 2006  
ie; +5 by Confession, +2 by restoration, -3 by Certificate, -3 to S.Roll,  
-6 Gone Away, -5 by Death

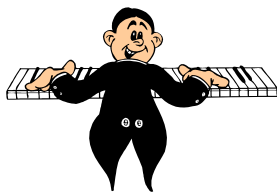
**Average Attendance at Communion over past 3 years = 158**  
**68% of Membership attended Communion**  
**at least once per year during that time**

**69% of Membership attended Communion in 1998**



Ever wondered how often Ash Wednesday falls on February 29 ? The answer is to find a **leap year** in which Easter Sunday occurs on April 15. Easter was on April 15 in 1770, 1979, 1990 and 2001 (not Leap years), so it hasn't happened since 1584. However, you will be pleased to know that it will definitely happen in 2096.

## YOU are invited to join us for an EVENING PRAISE SERVICE



**On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month,  
in the Thomas Chalmers Church Centre,  
Refreshments served after the Service  
All very welcome - please bring friends and family  
FUTURE EVENING PRAISE SERVICES  
(Mark them in your diary or on your calendar)**

**11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

### **DORCAS LUNCH CLUB**

The Dorcas Lunch ladies would like to thank everyone who supported the special lunch for the homeless on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. £560.00 was raised on the day with donations from other groups making the total up to £809.10 – a great effort. This was divided equally between Fresh Start, The Rock Trust & Bethany Christian Trust to aid their work with the homeless and disadvantaged. Thank you to all who provided food and helped serve the lunch.



The Lunch Club continues to serve snack lunches each Tuesday in the Church Centre between 12 noon & 1.30pm – apart from the 3<sup>rd</sup> April – till the end of April.

Our Christian Aid Lunch of soup, bread & cheese will be served on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April and we look for the usual kind support for this worthy cause. With every blessing this Easter .

Margaret Brechin Convenor (0131 333 3252).



## The Guild

It's hard to believe that the session is almost at the end once more, although there are still a few dates to be put in diaries.

The World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday March 2nd in Queensferry Parish Church and before that, on February 28th, Morag Hannah will give us an insight into the background of the World Day of Prayer.

Our guest night is on March 14th when the International Rescue Corps will explain about their work.

On the 28th March we are holding a special Thornton's "Chocolate Heaven" evening. Tickets, £5 each, will be on sale soon.

The Daffodil Tea will be held on the 18th April when "Cantilena" will entertain us.

We are due to retire from our positions as joint leaders in April and would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee who have worked tirelessly to ensure meetings go as planned. God Bless.

Maureen Glen and Joan McConnachie.

### Honesty pays

We are told of the woman who left her purse in a shop during the hurly-burly of Christmas shopping and phoned up in a panic as she had £50 in it. However, she was reassured that an assistant had found the purse. She called in next day to collect it, and when she looked inside, she declared: "That's funny. There's £50 here, right enough - but it's in fivers and I'm sure it was a £50 note I had." "That's right," said the young assistant. "But the last time I found a purse, the owner had no change for a reward."



## Transport to Church Drivers Rota March — June 2007

|       |    |                           |
|-------|----|---------------------------|
| MARCH | 4  | Elaine Robinson           |
|       | 11 | Wilson Marshall           |
|       | 18 | Bill McKay                |
|       | 25 | Peter Melville            |
| APRIL | 1  | Keith Moss                |
|       | 8  | Gordon/Maggie McConnachie |
|       | 15 | Colin/Jenny Riddell       |
|       | 22 | Anne Reilly               |
|       | 29 | Rob Keating               |
| MAY   | 6  | Bill Paterson             |
|       | 13 | Ann/David Denholm         |
|       | 20 | Elaine Robinson           |
|       | 27 | Wilson Marshall           |
| JUNE  | 3  | Peter Melville            |
|       | 10 | Bill McKay                |
|       | 17 | Keith Moss                |
|       | 24 | Gordon/Maggie McConnachie |

If you would like to help with transport, need help getting to church or require any more information please contact:-

ANN DENHOLM  
Transport Convenor Tel: 0131 333 1834



## CHURCH REGISTER

### *BAPTISMS: "They brought young people to Jesus"*

3/12/06: Murray Small, 6 Kirklands Park Grove, Kirkliston

31/12/06: Ella McCarron, 4 Marshall Road, Kirkliston

### *FUNERALS: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life"*

15/11/06: James Borthwick, 37 Dundas Place, Kirkliston

17/11/06: Barbara Ritchie, 63 Riverside, Newbridge

20/12/06: Agnes MacDonald, 18 Loanhead Cottages, Kirkliston

9/1/07: May Colbron, 20/2 Bowling Green Road, Kirkliston

17/1/07: Derek Wilson, 46 Newmains Road, Kirkliston

27/1/07: Archibald McKewen, 12 Queensferry Road, Kirkliston

3/2/07: William Mackie, 3 Newmains Farm Lane, Kirkliston





## Church Without Walls

Please do come along to these monthly meetings or let me know if you have any ideas that would help to develop the church's role in the community. We are very conscious that the church has a busy calendar of activities and many church members contribute to the community in a wide variety of ways.

Each of these is part of our witness and brings the love of Jesus into the lives of others.

We have been very very pleased with the success of the earlier Christmas Eve services in 2005 and 2006, and thanks go especially to the team of people who planned and worked hard to make these happen. The police have been pleased with the Saturday events held in the hall for young people - alternate fortnights for disco or cinema. Again thank you to the church members who support these events. In the coming months it would be useful to look at our outreach to other groups in the community. We will also be thinking about Lent and our Easter celebrations. Please come and bring your thoughts.

Paula Roots 334 1819



### Child Protection

Once again it has been a busy few months doing Disclosure Scotland checks on new volunteers. Just a reminder that it is now up to the leaders of organisations to collect references on new staff. I have templates if you want help with letters to request these. If any new staff don't yet have their handbook, please let me know as there are some available. You may remember that we are trying to organise joint training locally in partnership with Queensferry Kirk. At present we are still waiting to hear about this, but I will announce any news as soon as either of us hear.

Paula Roots 334 1819

### 40 Day Prayer Guide

This prayer guide has been written for the 40 days of LENT. It is a united concert of prayer and a way for churches and individuals to pray together.

In 2006, over 5,000 people in 100 churches across 5 towns and cities joined together in prayer. The prayer guide is being used in local churches here, and this year so far: Hull, Beverley, Barnsley, Scarborough, and Edinburgh have linked together in prayer.

The guide is a way to get started in prayer, for others it is a way to continue to develop. The prayer guide will cover praying for personal issues for friends to come to Christ and asking for Revival.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the prayer guide and joining this united concert of prayer during the 40 days of LENT, please contact Katie Marshall (333 3209).

*“Knock and the door will be opened”*

Luke 11, verse 9.

### QUEENSFERRY CARE

A number of events to raise money for Queensferry Care have been organised for the Spring. If you would like to sponsor a hole at the Golf Competition on 14th May at Dundas Parks, join the Sponsored Walk in the beautiful grounds of Hopetoun House on 21st April, buy tickets for a Sportman's Charity Brunch in the marquee at Dundas Castle on Sunday 25th March or Abseil from the Forth Rail Bridge please contact Jan Wemyss or Wilson Marshall.

Alternatively you may wish to organise your own event to raise much needed funds to support people in our Community. If you have any ideas please give Jan a call at the Haven 0131 331 5570.

Queensferry Care need more volunteers either at the Haven or in Kirkliston or for a few hours per year helping with fundraising events. If you would like to offer your services please contact Liz McIntosh or Lorna Russell at the Haven 0131 331 5570.



**CRECHE UPDATE**

Greetings All: It is hard to imagine that January has come and gone. Where does the time go? I would like to take this opportunity as always, to thank the outstanding effort by all the Creche volunteers for giving up their Church time, to help out with the Creche. It is certainly appreciated by myself, our volunteers, and all the parents who use our Creche.

If there are any interested people within the Church, who would like to volunteer their services for an hour and a half, every four to five weeks, on a Sunday morning, please let me know.

I can be contacted by phone on 0131-333-4941 or email at ptmelville@btinternet.com.  
Thank You.

Debbie Melville  
Creche Coordinator

**Traidcraft**

Another Christmas over! and the Fair Trade stall continues to be busy with the monthly sales (2nd Sun each month) at coffee time. The Just World Shop in Portobello is our supplier and on 29th Jan May Scott and I attended their AGM. We heard of the continued rise in their turnover to £73,000 which is remarkable progress from small beginnings. Over 40 churches now have stalls and this provides the bulk of their income: the rest comes from the shop which, they note, is also mainly staffed by church people. In their words, the churches are leading this movement to justice through fair trade.

The other exciting news is that a letter to the Education Dept has led to many, many invitations to speak at school assemblies and we were entertained - and moved - to hear of the children's enthusiasm to help others in this way.

The Scottish Executive is moving towards Scotland becoming a Fair Trade country, like Wales, which will mean the local authorities doing their bit, too. Can I ask again for volunteer drivers and helpers to put their names on the rota please for the rest of the year? We really appreciate your support, which makes the stall and our annual contribution of around £2,500 possible. Thank you all.

Paula Roots 334 1819

— B.A.B.E. —  
(Blessed And Beautiful Everyone)

Christmas Babe night was fun for all and who could forget Santa's visit complete with reindeer and elf. We hope to have our next Babe night on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, so ladies put this date in your diary. You might want to start making that Easter bonnet now (woops - shouldn't have let that cat out). Please come along and chill out.  
Christina, Joan, Jean, Maureen,

**YOUTH FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

The group had a fun evening before Christmas when they went to see "Happy Feet" at the cinema. We all enjoyed it (so did the kids). Our meetings are held 6.30 to 7.30 on Thursday evenings and all school children from 11 yrs upwards are welcome.

Christina, Craig, Paula and Peter

WE hear from a teacher in a Catholic school in Lanarkshire who told her first-year class, during a discussion about Jesus, that he had, in fact, been born Jewish.

This astonishing piece of information was absorbed by the class in stunned silence until a hand went up. "Miss," said the questioner, "when did he convert?"

## THINGS YOU NEVER HEAR IN CHURCH

*HEY! It's my turn to sit in the front pew.*

*I was so enthralled, I never even noticed your sermon went over 30 minutes.*

*Forget the Church of Scotland Stipend scheme. Let's pay our Minister so he/she can live the way we do.*

*I love it when we sing hymns that I've never heard before.*

*Minister, we would like to send you to a conference in the Bahamas.*

-----  
And some mistakes from **other** Church Newsletters.

The scouts are saving cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. They will be used to cripple children.

The low self-esteem support group will meet at 7pm on Thursday. Please use the back door.

The third verse of Blessed Assurance will be sung without musical accomplishment.

For those of you have children and don't know it, we have a Sunday School in the Church Hall.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.

22 members were present at last night's meeting. Mrs Smith and Mrs McKenzie sang a duet, 'The Lord Knows Why'.

## The Power of Love

God made us all, yes you and me  
And we're all so different as you can see  
Some of us are blessed with talent galore  
And some of us wish we had some more  
But to each of us He gave that "special gift"  
- love in abundance

He gave us love that we might share and spread it around  
But some keep it to themselves or so I have found  
This sharing of love you might think is easy to do  
As all around us we see God's children all sweetness through and through

But can we go that extra mile  
And give the unloved a little smile  
Can we reach out our hand and ask them to stay  
After all it might just make their day  
Mother Teresas we are certainly not  
But that love God gave us is infectious and can be caught

Christina Pearson  
4<sup>th</sup> February 2007

## TRANSFORMING SCOTLAND STEP BY STEP

Recently, Christina Pearson and I attended a Prayer Conference in Edinburgh at which one of the main speakers was Pastor Bert McKaig who is connected with the Christian organization Pray for Scotland. He showed us a short DVD he had made called "Taking it to the Streets". In this he enthuses about a major initiative which is going to happen between Easter – 8 April and Pentecost – 27 May 2007. Many churches and other Christian organizations across Scotland are going to join together to Prayerwalk our whole nation from Shetland to the Borders and the Western Islands to the East Coast. The Walk will finish in Edinburgh with a big Prayer and Praise event. Christians in each island, town, city or village are asked to play their own vital part by Prayerwalking in their own area for part or all of these 50 days and by coming out on to the streets to support the main Walk as it passes nearby. There will be further details regarding the route etc soon.

Our Minister is keen to take part in this and she already has the support of several church members. However, we would like to see as many folks as possible joining in, so if you would like to know more about Prayerwalking, please speak to myself or Christina or indeed borrow Bert McKaig's DVD of which we have a few copies.

Liz Woollven