

The background of the entire page is a photograph of two white sailboats with dark hulls, resting on a wooden dry-dock stand. The boats are positioned side-by-side, with their masts and rigging visible against a hazy, orange-tinted sky. The water in the foreground is calm, and a stone pier is visible on the left. The overall mood is serene and maritime.

HOLY TRINITY ST ANDREWS

LINKED WITH BOARHILLS AND DUNINO

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023

MISSION STATEMENT

*"The Parish Church of the Holy Trinity lives to worship
God and to encourage Faith in, and Service to Jesus
Christ, among all people of today and tomorrow"*

Charity number SC 017173

Dear All,

I had hoped to get this issue out before Easter, but.....However, below there are some images of events this Easter in St Andrews.

But first of all can I welcome our new Interim Moderator, Rev. Alastair Symington, who introduces himself below.



This is an exciting time for us in Holy Trinity. Firstly we will be forming a union with Boarhills and Dunino on the 1st July. Secondly, we are moving slowly towards the larger union of the three St Andrews congregations, as laid out in the Presbytery plan. Mike Carslaw is fronting our representation in this and he also has an article below. As ever the Holy Trinity Trust (Formerly HTAG) continues, and will continue to both enhance the building and arrange concerts and recitals, all of which raises the profile, as well as the income, for the building. Even more exciting is the initiative, coming from some of our younger members, which we hope will rebalance our congregation in terms of age in the next year or so. There is a lot going on 'behind the scenes', but I hope that this issue will bring you up to date as best we can.



Our Cover photo this month tries to represent the anticipation of a new season's sailing, while realising that there are some possible stormy time ahead... so we're not ready to launch yet. However lots of preparation has been done and we, as a congregation are fairly shipshape' Now that Lent is over and spring is here, May I wish you calm sailing over the summer months.

Many blessings

Mike

MARION'S PASTORAL LETTER

Dear friends,

As I write, we are now halfway through the season of Lent, and the joy of Easter is just around the corner. I must say that it hardly seems possible that the year is passing so quickly. But the lighter evenings and the daffodils in the garden, the swelling buds on the trees, new lambs in the fields, and even the warmth in the sunshine all testify to the new life that really is springing up all around us. This is such a lovely time of year.



I want to share with you a beautiful old story about a Sunday School teacher who asked the children in his class to bring plastic eggs to church on Easter Sunday. He asked them to fill each one with something that symbolised the meaning of Easter to them. The great day came, and the teacher took each child's egg in turn, opening it up and making a point of amplifying and reinforcing the meaning of its contents. One child brought a beautiful tiny flower in her egg, and the teacher spoke about the new life that springs up at Easter. Another egg contained a crayoned picture of Jesus Christ, and the teacher spoke about his life and all that he has done for us. Another egg contained a small nail, and so the teacher spoke about the nails that had fastened Jesus to the cross on Good Friday. Yet another egg contained a round pebble, this to represent the stone that was rolled away from the tomb on Easter Day.

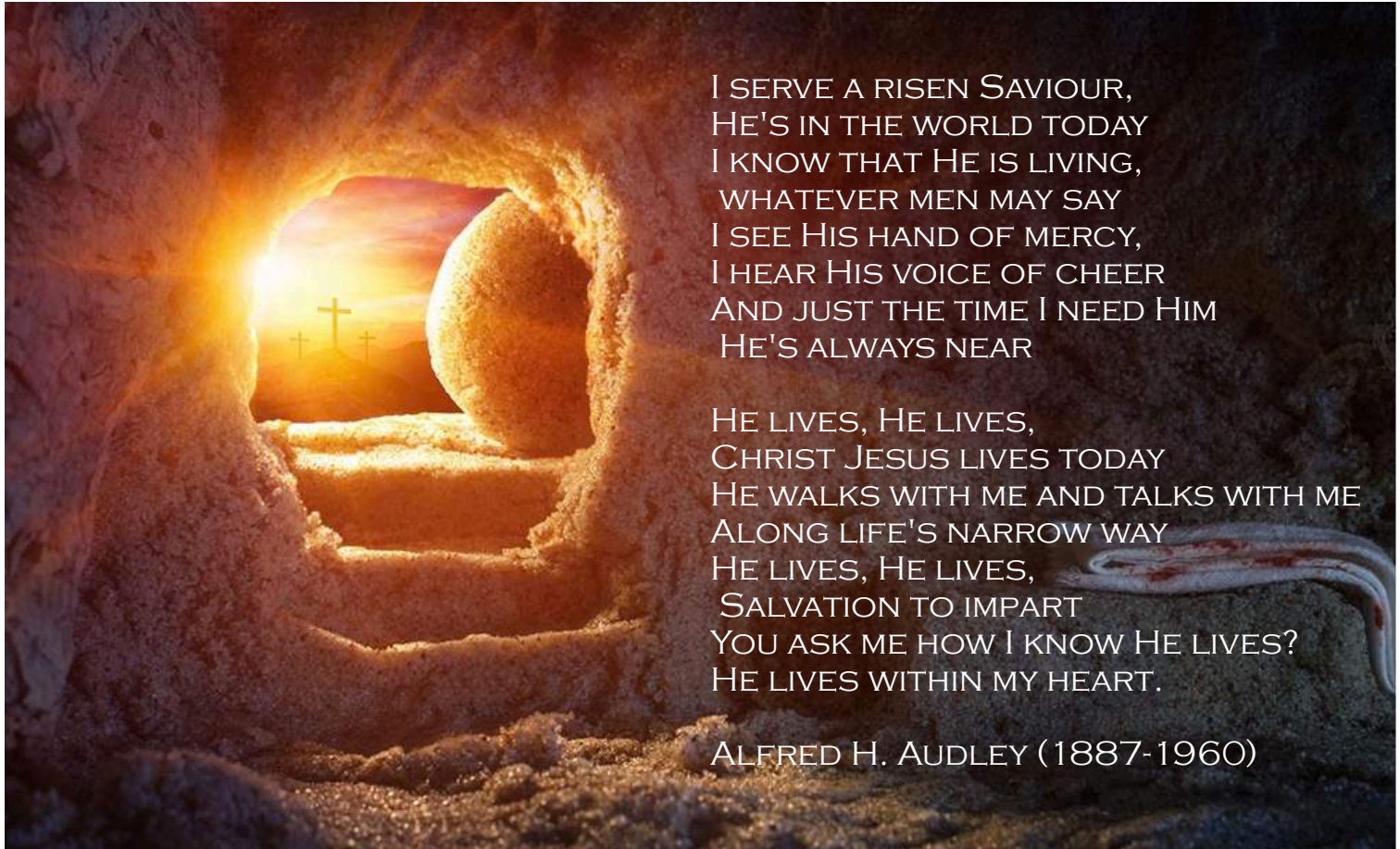
However, the teacher was quite dumbfounded when he opened the egg of seven-year-old Brian, a boy with learning difficulties, for his egg was completely empty. But he need not have worried, for Brian spoke up for himself and announced in a loud voice 'My egg is full of emptiness, just like the tomb of Jesus, for Jesus is alive.'

As we walk the way of the cross with Jesus during Lent and Holy Week, we remember all the things that happened to him, all that he was prepared to do for us. But let us never forget that the whole point of it all is that at Easter Jesus defeats sin and death for us, and as a result he will always be very much alive. And because he lives, we have hope both for this life and the life to come.

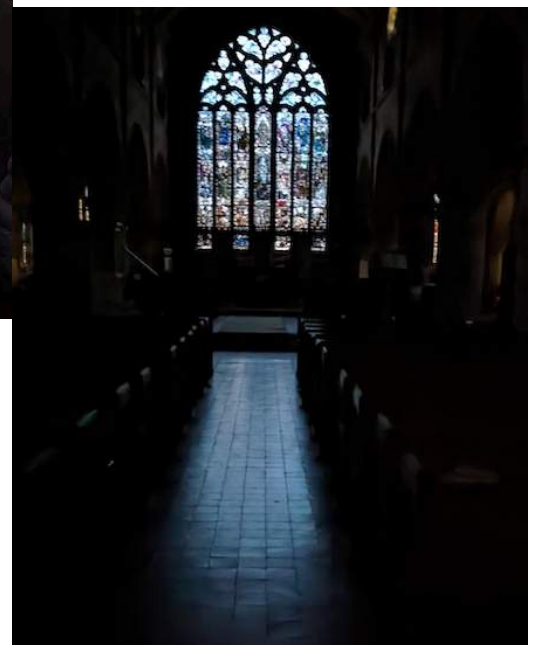
A very Happy Easter to you all.

With love and blessings

Marion



The Good Friday pilgrimage walk around the town, finishing at St Mary's on the rock



The church darkened at the end of a moving Good Friday service, as we left the building in silence.

Hello to our new Interim moderator



Dear Friends

I am honoured to have been asked to become Interim Moderator in Holy Trinity Parish Church and shall try my very best to serve you with whatever abilities I possess. It will be made ever so much easier since we have such a marvellous Locum Minister. I appreciate Marion's ministry and she will continue to have day by day control of what happens in our church.

Church law precludes me from being a member of Holy Trinity while I fulfil this post and I accept that this needs to be so. But it does not require me to worship elsewhere and I shall continue to enjoy our very special worship week by week. I have been made so welcome since I moved here in October 2021 and feel at home in your midst.

My late wife and I enjoyed nearly eight years of my retirement. in Troon but after her death I eventually thought it wise to be nearer my two daughters and their families who live here in St Andrews and in Alyth.

I was ordained 51 years ago and have been honoured to serve the church throughout the years since then. I served for four years as a Chaplain in the Royal Air Force and thereafter as parish minister in Craiglockhart in Edinburgh, in Bearsden New Kilpatrick and then in Troon Old Parish.

I also had the great honour of serving as a Chaplain to Her late Majesty the Queen for 26 years. My parishes in Bearsden and Troon were, like Holy Trinity, in the centre of their respective towns and I have, therefore, a particular understanding of the importance that the Church nationally should recognise in such town churches.

St Andrews needs to have Holy Trinity as an active and appreciated worship centre and as far as I can, I shall promote that cause.

There are times when I shall be in Troon because I have kept a little flat there and return periodically to meet old friends and play over Royal Troon Golf Club. Golf is a passion for me and I am delighted, as a town resident here, now to have my resident's ticket for the wonderful courses which are here.

I look forward to becoming better acquainted with you as time passes and meantime wish all of you God's richest blessing.

Yours sincerely

Alastair H Symington

Doing things together(1)



The Memory Cafe runs on the first and third Wednesday of each month in St Mark's Church Hall. Do you have time to come and sit with the folk, or bring along a friend who you think would enjoy the company?

If so please contact Ketron Morrison

Doing Things together (2)

We already have volunteers to help greet and serve at this initiative by St Marks, but could do with some more. We are no longer serving soup, but coffee and biscuits

***The main contacts are
Muriel Gray at St Marks***

or Kon Cruickshanks

St Leonard's session hosted a get-together for elders from the three congregations. The food was excellent, the politics absent and the conversations stimulating.

(Sadly I didn't get a photograph of the food! Ed)

COFFEE CUP

Tea, coffee and biscuits for all in a warm, friendly space.



St Mark's Church
(opposite St Andrews bus station)

FRIDAYS 10-11.30 am

Starts 7th April 2023!

Toys and baby change available

Holy Trinity
SC017173

St Leonard's
SC013586

St Mark's
SC014934

The **March Joint service** of the three St Andrews churches was held at Holy Trinity. Rev Graeme Beebee and Rev Alan McCafferty led the prayers and the sermon was preached by Marion. Many folk commented at how good it was to get together for worship.
We are getting to know one another!



Date for the next Joint services

Sunday 23rd April St Leonards

Sunday 28th May at St Marks AT 11 AM !

THE CHURCH GARDEN

Dear friends,

The winter is (almost) over and it will soon be time to get to work on our much-admired garden.

So get your boots and spades out of the garage, team and I'll let you know what's needed to be done and when.

Again, there is no way to thank you enough for what you do.

Interestingly, the hyacinths (*Whose ideas was that? ed*) were looking stunning in the floodlights the other night.

If there are any others out there who would like to join the team this year, you would be most welcome "Many hands make light work"



Rachel Raynor

Fife Presbytery

**Please keep checking the Presbytery website;
fife@churchofscotland.org.uk**

Prayer

The Presbytery prayer group continues to meet every Tuesday morning at 9 am on Zoom.

It is led by Irene Ure from St Margaret's Glenrothes

The link is: <https://zoom.us/j/3175228773?pwd=SjJpWmlqWGVQSGlleUFleTd6TXEyZz09>

Prompted by a member of the congregation, St Margaret's Glenrothes set up a prayer room which was already in use the following week.

The new prayer room at St Margaret's Glenrothes



The Holy Trinity Prayer group (Not to be confused with the Prayer team run by Jan Fairlie to pray for the sick and bereaved) ceased to operate some time before COVID. Is it time to start up again?

Is there anyone reading this who would like to attend?

Where are we with the planning for the union of the churches in the St Andrews cluster?

The latest summary from Rev Alan McCafferty

“The G12 (A group of four people from each of the three churches) has now met on 5 occasions and is making satisfactory progress.



So far we have agreed a Vision* (see below) of what we are about and from that are making progress toward a Mission Statement that will outline our priorities when we unite which we need to submit to Presbytery by **30 June 2023**.

We are in the process of exchanging data about the ways our churches are constituted and the financial comparisons. We have heard about the relationship between Holy Trinity’s congregation and the Holy Trinity St Andrews Trust and are discussing the implications for the united Kirk Session and congregation.

The Church of Scotland has published its **Basis of Team Ministry** and Unions and we shall next be working towards appropriate wordings for those for which we shall seek your approval.

At the same time we are beginning to shape the responsibilities, size, leadership roles and other aspects of how the new Kirk Session might operate.

We meet again on 30 March.

*Vision Statement

‘St Andrews:XXXX (The name of the joint congregation has yet to be agreed) aspires to be a vibrant, intergenerational, God-focused, prayerful, worshipping community. We hope people will see we are inclusive, warm and friendly to all. We feel we have much to contribute to the St Andrews community, and offer everyone the opportunity to share in a loving, hospitable, welcoming and open group of people who are Jesus’ disciples. We want to show how we care for those in need in our midst, in the wider world, and care for the environment, by sharing our gifts and talents.

THOUGHTS 1

You don't need a 'phone to talk to God

I had a telephone consultation with my GP recently and though I think we are getting better at communicating at a distance I expect we both miss the clues we pick up when we talk to people face to face. Thinking about this later made me wonder how the disciples felt when, after the Resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven and left them leaderless. He told them to wait in Jerusalem for His Holy Spirit, but I wonder if they had any idea of what He meant by that. I'd like to have been a fly on the wall in the room where they met.



For us, the problem with God has always been that although He did communicate with His people and used them as messengers He rarely appeared in person and then insisted that they hide from His face. That is why I find it so amazing that He sent Jesus to live with us on earth. A real flesh and blood person that everyone could see and touch and talk to. Just like having a face to face consultation with one's doctor instead of a 'phone call.

Reading about the arrival of the Holy Spirit that day in Jerusalem and the effect it had on Jesus' disciples and those around them, I realise that although the only physical signs of a presence were the tongues of flame and rushing wind, something very surprising happened. Jesus was no longer with them in the flesh but God was somehow in touch with His people and continued to communicate with them, and, later, us, in all kinds of ways, mostly in our hearts and minds but also by signs and wonders and happenings. It's easy for us 2000 years later to dismiss it as imagination and wishful thinking, but all the evidence over the years of God's communication with his people should make us stop and ask ourselves whether He really is in touch with us and waiting for us to respond. Not everyone sees visions or hears voices but, when we look back in faith, so often what seemed to be just good luck or a happy coincidence made it possible for us to do exactly what God was asking us to do or gave us exactly what He knew we had asked for and needed. That's Faith. Not blind faith but an active Faith that looks out for the signs that God is on our case and answering our prayers.

If you have been a worshipper in Holy Trinity for the past six years or more I am sure you will know how fearful and depressed many of us were about the future of our congregation and building. Rumours around the town were that Holy Trinity was to be put up for sale to the highest bidder and that our congregation would be disbanded. People began to lose heart and the congregation began to dwindle. It was a difficult time for us but we kept going and kept praying though

perhaps without much hope. How do you feel about our future now? Are you still waiting for the For Sale notices to go up? Have you felt a sense of hope and optimism as you have shared in Sunday worship and helped with all the caring work and outreach which is taking place here? I know I am not the only person who believes that God is answering our prayers and is working out His plan for us in our town. Not sure? Still feeling threatened? Not too sure about miracles? We've been through testing times so I understand completely. But what I'd ask everyone to do, if you haven't already, is to look back over the last few years and see how every time we have had a job to fill or needed help or had a problem that seemed impossible to solve, help has been at hand. I could list the ways the gaps have been filled: we needed an organist and Walter Blair stepped in, he became ill and sadly died, and Marjorie Bruce stepped in. Where do you find a secretary and a treasurer who knows about churches and is ready to work for us? Those posts are filled. How do we raise enough money to keep our building wind and water tight and warm – step forward Graham Wynd and his team, how to keep our church hall sparkling bright - enter Steve Watson, our garden blooming, and our pastoral care and safeguarding group fulfilling their remit,... I could go on, but Mike says space is limited, so don't think you are forgotten. Whatever you do, know that God has called you or just nudged you into the work you are doing for him here. And one person I can't miss out, the one who told me once "I am sure I am in the place God wants me to be" with humble pride, the one who is working tirelessly in His service to teach, enthuse and lead us – Marion. We can't see into the future but can look to the recent past and see how God is working and be full of hope.

You don't need a landline or a mobile or tablet to contact God. He's never off-line, his batteries never run out of power, and he's never too busy or too tired or too angry with you to listen and help. He can reach us even in the pit of despair. This congregation has been there and found God at work.

BUNNY SLACK

THE MINISTRY OF FLOWERS CONTINUES



Flowers are donated each week and distributed after the Sunday service to folk who are sick or housebound.

If you would like to become part of the group please contact Rachel Raynor



GIRLS BRIGADE



Have you a heart for teaching young people about the Christian life? We need your help!

Please contact **Fiona**

Email: taysidecommissionergb@gmail.com

Phone: 07562014390

SCRIPTURE UNION



Jill Walker, St Andrew's K2 worker (Scripture Union's full time liaison with schools and churches) writes:

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. (Ephesians 1:17)

Over the last few weeks it has been exciting to have volunteers from 6-7 churches delivering first 'Bible Alive' in 3 schools and then 'Easter Code' in 4 schools in our area. Many thanks to those who volunteered and to those who have prayed during this time.

This Easter it is my prayer that many of these children will reflect on what they have heard and seen in these sessions. I trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to be at work and seeds that have been planted will grow, leading the children to want to discover more about Jesus and to get to know Him for themselves.

After Easter I would like to explore further possibilities for engaging with our schools. It would be good to develop the SU groups that are in place and plan to start some new ones.

Thank-you for joining us in prayer: for our schools and young people and for the work of K2. Regular prayer walks continue across the area and people have been praying specifically in response to my *whatsapp* prayer requests each week.

If you would like to join us in prayer for young people our chatline is:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/G2oWImRa56ZCU8iQWLTW5s>

Our next prayer walk in St Andrews is on the 17th April at 1.30pm – contact me for details on 07932612533

Choir and music news

Our Choir will be holding a choral concert on Friday 5th of May at 19.30.

This is one not to be missed!



Holy Trinity Guild

The Guild are coming to the end of a successful season.

During January to March we heard from David Strachan on the Holy Trinity Trust and then were entertained at the Preservation Trust museum

A talk from Douglas Galbraith on the Pilgrim way enthused us as to the possibilities when Holy Trinity becomes the final destination with the siting of a monument in the church garden.

Pauline Hill gave a long-awaited description of life in the manse during two years of Roy Hill's locum ministry in 2006, only some of which Guild members would have been aware. This was followed by talks by Alastair McLeod on the popular topic of Eco matters and Mary Popple, from St Leonards on Fair Trade; she was encouraged by Holy Trinity's commitment to this.

The last two events of the year will be the AGM and Quiz night on 10th April and the Summer Fair on the 29th April.

As ever, anyone is welcome to join the Guild and enjoy the fellowship.

Alison Johnson

St Andrews Free church

As most of you will know, the Free church have been using our church hall for some years for two services on a Sunday.

They have of the order of 250 folk attending the two services , most of whom are young.

This has been a most amicable arrangement, largely brokered between Steve Watson for the practical arrangements and Granger Brash for the legal aspects. In particular, there is now a new sound system being installed, which will benefit all users. There are also new chairs and, soon, tables which will make life easier for moving between ‘tenants’.

The contract for use of the hall has now been renegotiated and extended for 5 years years from 1 Feb 2024, but if things change re the St Andrews cluster then there will be opportunities for both parties to revisit the contract

AN UPDATE FROM THE HOLY TRINITY ST ANDREWS TRUST

Priority Development Projects (New Toilets and Disabled Access)

The Church’s request to Presbytery’s Property Task Group to approve expenditure of up to £37k on a Feasibility Study has been submitted. The contract will be between the Church and the professional firms involved, with the Trust acting as Session’s agent on the project, overseeing its implementation and keeping Session informed of progress and issues.

The professional firms involved are being mobilised to start work. Completion of the feasibility study is expected within about three months of commencing.



Events

Our programme of events is entering a particularly busy period. This will tax our volunteers responsible for moving pews, setting up staging, etc. Each event also requires stewards, and **we would welcome more volunteers to carry out both duties.** Those who are interested should contact Callum MacLeod

callummac@aol.com

The “First Sunday in the Month” series of short performances (about 45 minutes at 4pm) continues. The first was a recital by Callum McLeod displaying the versatility of both his repertoire and the piano’s potential.

March’s recital (cello and piano) attracted an enthusiastic audience.



There is now an impressive programme of events in place for much of the year. The picture below shows the University Big Band, who filled the church with ‘round sound’ in March. They were followed by the woodwind orchestra. The audience, almost all young, filled the church.



Visitor Attraction

With final planning approval for the last “gateway panel” of the Fife Pilgrim Way now agreed, one of the first projects under this heading has been to create a place of quiet prayer / a pilgrim’s chapel, on the west side of the font. Using materials already to hand in the Church, such an area is now in place and has received a number of compliments. Although temporary at present, experience gained of its use will help to inform the design of a permanent area.



Some of you will have noticed that there is more room in the church recently. Many of the pews at the front of the nave are now movable to allow for bigger concert groups (and even drama)

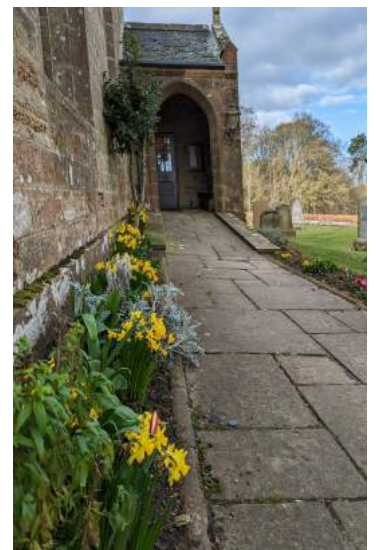
The pews which have been removed are being stored in one of the two new garages recently installed near the skating pond. pending decision on the future arrangements within the church



Boarhills and Dunino

The basis of union between our two congregations has been agreed by both Kirk sessions and will be put to the congregations in May.

The basis of Union has been accepted by the Presbytery and is shown below.



BASIS OF UNION

The congregation of Boarhills and Dunino Parish Church of Scotland (SC001108) and the congregation of The Parish Church of the Holy Trinity, St. Andrews (Church of Scotland) (SC017173) shall be united on 1 July 2023 or from a date to be determined by Presbytery, and that on the following terms and conditions:

1. **Name:** The name of the united congregation shall be Boarhills, Dunino and Holy Trinity, St Andrews Church of Scotland and SC017173 will be retained.
2. **Transference of Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall belong to or be held on behalf of the united congregation and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.
3. **Places of Worship:** Both churches at present used and occupied by the congregations shall be the places of worship of the united congregation. Services shall be conducted in Dunino Church and in Holy Trinity Church each Sunday at times to be decided by the Minister and Kirk Session, subject to the approval of Presbytery.
4. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the united charge shall be designated as the bounds of the parishes of Boarhills and Dunino and St. Andrews: Holy Trinity or as the Presbytery shall determine.
5. **Kirk Session:** The elders of both Kirk Sessions shall form with the minister or ministers the Kirk Session of the united congregation.
6. **Congregational Management:** The temporal affairs of the united congregation shall be administered by the Kirk Session in terms of the Unitary Constitution, the Delegation of Assembly being authorised to issue the appropriate Deed of Constitution to the said congregation.
7. **Minister:** The united charge will be under the Guardianship of the Presbytery with an interim-moderator and locum minister until such times as readjustment is effected in the St. Andrews' Cluster.
8. **Manse:** The manse of the congregation of St. Andrews: Holy Trinity shall be the manse of the united congregation.
9. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
10. **Power to Readjust:** *While the articles and terms shall form the Basis of Union for the two congregations now uniting, the united congregation shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under the authority of Presbytery as need may arise.*

Thoughts 2

Heaven isn't far. It's just over the hill. I'm still climbing. It's a road full of rocks, ruts, rubble, and obstacles of all kinds. But it's just over the hill, It's not far. I seem to have been climbing forever (most of my life, as it happens). Heaven isn't far.

For Jesus heaven wasn't far. All that stood before Him was the cross. It wasn't far, but the road was tortuous, long, and lonely. "Father, why have you abandoned me? Where are You?" The Father was silent for a time. Christ had to suffer on His own. All by Himself He had to carry the burden of the world's sin, shame, pain, and guilt. Jesus was the one called to bear it, the One who had never known sin, guilt, or shame. He had to carry it all, for everyone.

Then God showed His hand. A shroud of darkness covered the land. The temple sanctuary, reserved only for the privileged few, shuddered and was exposed to the world. The dividing curtain was ripped from top to bottom to allow access to all. The earth shook and, with a mighty roar, rocks were split apart. The tombs of the dead were opened and bodies of the faithful were brought to life (Matthew 27:52).

A loud voice cried out, clear and triumphant. "It is finished." The journey was over, and the glory was yet to come.

It's just over the hill. It's not too far. Are we ready? Many have lost the way. Many more don't even know there *is* a way. And many, many more are going the wrong way. How can we know the way? How do we find it?

Jesus found it. He beat down all opposition and endured many hardships to find it. So, the way has been walked already. Jesus said, "Follow me." To find it we must follow Him, although not through all the heartache and pain and suffering He endured. That has already been done for us. That's what the cross was all about. But we are to follow Him, He who is pure, righteous and victorious. He said, "I am the way."

***"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."* (Matthew 11:28).** With Him we're almost there. It's just over the hill.

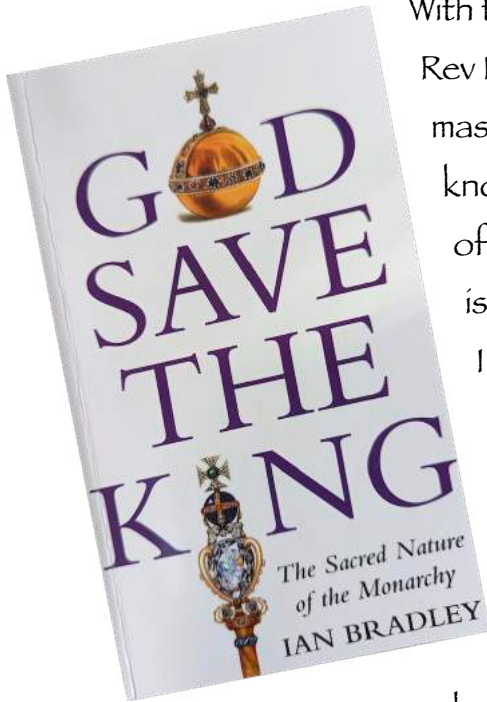
Are we struggling with our heavy load? Are we carrying baggage that He has already carried and disposed of? He took all our pain and sorrows. Have we given him our hatred, bitterness, and anger? He carried all that too. In fact, as we acknowledge all our sins before Him, they are already dealt with – crucified with Christ.

Let's go with Him, beyond the cross, leaving our past behind, and accept His invitation. *"Come, follow me."* We're almost there. It's just over the hill.



Book Reviews

"God save the King"



With the Coronation happening soon, a new book by our own Rev Ian Bradley is due to be published early in May. This is a masterly work, which displays the depth and breadth of knowledge that Ian has with regard to both the biblical origins of monarchy and the History of this British institution which is at the heart of our nation.

I can do no better in a few words than to say that the sections cover Kingship in both the old and new testaments, a description of how closely the English, and later British monarchy was modelled on this (Something that comes over clearly when the liturgy of the coronation is described in detail) and the place of

monarchy in the contemporary United Kingdom.

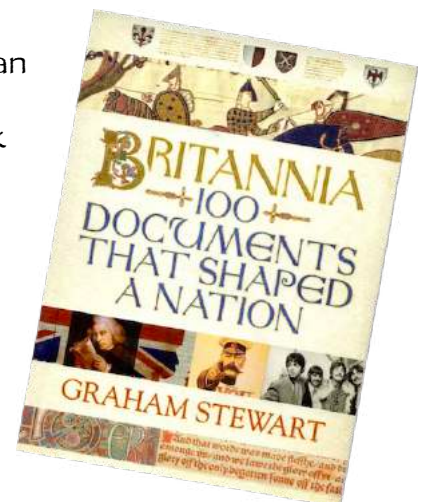
Of particular interest is the relationship, often stormy, of the monarchy with the church and how, post the Reformation, we have come to a settled relationship in both England and Scotland. This is an easy read, containing many detailed facts and allusions of which I was unaware. I can thoroughly recommend it.

Book-launch at Toppings at 7.20 on 27th April

"Britannia, 100 documents that shaped the nation", is an excellent volume to hold in the left hand while reading Ian's book in the right.

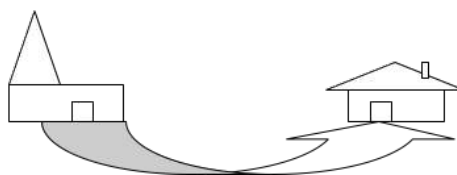
It is, as the title suggests, a compendium of all the most important, and interesting documents which exist from Roman times until now.

Reading both of these books in the last month, while I was 'Otherwise engaged' has given me a hugely improved understanding of how we have come to be where we are as a United Kingdom.



HOLY TRINITY CARE
BEFRIENDERS

GROUP+



KEEPING IN TOUCH

MONTHLY HOLY TRINITY

SHORT AFTERNOON SERVICES 2023

FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH 3PM HUNTER & MEMORIAL AISLE

SHORT-SERVICE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

5 MAY Service of Thanksgiving + Remembering*

2 JUNE Service of Communion

We look forward to welcoming you to these services. Please come with a member of your family, a carer or a neighbour.



ALL ARE WELCOME

***This annual service in May, is an opportunity to give thanks for the life of a loved-one, and, if you wish, [we invite you to bring a single-stem flower to place in a vase in the church.](#)**

With all good wishes, *Janie* Convenor, HT Care Group+ Befrienders.

Thoughts (3)

Truth and Lies

We read in John 8:32: ***'You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'***

But we get caught up in certain mindsets that we believe to be the truth and then we live by them. These mindsets, or beliefs, are formed over the years until they become a part of us. As we grow up, we receive a lot of input from our families, communities, and culture, (which may be quite different from those of other people).

Often, we don't think of questioning the way things are done or the values that are lived by in our own family, community, or culture, but there is a verse in the Bible which says, 'My people are ruined because they don't know what's right or true'.*The Message

This can happen when people see a family pattern as the truth, and 'own' it for themselves. For instance, they might say something like, "Our family is known for short tempers and impatience. That's just how it is." or "This family is prone to accidents and early deaths."

Apart from these family influences, traumatic events can also shape and influence our personal beliefs.

So often people aren't even open for discussion about these beliefs. But here are the main questions we need to ask.

"Is this God's truth, or your own 'truth'? Whom are you believing? What does God's Word say about this?"

Try to imagine a filing cabinet with three drawers, or an online filing system with different folders, and think of each drawer or folder containing files labelled 'truth', 'lies', or 'unsure'.

Sometimes we file something in the 'truth' drawer and believe it as such, but if we ask God about it, He might show us that it belongs in the 'lies' drawer. For example, we might believe ourselves to be unworthy of love because of how we have been treated, but this is not God's truth about us. Or maybe we aren't convinced that God really cares about us, and we place that thought in the 'unsure' drawer.

There will always be a scripture showing us God's truth for every one of our situations. All we need to do is to ask Him to show us where we have been caught up in wrong thinking and be open to hearing from Him. In His time, He will reveal His godly truth to us and set us free from bondage and the enemy's plans for destruction.



Sometimes we file something in the 'truth' drawer and believe it as such, but if we ask God about it, He might show us that it belongs in the 'lies' drawer. For example, we might believe ourselves to be unworthy of love because of how we have been treated, but this is not God's truth about us. Or maybe we aren't convinced that God really cares about us, and we place that thought in the 'unsure' drawer.

There will always be a scripture showing us God's truth for every one of our situations. All we need to do is to ask Him to show us where we have been caught up in wrong thinking and be *open* to hearing from Him. In His time, He will reveal His godly truth to us and set us free from bondage and the enemy's plans for destruction.

Culled from "Seeds of the Kingdom", a daily devotional from Ellel Ministries

LOCAL Outreach

STOREHOUSE FOODBANK, AN ACTIVITY OF KINGDOM VINEYARD

*is supported by all the St Andrews Churches. **Our link is Ron Cruickshanks.** Please continue to donate weekly, **there is great concealed need in St Andrews***

Storehouse is based at the St Davids Centre Albany Park KY16 8BP

storehouse@kingdomvineyard.com 01334 845985

The Kingdom Vineyard (East Fife) is a Registered Charity No. SC037042

(No apologies for repeating this; it is important)



Why not visit the St David's centre on a Wednesday if you haven't been).

And have look at the waves! (Ed)



Overseas outreach

Angel Tree report from Julie

S. asked me to go with her to look for one of the Angel Tree families whose kids have not returned to the project and who are not answering the phone. The mum is in the prison sentenced for murder and so the Dad and step-mum look after the two small boys. As the Dad drinks, it is mostly the young step mum who is responsible for the boys and she has a baby boy of her own who is a few months old.

We had been told the family had moved to a cheap lodging place where an ex-nightclub had been turned into a confusion of small rooms for rent. It is known as the “Vecindad del Chavo” (after the famous Mexican TV series). We walked several blocks around the address we had been given asking at every little “corner” shop but no one had heard of it.

As a last resort, S. phoned one of the other Angel Tree Mums who lives nearby and, despite being under the influence of drugs, she was able to tell us immediately and accurately where the place was (we were one street too far south and three blocks too far west) but she asked why S. wanted to go there and told her it was dangerous.

With V.’s directions we found the place easily. The nightclub sign still hung from the front of the building and a constant stream of people came in and out of garage doors open onto the street. There was a girl cleaning at the entrance, who turned out to be the caretaker, and we told her we were looking for someone we thought lived there. She knew the family and we waited on the street while she went to look for LD.

Often tourists describe areas of Bolivian cities as slums which are not slums, but the glimpse we had into the squalid patio with its tiny rooms merited no other description.

LD. came out with the baby. She showed signs of a recent beating. Seeing us was a surprise but she was happy and went back in to get the boys.

S. and I sat on a low window ledge and LD. squatted next to us with the baby. The two boys ran around wildly and fought with another boy who had come out to see who we were. The younger boy was particularly violent. The children ran in and out of the busy road and narrowly escaped being hit by cars and minibuses. They are not attending school as by the time LD. got round to going to register them, the school in the north near where they lived before, had closed the lists for this semester. She now needs to wait until at least the middle of the semester to apply for them to be admitted to a school nearer to where they are living.

LD.’s options seem limited. She would like to out of the “Vecindad del Chavo” but has not got enough resources. She would like to leave her partner but as she does not have any legal papers saying she is responsible for the boys she would have to leave them too and she does not want to do that. The boys’ mum will be in prison until they are adults and is not able to help her out much. The boys’ father will not let her leave and take them with her.

We prayed with her and encouraged her to bring the boys to Angel Tree when she can.

Julie

Sadly, such stories are always regarded as ‘over there’

Just this week we heard of the death of a member of our ‘Breakfast @Trinity’ family.

‘A ‘and his partner had been heroin addicts. They were befriended by the Breakfast@Trinity family and encouraged to join us for worship and at social events. Their progress was rocky, but gradually improved. He made a commitment to follow Jesus and was baptised in the sea by Cameron. He and his partner agreed to get married and we provided both the wedding in the H&M aisle and a reception. They seemed to be progressing well; but sadly the damage done during their time on drugs left both with considerable difficulties and we heard last week that he had died, at the age of only 42.

This was a couple in OUR town, whom we tried to help, but failed after Breakfast@Trinity closed. In the street one day they said to me “When is Breakfast at Trinity starting up again?” I had to tell them that there were no plans at present.

Could we have done more? Of course we could, but it needs a team of us, committed to help those in desperate need. ARE WE READY TO TAKE UP THIS CHALLENGE ONCE OUR CONGREGATIONS UNITE

In our streets this month (1)

Many of you will, I am sure, have taken advantage of Chinchirencee, Jane’s wonderful flower shop at the Westport.

Sadly Jane has had to close, needing to be a carer for her mum. We wish her well and she has promised that she may come back if circumstances change. Thank you Jane for bringing such colour to the town.

PS Jane will be working part time in the family flower shop, the Rosebud, at 209 Perth Road. in Perth road, Dundee



Children's Corner

Hello again, girls and boys, Perhaps you've recently been hearing about the wonderful events of Easter. They end happily, but let's go back a little in the story, and see if you can solve six anagrams. Good luck!



- 1 What do we call the day when the crowd shouted 'Hosanna!' as Jesus entered Jerusalem? ANY PLUM ADS (2 words in the answer)
- 2 What is the name of the great Jewish festival, during which Jesus had a final meal with his disciples? OPS VERSA (1 word)
- 3 At that meal, what memorable statement did Jesus make, when breaking bread with his disciples? SID SMITHY BOY (4 words)
- 4 Who betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver? ARIA DISCUSJOT (2 words)
- 5 After his arrest, Jesus was taken to the house of which High Priest? AH SPIACA (1 word)
- 6 Jesus was then sent to which Roman governor for his trial? APPLES TUITION (2 words).

I don't think I'll need to give you the solutions because (a) you can find them (except the first one) in chapters 14 and 15 of Mark's Gospel and (b) you're all so clever!

And always remember the most important part of the Easter story: Jesus lives!

Bye for now

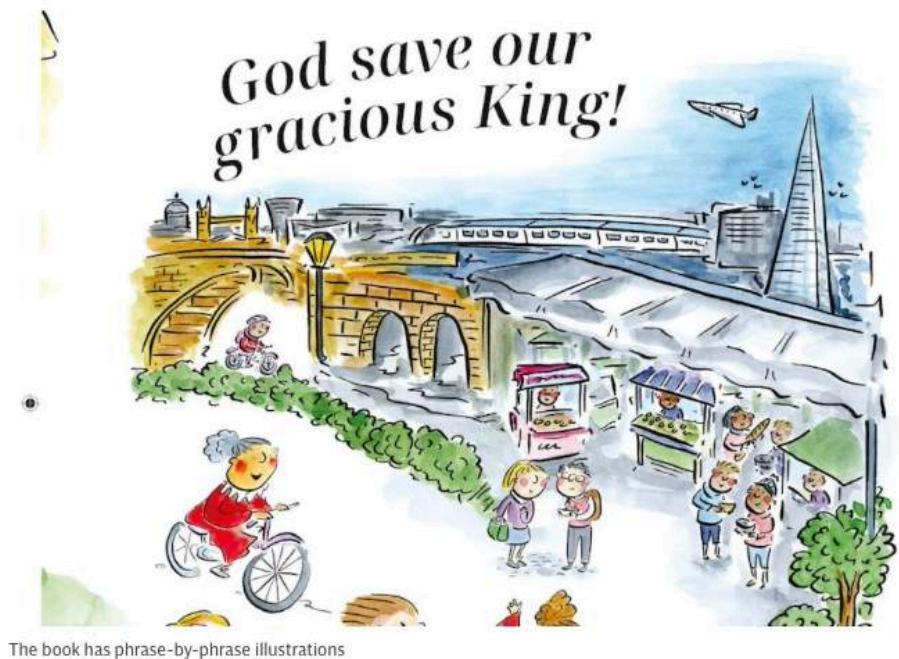
Granger Brash

Children's books

“God save the King”

Ahead of King Charles III's Coronation, a new illustrated book aims to teach children the song's lyrics, as well as its historical significance, so that they can fully participate in the celebrations.

The book, traces the Anthem's story from its origins in the Bible to its use around the world today, and features phrase-by-phrase illustrations.



The book has phrase-by-phrase illustrations

This book ‘gazumped’ Ian Bradley’s book of the same name. But I’m sure you won’t mix them up.

In our streets this month (2)

Old style evangelism

George has been plying Market street over recent months quietly promoting biblical values.

I asked him whether he had had any backlash for his overt messages.

***“No”, he said, “quite the reverse”,
Many students had spoken to him in support.
Perhaps we shouldn’t believe all we read in the press***



A Testimony - A Chaplain's Story

There was a chaplain who visited a hospital ward every Tuesday.

As he entered it he would be greeted by an onslaught of abuse from one man. Without reacting, he would smile at the man and say "God bless you"

This happened week after week.

One day the man said "Why are you so nice to me when I am so rude to you?"

The chaplain replied "because Jesus loves us all, despite what we say or do and it is my desire that everyone would come to know HIM"

The man paused.

The chaplain asked him "Would you like to know that kind of love?, would you like a personal relationship with Jesus?"

The man was unsure and said "What would I say too Him?"

The chaplain pointed to a chair next to his bed. and said

"Imagine if He was sitting here, right there in that chair, You can say whatever is in your mind.

Would you like me to lead you in a prayer to meet Jesus yourself?"

Surprisingly, the man agreed; and he prayed.



The next week the chaplain entered the ward and the man's bed was empty. He had died that week.

A nurse said 'He was always so rude, but in the last few days he had been polite and kind to all the staff- he was like a changed man'

She pointed to the chair and said "The strangest thing was that when he died we found

him sitting on his bed with his arms wrapped around that chair"

That man, in his final moments, had his arms around Jesus.

From Idea, the magazine of the Evangelical Alliance

New initiatives

From one of our regular young members

"I had been talking to another couple of students about Holy Trinity, who both said that they would be interested in coming along, but hadn't been before and weren't sure what to expect. They wanted to come along and lamented that we don't run 'Give it a Go' sessions, like the sports clubs and societies at the University, where you know you won't be the only newbie, and everything is explained to everyone as if it is their first time, with no assumption of prior knowledge, even at the most basic level.

I couldn't help but think this would be a wonderful idea for us, **if we chose and advertised a Sunday as a 'Give Church a Go' day, or something similar.**

If we gave lots of notice, we could ask the congregation each to bring someone new along, and advertise with the Christian Union, in student halls, and on social media.

It might also be good to have a page on the website titled something like **'New to Church?'** which explains the basics of sitting, standing, praying, and our core beliefs.

We could have an extra-primed welcoming/befriending team on hand, and really signpost coffee/tea after the service, where we might reserve a table for people who want to talk to someone new to build fellowship.

I've lots of thoughts and am keen to pitch in with getting our numbers up and safeguarding not just the future of the building with the HT Trust, but the Christian worship of the CoS in Holy Trinity.

(This young man didn't let the grass grow under his feet- see below for the flyer which was produced A couple of hundred of these flyers were posted through letter boxes in Lamond driveway by him and his friends just before Easter

You should have received one too.

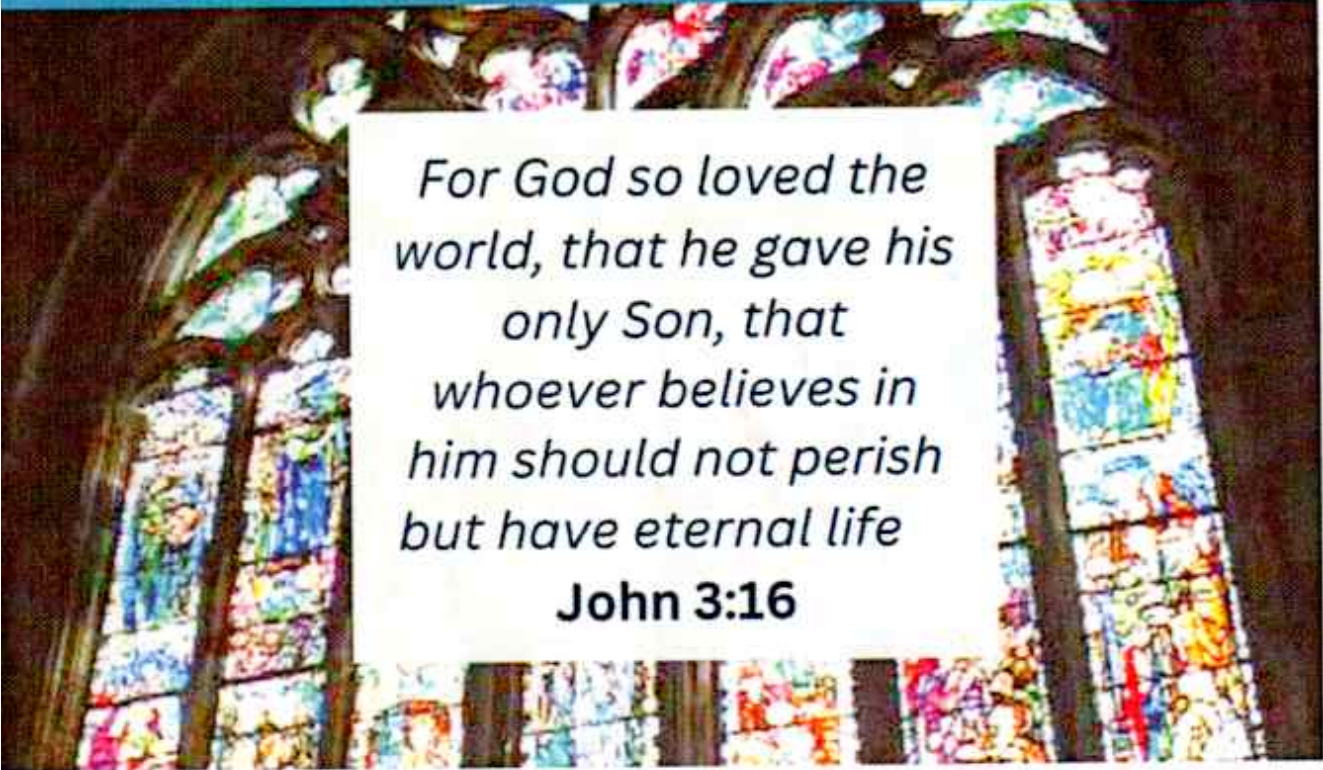
Please don't put it in the waste paper basket-
Why not offer it to that friend who you really wish would come to church with you?

or leave it in a waiting room somewhere.....



New Life, New Hope

Holy Trinity is your local parish church.
A community of all ages, we gather in faith to
worship God and to grow in fellowship.

A photograph of a large, colorful stained glass window in a church, featuring various religious scenes and figures in vibrant colors like red, blue, and gold.

*For God so loved the
world, that he gave his
only Son, that
whoever believes in
him should not perish
but have eternal life*
John 3:16

Give Church a Go

All are welcome at our Sunday services.
Find out more:



Parish of the Holy Trinity, St Andrews

www.holyt.co.uk

SCN: SC017173

CHANGES TO THE PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

12th February	Arabella Olivia Aiko Halliday	Holy Trinity
---------------	-------------------------------	--------------

WEDDINGS

31 st March	Duncan Bickerton to Catriona Ward	Holy Trinity
------------------------	-----------------------------------	--------------

FUNERALS

9 th January	Caroline Gourlay	Holy Trinity
17 th January	Paul Parker	Western Cemetery
17 th January	Margaret (Greta) Pate	Holy Trinity
19 th January	Margaret Lawrie	Holy Trinity
3 rd February	Margaret Harris	Brewsterwells
9 th February	Grace Paterson	Brewsterwells
17 th February	Walter Blair	Holy Trinity
28 th February	Alison Ashton	Holy Trinity

NEW MEMBERS BY RESOLUTION OF THE KIRK SESSION

31 st January	Alison Ashton	Holy Trinity
--------------------------	---------------	--------------

Sadly we have again lost several well loved members

Our prayers go out to those who are left behind.





**I AM THE
RESURRECTION
& THE LIFE.
HE WHO
BELIEVES IN
ME,
THOUGH HE
MAY DIE,
HE SHALL LIVE.**

