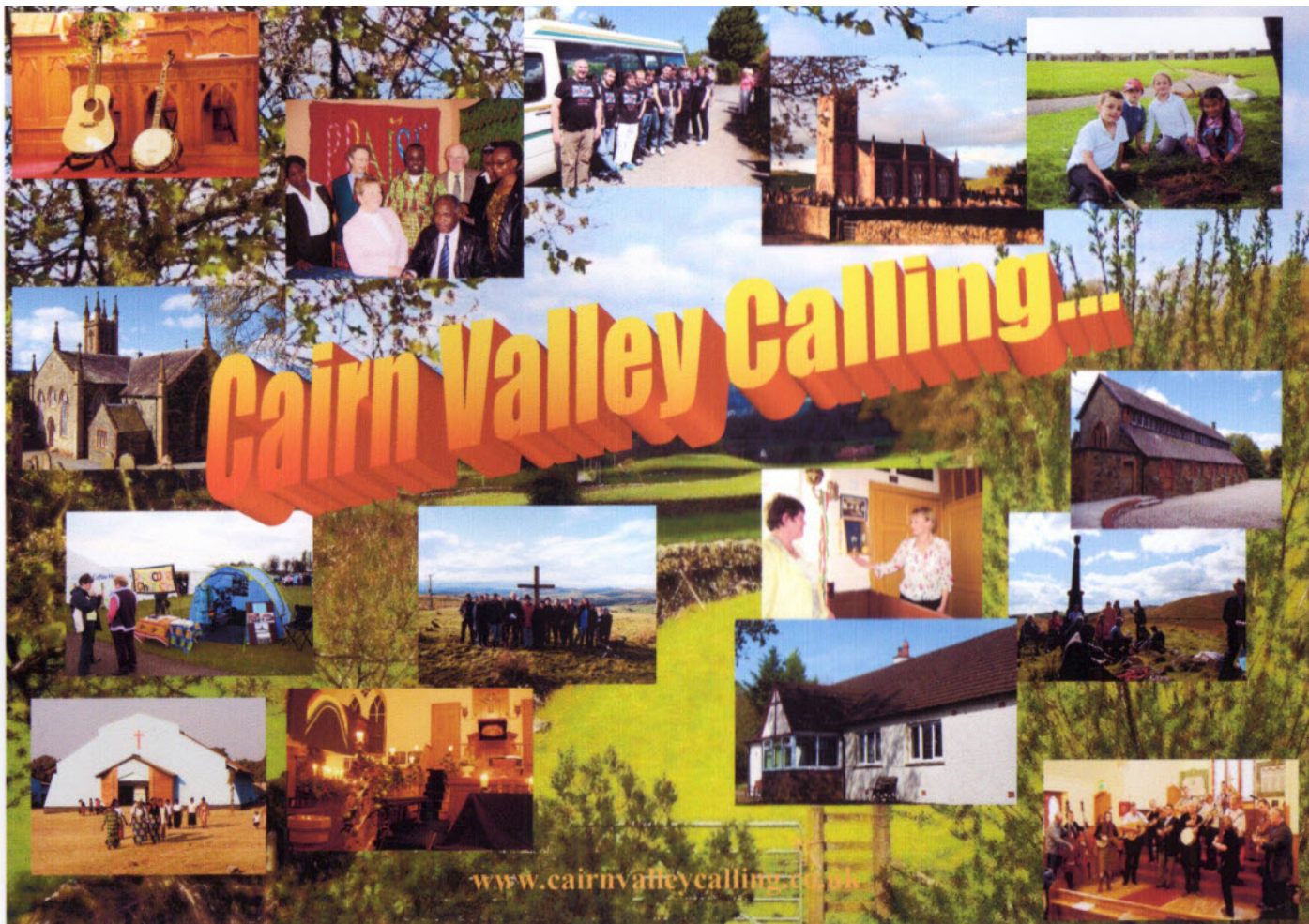


# The Dunscore Digest

Dunscore Parish Church Magazine  
September 2012



The postcard sent to ministers across Scotland inviting them to consider a move to the Cairn Valley. Please have a look at [www.cairnvalleycalling.co.uk](http://www.cairnvalleycalling.co.uk) and pass the site on to any good ministers that you know!

## In this Issue

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 7  | What does William Crawford think about Windfarms?   |
| 8  | Followed by some alternative views...               |
| 10 | How did SLYC get on at Wiston? Shaun tells all!     |
| 11 | Our Hungarian visitors give their views of Dunscore |
| 14 | The secret of Liz Williams' Cranachan Cheesecake    |

## Minister's Musings

David Bartholomew

The story is told of a bird lover who came on a hut in the forest and beside the hut was a cage with turkeys and chickens and a solitary eagle. As he gazed on the pathetic scene of the king of the birds caged up with chickens and turkeys he became incensed. He strode up to the hut and rapped on the door. A man opened the door and he blurted out to him, 'Are those your birds? How can you be so cruel as to keep an eagle cooped up with chickens and turkeys?' The man replied that he had found the eagle abandoned in the forest as a young bird and he had taken it home and nursed it back to health. He had kept it in the cage with his other birds and it had become convinced that it was a turkey. And the bird lover said to the man, 'Will you let me set the eagle free and teach it to fly?' The man said he was welcome to try.

So the bird lover took the eagle out of the cage, looked deep into its eyes and told it it was an eagle, the king of the birds; it was created to soar up around the cliffs and crags, to enjoy the rush of wind in its wings, to even touch the clouds. Its destiny was not to live amongst chickens and turkeys. But the eagle looked dumbly at the man, hopped off his arm and scurried back into the cage with its mates. Not to be defeated, the man took it out again, climbed up onto the roof of the hut and said to the eagle, 'You must learn to fly, to use those great wings of yours that are folded against your side.' He tried to launch the eagle from the roof but it leapt down with a couple of ungainly bounces and scurried back into the cage again. 'See, I told you so', said the man.

But he was not easily to be defeated and early next morning he returned to the hut in the woods, thrust the eagle into a sack and took it to the top of the highest mountain nearby. And as the first rays of the sun showed over the horizon he set the eagle free and called on the bird to fly free like an eagle and achieve its true destiny. The eagle gazed at the rays of the rising sun, and they seemed to arouse it deep within its very being. It stretched out its wings to test the mountain breeze and launched itself into the air to soar away over hill and glen.

Too many of us are living at a lower level than God intended us to enjoy. It's as though we're grubbing around in the dirt amongst the turkeys, and never looking up to the horizon of God's promises towards us. God calls us to find our lives in him and put our trust in him - so that we might soar with him and allow him to be the wind beneath our wings, enabling us to mount up to the heights. He can help all of us beyond our darkness and despair to know the light and love of his presence and to enter into a new quality of living.

Even youths grow tired and weary,  
and young men stumble and fall;  
but those who hope in the Lord  
will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:30-31)

## Charity Choices

Maureen Bostock

### Multiple Sclerosis

How many degrees of separation are there between each of us and Multiple Sclerosis? Not that many, I would estimate. Anyone who has read a Harry Potter book or watched a Harry Potter film already has an association as Harry's creator, J K Rowling, watched her late mother live with the disease and donated £10 million in 2010 to fund research into MS.

After receiving a diagnosis of MS in the same year, I approached the local branch of the MS Society and have since become an active committee member. Whilst we do not aspire to match Ms. Rowling's hugely generous bequest, we do endeavour to help some of the 300 sufferers of MS within Dumfries and Galloway (plus their families and carers) with access to information, financial assistance and other support agencies.

Our Branch has benefited greatly from the generosity of many Dunscore residents who have either supported the Cake Break or Quiz Night, both held in The Flying Pig earlier in the year. Michael and Elizabeth have also been kind enough to give residence to a large collection bottle should anyone wish to donate some loose change to the charity.

An additional – but no less important – aim of the Branch is to raise awareness of MS. To that end we are available to deliver a presentation to any group or society with an interest in this often little understood illness. This can be arranged either through our secretary, Ann Latimer on 07972 229344 or Les Bostock on 01387 820555 / 07972 229320.





# Carbon Footprint Day

28 October is the day that clocks go back but also the Dunscore (and surrounding area) Carbon Footprint Day. On that day everyone is asked to read their electricity meters, car mileage and oil tank level. The Eco Group will put this information into a spreadsheet and use it to calculate household carbon footprints (how much energy / carbon you have used since the last reading - giving an indication of the impact that your household is having on the environment. Many households are already doing this but please take part! To do so, just call Matthew on 820448 or email on [eco@dunscorechurch.co.uk](mailto:eco@dunscorechurch.co.uk) as soon as possible and we can start you off!

## A Chat with... The Nominating Committee Chairman

*The Assistant Editor caught up with Colin Mitchell (not an easy task!) at his home in Dunscore, to find out more about his life and work...*

*Colin, how did you feel when you were elected Chair of the Nominating Committee?* I was honoured to be chosen but also scared stiff, because of the size of the task.

*And now?* I now feel reassured because we have a good group whose members all play their part. If we can't do it, no one can!

*What stage are you at in the process to appoint a new minister?* We have advertised on a massive scale, spreading our net worldwide. We have advertised the post, and written personally to every minister in Scotland.

*What kind of minister would you like to see appointed?* A person who is acceptable to the whole community, and one who would encourage people of all ages to come to our churches.

*Tell me a bit about yourself. How long have you lived in the village?* Pam and I moved here from Bathgate in 1984 when I became Assistant Head at Maxwelltown High School. I was then Head of Dumfries High School from 1990 until I retired in 2005.

*What do you like about living here?* The people, who are very friendly and accepting. The scenery and environment and the proximity of the hills.

*We know you are a very busy man. What do you do with your spare time?* Family are most important - both our sons take up a lot of our (pleasurable!) time and of course we now have a grandson, too. I enjoy hillwalking, birdwatching and wildlife surveying and am a member of Moffat Mountain Rescue Team. I Chair a number of committees which include: Glenriddell Hall Committee, Solway Heritage and the Dumfries Group of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society. I am Reserve Convenor of Stenhouse Wood (run by the Scottish Wildlife Trust) and a Trustee of D&G Small Communities Housing Trust. I am also a member of Dunscore Community Council.

*What plans do you and Pam have for the future?* We are just about to leave for Canada to celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. We would like to see more of Scotland, particularly the islands.

*I always ask interviewees about food...* I like seafood. Smoked salmon, definitely, and champagne, though I don't get that very often!

*Tell me one thing, Colin, that folk in Dunscore don't know about you* I competed in the Scottish Judo Championships. I lasted about 3 seconds – he hit me and I hit the ground!

*Thanks, Colin, for sharing all that with us.*



## Don't Miss the Bus!

Tax dodging costs developing countries an estimated \$160 billion every year and so Christian Aid is taking its tax justice message on the road.

The Christian Aid Tax Bus will be at Dumfries Northwest Church on Monday 1 October from 1:00 - 3:00 and will be a chance to hear from a Christian Aid partner affected by tax injustice and to hear what they and Christian Aid are doing about it.

This is a really important topic so please join others from Dunscore who will be going to hear from the experts.

**Middle Age** is when you're sitting at home on Saturday night and the telephone rings and you hope it isn't for you.  
*Ogden Nash*

## Arts in the Clarts

Sue Sterlling

Wow where did that year go?

Following on from last years successful exhibition, Dunscore Area Art Show will be held in the Glenriddell Hall on the 15 and 16 September. Entries are welcome from anyone over the age of sixteen and who lives within an eight mile radius of Dunscore.

The aim of the exhibition is to show the diversity of skills in the rural community, artists and artisans alike. Last year was amazing with all manner of creativity and skill on display from cabinet makers to crewel work, dyking to decoupage, fine art painting, sculpture, weaving, ironwork, photography, embroidery, knitting, needlework, stick making, stained glass, and wood turning. It was, in short, an impressive display of what we can and do produce both as amateur and professional makers and artists.

It will be a hard act to follow, but we are hoping to surprise folk again this Year having already secured some great exhibits which we hope you will enjoy seeing. Better still why not enter your own exhibit, forms are available from, The Flying Pig Dunscore, Auldgirth Post Office, Thomas Tosh, Thornhill and Watson's Moniaive. We hope to see as many of you as possible both as exhibitors and visitors.

we are very grateful to Sheena Howatt who has once again agreed to provide refreshments throughout the day. Yummy cakes and culture. Nuff said, see you there.



## The Moosie's Prayer

**Thanks to the anomoose person  
that sent this to the editor!**

A puir wee kirk moose a' forlorn  
Its furry coat fair sairly worn  
Sank doon upon its bony knees  
And prayed - for just a wee bit cheese.  
The tears ran doon its wee thin cheeks  
But nane could hear the saddest squeaks  
That drifted oan the cauld nicht air  
Till whiles it could nae pray nae mair.  
Syne daylight cam, the kirk bells rank  
The doors swung open wi' a bang  
Communion day had come oan by  
Wi' wine and plates o' breid held high.  
The wee moose lay as still as daith  
And watched it a' wi bated braith  
Then thocht - If I keep awfu' quate  
A bit might jist fa' aff a plate  
And so it gazed as roond they went  
Then just as tho twas heaven sent  
Whit landed rich upon its heid  
But twa lumps o' communion breid.  
The staff o' life lay oan the flair  
Then, bounteous answer to his prayer  
Jist as he thocht, 'It looks fell dry'  
Ae body couped some wine forbye.  
Wee moosie stoated up the aisle  
Wearin sic a boozy smile  
The folks stopped singin', fair aghast  
Tae see a dunken moose walk past.  
The organist fell aff his chair,  
The meenister could only stare  
Tae see this drunken, sinfu' moose  
Cavortin' in his sacred hoose  
At last it staggered up the nave  
Then turned and gied a happy wave  
'I ken noo when its time to pray

## Dunscore Guild

The Dunscore Guild has a varied and interesting programme for the coming year.

We are delighted to welcome speakers from the Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF); Tearfund; The Salvation Army; Alzheimers Scotland; Dumfries prison chaplaincy and Amnesty International.

Please join us in the church on the second Thursday of the month.

## Flicks in the Sticks

The flicks will be back for a new season this autumn. The first film will be *The 39 Steps* (the 1978 version with Robert Powell and featuring some local landmarks) on Friday 5 October in the Glenriddell Hall. 6:45 pm for 7:00 pm showing.

## Digest Bible Quiz

1. How many books are there in the New Testament?
2. Which gospel records the fewest of the miracles performed by Jesus?
3. What miracle did Jesus perform at the marriage in Cana?
4. Who was the tax collector that climbed up a tree so he could see Jesus?
5. Which two Old Testament characters appeared with Jesus at the transfiguration?
6. How did Jesus reveal the one who would betray him?
7. Who went with Paul on his first missionary journey?
8. On what island was Paul shipwrecked as he made his way to Rome?
9. In the New Jerusalem described in Revelation, what are the twelve gates made from?
10. How many churches of Asia Minor were there?

Answers are on page: 12

# Fairtrade - What's the Point?

Matthew Aitken

Regular Digest readers will be familiar with articles about what Dunscore Fairtrade is up to. We have meetings, events and so on, all with the aim of promoting Fairtrade and encouraging people to buy Fairtrade products. But why? Is there any possible reason to choose one product, in some cases a slightly more expensive product, over a better-known brand. Actually yes, and here's why.

Felipe Miza Castro is a coffee farmer in Guatemala, one of 58 farmers in a local cooperative. Felipe bought his land (1.2 acres) in 1982 and has planted 3,000 coffee trees and grows corn and beans to feed his family.

Coffee growing has become an increasingly precarious livelihood since prices began to slump in 1997. By October 2001 the price of arabica coffee on the New York Exchange had tumbled to 45 cents a lb - the lowest level for 30 years and the lowest ever in real terms. The main cause of the slump is global oversupply, exacerbated by increased production on the large plantations in Brazil and government-backed expansion in Vietnam. Coffee provides 90% of Felipe's income. As Felipe points out: "The fall in coffee prices has made it really difficult to look after my family and educate my children. The price we get for our coffee from the local trader is unfair; the trader makes more money than we do. It's not enough to live on - it doesn't even cover the cost of producing it. Without Fairtrade sales it would be very hard for us to survive and I would have to take my children out of school'.

Felipe receives more than twice as much for his beans when selling to Fairtrade buyers and his co-op receives the additional Fairtrade premium of 5 cents a lb which it has invested in buying a plot of land. They hope Fairtrade sales will help them raise the \$18,000 needed to build a coffee mill on the land so that they can process their own coffee. This would almost double the value of their coffee and, vitally, provide many new jobs for local people. 'Fairtrade', says Felipe, 'is giving us the opportunity to survive and help other people in our communities.' An invaluable by-product of the mill would be the cherry husks that farmers would use to improve the organic compost used to fertilize their land.

There is lots more information about Felipe and other Fairtrade producers at [www.fairtrade.org.uk/producers](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/producers).

So we hold our events and bang the drum for Fairtrade to encourage people to support producers like Felipe. Next time you are shopping and have that jar of Nescafe in your hand, please think of Felipe and buy a jar of Fairtrade coffee instead!

And if you have tried Fairtrade and didn't like the taste, remember that there are lots of Fairtrade brands so there are almost certainly some that you will like.

Recently, we have taken part in the Gala parade, showing off our new banner and handed out scores of Fairtrade bananas. At the Fairtrade stand at the Gala, there was an opportunity to estimate the price of a basket of Fairtrade shopping and to guess the number of Fairtrade Maltesers in a jar (Maltesers are a recent addition to the Fairtrade range).

We are supporting the fortnightly tea / coffee and chat in the Glenriddell Hall. Please come along and enjoy this village event.

If you would like to get involved, please speak to Alison Boyes on 820263.



The new banner and lots of bananas to hand out

## News Snippets

*Allegedly genuine newspaper cuttings...*

**Question of the Day:** What constitutes a millionaire? Answer: A millionaire is someone who has \$1 million according to Jerry Beto, branch manager and senior vice president of investment of AG Edwards and sons.

One-armed man applauds the kindness of strangers

Statistics show that teen pregnancy drops off significantly after age 25.

A deputy responded to a report of a vehicle stopping at mail boxes. It was a mail man.



## Email List Links

What do the following have in common...?

### Lobbying - Freecycle - Information - Lift Sharing

Not much, you might think. But they are actually all email lists run by the Eco Congregation group at Dunscore church.

You can be on one, several or all of these lists by just sending an email to [eco@dunscorechurch.co.uk](mailto:eco@dunscorechurch.co.uk) and asking to be added to the list.

**Lobbying:** A survey of the congregation indicated that many people would be interested in lobbying and petitioning for "green" and ethical issues. If you are on this list you will receive occasional emails (around one every couple of weeks) with an online petition or lobbying opportunity that you might consider. If you decide to add your name to a petition, typically, after a couple of clicks, the job will be done. Occasionally, for more involved issues, you might be asked to consider writing a letter. But it is all optional and you may agree with some and not others. Its all up to you.

Recent issues have included a Friends of the Earth petition to Nick Clegg on climate change and lobbying the Israeli government over uprooting Palestinian olive trees used to make Fairtrade olive oil. So, quite diverse!

**Freecycle:** Our Freecycle list is really active. Participants send details of items that they no longer require or things that they would like and these are added to a list that is emailed every few days to around 70 people. If you want something from the list, you simply call the person and arrange to collect it. It works a treat.

At the time of writing this we have some prescription cat food, bookcases, caravan towing mirrors and a rocking chair. And the list is always changing.

**Information:** This list keeps recipients up to date with events that are coming up in the village and surrounding area. Whether it is the coffee and chat in the Glenriddell Hall or a yoga class starting in Moniaive, we aim to let people know. If you know of something that you would like circulated, email [eco@dunscorechurch.co.uk](mailto:eco@dunscorechurch.co.uk).

**Lift Sharing:** This list is an opportunity to let people know if you are travelling and could offer a lift. Whether to Castle Douglas or to London, someone might be happy to share the lift (and possibly share the fuel cost too).

This has been one of the quieter lists so please email [eco@dunscorechurch.co.uk](mailto:eco@dunscorechurch.co.uk) if you would like to offer a lift.

## Coffee, Cake and Chat **Lorraine & Blair Waugh**

On alternate Wednesdays in the Glenriddell Hall we enjoy Fairtrade tea, coffee, baking and, especially, banter.

Volunteers from Dunscore and surrounding area serve tea, coffee and baking for £1.50 with any profit going to local charities and good causes. So far the Dunscore Gala and Wednesday Club have benefited.

If you have a group that you wish us to support please come along on a Wednesday morning and talk to us. We would also welcome support from anyone who wishes to volunteer to make tea and coffee.

This is a great opportunity to meet new friends and renew old acquaintances in a very relaxed atmosphere. It is timed to coincide with the Wednesday Post Office visit so you can do your Post Office business at the same time.



Coffee, Cake and Chat all being enjoyed

## Day of the Region

### Step Forward Moniaive!

This year, Moniaive is part of Day of the Region. "What's that?" I hear you cry. It is a celebration of rural community life that ran for the first time in Dumfries & Galloway last year and is part of a growing concept in Europe. Towns and villages across the region (including Moniaive) are running events throughout the weekend of 5-7 October. You could try art, pint-pulling, poker, fly-tying and dancing and much more. Go to [www.dayoftheregion.co.uk](http://www.dayoftheregion.co.uk) for more information. Genuinely something for everyone!

## Editor's Footnote

I was handed a bit of a challenge this time. As you will see below, William Crawford sent in an article about wind farms. My default position when I receive an article for the Digest is to publish it but those that can remember a few years back will recollect a "political" article in the Digest that caused a bit of a local stooshie. Once bitten...

The editorial team discussed the content and took soundings to decide, amongst other things, if it is an appropriate article for the parish magazine of an eco congregation church. We decided that, yes, it is appropriate to air differing views. We did, however, feel that there should be an alternative slant so included some questions and answers from a Friends of the Earth leaflet. My apologies, by the way, that we have an overly eco Digest this time!

As ever, opinions expressed in the Digest are not necessarily those of the Minister, the Interim Moderator, the Editor or the Church.

## The Bishop and His Robes **William Crawford**

You may have seen recently a photograph of an Anglican Bishop wearing robes on which were embroidered, pictures of wind turbines. How is it, you may have asked, that this no doubt well-meaning man should display upon his chasuble such symbols of greed and destruction as wind turbines? The answer, dear reader, is that he has been deceived into thinking that wind turbines are a clean, carbon-free method of generating electricity. He is yet another victim of the propaganda put out by the multi-national commercial conglomerates which generate and control our electricity. Large sums of money are spent by them in order to persuade people that the only way to save the planet is to wreck their environment, because wrecking the environment is what wind farms and wind turbines do.

I urge those who have not done so to find the nearest example of a wind farm in course of construction and to watch what goes on. You will require determination and agility. The construction teams make it difficult to approach but, when you do, you will see a massive exercise in destruction. The area will already have been scarred to make new roads. Huge, deep holes are gouged out of the earth to take the bases of the turbines and every living organism over a great area is killed. The holes are filled with great quantities of concrete and those who blithely talk of removing the concrete and re-instating the ground after 25 years are deeply mistaken. It will be impossible ever to restore it. Mills do not have to be dark to be satanic.

To return to our Bishop, he no doubt believes that because no smoke comes out of the top of a turbine, that the energy it creates must be clean. He could not be more wrong. Wind energy is foully dirty. The manufacture of the turbines themselves causes substantial carbon emission; in addition, the magnets require Neodymium, the refining of which creates toxic and radio-active waste. As a result, the inhabitants of the part of Mongolia from which it comes suffer from various serious health problems.

The digging of the pits for the turbines, and filling them with concrete, both involve substantial emissions of carbon. Some estimates suggest that when everything is taken into account, a wind farm saves over 25 years no carbon emission to speak of. Even if the whole country were covered in wind turbines, and that seems to be the aim of the governments in both Edinburgh and London, the energy produced would amount to no more than 8 or 9% of our requirements. Other forms of electricity generation will always be needed. The whole destructive process is pointless. Its only purpose is to make it look as if the politicians are doing something to save the planet.

The cost of creating a wind farm is as high in monetary terms as it is in terms of carbon emission. But Government has decreed that you and I should pay for it. This dates back to the Kyoto Treaty, where the arrangements made between governments and power companies favoured wind energy to the exclusion of other generation. The result is that you and I pay for wind energy through the nose while the energy companies and the landowners with turbines on their ground fill their boots. It increases fuel poverty amongst the poor. To many of us, it is nothing short of incredible that any Church of any denomination should wish to support so immoral a process. But the propaganda has been so effective and the indoctrination so complete that a new religion seems to have arisen whose adherents, often under the guise of Christianity, worship some green "sustainable" god who presides over wind farms. If ever there were a false god, this is surely it. The reality is of course that so far as wind energy is concerned, there is nothing green about it. Wind farms are destroying the environment with no significant benefit for the planet; the energy companies and the landowners concerned are making huge profits and you and I are being forced to pay for it all.

## Wind Turbines - Alternative Views

You may not be surprised to hear that some would disagree with William's view.

Christian Aid makes the point that "it is the poor of the world who are already suffering disproportionately from the effects of global warming and that poor people in the world's most vulnerable communities will bear the brunt of the forecast 'future shock'. No other single issue presents such a clear and present danger to the future welfare of the world's poor."

Friends of the Earth has produced a leaflet, *Windpower - Your Questions Answered*. While we do not have space to reproduce it in full, we have tried to capture their view on a few of William's key points on the next page. The full leaflet is at: [http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/factsheets/wind\\_power\\_your\\_questions.pdf](http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/factsheets/wind_power_your_questions.pdf).

### **Will building wind farms help prevent global warming?**

Wind power is a clean, renewable form of energy, which during operation produces virtually no carbon dioxide. While some emissions of these gases will take place during the design, manufacture, transport and erection of wind turbines, enough electricity is generated from a wind farm within a few months to compensate for these emissions. When wind farms are dismantled (usually after 20 years of operation) they leave no legacy of pollution for future generations.

### **Can wind farms produce significant amounts of electricity?**

Although there are vast quantities of wind energy available, harnessing the wind involves capturing energy that is relatively diffuse in the environment. Critics claim large, centralised power stations are more efficient, and that wind power will never be able to replace them. An individual turbine might not contribute much on a national scale, but together many can make a huge difference. The UK Government calculates that onshore wind could theoretically meet 80% of our current electricity demand, and that the offshore resource could supply 10 times this amount. More conservative estimates, taking into account things like land availability, suggest an achievable figure of about 70% of current electricity generation from on- and offshore wind by 2030.

### **Isn't wind power expensive and heavily subsidised?**

No. The cost of generating electricity from the wind has fallen dramatically over the past few years. Wind power can now produce electricity at a cheaper price than nuclear power in the UK. Energy from the wind will become even cheaper in the future ... The full costs of nuclear power, including dealing with highly-radioactive waste and decommissioning of old plants, are still not included in the price of electricity after decades of operating stations in the UK, and the nuclear industry is still dependent on massive Government subsidy. The cost to the consumer of supporting the initial development of wind power in the UK has been very small.

The Renewables Obligation, ... requires electricity suppliers to provide up to 20 per cent of their electricity from a variety of renewable sources by 2020. The cost of the Renewables Obligation made up about 1 per cent of our household energy bills in 2010.

### **Do wind farms kill birds or harm wildlife?**

The RSPB supports wind power, and has said that from its own studies at three wind farms in Wales, "the scale of bird strike does not seem to be of serious concern". The RSPB objects to about only 6 per cent of the hundreds of wind turbine applications it looks at each year. The charity says: "If wind farms are located away from major migration routes and important feeding, breeding and roosting areas of those bird species known or suspected to be at risk, it is likely that they will have minimal impacts." Other forms of wildlife are generally not significantly affected - nor are agricultural livestock, which often graze right up to the bases of the turbine towers.

**And Finally...** For an alternative take on the wind turbine debate don't miss the video from the American satirical website *The Onion* at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F0UkH81NMT0>

## **You Are Welcome...**

Do you think that this welcome should be added to our Church Family Notices?

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, filthy rich or skint. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying new-borns, skinny as a rake or could afford to lose a few pounds.

You're welcome here if you're "just browsing," just woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Catholic than the Pope or haven't been in church since little Jo's Baptism.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians and junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion," we've been there too.

If you blew all your offering money at the dog track, you're welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because grannie is in town and wanted to go to church.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts ... and you!



## Creation Time

**Alison Boyes**

Those of you with a subscription to *Life and Work* (see postscript) may have read the article in the September edition about "Creation Time". While this is a new project for the Church of Scotland, the idea of Creation Time itself has been around for over 20 years. In 1989, the Patriarch of the Orthodox Church suggested that September 1 (the first day of the Orthodox Church's year) be observed as a day "of protection of the natural environment". This has been widened by the European Christian Environmental network (ECEN) so that Creation Time is now celebrated right through to the feast of St Francis on October 4 and many churches use these weeks to reflect on God's creation and how we should care for it. For 2012, the World Council of Churches has chosen the theme of Sustainability, reflecting the United Nations Year of Sustainable Energy for All.

For the first time this year, the Church of Scotland has used its Starters for Sunday webpages to share resources for worship during Creation Time. The resources have sufficient material for seven Sunday services, each linked to a day in the Biblical story of Creation. The theme for the seventh Sunday (October 14) for example, is "Rest, Replenish, Recycle" – "God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done" (Genesis 2:1-3). There are bible readings, reflections, prayers and suggestions for music, as well as some excellent additional resources. It would all be very good material for a series of bible studies, or simply for personal reading for anyone interested in what the Word of God can tell us about living in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

It may not be possible for us to use the Starters for Sunday material in Dunscore this year, as we welcome different preachers to our church every week during the vacancy. However, we have chosen the last week of Creation Time as a fitting occasion to celebrate our third EcoCongregation Award. On Friday, October 12 we will be making a "Song and Dance for Creation" in the Glenriddell Hall with a Harvest meal and entertainment. Christine and the Green Team from Dalgety Bay will be joining us. Please come along and do the same!

"May God who established the dance of creation, who marvelled at the lilies of the field, who transforms chaos to order, lead us to transform our lives and the Church to reflect God's glory in creation." (by Andrew Warmback and Brian Wilinson, South Africa). [www.churchofscotland.org.uk/worship/starters\\_for\\_sunday](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/worship/starters_for_sunday)

**Postscript:** *Life and Work* is the monthly magazine of the Church of Scotland and is full of news, views and reviews. You can receive it for only £20 a year if you speak to Stella McCubbin.

## Rock Solid Resumes

**Derek McGregor**

Rock Solid new session starts Friday 21 September. All between the ages of 10 and 14 are welcome on Friday evenings from 7:30 - 9:00pm for games, food and fun.

Rock Solid is run by Dunscore and Moniaive churches at the Glenriddell Hall Dunscore.

The first session theme is Record Breakers with the largest Banana Split ever!

For more information, please contact one of the leaders:

Carole and Derek McGregor: 01387 820462  
Max and Margaret MacKenzie: 01848 200068  
Libby McFadzean: 01387 820398

New volunteers would be very welcome - please contact one of the above if you are interested. New volunteers would need to take part in the Church of Scotland safe recruitment process before taking part in the programmes. For further information on this please contact Carole McGregor, Safeguarding Coordinator.

## Joint Service - But Different!

A highlight of the St Ninian's church year is the Bluegrass service when members of the Bluegrass bands from the Moniaive Michaelmas Bluegrass Festival join in a Sunday service.

This year, the service is on Sunday 30 September and happens to be a joint service with Dunscore. Even if you don't usually go to joint services - don't miss this one!

The festival itself runs from 28 - 30 September at venues throughout the village.



The Bluegrass band leading the hymn singing

## Wiston with SLYC

Shaun Lancaster

On 13 August, a group of 10 SLYC youth group members went with Dean Goddard, Kath Aitken and Colin Mitchell to WistonLodge, an outdoor adventure centre near Biggar.

The bus picked us all up in Moniave at around 10:30 and we travelled to Wiston. When we arrived we were greeted by staff and shown the tea and coffee-making facilities and told the eating times and when meals would be served before being directed to our log cabins. The log cabins were very nice and also very warm. Each cabin held six people in two separate rooms so, in our cabin, Tain and I shared a room and Matt, Jamie and Ross shared one. Once we got our stuff unpacked it was almost lunchtime so we gathered the troops and all went across the field to the main house for lunch.

After the best tomato and lentil soup ever we met with 'Stoby,' our instructor for the few days who was a really cool guy, and he showed us all the things we could do and then gave us complete freedom in our choice of what we were doing in the next few days. After much discussion we decided we were going to do the climbing wall and kayaking.

After a few really fun team-building games we got harnessed up and did the climbing wall which was fun because some of the hand grips and foot grips spun freely to make it harder. After putting back the harnesses and helmets we got changed into our swimming gear and went to the pond for kayaking / swimming which everyone enjoyed.

Then it was time for dinner which was pizza which seemed to go down well. After dinner we all just chilled out and listened to music in the cabins and by the campfire.

The next day we were up bright and early for another action-packed day, in which we did the totem pole and Jacob's Ladder followed by more kayaking and yet another delicious meal of chicken goujons and home-made chips.

That night we baked cheesy bread on a stick over the campfire which was extremely tasty and good fun. Another great night's sleep and we were on to the last day so we chose archery which, again like all the other activities, was a great laugh.

Wiston Lodge was a great experience for everybody, the food was delicious, the instructor was sound and all the staff were very welcoming and friendly. We all had an amazing time.



Shaun with Kyle ready for climbing

## Eco Congregation Presentation

Had you wondered what had happened to the handsome plaque that we received for our third Eco Congregation award (one of just five in Scotland by the way!)? It has not been lost but has been waiting for an appropriate occasion for it to be presented to the congregation.

That occasion will be on the evening of Friday 12 October in the Glenriddell Hall. We will have a celebration including food, some entertainment and presentation of the plaque. We have asked a certain Rev Christine Sime if she would make the presentation. She agreed and is bringing some of her "green team" from Dalgety church.

Please put the Friday 12 October in your diary and come along to join the celebration.

## Flying Pig Update

### Knitter Natter and More!

From Sunday 16 September, The Flying Pig winter opening times are:

Thursday - Sunday inclusive 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Food is served Thursday to Sunday from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

The next theme evening is on Saturday 27 October is *Halloween*. Please book to avoid disappointment.

The Knitter Natter winter season starts on Thursday 4 October from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. All are welcome - bring your sewing and knitting.



# Hungarian Visit

*The editor asked the Hungarian visitors to share some of their impressions of their time in Dunscore. Here is a selection:*

**Arnold:** We met a lot of people from the church at the barbeque. They were so nice. On the other day we went to John's house, I liked being there.

**Lilla:** I really enjoyed the meals at the different hosts, especially the barbeque on the first day at Sheila's house. One Monday we did the Jane Haining tour which was amazing. After that we had a nice dinner with Kath and Matthew. Their farm is beautiful. The next day we went to the Sandyhills beach with Alison and washed our legs in the sea which was quite cold. I would like to say thank you for the kindness and hospitality especially to Pam and Colin.

**Kristof:** I was amazed how the land and the atmosphere affected me. The hills were amazingly green and beautiful. The village people were very kind and hospitable. I could write a hundred pages about Scotland but I still couldn't describe the experience and the memory of Scotland. So, thank you all!

**Eniko** (the teacher): Personally, I really enjoyed the company of the people who were with us on our trips. I would like to thank Sheila and Archie for the lovely barbeque where we could listen to, and play, the Scottish bagpipes. We will all cherish the memory of the afternoon with John and Vari. We had great fun getting stuck in the mud and riding a quad bike. For me it was a trip where the past met the present. Thanks to Kath for showing us their land and its mysterious pine-grove. We had a lovely, funny time with Alison where we were stuck in the mud again and had a lovely dinner with Gill and Kay who are again such lovely people. Pam and Colin were really helpful and generous during our stay and we had a fantastic haggis for our last dinner here and could even try on Colin's kilt! We won't forget our trip here in Dunscore and we will pray for God's blessing on this amazing congregation. I hope to see you soon!



Pam talking to Lilla, Eniko and Arnold about Jane Haining

## Nominating Committee News

Colin Mitchell

### Have You Not Found a New Minister Yet...?

The Nominating Committee continues to work hard in the quest to find a replacement minister for Christine. Some of our work is confidential but we are keen to keep congregations and others up to date with our progress.

The full Committee has met on seven occasions and various sub committees have met to deal with specific tasks. This is all in addition to lots of phone calls and numerous emails.

Since our last article we have:

- Advertised our vacancy using a website specifically designed to attract and inform potential candidates [www.cairnvalleycalling.co.uk](http://www.cairnvalleycalling.co.uk)
- Placed adverts in the Ministers' Forum (a publication for Church of Scotland ministers)
- Placed an advert in "Life and Work" (the magazine of the Church of Scotland)
- Written 446 postcards to ministers in Scotland (see the front cover of the Digest to see the postcard)
- Written individual letters to follow up recommendations from members of both congregations

We have had some enquiries from Scotland and elsewhere and these are all being followed up.

We hope and pray that we will find the right minister soon.



# Climate Change Roadshow

Matthew Aitken

A climate change roadshow, now that sounds like a bundle of laughs! Being told to put your lights off, turn the heating down, use your car less... Not again!

Actually, it was not like that at all! It was not all good news and easy listening as some of the messages were quite stark and hard to accept but it was fun, lively and fascinating. I learned a lot and heard of many things that surprised, shocked and enthused me. Things that I took from the evening included:

- While the carbon footprint of 1 kg of Scottish carrots is 250g the carbon footprint of 1 kg of New Zealand lamb is 17 kg! Want any local lamb anyone?
- Developing countries may be able (with help) to go directly to clean energy sources minimising the additional carbon associated with development
- If companies were not able to avoid paying tax (e.g. by using tax havens) this could release \$160 billion to poor countries (1.5 times the international aid budget)



A brace of visiting ministers hearing about Food Miles

- Many countries with the greatest resources are among the poorest in the world
- Peat bogs are a great natural carbon sink but bogs in poor condition release carbon to the atmosphere
- Bogs can be re-juvenated simply by making them wet again (blocking drains and ditches)
- 6% of global carbon emissions come from deteriorating peat bogs (such as in Indonesia where they are drained for palm oil production) and 80% of the UK peat bogs are in Scotland



Ray and Ian learning about peat bogs

So, not such a dull and depressing evening after all! So much to think about and lots that we can all do. A massive thanks to the presenters. Diane and Val from Christian Aid, Gordon from Eco Congregation and Mas from the Crichton Carbon Centre who put so much into their presentations and workshops.

## Tenants Wanted

Colin Mitchell

The quest to bring back breeding Swifts to the church tower was moved a step forward by placing 3 specially designed swift nest boxes in the tower in April.

Unfortunately, although swifts have been seen circling the tower, the boxes were not used this year.

For 2013 the boxes will be slightly altered and a tape of breeding swift calls played from the tower to, hopefully, attract passing swifts (neighbours will be consulted beforehand!).

*On a related topic, your editor received an email from the Swifts Mailing List (yes, really) and they reported on Swifts tagged in Belgium. After bringing up their young, they headed south spending a few days in Spain, a short stop-over in Morocco then gradually down west Africa to the Congo basin for the winter.*



Church Tower Available for Swift Residents

*If we do see Swifts back in the tower, it seems likely that they will be pretty well travelled.*

## Quiz Answers:

- |              |                     |   |
|--------------|---------------------|---|
| 1. 27        | 2. John, with eight | 3. Turned water into wine                       |
| 4. Zacchaeus | 5. Elijah and Moses | 6. Dipped a piece of bread and passed it to him |
| 7. Barnabas  | 8. Malta            | 9. Pearl  |
|              |                     | 10. 7   |

# Teddy Time

## Recycle Balls of Wool

*This item came from Esk and Tweed Eco congregations*

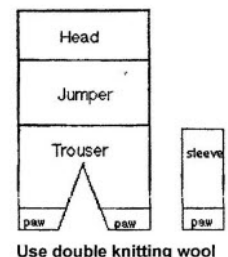
Are you a knitter? Would you like to knit teddies for children in hospital in Malawi? Each teddy will be placed in a draw string bag, which is sewn using colourful materials, and which also contains small articles such as a toothbrush and paste or a pencil and notebook. Teddy knitters do not need to provide the cloth draw string bags since there are volunteers who have offered to do this sewing if necessary.

The bags with the teddies etc. will be dispatched to children in hospital in Malawi by the charity The Raven Trust. If you decide to knit a teddy, contact the editor who will put you in touch with the Raven Trust contacts. Here is the pattern for the teddies if anyone is interested in 'having a go'.



### TEDDY KNITTING PATTERN

Using size 10 needles, cast on 10 stitches in the paw colour and knit 10 rows. Change to trouser colour and knit 30 rows. Leave stitches on a spare needle and make another leg to match. Knit across the two legs (20 stitches in all). Knit 16 rows in trouser colour. Change to jumper colour and knit 24 rows. Change to paw colour. Work 5.5 inches in st. st. (one row knit; one row purl). Change to jumper colour. Knit 24 rows. Change to trouser colour. Knit 16 rows. Knit 10 sts. Turn, complete leg and paw as before. Join in wool and make another leg.



**Arms:** Sew around head. Pick up and knit eight stitches either side of the head (16 stitches). Knit 20 rows in jumper colour and 10 rows in paw colour. Cast off.

**Scarf:** Cast on 75 stitches. Knit 5 rows. Cast off. Tassels can be added to the ends.

**Making up:** Sew paws, arms, sides and inner legs leaving space for stuffing. Stitch up corners of head with running stitch to make ears. Work eyes, nose and mouth on face. Please make a smiling mouth. Sew running stitches around neck base and draw up to shape face and neck.

## White Lie Cake With thanks to David Bartholomew

Alice Grayson was to bake a cake for the church Ladies' Group, but forgot to do it until the last minute. She remembered the morning of the sale and after rummaging through cabinets, found a cake mix and quickly made it.

When Alice took the cake from the oven, the centre had dropped flat and the cake was horribly disfigured. This cake was important to Alice because she wanted to fit in at her new church so, being inventive, she looked around the house for something to build up the centre of the cake. She found it in the bathroom - a roll of toilet paper. She plunked it in and covered it with icing. Not only did the finished product look beautiful, it looked perfect.

Before she left the house to drop the cake at the church, Alice woke her daughter and gave her some money and specific instructions to be at the sale the moment it opened and to buy the cake and bring it home. When her daughter arrived at the sale, she found the cake had already been sold. She grabbed her mobile and called her mum. Alice was horrified. Everyone would know! She would be ostracised, talked about, and ridiculed (*a bit excessive, even for Dunscore!*).

All night, Alice lay awake in bed thinking about people pointing fingers at her and talking about her behind her back. The next day, Alice promised herself she would try not to think about the cake and would attend the fancy lunch at the home of a fellow church member and try to have a good time. Alice was half reluctant to attend because the hostess was a snob but couldn't think of a believable excuse to stay at home.

The meal was elegant, the company was definitely upper crust and, to Alice's horror, the cake was presented for dessert! Alice felt the blood drain from her body! She started to tell the hostess all about it, but before she could get to her feet, the Mayor's wife said, 'What a beautiful cake!' Alice, still stunned, sat back in her chair when she heard the hostess say, 'Thank you, I baked it myself.' Alice smiled and thought to herself, 'God is good.'

## **Reader's Recipe** Liz Williams (assisted by Alison Boyes)

### **Cranachan Cheesecake**

The Assistant Editor recently went along to a Scottish Night at the Flying Pig. If you weren't there, you missed a real treat. Not only a great three course meal for £12, but also good company and conversation, entertainment from Highland dancers and accordion playing by Maureen Bostock.

Your Assistant Editor is not usually one for desserts, but on this occasion the pudding course was so good that she has asked Liz to share the recipe with our readers. Apparently it came from a friend who had a tearoom up North. The fact that she has now retrained as a pharmacist should not stop you from trying out this wonderful cheesecake.

Liz advises using a good malt whisky. She doesn't specify which one...

#### **Ingredients:**

- 150g Hobnobs
- 75g butter
- 300g cream cheese
- 60g icing sugar
- 4 teaspoons malt whisky
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon honey
- Juice and zest of 1 orange
- 150g raspberries
- 250ml double cream

#### **Method:**

1. Gently heat the butter and honey together. Meanwhile, bash up the biscuits to a crumb. Mix together and press into a cake tin. Bake at 190°C for 5-7 minutes.
2. After the base is out of the oven, put whisky, orange juice and zest and half of the raspberries into a pan and simmer frantically for 5 minutes until the alcohol has burned off the whisky. Add the rest of the raspberries to cool the sauce.
3. In a separate bowl, mix together the cream cheese, icing sugar and vanilla extract. Fold in the double cream and raspberry mixture (make sure it's cold). Mix well but keep a nice marbled effect. Pour on top of base and chill in the fridge for a few hours or overnight.

## **Eve's Problem**

'God, I have a problem.' 'What's your problem Eve?'

I know you created me and provided this beautiful garden and all these wonderful animals as well as that hilarious snake but I'm just not happy.' 'And why is that Eve?'

'God, I am lonely and bored and I'm sick to death of apples.' 'Well Eve, in that case I shall create a man for you' 'Man? What is that, God?'

'A flawed base creature with many bad traits. He'll lie, cheat and be vain. He will revel in childish things. He'll be bigger than you and will like fighting, hunting and killing things. He won't be too smart so will need your advice to think properly. He will have a limited emotional capacity so will need to be trained. Since you've been complaining of boredom, I'll create him in such a way that he will satisfy your physical needs and you need never be bored again.'

'Sounds great', said Eve, 'but what's the catch, God?' 'Well, you can have him on one condition.' 'And what's that, God?' 'As I said, he'll be proud, arrogant and self-admiring so you'll have to let him believe I made him first. And it will have to be our little secret. You know, woman to woman.'



## Wet party

Stella McCubbin

What makes an afternoon of fun? A dry day with a little sunshine, children and lots of water.

This is what happened on Tuesday 28 August at the playing field when some children came with grannies, parents and aunties. We had great fun with water pistols, water balloons and water games.

We finished with lots of food, drinks and ice cream. Thanks to all that helped: Pam, Vari, Kath, Mary and Kay. This was the third party for the children this year and it was a great pity that more did not come!



## Are You Listening?

These notes on listening were handed out by Lindsay Martin at a bereavement evening organised by the Presbytery Mission and Discipleship Group.

You are not listening to me when:

- You do not care about me
- You say you understand before you know me well enough
- You have an answer for my problem before I've finished telling you what it is
- You cut me off before I've finished speaking
- You finish my sentences for me
- You feel critical of my vocabulary, grammar or accent
- You are dying to tell me something
- You tell me about your experience making mine seem unimportant
- You are communicating with someone else in the room
- You refuse my thanks by saying you haven't done anything

You are listening to me when:

- You come quietly into my private world and let me be me
- You really try to understand me even if I'm not making much sense
- You grasp my point even when it's against your sincere convictions
- You realise that the hour I took from you has left you a bit tired and drained
- You allow me the dignity of making my own decisions even though you think they might be wrong
- You do not take my problem from me but allow me time to deal with it in my own way
- You hold back your desire to give me good advice
- You do not offer me religious solace when you sense I am not ready for it
- You give me enough room to discover for myself what is really going on
- You accept my gift of gratitude by telling me how good it makes you feel to know that you have been helpful

## From the Archives... Five years ago

It is now five years since the first edition of the *Dunscore Digest*. Previously, we had the Dunscore Parish Church Newsletter but the autumn edition in 2007 was the first as the Digest. How time flies! So I thought it long enough ago to start a From the Archives section with a selection of snippets from five years ago.

New Elders Ordained Maggi Goodwin, Tim Hancock, Ian Hyslop, Chris Whittle and Mary Whittle

*This was also the edition with the first "Chat With" section. In this case it was a chat with the organist - Peter Gunnell and one of the questions: **What training have you had?** None on the organ! My last piano lesson would have been when I was about 18. The Dunscore organ is, fortunately, fairly simple to play.*

**Freecycle** We are gradually building a list of items that people no longer need and would be pleased to hand on to someone else. The list currently included sacks, a stainless steel sink, vases and white tiles. *Did this really start five years ago?*

**Mile of Pennies** We have just reached £600 which is fantastic news!

## **Community Council Column William Crawford**

Old Dunscore Kirkyard, at the eastern end of the Parish, near Ellisland, is in a deplorable state of disrepair and dilapidation. It is the burial-ground for many local families, such as the Waughs, the Spences, Griersons of both Lag and Dalgonar, and the Fergussons of the Isle. It is a site of historical importance; the Laird of Lag, Sir Robert Grierson, the notorious persecutor of the Covenanters, is buried there. Old Dunscore Kirk adjoined it; in 1630, James Grierson of Dalgonar and James Kirko of Sundaywell presented a Petition to Parliament, seeking leave to move the Kirk, then on Friars Carse estate, owned by the Maxwells, to its present position in the village (then known as Cottack) on Dalgonar estate. They stated that the Kirk was so ruinous that they 'daere not for hazard of their life repaire thearto for Godis worship'. The Maxwells objected to the suggestion that it should be moved. They wanted the Kirk to remain on their ground. Old Mrs. Maxwell told her two sons that they should 'put twa bullets through Dalgoner', even though they would have to flee the country. Wisely, they didn't, and in 1649, the Kirk was built on its present site in the village. (It was rebuilt in 1823). The Old Kirk near Ellisland was demolished, but the Old Kirkyard remained in place, and it continued to be used as a burial-place for many years.

Roy Spence has been raising the issue of repair of the Kirkyard for many years. Rabbits have been burrowing into the graves; human bones have appeared, possibly brought out by foxes; tombstones, undermined by the rabbits, have collapsed. The outer wall of the Kirkyard requires repair and the appearance of the Kirkyard is a disgrace. Each time that we have asked the Regional Council, whose duty it is to maintain the Kirkyard, their response has been wholly inadequate and we have been fobbed off repeatedly with promises that something would be done. Some efforts have been made to control the rabbits but there has been no determined or sustained effort. Roy Spence and I have visited the Kirkyard with the relevant Council officials, and have pointed out to them what needs to be done. Nothing has happened. The cost of overall repair is now very much greater than it would have been, had the Council acted sooner. We are told that there is no money available. We do not believe this. What is missing is the will, on the part of the Regional Council, to act.

The issue raises a wider point, of how we, the Community, can persuade the Regional Council in general to do what ought to be done, and what needs to be done. We have three excellent Regional Councillors in the shape of Gill Dykes, Jim Dempster, and Andrew Wood, who have often dealt satisfactorily with our concerns, so far as the Regional Council is concerned. So far as the Old Kirkyard is concerned, they have tried repeatedly to make the relevant officials act, but on this issue, without success.

Elections for the Community Council will take place on October 4. I am stepping down as Chairman; three years as Chairman is I think enough, though I am seeking re-election as an ordinary Community Councillor. A number of our Councillors are not seeking re-election. Firstly, Ian Wilson, our Vice-Chairman, who has been a splendid source of strength and support throughout my time as Chairman, and who has chaired the Leader sub-committee most admirably.

Secondly, Hugh Norman, who has been tremendously active and helpful on the Community Council for many years. The improvements to the Nether Gribton blackspot, and the fact that the Community Clock on the Kirk tower now works, are both due in large part to him. We will miss his financial acumen. Thirdly, David Beveridge, who has most usefully kept us in touch with concerns in his part of the village and last but certainly not least, our delightful Secretary, Patti Lean, who has done the job with charm and flair, all the while juggling her various roles as art teacher and artist and housewife and mother with that of Secretary. We have, I think, been a happy ship and that has, in large measure, been due to Patti's emollient, sensible and witty ways. We are extremely grateful to all four, Ian, Hugh, David and Patti for all that they have done for Dunscore Community Council and the Community.

### **Note from the Assistant Editor**

I may add that the Auld Kirkyard is also the burial place of many of the Boyes family, the most recent grave being that of my great great grandparents who lived at Burnhead Farm. The same grave also commemorates two of their grandsons, James and Robert Boyes, whose names are on the Dunscore War Memorial.

Sarah and I paid a visit there last week and we were appalled at the state of some of the gravestones, many of which lean dangerously or have fallen and broken.

Apart from being the burial place of many local families, it is a historic site and I hope that something is soon done to halt the deterioration.

# Services and Diary Dates

Sunday Services continue at 10:00 am.

Date	Time	Details
13 September	7:30 pm	Guild Re-dedication and talk by Robert McQuistan of MAF
26 September	10:30 - 12:00	Coffee morning in the Glenriddell Hall
30 September	11:45 am	Joint "Bluegrass" Service - St Ninian's, Moniaive
1 October	1:00 - 3:00 pm	Christian Aid Tax Justice Bus in Dumfries. Dumfries North-West Church
5 October	6:45 for 7:00 pm	Flicks in the Sticks - <i>The 39 Steps</i>
10 October	10:30 - 12:00	Coffee morning in the Glenriddell Hall
11 October	7:30 pm	Guild - Rosemary Buwert talking on Tearfund
12 October	To be confirmed	Song and Dance for Creation! Harvest Supper, celebration, entertainment and presentation of Eco Congregation award
24 October	10:30 - 12:00	Coffee morning in the Glenriddell Hall
28 October		Carbon Footprint Day - take your meter readings!
7 November	10:30 - 12:00	Coffee morning in the Glenriddell Hall
8 November	7:30 pm	Guild - Major Terri Holdroyd talking about the Salvation Army
21 November	10:30 - 12:00	Coffee morning in the Glenriddell Hall

## Contacts

Interim Moderator: David Bartholomew  
 Phone: 01644430380 email: [dhbart@care4free.net](mailto:dhbart@care4free.net)  
 Session Clerk: Charlie Macallan Phone: 820877 email: [macallan225@btinternet.com](mailto:macallan225@btinternet.com)  
 Editor: Matthew Aitken Phone: 820448 email: [dunscoredigest@gmail.com](mailto:dunscoredigest@gmail.com)  
 Assistant Editor: Alison Boyes Phone: 820263 email: [alisonboyes25@gmail.com](mailto:alisonboyes25@gmail.com)

If you would like a full list of church contacts, just ask your Elder

Dunscore Parish Church – Registered Charity Number: SC016060