



## From East Mainland Manse

Seasons of mists and mellow fruitfulness... if I didn't know better I'd say I could smell the frost on the grain the other night, a sure sign we are heading into autumn but surely it can't be yet because as I write this we are in the middle of Orkney's week of agricultural shows - dodging showers and mist, enjoying the sunshine and the mellow fruitfulness.

Tables at the Horticultural Show groaned under entries of quality vegetables, gorgeous flowers, baking and handicrafts - altogether stunning. And out on the Showground all the beasts on parade: horses, cattle, sheep and the poultry. Of course none of the entries just happen it takes dedication on the part of the exhibitor to present their show entry. Time and energy are given behind the scenes to make the Show possible and to deliver interest in the stands around the ring.

I can't exactly recall but I think it was the daddy on Walton's mountain - not a regular church goer - who said grace something like... "Lord, I ploughed the fields, I planted the seeds and I harvested the crops. If I hadn't done the work there wouldn't be food on the table. But we thank you anyway." All too human is a tendency to be smug.

The news this week brings us surreal images of human senselessness. We see the wreckage that was once a street in Gaza. We look in on life in under-resourced West African coun-

tries fearing an Ebola epidemic. We see Yazidi refugees 'sheltering' on a boulder strewn mountainside in desperate need of food & water and we hear the news that the USA & UK are to enter Iraqi airspace to deliver humanitarian aid. Humanity is fragile.

We have done nothing special to deserve the many blessings we breathe in each day of our lives. No more do the bombed out families of Gaza, the Ebola victims of West Africa, the Yazidi refugees in Iraq deserve the fearful situation in which they find themselves.

God has gifted us so much most of all the gift of Christ who showed us how to love. Christian charity is surely an outpouring of love that acknowledges we are all the same brothers and sisters....

This is the season of harvest when especially we give thanks for the gifts of God. Using the gifts that we are so freely given, the produce of the earth and fruit of human labour, how can we best live the gospel and demonstrate our love for God and for our brothers and sisters?

With every blessing

Wilma



Floral Art Display from the E. M. Horticultural Show depicting the 2014 Commonwealth Games



From the 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> of July the Guild held a Christening Robe Exhibition with Toys and Flower Festival. The ladies had the initial help of some strong gentlemen to help set up the display over three evenings.

The foyer was set up with a cradle and “baby” suitably dressed, knitted lace shawls and some robes with some information about the general history of christening robes. Ayrshire gowns from the 1800’s should have short capped sleeves and a distinctive “V” shaped bodice that goes down to the waist. These dresses should measure over 40 inches in length from shoulder to bottom of skirt. Anything less than 35 inches may have been tampered with! A large floral arrangement of lilies completed the display.



Each side of the church was arrayed with a display of about 40 robes of various ages, materials and styles. Needlework skills were very evident. Photos and family history snippets enhanced the show, as did baby bottles, first shoes and baptism certificates.

All through the church were lovely floral arrangements by Jan, Maureen, Isobel and Marlene.



Through in the Sunday School room were the toys. This certainly brought back childhood memories. Action men, spinning tops, books, well loved teddies, rattles and pull along toys just some of the examples on show.



After having a look at all the exhibits, guild members were on hand to serve a lovely cup of tea with home bakes.

It would be a great pity if you missed this fabulous exhibition of social history.

*Sheila Eunson*



### **East Mainland 2014 Christian Aid Week Door to Door Collection**

I am happy to report that the total raised this year was £2,695.52 (before gift aid was added) once again showing an increase on the previous year's collection. A huge thank you is due to all involved and the extremely generous support of the people in the East Mainland.

Kathy Galloway, Head of Christian Aid Scotland, included the following in a letter to us.

Once again, our vital network of supporting churches and groups offered hundreds of thousands of people across Scotland the opportunity to contribute to our work - through house-to-house and street collections, in workplaces, churches and supermarkets, and through a range of fundraising and sponsored events. As a result of this tireless support, I anticipate Christian Aid Week 2014 will raise over £1.5m in Scotland. Thank you for the part you played in making the Week such a success.

Conflict is a daily horror for a growing number of people across the world. However, as I hope you will have seen in this year's Christian Aid Week materials, Christian Aid and its partners are creating a safer, more hopeful future for many communities. The stories of hope from Colombia, Iraq and South Sudan which we shared are being replicated in many other countries, thanks to the efforts of the thousands of churches and Christian Aid Groups that take part in Christian Aid Week each year.

Your involvement in Christian Aid Week this year will enable Christian Aid to help more communities in the developing world that seek to support, thank you, and all who helped you, for taking Christian Aid Week into your church and community this year.

*Laurence Tait*

### **Out of the Life of our**

#### **East Mainland Congregation**

Colin Tait 25/5/14

#### **Also Remembered**

John Duthie 27/5/14

### **Savoury Teas**

Sunday 8th May brought crowds of people to Deerness in the sunshine.

Now has word got out that the East Mainland Church provide very tasty Savoury Teas once a year or was it the new attraction of the Buffalo Open Farm Day that brought people from the rainy West Mainland? Either way people flocked to the Deerness Community Centre and extra tables had to be brought out to seat everyone. Thanks goes to everyone who provided the excellent spread of food for the teas, and to all those who baked for the sales table and donated produce and plants etc. A big thank-you to all the helpers on the day who served the teas and those kept busy in the kitchen or helped in other ways. An amazing amount of £1342.27 was raised on the day. To those of you who were there, I am sure you all had a great feed and enjoyed your tea.

*Kathleen Gaudie*

### **Sunday School**

The Sunday School prizegiving was held during the service taken by Val Kitchen on 29 June. We also sang the action song Father Abraham with help from Joy and the choir. We had the bouncy castle up again followed by juice and cakes.

*Katrina Tait*



## BB Report

Monday 28th April was a bonny night so out we went a walk around the Ness where we found four sanderlings nests with eggs in them. This was the first time some of the boys had seen a wild birds nest.

14th May saw us up in Dounby competing in the Groundwater Shield for football.



A big thank you to all the parents for taking the boys there.

Our Annual Awards presentation was in the East Mainland Church on 25th May when Robert Kirkness handed silver badges and certificates to Jack Sinclair, Christopher Scott, Peter Cairns, Dominic Barnby, Adam Mackie and Owen Rosie. Bronze badges and certificates were awarded to Angus Derbyshire, Jamie Massey, Sam Paterson, Jason Scott, Conor Fulton, Michael Foulis. Those not present at the awards were Ewan Knox and Isaac Dearness.

We said farewell to Jack Gray that day as he is leaving us to continue his education. We wish him well. He has been a great help during the past few years.

So, session 2013 - 14 ended and we look forward to session 2014 - 15 starting in September.

*Jack McIntosh*

## East Mainland Show

Shows start with washing poultry, horses, cattle, people and the water boiler! Then there's the tent - initially we were dismayed to discover we had shrunk from a 'Cathedral' to a 'Kirk Hall'! We had also moved site near to the main gate.

As usual members of the congregation arrived laden with soup, sandwiches and tray bakes of many varieties, also tablet and jams. Many of these same people manned the stalls for an hour or two and even some stayed most of the day. Time and food were all donated.

The early part of the day was overcast and it showed by the lack of people about, however we became much busier and ended up with as good a day as we usually have.

Thanks goes to all the folks who helped in any way and to those loyal hungry folk who looked for us on the day and helped raise £527.65 for Church Funds (less some expenses yet to be paid).

*Nancy Omand*



East Mainland Show Fundraising Tent



## Guild News

### April Meeting

Vice President, Joyce Johnston welcomed members and guests to the meeting and we began by singing 'I love to hear the story.' Morag read from Psalms 78 verses 1-7 and Joyce followed with prayer.

Business was attended to, including an invitation to join with the Salvation Army for their Rally on 14th April. The Presbyterial Council is holding the Summer Rally in the East Mainland Church on June 5th at 7pm when the speaker will be Iain Whyte, the General Secretary of the Guild.

The Winter Rally is to be held in the Milestone Church, Dounby on 23rd October at 2pm.

Joyce then handed over to Marion Dicken who, with her daughter Sarah, laid out an array of items from the past. Marion gave her memories of them which included a pair of scissors, 100 years old, hair clippers, coronation mug, tyre mending kit and a book for mothers, 'Teething to Teens,' Lifebuoy soap, war time coupons and much more.

Guild members took with them memorabilia of great significance belonging to members of their families. This stimulated other memories including that of a three year old going to Sunday School.

Mabel gave the vote of thanks to Marion for the variety of things she took with her which stimulated memories and much talk about the old times, to Isobel for playing, to Joyce for taking the meeting and to the tea ladies.

Hymn 547 'What a friend we have in Jesus' was sung and Joyce closed the meeting with a blessing.

*Nancy Omand*

### Summer Rally

The East Mainland Guild were hosts to the Rally held by Orkney Presbyterial Guild Council on 5th June. Convener, Mrs Liz McVicar welcomed everyone, as did Rev Wilma Johnston and Rev Iain MacDonald brought greetings from Orkney Presbytery.

The opening hymn 189, 'Be still' was followed by the roll call with Janet Grainger. The reflection was given by Liz McVicar and then Matthew 28 v16-20 read by Maureen Tait. The hymn, 'All things bright and beautiful' was sung and prayers given by Liz McVicar. This year's speaker Mr Iain Whyte, the General Secretary of the Church of Scotland Guild, gave an informative and interesting talk on his work. The closing hymn, 'Lord of our past', written by Iain Whyte, was sung to the tune of 'Highland Cathedral.' The benediction was given by Rev Iain MacDonald.

Supper was enjoyed together, with many of our visitors having a look around our improved Church building.

*Nancy Omand*



Teddies from the Shawl Exhibition



### Mrs Thelma Holt

... and it's goodbye from me!

As I contemplate retirement and beginning a new chapter in my life, I think back to how young I was when I decided that teaching was the career for me – probably when I was about four years old! I could never have imagined then the thrill I would get from working with the most energising, enigmatic, and fun people in the world, whose insights on life and learning had the power to humble me and constantly re-evaluate my own thinking and ideas. When I left college I thought I knew my job – how wrong I was – that was just the beginning of a wonderful learning journey that has engrossed me ever since.

There is much about my school life I will miss, but top of that list has to be singing and making music with the children. This has given me immense joy over the years and I was seriously pondering what might replace this huge part of my life when I came upon this poem by Kenneth C. Stevens in his collection entitled IONA, and I sensed a new music:

**The Newsletter Team would like to sincerely thank Thelma for her willingness to support our newsletter with such fascinating and entertaining reports from St Andrews School and wish her a happy and healthy retirement.**

### Summer Term Report by P7 St Andrews Primary School

This term has been filled with lots of activities. We have played a lot of sport in various events. We held sports day in May and it was a really nice day. The Dolphins won and the trophy was picked up by captains Senga Tait and Keith Dearness. Other sports events were the P7 transition sports, primary athletics and the Laird and Eunson football and netball cups. We also had a tag rugby festival for all the children P1-7.

P5 went to the Birsay Outdoor Centre for the day and enjoyed doing coasteering and archery. In June P6 went to the Hoy Outdoor centre for two days and went coasteering and walked to the Old Man of Hoy. On May the 19th, P7 children went to Lagganlia Outdoor Centre for five days and took part in a variety of activities and had a very enjoyable time.

This term P7 launched a project called 'Explore Orkney' in which they encouraged children to visit coastal and woodland areas around Orkney. This was a big success and six children managed to visit all eleven places suggested and became 'Explore Orkney Champions'.

At the end of term we held a 'Fond Farewell' concert for three valued members of staff who were retiring: Mrs Thelma Holt, Mrs Leonora Peace and Mrs Barbara Moore. We held the concert at the KGS with music and singing- it was a great evening.

We, the P7 class, are also leaving St Andrews Primary School to start at KGS. We are going to miss everyone in the school and thank them for all the years we have spent with them.

*By P7 St Andrews Primary School*

### A Lark

A handful of lark

Buoyant on the strings of a summer morning

Twirling and spinning songs

Overtures and symphonies

Though it has learned no music

In the schools of London or Paris

But is sight reading instead

The kettledrums of the Atlantic

The white bells of the orchids

The violins of the wind.

Yes, I believe I shall be able to enjoy music wherever I am. Having performed a 'tarantella' now for many years, I look forward to a new beat, a new rhythm, a new tune – definitely with more 'legato' sections!

*Thelma Holt*



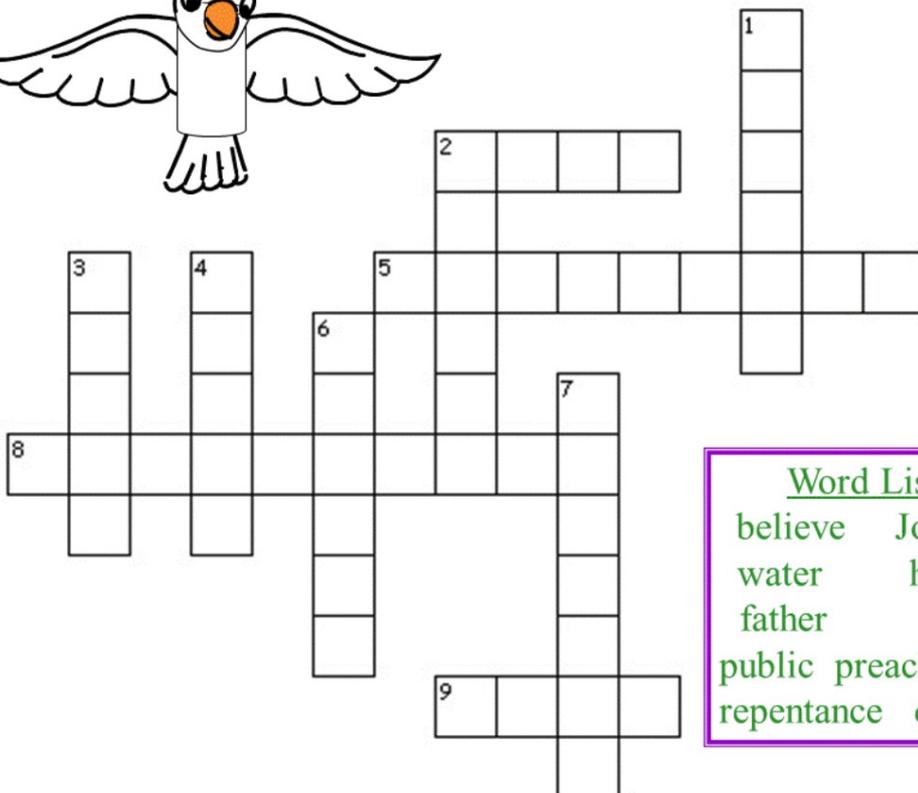
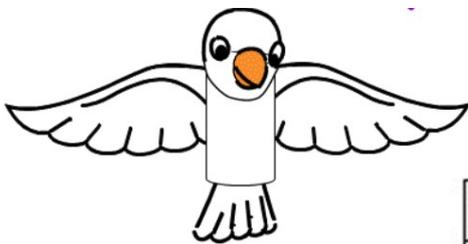
## Jesus is Baptized Crossword

### Across

2. He prepared the way for Jesus.
5. John the Baptist was doing a lot of this along with baptizing others.
8. As a Christian it is important to ask for forgiveness and mean it, this is called \_\_\_\_.
9. This came out of the sky to Jesus right after he was baptized.

### Down

1. Baptism is a \_\_\_\_ display of our belief in God.
2. The name of the river where Jesus was baptized.
3. Something sweet that John ate in the wilderness.
4. This is used a symbol to wash our sins away.
6. We are should be baptized in the name of the \_\_\_\_, Son and the Holy Spirit.
7. This is the main thing you need to do before you are baptized.



### Word List:

believe    Jordon  
 water     honey  
 father     John  
 public preaching  
 repentance    dove



Month	Date	Time	Event
September	3 <sup>rd</sup>	7:30pm	Guild - Visit of the Orphir Guild in The Session Room
	7 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship with the Sacrament of Holy Communion and Sunday School + Tea in the East Mainland Church
	14 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	21 <sup>st</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	28 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
October	1 <sup>st</sup>	7:30pm	Guild - Handicrafts with Isobel Clouston in the Session Room
	5 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School + Tea in the East Mainland Church
	12 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship in the East Mainland Church
	19 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship in the East Mainland Church
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	2:00 pm	Guild Winter Rally in the Milestone Church, Dounby - Speaker Capt. Hutchings, Salvation Army
	26 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
November	2 <sup>nd</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School + Tea in East Mainland Church
	5 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm	Guild - Bible Study with Rev. Wilma Johnston in the Session Room
	9 <sup>th</sup>	10:45am	Wreath laying at Deerness and Holm War Memorials followed by the Remembrance Service and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church Wreath laying at St Andrews War Memorial after the service
	16 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship with the Sacrament of Holy Communion and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	30 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship (1st Advent Sunday) and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	TBA		Harvest Thanksgiving
December	7 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Guild Carol Service in the St Andrews Community Centre

For more News and Photos etc. see our website on

[www.eastmainlandchurch.co.uk](http://www.eastmainlandchurch.co.uk)

**Editorial Team:**

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Please email articles, preferably using **Times New Roman size 12**, for the next newsletter to

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Church of Scotland

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