

## From the Manse

On an evening like this with the blazing orange sun setting over the still dark waters of Scapa – well its awesome and what else is there to do but praise God. Praise and thank God for the beauty around us... for all things are in his care.

When the nights draw in in autumn the darkness feels comforting and just the same come the end of January the nights suddenly begin to lighten and there is a relief that Spring is coming. Farmers and gardeners are looking forward hopefully to a good sowing season. Generally, it's time to waken up energised and be ready for what the new year holds...

It's been a busy first year in East Mainland with the young folk... a lovely welcome from the BBs and the big BB Parade, the Thinking Day Service with the Guides, invitations into the school and there's Messy Church which has appealed to the young ones not able to come on a Sunday and of course our Sunday School bairns who share the start of worship time with us each week. That time is special because we try to have new hymns & songs that the children know and hope they learn to love the old familiar favourites too.

The challenge is to hold old and new, young and old together. We are a family and a family needs all the generations, babies to nonagenarians and we have them all here in our kirk - we are fortunate. We pray that everyone, of whatever age feels encouraged to get involved. Most important to our congregation is that we should be an open, warm and friendly community of people. Together we represent the love and acceptance of Jesus, so that, anyone can come along and feel they belong – feel they are a valued and welcome part of our Christian family. Of course we are still on the journey and know we haven't quite got everything right but we're looking forward to the journey and sharing in the fun and the challenges.

What calls us together is the challenge to bring the unchanging message of Jesus' love in word and action into our time and for our community. For us Jesus Christ is the motivation for all we do. Really it's not about religion or tradition, but about finding life in Him.

Wherever you are in your faith journey we'd love you to come and join us.

Come just as you are.

You're welcome.

Wilma

*Rev. Wilma Johnston*



*Scene from Messy Church*



## A VISIT TO EAST MAINLAND

### Hello from Papay.

My name is Mary Thompson and I am Convenor of the Resources Committee of Presbytery.

On 30<sup>th</sup> November 2014 I paid a visit to East Mainland Church.

This was part of a tour round all the Orkney parishes, to encourage everyone to support their local church (and Minister if they have one).

In preparing for this visit I had consulted with Wilma to find a mutually suitable date.

Once this was agreed I booked my flights out of, and back to Papay. We do not get a daily boat and therefore rely on the plane as our main transport to and from Orkney mainland. Taking the car is not an option. Even if I had had a car in town, my sense of direction is notoriously bad and, I would probably have got well and truly lost!

Due to the plane timetable I could return to Papay on the Sunday afternoon but I needed to come in on the Saturday afternoon flight and stay over so that I could be at East Mainland Church on the Sunday morning.

Then I booked my accommodation for the Saturday night.

OK. So, Date arranged, Flights booked, Accommodation booked.

How to get to Church on the Sunday from where I was staying in Kirkwall?

Wilma was two steps in front of me. She asked a parishioner who travelled in from Kirkwall every Sunday if he would collect me and deliver me to the Church.

At the Presbytery meeting in October a kind and courteous gentleman approached me and offered me a lift. We arranged where and when he would collect me on the day of my visit.

Done and dusted. Woo Hoo!

In the time approaching my visit I prayerfully considered what to say when I got there.

Having been safely delivered to the Church Wilma tucked me under her wing and gave me a guided tour of the building. I was well impressed.

She then “nominated” a lovely lady to keep me company during the service. As I was sitting further forward the lady kindly moved out of her usual seat and came to join me. I appreciate how brave this was. Not everyone can move out of his or her comfort zone to sit somewhere else beside a complete stranger.

Your Church is very blessed to have musicians to play the music and a choir to lead the singing. Not every church has this and it makes a big difference.

Thankful for the opportunity to share in your Sunday worship I thoroughly enjoyed the service and the warm welcome given to me. I did my bit at the appropriate time.

I hope you are all still praying for Wilma and each other.

Never

Underestimate

The

Power

Of

Prayer

### NUTPOP.

As I shook hands with everyone at the end of the service I was pleased to see happy smiling faces. I enjoyed my visit and hope that I gave the congregation some encouragement.

Afterwards I was graciously given a tour of the parishes covered by Wilma. I did not realise how large an area it actually was. Thereafter I was returned to the Airport to catch the afternoon plane back to Papay.

Thank you very much for having me at your church.

*Mary Thompson.*



## **Cuppa and a Cupcake!**

**East Mainland Church**

**28<sup>th</sup> February 2:30- 4:30pm**

**Traidcraft Stall     Homebakes Stall**

**Support EMC and Traidcraft Fair Necessities Campaign**



*Enter the*

### **Great EMC Cupcake Bake Off!**

**Theme:** Springtime or Love Chocolate

Adults Bake and decorate 6 cupcakes\*- 1 to be entered for judging

\*using at least one Fairtrade ingredients

**-please kindly donate 5 to Cuppa with a Cupcake!**

**Children** (Primary Age) 1 decorated cupcake

*Cupcakes will be judged on appearance*

Deliver cupcakes to EMC 10-12am

Cupcakes will be on display 2:30-4:-30

**Tickets £3:00** EMC Charity Number SCO019770

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

#### **East Mainland Congregation**

Ada Scott 13/12/14

Also Remembered

Catherine Davies 7/11/14

Julian Russell 21/12/14



### **Sunday School**

The children's Christmas service was held on Sunday 21 December. As there were not enough of us for a full nativity play we decided to do some Christmas songs and poems this year. Kaitlyn read 'The first Christmas', Anne read 'The Innkeeper of Bethlehem' and Orla and Peter read 'Just doing my job'. The rest of the Sunday School joined in with two new songs 'King Seekers' and 'Let's jump with joy'.

*Katrina Tait*



## Harmonic Brass (Munich) - Orkney Visit

Two of the Harmonic Brass Band members are members of the Church in Munich where Miriam was minister. In conversation, as they left the kirk one day, they (knowing that Miriam had spent some time in Scotland) asked which town in Scotland would be the most appropriate to stage a concert. She said Edinburgh but while in Scotland you must go to Orkney and she knew the person who would help arrange the concert. So it is thanks to Miriam that Harmonic Brass are including Orkney in their World Tour.

*Brian Aim*

### Press Release from Harmonic Brass - in Concert

Enjoy Germany's most popular Brass Quintet as they come to Scotland with their brand new Program - *In Concert!*

With this Program the four Gentlemen of Harmonic Brass and their charming Lady are showing that nothing exceeds the experience of a Live-Performance. This outstanding Brass Ensemble has been setting benchmarks in terms of big but elegant Sound and extraordinary choice of Music for more than 20 years now.

*Giuseppe Torelli's Concerto for Piccolo-Trumpet* marks the festive beginning of the Program. Furthermore there will be the great *J.S. Bach Fuge in g-minor*, heartwarming Music from *Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story*, *Maurice Ravels famous Bolero*, Music from the Operas *Carmen* and *Turandot* as well as the stunning Trumpet Solo *Tico Tico* and much more!

The Concert will be accompanied by charming and humorous announcements in between the Music by Andreas Binder. He is the French horn Player of the group and a most wonderful host.

With *In Concert* Harmonic Brass takes the Audience by the Hand and leads them away from their daily sorrows and routines into a World of Music and Joy.

Elegant Sound, charming Presentation and a stunning Stage Performance - That is *In Concert* with Harmonic Brass.

Harmonic Brass makes you happy!

**Harmonic Brass *In Concert*** on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 6pm in **King Street Hall**

Tickets £10 available from The Reel, Broad Street, Kirkwall from 9am on 19th February.

Children up to age of 14 free entry!

Email: [office@wrigleysisters.com](mailto:office@wrigleysisters.com)

Phone: 01856 871000

Promoter Brian Aim : Phone: 01856 781333

### BB Report

Session 2014 - 15 is more than half done, with the boys working hard for their badges.

We usually compete in the North Scottish Christmas card competition, but owing to a breakdown in communications, the Orkney Battalion had no time for our boys to compete! Holm held their own competition and the results will be intimated at our Awards Ceremony in May.

We held a joint Christmas party with the Holm Brownies in December.

We had our own Burns celebration on 26th January when most of the boys tried the clapsnot and haggis, washed down with a dram of Iron Bru.

John Muir was with us that night to coach our boys in readiness for the Bible reading competition in February, so he enjoyed some haggis and clapsnot as well.

We will let you know the results of the competition in the next newsletter.

*Jack McIntosh*





### Messy Kirk

On Friday 6th February we had our Messy Kirk and the theme was Temptation. We started with a story called Kaitlyn's temptations which showed the bairns what temptation was and how we can turn this into good by showing Love and Kindness. We had a game of pass the parcel before doing some Valentine crafts and decorating some pancakes for Lent. We finished up with a story from Wilma telling us that we are all special and each of the children saw themselves in a mirror at the end of the book. There was also a song we sang called I'm special because God loves me. All who attended had a great time.

*Rachael Moar*



### Services

Sunday 21st of December was the 4th Sunday in Advent. Reverend Wilma Johnston welcomed a large congregation and introduced five young fiddlers, Sarah and Shona Firth, Verity Cairns, and William and Andrew Harvey who played "Away in a Manger" and "Once in Royal David's City". The choir were joined by the Linties and the Session Hoose singers. The Linties sang "A starry Night" before the Sunday School performed their Nativity. The Session Hoose singers later sang "Joy to the World"

Another very well attended service was held on Christmas Eve when many families were present. The Sunday School children made Christingles while the congregation sang "Away in a Manger". Then a very special event took place as Graham and Lindsay Moar presented their baby daughter Rebecca Charlotte for baptism. Big sister Kathryn was also there and helped Wilma with the proceedings. It was a lovely scene in the seasonally decorated church. The Session Hoose singers then sang "O Holy Night" with Russell Aitken ably performing the solo part. "Merry Christmas" could be heard repeatedly as people left the church.

*Sheila Eunson*





## Soup Sunday



There was a convivial atmosphere in the Session room after service on 4<sup>th</sup> January when members of the congregation gathered to have soup and sandwiches, organised by Board members. The tables set out with brightly coloured cloths reminded us that the Christmas season was not quite over, so we sat down in festive mood to enjoy the heart-warming fare.

The room buzzed with conversation and we all agreed that it was an enjoyable start to the New Year. Donations amounted to over £90, which will go significantly towards providing folding catering tables for the Session room, promising many more such gatherings in the future.

*Marlene Mainland*

## Guild News

After the Winter Rally, in October, the Guild became involved in an extra meeting, namely the Sing Sankey evening in the church on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Members took turns to read the bible texts surrounding each hymn and also a piece about the writer of the words and music. From that came some interesting facts and stories about the writers' lives. Well known hymns like "Tell me the old, old Story," "Count your Blessings" and "Rock of Ages" were sung with great enthusiasm by those gathered there. The hymns were interspersed with well known singers and musicians, L & M Tait and The Linties whose choice of songs were beautiful. Organist Ruth Harvey led us in to the closing hymn "God be with You." What better farewell than this simple benediction, "God be with you till we meet again."

## November Meeting

Maureen Tait opened the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November and thanked all who had attended the Winter Rally, with thanks to all who had taken part in the Sankey evening.

The opening hymn was "Great is Thy Faithfulness" with Isobel Clouston on the keyboard. The bible reading taken from Luke 5: v27-31 was read by Julia Archibald.

This was followed by prayer. The minutes were read by the secretary, Nancy Omand, and were approved.

The forth coming Carol Service in St Andrews Community Centre was discussed and arrangements made. The treasurer, Morag Shearer gave an update on finances and this was followed by the annual allocation of funds.

The bible study was taken from an Iona Meditation, "Follow Me" by Jan Pickard. Items from the Topic and Theme were discussed also.

The welcome cup of tea was served by Hazel Foubister and helpers and Maureen gave thanks to all.

The closing hymn was the serving song, Brother, Sister, and the meeting closed with prayer.

## Carol Service

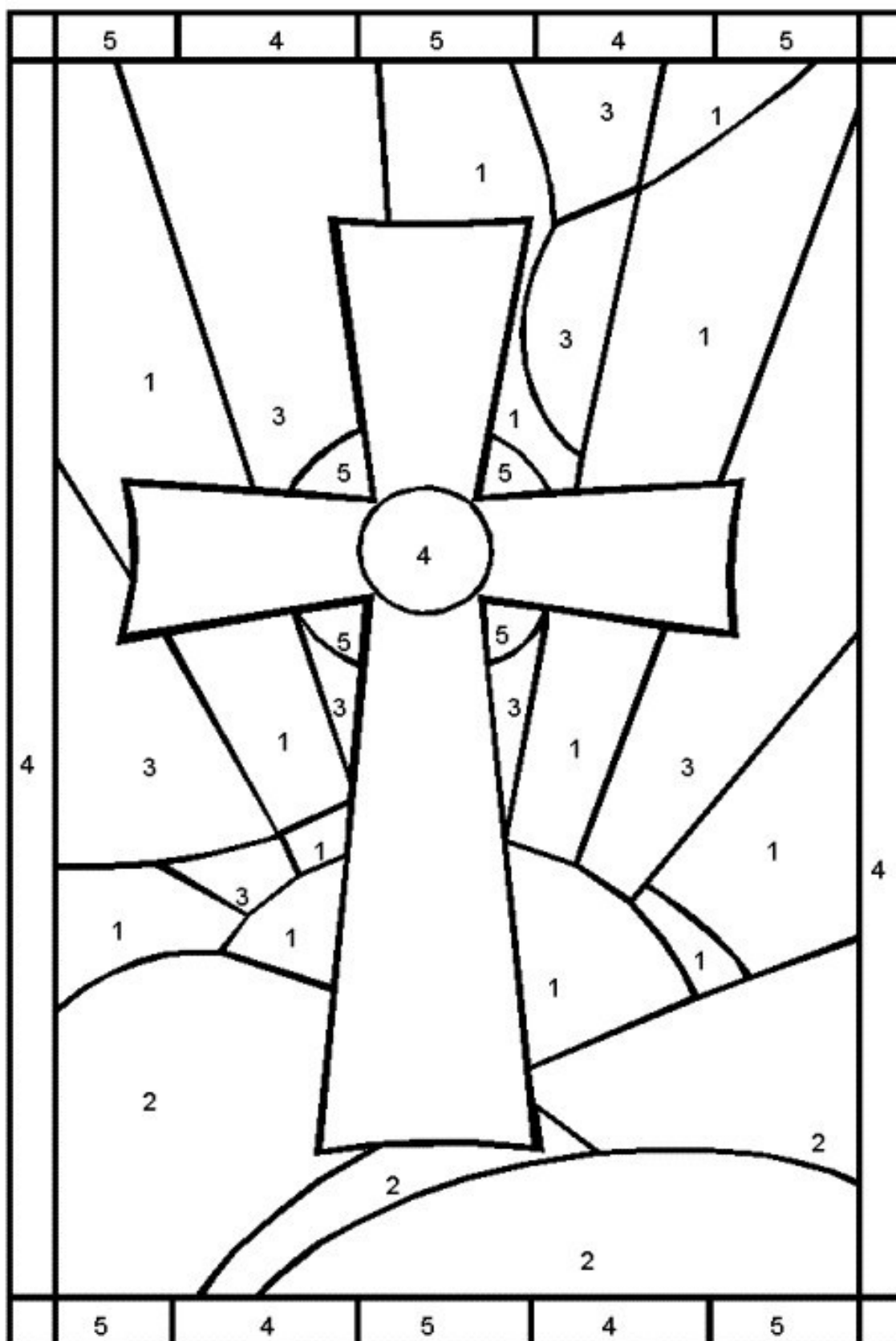
On Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm, the annual Carol Service took place in St Andrews Community Centre. Mrs M Tait welcomed a capacity crowd and handed over to Rev. Wilma Johnston. Rev. Johnston proceeded to show the children the Christingle and explained how it was made and what the pieces represented.

Headmaster Mr Mark Taylor, teachers, musicians and a host of pupils from St Andrews Primary School performed some lovely Christmas songs. Some of the older pupils played beautiful tunes on their fiddles accompanied by a variety of instruments. The items from the children were interspersed with carols for everyone to join in, making it a most enjoyable evening.

After thanks to all from the president, Rev Wilma Johnston closed the service with prayer.

A cup of tea was then served by the ladies of the Guild.

*Maureen Tait*



1 – yellow

2 – green

3 – blue

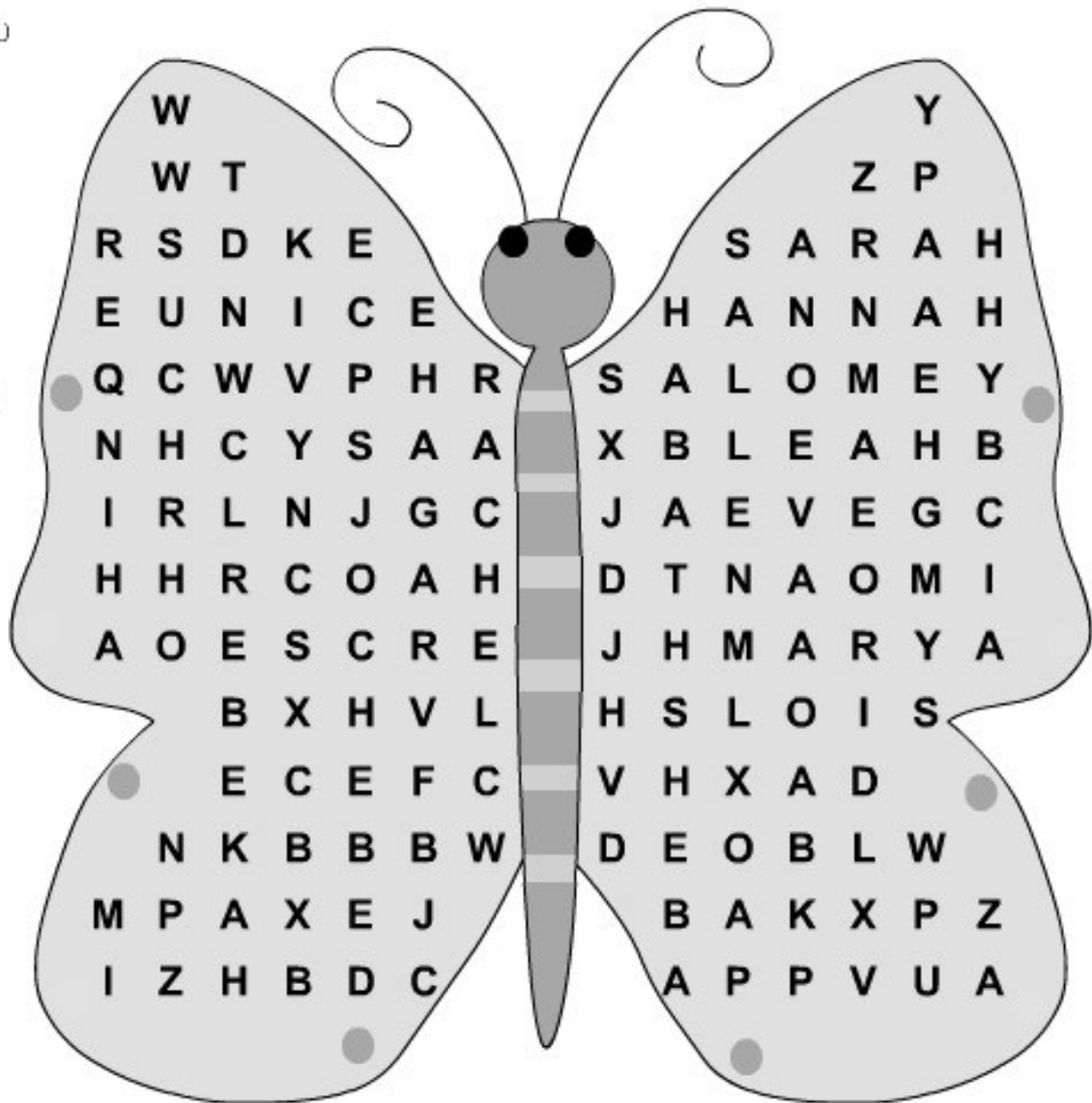
4 – purple

5 – red



## Mother's Day Wordsearch

1. ( )  
The mother of Solomon
2. ( )  
The mother of Timothy
3. ( ) The mother of all living
4. ( )  
The mother of Ismael
5. ( )  
The mother of Samuel
6. ( )  
The mother of Moses
7. ( ) The mother of Levi and five other sons
8. ( ) The grandmother of Timothy
9. ( ) The mother of Jesus the Christ
10. ( )  
Ruth's mother-in-law
11. ( )  
The mother of Joseph and Benjamin
12. ( )  
The mother of Jacob and Esau
13. ( )  
The mother of two disciples- James and John
14. ( )  
The mother of nations



(Solutions on back page)





## St Andrews School

Term 2 was busy with Parents' Evenings, Christmas class parties, Children In Need and our Christmas show! But one of the highlights was finishing the term with our Christmas Service.

On Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of December St Andrews Primary School descended on the East Mainland Kirk amidst snow storms, high winds and bus organisation akin to a military operation. We all arrived safe and sound to a warm welcome from the Rev Wilma Johnston and members of the congregation. Thanks to the hard work of the teaching staff and Jo Jones, our music teacher, each class took part in the service, performing songs they had prepared throughout the term.

The Rev Wilma Johnston welcomed everyone and P7 started the service with a great rendition of 'The Little Drummer Boy'. Some P4 & 5 pupils read their poems which had been written in class. The P7s took responsibility for readings from the Gospel of Luke. P1-3 Sang 'Away in a manger' and 'Go, tell it on the mountains'. P4 performed 'Mary had a Baby' and P5 sang 'Christmas' while P6 Sang 'A starry night'. The Rev Wilma Johnston preformed 'Babushka' an interactive story that the children really enjoyed participating in and the School Choir sang 'It's a magical time of the year'. The Rev Wilma Johnston finished with a Christmas Blessing. It was a lovely service that pupils, parents and staff enjoyed.

Many thanks to the East Mainland Kirk for all your help and the warm welcome we received.

Poems included are by Riley, Georgie and Matthew from P4 and Lucy, Kaitlyn and Valia P5.

### Christmas Day

Shouting and laughter and voices telling me to get up because Santa's come

My family sitting next to the roaring indoor fire

The wonderful piney smell getting wafted towards me while I reach for my presents

The colourful sticky sweetie wrapper getting stuck to my fingers

The warm Christmas pudding slipping down my throat

*Vaila Brewer P5*

### Christmas Day

Beautiful flickering Christmas lights in the distance

People's footprints in the freezing cold winter snow

The wonderful fresh cooked turkey in the oven

The beautiful cold snow on the road

The wonderful cooked turkey with tatties on the table

*Kaitlyn Linklater P5*



### Christmas Day

My lovely family quickly opening presents  
Delicious chocolate that I'm gulping down  
Christmas songs playing and I'm dancing away  
The wrapping while I'm waiting to open them

*Jennifer Fuller P5*

#### P4 Poems:

I see sparkling snow  
I hear Santa jingling across the landscape  
I smell the turkey cooking in the oven  
I see my Christmas tree prickling my dog  
sleeping peacefully  
I taste my Christmas dinner as lovely as my  
dessert

*Tyler Hounslow P4*

I see ice sparkling  
I hear laughter coming from people  
I smell delicious turkey  
I feel frost bite on my fingers  
I taste snowflakes on my tongue

*Riley Macdonald P4*

I see sparking ice everywhere  
I hear bells ringing  
I feel the burning fire in my face  
I taste delicious mince pies









Month	Date	Time	Event
February	28 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 - 4:30pm	Cuppa and a Cupcake in the East Mainland Church
March	1 <sup>st</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School + Tea in the East Mainland Church
	1 <sup>st</sup>	7:30pm	Songs of Praise Service with a guest from the Dominican Republic
	4 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	Guild AGM in the Session Room
	6 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	World Day of Prayer in the East Mainland Church
	6 <sup>th</sup>	3:30pm	Messy Church in the East Mainland Church
	8 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	15 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	22 <sup>nd</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	29 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship followed by the Church AGM in the East Mainland Church
April	1 <sup>st</sup>	7:30pm	Guild in the Session Room
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7:30pm	Maundy Thursday Communion Service in East Mainland Church
	5 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Easter Sunday Family Worship + 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 and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	26 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
May	1 <sup>st</sup>	3:30pm	Messy Church in the East Mainland Church
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School + Tea in the East Mainland Church
	6 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	Guild in the Session Room
	10 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	10 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup>		Christian Aid Week East Mainland Door to Door Collection
	17 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	24 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	31 <sup>st</sup>	11:00am	Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church

1. (B a i t h e d a)  
The mother of  
Solomon  
2. (E u l e s)  
The mother  
of Timothy  
3. (E v e) The  
mother of all  
living  
4. (I a g a)  
The mother  
of Isaiah  
5. (I a n a)  
The mother  
of Samuel  
6. (L e e l e e e)  
The mother of  
Moses  
7. (L e a l)  
The mother of  
Levi and five  
other sons  
8. (L e l a)  
The  
grandmother  
of Timothy  
9. (I a l y)  
The mother of  
Jesus five  
Christ  
10. (I a o o)  
Ruth's  
mother-in-law  
11. (E a l e l)  
The mother  
of Joseph  
and Benjamin  
12. (E e l e l l)  
The mother of  
Jacob and  
Esau  
13. (S a l o r e)  
The mother  
of two  
disciples  
James and  
John  
14. (S a l a l)  
The mother of  
nations

#### Editorial Team:

Sheila Eunson, Kathleen Gaudie, Laurence Tait and layout compiled by Russell Manson

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

eastmainlandchurch@gmail.com by 8th May

Church of Scotland

Congregation No. 452360, Scottish Charity No. SCO019770