

Church of Scotland

East Mainland Church News

www.eastmainlandchurch.co.uk

October 2022

Issue 55



Greetings from the Manse at East Mainland!

It has been quite a whirlwind introduction to the Parish since arriving six months ago – not least because of the death of our Queen in September. I suppose we all knew that day would come but, strangely, never thought it would – if that makes any sense.

The Queen has undoubtedly been, in my lifetime, always there, and like so many of our loved ones, or characters in the community, we think they go on forever.

Moving to Orkney hasn't been quite so bad – weather-wise- as I was led to believe, but then I haven't had my first winter here – perhaps I will feel differently in March 😊

Some things that have surprised me - Well, I had my first roll and mince – I didn't know there was such a thing... it was delicious, if not a bit worrying that I would dribble it down my clerical shirt - that introduction to the Deerness delicacy (or is it Orkney wide?) was at the community hall where 190 odd motorbikes(and two electric bikes) had stopped for lunch on the CLAN bike ride – what a sight!

I'm told most of them were from Orkney –I have hardly seen any motorbikes on the roads since arriving here – that Sunday certainly made up for it and raised a tremendous sum for CLAN – a vital service for us on the Island.

Another highlight was attending East United match and a few parish cup games – including the Parish Cup final between Holm and Westray – an exciting game, and you all know the outcome! Then, following on from that, doing First Aid (or perhaps not doing first aid as no one was injured) at Rockworks for the Super Parish Cup Final between Holm and Shetland, followed by the celebrations in Kirkwall.

My first few months with you as a minister have been good. Folk have been so kind and welcoming. I have been slower than I would have liked, finding my way around the Parish and meeting folk; I've been into the School a few times to meet the kids, conducted my first wedding - involving something I haven't seen for years – The Grand March –

The multimedia is now pretty much up to speed in the Church for Sunday services - when we get the internet installed, I'd hope we could put on a film night – but that's all dependent on super-fast broadband –

It looks like I will have a few extra duties to take on earlier than expected with the addition of an Inter-moderatorship in the Islands after Christmas. I suppose this was to be expected before the end of my two-year term with all the adjustments in the Presbytery, which I am

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sure you will have seen in the press. I'm so glad we won't be readjusting in our Parish anymore in my time.

Christmas will be upon us in no time – my first Island Christmas! I look forward to seeing how you celebrate in the Parish.

Over the months in Church, we have been following Jesus' journey in Lukes Gospel, a journey where he welcomed all sorts of folk to be his friends and disciples, where he pointed out the consequences of our actions and drove home the message of the gospel - that faith is reflected in the way we live out our lives - helping, caring loving.

You are most welcome to join us on a Sunday at 11.00 a.m. – We stream the services Monday through Wednesday on <https://eastmainland.online.church/> you will find ordinary people trying their best to live out their faith, and I know you will find a warm welcome.

Thanks for your support for the Church, your goodwill over the years; that means we still have a church in good order here to serve our Parish.

If there is anything I can do to support you in the Parish, please do get in touch – I can now visit in hospital after a long time when ministers, like the rest of us, were not able to visit, and it would be a pleasure to visit a loved one in the Balfour if you would let me know.

Kind regards

Chris Wallace
Parish Minister

Sponsored Walk The sponsored walk was held in Deerness on Sunday 28th August. To date £1005 has been raised with more to come in. Thank you to Mabel for providing the



refreshments en route.

3.

St Andrews School News: Mr Taylor

The year goes so fast and before you know it term 1 is nearly over. Since my previous newsletter we have proudly watched another P7 class move on to Kirkwall Grammar School and we have welcomed 22 new pupils in to our P1 class.

Author Visit – Tom Percival

Our primary 1-5 pupils along with some pupils from Burray Primary School had the opportunity to meet the author Tom Percival. Tom Percival is the author and illustrator of several well-loved picture books about wellbeing. These include Perfectly Norman, Ruby's Worry and The Invisible, which is longlisted for the 2022 Yoto Kate Greenaway Medal!

School Uniform and Dress Code

The school encourages the wearing of school uniform and at the beginning of term we encouraged all our pupils to wear the school colours. Our Parent Council supports the wearing of school uniform as it offers a sense of identity and belonging to the school as well as being a cost effective way of providing clothes for the children.

Wearing school uniform contributes to a positive school ethos, helps avoid discrimination and reduces the peer pressure to wear expensive designer clothing.

This year our P7 Leaders are wearing sky blue personalised hoodies with their name and school logo. They look fantastic! To celebrate everyone's hard work there will be a 'Dress Down Day' on the last Friday of each month.

Rights Respecting Schools

P3 enjoyed doing a bit of research about the following:

Article 7 of the UNCRC says that all children and young people have the right to a name and nationality, which they should be granted at birth.

The children found out about the story of their name- who chose it, if they were named after someone, what they might have been called and what their name meant. They then made a poster to show what they'd found out- it was very interesting!

Orkney Science Festival

St Andrews pupils enjoyed a fun filled week of science activities and presentations organised and lead by the Orkney Science Festival. One of our highlights was the return of Dynamic Earth from Edinburgh. Our P1-3s enjoyed 'Marine Mysteries' a Storytelling workshop. The children were invited on an adventure with Charlie as they set off on an expedition around Scotland's coasts, exploring rocky shores and sandy beaches to see what wildlife they can find. The P4-P7s experienced a 'Deep Sea Adventure'. A hands-on workshop where they enjoyed becoming a scientist on an expedition into the deep ocean! They discovered why it's important to protect the oceans and what weird and wonderful creatures lurk in their murky depths.

4.

New Extension

Building work continues, but we are all very excited that the new hall and nursery will be completed by the end of term 2 and all additional work complete by the spring.



GUILD

The Guild has met, as usual on the first Wednesday of each month, at our new regular time of 2.30pm. Morag led the July meeting welcoming those present and Rev. Susan Kirkbride. After devotions, including hymn 154 'How great Thou art', a reading from Ezekiel ch17 followed with prayer.

A report of the Guild Rally in St Margaret's Hope on 22nd June was given by Maureen. We were privileged to have Lord and Lady Wallace of Tankerness address the Rally with Jim Wallace sharing some of his experiences about his time as Moderator to the General Assembly.

5.

Morag welcomed Rev. Susan Kirkbride of the Peedie Kirk. She spoke of all the gloom since the arrival of Covid and how she looked for positive things and made up a presentation of her favourite things. This was extensive and fascinating – including her favourite books, films, TV, parts of the Bible and biblical characters – etc. A most pleasant meeting followed with Ruth and Maureen serving teas. Maureen gave a comprehensive vote of thanks, after which the meeting closed with the singing of 'We plough the fields and scatter' and a prayer.

There was no formal meeting in August but on August 22nd we enjoyed our Annual Outing this being a most pleasant lunch at Sheila Fleet's Kirk Cafe with 10 members and a visitor present.

Sunday, 28th of August saw members take part in the morning service with the Annual Rededication of the Guild. Margaret gave a report of the activities during the year and welcomed new members at any time to join the group and Maureen read from Luke 14 v25-35.

The September meeting saw 12 members and some visitors present. Margaret leading opened the meeting welcoming all, including the speaker Rev. Dr. Marjory Maclean from St. Margaret's Hope. Ruth played for hymn 706 'For the healing of the nations,' and Val read from Corinthians 1 ch12 v1-11. Margaret followed by reading a prayer. Business was minimal.

The meeting was handed over to Rev. Maclean who gave an account of her time working as a Naval Chaplain, dealing with refugees in the Mediterranean. It was a fascinating account of some of her experiences on board the ship HMS Enterprise which was a hydrographic survey vessel, not designed for combat.

The ship and crew were helping an International taskforce. She described the daily working of the crew and the crowding of the ship when a load of refugees were taken on board. The plight of the migrants was often dire with various medical conditions and the possibility of serious disease. She spoke widely of the various human trafficking tragedies. Rev Maclean held two services per week on board the ship, carrying all the necessary accoutrements in her 'Church Box.' Supplies to the ship were by helicopter. With a Lieut. from the Italian coastguards acting as interpreter refugees needed to be interviewed to check that they were not traffickers etc.

There followed a lively question and answer session. Marilyn served the teas helped by Ruth and Val produced some delicious tablet. Maureen gave a vote of thanks to Rev. Maclean and others who had helped during the meeting. The meeting closed with Ruth playing verses 3 and 4 of hymn 706, followed by prayer and Rev Maclean then gave the blessing.

Margaret Sparkes (Leadership team)

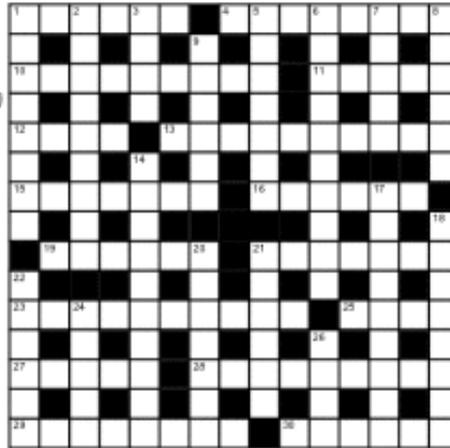
BIBLE CROSSWORD I

Across

- 1 An ancient weight (6)
 4 Seemed (8)
 10 New Testament book (9)
 11 Unit of length (5)
 12 '...it is a ____ thing the king requireth' (Dan 2:11) (4)
 13 Contemplation (10)
 15 Abigail supplied David with one hundred clusters of these (7)
 16 A son of King David (6)
 19 Concurred (6)
 21 Light sources (7)
 23 Propitiations (10)
 25 A false god (4)
 27 Gather (5)
 28 Abimelech was hit by this (9)
 29 Instructors (8)
 30 Hastily (6)

Down

- 1 Skilled animal workers (8)
 2 Inspiring (9)
 3 Compass point (4)
 5 Intense emotion (7)



by Philoqua

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- 6 The words of Jeremiah said not to listen to these (10)
 7 Jewish leader (5)
 8 'He is proud, knowing nothing, but ____ about questions and strifes of words...' (1 Tim 6:4) (6)
 9 Bread makers (6)
 14 In this year of King Nebuchadrezzar's reign, Nebuzaradan arrived in Jerusalem (10)
 17 Ancient city of Og, King of Bashan (9)
 18 Stringed instrument (8)
 20 Joseph, perhaps? (7)
 21 Tiny amount (6)
 22 Jesus did this with authority (6)
 24 Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
 26 Province of the Roman Empire (4)



More from the Sponsored Walk – Thank you to Sheena for the Photos

7.

Church, Fund Raising and Social Events

Each **Sunday at 11:00am Worship** takes place in the **East Mainland Church**. All Welcome.

Sunday 23rd October – Please bring your completed **Blytheswood Shoeboxes** (for forwarding to McAdie & Reeve) by 23rd October.

Saturday 29th October – 2:00pm - Preparation for Harvest Thanksgiving.

Sunday 30th October – 11:00am - Harvest Thanksgiving. Collection for Christian Aid.

Envelopes for the **Harvest Christian Aid Collection** will be available in the Church and also distributed with the Newsletter. They can be returned to the Church or to your elder by **27th November**.

Wednesday 2nd November – 2:30pm – The **Guild** meet in the Session Room. All Welcome.

Sunday 13th November- Remembrance Sunday

Deerness War Memorial -	10:55am	Wreath Laying Service
Holm War Memorial -	10:55am	Wreath Laying service
East Mainland Church -	11:15am	Community Singing
East Mainland Church -	11:20am	Remembrance service
St Andrews War Memorial -	12:30pm	Wreath Laying Service

Sunday 27th November – 11:00am- The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** will take place in the East Mainland Church. All Welcome.

Sunday 4th December – 7:00pm- The **Guild Carol Service** will be held in the **Deerness Community Centre** when the Guests will be the pupils and staff from St Andrews School. All Welcome.

Wednesday 7th December – 2:30pm – The **Guild** have a Festive meeting in the Session room.

Thursday 15th December- Please send your photos for the **Church Calendar** by this date.

Monday 19th December - 10:00am **St Andrews School End of Term Christmas Service** in the East Mainland Church. All Welcome.

Saturday 24th December – 7:00pm – All are welcome to our **Christmas Eve Carol Singing** with coffee/mulled wine and shortbread in the East Mainland Church.

Sunday 25th December – 11:00am – A short **Christmas Morning Service**. All Welcome.

Sunday 1st January – 11:00am – **New Year's Day Service** conducted by Mrs Val Kitchen.

Sunday 8th January – 11:00am – An opportunity to reflect and remember those whom we have loved and lost - **Bereavement Service**. All Welcome.

East Mainland Church Fund Raising

**EAST
MAINLAND
CHURCH
CALENDAR**

Pictures can be taken on a camera or 'phone. For printing they do need to be high resolution

Send your pics to Chris email:
christopher.wallace@churchofscotland.org.uk
or drop them off at the Manse on a usb key by 15th December 2022

Calling all our budding photographers!

We are looking to print a Calendar for Church Funds and need your help!

If you have any pictures showcasing our beautiful scenery or landscapes

- East Mainland and around Orkney-

we would love to hear from you

Further details - call the Manse 01856 525017

East Mainland Church of Scotland SCO 019770

Small Change- Big Difference Tubs are available at the Church to gather loose change.

A **Big Sing** – Ruth, our organist, is going to organise a Big Sing to take place sometime between January and May 2023.

Editorial Team: Sheila Eunson, Joy Tait and Laurence Tait
Please email articles, using **Times New Roman size 12**, for the next newsletter to laurence.j.tait@btinternet.com

Church of Scotland Congregation no.452360, Scottish Charity No. SCO019770 Article for East Mainland – September 2021