



From the Manse

As I write its nearly May Bank holiday weekend the roads are already busy with campervans, and the cruise liners have returned, and out in the fields the cattle are enjoying the fresh grass and wee lambs running full pelt. It seems idyllic and peaceful to the visitors, of course very long hours for the farming community.

Different scenery and people but ordinary folk just the same going about their lives, local folk and tourists in Sri Lanka, when on Easter Sunday suicide bombers ended lives and changed lives for ever.

Hotels and Christian churches were the target of the extremists. There were British folk caught up in the violence but so many more Sri Lankans... every life ended, every wound seen and unseen, the terrible price of terror.

Worshippers in St Andrew's Scots Kirk in Colombo became aware of the severity of the attacks that morning as calls & texts came in. Worshippers 'were given the chance to leave but instead decided to stay and pray for those affected by the terror.'

St Matthew 5:43-47_{part} The Message

"You're familiar with the old written law, 'Love your friend,' and its unwritten companion, 'Hate your enemy.' I'm challenging that. I'm telling you to love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the energies of prayer, for then you are working out of your true selves, your God-created selves...

This is what Christ asks of us... to respond in prayer loving our friends and more still by loving our enemies find our true selves.

The Rt. Rev. Susan Brown Moderator of the General Assembly has asked we mark the first weekend of May with white ribbons in our churches, a sign of solidarity with the people of Sri Lanka, and with our brothers and sisters of faith.

During this year already and late last year there have been attacks by extremists on people of faith as they gathered to pray. Recently in Glasgow representatives of different worshipping groups met together - from the Kirk, from the Glasgow Central Mosque, from the Catholic and Episcopal churches, the Bahá'í Council of Scotland, the Buddhist and Jewish communities – meeting together in support of each other.

Two very important comments reported from that conference:

"Each community have been struck for different reasons and by different groups but the reasons are united by hate and we can only defeat this with solidarity and appreciation of each other because of, not in spite of, our differences."

"The most important thing we can do to face these atrocities is turn towards each other to take a stand rather than turn in on ourselves."

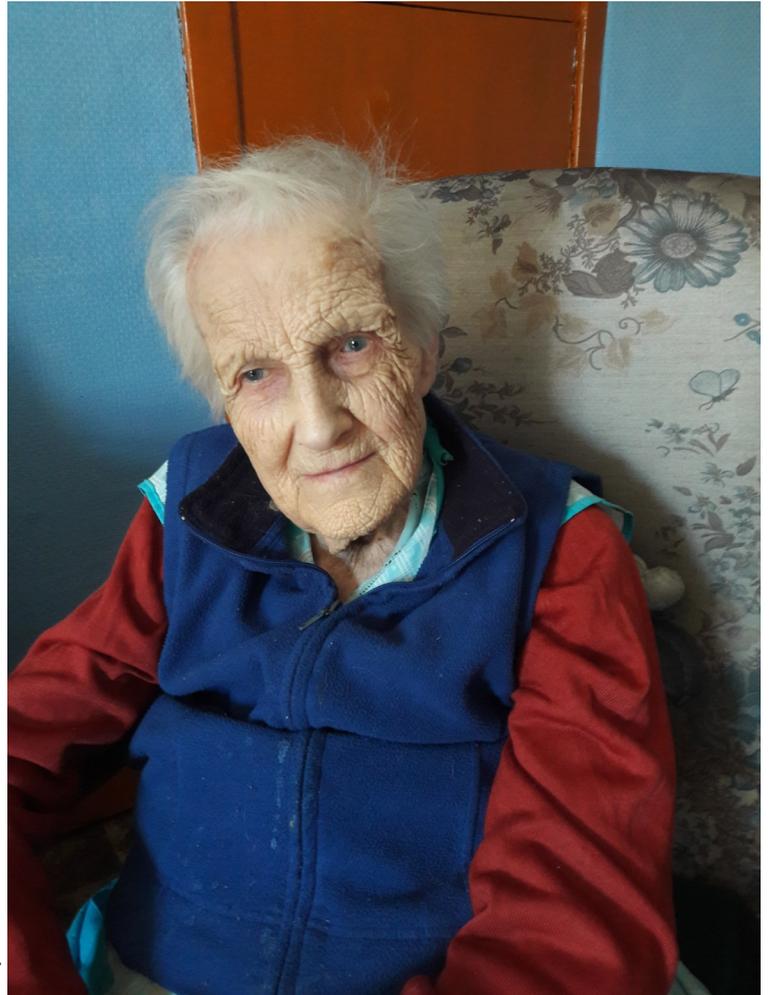
On the first Sunday of May we will have white ribbons in our church to show we stand together with people of peace and faith and join each in our own way in praying for peace, justice and freedom from terror... and those prayers will continue...

with every blessing



Maisie Rendall

Our longest serving parishioner, Maisie Rendall, celebrated her 100th birthday on 12th February. She has been a faithful member of the church since joining at the age of 17. During her membership she has been an elder since 1986, the first female elder of St Andrews Church. She was also a Sunday School teacher for 36 years. Maisie was an active Guild member holding all office-bearers posts over the years, finally as President. Although now having mobility problems, Maisie's memory is very clear and she loves having visitors with local and church news. Congratulations from the East Mainland



Sheena's Easter Chicks

Once again we are grateful to Sheena Ritch for her tremendous effort making and selling Easter Chicks for church funds. This year she raised the amazing sum of £150.

The total raised at the East Mainland Church collection for the East African Disaster Appeal was £272.



March meeting

The East Mainland Guild met again after the winter break, on 6th March, for the AGM, followed by a short meeting. Letters of appreciation had been received from the Leprosy Mission and Least Coin.

Joyce Johnston announced she was stepping down from involvement in leadership, after many decades of devoted commitment.

It was agreed that we would continue with a leadership team of four and Nancy agreed to join the team.

A beautiful meditation followed written by Edward Barnyard based on Luke chapter 5 v 38, 'New wine, New skins.'

April Meeting

The Guild met on April 3rd with a talk by Margaret Sparkes on 'More Life Experiences.' Nancy, leading, introduced the first hymn "We are marching in the light of God" and read from 1st Chronicles 28 v9, followed by prayer.

Margaret spoke of her experiences as a school girl working, on a Saturday and during school holidays, in a bake shop or brewery. Among her exploits she was given the chance to drive a racing car belonging to Stirling Moss. Her employment with Customs & Excise was not always easy as a sole female in that era.



However, she enjoyed her work and became a well respected member of the staff retiring after 27 years service.

A comprehensive vote of thanks was given by Evelyn, and the welcome cup of tea served by Morag and Maureen.

The hymn 'Mine eyes have seen the Glory' was accompanied by Joyce Johnston and Nancy closed the meeting with prayer.

May meeting

We began the meeting with hymn 555 'Amazing Grace' and Mabel read from Mark 10 v46-52.

Maureen led in prayer and gave an outline on the new Theme 'Companions on the Road.'

After business was attended to we welcomed two members from The Samaritans.

They gave us a wide ranging and fascinating talk enhanced by demonstrations of methods to illustrate problems faced.

There was a long and lively 'question and answer session' after the talk, which had given great food for thought.

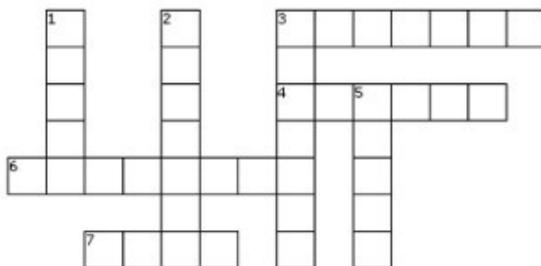
We enjoyed the company of three visitors who joined us in the discussion.

After tea served by Netta and Nancy, Margaret gave the vote of thanks. Hymn 718

'We cannot measure how you heal,' was accompanied by Isobel. Joyce brought the meeting to a close with prayer.

Let the Children Come

He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Mark 10:14b (NIV)



ACROSS

3. Bringing happiness, pleasure, or contentment to someone
4. Small in size
6. Sons and daughters, young people
7. The parts of the body which connect the hands to the shoulders

DOWN

1. A statement accepted as fact
2. A country or territory ruled by a king or queen
3. To be a member of a group, such as a club or organization
5. To come in contact with or to feel with your fingers

Out of the Life

Rena Paterson	18/2/19
Clair Hepburn	19/3/19

Also Remembered

little	touch	kingdom	arms
children	truth	belongs	blessed



St Andrews School News: Mr Taylor

We are now at the start of another busy term here at the school. The dark nights are behind us and it's lovely to see the children outside enjoying some better (if cool!) weather.

The St Andrews Gathering

We held our musical variety show, The St Andrews Gathering, at the start of April; Our children sang and played in the band along with past pupils and friends of the school including The Brewers, Billy Jolly & Family, Kenny Ritch & Kenny Ritch Jnr, Merryn Stephenson, Pop Tarts, Stereo Lobsters, Fara and Graham Low. What a very special evening it was! I was so proud of all of our pupils and grateful to our staff and



Handwork

Our Thursday afternoon handwork sessions came to an end last term. We would like to say a huge thank you to our handwork ladies for their dedication, great humour and service to our school and pupils. They provide valuable opportunities for our pupils to learn skills for life and the work place.





Thank you Karen!

We said a massive thank you last term to Karen, who had been doing an amazing job of cleaning the school for the past 23 years, but has now given this up. She will still be working in the kitchen so we are delighted that we will still be seeing her in school



RNLI Mascot Challenge

We had an amazing number of teddies entered for our RNLI mascot challenge and they were all brilliant! It was very hard to choose the winners but our fabulous handwork helper, Cathy, judged them for us. The winners were Fraser (P2B), Isla (P3), Katherine (P5) and Kaitlyn (P7B).

The winners, along with a friend, are going to get a tour around the Kirkwall lifeboat station which will

Longhope Lifeboat Disaster

The school held a very special assembly on Friday 15th March to commemorate the eight brave and selfless crew men of the Longhope Lifeboat, TGB, who lost their lives on the 17th of March 1969. The TGB capsized in heavy seas after responding to a call from the Wick Coastguard to assist the Liberian-registered vessel, Irene, which was in difficulty 21 miles East of Duncansby Head.

Each class made a wreath in remembrance of each of the crew of the Longhope Lifeboat and laid it during our assembly. The P7 and P6 fiddles accompanied by Douglas Montgomery



played the Heroes of

World Book Day 2019

There were lots of book-related activities here at the school on World Book Day back in March. Pupils had the option of dressing up as their favourite book character. They had a super time listening to the favourite stories and books read to them by the staff and of all our

Primary 7 Pupils

This is also an exciting time for our P7 pupils as they get ready for their transition to Kirkwall Grammar School. Before this though, they have a busy term ahead of them. They are travelling south to the Lagganlia Outdoor Centre in Kinnegessie later this month and they will also take part in the 'Transition Sports' event with P7 pupils from other Orkney schools. We wish them well for the future; we are proud of everything they have achieved here at St Andrews.





Month	Date	Time	Event
June	2 nd	11:00am	Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church (Please Note - no tea after this service)
	2 nd	3:00pm	Savoury Buffet Teas in the Deerness Community Centre 3:00pm – 6:00pm
	5 th	7:30pm	Guild in the Session Room with Guest Anne Hill on a Journey to the Falklands
	9 th	11:00am	Worship & Sunday School + Tea in the East Mainland Church
	16 th	11:00am	Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	23 rd	11:00am	Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	30 th	11:00am	Worship & Sunday School Prize Giving in the East Mainland Church
July	3 rd	TBA	Guild Quiz Night in the St Andrews Community Centre
	7 th	11:00am	Worship + Tea in the East Mainland Church
	14 th	11:00am	Worship in the East Mainland Church
	21 st	11:00am	Worship in the East Mainland Church
	28 th	11:00am	Worship in the East Mainland Church
August	4 th	11:00am	Worship + Tea in the East Mainland Church
	11 th	11:00am	Worship in the East Mainland Church
	18 th	11:00am	Worship in the East Mainland Church
	25 th	11:00am	Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	TBA		Guild Outing
	TBA		Sponsored Walk

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Please email articles, preferably using **Times**

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