

Link Magazine



St Ninian's Parish Church

Spring 2010

Faith
makes things possible,
not easy!

www.st-ninians-stonehouse.org.uk

A Note from the Editor

Sometimes I just love being Editor of the Link magazine!

It is a great joy to receive an item for typing, that has been written in response to an article in the previous issue of Link. I know then that at least one person has found something spiritual within the pages.

It was also a pleasure to discover that one of our distributors was recommending articles to read as they handed over the latest issue of Link. - What an example of good practise.

Imagine if every distributor read the magazine first and then recommended pages to read. Then maybe more folk would be inclined to offer articles to be submitted.

Perhaps we should begin a Readers' Letters Page! This happened away back when the magazine began, but often the articles were of a negative nature. However they were all part of our journey with the Link magazine, and its purpose to communicate with each other.

If I encourage you to write an article for a Reader's Letter Page where will these letters take us on our Journey of Faith?

I'll leave it with you.

Margaret McMeekin

Any old computers?

We can use some parts to keep
the church pc's running.
Call Brian Gwyn – Davies
Tel: 01698 791 006



Minister's Letter

As the weekend approached I had my sermon outlined and begun. Everything was falling into shape. I prepared a visual liturgy on the theme, chose the hymns and sent everything off to Brian so he could get the PowerPoint ready...and then by the weekend I thought, no, there's something else forming.

On Saturday evening I set aside the work I had done in order to write something new. I hadn't planned what was written, its not like I had been considering what came before I put pen to paper. I don't think the content is in that sense a good idea of my own. Rather, it seems more a work of the spirit, working through (and in spite!) of me. Having preached it, and heard the response, I am convinced God is up to something that is bigger than I had imagined. I believe God wants to do something with the churches in Stonehouse that will bring new hope and life not just to the congregations but also allow the kingdom to find room in the village too.

I think God's finger is pointing towards an opening. I think we are being invited into a new beginning. And that is exciting and scary and wonderful for this reason at least – God is in our midst and calling us to cross into new territory:

- just as He called Abram to risk journeying with Sarah in search of son;
- just as He called Moses to risk leading a people out of slavery;
- just as He called Israel to become a people of his own;
- just as He called the first disciples to risk following his son.

I've included the sermon for you to see. What can the churches imagine together for the 21st century in Stonehouse? Alternatively if you'd rather listen to the sermon, then go to www.st-ninians-stonehouse.org.uk and under the heading worship, you will find a recording of the service for Feb 21st.

Feel free to let me know what you think. I'll be interested to hear whether there is an echo of the same thing in your own imagination.

God Bless

Paul

Sunday Sermon Sunday 21st February

Jesus realized that the Pharisees were keeping count of the baptisms that he and John performed (although his disciples, not Jesus, did the actual baptizing). They had posted the score that Jesus was ahead, turning him and John into rivals in the eyes of the people. So Jesus left the Judean countryside and went back to Galilee.

To get there, he had to pass through Samaria. He came into Sychar, a Samaritan village that bordered the field Jacob had given his son Joseph. Jacob's well was still there. Jesus, worn out by the trip, sat down at the well. It was noon.

A woman, a Samaritan, came to draw water. Jesus said, "Would you give me a drink of water?"

The Pharisees have no time for John Baptist. But they are not confident enough to come out and say so, because in the public eye, John has grown into a figure that the ordinary people respect. Ask a Jew in the queue for baptism and he would tell you. John has the smell of God on him, what he says, how he looks. There's a radical authenticity about John that the other religious folks are lacking.

As much as this angers the Pharisees they are unwilling to pitch in against John in case the people take sides and the Pharisees come off the worst but then an opportunity lands in their lap. One of John's number, Jesus has branched out and is baptising up stream from John and he has the smell of God about him too –even more. You can imagine the Pharisee brains ticking and tongues whispering a plan hatching in the quiet corners of the synagogue.

What if we could hammer a wedge between these old friends? What if they could provoke them to turn on each other? What if we could splinter this movement John and Jesus have begun?

The Pharisees start counting heads: Who's in the queue waiting to see Jesus? Who's in the line going to see John? And they post the results:

There are more people coming to see Jesus than going to see you. He's winning and you're losing and it strikes home, gets under the skin of John's folks. They go straight to John and say: "Rabbi, you know the one who was with you on the other side of the Jordan? The one you authorized with your witness? Well, he's now competing with

us. He's baptizing, too, and everyone's going to him instead of us." John's people are disturbed by the head count. It no doubt feeds their insecurities. They are suddenly suspicious of Jesus. Fearsome of what he might be up to. Is he trying to take over? Is he trying to sideline John? What's this Jesus all about anyway? The Pharisees must have sat back and allowed themselves a secret smile.

But neither John nor Jesus falls for the plot. They both have a bigger agenda than their own ego. They know themselves to be on the same side. So John diffuses the tension among his followers and Jesus kills its momentum by moving away.

He decides to leave Judea and go home to Galilee. Neither of them have fallen for the Pharisees trap. For them, ministry is not a competition to see who is the best - It's a calling to become available. To make God known, to bring God near to work out God's intention; to flesh out God's dream. What drives Jesus? What motivates John? Is it living faithfully towards God?

John and Jesus understood. They were both on the same side. Working with the same God for the same thing. There is always a great temptation to measure our success against another's failure, to check the dimension of our demise against another's flourishing - especially when it comes to Church. There's a special name for this kind of immaturity It's called Denominationalism -

Having different denominations inevitably tempts a church to measure itself against a near by neighbour in the game of denominationalism. Any conclusion on how well a church is doing, usually boils down to numbers: The arithmetic of how many bums there are on seats and how much money is in the kitty. Those with the high numbers feel like winners, those with low numbers despair at what is going wrong. Smugness, despondency and rivalry just a few of the things denominationalism has gifted us with.

At one time there was a lot of competition in the village: There were the watery creatures called Baptist, and the Brethren whose modesty encouraged women to cover their heads, there were Roman Catholics who said Mass and even the Sally Anne complete with tambourines!

Not church – but churches Rivals in a religious opposition.

Now the competition is thin on the ground. The village has been left with the last of the Presbyterians called Church of Scotland and the United Free, while the Congregationalists will finally close their door sometime this year.

So in Stonehouse as everywhere else in Scotland, we are somehow bought into a kind of Historical X Factor, where there will be eventually one church left standing. What a victory to the applause of who?

Not the village who long ago gave up on tribal forms of Christianity and have turned to pain-relieving consumerism that turns everyone in a consumer and all life into a commodity and rots the ability of a community to be available to one another in a generous, welcoming, friendship. Denominationalism undermines the gospel. It takes allies and turns them into suspicious enemies. It stops looking outward and starts looking in; it surrenders its stake in village life for keeping its own institution going.

But imagine this that the churches in Stonehouse learn the lesson of Jesus and John deciding you know what we are actually not in competition: Let's give up focusing on survival and start to imagine.

God is ready and able to give all we need to make his son alive among us: So that peace, healing, forgiveness, hope become more than words on our lips but experiences in our lives. Imagine the churches uniting as one to help Stonehouse; rediscovers the art of welcome; rediscovers oasis of generosity; rediscovers how to invite sadness to take joys hands and dance to the rhythm getting together to eat and drink around a table as friends.

Isn't that what a church should be about? Not a scrambling about for pennies to shore up its own survival? As if God's interested in keeping a church going for its own sake. Well God is not.

If a church forgets to make the story of Jesus a living thing in the community they are part, then it had better get ready to turn its premises into flats because it's lost the point of being a church.

Imagine what would happen if the churches in Stonehouse decided for the sake of the village to give up on the old patterns of denominationalism and said for the sake of this village in faithfulness to God, let's become one church.

I have a feeling we are approaching an either or moment for the churches in Stonehouse. When it comes to denominational boundaries we need to let an old way of being church die and to imagine a new way of being church together. The choice is laid out before the churches, its time to simply die or to die and be raised.

Imagine what we could do if we pulled our resources and worked together? Imagine the surprising shape God's kingdom might take among us: Mercy and blessing coming alive laughter and love, healing and forgiveness in the name of Jesus as the churches stop being rivals but allow revival by embracing one another in order to better hold this village within the love of God.

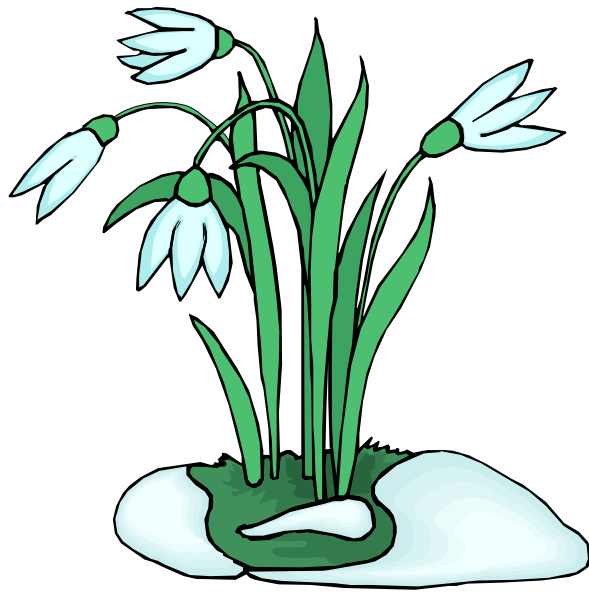
St Ninians has on its own come a long way on this journey. We get it and will continue to move in this direction but I think God might well be calling us to draw our brothers and sisters together, to risk the kind of unity that joins faithful service of God with the lives of those who live in the village. Imagine if the last 3 remaining churches decided to move beyond the temptation of denominationalism, to pull our resources and share what we have so as friends of Jesus we could better help the village remember what its like to be a community.

Last night the Better World Group organised a curry and a quiz (fund raise; get together) and members of church and community, young and old believers, maybe believers, not quite believers and non believers sat around table, ate and drank and laughed *as if we belonged together, as if we were a community* and we shared our lives and our resources with gifts for the hospital at Mulanje; and in its own gentle way last night was a ripple of what God's kingdom is like. Friendship, Welcome, Generosity. A coming together that is mindful of the need of others while still being able to celebrate itself.

Last night felt like a taste of the kingdom among us and it was wonderful. Community hatching in a church hall. Last night was like a communion in the best sense of the word.

Session Clerk

Hi Folks, looking forward to spring aren't we just, the snowdrops are fighting their way through all the ice and snow such delicate plants but every year they survive, a bit like many in our congregation who have survived hard times but with prayer, support and God's blessing have survived.



It has been the custom over the last year to celebrate special birthdays and anniversaries by announcing them on a Sunday morning, we would be very disappointed to miss someone out but we need you to pass on the information, so please let us know if something special is happening to you or a friend.

I'd like to welcome three new members since our last magazine, Jean Robertson, Vickie Leck and Yvonne Hamilton, it's lovely to have you with us and I hope you always enjoy the worship and fellowship at St Ninian's.

It's with regret we say farewell to Margaret and Andrew Ross who have moved to church at Kirkmuirhill, both have been dedicated elders since joining and we wish them well in their new church.

A big thank you to all who gave so generously to the retiring offering for Haiti £650 was raised between the offering and money from the Sunday lunches, the Sunday school organised a sponsored walk and the sum raised has not yet been finalised but was somewhere in the region of £140, it never fails to amaze me how folks rise to the occasion in times of need, I'll announce the final total in the intimations.

Have you noticed I'm back, announcing the intimations, I never thought anybody really listened but obviously you did (my apologies), so by popular request I'm back.

You will read in George Burns report about an events calendar to help raise money to keep church funds healthy, if you feel you can help, please come and offer any assistance however small, we need more hands and I'm sure you will enjoy the fellowship.

Unfortunately due to other commitments George and David have decided to step down as Treasurers, they have both given many years of service to St Ninian's and will be a great miss. It is no easy task keeping the church finances ticking over and their knowledge and perseverance has been much appreciated. They have thankfully agreed to stay on the Finance committee. We are looking at folks to fill their shoes, not an easy task but hopefully we will have identified someone before the A.G.M.

Did you read a story in one of the papers recently about the wee boy who was in the car going to school and his Aunt wanted to know why he was looking so happy, he said he had decided to make this a happy day and count all his blessings, he was able to get out of bed, walk, wash and dress himself, eat his breakfast, kiss his Mum and his favourite Aunt was driving him to school, he had all these blessings and the day had only begun, try it, I have lots of blessings one of them being able to worship at St Ninian's and enjoy the fellowship, to be loved by God in good days and bad what a privilege.

God bless Margaret

(Please read the poem Margaret submitted on the next page)



I should like to thank everyone
for all the kind wishes, cards
and flowers
received on the occasion of my
80th birthday.

All these kindnesses were gratefully appreciated.

Peggy Anderson

Life is an echo that all comes back
The good, the false and the true.
So give to the world the best you possess,
And the best will come back to you.
But in another jeweller's shop
On the other side of town
Twenty past seven said all the dials
Each clock displayed a frown.

And so it is with the face we
show

To the folk we daily meet,

And it is simply our choice

Which face we use to greet.

So, don't be like those sad old
clocks

On the other side of town,

Just set your face at ten to two

And banish every frown.



By Colin Hammacott

Millar Taxis

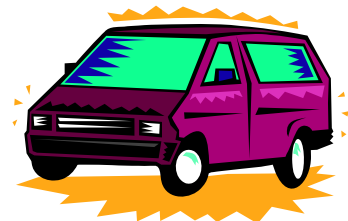
07857213804

Seven Seater For Private Hire

City Centre, Nights Out, Airport Transfers

Advance Bookings

Personal Friendly Service



Treasurer

Dear All

It is with regret that I start this Spring Link with the news of my resignation. My domestic circumstances have dictated it is no longer possible to devote the time required to be Church Treasurer and to fulfil my commitments at home. Be assured that your new Treasurer will get every help and support from the Finance Committee and myself. I am positive they will bring new ideas and fresh thinking, always a good thing!! We have recruited two new members Helen Young and Shona McLaren to join the Finance Committee so the work of the *bead counters* can only be strengthened and will inevitably go on!!

I am in the final stages of completing the Annual returns for 2009 an arduous task at the best of times. I am now awaiting a few final figures to complete this year's entries. Our Annual stated meeting will be on March the 7th 2010 so if you want the exact state of our finances please come along.

It seems no time since I was telling you that our main Gas suppliers was changing to British Gas... well I can now tell you that once again we are changing to 'Scottish Hydro' this will be a two year contract ending in March 2012, starting on 1st April 2010 covering both Gas and Electricity.

We received £5000 from the estate of the late Mrs. Naismith which we have deposited in our Repair Fund; this will eventually go towards our new heating...a project of the future of immense scale. Once again our thanks to the family, this money will be well used.

Before leaving the post of Treasurer I wanted to put in place a Template of activities that the church could run throughout the year, every year. This is a two edged sword. One for bringing in much needed revenue, the other for building community and relations with outside agencies and organisations as well as encouraging closer working relations within our own organisations. The word Parish church is often lost these days, but it does literally mean the Parish of Stonehouse not necessarily the people who come to church on a Sunday (*Please keep coming though!!!*)

Your Parish Needs You!!!

To that end here is a brief resume of what we will be doing: Some of these events may be past but remember we will continue this timetable for many years to come, *hopefully*.

January	Frid 15 th	John Young Folk Group
February	Sat 20 th	Stonehouse Better World Quiz night
March	Sat 27 th	Spring Craft Fayre
April	Frid 16 th	Paul's Group
May	Sat 22 nd	Summer Fun Day
June	Sat 19 th	Tea in the Park- Better World
July/August		Holiday period
September	Frid 17 th	Variety show
October	Sat 23 rd	Sportsperson's Dinner – Better World
November	Sat 6 th Frid 19 th	Winter craft Fayre John Young Folk Group
December	Tues 7 th	Girls Brigade Christmas Fayre

Now you will realise these things do not run themselves so I am asking you to contact any member of the Board to lend your assistance.

What talents have you got? Musical, organizer, car washer, reliable pair of hands???

We can all be guilty of something called '*Bystander Syndrome*.' This is where we watch someone else do all the hard work.

An experiment was once carried out where a man dressed scruffily was planted in a busy walkway of a town centre, with a plastic bag by his side, in a collapsed position. Everyone walked on past him, assuming he was without a home and/or under the influence of drugs or alcohol ;(assuming plastic bag full of bottles) no one went near or contacted the emergency services. '*Someone else would*

do it!!!' The experiment was carried out again with a well-dressed gent...he immediately got help!!!

Remember the story of the Good Samaritan?

Remember Parish church there for the Parish!!!

Well that is my last rant, come and speak to me if you are interested in volunteering for any of the above I will point you in the direction of the person responsible for that particular part of the calendar.

Thanks to all of you for your help and support over the years including my colleagues in the Finance Committee who have been more than supportive, especially to David Kirkwood who has been my mentor for the best part of 8-9 years, and my wife and family who have put up with me for the same length of time!!

George M Burn (**Retired**)

A Big Thank You..

to everyone who bought cards and gifts etc from the Webb Ivory catalogue in the months up to Christmas. Everyone was very generous and I was able to give £275 to church funds. I hope everyone was pleased with their purchases and will continue to support us in the year to come.

I have a Spring / Summer edition of the catalogue and if you would like to browse through it perhaps for Easter cards or birthday cards and there is always ideas for personalised items for special occasions, please speak to me with no obligation to buy.

The church diaries sold very well this year and raised £150 so well done. I do hope you find our little diary helpful not only as a neat and compact diary but also contact details of all our church organisers and Christian readings and inspiration.

My sincere thanks,
Anne Law

BREAKFAST CLUB REPORT

We continue to meet at 10.45am on Sunday mornings. The children seem to enjoy coming and are equally enthusiastic about all aspects of the program, be it breakfast, game, craft or story. The number of children attending averages 25 - 30, though one week we had 63 thanks to George's Boys Brigade having a 'fill the church' Sunday - Well done George.

The material we are currently using is the 'Holiday Club' material about Joseph. This will take us up to the Easter season.

We are currently developing a section for older children - P7 and upwards with a separate program for them. We are encouraging them to be involved in the development of this group and a suitable program.



As we are approaching the summer, the leaders would very much appreciate the help of members of the congregation to look after the children and so enable us to join the Sunday worship in church. All arrangements would be put in place for you. If you feel you could do this even one Sunday and you are through 'Disclosure Scotland', please contact Margaret McGregor.

The Breakfast Club Team

Coffee Morning.

We had a very snowy start to our new session on the beginning of February, but our friends came in spite of the weather. We are so lucky with our smiling happy ladies who come week by week.

We will be in the large hall each Tuesday morning (10am -11.30am) until the 25th May2010.

A warm welcome awaits you there.

We hear work has started on the main doors of the church and we are all looking forward to seeing the completion of the work very soon.

Peggy Anderson.



NEW STONEHOUSE BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED

No, nae, never, no more....When I published *'Damn few an' they're a' deid'* I didn't think there was much more to know about Stonehouse that hadn't already been recorded before or discovered via the internet and local residents.

However since then I have researched deeper into the archives of our national institutions and received countless letters, emails, photographs and documents that have shed further light on the historical and natural history of our village.

This information has come from a wide range of sources throughout the world.. Such information has been primarily as a consequence of descendants of the village who have emigrated many years past seeking employment or a better life in economic times of recession in Scotland.

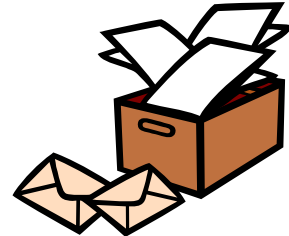
These people in trying to establish their ancestry have sought information from the Heritage Group and myself in an effort to understand and learn more about the village to which they are descended from. In return they have furnished us with a wealth of information and photographs of Stonehouse prior to their settlement in pastures new.

Nearer to home I have been recording our *'ain folks'* memories of Stonehouse from childhood, through the war years to the present day including, Jean Leishman, Mary Tennant and the late Jenny Bunch. These accounts and those of others through the years have inspired me to record my own recollections as a boy in Stonehouse. I hope in doing so this may encourage others to do similar in proving children, new residents and visitors to learn more and understand the social development and visual changes that have occurred over the generations.



With a considerable amount of new data and newly researched material it only seemed a matter of time before the inevitable happened and a third book began to emerge. The book is still in the process of compiling and writing but will be titled '*Here's tae us!*' and will be a limited edition of 300 books due to the financial constraints of publishing the book myself.

However I hope that residents and those reading this article will take the opportunity to raid their attics and family albums to uncover lost photographs and memories of Stonehouse in days gone by as I continue to record and digitise the materials for future research and preservation.



So if anyone out there has anything you think might be of interest please contact me and I will arrange to have the items scanned, recorded or copied and returned to the owner.

Again if anyone has any unusual bits of trivia please contact me as these wee gems are great when out doing talks and presentations for community groups locally and further a field for other societies.

For further information on the new book or to provide me with information please don't hesitate to contact me on 01698 792479 or via email: johnroderickyong@yahoo.co.uk

Mainly for Distibutors

Thank you for all your collections for the Winter Issue of Link. We gathered in £439 so thanks to all who supported us. Your contributions make it possible for the costs of all the church paper work to be done.

Margaret Murray or myself will be in the vestibule on Sunday 21st March to collect donations from distributors.

Enjoy the spring sunshine as you deliver the magazines.

Margaret McM

THOUGHTS ON PRAYER

'A problem shared is a problem halved' - How often have we heard that said? It's always good to have someone to speak to if something is troubling us. We don't necessarily need them to speak - just to listen. It helps us to 'see things more clearly' just by talking about them and who better to talk to than God. I recently read this verse by Barbara Cagle Ray, which sums this up to perfection.

Amids't the dew of early dawn I took a morning walk,
And along with me I took a Friend for I felt the need to talk.
I unburdened both my heart and soul and spoke of many things,
Of plans gone wrong, of failures pain
And how to live with shattered dreams.
My Friend just listened quietly and uttered not a word,
For it was His time to listen and my time to be heard.
His sympathetic ear brought peace as we walked this earthly
sod,
And I learned to trust life again on my morning walk with God.

It's also good to talk to God about our happy times, express our gratitude and ask forgiveness for our wrongs as well as bringing our problems to Him.

Ann Woods
Prayer Secretary

In Loving Memory of our unborn child lost
to miscarriage on 2nd February 2010
Forever in our hearts
Lisa and Gary."



The Song

When I was being handed my copy of the 'Link' magazine I was being excitedly told to be sure to read the article about depression which of course, I truly did and could understand the excitement. What a well-written and explained episode on a difficult subject.

To be able to acknowledge that Depression could be a Gift and put this to use so well, put my own troubles into perspective and brought to mind the description that St Paul uses when he talks about 'a thorn in his side' for which he had asked three times to be removed, with God's explanation that it was there for the purpose of keeping Paul humbled.

What Gift could I unearth out of my situation which would, for me, effect a healing process and turn a thorn into a means of getting me moving, for example, out of the comfort zone I had been seeking and falling into?

With several examples before me I think of the occasions when the Jewish people were travelling along, hot, dusty roads and having to face an uphill climb at the end to reach the Temple in Jerusalem and they were encouraging themselves by SINGING.

When Paul and Lilas were sitting in prison SINGING, the doors burst open and they were freed.

When the African slaves in Virginia were labouring in the cotton fields in the hot sun with their backs breaking they were SINGING.

For me, I find when I least feel like it, that if I can resort to SINGING, the clouds fade away and an altogether different dimension takes place when spirits are lifted and gloom dispelled. There are wonderful healing properties in SINGING. (Satan absolutely hates singing and creeps quickly away).

Thank you, Lisa, for a valuable lesson gained by you so painfully. If I can only attain to a measure of your achievement you will have set my feet on the way and put a song in my mouth.

Praise be to God.

Rita.



I would just like to thank everyone who sent me cards and flowers. The prayers in the verses and words have helped me through some difficult days.

Your thoughtfulness and love is really appreciated.

Helen Spence

Cancer Care Fund Raising Night

The family would like to say thank you for everyone who supported this event on Monday 15th February in the church hall. The event raised a staggering £1,500 plus, as the total keeps rising every day as folk are still collecting donations from friends at their work places. This is an amazing total and the amount of support offered has been overwhelming.

To say thank you, simply doesn't cover the emotion felt by everyone's response to this appeal.

God Bless you all,

Ann

Please remember to save used stamps and place them in the box in the vestibule.

In these hard financial times every little thing helps.

Thanks you to all who take the time to cut the stamps out so carefully leaving a little margin around them

Please Note:

The Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals section of the Link magazine will be restored once the Church Records have been transferred from one system of recording to another. We appreciate your understanding in this matter



Spring Church Flower Rota



March	07	Rosemary Middleton	In Memoriam
	07	Ian & Isobel Hamilton	Wedding Anniversary
	14	Jack & Marion Clark	Wedding Anniversary
	21	Kay Baxter	In Memoriam
	28	Sheila Lindsay Grace Allan	In Memoriam In Memoriam
April	04	Margaret Murray Catherine Campbell May Plenderleith	In Memoriam In Memoriam In Memoriam
	11	Sheena McLean	In Memoriam
	18	Nancy McCallum	In Memoriam
	25	Eleanor Brown	In Memoriam
	May	02	Jean Robertson
09		Margaret Lambie	In Memoriam
09		John Limmerick	In Memoriam
16		Anne McLeod	In Memoriam
23		Mrs B Summers	In Memoriam
30		Anne Law	In Memoriam
30		The Smith Family	In Memoriam
June	06	Anne McLeod	In Memoriam

In January our church was adorned by flowers donated by: Mrs Ann Golder, Peggy Aitken, Mrs N Cowper, Jean Grant, The Summers Family, Mrs W Hare, Mrs Mary Tenant, and Mrs Barr. (All in Memoriam).

In February: Eileen Stewart, Mrs Agnes Cook, Vickie Leck (all in Memoriam) and on the 28th by Margaret Cranston (Gifted).

Our Flower arrangers and helpers for the Spring

Mar	Pat Thorton	792453	Rosalind Blake	207676
April	J Tully	792403		
May	Susan Whitelaw	01357 521224	Jean Grant	793068
June	Joyce & Bob Millar	792736	Eileen Stewart	793985

Pastoral Care and Flower Team

Firstly I would like to thank everyone for all the help we had for decorating the Church at Christmas. What a difference it made and I think everyone enjoyed the time together.

We have as usual been very busy over the Christmas period. There have been a lot of changes in our housebound members and we are trying to reorganise our visiting rota. If you know of anyone who requires a visit or flowers please let us know.

There are a few ladies who have offered to help visiting our elderly members, which is very encouraging for us.

We are looking forwards to Spring and I have got one snowdrop and one crocus out at the moment. I always love when the Spring flowers start to show through after the dull damp days of Winter.

Our thanks again to everyone for their help and also for all the ladies and gentlemen who do the flowers and deliver them throughout the year. It is a very worthwhile and rewarding job and to the people who give the flowers and the money week by week too a special thank you.



God Bless you all and keep us in your prayers.

Ann