

Scottish Episcopal Church
Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

Christ Church, Dalbeattie



Issue No. 5 *February/March 2015*

SERVICES AT CHRIST CHURCH

February

1 st	The Presentation (Septuagesima)	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
8 th	Sexagesima	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
15 th	The Sunday before Lent	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
18 th	ASH WEDNESDAY	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
and Imposition of Ashes (there will be no Service at CC on 19 th February)			
22 nd	First Sunday in Lent	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist

March

1 st	Second Sunday in Lent	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
8 th	Third Sunday in Lent	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
15 th	Fourth Sunday in Lent	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
	MOTHERING SUNDAY		
22 nd	Fifth Sunday in Lent	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
29 th	Sunday of the Passion	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
	PALM SUNDAY		
30 th	Monday of Holy Week	Service details not yet known	
31 st	Tuesday of Holy Week	Service details not yet known	

April

1 st	Wednesday of Holy Week	Service details not yet known	
2 nd	Maundy Thursday,	Service details not yet known	
3 rd	GOOD FRIDAY	12 noon	The Cross at the Cross
		2.00 p.m.	At the foot of the Cross
4 th	Saturday of Holy Week	Service details not yet known	
5 th	EASTER DAY	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
		tbc	Evensong

Midweek Service Thursday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

There is a service of <u>Holy Communion</u> at 8.30 a.m. on the <u>first Sunday</u> of the month at <u>Christ Church</u> and a service <u>every Sunday</u> at <u>St Ninian's, Castle Douglas</u> .
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Munches Park Care Home, Dalbeattie; Ecumenical Service 2.00 p.m. Third Sunday in the month; All Welcome
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The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible. <i>George Burns</i>

The Revd John Martin has written the 'clergy letter' for this magazine. He is, as the regular members of Christ Church know, one of a team of visiting clergy during our time of vacancy. From Sandgreen Beach he writes: "Out of the mouths..."

Dear friends,

Nanette Newman has been listening to children. She recalls Marcia (aged six) saying, **"Our Vicar tells people off on Sundays, but he's nice when he is out shopping."** ("Best of Love") So now one just can't wait for Lent and Ash Wednesday and for all that talk of sin and penitence, and with some Rector or retired priest telling us all off. Why do they (or let's be uncharacteristically honest) – why do I want to do it? Of course the best clergy don't, they encourage and seek to draw the best out of us. However Nanette's children, shrewdly analysing their parents, seem to have noticed our human frailties which apply to lesser clergy and to a few parents. **"Your parents have to tell you off because they don't want you to grow up like them."** (Simon, aged 10 in "All our Love").

Scripture declares and the Church teaches that we are made in the image of God (Genesis 1v. 27). That means that we have the same range of feelings as God, and if we know what hurts us we will know what hurts God. The reverse is also true. What hurts God hurts us, too. Human beings depend on trust and the thing which hurts human beings most is betrayal. We cannot relate to other people without trust. It lies behind every transaction we make, it underpins our work and it is vital to our relationships with friends, with partners and with family. Every child needs to trust his or her parents or carers and it is a disaster if the child cannot do so. The people who have the most power to hurt us are the people who we trust and love, and if they betray us, the pain can be indescribable. Deep down each one of us longs to be loved, and not for our attributes but for ourselves. Otherwise we are betrayed. God is betrayed every time the world we create, however big, however small, reflects our ambitions and not his ambition of a world of compassion, sharing and forgiveness. He doesn't stop loving us, but he doesn't stop being hurt. Sometimes children see themselves more clearly than we are able to see ourselves. Seven year old Ann said, **"I wouldn't like me as a friend because I tell fibs."** ("All our Love")

If we spot that we are hurting God, the God of Jesus Christ, it brings all this Lenten penitence into focus. If we notice that we, too, play a part in creating or preserving the nightmare alternative to God's world, we can see the point of changing. Lent involves sacrifice but is more about **"changing"** than about **"giving up"**. The energy comes from God himself. However often he is betrayed he continues to trust us. We remain his adopted children. Our experience is a little like that of Lydia, aged eight as recorded in Nanette's "All our Love". **"I was adopted so my parents wanted me very badly."**

With love and best wishes, John.

CHRIST CHURCH VESTRY 2014/2015



L to R: Helen Stephens; Robin Charlton; Keith Dennison; Anthony Duncalf; Canon David Bayne; Sue Thomas; Edith Thorp and Stephen Gaukroger. Not present: Jenny Edkins; Llyn Glendinning and George Sims

Update from the Vestry Meeting held on 21st January, 2015

- ♦ **Electric Lighting;** approval has been given for the first stage of the Lighting project.
- ♦ **External Notice Board;** Canon David Bayne is contacting the Contractor in Kirkcudbright about notice boards for both Churches.
- ♦ **Lent Talks:** the talks will be held on Wednesdays at 2.00 p.m. at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas and on Thursdays at 11.00 a.m. at St Peter's, Dalbeattie. Starting on the 25th/26th February for five weeks.
- ♦ **Lent Lunches:** there is a sheet at the back of the Church for volunteers who wish to host a Lent Lunch. Please include details of day (does not need to be a Wednesday) and location. Donations raised will be given to Bishop Gregor's 2015 Lent Appeal; Charity not known at time of printing.

- ♦ **Update from our Lay Representative, Edith Thorp**

- ♦ **Regional Council:** the next meeting is to be held at St John's Dumfries on Tuesday, 3rd February at 12 noon. Please let Stephanie Dewhurst know if you wish to attend.

Update from the Property Working Group

For the past year the tower has been a major area of concern. The roof (as you are all aware) still leaks. More major work needs to be done; this work is to be contracted by the Vestry to Rebecca Cadie, the Diocesan Architect. Plans of what



Christ Church with its new blue bonnet!!

needs to be done to find a permanent solution are yet to be finalised. Nobody going down the High Street can fail to see the Tower with its new blue bonnet.

Mary Haythorne has asked that we pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world. The top 5 of the top 50 countries are: North Korea; Somalia; Syria; Iraq and Afghanistan. For more information visit their website www.opendoorsuk.org

LENT 2014



Bishop Gregor presented Yorkhill Children's Charity with a cheque for **£13,981.64** as the amount raised from his 2014 Lent Appeal. The cheque was presented in December to William McGowan, Fundraiser (Community & Events) for Yorkhill Children's Charity stated: Thank you to all in the Diocese who donated to this worthwhile cause.

LENT 2015 The Bishop's Charity for 2015 is not known at the time of going to print. Please see page 4 for details about Lent Talks to be held in Dalbeattie and Castle Douglas and Lent Lunches to be held in Dalbeattie.

STOP PRESS We are delighted to learn that Bishop Gregor will be spending Holy Week and Easter with us - dividing his time between Christ Church and St Ninian's, Castle Douglas. The full programme for the week is yet to be finalised.



PLANT SALE 16th MAY 2015

DALBEATTIE TOWN HALL



Churches together in Dalbeattie & district

The most recent Dalbeattie Churches Together service was held on Friday 28th November at St Peter's Church, Dalbeattie. This service was a lovely opportunity to take time to prepare for the season of Advent. The service at Dalbeattie was a well-attended service with a congregation of 65 people; including members of Colvend Church. Anthony Duncalf, the Christ Church representative of the Steering Group for DCT, wrote:-

"Many thanks to the representatives of the four Dalbeattie churches for helping to make the Advent Service a very successful and quite moving occasion, as we took time out of the pre-Christmas bustle to reflect on the coming of the Light of Christ. Especial thanks go to Father William McFadden for coordinating the Order of Service, and to all who took part, either reading, singing or lighting the Advent Wreath. The service was attended by 65 people from the various churches (including Colvend Church), and I am delighted to say that the retiring collection raised £145 for the Disasters Emergency Committee's Ebola Appeal. One of the most touching readings for me was the modern poem ***How the Light Comes*** by Jan Richardson". (Visit the Christ Church website to read this poem in full and to see more photographs of the service.)



L-R: Canon David Bayne (Interim Priest-in-Charge Christ Church)

Revd Fiona Wilson (Dalbeattie & Kirkgunzeon Parish Church with Urr Parish Church)

Pastor Colin Reilly (Galloway Christian Centre)

Father William McFadden (St Peter's RC Church).



Some members of the Christ Church Music Group on the balcony at St Peters.

L-R: Robin Charlton; Julie Dennison; Keith Dennison; Edith Thorp and Anthony Duncalf.

The organ was played by Maggie Kelt, Honorary Organist, Christ Church.

On the 18th January, there was a joint service at **Dalbeattie Parish Church** to mark the start of the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**. The theme for this year's events is '***The Well is Deep***'. The service put together by Father William McFadden, is to link in with the service to mark the end of the week which will be held at **St Ninian's Church**, Castle Douglas on Sunday the 25th January. About fifty people attended the service at Dalbeattie and met for fellowship afterwards. Thanks to the Parish Church for providing the refreshments.

Churches Together in Dalbeattie and District

Galloway Christian Centre is one of the Churches Together in Dalbeattie & District. The other Churches are Dalbeattie & Kirkgunzeon Parish Church linked with Urr Parish Church; St Peter's RC Church and Christ Church.



Galloway Christian Centre meets every Sunday morning at Dalbeattie Town Hall, 10.30am

www.gallowaychristiancentre.co.uk

Galloway Christian Centre is a church that seeks to introduce people to Jesus Christ and disciple those that choose to follow Him as their Lord and Saviour. They started life in 1996 as a church plant from Cockermouth Christian Centre in Cumbria (which was a church plant itself from Lakes Christian Centre in South Lakes). The church is run by two elders; Colin Reilly (Pastor; 01556 640023); Wesley Millar (Elder; 01387 780230) they are supported by Chris Ross (Deacon; 01387 760278).

As a church they welcome and expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit but seek to do everything decently and in order. They want to avoid the traps of legalism where there might dry up but neither do they want to become so hyper charismatic that they might blow up. They enjoy contemporary worship with sound biblical teaching. They meet in the Town Hall in Dalbeattie because it's a great building, it's central, there is huge car park at the back of the building and it means that they as a church can fully engage in their mission without the worry of building maintenance.

They have a children's program every Sunday morning and their growing teenagers stay in the main meeting every other week. Tea, coffee and cake seem to be served at every meeting. During the week the ladies meet for a bible study ("Read Through") on a Tuesday evening and the men do the same on a Thursday evening.

In the next magazine there will be a 'bio' of the Colvend Group of Churches.

STOP PRESS DCT

The Steering Group, which now includes representation from Colvend, Southwick and Kirkbean Churches, will be meeting in the next few weeks to discuss ideas for 2015, so any suggestions would be welcome. One idea that seems to be favoured by all the churches is a 'Songs of Praise' type event to tie in with August's Civic Week activities. *Anthony Duncalf*

CAROL SERVICE 2014

Due to the death of Bishop Gregor's brother-in-law, Peter, the Bishop was unable to join us for our Carol Service on the 21st of December. His Bishop's shoes were filled 'so to speak' by Bishop Gordon Mursell. Bishop Gordon is one of a group of clergy who come to take services at Christ Church in our time of vacancy. As well as the service of seven carols, readings and interludes; we were entertained by the Christ Church Music Group. After the Carol Service refreshments were served in the Church Hall.



L-R: Edith Thorp; Julie Dennison; Robin Charlton; Keith Dennison;
Anthony Duncalf; George Thomas & Sue Thomas



L-R: Julie Dennison, Ruth Jardine, Maggie Kelt & Keith Dennison

Thanks to Ron Newton for the photographs.

In the afternoon several Church Members went to **Munches Park Care Home** to hold a Carol Service for the Residents. They were joined by organist Maggie Kelt and flautist Ruth Jardine. Ruth played a selection of well-known Christmas songs that brought back many happy memories. They included *Winter Wonderland* and *Jingle Bells*. A box of chocolates was given to the residents.

WINTER SALE 2014

The Christ Church Winter Sale was held on Saturday, 29th November. The magnificent sum of £1,200 was raised. Thanks are due to all those who made the goodies, manned the stalls, served the teas and those from the town and area who came and spent so generously. Thanks one and all. More pictures can be seen on our website.



Ruth Keith and Julie, our fabulous table staff and Alison & Elizabeth getting the cake stall ready.



Nicholas & Ron with the Quiz and the Christ Church Crafters Ruby, Miranda, Beryl, Geoff & Jane.



Sue with the Raffle Prizes

George announcing the winners

THE GLASGOW BIN LORRY TRAGEDY

The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

On the 23rd December, 2014 Bishop Gregor wrote:

The whole Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway offers our prayers for and condolences to all so suddenly and terribly caught up in this latest tragedy to befall the City of Glasgow. We bless God for the response of our emergency services. The disaster occurred very near our Diocesan Centre and I saw with my own eyes the awful aftermath. I shall not forget what I saw.

People across the country and beyond have been shocked and deeply saddened at the tragic and fatal bin lorry crash in Glasgow on Monday 22nd December. The Rt Revd Dr Gregor Duncan, Bishop of Glasgow & Galloway, whose Diocesan office is close to George Square, witnessed the immediate aftermath of the accident. In asking an ambulance woman if there was anything he could do to help he was told ***“just stand here and pray Father.... for five souls”***. It was at that point that Bishop Gregor realised the severity of the incident and the then death toll. Bishop Gregor has been interviewed on a number of national news programmes and been quoted in most UK newspapers. He speaks of his initial responses, of how the Church can respond in its support of people affected by this tragedy, of the strength of spirit of the people of Glasgow in their ability to cope with and overcome tragedy, and support one another through difficult and dark times.



Bishop Gregor offered these words of support and comfort following the tragic bin lorry crash in Glasgow. (Visit Inspires on-line for more details.)

This Christmas will be especially poignant as our prayers and thoughts go out to all those whose lives were affected in this tragedy ... to those grieving the loss of a loved one, those

who were injured and to the many people who witnessed the horrific event unfolding and for whom time, space and the love and care of the people around them will be much needed.

On the day of the accident the Provost of St Mary's Cathedral, the Very Revd Kelvin Holdsworth wrote this prayer:

Eternal God at this time of bewildering tragedy in the city help us to pray for those involved. For those in hospital, for those who have died, for those who rescue, for those who comfort, for medical staff and for witnesses passing, for all who wonder why. Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.



World War One



Last summer Sue & George Thomas visited Dunham Massey, Cheshire, where the Stamford Military Hospital has been re-created. This is Sue's Account of their visit.

"A hundred years ago this month, that is in January 1915, the war that should have been 'all over by Christmas' was fast becoming an monumental battle that showed no sign of ending. In addition to the huge loss of life, the number of wounded coming home to Britain for care and rehabilitation was rapidly overwhelming our regular hospitals. One solution was to creation of small auxiliary hospitals from stately homes and country houses. In all almost 3,300 such hospitals were formed across the country and Dunham Massey in Cheshire was one of these.



Thanks to Sue for the images

Between April 1917 and February 1919 Penelope Gray, Countess of Stamford, her daughter Lady Jane and a small medical staff nursed 282 serving soldiers suffering from both physical and psychological injury, many making a full recovery and returning to the front. In addition to regular medical treatments, including surgery, they pioneered 'fresh air cures' making the most of the house's outdoor facilities to restore mental equilibrium. And in response to the national shortage of medical supplies, even harvested sphagnum moss from their own moss garden to use as a successful substitute for cotton wool when dressing wounds.

Last year the National Trust, the present owners of Dunham Massey, faithfully recreated the hospital as it had been one hundred years ago. Visitors, George and

I among them, were able to walk through the house seeing it through the lens of time. The saloon was a 25-bed ward, the Grand Staircase an operating theatre, the Grand Hall a recreation and the Billiard Room a nurses station. Recordings played the voices of patients and actors in role the nurses and wounded men. They moved freely among us but without any interaction except between themselves.

Everywhere was memorabilia of the time and, of course, information boards giving chilling information and statistics of the cost of war. Upstairs, just as in 1917, the

Great Gallery was piled high with furniture and household items put into storage for the duration. As a first-hand experience of the home front it was a truly memorable visit.

Such has been the popularity of Stamford Military Hospital, with thousands of visitors passing through every day, the Trust has extended the project for a further year. So there is still plenty of opportunity to see it for yourselves. The beautiful gardens are open all year round, and we will have to make a separate visit to see these as our time ran out on this occasion. The house re-opens in February. Situated only 15 minutes off the M6 it is easy to access the property and has every facility to afford a 'Grand Day Out'."

To find out more visit www.nationaltrust.org/dunham.massey

J



*Jenni Gray (known to us at Christ Church because of her work for the Mission to Seafarers) and her husband Jim visited France as part of the Newton Stewart & District Twinning Association delegation. The visit was timed to co-incide with **November 11th., 2014.** Never one to be backward in asking for articles for the magazine I asked Jenni to write about her visit.*

Jenni writes:

On the 10th November 2014 a delegation of 14 local people flew from Glasgow to visit Marcoussis in France, a town 25km South West of Paris. Among them was Cllr Marion McCutcheon, Chairman of the Wigtown Area Committee, who was there to represent Dumfries and Galloway Council and to sign the official twinning agreement between Marcoussis and Newton Stewart. We were joined by eight young people from the Douglas Ewart High School who were working on the gold stage of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

The first signing of the twinning agreement between Newton Stewart and Marcoussis was concluded in November 2013 at Newton Stewart and it was agreed that it would be fitting to have the French signing coinciding with a Remembrance ceremony, particularly in 2014, the centenary of the outbreak of World War 1. On the 11th November we gathered in the Town Hall in Marcoussis where Cllr McCutcheon and Olivier Thomas, the Mayor of Marcoussis, signed the twinning documents. After which we paraded to the War Memorial in the cemetery; several speeches were made, including one by Meta Maltman the chair of Newton Stewart & District Twinning Association. Wreaths were laid by Meta and by the young people in beautiful autumn sunshine where a large crowd had turned out to support the ceremony and to hear the singing of the local primary school choir.



Marcoussis War Memorial



Jim Gray at the Palace

In France the red poppy is not the symbol of remembrance but members of the Marcoussis twinning committee and the Mayor had managed to acquire red poppies which they wore as a mark of friendship. In his speech the Mayor expressed his thanks to us for being there and reminded everyone how our own nation had been hit by the First World War and that as they celebrate their brave ancestors they give thanks for the fellowship between nations that will keep working to stop all wars adding that we have today laid a small foundation on the path towards International Friendship.

A special programme had been arranged for our visit and the following day saw us at the Palace of Versailles; one of the most beautiful achievements of 18th century French art. Our next stop was lunch in a traditional French café before we went back to the Palace to explore the gardens. These too are magnificent and very extensive so Jim and Marion decided that they would take the train, a very wise move and the young people went off to enjoy an evening in Paris before we went back to our hosts to prepare for the evening soiree

We flew home the next day, tired but having had a wonderful time and sorry to leave our many new friends. We recommend twinning to you all. Please come and join us."

Have you a WW1 story to share with the readers of this magazine?

Have you a family story about WW1 that could be included in the book I am compiling?

If yes, please do get in touch either by phone (01556 630314) or by e-mail (muriel.a.palmer@gmail.com). Or you can write me a letter and send it to Millbrook Cottage, 3 Barcloy Mill, Rockcliffe, Dalbeattie, DG5 4QL.

As well as gathering stories from the Congregation of Christ Church I will be gathering stories from the Congregation of St Ninian's, Castle Douglas.. All profits from the sale of the book are to be donated to the Scottish National War Memorial (SC009869). Visit their website at www.snwm.org



**Tower of
London Poppy**

Four Cathedrals and a City

A MEDIEVAL CATHEDRAL WITH AN ACTIVE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



The front of Glasgow Cathedral,
from Cathedral Square

Glasgow Cathedral, also called the **High Kirk of Glasgow** or **St Kentigern's** or **St Mungo's Cathedral**, is today a gathering of the **Church of Scotland** in Glasgow. Technically, the building is no longer a cathedral, since it has not been the seat of a bishop since 1690. However, like other pre-Reformation cathedrals in Scotland, it is still a place of active Christian worship. The current minister (since 15 February 2007) is the Rev Laurence A. B. Whitley, PhD. The title cathedral is honorific and historic, dating from the period before the Scottish Reformation and its former status as the Roman Catholic mother church of the Archdiocese of Glasgow and the cathedral of the Archbishop of Glasgow (see below). The current congregation is part of the Church of Scotland's Presbytery of Glasgow. Glasgow Cathedral

is located north of the High Street and east of Cathedral Street, beside the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. For more information about Glasgow Cathedral visit their website www.glasgowcathedral.org

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF GLASGOW



The front of Glasgow Metropolitan
Cathedral, from the River

The Metropolitan Cathedral Church of Saint Andrew or **Glasgow Metropolitan Cathedral** which was designed in 1814 by James Gillespie Graham in the Neo Gothic style, lies on the north bank of the River Clyde in Clyde Street. The Cathedral is a Roman Catholic Cathedral in the city-centre of Glasgow, Scotland. It is the mother church of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Glasgow and the seat of the Archbishop of Glasgow, currently the Most Reverend Philip Tartaglia. St Andrew's Cathedral, built in 1816, is seen in a new light since its restoration, completed in April 2011. Visitors remark on the brightness, the colour, the space a much-loved church restored to

the people of Glasgow and welcoming all who come to visit. For more information about Glasgow Cathedral visit their website www.cathedralg1.org

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, GLASGOW

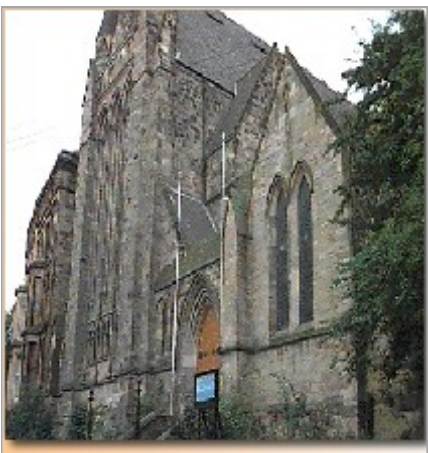


The front of the cathedral from
Great Western Road

St Mary's Cathedral is mother church to the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway in the **Scottish Episcopal Church**, which is in full membership of the world-wide Anglican Communion. The Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway is the Right Reverend Dr Gregor Duncan. The Cathedral is located at 300 Great Western Road, in the west end of Glasgow. The current building was opened on 9 November 1871 as St Mary's Episcopal Church and was completed in 1893 when the spire was completed. Since the 17th century, the SEC has held an identity distinct from the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. The Scottish Episcopal Church has seven dioceses; the current Primus of the

Scottish Episcopal Church is the Most Reverend David Chillingworth. For more information visit St Mary's website www.the.cathedral.org.uk.

GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF ST.LUKE, GLASGOW



The front of the Cathedral from
Dundonald Road

St. Luke's Greek Orthodox Cathedral is a cathedral of the Greek Orthodox Church located in the Dowanhill district of Glasgow. The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of St. Luke the Evangelist is the spiritual and community centre for Greeks from mainland Greece and Cyprus. It is one of three Orthodox Churches and the only Orthodox Cathedral in Scotland. It also serves all other Orthodox communities in Glasgow, such as Serbs, Romanians, Russians etc. After a generous donation in 1960 by Sir Reo Stakis, the Greek Community in Glasgow moved from a small church in Crafton St. to the present building in Dundonald Road, creating the very first centre of orthodoxy in Scotland. The consecration of this Church by the Archbishop of Thyateira and Great Britain, was attended by the Lord Provost of Glasgow and other church and civic dignitaries. The Priest in Charge is Father Constantine Papageorgiou. For more information visit their website www.stluke.org.uk

*Last October Nicholas and I were invited to a Diamond Re-Union of my late husband's classmates from Rochdale Grammar School for Boys (see page 20) We travelled south via Chatburn, near Clitheroe. Later that month there was to be a gathering of local residents who had been involved in the filming of **Whistle Down the Wind**. When we got back and I was telling Alison Coolican about our trip South I learnt that pupils in her class been part of the film! No prizes for guessing that I asked her to write something about this. MP **Alison writes:***

I do not remember the particular day or date in 1961 but I do remember the flurry of excitement in the middle of class 4T's mathematics lesson, when the headmaster of Ribblesdale High School, Clitheroe, Lancashire came into my classroom, and introduced me the teacher, to Richard Attenborough and Bryan Forbes. They shook hands with me and asked if one of the boys could be excused from the lesson. They pointed to one boy and off he went to audition, on the playing field, for the part of the 'bully' on the film **Whistle Down the Wind**.

The story, by Mary Hayley Bell, was originally set in Sussex. Richard Attenborough visited the Lancashire area and decided that the area around Pendle Hill had a certain beauty but was rugged and dramatic and suited the mood of the story. Bryan Forbes directed and Richard Attenborough produced the film. The base for the film was a farm at Downham with some urban scenes around Burnley. A few primary children from the nearby villages were selected for the speaking parts and at least two hundred local children were used as extras. One primary school closed for a week - everyone was involved with the headmistress also having a role to play.

In the story, the farmer's three children, Hayley Mills playing the eldest, and her younger sister and brother being played by local schoolchildren, discover a fugitive in their barn and mistakenly believe him to be Jesus Christ. Things happen and tension grows as the story progresses and the secret is spread amongst the children of the area.

Most of the people in Downham were either directly involved in some way or touched by the happenings of film-making. The whole of the filming took only seven weeks to complete and although it had an impact on the village it was not too long an inconvenience and things were soon returned to normal. Apart from a couple of films soon afterwards, by the young boy and nothing further, no one made a career in acting. All went on to grow up and work in ordinary ways, many still living in the area.

Because the boy from 4T played the 'bully' the whole class of teenagers were allowed to be extras for the crowd scenes when children run down the hill and converge on the farm for a glimpse of Jesus before he is captured. That was one of the episodes I watched (from a viewing point behind a wall!). I was sent from school

to accompany them to be there if needed. The girls used to rush to the coach to be near the 'bully' for the ride to the film set, that boy had never been so popular! My other classes in school had to do revision work on a number of occasions.

Hayley Mills had to continue with her education during the seven weeks. A teacher who took on part-time supply work gave Hayley lessons at convenient times on week days in a comfortable, well-equipped caravan on site. This teacher's son, called Michael, had just started training in hospital administration in the Finance Department of the hospital where my husband was in charge. ***Whistle Down the Wind*** was gathering fans!

In the very last scene of the film, my half-cousin's daughter was one of the toddlers who were late. Kathy (Hayley Mills) tells them ***"You missed him this time but He'll be coming again"***.



Kathy with her brother and sister



They were too late to see him!

There are many subtle and obvious theological hints during the story - the three train whistles when a "disciple" denies having seen Jesus and no one can fail to recognise the music of ***We Three Kings***. Various incidents and events have a parallel in Christian literature and the simple and innocent faith of the children moves throughout the story in a quietly, charming way. People still enjoy the film. It is still talked about in Downham and despite the relatively short time of filming and low cost ***Whistle Down the Wind*** is one of the best films ever made.

I visited Downham in August 2011 to attend the 50th Anniversary Re-Union exhibition, photos, letters, anecdotes etc. I certainly found it interesting to meet some members of Class 4T now in their mid-sixties. If you have not yet watched the film, please do, and if you almost know it by heart, watch it again, it will be worth it. (Images copyright of www.topofthegogglebox.blogspot.co.uk)

After typing up this article I was inspired to go on-line and order a copy of the DVD. I have watched it and was equally amazed at how much I remembered and how much I had forgotten after 50 years. If you would like to borrow it you can. Muriel Palmer

Our holiday last year was arranged around the invitation received from classmates of my late husband, Ralph Palmer. Out of the blue I received a forwarded e-mail from my younger son Jonathan, who still lives in Shropshire, that he had received from a former classmate of Ralph. Geoff Kindon was trying to contact all 48 boys of the Remove of 59 who had started school together in 1954. It had been realised to try and track the whole of the 1954 intake would be too big a challenge. In fact Ralph (or rather me was one of the last to be traced); contact was made thanks to the Rector of St Peter's, Wrockwardine, Shropshire (Ralph had been a Church Warden there and I had been a Deanery Synod Representative and Electoral Roll Officer).

Many e-mails flew around the world between the classmates and Paul R Stott who gathered the material for and published the book ***Lucky Boys?***. And between the classmates and he organiser of the ***Grand Re-Union***, Peter Matthews. The book is private publication a copy of which I have been gifted (as have the other widows) from Ralph's former classmates. I will treasure this book which has been dedicated to the nine classmates who have died.

As mentioned on page 16 we went to Rochdale via Chatburn. My paternal grandfather lived there for many years with his brother, mother and step-father (his mother and step-father were married at Christ Church, Chatburn in May 1882). My Grandfather and Great-Uncle George went to Christ Church Primary School in the 1880s.

It seemed strange to be going to a re-union of people who we did not know and had not met but thanks to our e-mail correspondence and to the book which I received on the Thursday before going south we felt we knew something about them. Ralph's closest class mates - the ones who he went with on a cycle tour of the Low Countries - were delighted to meet us and made us most welcome. Both Ralph and my brother-in-law, Robert, are on the 1961 Panorama photograph. Ralph was in the Upper Sixth and Robert in the first year.

One of the classmates, Geoff Kindon, knew my father as he served his apprenticeship at the Arrow Mill, Rochdale where my father was the Chief Engineer for many years. And, though he didn't know it until the Re-Union he had been in my father's sister class at Meanwood Junior School in Rochdale! Small, small world. Paul Stott, who published the book, **may be** a distant relation. We both have relatives that left Yorkshire in the mid-nineteenth century. This possibility is to be followed up!! My maternal great-grandfather, Thomas Stott, moved from Harrogate, Yorkshire to

Mobberley, Cheshire in the 1880's. My great-great grandfather was in service at Harrogate.

The Rochdale Grammar School for Boys has been demolished, but the classmates have rescued all the Honours Boards and they are being safely saved until such time as a suitable place for their display can be found. Fifty bricks were rescued and all at the Reunion were presented with a brick and a Certificate!!



L-R: Peter Matthews; Ralph Palmer; Geoff Kindon and Paul Stott

What is success?

**To laugh often and love much:
To win respect of intelligent people
And the affection of children;**

**To earn the approbation of honest critics
And endure the betrayal of false friends;**

**To appreciate beauty:
To find the best in others;
To give one's self;
To leave the world a little better,**

**Whether by a healthy child,
A garden patch,
Or redeemed social condition;
To have played and laughed with
enthusiasm
And sung with exultation;
To know even one life has breathed
easier
Because you have lived ...
This is to have succeeded.**

Ralph Waldo Emerson

YEAR 2 GOALS

Anne with our Year 1 Goals



The **Christmas Party** was held on Tuesday, 16th December; a good time was had by all. As it was Christmas there was a wonderful selection of desserts as well as soup; with Christmas Crackers and a Christmas Carol Quiz.



Alison Bayne and Gill Sinclair
performing their 'party pieces'



Alison Coolican
listening carefully



Providing the music Jenny
Wright and Jenny Spence

Thanks to Stephanie Dewhurst for the photographs.

The **January meeting** was held on the 20th January; the opening service was led by Elizabeth Woodburn. The speaker was **Jenny Armstrong**; she let the pictures 'do the talking' about ***A Journey through Dumfries and Galloway***. She gave the most beautiful presentation of our beautiful county through the many photographs she has taken of local wildlife and places of interest from the ***Mull of Galloway*** to the ***Mares Tail*** at Moffat. Absolutely stunning with the perfect musical accompaniment.

The **February meeting** is to held on Tuesday, 17th February; when the speaker will be the Revd Douglas Irving talking about China. The **March meeting** is to be held on 17th March; the speaker (to be notified) will talk about *Women's Aid*.

Our love for Christ is only as real as our love for our neighbour. Kay Whitby, Colvend

Christ Church is blessed with many visitors who have come to holiday in our most beautiful of Counties or to visit friends and family. Robin Charlton has written about [A Lincolnshire Christmas](#)

It was exciting to be out of the County, after six months. Chris and I were on the way to the tiny village of Rippingale, Lincolnshire, some 20 miles from both Peterborough and Stamford. Here we were looking forward to joining part of our large disparate family for Christmas.

Since leaving the Royal Navy, Chris Junior has been Bursar of Peterborough High School. This Cathedral City lies on the River Nene, in Cambridgeshire but until 1965 this was actually Northamptonshire! Until very recently this was **the** English city where the impact of migrants had been felt most acutely. Twenty-five thousand Eastern Europeans have arrived here in the last few years, many of Czech-Roma extraction. They come to work on the flat, arable land to pick flowers and vegetables; also to clean offices. When the seasonal work finished last year, it meant that there were between 1,400-2,000 currently claiming Unemployment Benefit.

We love the attractive Market Town of Stamford, in particular, with its lovely pale buildings which make it widely-regarded as one of the finest 'stone' towns in England. No surprise then that it was chosen to be used as 'Meryton' in the TV production of Jane Austin's *Pride and Prejudice* in 2005. Shakespeare is performed annually on 'Shakespeare on the Green', in a scaled-down version of London's Globe Theatre. Delightful cafes, restaurants and shops abound in Stamford - an easy place to spend recklessly!!



St Mary's and All Saints

Arriving tired in the late evening at the **Bull Inn**, Rippingale (there being no room at the **Charltons**); we were rather disconcerted to see very little light at the windows and a for-sale sign up! No problem, the innkeeper soon appeared and made us very comfortable in the nicely converted farm-buildings at the rear.

Christmas Eve dawned surprisingly dry and sunny for our first meeting with our great-grandson Charles (Charlie). Only five-weeks old the first-born of Emma and Peter, who married at Colvend Church in 2011. Charlie was very alert, cheerful and already a character - very loveable. The e-photos we had received were just not cuddly, like the real thing!

Eight of us, from the baby - to John 85, met as arranged on crisp and sunny Christmas morning at the 12th Century church of ***St Mary and All Saints*** in the tiny village of Kirkby Underwood for the 10 o'clock traditional service, hastened by the glorious sound of the bells - which I still miss so much.

The church was set slightly away from the village up a long narrow path in the midst of flat open fields; old fir trees hid the ancient building as we wound our way to the north door. Stonemasons over the centuries had put their hearts, skills and energies into this Anglican church, with its gargoyles and 15th Century bell-openings. The large World War One stained glass window above the altar; its colours, yellow and olive should have been a glorious reminder of those who fell for us; but for the dominance of large firs outside.

Squeezing ourselves into the old un-cushioned pews with few kneelers in the ancient building where people have worshipped for centuries; I thought of Christ Church. We forget so readily how very fortunate we are to have our small, warm, comfortable Church. The windows are glorious; the pews comfortable; the Altar frontals and linen fresh; the brass bright and the flowers lovely. It may not be ancient or particular outstanding but even at its saddest state of repair the garden has always been tended, the interior clean. It is quite obvious that the members spend time and love to keep it so.



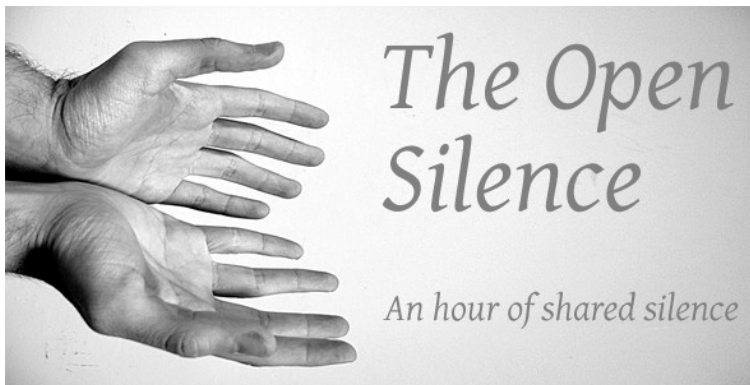
Two month-old Charlie

We sat at the back and were delighted to see the same chubby, cheerful Vicar, the Revd Dr Lynda Pugh, as in previous years. Taking the Communion last, Emma with babe in arms and myself, went up several steps to the rail; knelt together as the Vicar bent low to ask the baby's name and age before she gave Charlie a special first blessing, for his first Christmas. Suddenly Christmas Day became more alive than ever before and I thanked God for this special morning. Coming down the nave I could see the smiles and sense the pleasure of the congregation, most of whom hadn't realised there was a young mother and baby in the Church. Definitely a Christmas to remember and treasure.

A favourite prayer is one that was given to me, as a framed print, to mark my Confirmation in 1957 - Sir Jacob Astley's prayer before the Battle of Newbury. *Muriel Palmer*

Lord I shall be very busie this day. I may forgot Thee but doe not Thou forget me.

*As many of you know I can spend quite a lot of time checking other churches' websites. Whilst double-checking the information for the article *Four Cathedrals, One City* (pages 14 –15) I stumbled across the following. on the website of St Mary's Cathedral. MP*



St Mary's Cathedral Mural

The Open Silence is an invitation to anyone who would like to spend up to an hour in stillness with others. It aims to cultivate a knowledge of oneself and of God. The Open Silence is not a service; there are no hymns, no readings or spoken prayers. But there is a brief introduction and short guidance that may help some to become comfortable and centre their thoughts. There is opportunity to move around to explore different styles of silent prayer in the special space that is St Mary's Cathedral. Participants can choose to sit on chairs or pews, kneel or lie down on the heated floor.

Christians of all denominations are welcome, as well as those from other faith communities and those have no faith. Some are drawn To the Open Silence because they are experienced in meditation, and some because they have never tried it. Some may have been attracted by the BBC series '**The Big Silence**' and would like to try shared stillness for themselves.

The Open Silence takes place twice a month, usually on the third Sunday evening and the following Thursday lunchtime. Please check "**This Week at St Mary's**" on the website. Those wishing to come to The Open Silence on Sunday evenings should arrive between 7.45-8.00pm (though the church will be open before the service of choral evensong 6.30-7.20pm and some may value just listening to, or joining in with that experience of musical worship). The Thursday lunchtime Open Silence begins at 12.30pm. Booking is not required. There is no admission charge but a donation is welcome to help cover the costs of this event.

True silence is the rest of the mind; it is to the spirit what sleep is to the body, nourishment and refreshment.
William Penn, early Quaker

Anthony Duncalf, as Honorary Vestry Secretary, received a letter and Christmas Card from Canon Kenneth Stephen; he asked Anthony to pass on his and Helen's best wishes to the Congregation. This Anthony did but in case you missed the message there is a transcript below.

"I can hardly believe that that it's over a year now since I retired and we moved to Ayr.

The turn of the year, after our move, was, of course occupied by our regular visiting of Helen's mother in Alma House, on the well trodden road down by loch Ken. In the aftermath of Helen's mum death in early February we were able to relax a bit, after all the to-ing and fro-ing and felt as it were, 'released' into retirement. We are most grateful to all at Christ Church for the concern shown to us in our latter period in Dalbeattie, as Helen's mum's health declined, and particularly thankful for the support given to us at the time of her death and the attendance at her funeral in Christ Church.

Over the year we have been doing a lot of 'grandson sitting', and participating with activities at Holy Trinity. Ayr and St Oswald's, Maybole.

Last December a new Rector was instituted for the South Ayrshire team, but he has been 'signed off' by his GP since the third week in December, and I have been involved in the leading of public worship, especially in regular celebration of the Eucharist in Ayr and Maybole. The Rector is now off for the period until early January, at which point decision will be made as to how he is responding to medication and as to the possibility of his returning to 'light duties'. He had already rostered me as a 'substitute' over the coming weeks, should he been unable to participate in leading public worship so I'm likely to be the participant over the Christmas Festival period. I hadn't thought that 'retirement would be so interesting!

My very best wishes and prayers to all at Christ Church, and our sincere and grateful thanks again for all the support and concern shown to us."

Note from the Editor: the dead-line for copy for the next magazine is the **20th March, 2015.**

I would like to have articles from all members of the Congregation; they can be about holidays, books, poems, favourite hymns or whatever. Updates from Group Coordinators.

The magazine is only as good as the material I am given. Articles can be handwritten so it does not matter if you do not have a computer. See page 13 for contact details.

WHAT'S ON

Please see the next page for details of our regular events; and page 4 for details of the Lent Talks and Lent Lunches planned for this year.

March **Diocesan Synod** the Annual Meeting of Diocesan Clergy and Lay Representatives is to be held at **Holy Trinity & St Barnabas**; Bishop's Court; St James' Place; Moss Street; **Paisley** PA1 1BG on **Saturday 7th March** 9.00a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Registration - Coffee 9:00am; Fresher's Meeting - 9:15am; Eucharist 10:00am

All are welcome though only Diocesan Clergy and Lay Representatives (or their Alternate if the Lay Representative is absent) have a vote. If you wish to attend please contact the Diocesan Centre:-Tel: 0141 221 5720
or e-mail:office@glasgow.anglican.org

From the Registers

Funeral

9th January, 2015

Vivienne Sims

This poem was read by our Lay Reader Emeritus, Mr Brian Woodburn, at the Service of Thanksgiving for Vivienne's life. It was a favourite poem of Vivienne's.

A smile costs nothing, but gives a lot.

It enriches those who receive it without making poorer those who give it.

A smile takes only a moment, but the memory of it can last forever.

No one is so rich, or so mighty, that they can get a long without a smile.

And no one is so poor that they cannot be made richer by a smile.

A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in business
and is the counter sign of friendship.

A smile brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the
sad and is nature's best cure for trouble

Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen for it is of no value
to anyone until it is given away.

Some people are too tired to give a smile so give them one of yours as no one
needs a smile so much as he who has no more of his own to give.

GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Chat and Craft Group

12 Park Terrace, Dalbeattie 2.00 p.m. Monthly on second Thursday
Contact person: Mrs Jane Greenwood 01556 611144

Hard of Hearing Group

Church Hall 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. Monthly on Second Tuesday
Contact person: Mrs Jenny Edkins 01556 611740

House Groups (Ecumenical)

Islecroft House 10.30 a.m. – 12 noon Monday every other week
Contact person: Revd Beryl Scott 01556 610283

Strontian 1.45 p.m. First Tuesday in the month
Contact person: Mr Brian Woodburn 01556 610519

Struanlea 12 noon - 2.00 p.m. First Thursday in the month
Contact person: Mrs Edith Thorp 01556 610816

Julian Group (Ecumenical)

Savat 2.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Last Tuesday in the month
Contact person: Mrs Sue Thomas 01556 612863

Mission to Seafarers: Seven hats have been knitted for this worthy cause.

Thanks go the knitters and for the donations of wool. MP

Who's Who

Interim Priest-in-Charge	Revd Canon David Bayne	01556 503818
Assistant NSM	Revd Beryl Scott	01556 610283
Diocesan Reader Emeritus	Mr. Brian Woodburn	01556 610519
Lay representative/Munches	Mrs. Edith Thorp	01556 610816
Munches Park Co-ordinator		
Alternate Lay Representative	Mr Stephen Gaukroger	01556 610819
Honorary Musical Director/ Organist	Mrs Margaret Kelt	
Honorary Secretary	Mr Anthony Duncalf	01556 612322
Honorary Treasurer (Interim)/ Gift Aid/Free Offering	Mr Alfred Thorp	01556 610816
Rector's Warden/Health & Safety Co-ordinator	Recorder (envelopes) Dr. Keith Dennison	01556 630413
People's Warden	Mr. George Sims	01556 612069
Protection of Vulnerable Groups Co-ordinator	Mrs Helen Stephens	01556 610627
Vestry Members	Rector's Warden (Lay Chair) Lay Representative Alternate Lay Representative People's Warden	
Elected Vestry Members	Mrs Robin Charlton	01556 630265
	Mr Anthony Duncalf	01556 612322
	Mrs Jenny Edkins	01556 611740
	Mrs Llyn Glendinning	01556 610676
	Mrs Helen Stephens	01556 610627
	Mrs Sue Thomas	01556 612863
Property Working Group	Canon David Bayne, Dr Keith Dennison, Mr Stephen Gaukroger, Mrs Sue Thomas and Mr Alfred Thorp	
Bible Reading Fellowship	Dr Keith Dennison	01556 630413
Brass & Vestry Cleaning Group	Mrs Robin Charlton	01556 630265
Church Flowers Co-ordinator	Mrs Julie Dennison	01556 630413
Gardening Co-ordinator	Mrs Julie Dennison	01556 630413
Magazine Editor	Mrs Muriel Palmer	01556 630314
Reader Co-ordinator	Mrs Julie Dennison	01556 630413

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Scottish Charity Number SC010918

www.christchurchdalbeattie.wordpress.co.uk

Christ Church has a Facebook page.