

In the PICTURE

October 2023

Send news to: revmartynthomas@outlook.com

Delivered free to every home in Letham and district by
Dunnichen Letham and Kirkden Church of Scotland (Registered Scottish Charity 0003833)



We were delighted to be informed that the Cubs wanted to make a donation to the Foodbank through the Church. We were amazed and even more delighted when a donation of 40kg of much-needed food was delivered to us.

It seems inadequate but to all the Cubs and those who helped – THANK YOU.

FORFAR FOODBANK



As the cost-of-living crisis continues the Foodbank is now having to purchase food to meet demand.

All donations are gladly accepted though the items below are those which are needed most.

URGENTLY NEEDED

Biscuits	Diluting juice
Tinned fruit	Long-life fruit juice
Jam	Microwave puddings
Long life milk	Tinned puddings
Pasta sauce	Tinned Tomatoes

We have plenty of cereals, beans, pasta and soup.

Letham Church is open and ready to receive items for the Angus Foodbank every Sunday morning.

Financial donations can be gift aided, allowing the Foodbank to claim a further 25% from HMRC.

info@angusfoodbank.org.uk Tel. 01382 698020



Cuppa With A Cop

Constables Jo Greig and Sarah Watt invite you to come; meet them and have a Cuppa with a Cop.

This is a chance to speak with your local Police Officers about absolutely anything that matters to YOU in your local community.

Tuesday 17th October 2023

6pm – 7pm

Drummie Hall, Letham Village Hall

TaysideCommunityWardsArbroath@scotland.police.uk

Letham Feuars Committee

Registered Scottish Charity: SC003197

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 10th November 2023

7pm in the Village Hall, Letham

Everyone welcome, come along and get involved in deciding on future plans for our village.

QUIZ NIGHT

Letham Pensioners are hosting a Quiz Night in the Village Hall on Friday 6th October at 7:30pm prompt.

The cost is £8 per table with a maximum of four persons to a table.

Bring your own booze, but tea and coffee will be available. There will also be a raffle.

Come and test your brains and support Letham Pensioners at the same time.

Meditation



Reading: Isaiah 40: 9-11, 29-31

Isaiah 40 carries the title, in some versions, “Comfort for God’s people”, and indeed, this chapter has no doubt been a source of comfort to many of us in difficult days. The context is, of course, the Jewish people in exile who were in great need of comfort. Their freedom was greatly restricted in a land where God’s name and values were not respected. Psalm 137 contains their lament, which many people only know from the Boney M song “By the rivers of Babylon” - “How can we sing the Lord’s song in a strange land?”.

You will have noticed that our country is rapidly becoming a “strange land” where Christian principles are constantly under attack, sometimes from surprising sources. That’s why this chapter is so relevant to us today as we try to come to terms with living in a world where God’s name and values are less and less considered to be important or even necessary. It’s all too easy to get disappointed and discouraged, so Isaiah 40 brings us comfort and encouragement as we borrow God’s promises from it and apply them to our lives today.

We could say there are three voices in this chapter, each of which brings encouragement to us when we apply them to ourselves:

- (1-5) The voice of comfort.
- (6-8) The voice of confidence.
- (9-11) The voice of conquest.

The chapter culminates with a mighty encouragement to those who are feeling the burden of the way. Read verses 29-31.

Ronnie Skene, GNFE

GOOD NEWS
for Everyone!

formerly known as **GideonsUK**

Good News for Everyone (GNFE) continues a longstanding ministry of supplying free Bibles. We believe that the Bible does indeed have good news of God’s love for us all through Jesus Christ. Everyone should have the opportunity to read their own copy of God’s word.

We seek to distribute scriptures in schools, colleges and universities; hotels and B&Bs; work places; sports clubs; care homes; and at national and local events.

Bibles and New Testaments are produced in many formats to connect with people from different walks of life. New Testaments may have for example a Fire Service badge or the logo of a football club. Large print versions are available for care home residents or anyone with impaired sight. A recent innovation is the Hope Magazine which presents John’s gospel and selected Psalms in a bright magazine style. We also have a supply of these in Ukrainian.

Recently we have also published a magazine called ‘Discover’ which is a colourful and interactive tool for teaching the Bible to primary age children.

GNFE also has a worldwide ministry of Bible distribution working in partnership with Shareword Global.

There are opportunities for others to join us either as members or friends – if you would like more information then do get in touch. And, most importantly, please remember to pray for the work.

*James Cornick
Tel. 07794 714993*

This was a report for ‘In The Picture’ following GNFE presentation at Letham Church on 3rd September 2023

Thought for the Day

God gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

Isaiah 40:29

PRESBYTERY MISSION PLAN

Going Forward together....

Perhaps you are wondering about what is happening following all the discussions and proposals that were taking place last year regarding church unions and buildings closing in this area? Or perhaps you are well informed, not only about the local area but the wider situation in Scotland too? Whichever it is, this is the first of a series of updates on what is taking place in the Church of Scotland in the Forfar area.

To maximise the many talents and time of many committed volunteers and to rationalise costs, two larger parishes will be created. The congregations of Forfar East & Old will unite with the congregations of Inverarity and Kinettles to become the parish of Forfar East and Old and Inverarity.

The parishes of Aberlemno, Guthrie and Rescobie, Dunnichen, Letham and Kirkdun, Forfar Lowson Memorial and Forfar St Margaret's will also unite. A transition team with representatives from each of these congregations is in place and will be working on the legal paperwork necessary but also on bringing people together to resolve the practicalities of how to optimise gifts and skills to complement one another and better serve our community.

There will also be preparations for the closure of the buildings of Forfar St Margaret's, and Guthrie. A time of sadness but also of thanksgiving for their history and their people – a story which continues in the larger group.

Over the next few months there will be opportunities to get involved – for example we need to choose a new name for the united parish, joint events to attend, publications to read that explain exactly what is happening and, if you're a church member the chance to have your say and vote. In the next update we'll give you a progress report and a proposed timeline. Please look out for these and if you have any questions speak to an Elder who'll be able to give you more details. Please also pray for those who have volunteered to be a part of the transition team – it's exciting but daunting work and they are the catalyst for the start of something new.

Kirk Session

Church Diary

Sunday 8th October at 10:30 am

Harvest Thanksgiving

Service conducted by
Major Jim McCluskie, Salvation Army

Sunday 15th October at 10:30 am

Morning Worship

Service conducted by
Pat and Eric Walker

Sunday 22nd October at 10:30am

Morning Worship

Service conducted by
Tear Fund Speaker plus Congregation

Sunday 29th October at 10:30 am

Morning Worship

Service conducted by
Rev Brian Oxburgh

Sunday 5th November at 10:30 am

Holy Communion

Service conducted by
Rev Maggie Hunt

"In the PICTure" ANNUAL APPEAL

Every year at this time we offer an opportunity for members of the Church and the wider community to contribute to the printing costs of "In the PICTure". The cost of this is currently £246.26 for every edition of the magazine.

Those who chose to advertise with us provide a welcome assistance with printing costs, and we particularly appreciate the contributions and support of our fifteen current sponsors.

We are also indebted to our distributors who generously give of their time to deliver the (almost) 1,000 copies ten times a year, free of charge to every household in Letham and district.

To make your contribution to the printing costs of "In the PICTure", please use the envelope which you will find inside this issue of the magazine. If you pay tax, you have an opportunity to allow the Church to benefit further from your contribution through the Gift Aid scheme.

Envelopes can be returned at Church, or placed in the special box in the Key Store shop.

Thank you in anticipation for your generosity – as always.

PUBLICITY GROUP



Guild



As there is no longer a Guild in Letham, previous members and those who would like to establish a Guild connection are very warmly invited to attend the meetings organised by the Lowson Memorial Church in Forfar.

They meet twice a month on Wednesday afternoons from 2pm in their Church Hall. Details of the remainder of the 2023/24 session are outlined below.

11th October: SCHOOL NURSING
Speaker: Arlene Nelson

25th October: UPCYCLING
Speaker: Jeanette Gaul

8th November: AIR AMBULANCE
Speaker: Sam Riddell

22nd November: CHRISTMAS WREATH
Demonstration: Anne Elder

6th December: CHRISTMAS MEAL

If anyone requires transport in order to attend, please contact Norma Craigon (818275).

(Programme correct at time of publication)

Next Issue of 'In the PICTURE'

Deadline for November 2023 issue is

Saturday 21st October

Material may be sent to Joan Smith,
9 Burnside Road (01307 818937)

E-mail: joan_77@btinternet.com

or to Rev Martyn Thomas

14 Kirkgait (01307 818084)

E-mail: revmartynthomas@outlook.com



Learning Together



Group Weekly Bible Study
in

Letham Church Hall
on Mondays at 1:30pm

Toys and drawing materials available for children

Tea, coffee and snacks provided.

All are welcome.

Harvest Thanksgiving

This year's Harvest Thanksgiving service will be on Sunday, 8th October, 2023.

All food donations will go to Dundee & Angus Foodbank, for use with families in this area.

All financial contributions will be sent to the Ekwendeni Mission Hospital in Malawi.

While most people know about the Foodbanks the Ekwendeni Mission Hospital is less well known.

Ekwendeni Mission Hospital

Ekwendeni Mission Hospital is in the northern part of Malawi, about thirteen miles from the nearest city, Mzuzu. It serves an area that includes 372



villages in a rural area where the economy is based on subsistence farming.

The hospital is one of the oldest mission hospitals in Malawi. The hospital has 183 beds, serving a catchment area of 45,000 with a wider referral area of 120,000 people. The hospital employs 170 staff and sees over 21,000 out-patients every year, of which over 7,000 are usually admitted. Ekwendeni Hospital also accommodates 3,000 births a year.

R.I.P. ANGUS GOLD

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting on 19th September. Due to the low turnout it was determined that the likelihood of Angus Gold (Letham) reforming and operating as it had pre-Covid was minimal and therefore the group would be wound up.

This is unfortunate as the Letham branch was the last active branch in Angus.

Richard Moore, Chair

SHOPPING BUS

Although Angus Gold is ceasing to be there still seems to be an appetite for the Shopping Bus to continue. Is the wider community in agreement with the view of the meeting?

The possibility of getting the bus running again will be investigated, as there are some funds towards its reinstatement, though cost of hire of the bus will no doubt have risen since the last bus ran in 2020.

Updates will be reported through 'In the PICTURE' and on the Auld Letham Facebook page as progress is made.

Richard Moore

LETHAM and DISTRICT SWI Scottish Women's Institutes

President Lynne Slater welcomed back our members and visitors to our first meeting of the new session and was also delighted to welcome our new member Kathleen Ferrier.

Our demonstrator for the evening was local Bee Keeper, Kirsty Kiezebrink who took us all on a very interesting and enjoyable journey through the life of a bee and what they mean for us and the environment.

I don't think any of the audience will ever take for granted their importance, what we must do to encourage them and the effort that goes into producing a jar of honey.

Kirsty brought along one of her small bee hives, minus the bees! some jars of honey and wax candles for us all to see.

Kirsty also kindly took time to judge our monthly competition.

Small jar of strawberry jam:

1. V. Alexander; 2. J. Mair; 3. E. Balfour

Favourite Scottish Ornament:

1. S. Campbell; 2. J. Mair; 3. E. Balfour

Flower of the month:

1. J. Mair; 2. V. Alexander; 3. K. Ferrier

The President thanked Kirsty for her informative demonstration.

Thanks and congratulations were given to the members for the success of the Tombola / bottle stall held at the Letham Flower show, on the 13th August 2023.

A mention and congratulations was given for our new Federation President, Rona Nicolson.

A very positive and enjoyable evening was had by everyone.

Colette McNeill (Press Secretary)

Why is it sad that parallel lines have so much in common? Because they'll never meet.

Why did the maths textbook visit the guidance counsellor? It needed help figuring out its problems.

Why were they called the Dark Ages? Because there were a lot of knights.

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour?

BY POPULAR DEMAND WARM SPACES - LETHAM IS BACK!

From 3rd November, the Church Hall will be open on Fridays serving soup, teas, coffees and other refreshments, and will continue to open every Friday during winter. The opening hours will be 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. but if it is necessary or appropriate, opening times will be adjusted. Call in between these hours and stay for as long or short a time as you want.

This is an opportunity for everyone to enjoy a social time in a warm, friendly environment. Lifts are available to help bring people to the venue.

There is no charge for this – and all are welcome.

We are once again HUGELY appreciative of the generosity of Keptie Bakery and Keystore for their donations of bread, cakes and milk.

If you would like to support this initiative, donations of soup or ingredients for soup (e.g. lentils, vegetables, stock cubes etc) would be appreciated, as would volunteers to help serve and wash dishes, please contact Norma Craigon (norma.craigon@yahoo.co.uk) or Irene McGugan (818436)

The Happy Wanderers, Letham Congratulations, Dorothy



Dorothy Culross is a walk leader with the Letham Happy Wanderers.

Always inspirational, she usually walks ten miles daily and regularly joins her daughter's energetic fitness classes.

On Saturday 9th September, whilst Letham basked in glorious sunshine, she climbed Ben Nevis.

Unfortunately misty, foggy conditions left the spectacular views well hidden, however she enjoyed the experience.

Wish to try Scotland's highest mountain climb? Start small with the Happy Wanderers completing 2/3 miles per meeting, move on to the Ramblers Association walking perhaps 8/10 miles, then practice hill walking in our Angus Glens until you achieve your desired fitness level. Dorothy's advice is to regularly train and always heed safety advice. Start out with The Letham Wanderers who meet every Thursday morning at 10am at the Church Hall and all are welcome.



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Please pop in if you need any advice.



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RAG BAG COLLECTION

Last day for donations Sunday 29th October 2023.

All monies raised go towards Church grounds redevelopment.

Wearable clothing (not work clothes), shoes, handbags and belts.

Regret, bedding and towels not permitted.

Please leave at the Church.

Any queries, bags needed, uplift required etc., please phone Bruce (01307 818600).

**If you dropped something when you were younger you'd just pick it up
When you're older and drop something, you stare at it for a bit contemplating if you actually need it**

LETHAM GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club began in September with a very interesting and enjoyable talk by Tracey Williams on her recently completed Japanese Pastiche Garden.

On Tuesday 10th October at 7:30pm Reg Henderson from Revell Green Nursery is giving a demonstration on wreath making.

Although this is a little early for Christmas Reg has said he will bring starter kits for us to do our own wreaths a little nearer the time.

Come along and see how it is done.

Bill Muir 07908 339420

Daily Prayer

Guide me, Lord, you are my heart,
you are my strength, you are my hope.
Teach me, Lord, and guide my way,
I love you more each passing day.

Mom told me to sit here & think about what I've done but I already did that before she got mad at me!!



Montrose Air Station Heritage Centre



Montrose Air Station Heritage Centre is on the site of Britain's first operational military airfield which was established by the Royal Flying Corps in February 1913. Alongside a number of airplane exhibits the Heritage Centre aims to show the human side of the Air Stations history with a collection of contemporary photographs, artefacts and memorabilia. These not only tell of the history of the airfield but also the story of the men and women who served there and those who lived in the area. The Heritage Centre ensures that future generations will remember their service.

The Heritage Centre is organised and operated entirely by a dedicated team of volunteers who are passionate about restoration of aircraft and the history of the people who lived and worked at the Air Station. With a commitment to bringing local history to life, the Heritage Centre allows visitors to become 'hands-on' with many opportunities to try on uniforms and touch the many exhibits.

Opening Times

Friday – 10am to 4pm

Saturday – 10am to 4pm

Sunday – 12 noon to 4pm

Info@visitangus.com

Patience is something you admire in the driver behind you but not in one ahead.

Research has shown laughing is just as healthy as a 20minute jog. So sitting in the park laughing at all the joggers is the most healthy.

No matter how big a hammer you use, you can't pound common sense into stupid people.

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Remember **LETHAM BOOK SHOP**

Open At Least Six Days a Week
in Letham Feuars' Hall, Auldbar Road.

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For information about the Feuars please contact
lethamfeuars@gmail.com



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