

In the PICTURE

November 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)

WARM SPACES - LETHAM



Now started - Letham Church is opening the Church Hall every Friday during the Winter to provide a Warm Space for all.

Come and enjoy refreshments and company in a relaxed atmosphere.



**Crafts. games,
conversation**



Everyone welcome, no matter what age.

Letham Church Hall - Fridays 11am to 2pm

MEN OF DUNNICHEN, LETHAM AND KIRKDEN WHO DIED IN THE GREAT WAR

David F. Balfour	William J Brown
David C. Bruce	Joseph D. W. Bruce
James Crabb	James Davie
James Douglas	James A. G. Duncan
James Edgar	David Edwards
John L. Findlay	Alexander M. Fleming
James Fleming	John Hampton
David Langlands	Robert Lee
James Lindsay	George Livie
Ernest Marquis	James Mollinson
William Napier	George R. Nicol
James Pirie	John Ree
George Reid	James A. Reid
Alexander B. Salmond	David F. Smart
Robert G. Simpson	Andrew Smith
George Robert Smith	James A. Smith
Alexander D. Strachan	William Sturrock
Walter R. Taylor	

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 12th November

The service, which will be conducted by Rev. Allan Webster, will start early at **10am** to allow time for those who wish to process up to Dempster Park, led by the Scouts and Cubs, for the Silence at 11am.

Rev. Martyn Thomas will remain in the church to continue the service for those not going to the Memorial.

Retiring Collection for Poppy Scotland

MEN OF DUNNICHEN AND LETHAM WHO DIED IN WORLD WAR II

George Adam	George Angus
David Buick	Alexander McArthur
Gerald Ramsay	William H. Robertson
Jack Rodger	John Shepherd

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

CONGREGATIONAL REPORT 2023

PUBLICITY GROUP

The Publicity Group co-ordinates the funding, production and distribution of “*In the PICTURE*” – our church and community newsletter.

Over the years, more and more local organisations have taken the opportunity offered by “*In the PICTURE*” to publicise their activities or special events either via an article, or an advert or sometimes through a special leaflet inserted into the magazine. We would be very pleased to add more community information in future editions.

Another aspect which will develop over the coming months relates to our impending Union with other local churches. It is not yet clear what that will mean for the various publications involved, but “*In the PICTURE*” is likely to exist for some time to come yet.....

1,000 copies of the magazine are printed 10 times a year, and delivered free of charge to all households in the parish, thanks to our volunteer distributors to whom we extend our grateful thanks as always.

Those who live outwith the Parish and have requested a copy are sent an electronic pdf version.

Our usual activities were all successfully implemented again this year: delivery of an Easter Card with the March edition; updated copies of the “*In the Know*” leaflet aimed at providing useful information for both newcomers to the village and more long term residents going out with the September edition, and in October we organise the annual Envelope Appeal, which (assisted by Gift Aid) brings in a huge contribution towards the printing costs of the magazine – which are currently £259.22 per month, quite a large sum.

But we could not achieve a satisfactory funding situation without our 15 loyal sponsors - the local businesses who financially support the magazine ensuring that “*In the PICTURE*” is self-sufficient, and not a drain on the Church’s resources. Indeed it is a net contributor to church funds.

The work involved in collating, editing, liaising with sponsors and occasional advertisers, proof-reading, bundling and delivering would not be possible without the commitment of our team who are Rev Martyn Thomas, Joan Smith, Elaine Saunders, Margaret Moore, Richard Moore and Irene McGugan.

Finally a huge thank you to all who support this significant outreach initiative of the Church.

*Irene McGugan,
Convenor, Publicity Group*

The Minister’s Letter

November 2023

**Missive from Rev. Dr. Karen Fenwick,
Lowson Memorial Church, Forfar.**

With the lovely weather at the beginning of September, it was hard to adjust to the severe storms that we have just lived through – and we’ll need to remember lessons learned this time for the future.

As we head into November, we also head into a time of remembrance – we remember the horrors of war and give thanks for those who paid the ultimate price for our survival. We also pray that nations worldwide will remember those horrors and strive for peace and not more bloodshed.

November is also a time when we remember Jesus and come around the Lord’s Table for Communion. In John’s Gospel, Jesus tells us that he is the vine and we are the branches – we gain strength from him as we live and grow in our daily lives. His Spirit flows through us, giving us the strength to face the storms and also to share his love and we make a stand for peace in our world.

In a rural area like ours, we know the importance of having good roots for our crops to survive and thrive. Let’s make sure that we are rooted in the Lord Jesus Christ as we remember who He is, what He has done and who we can be through His strength.

May God Bless you and keep you,
Karen

CROSS REACH

Care you can put your faith in

Do you want to be environmentally-friendly while sending your Christmas cards this year?

Crossreach, the social care services arm of the Church of Scotland, has launched an e-card service, helping you reduce your carbon impact yet helping provide services for others at the same time.

To send an e-card go to <https://gb.makingadifference.cards/supporting/crossreach> and follow the instructions.

Crossreach also have cards, calendars and gifts on sale, all of which support the vital work Crossreach undertakes.

This Christmas, please, support Crossreach and help make someone’s life just a little bit better.

Richard Moore

Papua New Guinea



‘I didn’t know about the fighting,’ says 12-year-old Ruth.

‘I just came out and was playing with the other kids in the sunshine like we always do. I did not know that the enemy had come to attack us.

While I was still playing and unaware, they came and shot me. The bullet went into me and I lost consciousness. They carried my unconscious body to the health centre.

When the doctors called MAF, they came and got me and I went to Kompiam. I thought that I had died. But – while I was in the hospital – slowly my heart awoke. God gave me life, and I awoke! I slowly got better and the plane brought me home.

But, since being home, I’m not bitter with them for shooting me. God saved me, and I have forgiven them.’

This is one of the many stories of many countries in which Missionary Aviation Fellowship works.

MAF is a Christian organisation and relies on donations to carry on its work.

For more information see www.maf-uk.org.

Sandra Macrae & Martyn Thomas

“My dad has suggested that I register for a donor card. He's a man after my own heart”

“I spotted a Marmite van on the motorway. It was heading yeastbound”

Letham Church Diary

Sunday 12th November at **10:00am**
Remembrance Sunday

Service conducted by
Rev Allan Webster

Sunday 19th November at 10:30am
Morning Worship
Service conducted by
Pat and Eric Walker

Sunday 26nd November at 10:30am
Morning Worship
Service conducted by
Very Rev Dr Martin Fair

Sunday 3rd December at 10:30am
Advent Sunday
Service Conducted by
Very Rev Dr Martin Fair
Followed by Informal Holy Communion

Cakes and Carols

A relaxed afternoon, singing favourite carols while enjoying tea/coffee and delicious cakes.

MONDAY 11th DECEMBER

2:00pm - 4:00pm in Letham Church

Members from Lowson Memorial, St Margaret’s, Aberlemno, Guthrie and Rescobie churches are warmly invited to join us in Letham.

As we will soon be one church this will be an opportunity to get to know people from the other congregations.

ALL are WELCOME

Feuars’/Bin Calendar 2023/24

In this issue you will find the usual calendar for 2023/24 giving bin collection dates plus three Feuars’ planned events for 2024 – details to be confirmed.

The Feuars’ Committee have, again, generously agreed to pay the costs of getting this calendar printed.

I hope you find this useful, especially those that do not have access to the internet.

Elaine Saunders



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 2 p.m. in their Church Hall. Details of the remainder of the 2023/24 session are outlined below.

8th November 2023: AIR AMBULANCE
Speaker: Sam Riddell

22nd November 2023: CHRISTMAS WREATH
Demonstration: Anne Elder

6th December: CHRISTMAS MEAL

If anyone requires transport in order to attend, please get in touch with Norma Craigon: (01307 818275)

WINTER

The season when we try to keep the house as hot as it was in the summer, when we complained about the heat.

*Energizer Bunny arrested.
Charged with battery.*

Next Issue of 'In the PICTURE'

Deadline for December 2023/January 2024 issue is

Saturday 18th November

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: revmartythomas@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.



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RRP £4.50

WHAT IS A REAL ADVENT CALENDAR?

The Real Advent Calendar was created in 2013 in response to surveys which revealed that 36% of 5-7 year olds did not know whose birthday was celebrated at Christmas.


Kids love the Fairtrade chocolate and they love the book. Parents enjoy reading it with their kids and learning more about the Christmas story and traditions.

Where to Buy
The calendar is no longer available in supermarkets so please order direct from www.realadvent.co.uk

FUNZIBODO
THE FUNNY AND GOOD TRUST

What's the height of frustration?
Trying to slam a revolving door

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

LETHAM GARDENING CLUB

In October Reg Henderson from Revell Green Nursery gave us an informative, interesting and fun evening on how to make a variety of sizes and styles of wreaths for Christmas.

On 14th November Ken Cox from Glen Doick Garden Centre will give a talk on his family's history of plant hunting, and the founding of the Centre and the Glen Doick garden.

All are welcome to what will be an interesting evening. The Gardening Club is held in the Bowling Club at 7.30pm.

Bill Muir 07908 339420

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.



Scarecrow received a promotion because he was outstanding in his field

When asked about it he said, "This job isn't for everyone, but hay...it's in my jeans"

Scottish Blessing

If there is righteousness in the heart,
there will be beauty in the character.
If there is beauty in the character,
there will be harmony in the home.
If there is harmony in the home,
there will be order in the nation.
If there is order in the nation,
there will be peace in the world.
So let it be.

Being Church Together

Although we are not yet in a formal Union with the other churches, there are already attempts being made to bring us together, and the attached programme outlines where we are with that at present.

Sun 5th November 7:00pm

Joint All Souls service – Inspiring Hope for those who mourn at Lawson

Sun 12th November 12:30pm

Joint Remembrance Service at Forfar Cross

Sat 25th November 10:00am – 12:00pm

Joint Christmas Fayre at Lawson

Sat 2nd December 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Soul Space/prayer space at St Margarets –prayer and reflection stations. Inspiring Hope for the Advent season ahead.

Sun 3rd December 2:00 pm

Blue Christmas service. Inspiring Hope for those who will struggle with the 'festivity' of Christmas because of money, relationship, health or other worries at St Margaret's

Letham Pensioners' Coffee Morning

The Pensioners are holding a Coffee Morning in the Village Hall on Saturday 18th November from 10:00am until 11:30am.

Cost is £3 for an Adult and £1 for a child.

Tea/Coffee and Christmas goodies to eat.

All are welcome to this important fund-raising event for Letham Pensioners.

Letham Pensioners' Christmas Lunch

The Christmas Lunch will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 9th December.

Entry to the hall starts at 12 noon and the meal will start at 12:30pm prompt.

Members of the Pensioners' Committee will be coming round shortly with tickets.

The cost is £15 for Pensioner members. This includes a much subsidised 3 course lunch, a glass of wine, followed by mince pies and tea/coffee. There will, of course, be some entertainment afterwards.



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Vit. D3 2,200 mg	£14.00
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A Crossreach Story

A lifetime of dedicated service

For sixteen years, a small four-legged friend walked the halls of the dementia specialist care home, St Margaret's House in Polmont.



Rosie first came to St Margaret's House at twelve weeks old, along with her twin sister Amber. The pair were loved by many and known as "professional beggars" with a passion for

pink wafers.

Rosie was left to carry out her care dog duties alone when Amber passed away from cancer in 2021, aged 15.

Over the years, Rosie brought joy to the residents. On the days she was not there, her absence was noticeable with residents expressing they missed her.



Her skilled begging tactics never deteriorated with age as she welcomed all visitors cheerfully whilst leading them to the office where her treats were kept.

Sadly, Rosie passed away peacefully in August 2023, aged 16. However, her years of dedicated service will not be forgotten nor will her impact on the atmosphere of the home and the joy she brought to those that met her.

"She has had a long and good life as a care dog. Even helping out with STV. She really was the nosiest dog!

I like to think of her and Amber back together again begging for pink wafers!"



Elspeh McPheat, Service Manager and mother to Amber and Rosie

If you have a headache, do what it says on the aspirin bottle: "take two aspirin" and "keep away from children"!!!!

From the Air Traffic Control Tower:

A DC-10 had come in a little fast and thus had an exceedingly long roll out after touching down.

San Jose Tower noted: "American 751, make a hard right turn at the end of the runway, if you are able. If you are not able, take the Guadalupe exit off Highway 101, make a right at the lights and return to the airport."

LETHAM and DISTRICT



President Lynne Slater welcomed members and guest Diane Parry from the Inverkeilor Institute.

Diane very kindly agreed to judge the competitions at the end of the meeting.

Treasurer Meg Bundock gave an informative summary of our recent National Conference and Exhibition held in Perth last month.

This was a very enjoyable 2 day conference with a good attendance of members from all across Scotland, with guest speakers from Heritage crafts, Inspirational stories, Cookery and Business.

A display of crafts and skills were of an exceptional level by members of the SWI and on show for everyone to see.

Lynne Slater was our demonstrator for the evening encouraging us all to have a try at decorating an empty coffee jar, sharing her crafting knowledge on using beads, paper, transfers to up-cycle an otherwise unused item. We all thoroughly enjoyed the evening and went away with a jar we could use again.

Monthly competitions results.

Flower of the month.

1. L.Slater; 2. I. McClung; 3. J. Smith
Wedge of coffee and Walnut Cake.

1. E. Balfour; 2. L. Slater; 3. V. Alexander
Scottish Wildlife Picture.

1. F. Webster; 2. C. McNeill; 3. L. Slater

Lynne thanked Diane Parry for judging the competitions and for everyone in helping have a successful and fun evening.

On Saturday 14th October, four of our Letham members took part in the Rural Olympics held at Webster's Sports Centre, Kirriemuir. A fun/competitive morning was had by all the fifteen teams taking part and Letham managed a respectable 5th place.

Well done ladies and looking forward to next year!

*Colette McNeill,
Press Secretary.*

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Supporting *'In the PICTURE'*

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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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