

In the PICTURE

April 2024

Send news to: revmartynthomas@outlook.com

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Forfar All Souls @ LETHAM (Charity Number SC002417)

Letham & District Community Council The James Cosgrove Award



Pictured are Elaine and Norman.

The Community Council are delighted to confer The James Cosgrove Award on Elaine Saunders. This took place at a public reception in the Church Hall on Friday 1st March when previous award winner, Norman Sinclair, presented Elaine with the shield.

Elaine was nominated by members of Letham Pensioners for her work with them, particularly in keeping their finances in order.

She has contributed to many areas of our community keeping the finances for the Church, The Basement, and several other organisations in order. Further, she was a very active member of Letham Feuars' Committee for many years helping to organise events and publicize our active community.

Next Issue of 'In the PICTURE'

Deadline for **May 2024** issue is

Saturday 20th April 2024

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

WARM SPACES - LETHAM

Many of us have enjoyed our weekly get-together on Friday mornings in the cozy Church Hall to enjoy good food and even better chat.

However, Warm Spaces will be ending for this winter on Friday 29th March. (Good Friday).

We are hugely indebted to Keptie Bakery and Keystore for their very generous donations of cakes, scones, rolls, bread and milk every single week.

And we could not offer such a selection of home-made soups each Friday, without our wonderful volunteers who faithfully supplied such a variety of deliciousness – and then washed the dishes afterwards.

It has been a real pleasure to meet new people and spend time getting to know them, as well as catching up with old friends and hearing their news.

We know this social aspect has been appreciated by many, so Kirk Session hopes to reinstate Warm Spaces again later in the year.

Kirk Session

LETHAM ANNUAL LITTER PICK

Sunday 14th April 2024

Start Time is 11.30am and finish at 2.30pm

All groups and families welcome

Equipment can be dropped at designated area
if prearranged before Tuesday the 9th
or collect from Feuars Hall

where afterwards you can enjoy a warm cup
of soup or sausage rolls etc.

while chatting to fellow volunteers

[E. Mail - lethamfeuars@gmail.com](mailto:lethamfeuars@gmail.com)

Letham Primary School to receive prestigious UNICEF UK Award

Letham Primary is to be awarded the Silver Rights Respecting School Award by UNICEF UK.

UNICEF is the world’s leading organisation working for children and their rights. The Rights Respecting Schools Award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children’s rights and encouraging adults, children, and young people to respect the rights of others in school. Silver is given to schools that make excellent progress towards embedding the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child into its ethos and curriculum.

The Award recognises achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of a school’s planning, policies and practice. A Rights Respecting School is a community where children’s rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted.

Letham Primary School to receive prestigious UNICEF UK Award (cont.)

UNICEF works with schools in the UK to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured, and they are able to thrive. Our Rights Respecting Schools Award embeds these values in daily school life and gives children the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens.

We thank all our learners, staff, families and the wider school community for their continued support and hard work on our journey towards Silver Rights Respecting Schools Accreditation. We look forward to embarking on our journey towards Gold.

Mrs Williamson DHT

RRS Lead

Letham Primary School



Letham Primary School

All children have rights, as soon as a child is born they have rights straight away. Rights cannot be taken away from a child. We don't have to earn our rights or work for them. All rights are equally important. We have learned about the ABCDE of rights.
Adam
Article 1

Rights Respecting Pupil Group Representatives

Silver Accreditation Visit
28/2/2024

All children have rights up to the age of 18. I have the right to play and have fun. I have the right to be safe and have an opinion. Emily
Article 12

LETHAM GARDENING CLUB

On Tuesday 12th March we enjoyed a talk by Helen Fleming a trustee of the Hope Community Garden in in Arbroath.

If you haven't been, then go, but check their website for opening times.

(enquiries@hopeorganicgarden.org.uk)

Our AGM and bulb growing competition is on Tuesday 9th April.

Dates for your diary:

11 May 2024 - Plant sale in Scout Hut

11 August 2024 - Flower Show in the village hall

Bill Muir 07908339420

Quiz Night

In support of Guide Dogs



**In the Letham Village Hall
on Saturday 13th April, at 7pm.**

Max 5 adults per team, £5 each. School children free. (There will be a small raffle and quiz for children)

Bring your own bottle & snacks, and glasses.

Donation of raffle prizes gratefully accepted.

Please contact Margaret on 07759954304

email 'marussell2019@gmail.com'

to reserve a table.



Irene McGugan, Session Clerk, and Martin Fair pictured on his final Sunday preaching in Letham.

We are very grateful to the Very Rev Dr Martin Fair for leading our worship for 5 Sundays in February and March. We said thank you with a card and cake after the service on the 10th March. We also wished him many happy returns for his special birthday later in the month.

Letham Congregation

A big Thank You

Dear Irene and all of the lovely Letham congregation, I just wanted to add a big thank you to Martin's for the fabulous birthday cake and bouquet of beautiful flowers. You have been so generous and I was sorry not to have been able to worship with you today. I have really enjoyed our Sundays at Letham Church (All Souls) - you have made us feel so welcome and part of your congregation I wish you well as you step out on your next journey in faith and will keep you in my prayers .

Elaine Fair

Letham Church Services

Morning Worship

At 10.30 am

Services Conducted by

a member of Team Ministry

An informal Holy Communion will take place at the end of the service on the First Sunday of the month

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PRAYER FOR TODAY -

Fill Me With Your Peace

Dear God,

I bless your holy name for the good night's rest you gave me.

Thank you for renewing my heart and refreshing my soul.

I pray that you give me strength in everything I do
Help me surrender all my worries and challenges to you.

Fill me with your peace, joy, and love this day and always

Amen



Guild



The meetings are in the Lawson Memorial Church. All Meetings at 2.00pm on Wednesdays, every fortnight, unless noted

The Programme for 2024 is:

ANNUAL TRIP in June – to be arranged

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

IT CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS

It is proposed to re-run the course of lectures on IT For Beginners, which originally took place in 2019. The course has been updated and will be presented as before by Dr Michael Kay who has volunteered his services. The talks will be held in The Feuars' Hall, Letham on a weekday evening starting in mid/late May.

To test the demand for this series of easy-to-understand lessons, a trial run will be held in May of Lesson 1 – [Internet Security](#).

At this meeting a straw poll will be held to assess the demand for a re-run of the whole course of lessons or, alternatively, a selection of the 6 lessons for which there is a particular demand.

These other 5 available lessons cover the following:

2. Smart Phones and Tablets - an overview.
3. Email, Messaging, Social Media, Conferencing (Zoom, Teams).
4. Files and Cloud Storage, backing up your device, photos.
5. Online Shopping - new.
6. Genealogy Research Online.

To enable me to assess the level of demand for this course please send me an email or phone me.

In addition, Michael Kay has also produced a talk on 'The IT landscape for Students and Job Hunters' based on his own career experience which may be of interest to some attendees.

Sandra MacRae
Mobile 0753 850 5489
alexandramacrae1941@gmail.com

Forfar All Souls - Union of Churches: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

On Sunday January 28th, all 6 congregations voted in favour of the Union. Since then plans have been progressing, culminating in the SERVICE OF UNION, a Presbytery led event held on 21st March in Lawson Memorial Church (the largest venue).

The Union proper takes effect from 1st April.

From this time, St Margaret's Church in Forfar will close, as will Guthrie Church, and very soon thereafter Rescobie Church will no longer host services either. There will be 3 remaining places of worship in the Union: Aberlemno, Letham and Lawson Memorial Churches.

A joint meeting of all Kirk Sessions took place on 15th February in Letham Church and will be followed up by another such meeting on 14th April. Elders will be appointed to the Leadership Team and other roles assigned and tasks allocated. Further work will be done on aligning our practices and working out the way forward together, which will be challenging and complex in many regards. It should be remembered however that the Church, locally and nationally, has undergone and survived many changes and challenges in its very long history.

As may be imagined, the number of Elders in this joint Kirk Session is quite large, but it is anticipated that a number will take this opportunity to step back. Indeed the DLK Kirk Session has been reduced by 6. Ms. Gelda Pryde, Mrs. Isabel Morrison and Mr. Bill Sturrock have each given very long and dedicated service to our church, for which they have our grateful thanks and eternal appreciation. Understandably they now feel that they would like to "retire". Mrs. Margaret Moore and Mr. Richard Moore have also stepped back and we thank them also for their significant contributions to Church life. We wish them all well in the future. And finally Rev Martyn Thomas no longer wishes to be a "Retired Minister associated with the Kirk Session", but despite this, he remains active in leading worship from time to time, and editing "In the PICTURE".

There are currently 8 remaining Elders: Mrs. Irene McGugan (Session Clerk), Mrs. Elaine Saunders (Treasurer), Mr. I Niven (Fabric Convenor), Mrs. Norma Craigon (Safeguarding Coordinator), Mrs. Jane Nicolson, Mrs Maureen Buwert, Mr. David Lumgair and Rev Klaus Buwert.

From April the Team Ministry takes over and will be providing worship at Letham (and the other 2 churches) every Sunday. They are Rev Dr Karen Fenwick, Rev Maggie Hunt and Rev Heather Gourlay. We look forward to welcoming them to Letham Church.

Kirk Session

Letham & District Community Council



Letham Pensioners were instrumental in the purchase of the first Letham defibrillator which is currently sited in the Pharmacy.

Our Community Council is currently hoping to organise more defibrillators around the area and to ensure that all the defibrillators become available for 24 hours by being in outside cabinets.

Please remember that should you have need of a defibrillator the emergency service will tell you where your nearest is and give you a code to access it in an emergency:

Dial 999 for emergency help

Community Art Club

Mondays
Between 5pm and 6pm
At The Church Hall



Requested fee: £2.50 adults, Accompanied children £1.50 (additional siblings free). This is to help us cover the cost of the Hall, refreshments and basic art materials. But please don't let the cost be prohibitive, please come along anyway!

My Brother and sister and myself are working towards a qualification called Arts Award. A part



of our course is to run a community art event for others to enjoy. We hope to run an informal art club, which would be open to all ages

For further details or to book a place please email: Josiah.Revie@protonmail.com or phone us: 01307 819061

"Why do they call it rush hour when nothing moves?" – Robin Williams

'In the PICTURE'

Welcomes items of news and expressions of opinion from organisations and individuals within the community, provided such articles are signed.

Published items do not necessarily reflect the views of either the Publicity Group or the Kirk Session of Forfar All Souls.

RAG BAG COLLECTION

Last date for collection Sunday 28th April 2024



All monies raised go towards Church, Hall and Grounds Renovation.

Wearable Clothing (not work clothes), Shoes, Handbags and Belts.

Regret, bedding & towels not permitted.

Please leave at the Church or any queries, bags needed, uplift required etc.

Phone Bruce Tel: 01307818600

TALES OF LETHAM STANES No. 3

"I've seen many a ruined building, but never a ruined stane." (Hugh McDiarmid)

OOR STANE FAE LANG SYNE

There is a muckle stane guarding the busy northern entrance to Letham Village on Auldbar Road. It is known as The Girdle Stane, and lies just south of the junction leading west to Dunnichen and east towards the old Chapelton Farm House.

This big Girdle Stane was moved some years ago from its original spot just on the actual junction where 40 tonne lorries and other vehicles used to drive over the stone. It was feared that the ancient "cup and ring" markings could be erased forever unless traffic running over the stone could be stopped. So it was moved to save it.

Called a "cup and ring" stone, one of a handful or thereby, they are believed to be 3,500 years old. That was before the pyramids were built. They are to be found all over Scotland and the best theory is that they were ancient land boundary markers. But who knows?

Anyway, the village of Letham lays claim to our Auld Stane. Our forebears in this place who had that stone so long ago must surely be saluted and must know we are guarding their ancient property

JAMc

"Apologies: In the article "Tales of Letham No. 2 Stones Saluting our Past which appeared in the March edition of ITP, the word "sales" was erroneously used. It should have been "SAILS", as in sailing ships."



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LETHAM & DISTRICT



President Lynne Slater welcomed our host for the Quiz night, Mr Ian Whyte, and also members and visiting institutes

There was a very good attendance from many SWIs in Angus and local residents with 11 teams and 43 entries.

The evening passed very quickly with everyone thoroughly enjoying themselves and discovering we were really quite competitive!

A very successful raffle was held with two well stocked hampers as the main prizes.

Tea / coffee and nibbles were served in the interval .

Visiting members Mary Ogilvy and Ruth Ferguson kindly judged this months competitions.

Results as follows

A small jar of lemon curd

1. Isabel McClung
2. Victoria Alexander
3. Frances Webster

"A day in Paris" theatre poster.

1. Lynne Slater
2. Jeannie Mair
3. Frances Webster

Flower of the month.

1. Jeannie Mair
2. Victoria Alexander
3. Joan Smith

Jane Nicolson proposed thanks to Mr Whyte for taking his time to come and host our evening and for being an excellent quiz master.

Lynne thanked all our visitors and members for a very successful evening.

Age Scotland has kindly given SWI Letham and District a grant to assist with the cost of rent for the hall for this year.

Our next meeting will be on the 2nd of April, 7.15pm in the Letham Bowling club.

Competitions are

Easter flower arrangement, 40cm x 40cm x 40cm.

A pressed flower bookmark.

Garden flower of the month.

All visitors will be made very welcome

The Angus Federation SWI show will take place on Friday 29th March 2024 (1-5 pm)

Saturday 30th March 2024 (10-4.30 pm)

Reid Hall, Forfar.

Our members will be submitting exhibits to the show and we are looking forward to seeing a varied selection of exhibits from around Angus.

Colette McNeill

FORFAR FOODBANK



Dundee Foodbank and Angus Foodbank, merged in November 2021 for administrative purposes. However the aims and purpose remain the same and that is to provide emergency food parcels for those in need and to support people in crisis.

"We don't think anyone in our community should have to face going hungry. That's why we provide three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to us in crisis. We are part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK."

Food donated in your area will be used to feed people in your area.

CURRENT NEEDS

Baked Beans	Tinned puddings
Teabags	Pasta Sauce
Tinned vegetables	Tinned fruit
Soap	UHT Milk

Please bring your donations to Letham Church on Sunday mornings.

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

info@dundeeandangus.foodbank.org.uk

Tel 01382 698020

**YOU CAN SAY ANY
FOOLISH THING TO A DOG,
AND THE DOG WILL GIVE
YOU A LOOK THAT SAYS,
'WOW, YOU'RE RIGHT!
I NEVER WOULD'VE
THOUGHT OF THAT!**



Learning Together Group



Weekly Bible Study

Letham Church Hall
on Mondays at 1:30pm.

Toys and drawing materials
available for children.

Tea, coffee and snacks provided.

All are Welcome.

Shiels

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Supporting *'In the PICTure'*

Remember **LETHAM BOOK SHOP**

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

All takings used for the benefit of Letham.

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



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