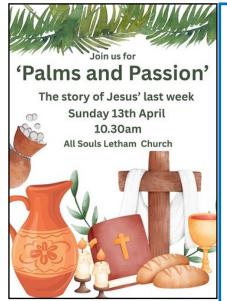
April 2025

Send news to: revmartynthomas@outlook.com

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#### From Rev Maggie Hunt

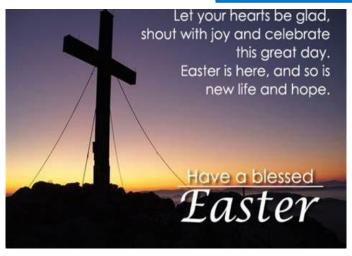
How lovely to see the spring flowers all around and be reminded again of the colourful joys of spring. As we come towards Easter, as a church we've been thinking about Living Hope and what that looks like, feels like and means to us – as individuals and as part of the community. How can we share hope with those who need it most? How can we BE hope in dark times?

Easter is, for Christians, about remembering the ultimate hope. The hope of life in heaven after we die and the hope of life in all its fullness here on earth - freed from guilt and shame. Easter is our celebration of HOPE at its best — and I very much hope you will come and join us.

We have a kids and families morning on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April to make Easter Crafts and a Palm Sunday poster and then our big Letham Easter celebration at church on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> when we get together at 10.30am for songs, stories, crafts, chocolate and an Easter Egg hunt with folks of all ages. We'll be finished around 11.30am giving plenty time if you need to head off for lunch or family gatherings later in the day.









page 2 In the PICTure

### **LETHAM SENIORS**

# SPRING COFFEE MORNING

### LETHAM VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 26th APRIL 2025 10am TO 11.30am

TEA, COFFEE AND HOME BAKING
PLUS HOT CROSS BUNS
ALL FOR ONLY



£3



£1 FOR CHILDREN (14 AND UNDER)

Plus Cakes for sale, Tombola and Lucky Squares

Come early to avoid disappointment

# Coffee Morning and Art Display



In aid of Mercy Ships

Saturday 5th April 10.00 am to 12.00 noon In Letham Church Hall

Cost £2 includes a tea/coffee and snack.

Cakes and crafts on sale.

Children's crafts and activities on offer!

We are a group of young people working towards arts award who decided to run a community project this Easter.

### **Food Project**

The current needs are: all forms of non-perishable goods, toiletries, e.g. soap, toothpaste, toilet rolls etc size 6 nappies

Please bring your items to Letham Church on Sunday mornings.

A big thank you for all donations. If anyone in Letham requires immediate support from the Food Project please contact pat@strathdeveron.co.uk or lowsonchurch@gmail.com

Thank you. Forfar All Souls @ LETHAM

#### Safeguarding Report March 2025

The church in Letham has been part of Forfar All Souls Church of Scotland since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. Because we are now part of this union, all our safeguarding is done under the name of Forfar All Souls. This is a much bigger congregation with 3 separate places of worship at Aberlemno, Letham and the Lowson Memorial. There is also the Anchorage mission centre in Forfar.

There are many activities happening in each of these buildings every week. Some of them are for children and others are for adults who are classed as being vulnerable for one reason or another. We must ensure children and vulnerable adults are kept safe. The people who work with these groups must go through the PVG (Protection of Vulnerable Groups) checking process and attend regular safeguarding training to ensure they are kept up to date with the latest information.

The formation of any new union takes time and being involved with a variety of different groups is the best way to get to know people and develop a feeling of being one church. We would welcome new people to help with all our groups.

All the church groups are listed in the regular All Souls What's On newsletter and, if you would like to help with any of them, please speak to anyone at church. We can give you further information about whether you would need to complete the PVG process, or not. It is all done online these days and is a much simpler process than the old paper forms. The training can also be completed online or in person.

Safeguarding training is also essential for the 72 elders we now have on the session. In the near future, there will be some changes to the elders' safeguarding process but everyone will be informed when the details are finalised.

The safeguarding co-ordinators in Letham are Norma Craigon and Irene McGugan. The other worship centres have their own co-ordinators. Please speak to Norma or Irene if you have any questions about the PVG process or safeguarding training.

Norma Craigon

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#### **KILT WALK 2025**

Irene McGugan has decided to do the Dundee Kilt Walk again this year -! This is a 20 mile hike from St Andrews to Dundee and will take place on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August.

The sole, compelling reason for doing this is that Sir Chris Hoy has teamed up with the Kiltwalk to raise funds for others who like him are facing cancer. He has set up a new fundraising charity, Tour de 4, which supports UK cancer charities and aims to change the perception of people battling stage 4 cancer. The charities are Breast Cancer Now, Cancer Research UK, Macmillan Cancer Support, Maggie's and Prostate Cancer UK.

# ALL FUNDS RAISED BY MY KILTWALK WILL GO TO THIS CAUSE.

"Sir Chris has been my "hero" for a long time. He is a legend of Scottish sport. There is not much I can do for him at this time, but I can walk and I can fundraise. I want to do this small thing to support him now".

If you are able to donate to this hugely important cause, please go to:

#### https://www.justgiving.com/page/irene-mcgugan-3

If on-line giving is not for you, please feel free to see me at church or elsewhere to contribute in person or get in touch

via:irene.mcgugan@btinternet.com

01307 818436 or 0771 575 9138

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

Irene.

# RAG BAG COLLECTION

# Last date for collection Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April

These funds will contribute to the cost of the redesign of our grounds and parking places.

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

#### WARM SPACES & COSY CUPPIES

The final gathering of Warm Spaces this winter will be on FRIDAY 25TH APRIL, from 12 noon in the Church Hall. As it will be the last one for a few months, and is just after the important celebrations of Easter, we aim to make it extra special. So please do come along to this event and indeed to any of the Friday lunches between now and then.

We are immensely grateful to our small but talented group of soup makers who have treated us to both well known and less well known varieties of soup. There are usually 3 kinds on offer every week (!) and their quality would not be out of place in many quality restaurants — often served with swirls of cream, croutons or parsley if you please..... And all of this generously donated, so that there is no charge for having as many helpings as you wish!!

Thank you also to those who have come along to set up, serve at tables and wash up. We couldn't manage without you.

And finally a truly heartfelt THANK YOU to Keptie Bakery and Keystore, who week after week have so very generously supplied us with bread, rolls, cakes and milk. We are really fortunate to have such community minded businesses in our midst. Your kindness has been extraordinary and so very much appreciated.

HOWEVER – although Warm Spaces will be taking a break – COSY CUPPIE will be taking over!! Having piloted this last year, Letham Seniors are again taking the lead in hosting this during the summer.

Starting on Friday 2nd May, in the Church Hall, all are welcome to enjoy companionship, games, activities and refreshments from 1.30pm –3.30pm each week. Again there is no cost for attending. If you would like to volunteer to help support these afternoon teas, or learn more about them, please contact Isobel Sword: 01307 818362 (h) or 07981 740 888 (m) or isobelsword@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you again: Norma, Irene and the Warm Spaces Team.

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#### **Letham Primary School**

Letham Primary School have celebrated Young Carers Action Day 2025 with the theme 'Give us a Break'. The children took part in various activities; football, netball and dance.

Lots of fun was had!



#### LETHAM GARDENING CLUB

Our last meeting in March focused on composting and leaf mould, and although our presenter was unable to attend the knowledge within our members made it an interesting and informative evening. Many thanks to all those that participated

On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April we hold our AGM, together with our members competition of Spring bulbs and house plants, ending another successful season for the club.

Future dates are Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2025 for our annual plant sale, donations of plants and purchasers very welcome. On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2025 for the Flower Show. Both events will be held in the village hall.

Bill Muir. 07908339420



## Dementia clinics

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If you have any questions about the clinics please contact **nationwide@dementiauk.org**. For immediate support, contact Dementia UK's Helpline on **0800 888 6678** or book a phone or video appointment at **dementiauk.org/book** 



#### '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 @ Letham.

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We, Andrew and Ria Probst from Letham, have published a book "Nightmare on the Tay". This is the true story of a dramatic rescue in the Tay, written intentionally to raise funds for the RNLI, as without them our daughter would no longer be with us.

The book is available at the RNLI gift shop in Fisher Street in Broughty Ferry and at the Bookhouse in Gray Street, Broughty Ferry or can be ordered by e-mail at: lichtenfield@hotmail.com

The book is suitable for adults and children from 12 years. An ideal gift at only £4.99( including delivery to Letham or Forfar).

Kind Regards: A & R Probst

#### LETHAM TENNIS CLUB CLOSURE

The current Tennis Club Committee is stepping down and unless another group is interested in taking over the club, this could signal the end of tennis in the village.

This would be a pity, as we enjoy good facilities in Dempster Park, including two courts, recently lined, plus a range of equipment stored in the onsite clubhouse.

The Club is solvent and easily run. Some basic maintenance (leaf/moss clearance) is required at the start of the Season (April)

For more information, please contact:

Brenda Jepson (01307 818492) or Sandy Yule (01307 818492

#### TALES OF LETHAM STANES No. 13

"I've seen many a ruined building,

but never a ruined stane." (Hugh MacDiarmid)

#### MOLTEN OR SANDSTONE PEBBLES

A few of us have a garden path of pebbles. We walk over these from the roadside to our houses, with little or no reason to think how they came to be.

Many years ago, Scotland was engulfed in a thick covering of ice. This ice was said to be up to three miles thick. Since the ice has melted many years ago, Scotland itself has grown up by about a quarter of an inch per annum, as the Earth seeks to recover from the weight of the ice it upheld in the past.

The pebbles on our paths are the net result of rushing, melting ice, and before that, the weight of three miles of ice. Ice like this is always moving, albeit slowly. Three miles of ice is an awfy weight. Nae wonder it crushed the stones.... So what with the weight and grinding and pulverising the rocks below into small chunks, after many hundreds of years, the ice began to melt. Many, many rushing streams followed to turn the pulverised stone into smooth stones. Stones of all sorts were worn down, and in the case of pebbles, smoothed to the size of what we know today as chuckie stanes (i.e. suitable for chucking).

However, each of these chuckie stanes is different, perhaps made from sandstone or stronger stones and some exhibit whorls and streaks of white stone or light stone, making them massively absorbing to hold in the hand. These somewhat harder stones would appear to have been molten, having come as lava from the bowels of the Earth possibly millions of years ago.

Some are quartz; some appear to be white limestone; and many other possible sources may come to mind. Nowadays, we walk upon them, up the garden path so to speak, without a thought of their thousands or millions of years of history which stretches into the prehistoric past.

Indeed as you walk over the gravel to get to the Kirk, you are walking on the same pebbles, the same history and the same stones. These stones which we walk on, deserve a big salute from us, the much more transitory human race.

**JAMcG** 

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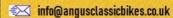
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#### **Letham Feuars' Committee**

Registered Scottish Charity: SC003197

Supporting 'In the PICTure'

#### Remember Letham Book Shop

Open Mondays to Saturdays 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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#### LETHAM & DISTRICT



It is hard to believe that a year has already passed since our last quiz night and we were once again fortunate to have Mr Ian Whyte as our Quiz Master.

President Lynne Slater welcomed Ian, members, also visiting Angus Institutes and Letham residents to the evening.

Colliston SWI were the deserving winners and everyone enjoyed the evening, meeting up with friends and having fun whilst competing against each others institutes!

We held a very successful raffle, including 3 wonderfully stocked hampers full of goodies. Refreshments were served in the interval and Anne Frith kindly judged our competitions.

#### Results.

#### **3 Peppermint Slices**

- 1. Dorothy Goss 2. Lynne Slater
- 3. Jeannie Mair

#### **Photograph In The Gloaming**

- 1. Frances Webster 2. Lynne Slater
- 3. Colette McNeill

#### Garden flower of the month

- 1. Jeannie Mair 2. Frances Webster
- 3. Kathleen Ferrier

Lynne thanked Ian, visitors and members for helping make the night a huge success.

Our next meeting will be on Ist April 2025, 7.15pm at Letham Bowling Club and our guest speaker is Ewan Milne.

Ewan is a Celebrant and local to Angus, working in and around the county and Dundee. We are very much looking forward to hearing about his work and experiences within his role.

Visitors are very welcome (£6) for the evening with refreshments provided.

Look forward to seeing you all.

Colette McNeill (Press secretary)

### Men's Fellowship Group

In "The Anchorage Building"
26 West High Street, Forfar
on the 3rd Monday of the month
@ 10.30 am (10.15am for Tea/Coffee)

21st April: "NE Scottish Herring Industry" Speaker: **Ian Grimmer** 

More info from David Adam: 07889573885



#### All Souls Church Guild



#### Let Us Build A House

Happy Easter

The Guild resumed meeting after an extended Christmas break on 26 February with a very humbling talk with slides by Anne Marie Pitt on the Friends of Toowa, Uganda. The offering of £217.00 was donated to the Charity along with many knitted jumpers and beanie hats knitted by members and friends.

We have also had an interesting talk and slides on Faberge Eggs and we look forward to our 110<sup>th</sup> A.G.M. on 26 March when we will distribute the Funds raised at the March and August 2024 Coffee Mornings.

Our Coffee Morning on Saturday 15 March, raised £1010.30. and a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who supported us in any way. Your continued support to the Guild is very much appreciated.

There are only 2 dates left on our Theme: "Sure Foundations" before our Summer break

9 April Author - Chris Longmuir

23 April Closing Social – Spectrum Choir

We welcome you to come along to any of our meetings to hear more about any of our programme items. **Please bring your own cup or mug,** a wrapped biscuit is provided.

All meetings are on **Wednesday afternoons at 2 pm** in the Lowson Church Hall and will finish between 3.30 and 4 pm unless stated otherwise.

**If you** need more information or have any queries please contact Linda Stewart at 01307 469255 or email lindas28@btinternet.com

If you need a lift to the Guild please contact
Norma at 01307818275

# Next Issue of 'In the *P/CT*ure' Deadline for May 2025 issue is

Saturday 19th April 2025

Material to be sent to Rev Martyn Thomas 14 Kirkgait (01307 818084)

E-mail: revmartynthomas@outlook.com
And to Jeannie Mair
2 Idvies View (01307 818600)

E-Mail: j.mair382@btinternet.com
Material may also be sent to Joan Smith

9 Burnside Road (01307 818937) E-mail: joan 77@btinternet.com



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