

# In the PICTURE

June 2026

ITP was established in 1995

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**SUMMER  
FAIR**

ALL SOULS@ LOWSON CHURCH  
Saturday 27 June  
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Musical Evening  
with  
The Friends Choir  
& Band

When: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
Where: Lowson Church, 1 Jamieson St, Forfar  
Time: 7.30pm

All tickets £10  
(Refreshments & Raffle available)



All proceeds to the RNLI & Lowson Church

Forfar Action of Churches Together  
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## Inspirational Orchestra

An evening with Ian Whyte and the famous  
Inspirational Orchestra

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June**  
7pm



Entry by donation

East, Old and Inverarity Church, Forfar



## LETHAM SENIORS

Brew & Blether



**Friday 2 – 3.30pm in The Church Hall**  
All ages & abilities welcome, every week  
Home baking & good company, no charge  
With special thanks to our teenage volunteers  
And our wonderful musician  
**Music & memories for everyone to enjoy**  
**on the first Friday of the month.**

All Souls Letham Church  
Sunday Worship  
10.30 am

## Forfar All Souls @ Letham Property Report Update May 2026

It's now been two years since we became Forfar All Souls @ Letham and unfortunately a convenor for the property committee has still not been found so the Management Groups of the 3 churches and the Anchorage are still, looking after their own properties but there is a deep commitment by all 4 Management Groups to maintain these spaces so they can continue to serve as places of worship, fellowship, and community. We also recognise the importance of keeping everyone informed about the state of our church, hall and manse and so this report outlines the current conditions, maintenance efforts, and any upcoming projects for all three buildings.

But first, the Presbytery Annual Building Records Inspection was held last month and I'm pleased to report that ours passed.

### Church Building and Hall Update

Last year I reported that we had a visit from the Presbytery Buildings Officer, Jamie MacNamara. Unfortunately, due to old computer problems he was unable to send out his report to us so we have not pushed forward with his recommendations but due to water ingress we will now have to look to get the work done soon. He has kindly offered to revisit and issue a new report with full recommendations, discuss repair approach and point us in the right direction of some good contractors. We look forward to his visit next week. The interiors of the church and hall are in good shape and all annual checks to fire alarms, fire extinguishers and electrical appliances have been completed with only a replacement fire blanket in the kitchen needed. Outside our progress with Phase 3 of the church plans is to provide ramps for the fire exits to the rear of the church and hall, landscaping to provide accessible parking and to solve the drainage problem at the gate has been slow. A survey was done to map out where all the underground features (drains, electrical cables etc) were and we now have a clearer idea of what will be possible and where. We are now at the stage of acquiring three estimates for the work and hopefully we will get things moving after that. Meanwhile our grateful thanks go to Bruce who sees that the flower beds are kept looking lovely and colourful and weed free and to Dave who organises the grass cutting so keeping everything neat and tidy.

### Manse Update

In October 2024 the manse became vacant. In November 2025 it finally went on the market with an asking price of £325,000. We had quite a few viewings and in February an offer was made and accepted. We are now in a 'chain' and are hoping to hand over the keys later this month. Except for finding a wasp nest in the garden wall and was dealt with by the council, there has been no other problems at the manse. Again our thanks go to those volunteers who have kept the gardens neat and tidy and ready for the new owners.

### Upcoming Projects and Financial Considerations

We will continue to progress with the remodelling of the grounds and once we have Jamie MacNamara's report an application will be put to the session to facilitate the work needed to solve the problem of water ingress to the gable wall of the church.

#### Conclusion

The church, hall and the manse are in good condition overall, and we are thankful for the continued support and care from our congregation. The next few months will be focused on maintaining the buildings and addressing minor repairs. We are confident these efforts will ensure the longevity of our spaces for years to come.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or suggestions. We welcome your input and thank you for your ongoing commitment to our church community.

God bless. June Scott Fabric Convenor



Buddy, who is aged 8 at Letham primary school, took part in a Scottish themed project for Burns Day. The children were asked to either learn a poem, design a football mascot or recreate a model of a Scottish landmark.

Buddy who is Lego daft chose to build his model out of Lego bricks after drawing a picture of the abbey first. He had lots of fun looking for the brown bricks in his collection and recreating the abbey.

When visiting Stirling castle, I mentioned his creation and they told me to reach out to the Abbey, which we did via Historic Scotland. The abbey is now displaying his model which staff have said is generating a lot of interest.

Susan Semple



## From Maggie Hunt

‘June is bursting out all over’ as the song goes. The summer is starting to bring blooms of all sorts around us. It also brings days out, visits and trips and even holidays for some of us. The weather is improving and we look toward outdoor pursuits and sports [or watching them on TV!].

This June we have plenty happening at the church, including our new Musical Memories group for those with dementia and other illnesses and their carers. This new group meets on the first Friday of each month so will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> of June and then 3<sup>rd</sup> July. We have a joint Sunday service at All Souls Lowson on 21<sup>st</sup> June [car sharing is arranged – just turn up at Letham as usual around 10/10.30am and we’ll travel together to this special joint service of worship].

Thankyou to everyone who came along and supported our activities and services in May. It was a wonderful month of celebrations – Communion Sunday, Aubrey’s Baptism, Christian Aid coffee morning and service, our Pentecost Party and finally our Songs of Praise at the end of May. We raised over £400 for Christian Aid at the coffee morning and donations are still arriving.

As always, if you’d like a visit or a blether when I’m in the village please just get in touch

Rev Maggie Hunt

[mhunt@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:mhunt@churchofscotland.org.uk)

07557381932



### THANK YOU

Forfar’s Christian Aid committee want to thank everyone who donated or was involved in fundraising during Christian Aid week this year.

A particular thank you to all who baked, helped, or came along to the coffee morning at Letham.

There will also be a sponsored walk around the loch over the summer.

### Next Issue of ‘In the PICTure’

Deadline for **July/August 2026** issue is  
**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

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

E-mail: [revmartynthomas@outlook.com](mailto:revmartynthomas@outlook.com)

And to Jeannie Mair

2 Idvies View (01307 818600)

E-Mail: [j.mair382@btinternet.com](mailto:j.mair382@btinternet.com)

### Letham Primary School

Mrs D Williamson Debut Head Teacher



Children in P1-3 at Letham Primary celebrated Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday! They made cards, planned themed cakes, parties and each made a pledge to our planet!



3D perspective art work from our Primary 4 class at Letham Primary School. Theme: Farming

### Letham Drama Group

#### JUMBLE SALE

On 27th June 2026

between 1pm - 2.30pm

At The Studio,

1 Old Letham, DD8 2PW

Come along and find bargains galore among clothes, costumes, toys, bric-a-brac, storage boxes, theatre props and more.

Everything must go!

**FREE ENTRY**

All money raised will support our forthcoming productions - watch this space. And don't forget our Annual Quiz in September - details to follow.

Scottish Charity No. SC028492

A colorful poster for the Letham Village Table Tennis Club. The poster features two table tennis paddles (one red, one black) and a ball on a table tennis table. The text reads: "LETHAM VILLAGE TABLE TENNIS CLUB!", "OPEN TO ALL ABILITIES", "FOR AGES 10-16", "LETHAM VILLAGE HALL", "MONDAY NIGHTS 5:45PM - 6:45PM", and "JOIN THE FUN &amp; IMPROVE YOUR GAME!".

## TALES OF LETHAM (D)

*"In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks."*  
John Muir

### Some more memories



Our house is not very big. It is easy to hear what is going on round about it. One sunny morning last week, there was a very loud thump outside one of our south facing windows.

I had heard a thump like this many years ago, and that was a bird strike. At that time, we lived in The Square - it was September, and swallows were gathering on telegraph lines in preparation for flying off to Africa. The thump on that occasion was like the thump of last week. When I went outside to have a look, a young swallow lay dead on our upstairs balcony. In the full exuberance of youth, it had failed to register that glass windows were a potential death trap for birds flying at high speed. As I picked it up, from the balcony floor where it lay, I could not miss the beauty of the now dead jewel in my hand. The swallow is a beautiful bird with feathers of bright red in the cheek area, mostly a vibrant metallic blue on the body, with a white belly. When I picked it up, it was of course still warm. As I held it in my hand, I found myself murmuring, "Not for you my darling the warmth of the tropics - and the excitement of the skies of the Congo, you will never see."

Of course the thump I heard last week brought the occasion of thirty years ago, rushing back to mind. This time, the still warm carcass was that of a cock sparrow. Like the swallow, the cock sparrow is very familiar to us. They always present that cheeky-chappy demeanour. As I picked this sad little victim up, I realised this cock sparrow may already have a wife sitting on eggs at this moment. She will have a sair trauchle bringing these eggs to full fruition as young sparrows.

This man-made hazard of glass must have killed many thousands of birds to date. This killing will go on, and we may be invited to share the sadness this causes birds and humans.

JAMcG

## LETHAM AND DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION



A reminder that it is Letham's turn this year to visit our twinned community Leguillac de l'Auche which is a charming hilltop village clustered round a Romanesque church near Perigueux in France. Each person ( or couple ) from Letham will be hosted by a family from Leguillac and your only outlay will be the transport cost from Letham to Leguillac. We fly to Bergerac and our friends from Leguillac pick us up at the airport.

On each visit so far, our friends at Leguillac have laid on a marvellous tour of the sights of the region and delicious French cuisine. The visit is arranged for 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> July.

If you are interested, please contact our Secretary, Morag Fraser or me (contact details below) - and you don't have to be an existing member of the Twinning Association but we hope that you'll become a member.

Convener of Letham & District Twinning Association: Alexandra MacRae  
([alexandramacrae1941@gmail.com](mailto:alexandramacrae1941@gmail.com))

Secretary of Letham & District Twinning Association: Morag Fraser: ([morag-fraser@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:morag-fraser@hotmail.co.uk))



**ALL SOULS CHURCH GUILD**  
Charity No: SC 002417

# COFFEE MORNING

In aid of Guild Funds

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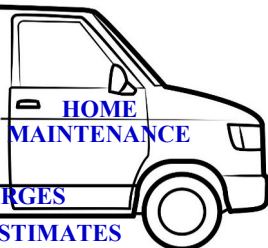


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## Letham and District Scottish Women's Institute



On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May Letham and district SWI held their AGM. Wendy gave her treasurer's report highlighting the fact that our finances are reasonably strong and relating the complex and sometimes comical process of transferring bank details to the names of the new committee which has taken almost a full year. Lindsay reported on our success at Federation level with our teams winning trophies for the Rural Olympics and the quiz. At an individual level Victoria was a member of the team which won the curling bonspiel while Lynne joined ladies from Menmuir SWI to take part in the Spoken Word competition although they were not successful this time. At the Federation Show we won the small institute trophy for the highest points achieved in the bulb classes and Frances won the trophy for the best overall bowl of bulbs. Our co-operative exhibit on the theme of Scottish Inventions was commended and many individual "tickets" were awarded.

In her president's report, Dorothy reviewed her first year in post and thanked all the members, especially the committee, for their commitment, help and support.

As our oldest member, Betty then presented the trophies for our monthly competitions.

**Flower of the Month Shield** – Shared between Colette and Lynne

**Handcrafts Tray** - Lynne.

**Homeskills Cup** – Dorothy

**Most point overall silver Bowl** – Lynne

**Most points in Handcrafts and Homeskills at federation show** – Lynne.

Dorothy presented plants to the winners and to the runners up in the various classes - Isobel, Joan and Lindsay. Dorothy also gave each member a small gift of handmaid truffles as a token of her gratitude.

There followed a discussion on the June outing with the consensus being afternoon tea at the walled garden at Brechin Castle – date to be confirmed. We then celebrated our 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday with a special cake to go with our usual tea and biscuits



Dorothy Goss

[www.lethamswi.org](http://www.lethamswi.org) [lethamswi@gmail.com](mailto:lethamswi@gmail.com)



## All Souls Church Guild



Let Us Build A House

At the "Second A G M" of All Souls Church Guild on 25 March we distributed the funds raised in 2025 as follows - £2000.00 to All Souls Church General Fund, £400.00 to the Outreach Fund, £200.00 each to 2 of the Guild Projects for 2025 – 2027 – Bear Necessities for Bulgaria - Build My Church & Release International Voice of the Persecuted Christians - Operation Hope. We also donated £200.00 to equip a new Maternity Home in Bandawe in Malawi. (The Church of Scotland Guild is celebrating 150 years linked with Livingstonia Synod in Malawi). Thank you to all who generously support the Guild in order that we were able to make these donations.

In April Les Craib gave an interesting talk on Our Garden in Spring and his time as President of the Forfar Horticultural Society. Christine and George Mitchell entertained with a variety of musical duets and solos at the Closing Social.

The Guild is now on a Summer Break and instead of a "Trip" this year we are going to the Royal Hotel, Forfar for High Tea on Wednesday 10 June.

Diary Dates

Saturday 22 August - Coffee Morning in the Lawson Church Hall 10.00 am – 11.30 am with the usual stalls.

Saturday 12 September – Guild Annual Gathering – Perth North Church

Our regular meetings will resume during Guild Week on Wednesday 16 September with an Opening Social and the details will be in the September/October Newsletter.

Please contact me at [lindas28@btinternet.com](mailto:lindas28@btinternet.com) if you require more information.

Very Best wishes

Linda Stewart Minute Secretary

### '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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## Letham Feuars' Committee

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For information about the Feuars please contact  
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