

In the PICTURE

July/August 2026

ITP was established in 1995

Delivered free to every home in Letham and district by Forfar All Souls @ LETHAM Charity Number SC002417)

DEMPSTER DAY
9th August 2pm

Tombola and BBQ by Letham Scouts
at the Scout Hut

Tea and Coffee in the Scout Hut
by Letham Seniors

Treasure/Scavenger Hunt
round the village

Games Organised by
The Basement

Stalls by
Hand Pict Showcase Gallery

Activities at the Church during the morning



Letham Gardening Club ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW

In

Letham Village Hall

Sunday 9th August 2026

1.30 pm to 4.00 pm

Presentation of Trophies and Awards
at 2.00pm

Silver collection at the door

Schedules are available from Keystore,
craft shop and Auld Bar Café

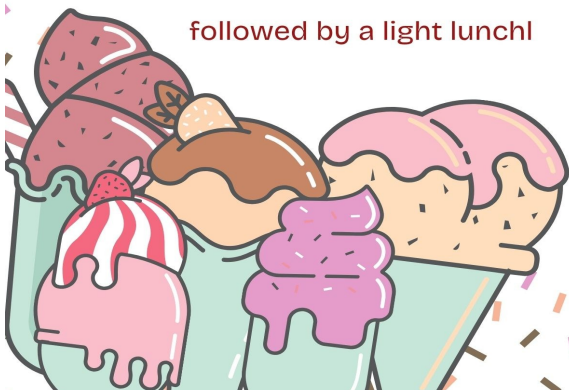
Dempster Day
Sunday 9th August

**ICE-CREAM
SUNDAE SUNDAY!**

free ice-cream
for everyone!

10.30am Letham Church

A story, some songs and lots & lots of icecream!
followed by a light lunch!



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.

Finance Report to the Congregation at Letham Church 10th May 2026

The accounts are completed and have been audited. They will be formerly presented to the congregation at the Annual Stated Meeting on 21st June at Lawson Memorial Church. A small surplus was achieved this year of £12,138. A copy of these accrued accounts to year ending 31/05/2015 and the report to the Kirk Session by the Finance Convenor are available at the rear of the sanctuary, should anyone wish to see them.

I would like to concentrate on all the donations made by the Letham Congregation, during 2025, to other charities. The total of donations was £2,352. Most of these donations came from the collection for teas and coffees after the service. The 2 charities that we support with our tea monies are CrossReach and Christian Aid. £400.09 for CrossReach and £350.11 for Christian Aid. We again, supported the relief work in Ukraine with our monthly offerings totalling an amazing £1,054. The Harvest offering to Ekwendeni and the Remembrance offering to Poppy Scotland made up the rest. The list of offerings is also at the rear of the sanctuary.

Thank you Elaine Saunders 10/5/26

The Right Reverend Gordon Kennedy



is the current Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland for 2026–2027. He was officially installed on May 15, 2026, at the

opening of the annual General Assembly in Edinburgh, in the presence of Lady Elish Angiolini, appointed by King Charles as his representative along with members from our own Perth and Angus Presbytery .

The Moderator acts as the church's ambassador, representing the church in Scotland and abroad. Rev Kennedy acknowledges that the church is continuing to grapple with challenges of reforming but urged members to be "confident and bold".

"Somebody once described faith as not just standing at the edge of the cliff but leaning out over the edge with only the wind of God's spirit to hold you up," he said. "Not only is it frightening, but it is also exciting.

Rev Kennedy added that going to church is about more than sitting in a pew on a Sunday morning., "It's life transforming, it's joining in on Jesus's mission to renew and restore all things - justice, peace, mercy," he said.

Excerpts taken from Church of Scotland website.

Ruth McKenzie Miller

31st January 1933—4th May 2026



Ruth McKenzie Gow was born on the 31st of January 1933 in Telford Road, Inverness where her parents William and Ruth lived. It was as a young girl that Ruth decided to rename herself Deece – and it stuck. She delighted in the name all her days.

Ruth went to the Central Primary. She went on to study at Inverness Royal Academy and proved to be quite academic. She was a very active member at Ness Bank church, where her family worshipped and became a Sunday School teacher there as a teenager.

On leaving school she went off to Edinburgh to study Primary School Teaching at Moray House. It was when she was in Edinburgh that she met the love of her life, David. They were married a few years later in 1956.

David and Ruth began their teaching careers in Dundee – David at Muirhead and Ruth at Hawkhill. And, as they were blessed with children, they moved to Muirhead and then Kingsmuir before eventually buying their house at Bowriefauld. Ruth taught locally and eventually returned full time to teaching with a speciality in teaching children with additional needs. She was best known and loved for her years at Langlands Primary.

She was a devoted mum to Jean, Ann, Rosie, William, Jenny and Susan as well as a loving and doting granny and great granny.

Ruth was an elder in the church – originally at Dunnichen but then at Dunnichen, Letham and Kirkden and undertook various roles over the years and was probably best known for her years of service as Session Clerk. She was also a member of the SWI and was very involved in community life around the village. She was a fantastic baker, seamstress and cake maker. But most importantly – she was a lovely woman who would do anything she could to reach out and help others. She will be very sadly missed by all who knew her.

Rev Maggie Hunt

Why we need to connect with God.

When God created fish, He spoke to the sea. When God created trees, He spoke to the earth. But when God wanted to create humans, He turned to Himself. Then, God said, "Let Me make humans in my likeness."

If you take a fish out of water, it will die; and when you remove a tree from soil, it will also die. Likewise, when humans are disconnected from God, they die.

God is our natural environment. We were created to live in His presence. We must be connected to Him because it is only in Him that life exists. Let us stay connected to God.

Remember, water without fish is still water, but fish without water is nothing. The soil without a tree is still soil, but the tree without soil is nothing. God without us is still God, but without God, we are nothing.



At the end of May, we celebrated Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit. In the Bible wind and flames were seen by the disciples and the colourful photographs represent that.



Recently, The Wednesday Worship group from the Anchorage met with Letham members and friends. Pictured are Holly, Alana, June and Mary who served a lovely lunch.



The Inspirational Orchestra, performing at East and Old Church, Forfar was much enjoyed by all who attended from All Souls and friends.

From Maggie Hunt

Hello,

Well by the time you receive this edition of *In the PICTURE*, the schools will be on holiday and the summer will be in full swing. I wonder if you have plans for this summer. Are you planning a trip away? Maybe a day out or a short break? Holiday times allow us an opportunity to stop and take a little time out just to restore our souls and do things that make us happy. For some, you will get a chance to travel, and for others, much desired time with family or at home with pets.

Last night a few of us from the village went to see the Inspiration Orchestra in Forfar and what a wonderful evening it was – seeing people make music together and enjoy being part of a band. One of the songs they sang was called ‘dream small’. Maybe this summer we can all dream small– enjoy the every day delights of time to relax and restore, and make little differences that will mean a lot to those around us – whether that is litter picking, helping with groups or caring for neighbours and offering a hand with messages.

This summer I am taking up the opportunity to travel with a small group from the village to our French Twin village in France. Being twinned offers lots of small but significant benefits to us – opening doors to new places to travel, seeing new and well known friends abroad and, for me, the nudge I needed to really get back to learning to speak French. I doubt I will manage much more than the very basics by our trip in mid July BUT I will continue to learn and practice and maybe, just maybe, I will be a little more ready for the return exchange of our French friends coming here.

In August we have Dempster Day and our famous Ice-cream Sundae Sunday at the church followed by a light lunch before the afternoon events kick off. I hope you can join us for some family fun together.

Rev Maggie Hunt mhunt@churchofscotland.org.uk
07557381932

All Souls Letham Church
Sunday Worship
10.30 am

Next Issue of ‘*In the PICTURE*’

Deadline for September 2026 issue is

Saturday 15th August 2026

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

Letham Primary School

Mrs D Williamson Depute Head Teacher



Primary 4 Class enjoyed their summer trip to Glamis Castle ! They had a wonderful day learning about the history of the castle. They enjoyed the playpark and the beautiful walled garden.



Primary P7 Leavers enjoyed a day trip to Monikie Water Park for paddle boarding, raft building and a chance to enjoy the Aqua Park! A great opportunity to enhance our team building skills.

“A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.” ~ St. Francis of Assisi

“Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot seek a shadow.” ~ Helen Keller

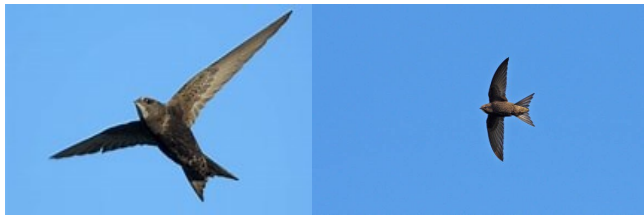
How do you prevent a summer cold? Catch it in winter

How do seashells stay clean? They wash up on the beach.

TALES OF LETHAM (E)

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

Lum Screamers



We used to live in The Square. The arrival of swifts at The Steeple, usually on the 9th of May advised us that after their long flight from Africa to Letham, they had come back to nest in high buildings, like The Steeple. They leave on the 9th of August or thereby, having raised their children to be flight ready for Africa in the short time they spend in Scotland.

These swifts are remarkable birds, known in Scotland as "lum screamers" because of their tendency to fly high often screaming or calling in unison. They live, catch insects and fly constantly. They catch insects on the wing; they mate on the wing; they even sleep on the wing, and the only time they come to earth is when they seek out nooks and crannies in the stone work of high buildings, to nest in.

To fly successfully, they need to have the air under their wings. They are always in high places, so that their outstretched wings can take advantage of the air movement. If by some misfortune, they are forced on to the ground, it is likely they are doomed to die as there is no air under their wings to give lift into the sky. They only come to earth to nest.

We get a few of these birds in Scotland, but in small numbers, compared with, for example, Pisa in Italy, where the sky above the city accommodates thousands of these birds in the summertime.

So we are privileged in Letham to accommodate a small number of swifts, although it may seem that there are many more because they will fly in from Forfar, even Dundee, to enjoy the feed fest in Letham, provided by the tall Steeple. On a good day, it warms up in the sunshine and thereby draws in and raises up air on its high walls. This air movement comes with a large number of insects. Swifts come to Letham, some to stay, others to simply enjoy the feed fest The Steeple provides.

JAMcG

LETHAM SENIORS

Who are we?

Anyone age 60 or over & not in full time employment can be a member.

Annual Membership, £5 (due now!)



The Christmas lunch and any trips are subsidised



Our main fund-raising activities are through coffee mornings.

Volunteers to help and donations are always very welcome.

Our next fund-raising event will be providing tea/ coffee & home baking in the Scout Hut, on Dempster Day. Sunday August 9th, 2-4pm

From the beginning of May until the end of October, we run Brew & Blether every Friday 2 – 3.30pm in the Church Hall . Tea/ coffee & home baking (no Charge!) everyone welcome, no age limit!



The first Friday of each month includes live music & a good sing along.

Contact Isobel Sword isobelsword@hotmail.co.uk if you would like to become a member of Letham Seniors (you do NOT have to be a member to come to Brew & Blether!).

Also

The Village Hall 300 club.

If anyone wants to buy a ticket for the 300 club to help support our Village Hall come along to Brew & Blether on a Friday & let me know or contact me on the above address.



Letham Village Hall
Letham (Angus) New Hall Trust

300 Club Tickets

Now on Sale

£5.00 each

First 4 Months Prizes - 3 x £10.00

(August, September, October & November)

Final Draw Prizes - £300 - £100 - £50

& 3 x £10

(December)

Call Letham Village Hall on 07518 267291
or contact a Committee Member

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M: 07873 566500

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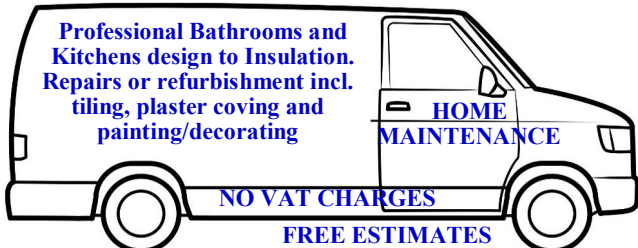


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Letham and District
Scottish Women's Institute



On Thursday 11th June the ladies of the Letham and District SWI enjoyed afternoon tea in a very special “small” dining room in Brechin Castle. Sausage rolls, quiche, sandwiches, scones, cakes and biscuits – all home-made and all delicious. It was all very important “Downton Abbey” and we were treated like royalty. After tea we could have a look in the open rooms of the castle and some of us walked round the spectacular walled gardens. All in all, a very pleasant afternoon out.

We will be holding a fund-raising bottle stall at the Flower Show on 9th August. If anyone would like to contribute a bottle of anything - from ketchup to shampoo to water: contact me at the address below and I will arrange to collect it.

We are already looking forward to the new session which begins on Tuesday 1st September at 7.15 in the Letham Bowling Club. Our speakers and activities for the year are not confirmed yet but the competitions for the first meeting are; your favourite fridge magnet, 3 Biscoff truffles and garden flower of the month. We would be delighted to welcome new members and visitors and please note, entering the competitions is not compulsory or even very serious. They're just a bit of friendly fun. All we ask is that you bring your own mug for a cup of tea or coffee.

We hope everyone has a lovely summer and look forward to seeing you in September.

Dorothy Goss dotgoss53@gmail.com

‘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.



All Souls Church Guild

Let Us Build A House



Although the Guild is currently on a Summer Break work is ongoing in preparing the Programme for the 2026 – 2027 Session and the 3rd and final Theme of “Beyond the Walls”.

Diary dates.

Saturday 22 August - Coffee Morning in the Lowson 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 edition.

Sunday 20 September – Guild Rededication Service during Morning Worship at All Souls

Very Best wishes *Linda Stewart Minute Secretary*



ALL SOULS CHURCH GUILD
Charity No: SC 002417

COFFEE MORNING

In aid of Guild Funds

SATURDAY 22 August
10 am – 11.30 am

@
LOWSON MEMORIAL CHURCH HALL

Adults £4.00

Tickets for sale at door or at Lowson Lunch Club 20 August

*Raffle *Home Baking *Gifts

Letham Gardening Club

The gardening club starts for the 2026/27 season on Tuesday 8th September at 7.30 pm in the Bowling Club, with a talk on the Broughty Ferry Rock Garden by Ann Taylor.

There is a full programme arranged each month from September 2026 to April 2027

Come along and bring a friend.

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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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