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KARAIL

Crail and Kingsbarns Parish Magazine



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THE PARISHES OF CRAIL AND KINGSBARN

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Cover	A pulpit fall made by children at the summer 'Jam Club'	

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The next issue of Karail will be FEBRUARY 2015
Copy for the magazine to the editor by 11th January at the latest please



Dear Friends

I write this letter in the wake of the Referendum. It's been a bit of a roller coaster these past few weeks in more ways than one. As well as what's going on in our own families, we've all shared one roller coaster ride together; the final run-up to the Scottish Referendum with the debates, the interviews, and, at a closer level, the discussions within families, among friends, some agreeing with each other, some not.

The distress caused within a family when one member votes differently from the rest – I'll never speak to you again, nor anyone I know who has not shared my point of view. The adrenalin surge as the polling places opened, the eager anticipation on both sides as the votes were counted.

And finally the result. The voice of the people of Scotland was heard. Jubilation on one side, disappointment on the other. And now the question – where do we go from here? But let's remember the result was not a result for the status quo. Along with that result there is still a journey to be made, there are still uncharted waters as a new raft of measures has been promised.

There are many who think that the referendum was unnecessary, a waste of time and money, it was obvious what the result would be. However, I believe it was essential. The people of Scotland needed to be heard. There is an incredible amount of positive and creative energy about. Everyone, including those too young to vote, has engaged at some level or another with what it means for them to live in Scotland and how they would like to see Scotland move forward. Discussions have taken place where they wouldn't necessarily have done so in the past. Now, we need to harness that passionate energy from both sides for the betterment of our country as we move forward together into the unknown. And it won't be easy, we have to reconcile our differences, come back together as one people, rather than as a divided nation. But our passion for our country is our common goal.

I am reminded of the story of the Exodus when the Israelites left Egypt in search of the Promised Land. On their journey some of them started to make murmurings against Aaron and Moses and consequently against God – they would almost have preferred to have met their fate in Egypt rather than step out on this journey. But God forged a relationship with the people that called them to trust God to provide for their every need, not just for today, but for tomorrow as well. The manna was sent despite those murmurings. Yet God does not treat them as the world would. He is gracious in a way that surprises us. Manna for us is symbolic of God's care. Manna from God, in whatever form it takes in our daily lives, is God's promise to provide for us; it is up to us to gather the manna during the days it is given and to trust God to give us manna during the days of rest as well.

God will provide for our journey together – for all of us, no exceptions, everyone is included no matter whichever way we voted – there is no longer us and them, only us - and if the train becomes full, then extra carriages are provided automatically. In true Christian Spirit, let us put our differences behind us, let us embrace our families and friends, let's move forward together.

I want to finish with this 'Quakerism' which comes from the 1916 London meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. *'True unity may be found under great apparent differences. This unity is spiritual, it expresses itself in many ways, and we need divine insight that we may recognise its working. We need forbearance, sympathy and love, in order that, while remaining loyal to the truth as it comes to us, we may move forward with others to a larger and richer experience and expression of the will of God.'*

May we find this kind of unity in our church, our community and in our nation. Wishing you God's blessing. Your Minister and friend, Ann.

Letters to the Editor

British Red Cross

Thank you so much for your generous and kind donation of £687.30 to the British Red Cross. It sounds like the coffee morning was a great success; to raise such a massive amount of money in one morning is amazing! This will really make a huge difference in our efforts to help vulnerable people in crisis.

Your support means we can continue to respond immediately to major emergencies both at home in the local community and overseas. In East Scotland, our volunteers continue to provide a range of services, including support in emergencies, event first aid, the short-term loan of mobility aids such as wheelchairs and a befriending service to those who may be located in rural areas.

On behalf of all the people we will be able to help, thank you for all your support and effort in ensuring that fundraising is a continued success in East Scotland.

You really have made a huge difference to our work. Thanks a million.

Lisa Dove, Senior Community Fundraiser, East Scotland.

The Trustees of the recently founded **Helen Main Charitable Trust**, charity number SC044545, invite applications for grants from the Trust. The Trust has been established to benefit the residents and community in general in Crail and the East Neuk of Fife. If you are involved in a project which you consider would be appropriate for the Trust to support, to request an application form please contact

Lynn Melville
Murray Donald Solicitors
Kinburn Castle, St Andrews
Fife KY16 9DR
01334 477107
imelville@murraydonald.co.uk

Crail Church Choir.

We are looking for more singers to join the choir. Regular churchgoers will have noticed our numbers are small and there are some Sundays where we do not have enough people to sing an introit and anthem. If you or someone you know would be interested in joining us, please let myself or a choir member know. **Laura Malcolm, Organist and Choir Director**



'KARAIL' magazine – envelopes

It's that time of year again when we ask for your support to help cover the cost of printing this parish magazine. With the building of more houses, 1300 copies of each edition (in February, June and October) are now produced and distributed free of charge to households in Crail and Kingsbarns. We are most grateful to the local businesses featuring on front covers and already making donations towards the cost – but there is always a shortfall. If you have enjoyed reading the magazine and would like to help, please use the enclosed envelope, which can be left at the Manse, the churches in Crail and Kingsbarns and also at the Post Office in Crail. *Thank you.*

You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake.

Bob Hope

Parish Register (*denotes Kingsbarns)

Baptisms

8 June
14 September

Suffer the little children to come unto me

Lewis Scott Ireland, Crail
Christian James Mowbray, Crail

Marriages

23 August

Whom God hath joined

Sarah Long and Alex Miller, Kent

Deaths

*15 May
1 June
2 June
23 June
4 July
28 July
4 September

I am the Resurrection and the Life said the Lord

James Wallace, Bells' Wynd
Annie Leitch, L/O West Green.
William G Dorward, Bow Butts.
Catherine (Kitty) Smith, L/O Balcomie Road
Beryl Jones, Albany Court.
John R Culverwell, Langhouse Green.
William Bissett, High Street.

Ron & Isobel – au revoir

Ron and Isobel Campbell are pictured here after being presented with an inscribed 'Crail Pottery' plate, as they prepared to move from Crail to their new home.

They will be missed by the many friends they made here – especially in the church, the 'horti' and the bowling club.

Ron and Isobel have moved close by Carnoustie and to an area that will be nearer to members of their family.

We wish them great happiness and hope that they will remember to visit us from time to time - *ed*



*May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be ever at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face and the rain fall softly on your fields.
And until we meet again, may God hold you in the hollow of his hand.*

Irish Blessing

News & Information - KINGSBARNs

Church Open Day, Sunday 3rd August - with afternoon tea and music. It is some time since the Church had an 'Open' event and this was well supported both by locals and visitors, with much interest being shown in the well-researched and presented information leaflet available. It is hoped to include open days of this type in future years.

Beach Barbecue and Hymn Singing, Sunday 10th August. Unfortunately due to the weather (one of the few wet days this summer) it was not possible to hold this at the beach but, thanks to Jimmy Aird's Plan B, the barbecue was set-up outside the church adjacent to the vestry door. Whilst the barbecue was being prepared hymn singing took place in church, after which everyone went to the vestry to enjoy the barbecue food. The hot food was very welcome and greatly appreciated on such a wet afternoon and, irrespective of the weather, there was a very good turnout. Very special thanks must go to Jimmy Aird, who provided the barbecue plus the meat items and who sat outside in the rain cooking all the food with just a metal canopy for protection. Well done Jimmy.

Open Doors Day, Sunday 7 September. This is the first time Kingsbarns Church has taken part in the annual Fife Open Doors programme. The Church was beautifully and effectively decorated by some of our members who are very talented in floral art. Afternoon teas were provided, favourite hymns plus requests were played and a quiz was composed. This was made up of epitaphs, plus other information to be found on headstones in the Churchyard and which had visitors looking around with happily puzzled faces! Overall the whole event proved to be very successful with a total of 77 visitors recorded - which is excellent, especially in view of the number of other venues in the surrounding area open on that day. A survey form for visitors to complete (produced by Open Doors organisers) resulted in 'excellent' feedback being received.

Together these three events resulted in £361.55 being raised for church funds - and for which the Kirk Session and members are most grateful. However, thanks are due in no small measure, to **all** who helped in any way to make

the events happen. To everyone who came along and to everyone who supported us, we are most grateful - thank you so much.

Karail Magazine. The Kirk Session would like to thank all in Kingsbarns Parish who have donated towards the cost of Karail. This is greatly appreciated.

East Neuk Friends of CHAS

Sunday 20th July saw the 10th 'Hidden Gardens of Kingsbarns' take place. To the great relief of the organisers the weather forecast was wrong as the rain it had promised turned out to be a pleasant and warm summer's afternoon. There was an excellent attendance at the gardens which opened and those gardens providing food and refreshments were very busy from start to finish. A Gardens Quiz was compiled and the winner was Rev John Cubie, St Andrews. The event raised the excellent sum of £2150 and the organisers are very grateful to everyone who attended and to all who opened their gardens, provided food & refreshment, toilet facilities and who helped in any way at all.

The Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday 25th October in Kingsbarns Memorial Hall from 10 am to 12 noon. Please keep this date free.

Kingsbarns Flower Show

The day of the annual Flower Show turned out to be very windy which, unfortunately, had an effect on some classes, particularly cut flowers, but the standard of entries was still very high. The other sections and classes were well-supported, producing exhibits of excellent quality. However special mention must be made of the large number of entries in the Children's Section. It was heartening to see such great efforts by the children and the excellent quality of their entries. The judges must have had a really difficult job. Keep it up. The weather also made things difficult for those involved in serving teas as it was not possible to serve any teas outside and the space inside is very limited. However the Committee still produced teas of an excellent standard in the cramped conditions.

Many thanks to the Committee, to exhibitors and to supporters for a wonderful show. Congratulations to all those who

won prizes - and to those who didn't there's always next year! The AGM will be held on

Wednesday 5th November in the Kingsbarns Memorial Hall at 7.15 pm.

Other activities

'Games for All' on Mondays in the Memorial Hall have already commenced as well as the 'Rural and Ladies Work Party' monthly Meetings. Check 'Dates for your Diary' for details. New and returning members will be welcome.

Kingsbarns School

This year is jam-packed with fun adventures. With 'Lagganlia' coming up as well as the 'highland adventure' the P7's can't wait! We have also been doing Eco every Monday afternoon with Dr and Mrs Cobb. Trekking to the beach and Cambo has been helping us build our team-work skills. The new p1's are settling in nicely and are enjoying our beach and Cambo visits. We will be participating in the Dairsy Dash on the 24th of September and we are really looking forward to it! We have started recorder again and can't wait to brush up on our music.

My school days were the happiest days of my life; which should give you some indication of the misery I've endured over the past twenty-five years.

Paul Merton

News & Information – CRAIL



Mr William G Dorward

At a service in Crail Church in June we said goodbye to Bill Dorward aged 79. Born in Crail he attended Crail Primary School and Waid Academy, before leaving at fifteen to work on the family farm. He met Agnes at the 'Young Farmers', romance blossomed and they were married at Cameron Kirk in 1961. They were blessed with three daughters, Ali, Helen and Kate. In due course Bill took over the family farm, expanding it greatly until he sold it in 1990 and retired to Temple Crescent and then to Bow Butts.

Bill was a keen walker and bird watcher. An accomplished photographer, he would take many slides recording his journeys and friends will recall his excellent illustrated talks. Bill was devoted to his family, doting on his six grandchildren - Joanne, Gillian, Louise, Kerry, Liam and Callum.

Very involved with local affairs, Bill was instrumental in having the 'hen's ladder' reinstated. He will be remembered too as a great supporter of Crail Museum, being Chairman of the Board of Trustees for several years. Like many in Crail, he was a keen golfer and was a past captain of Crail Golfing Society.

A man of strong Christian faith, Bill played a large part in the church, latterly as an Elder. Although over recent years not enjoying the best of health, Bill remained positive and uncomplaining; a highly respected man giving quiet inspiration to many.

A human life is a story told by God.

Hans Christian Andersen



A Gold Star!

Crail Primary School and Nursery has been praised by Her Majesty's Inspectors for Education (HMIe). The report highlights a number of key strengths within the school including a positive ethos, which creates a sense of belonging for every child, the variety of learning experiences for the children, the engagement of parents and partners in children's learning and the teamwork within the school staff. *Acting Headteacher, Nicola Wallace said: 'We are delighted with our HMIe report. The inspection team noted a number of strengths about the school and we are very pleased that they noted the strong and supportive relationships across the school. The staff and children work very hard at Crail Primary and it is lovely to have recognition of this. We are aware of the areas for development within the school and these will be a priority for the coming session.'*

Here are contributions from the children - about the Commonwealth games, which was their first topic this term, some writing from P6/7 about War Horse, which is the new class text for studying WW1 as a whole school topic - and a limerick from P1/2 about school! *I am sorry that space constraint meant we were unable to include the full and very good articles from the pupils – only extracts I am afraid - ed*

When Albert found out that the war was declared a big hubbub started in the town. However, Joey didn't mind. Suddenly, the next morning the army came to the door and said "Good morning, we need your horse for war" but Albert overheard the conversation and ran down the stairs and wouldn't let them take Joey. He begged and begged all morning, but then father came down stairs and talked to Albert and tried to calm him down. Albert was surprised by how nice his father was being.....**By Cameron Watson**

.....For the next few days all I can recall was waking up to my oats and mush already there and lying on the dirtied straw, it's cleaner absent. I don't think Albert wanted to look me in the eye or maybe for me not to see him in his state. All I knew was that he or another being went in and out like a phantom, Night in, night out. One night there was no nourishment from Albert and I was sure he was attending the funeral. Eventually we heard from Albert. He came in silently, his head bowed. There was a few minutes of silence, And then he spoke. **By Eva Smith.**

It's before the swimming race, I feel nervous because my whole country is counting on me. The crowd is cheering me on, but that doesn't help much. I'm also really excited, this is what I've been training for. My whole family is in the crowd cheering me on. Suddenly all the cameras are pointing at me as I am introduced. The person in charge says step up to your podiums, I do so. Ready, steady.....

GO!!!!!!

By Katie Tweedie

There once was a school in Crail, Near the sea where many did sail.
Children eager to learn, Compete for swift, dolphin and tern,
At the MUGA come sun, snow or hail.

.....When I was out the door I heard the sound of at least forty guns aiming and priming but to my great confusion there was a flash in the sky and all of a sudden there was a strange object hovering in the sky: it was like a giant dodecahedron, it looked to be made of silver and it had thousands of flashing lights in every colour I could imagine and more. It was easily twice as big as the house.....**By Lucas Burt**

I am Hannah Riley and the race is just about to start. I feel very excited and I have butterflies in my tummy! I am very nervous because I will be very disappointed if I don't win a medal. My whole family is in the crowd and I don't want to let them down by losing. I am extremely worried because the other competitors look really tough but I think I can beat them!.....**by Mirren Bell**

.....and yes I was there. I stood there gasping for breath. I was so tired that I only just heard who had won....It was me! I was so happy I could barely stand still. I took my medal shakily. It felt fantastic to have won. Even though I felt faint I was still overcome with joy. My mum came over and gave me a hug. **By Tabby Cresswell**

I have comforting news for the good folk of Crail. As we descend all too quickly into winter I can reveal that Crail Folk Club's autumn programme is the best yet. Last year we booked Ontario trio, 'My Sweet Patootie' (a term of endearment in Canada apparently), and were taken aback by the show they gave, and the audience they attracted. No surprise then that we jumped at the chance of an early return visit on October 9th (please note that this date was originally scheduled as a Singers Night. October is a month of returners as we also have Crail favourite, Flossie Malavialle from Nimes via Darlington. It is a little while since Flossie played at the folk club but, in the meantime, she has sold out the Community Hall twice as part of Crail Festival. The first concert was entirely in French with the songs of Edith Piaf and Jaques Brel; the second a cabaret show called Enchanté. Her humour and interpretations of great songs will ensure a sell out.

Talking of sell outs November sees one of the most celebrated of Scottish performers visit the club - Rab Noakes. Rab worked with the late Gerry Rafferty and Stealers Wheel, and has recently toured as a duo with Barbara Dickson. Our year ends with a *free!* Christmas party (crackers and mince pies included in that price - how do they do it?), and plans in place for how to be even better in 2015.

Thanks to everyone for their support. Full Details can be had from the club website: (www.craillfolkclub.org.uk) or from *Tony Kingsbury on 01333 450572 (and more in 'Dates for your diary')*

Crail Badminton Club meets on Tuesdays 7 – 10 pm in the Community Hall with the new season having started on Tuesday 30th September. New members are very welcome and *For more information please telephone Anne Orr on 07769156003*



Scottish Country Dancing

There is Scottish country dancing every Wednesday from October to March in Crail Town Hall at 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm. All are welcome. *Further information from Elspeth Hunter 451442.*

Anstruther Rotary Club

Would like to thank everyone who took part or helped in our 2014 coastal path charity walk. Started in **2010**, that first walk raised £8,000 and each year since has seen more money raised by walkers for a huge range of charities and good causes.

£16,775 was the amazing number this year, which brings the total raised over the last five years to £65,877. Fantastic! It is a great outcome and a wonderful tribute to everyone who takes part and to their supporters as well. **THANK YOU.**

All money raised is donated to registered charities. Each walker decides which charities they want to support – often for very personal reasons. 80% of money raised goes to those choices, with the other 20% going to charities chosen by Anstruther Rotary - which for 2014 are: Mary's Meals, Maggie's Centre, Prostate Scotland and Erskine.

Entry fees, together with financial sponsorship and advertising from local businesses, help cover the cost of organizing the walk. Importantly, it enables us to pass on all sponsorship money to the nominated charities. *Colin Campbell, walk organiser.*





The JAM Holiday Club 2014 – from Mandy Guthrie

This year around thirty-five young excited jammers enjoyed a week of 'Creation' in the Community Hall where paint, glue and enthusiasm were all in abundance! The children, supported by ten adult helpers and nine junior helpers, as well as some new apprentices in training, learnt about God's wonderful creations including a variety of animals, birds, fish, and of course themselves! There were lots of games (indoor and out), singing, painting, mask making and sticking as well as fairly large numbers of biscuits eaten!

Highlights of the week were a visit from local retired fisherman, Philip Hughes and his fantastic selection of freshly caught sea life and of course a wonderful day trip to Barnsmuir Farm - thank you Alice and Tim. No amount of rain could dampen the children's spirits as they enjoyed adventuring on the tractor and trailer, visiting the animals, courtesy of tour guide Elliot, pony rides and as many strawberries and blackberries as they could eat! Parents, be warned, there may well be a few still lurking in raincoat pockets!

At the end of the week the children were able to show off all their hard work by leading worship at the Sunday service, which was much enjoyed by all. The children retold the story of Creation and gave a wonderful account of their week at the club through songs and artwork displayed throughout the church including fish portholes, whales, a handprint peacock and their beautiful pulpit fall (*pictured on the front cover of this magazine – ed*). Here the children used lots of different fabrics (and as much copydex!) to illustrate day, night, land, sea, animals and fish with a wind turbine to complete the collage. An accumulation of the children's hard work illustrating all that we have to thank God for. The children finished the service with a presentation to Lin Field, who after many years of inspiring our young Jammers, was leaving for pastures new.

Thanks too must go to all of our helpers, who gave up so much of their time, and energy, including members of the Guild who supplied the much appreciated coffee and snacks, we really couldn't have done it without you.



Crail Festival 2014: an impression

From all accounts this year's 30th Anniversary Crail Festival more than exceeded expectations, and the very encouraging, positive feedback amply confirmed that the exciting programme was an outstanding success.

The Art Exhibition, Family Ceilidh, Street Market, all the workshops, variety of children's activities, the Singing Kettle Jungle Party, and the enthralling Music! Music! Music! programme truly had something for everyone and attendances were gratifyingly high in spite of competition from the wonderful Commonwealth Games.

One of our key objectives is to encourage young talent and this was achieved at the Art Exhibition with students from Waid Academy displaying their very original work, with the

memorable appearance of Charlotte Rowan, from Alloa, a dazzling, compelling classical violinist and also the moving production of *Madame Butterfly* by Opera Bohemia.

My Australian visitors who attended 8 of the evening performances commented "We loved every single event we attended. It truly was entertaining and in some cases, inspiring!" Praise indeed!

Last year there were 2554 putting rounds on the putting green manned by volunteers, and this year we achieved 2719 rounds in spite of heavy rain in the final week.

The Crail Festival Committee can only express our sincere thanks to our Friends, Sponsors, Volunteers, and everyone who attended the events. Thoughts are already turning to 2015!
- *Ronald Sandford*

Crail Museum *from Jonathan Armitage.*

Crail Museum has had a successful year, with visitor numbers up on 2013 despite a later Easter opening. The special exhibition on 'Crail in World War 1' was very well received in this centenary year of the start of that conflict. The year has also seen our exhibitions on the 'Royal Burgh' and the 'Airfield' updated.

The fundraising team has been busy and activity included a grand raffle with a 1st prize of £100 and many other excellent prizes from local sponsors. The winners were drawn at the 'Wine & Cheese' on Friday 10th October.

We are always delighted to hear from visitors just how very well respected and appreciated the museum is; many visitors returning repeatedly because they know new special exhibitions are mounted each year. Crail Museum has many artefacts and historical records, but it would be nothing without all the volunteers who put on the exhibitions, look after the artefacts and maintain the building.

Volunteers form two main groups. Firstly are the 'curatorial' or backroom volunteers, who work on artefacts, put on exhibitions, run the shop, maintain the building and cover administration. Others form the 'front-of-house' team, there when the Museum is open to help and guide visitors with their enquiries. Many of our volunteers enjoy the variety of being involved with both kinds of work.

The Museum does need more volunteers with a range of skills to keep the Museum as good as it is. If you have time available during the winter, would you be interested in helping with the 'backroom' activities? We would be very pleased to hear from anyone interested in helping care for paintings, cataloguing, photography, advertising, producing graphics for displays and pamphlets, IT, DIY – or just with an interest in Crail's history or doing something in the Museum. There are training courses, run for example by Museums, Galleries Scotland, which volunteers often find of interest.

In summer the greatest need is 'front-of-house'. If you wonder what to do and wish you could be meeting people - then volunteering is for you! The Museum is open daily during Easter week, then weekends and public holidays until the end of May and daily from the beginning of June to the end of September. Volunteers choose to do duties with a frequency to suit themselves. There are always two volunteers on duty, one in the shop and one in the remainder of the Museum, so you will never be on your own.

Do get in touch. The Museum will be open during three weekends before Christmas (see Dates for your Diary), or email us: (office@crailmuseum.org.uk). - Hon. Curator is Sue Bradman

The Guild

The Guild meets fortnightly, on a Thursday afternoon at 2.15 pm, usually in the Kirk Hall. A variety of speakers, who are topical, thought provoking and entertaining contribute to our programme, throughout the session (see 'dates for your diary'). Fund-raising for charities is a key theme and we enjoy tea, coffee, friendship and chatter.

The Guild is open to all, come and join us. *Janice Nelson and Jan Diggelman*

The Good Companions Club – Crail Church

Everyone is welcome to come for tea, coffee, biscuits and companionship. On the first Tuesday of every month in Crail Kirk Hall 1.30 – 3.30 pm. Anyone needing a lift *please phone Stella 01333-451629 or Jim 01333-451986*

There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship.
Thomas Aquinas

The Monday Club

The Monday Club meets every Monday at 2.15 pm in Crail Community Hall. Everyone is welcome to join us. For the autumn programme see 'dates for your diary' and for more information – *please contact Caroleen 451173.*

Christmas Trees

Mr Jimmy Aird tells me that we can again all look forward to Christmas trees in Crail and Kingsbarns. For Kingsbarns the date and time to light up the tree has still to be decided, but for Crail the action will take place the 5th and 6th December

On the 5th, around 1.00 pm, Crail school pupils will take on the task of decorating the tree – all helped along with pancakes, jam, hot chocolate and juice – perhaps some singing too!

The 6th will see the Grand Lighting Ceremony at about 4.30 pm

All donations and contributions will again be sent to the 'Sick Kids' in Edinburgh - *ed*



Royal British Legion

CHRISTMAS FAIR – Saturday 13th December in Crail Legion Hall
2.00 pm **AFTERNOON TEA**

In aid of

- Combat Stress
- The Gurkhas
- Erskine Hospital



Stewardship

In the last issue of 'Karail' we heard from Crail Session Clerk, Sandy Nelson, in an article 'Planning for the Future'. Here he talks briefly about the 'Stewardship' programme of the Church of Scotland.

As background I would like to mention that the Church of Scotland introduced a National Stewardship Programme in 2011; the aim being to encourage congregations to think about how its members use their time, talents and money in serving God. Particularly how people cultivate their gifts, share them and return them to God with increase. Whilst financial matters are always in mind, I think it is important to say that stewardship is not just about raising money to support the local and national Church, it is about providing opportunities for congregations, throughout Scotland, to respond to the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Stewardship is based on the biblical principles of Christian giving, in response to the generous giving of God. The Kirk Sessions in Crail and Kingsbarns have agreed to work with Sandra Holt, one of the Church of Scotland's five Stewardship Consultants, to develop a stewardship programme that considers the current and, especially, the future needs of our congregations - to make sure that support continues to be there for both parishes when needed and as needs change.

As a start, and following an initial discussion meeting with Sandra, a planning group including people of both congregations has been formed. Its members will shortly start work to identify opportunities that exist to increase stewardship activity, with the aim of developing a programme of practical work that should be underway early in 2015.

Regular updates on progress will be provided and will be included in future issues of this magazine.
Sandy Nelson

WW1 Centenary

100 years ago, on the 28th June 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was assassinated in Sarajevo. The 28th July saw the first shots fired in the catastrophe we call the Great War. Britain declared war on Germany on the 4th August 1914 and entered a conflict that was to last until 11th November 1918.

This year the Royal British Legion in Crail remembered those events with a wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial gates, and also in the dedication of a bench in Victoria Park to commemorate all those who fought in the 1914 – 1918 war.

The photographs record Mrs Jenny Brett laying a wreath at the gates, with Minister Rev. Dr Ann Allison conducting the service and Commander David Hobbs, MBE, reading out the names of those from Crail who were lost in the conflict. Bottom row, Rev. Allison is seen dedicating the bench and then enjoying a relaxing moment with Mrs Jenny Brett.



Presented By
The Royal British Legion
Crail Branch in 2014
To Commemorate
All those who fought in the
(1914 – 1918) War



**The lazy mist hangs from the brow of the hill,
Concealing the course of the dark-winding rill;
How languid the scenes, late so sprightly, appear!
As Autumn to Winter resigns the pale year.**
Robert Burns 1788

Walking past the memorial gates and up the path to Crail church leads under the horse chestnut trees with, at this season, their spiky green shells and a treasure of shiny brown ‘conkers’.

Mentioned in the Bible, the tree was introduced to Britain from the Balkans in the late 16th century; the National Woodland Inventory estimating there are now around 470,000 horse chestnut trees in Britain, of which Scotland has 29,000.

‘Conkers’ have been carried in the pocket to help prevent piles and rheumatism, and used in wardrobes to keep away moths. According to a letter which appeared in the Daily Telegraph, conkers are an effective way to keep spiders out of the house: conkers, placed in the corners of a room and behind pieces of furniture, reduce the number of spiders venturing into the room. However, over a period, the conkers dry up and lose their efficacy.

But of course the best-known use of the horse chestnut is the game of **Conkers**. It seems to have evolved from a game called ‘conquerors’, which was originally played with snail (conch) shells. A variant of the game was later played with hazelnuts, on strings. By the 20th century these earlier games had almost universally been replaced by the version we now know using horse chestnuts.

There are regional variations in the rules of the game and it has also been known by different names. In parts of the Midlands around Worcestershire it was known as ‘oblonker’ and play was accompanied by such rhymes as ‘Obli, obli, onker, my first conker (conquer)’.

A very different and moving story is that of the horse chestnut known as the Anne Frank Tree in the centre of Amsterdam. She mentioned it in her diary and it survived until August 2010, when a heavy wind blew it over. It was thought to be 150 – 170 years old when it fell. Eleven young specimens, grown from seeds of this tree, were transported to the USA. After a long quarantine in Indianapolis, each tree was shipped off to a new home including the 9/11 Memorial Park, Little Rock, and two Holocaust Centres. A small side shoot has now been seen to be growing from the original stump.

Come and Join the Celebration a Christmas of Song!

Carol singing around the village in Kingsbarns is planned for the 16th December – meet at 6 pm in the square (or defer to the 18th if the weather is bad!!)

Crail Church has its traditional choir service of lessons and carols on Sunday evening 21st December at 6.30 pm. To be able to sing a varied selection of carols we would love to boost our numbers so, if you would like to join us please speak to any choir member, to me or to the minister. An ability to read music is helpful but NOT essential – *Laura Malcolm*.

Also in Crail, the **Watchnight Service** will have a familiar approach with informal carol singing from 11 pm, and the service proper starting at 11.30 pm.

I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round, as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys.

Charles Dickens



Dates for your diary

The best thing about the future
is that it comes
one day at a time
Abraham Lincoln

October

- 2 Thursday Kingsbarns Ladies Work Party Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7 pm
5 Sunday Guild Dedication Service, Crail Church, 11.15 am
5 Sunday Harvest Thanksgiving, Kingsbarns Church, 9.45 am and Harvest Songs of Praise, Joint service with Crail, 4 pm
6 Monday Monday Club, 'The History of May Island', Jimmy Aird, Community Hall 2.15 pm
9 Thursday Guild meeting, Rev Kenny 'Laughter is the best medicine' Kirk Hall, 2.15 pm
9 Thursday Crail Folk Club, Crail Town Hall, Canadian trio 'My Sweet Patootie', 8.00 pm
10 Friday Crail Museum Grand Raffle draw at Wine & Cheese, Legion Hall, 7.30 pm. All welcome
13 Monday Monday Club, 'Hawaii', Eldon Zuill, Community Hall 2.15 pm
18 Saturday Crail Museum open – also for Christmas Shopping 11 am – 4 pm
19 Sunday Crail Museum open – also for Christmas Shopping 1 pm – 4 pm
20 Monday Monday Club, 'Bank Notes', Martin Hepworth, Community Hall 2.15 pm
21 Tuesday Kingsbarns SWRI Monthly Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7.30 pm. *Please note change of date*
23 Thursday Guild meeting, David Roberts 'SSPCA' Kirk Hall 2.15 pm
23 Thursday Crail Folk Club, Crail Town Hall, Flossie Malavialle, 8.00 pm
26 Sunday Service of Holy Communion, Kingsbarns Church, 9.45 am
26 Sunday Service of Holy Communion, Crail Church, 11.15 am and at 2.30 pm in the Kirk Hall with refreshments afterwards
27 Monday Monday Club, 'Gannets of Bass Rock', Prof. Christopher Smout, Community Hall 2.15 pm

November

- 3 Monday Monday Club, 'Northerns Lights', Andy Johnson, Community Hall 2.15 pm
5 Wednesday Kingsbarns Flower Show AGM, Memorial Hall, 7.15 pm
6 Thursday Guild meeting, Fiona Guthrie 'Crossreach Heart for Art', Kirk Hall, 2.15 pm
6 Thursday Kingsbarns Ladies Work Party AGM, Memorial Hall, 7 pm
9 Sunday Service of Remembrance, 10.50 am at Crail Church gates, then 11.15 in church
9 Sunday Service of Remembrance, Kingsbarns Church, 9.45am
10 Monday Monday Club, 'Remembrance', Commodore R Sandford, Community Hall 2.15 pm
13 Thursday Crail Folk Club, Crail Town Hall, Rab Noakes, 8.00 pm
15 Saturday Guild Coffee Morning, Kirk Hall, 10.00 am – 12 Noon
17 Monday Monday Club, 'Sing-a-long', Anstruther Rotary choir, Community Hall 2.15 pm
19 Wednesday Kingsbarns SWRI Business Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7.30 pm
20 Thursday Guild meeting, 'Flower decorations for Christmas', Kirk Hall, 2.15 pm
24 Monday Monday Club, 'Wit of the Scots', John Winter, Community Hall 2.15 pm
27 Thursday Crail Folk Club, Crail Singers Night, 8.00 pm
27 Thursday Kingsbarns Ladies Work Party, Memorial Hall, 7pm
29 Saturday Crail Museum open – also for Christmas Shopping 11 am – 4 pm
30 Sunday Annual Memorial Service, 2.30 pm with refreshments in the Kirk Hall afterwards
30 Sunday Crail Museum open – also for Christmas Shopping 1 pm – 4 pm

December

- 1 Monday Monday Club, 'Children's Christmas', songs & wildlife quiz, Deirdre Munro, school 2.15 pm
4 Thursday Guild meeting, 'Kerriey Reich – Quarriers', Kirk Hall, 2.15 pm
8 Monday Monday Club, 'Party', Irene Ford, Cathie Murray, Adam Legg, Community Hall 2 pm

- 6 Saturday Kingsbarns Ladies' Work Party Christmas Fayre. Memorial Hall, 10 am – 12 noon
 6 Saturday Crail Museum open – also for Christmas Shopping 11 am – 4 pm
 7 Sunday Crail Museum open – also for Christmas Shopping 1 pm – 4 pm
 7 Sunday Gift Service, 11.15 am
 9 Tuesday Guild Christmas Lunch, Crail Golf Club, Betty Kitching entertains
 11 Thursday Crail Folk Club, Crail Town Hall, Christmas Party, 8.00 pm
 13 Saturday Royal British Legion, Afternoon Tea, Legion Hall, 2.00 pm
 14 Sunday Christingle Service, 6.00 pm
 16 Tuesday Carol singing round village, Kingsbarns. Meet at Square, 6 pm. After-singing refreshments at venue to be arranged. If bad weather postpone till Thursday 18th
 Check Church notices & intimations nearer time.
 17 Wednesday Crail Primary School service, Crail Church, 6.00 pm
 20 Saturday MacMillan Coffee Morning with Music, Memorial Hall, Kingsbarns, 10am – 12noon
 21 Sunday Nativity Service, 11.15 am
 21 Sunday Choir Service of Carols and Lessons, 6.30 pm
 24 Wednesday Crail Watchnight service. Carols from 11 pm with service starting at 11.30 pm.
 24 Wednesday Kingsbarns, Carol Singing round Christmas tree in Square, 7 pm (if bad weather in Church) followed by Christmas Eve service at 8 pm
 25 Thursday Christmas Day Service 11.15 am
 29 Monday Crail Museum shop SALE, 11 am – 4 pm
 30 Tuesday Crail Museum shop SALE, 11 am – 4 pm

January 2015

- 8 Tuesday Guild meeting, 'Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance', Kirk Hall 2.15 pm
 12 Monday Monday Club, 'Cambo Festivals', Lady Catherine Erskine, Community Hall 2.15 pm
 21 Wednesday Kingsbarns SWRI Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7.30 pm
 22 Thursday Guild meeting, 'A Burns Celebration' Kirk Hall, 2.15 pm

February

- 5 Thursday Guild meeting, 'Memories of Moscow, Marjory Richardson, Kirk Hall, 2.15 pm
 5 Thursday Kingsbarns Ladies' Work Party Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7pm
 18 Wednesday Kingsbarns SWRI Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
 19 Thursday Guild meeting, 'Tale of two cities' Commodore Sandford OBE, Kirk Hall, 2.15 pm
 22 Sunday Holy Communion 11.15 am

March

- 5 Thursday Guild meeting, 'Hearing Loss' Malaika Rose, Kirk Hall 2.15 pm
 5 Thursday Kingsbarns Ladies' Work Party Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7 pm
 6 Friday World Day of Prayer, Holy Trinity Church
 18 Wednesday Kingsbarns SWRI Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7.30 pm
 19 Thursday Guild meeting, 'Senior Citizens Legal Advice', Hazel Johnstone, Kirk Hall, 2.15 pm

April

- 2 Thursday Guild meeting, 'A Little Light Relief', Judith Hutton, Crail Church, 2.15 pm
 2 Thursday Kingsbarns Ladies' Work Party Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7 pm
 15 Wednesday Kingsbarns SWRI Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7.30 pm
 16 Thursday Guild meeting, 'Swilcan Singers' Crail Church, 2.15 pm

May

- 14 Thursday Guild Summer Outing
 20 Wednesday Kingsbarns SWRI Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7.30 pm
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