

From The Manse

Fresh Expressions of Church

You've heard me mention Fresh Expressions, it's all the rage in the Church of Scotland at the moment and there is an excellent article in the August Life and Work.

What is Fresh Expressions?

“A **fresh expression of church** is a new form of church for a fast-changing world that serves those outside the existing church, listens to people and enters their culture, makes discipleship a priority and intentionally forms Christian community.”

We realise that alongside the faithful folk we meet in Church each Sunday there are more people in every community across the land who just don't feel connected to their local church. Not just one or two generations but there are families where children, parents and grandparents have no experience of church.

The idea for *Fresh Expressions* began in a partnership between the Church of England and Methodist Church in 2003 and gradually other denominations including the Church of Scotland have joined forces to look for ways to share the Word of God more widely in every community in the land.

Remember the prime directive: Jesus said, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” Sometimes we forget that mission is at the heart of the Church of Scotland.

Did you know that it is hoped every parish in the Church of Scotland will have established a Fresh Expression of Church by 2020?

The thought of evangelising may make us feel uncomfortable but Fresh Expressions is different. First and foremost Fresh Expressions is about finding ways to share our love for God by sharing God's love with people around us and where they are not by shoe-horning them into where we are. The prime directive is not to fill a church building at 11 o'clock on a Sunday morning. The prime directive is to share God's love wherever people are and those Fresh Expressions of Church may take new forms.

For those who were at the General Assembly you will remember Rev Dr Grant Barclay who chaired the Commission of Assembly report, he is a parish minister in Kilmarnock and in the August article describes his experience of Fresh Expressions. His Parish began with Messy Church then a *Coffee Shop*, a partnership with a local high school, then there was 'A Pie, a Pint and a Parable' and lastly the unsuccessful trial was a Monday Kitchen where folk came and cooked and ate lunch together.

The Fresh Expressions website gives many examples of Christians asking themselves how they could share God's love and lovingly serve their community and among the different answers there was - holding beach picnics, dads' curry nights and mums' pamper evenings for parents with young families; a language café for women from ethnic minority communities; initiatives with walkers, people playing sport and unemployed people; and a knitting group. The answer will be tailored to fit the needs and situation in each community.

Importantly, the exercise is to share God's love. The church building is not the focus. The focus is to encourage and enliven, renew and grow the body of Christ – the people. (continued over)



I love 11 o'clock Sunday Morning Worship and would never want to lose what is familiar and comfortable to me but with *Fresh Expressions* we keep our traditions safe while having the freedom to reach out to people where they are and where they are comfortable and develop new ways of worshipping which will be meaningful for them.

There isn't a café in East Mainland we could have a Sit n'Sip (Coffee morning or Tea afternoon) once a month not as a fundraiser but a way to bring folk together for a chat.

Messy Church is not about replacing Sunday School it is an all-inclusive family time when we share a meal and the Word.

We have so many talented musicians of all ages in our community who when their gifts and talents are expressed are praising God – there is something we might develop there.

A craft group: Knit and Natter (Yakin an' Makin) there have been many deep discussions around a table while concentrating on stitching.

Sharing breakfast together and a prayer for the day on the way to work.

Gathering a collection of local photos memories to share with the community over a cuppa.

Or check out Louise's story (freshexpressions.org.uk/stories/kairos) she is a health visitor attached to a GP surgery. Her work brought her into contact with a number of new mothers suffering from post-natal depression. She teamed up with two helpers who lived in the same neighbourhood as many of the mums. In a conversation, the three of them came up with the idea of starting a support group for new mothers. And so they met together in a house in the heart of the neighbourhood and in time the support group evolved into a Christian community.

If you have a moment take a look at Fresh Expressions and knowing your community best do you have suggestions for Fresh Expressions of Church in East Mainland?

The Rev Wilma Johnston

Sunday School

The Sunday School prize-giving was held during the service on 19th June. As usual we had the bouncy castle for some fun before the holidays.





General Assembly 2016 – An Elder’s Perspective

I was honoured to join Rev. Cordukes, Rev. Manners, Rev. McNeish, Rev. Wishart and Elder Mrs Pat Kirkpatrick at the Church of Scotland General Assembly in May 2016.

First timers were invited to attend on Friday 20th May, in the evening to learn what was expected of them and to be shown around the Assembly Halls.

On *Saturday 21st May*, there was the opening ceremony of the General Assembly with all the pomp and ceremony you would expect. It began with the arrival of His Grace, The Lord High Commissioner and the new Moderator for The Church of Scotland, Rt Rev Dr Russell Barr.

After hymns and prayers, the Assembly was suspended for 20 minutes, and at 3.00pm we began to hear reports from various bodies. This lasted until 4.30pm.

At 7.00pm, we assembled to hear the address from the retiring moderator, Rt Rev Dr Angus Morrison, and the presentation of delegates and visitors.

On *Sunday 22nd May* we gathered at 9.30am to attend morning worship at St Giles. After the service I went back to collect the Presbytery of Orkney flag which I had been asked to present at ‘Heart and Soul 2016’ in Princes Street Gardens at 4.00pm. All the flags were presented by a parade of Commissioners in Princes Street Gardens.

This ended a long but enjoyable day.

From *Monday 23rd May*, the Assembly started at 9.30 each morning with Sacrament of Holy Communion and a Church service. After Benediction, we heard;

Reports from Business Committee

Report of the World Mission Council

Report of the Social Care Council

Report of the Panel on Review and Reform

Tuesday 24th May

Constitution of Assembly

Report and Supplementary report of the Church Society Council

Report of the Church of Scotland Guild

Report of the Iona Community Board

At 7.00pm we gathered for ‘The Big Sing 2016’ organised by the Church of Scotland Guild. The hymns were chosen using an online poll via the Guild’s Facebook page and email and were all ‘weel kent’ and beautifully sung.

Wednesday 25th May

Constitution of Assembly

Report of the Ecumenical Relations Committee

Report of the Safeguarding Committee

Report and Supplementary report of the Ministries Council

Thursday 26th May

Constitution of Assembly

Report of the Committee on Chaplains to Her Majesty’s Forces

Report of the Mission and Discipleship Council

Report of the National Youth Assembly Council

Report of the Theological Forum

At 7.00pm, we attended the Beating of the Retreat at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in the presence of The Rt Hon Lord Hope of Craighead, Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

This ended my stay in Edinburgh as I had to be home in Orkney on the Friday.

My week at the Assembly was far more interesting than I could ever have imagined and I recommend any elder who gets the chance to go to grab the opportunity with both hands

Jack McIntosh

(Elder for North Ronaldsay)



Fundraising

The final figure, after costs, for the Savoury Buffet Teas was: £1,147.85

The final figure, after costs, for the East Mainland Show was: £430.78

Bequest

Our church has also been blessed to receive an unexpected but most welcome bequest from the estate of the late Margaret Gorn to the value of £22,239.46

St Andrews School News

As we all prepare for the new school year ahead, it is with pride that I take a look back at our Summer Term at St Andrews School. As usual for St Andrews, it was packed full of trips, activities and events involving the whole community: pupils, parents and staff. We celebrated many sporting achievements, waved good bye with mixed emotions to our Primary sevens and in the midst of all this activity we took part in the commemorations of the Battle of Jutland.

On Tuesday the 31st of May, as commemoration events were taking place at the Cathedral and Lyness, St Andrews held its own remembrance service, one that will not be forgotten for some time. It certainly was a highlight of the school year.

Along with all the schools across Orkney we made the Battle of Jutland and the commemorations a major part

Out of the Life

Also Remembered Mary Scott 23/6/2016
Ned Swannie 24/7/2016

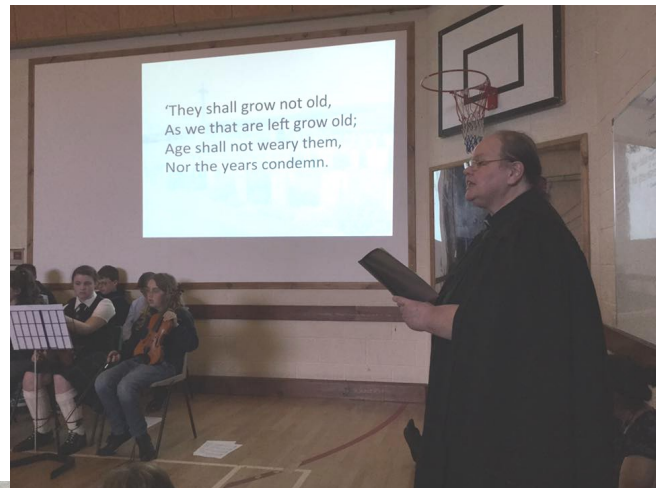
Marriage

Christine Leslie and Vince Harcus in the East Mainland Church 9/7/2016

of our learning through Term 3 and 4. We set ourselves three questions to answer:

- Why should we remember?
- Why is 100 years significant?
- How should we remember?

We had several assemblies and each class rose to the challenge in a variety of ways, from art work, pieces of writing, poetry and prayers to music and songs that captured the period so well.





All this fine work came together in our Remembrance service. We were delighted that Reverend Wilma Johnston was able to lead our act of remembrance.

Our P6 and P7 pupils read out the names of all the service men from the parishes of Toab, Deerness and Holm who lost their lives during the WW1. Reverend Johnston read 'The Tryst' and this was followed by a poignant rendition of 'The Last Post,' played by Alasdair Harvey from KGS.

After these acts of remembrance, we then celebrated in song the lives of the men and women who lived through the period of the First World War. We all enjoyed Cameron Dowell's performance, adding to his busy day, after singing live to the nation, in the morning as part of the official commemorations at the Cathedral. KGS pupils joined our school orchestra to support our school choir, soloists and duets. This included a medley of 'It's a long way to Tipperary/ Moonlight Bay and Pack up your troubles/ Keep the home fires burning.'



We owe a huge thanks to Alasdair, Cameron and KGS orchestra for their moving musical contribution to the service. None of this would have been possible without the dedication and commitment from our music teachers Jenny Keldie, Douglas Montgomery and Gemma Linklater, many thanks to them for putting together such a beautiful musical programme. The service finished with pupils and parents paying their respects by visiting our art installation. Each pupil made a ceramic poppy which has been mounted on the wall around the spiral staircase at school. A name tag was attached to each poppy to preserve the memory of family members and those who belonged to the parishes of St Andrews, Deerness, and Holm and who lost their lives in World War One.

In an already busy term, I must congratulate all the staff and pupils on such a lot of hard, extra work leading up to the Commemoration of the Battle of Jutland. Special thanks must go to our art teachers, Eilidh Harcus and Ruth Thomson and also to Conrad Murray, our janitor for planning and implementing the production and installation of 223 ceramic poppies. If you would like to visit the Art Installation please get in contact with the school. We would love to share this with as many people as possible and would welcome your comments and feedback.

As the summer draws to a close and we begin our preparations for the new challenges of the school year ahead we are grateful for the support of all at the East Mainland Church and look forward to seeing you at many events in the months to come.

Mark Taylor



BB Report August 2016

As session 2015–16 came to a close, we had our annual awards ceremony in the East Mainland Church on 15th May. We were honoured to have Radio Orkney's Senior Producer, Dave Gray, to hand out the awards. Again we thank Rev Wilma for such a delightful service and to Ruth for such lovely music.

Our final event for the session was taking part in the football competition for the Groundwater Shield. We arrived at the KGS 3G pitch to battle it out with teams from Dounby, Finstown, Kirkwall Tuesday and Kirkwall Wednesday. After playing all four teams, Holm was unbeaten and won the Shield. Well done to all 8 boys.

This ended the session and we look forward to 2016-17 which will start in September.

Thanks to Donnie who is my right hand man and to all parents who help throughout the year.

Captain Jack McIntosh



Paperwork – a bit dry!

I seem to remember folk saying with the advent of computers that paperwork would be halved! quartered! – would almost disappear! Well that didn't happen did it! Churches as registered charities can't duck the extra paperwork and there seems to be more and more paperwork in the form of rules and regulations for us to learn and follow. It can all become a bit of a blur!

I have asked that a Law Circular on (Charity) Trustees Liabilities be put on the website and the circular will be handed round again to all of the Trustees. Our Congregation is governed by a Model Deed of Constitution which means we have a Kirk Session of Elders, and a Congregational Board of Elders and Elected Members who together are the Trustees of East Mainland Church of Scotland. Both Session and Board members have long been Charity Trustees. In the old language the Kirk Ses-



sion governed matters Spiritual and the Congregational Board matters Temporal.

It is the duty of Trustees to manage the affairs of the Congregation they serve to the very highest standard and to the very best of their ability. From the Law Circular: *Scripture itself addresses the standards expected of church officials, particularly in 1st and 2nd Timothy and Titus, with calls to “hold to the standard of sound teaching”, to “guard the good treasure entrusted to you” and to “do your best to present yourself to God as a worker who has no need to be ashamed.” (2 Timothy 1: 13 and 2: 15).*

The Congregation is so grateful to those of its members willing to stand for office and we truly appreciate the work and commitment they demonstrate week by week. Recently there has been a change of emphasis in the role of Trustees so that a duty of ‘fair presentation’ places greater responsibility on our Trustees e.g. in matters relating to Insurance and now, can you believe it, we have to complete a financial risk assessment for OSCR, as well as constantly updating food hygiene procedures and fire risk assessments.

It is with this added emphasis all the more important that both our Trustees and Congregation are aware of the liabilities and duties attached to being a Trustee and that it is for the protection of Trustees that it is so important to follow those rules and regulations. And most importantly for the Trustees to be assured of the Congregation’s support and gratitude for all they do on behalf of the Congregation.

The Rev Wilma Johnston

East Mainland C A Group

Christian Aid Week 2016

Letter from Rev. Sally Foster-Fulton - Head of Christian Aid Scotland (12th July 2016)

I am delighted to confirm receipt of £2,764.73 arising from fundraising by East Mainland CA Group this Christian Aid Week.

Once again, our vital network of supporting churches and groups has carried out the single biggest act of Christian witness in Scotland, and in doing so has raised awareness of poverty, and the churches’ concern for it, amongst hundreds of thousands of people across Scotland.

As the new head of Christian Aid in Scotland, I was inspired and humbled by the outpouring of commitment, creativity, concern in action and love shown by our supporters. True partnerships can be transformational – thank you for helping us change the world! We are one global neighbourhood, and with your help, we reach out to all who share our planet home.

This year our ‘love every neighbour’ theme ran across all our resources. We encouraged supporters to help our global neighbours like Morsheda by joining with their local neighbours – whether that was by going door-to-door or by inviting the community in for a Big Brekkie or a church service. The stories of Morsheda and the other people from Bangladesh demonstrate the impact that the money raised in Christian Aid Week has. By supporting Christian Aid Week this year you help to ensure the continuing transformation of the lives of more of our neighbours in the 40 countries around the world in which Christian Aid works.

I anticipate that Christian aid Week this year will once again raise over £1.5m in Scotland through the fundraising activities and sponsored events in homes, workplaces, schools, churches and communities across the country.

On behalf of the Christian Aid team here in Scotland, our partners and the communities in the developing world that we seek to support, thank you, and all who joined with you, for helping make Christian Aid Week such a success once more.

With best wishes

Sally Foster-Fulton

Laurence Tait



East Mainland Church Guild

Spring Rally

Members of the Guild attended Orkney Presbyterial Guild Council's Spring Rally on 4th May at South Ronaldsay and Burray Church. Guest Speaker, Ruth Hagan, spoke of her involvement along with her sister setting up Gogo Olive, a knitting business in Malawai and samples of products were on sale. Also Marjory Clark, from Feed the Minds, a Christian Charity working in partnership with Grass Roots delivering educational projects to combat poverty and injustice across the Global South.

June Meeting

The meeting on 1st June, with 3 Members of Orphir Guild present, were welcomed by President, Joyce and opening praise, Hymn 223 'Summer suns are glowing' was sung.

Nancy read from Ephesians Chap 3 v14-21 followed by Prayer and Lord's Prayer by Joyce.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved and Syllabus and Crossreach news letters were handed out.

Members entertained with a varied programme of Orkney Sayings, Readings, a Solo – 'Footsteps walking with me' and everyone took part in the Covered Dish Competition.

After a welcome cup of tea, served by Nancy and Maureen, and much chatter, Hymn 237 – Look forward in faith and Benediction brought a happy evening to a close.

Songs of Praise

'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation' had everyone in good singing voice for Songs of Praise organised by the Guild on 26th June.

Rev Wilma Johnston led in Prayer. President, Joyce, called on Marlene Mainland to read 'The Church is where ever God's people are praising' in Orcadian dialect. Next, 'Christ is our Light and morning star' was sung to the lilt of Pipes played by Bill Robertson using

a favourite tune – Highland Cathedral.

Laurence, Maureen and Katrina rendered 'Lord, you have come to the seashore'. Many more Hymns including Sankey were linked by appropriate anecdotes and enjoyed by all.

Thanks was extended to Guest Artistes, the Choir, the organist, Rev Wilma and Joyce and the evening ended with 'God be with you till we meet again' and Benediction.

Perhaps we'll do this again.

July Meeting

The East Mainland Guild held an open meeting on 6th July in Session Room when members, visitors and Street Pastors were welcomed by President Joyce.

Opening praise Hymn 544 – 'When I needed a neighbour' accompanied by Isobel Clouston was sung after which Mabel Eunson read from Luke 10 v25 37 and Prayer by Joyce.

Minutes were read and approved.

The Sands Hotel Burray was voted venue for lunch at 12.30 for the Annual Outing on 24th August.

Mary and Barry Cockerham gave a powerpoint presentation shown by Linda Bonner outlining the work of Street Pastors, working in conjunction with local Churches and Councils as well as Police to assist young people "out on the town" in city centres at weekends. Their aim is to demonstrate the love of God by helping and not preaching. This nationwide organisation is one of the Projects that Church of Scotland Guilds Support.

They then explained their role in Orkney working in teams of four (male and female) patrolling areas around Fusion Night Club on a Saturday from 11.45 to 3.30 am assisting anyone needing a caring hand. They carry with them flip flops, bottled water, survival blankets and lollipops and explained how these things are used and the impact the Street Pastors teams are having in our local area.



After this very interesting and thought provoking talk, tea was served by Morag, Maureen and Linda. After a vote of thanks by Joyce, the meeting closed by singing 'Lord in love and perfect wisdom' and Benediction.

Joyce Johnston

All Things Bright And Beautiful Word Search

This is a bit of a challenge but get Mum and Dad to help!

B	E	A	U	T	I	F	U	L	B
R	L	I	P	S	H	D	N	I	W
I	C	K	U	W	E	I	D	O	I
G	R	N	D	P	A	G	N	M	S
H	N	C	O	L	D	D	I	G	E
T	A	I	E	T	E	S	N	U	S
H	H	M	N	R	D	G	B	W	F
E	O	O	F	R	R	R	L	E	R
M	E	U	C	E	O	Y	O	L	I
E	L	N	A	A	N	M	S	L	P
L	P	T	L	C	J	R	V	K	E
L	R	A	L	M	I	G	H	T	Y
A	U	I	S	V	O	A	N	D	E
M	P	N	E	D	A	M	B	T	S
S	E	R	U	T	A	E	R	C	A

ALL	THINGS	BRIGHT	BEAUTIFUL
CREATURES	GREAT	SMALL	WISE
WONDERFUL	LORD	GOD	MADE
THEM	PURPLE	HEADED	MOUNTAIN
RIVER	SUNSET	MORNING	SKY
EYES	LIPS	ALMIGHTY	WELL
AND	COLD	WIND	SUN
RIPE			



Month	Date	Time	Event
September	4 th	11:00am	Worship with the Sacrament of Holy Communion and Sunday School + Tea in the East Mainland Church
	7 th	7:30pm	Guild in the Session Room
	11 th	11:00am	Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	15 th	10:30am – 3:00pm	Guild Road Show at St Magnus Centre
	18 th	11:00am	Worship (Season of Giving – Sharing Our Talents) & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	25 th	11:00am	Worship with Back to Church Service & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
October	2 nd	11:00am	Worship & Sunday School + Tea in the East Mainland Church
	5 th	7:30pm	Guild in the Session Room
	9 th	11.00am	Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	16 th	11:00am	Worship in the East Mainland Church
	23 rd	11:00am	Worship in the East Mainland Church
	30 th	11:00am	Worship in the East Mainland Church
November	2 nd	7:30pm	Guild in the Session Room
	6 th	11:00am	Worship with the Harvest Thanksgiving, Shoe Box Appeal & Sunday School + Tea in the East Mainland Church
	13 th	10:50am 11:30am 12:45am	Wreath Laying Services at Deerness and Holm War Memorials Remembrance Service & Sunday School in the Church Wreath Laying Service at St Andrews War Memorial
	15 th	7:00pm	Guild - Big Sing in the King Street Halls
	20 th	11:00am	Worship with the Sacrament of Holy Communion & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
	27 th	11:00am	Worship (First Sunday of Advent) & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church
December	4 th	7:00pm	Guild Carol Service in the Deerness Community Hall

Editorial Team:

Sheila Eunson, Kathleen Gaudie, Laurence Tait and layout compiled by Russell Manson

Please email articles, preferably using **Times New Roman size 12**, for the next newsletter to

eastmainlandchurch@gmail.com by 8th November

Church of Scotland

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