



From the Manse

The first Sunday of Lent was Valentine's Day, Easter comes early this year. Ever hope-filled we are looking forward to Spring and the promise of land and life refreshed and renewed. Change is always there standing just on the side-lines waiting to disturb our settled ways and the 'aye have beens.' It does us good to get a shake up and a fresh perspective on the world – let's face it that's what the Holy Spirit does best, blows us about a bit and ruffles our feathers.

In our church family we are looking forward to a new Bible Study Group starting, and are hoping to have some Messy Church events re-start around Easter and perhaps a Summer Holiday Club for the bairns. Don't miss the Congregational Meeting, that once a year event when everybody can have their say about what goes on in the Kirk. It is on Palm Sunday and please don't be shy about staying, everyone is welcome. Easter Sunday falls on the morning the clocks change – is it an hour earlier we're up, or later... that we'll be sporting our Easter Bonnets and searching for Chocolate Eggs.

Our church, the whole Church of Scotland has had to accept changes to the way our records have always been kept and amazing as it seems after we've held your 'lines' in the Kirk for years, we now need you to sign a slip of paper consenting to us holding your name and address. No it's not an April Fool, it's for real!

So you'll either have picked up a letter at the Kirk or in time your elder will be by with one. Thanks to those already signed up but please be patient it will take time to reach every one. We are asking all our members and everyone one of you who comes along Sunday by Sunday, who together make our Community of Faith in

East Mainland to help us by signing the form when you get it. Every one is important. Don't hesitate to phone the manse if you want to ask anything about this process.

And if you are wondering what all of this has to do with the Gospel of our Lord? Well everything! The Gospel is for every aspect of our lives, massive and minute, the ordinary things of life and the earth shattering moments, for parish business and the private personal stuff too - wherever we are and whatever we do, our Lord is with us - for we are His.

With every blessing

Wilma

Rev. Wilma Johnston

Blue Door December 2015

The East Mainland Church raised the magnificent sum of £3372.45 in the week of 14th – 19th December at the Blue Door. Our sincere thanks goes to Mrs Jamieson, the regular shop volunteers, the organisers (Jack, Hilary and John), the helpers in the shop, all who donated goods and anyone who helped in any other way.

Christian Aid Week 2016

A door to door collection will take place in the East Mainland for Christian Aid Week which this year starts on 15th May.

Although Christian Aid provides support where it is so desperately needed throughout the world special mention is given to the people affected by devastating floods in places such as low lying islands on the Brahmaputra River in Bangladesh. Homes and animals have been washed away and support is given by Home Safety Packages which allow for homes to be rebuilt in safe areas and help given by the provision of animals and seeds for crops.

In her last letter before she retires as head of Christian Aid in Scotland, Kathy Galloway said the following –

Last year you helped to raise an incredible £11m across the UK and Ireland – more than half of this amount was from house to house collections. We know that together we can achieve great things in response to Jesus' call to love our neighbours.

Laurence Tait (East Mainland Christian Aid Group)



Getting Married in East Mainland Church.

It's Spring – and thoughts turn to love – weddings are in the air. The first weddings of this year are being booked. If you are getting married, or a son or daughter has announced the happy news – congratulations – the congregation wish the couple every happiness for their future.

If you would like to have the wedding in East Mainland Church please call me. The sanctuary has a warm welcoming feel with traditional pine pews and a lovely space for the ceremony which with an intimate atmosphere will suit the smallest of weddings just as well as the larger gatherings. Please ask for a wedding leaflet.

The couple will be invited to meet for a chat and we will talk about ways to make the ceremony personal to you. It will be a Christian ceremony and the bride and groom will be committed to each other so that they can make their promises to spend the rest of their lives together. If you have special circumstances please ask me and I will be happy to advise. It is becoming popular for couples with young families to have a blessing for their children during the ceremony.

You do not need to be a church member to be married in the Kirk. Everyone who lives in East Mainland can ask to be married here, and those too, who have a connection with the old parishes of Deerness, St Andrews and Holm – so even if you live elsewhere in Orkney or further afield if a parent or grandparent is a church member the minister will be very happy to meet with you and discuss your wedding day.

Getting married in the Italian Chapel and St Magnus Cathedral

It is the Minister's duty and the right of East Mainland residents to ask the Parish Minister to conduct their marriage ceremony. Some couples choose to marry in the Cathedral or the Italian Chapel neither of which have a connection with East Mainland Church. If the couple live in East Mainland, are

members of East Mainland Church or have parents or grandparents who are members, the minister will be happy to speak with them about their wedding day.

It is usual for the minister in the parish where you live to conduct your marriage ceremony and maintain a link with you and if in doubt I will be happy to advise you who to contact.

To find out more contact

Rev. Wilma Johnston

Wilma.Johnston@churchofscotland.org.uk
01856781772.

Messy Church

What Messy Church is... is an all-age church experience for all the family. In an informal setting, all ages can explore faith, and worship God, through crafts, food and celebration! At Messy Church we make things together, eat together and celebrate God's love together!

Messy Church is NOT just a craft club!

Messy Church is NOT just for children!

Messy Church IS FOR EVERYONE!

What we need is Volunteers: At East Mainland Kirk we run Messy Church in 3 or 4 rooms which requires 3 or 4 volunteers holding PVG certificates to be present. The Law of the Land requires that volunteers working with children should hold a PVG certificate.

A **P**rotection of **V**ulnerable **G**roups Certificate is simple to apply for, it costs you nothing and only requires a background check to be run. Volunteers are invited to training days occasionally – the process is simple and straight forward.

To volunteer please call the minister.

The Church of Scotland's priority is mission and finding new expressions of church, which is why Messy Church is so important to the work of the Gospel and forging links within the wider commu-



nity. Traditionally Messy Church happens in one big room or hall and everyone is together so that mums or guardians bringing more than one bairn can see them all, all the time. In that situation we only require to have one adult present who holds a PVG Certificate, however in our situation we require more PVG'd volunteers or take Messy Church to the Community Halls.

Out of the Life of our

East Mainland Congregation

Alfie Flett 23/1/2016

Sunday School

For the Christmas service on 20th December we were looking for something a bit different. The idea of doing a puppet nativity was suggested. So we found a script and started making puppets. Kaitlyn and Ann were the narrators, and read the parts of Mary and the angel, Finlay and Marcus read the parts for the shepherds and the wise men and James helped with the puppets. We also sang *Let's Go* and *Let's jump with joy*.



A huge thank you to Janine for making some of the puppets, they turned out to be a more time consuming job than I'd expected. Thanks to mum (Maureen) for her assistance in making the costumes for them too.

Katrina Tait

BB News

Unfortunately we did not receive the Christmas card competition from North Scottish so we did not compete.

We competed in the 5-a-side football competition and our boys were the runners up.

We had a joint Christmas party with the Brownies in December.

On 25th January we had our own Burns Night when the boys had mince, haggis and clapshot, washed down with Scotland's other national drink, Iron Bru. On 8th February we will be having pancakes as our introduction to Lent.

On Wednesday 10th February we will be competing in the Bible Reading/Quiz competition in Kirkwall.

A busy few weeks ahead.

Jack McIntosh (Captain)

Carol Service

A Carol Service was held in Holm Community Centre on 6th December at 7pm to which teachers and pupils of St Andrews School were welcomed as guests.

Rev. Wilma Johnston began with a quiz for the children which involved some rushing about to collect the small prizes.

The headmaster, Mr Mark Taylor, introduced the children's songs and the classes taking part. The traditional carols were interspersed with the children's pieces which included the talented fiddle group from primary 6. Primary 1-3 pupils sang some delightful songs from their Christmas Show, accompanied by Mrs J Keldie.

The closing carol for all 'Away in a manger' was accompanied by Mrs J Tait and Rev. Wilma Johnston closed with prayer. Tea was then served by the Guild.

Maureen Tait





St Andrews School News

At St Andrews Primary we have survived what the winter has thrown at us so far! I am always surprised at how resilient our pupils are as they have braced themselves against the relentless wind during break times! As the days begin to lengthen and spring approaches the weather will hopefully be kinder to us.

We finished last term with a fantastic Christmas Service in the Kirk on the 22nd of Dec. It was led by the Rev Wilma Johnston and supported musically by Jenny Keldie, Douglas Montgomery, Gemma Linklater and the P7 Band. It was a fantastic morning with many parents who attended commenting on how much they enjoyed the service. What a lovely finish to the term. Many thanks to the Kirk for their support.

Burns Supper

On Monday the 25th of January we celebrated Burns day by hosting our own Burns Celebration during lunch time. The celebrations began with the children reciting the Selkirk Grace.



Some hae meat and canna eat,
And some wad eat that want it,
But we hae meat and we can eat,
Sae let the Lord be thankit.



Many thanks to Bill Robertson who piped in the Haggis with the children clapping to the beat. The first verse of an Address to Haggis was read and with great gusto the children shouted out ‘to a haggis’.

The dinner ladies did us proud by providing us all with haggis, neeps and tatties!

Then our musicians finished our celebrations by singing ‘ Ae Fond Kiss,’ accompanied by fiddles and Mrs Keldie on the piano.

St Andrews Primary Young Entrepreneurs

P6 have just launched their first business called ‘Mugs for Mornings’ and are very excited about learning many new skills. They recently planned and organised a launched event for parents.

The pupils have been combining charity fundraising with learning about the challenges of running a real life business. They’ve been creating their own unique range of mugs, which they are selling to raise money for Cancer Research. The pupils organised a loan from the school in order to purchase the mugs, which they’ve decorated with a range of children’s nursery rhymes! If you would like to support this project please contact the school to place an order.



Mark Taylor



November Meeting

The Guild met on 4th November and opened with hymn 706 “For the healing of the nations” accompanied by Joyce. The reading from Psalms 85 v8-13 followed, which was read by Linda. Maureen fol-

lowed with prayer.

The minutes were read by Julia and approved. The business was attended to including the annual allocation of funds and the new look Guild newsletter was available.

Guild secretary, Julia then gave us a very interesting display of some of the many articles of patchwork quilting that she had made over the years. She explained the history of the craft as well as the many varied techniques. Her work was a delight to see with the colours and stitchery used.

Tea was served by Morag and Nancy and a vote of thanks given.

Hymn 498 ‘Angel voices’ was sung and the meeting closed with the Lord’s prayer.

December Festive Evening

The Festive evening began with a favourite carol ‘While humble shepherds watched their flocks’ with Isobel providing the music. The reading from Luke ch.2 v1-7 was read by Mabel. Maureen followed with prayer and Julia read last month’s minutes which were approved. Final arrangements were made for the Carol Service. Two ladies were congratulated on their birthdays both on the same day.

The Session room had been decorated and everyone brought savoury or sweet treats to enjoy. The entertainment included a poem or story, some amusing and some thought provoking. There was a challenging quiz, singing and ‘Once in Royal David’s city’ was read in local dialect. After the enjoyable programme and tea Maureen thanked all for playing their part. A fine evening was completed with the carol 314 ‘Child in the Manger’ and prayer.

Maureen Tait

The Data Protection Law 1998

– the Law of the Land - is now forcing changes in the way we in Church have to keep our records. Although names, addresses & telephone numbers appear in the phonebook, and email addresses are published in connection with other groups in the community, if your name appears on a Church list that implies a religious affiliation. According to the Law of the Land religious affiliation is sensitive data and therefore to comply with Data Protection Law, the Church must have your signed permission to hold your details. Please help us comply with this ruling and keep your name on our roll by signing the form when you get it. The Church’s Data Protection Policy is now on the website, in the Church foyer and on the Session Room Noticeboard.

Privacy Policy

This Privacy Policy covers the way in which the congregation of **East Mainland Church, Orkney** will use and disclose personal information that members, employees, volunteers, donors and other associates may provide us with.

Personal information includes any information that identifies you personally, such as your name, address, email address or telephone number.

The congregation recognises the importance of your privacy and personal information and we have therefore outlined below how the congregation collects, uses, discloses, and protects this information. We are registered with the Information Commissioner through the umbrella registration of Orkney Presbytery and strive to comply fully with data protection law.

How We Collect Information

The congregation receives and stores personal information provided by members, employees, volunteers, donors and other associates. This information can be supplied to us:



in writing or via email, by telephone conversation or on our website (e.g. when an individual is becoming a member); or

by otherwise associating with the congregation or its organisations, (e.g. by enquiring about our work, activities, employment and volunteering opportunities); or

when donating money to the congregation or its organisations.

We may also receive information about you from third parties.

How We Use Information

We may use the information we collect:

- in connection with membership records, for pastoral care purposes or in relation to your participation in our activities;
- in order to fulfil individual employment contracts with our employees (e.g. personnel administration) or for agreements with volunteers;
- in order to communicate with you (e.g. by letter, email or telephone) for example to provide information relating to our work or new developments;
- in order to further our charitable aims, e.g. such as for fundraising activities;

for internal administration, such as for accounting purposes, or for analysing how we may better advance the Kingdom of God.

If CCTV is in place we have this for the prevention and detection of crime.

Disclosure of Information

The congregation may require to share personal information held for a number of reasons including to provide pastoral or other assistance, process donations or carry out any other contractual obligations. This data may be disclosed to:

- the relevant Presbytery;
 - other bodies within the Church of Scotland;
 - relevant agents and third parties;
- employees and/or volunteers including the charity

trustees/ office bearers.

The congregation does not permit these parties to use such information for any other purpose than the foregoing.

The congregation may also need to disclose your information if required to do so by law.

Your Consent

By providing us with your personal data, including sensitive personal data such as on your health, you consent to the collection and use of any information you provide in accordance with the above purposes and this privacy statement.

Storage and Security of Personal Information

The congregation via its office bearers and employees will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that personal information is held in a secure and confidential environment and when the information is no longer needed it will be destroyed or permanently rendered anonymous.

You may request details of personal information which we hold about you under the Data Protection Act 1998. A small fee of £10 may be payable. If you would like a copy of the information held on you, please contact the Parish Minister.

If you believe that any information we are holding on you is incorrect or incomplete, please write to or email as soon as possible to the address below*. Any information found to be incorrect will be corrected as quickly as possible.

Rev. Wilma A. Johnston

The Manse,

Holm,

ORKNEY

KW17 2SB

01856 781772

Wilma.Johnston@churchofscotland.org.uk

Parish Minister: East Mainland Church of Scotland,
Orkney SC019770



Wordsearch

The Day of Pentecost

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|--------|----------|-----------|---------|---------|
| SPEAK | LANGUAGE | PENTECOST | HEAVEN | BLOWING |
| SOUND | OTHER | HOLY | SPIRIT | HEAR |
| FILLED | WIND | FIRE | TONGUES | AMAZED |

Y K J T N K H J G A M A Z E D
 T Q B F F P E N T E C O S T U
 L P I Q H C I D Q I E S T R G
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Colour in the picture of
The Ascension



| Month | Date | Time | Event |
|-------|------------------|---------|---|
| March | 2 nd | 7:30pm | Guild AGM in the Session Room |
| | 4 th | 2:00pm | World Day of Prayer in the East Mainland Church |
| | 6 th | 11:00am | Worship & Sunday School + Tea in the East Mainland Church |
| | 13 th | 11:00am | Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church |
| | 20 th | 11:00am | Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church Followed by the Annual Stated Meeting at 12:15 |
| | 24 th | 7:00pm | Maundy Thursday Communion Service in the East Mainland Church |
| | 27 th | 11:00am | Easter Sunday Family Worship in the East Mainland Church |
| April | 3 rd | 11:00am | Worship + Tea in the East Mainland Church |
| | 6 th | 7:30am | Guild in the Session Room |
| | 10 th | 11:00am | Worship in the East Mainland Church |
| | 17 th | 11:00am | Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church |
| | 24 th | 11:00am | Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church |
| May | 1 st | 11:00am | Worship & Sunday School + Tea in the East Mainland Church |
| | 4 th | 7:30pm | Guild in the Session Room |
| | 8 th | 11:00am | Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church |
| | 15 th | 11:00am | Worship & Sunday School in the East Mainland Church |
| | 15 th | | Start of Christian Aid Week (Door to Door Collection) |
| | 22 nd | 11:00am | Worship with the Sacrament of Holy Communion and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church |
| | 29 th | 11:00am | Worship and Sunday School in the East Mainland Church |
| June | 5 th | 3 – 6pm | Savoury Teas and Sales Table in Deerness Community Centre |

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 May

Church of Scotland

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