

# *In the PICTure*

February 2023

Send news to: [revmartynthomas@outlook.com](mailto:revmartynthomas@outlook.com)

Delivered free to every home in Letham and district by  
Dunnichen Letham and Kirkden Church of Scotland (Registered Scottish Charity 0003833)

## WARM SPACES - LETHAM



**Crafts. games,  
conversation**



Letham Church will open the Church Hall every Friday during the Winter to provide a Warm Space for all. Come and enjoy refreshments and company in a relaxed atmosphere.

Everyone welcome, no matter what age.

**Letham Church Hall - Fridays 11am to 2pm**

Dunnichen Letham & Kirkden Church

### Coffee Morning

in the Church Hall

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

10am to 12 Noon

In Aid of



Mission Aviation Fellowship

**£3.00 per person**

In addition to home baking, there will be an opportunity to learn about the work of MAF.

**All very Welcome**

Dunnichen Letham & Kirkden Church

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Service at 10:30am

Speaker

**Andy Martin**

from



Mission Aviation Fellowship

Andy will take part in the service and talk about the work of our partner agency.

**All very Welcome**

## Keep Running the Race

I was standing at the door of the church after the service one Sunday and a portion of the lesson for that day surrounded the word "Hope" and an elderly parishioner asked what hope was there for those who were in advancing years. I suggested that there was always hope and this got me thinking a while later as to what kind of hope was there for those who are, let's say, over 70. In the Bible it states "And now these three remain faith, hope, and love, but the greatest of these is love." (1 Corinthians 13:13, NIV). The Bible goes on at some length to describe why love is the greatest attribute, but I believe that the Bible offers more hope for people than they first realise.

Regardless of age, hope can keep us moving forward and everyone needs hope to face life's crises. Hope is the expectation that there is a special gift given by God to prevent the sometimes daily **monotony** and help us to overcome difficult circumstances. Hope is there for the single mum who doesn't know how she is going to feed her children and keep a roof over their heads. She might give up, if not for the hope that a breakthrough is right around the corner. "Can I really hope that the hospital can cure my cancer?" Hope is the one thing that can help us get through the darkest of times. Hope encourages us to [keep running the race](#) until we reach the finish line.

Everyone hopes for something, usually something better, but often it comes into its own when a crisis looms, opening us to new creative possibilities. It can be argued that with great need comes an unusually wide range of ideas, as well as such positive emotions as happiness and joy, courage, and empowerment.

Hope encourages such positive thinking and bears fruit when based on a realistic sense of optimism.

Hope in the Bible is the conviction we have that God will do what He has said. We are confident that God will fulfil His promises to us. Hope is one of the most important virtues in Christianity. It's on the same level as faith and love which

makes it a key pillar of strength for believers.

It takes faith to have hope because when we hope, we wait for and believe something good will come even though we can't see it today.

With the world still in the grip of Covid we are currently at risk of another pandemic which has already turned our lives upside down, we have been reduced to God being our only hope. So, we're in a good place. There's really nowhere else for us to look but up to the Creator of heaven and earth.

Over the past few years and besides the pandemic, there's so much evil, hatred, strife, and violence in the world now. As Christian believers, our hope is in God and His word to carry us during these times.

When we go to sleep every night, we make plans for the next day because our hope is that we will wake up and see the new day. And we go through each season knowing that it will end and a new one will

come.

In the same way, our hard times will not last forever. Good times will come. God has promised us this and He will never fail us.

*Prayer: "May the God of hope continue to strengthen me day by day to overcome all that I'm facing by the power of the Holy Spirit." Amen.*

Eric D Walker BTh.

Look upon us, O Lord,  
and let all the darkness of our souls  
vanish before the beams of your brightness.  
Fill us with holy love,  
and open to us the treasures of your wisdom.  
All our desire is known unto thee, therefore perfect  
what you have begun, and what thy Spirit has  
awakened us to ask in prayer. We seek your face,  
turn your face unto us and show us thy glory.  
Then shall our longing be satisfied,  
and our peace shall be perfect. Amen."

**Morning Services**  
**Sundays at 10.30 am**  
**ALL WELCOME**

**Eric and Pat Walker**  
Joint Locum Ministers  
Tel. 01575 572082 Mob. 07802 386119  
E-mails: Eric.line15@btinternet.com  
Pat.line15@btinternet.com

## Social Group report

### January 2023

2022 saw the start of the congregation being able to have teas and coffees after services on a Sunday after a very long period of lockdown and Covid restrictions. This was welcomed by all as the fellowship after the service is a very important part of our worship. We have not felt able to organise other social events in 2022 but we hope to begin to do this in 2023. Any ideas for events are welcomed as is support with the running of them.

We have strong links with MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) and we plan to hold a fund-raising coffee morning in February. The coffee morning will be in the Church Hall on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 10am and there will be an opportunity to find out more about MAF's vital work while enjoying a coffee and a scone / biscuit. Tickets are priced at £3 and will be available at the door.

The Church in Letham is joining the 'Warm Spaces' initiative. This has been promoted in the media recently and there are currently 'Warm Spaces' running in two of the Forfar churches. 'Warm Spaces' provides a meeting place for anyone who wants to save on heating costs during the coldest weather. We will be opening the Church Hall on Fridays, starting on 13<sup>th</sup> January, between 11am and 2pm. There will be soup, bread, teas, coffees and biscuits available at no charge.

We have a number of volunteers already but more are welcome. Donations of foodstuffs or money are also welcome. This is starting once a week but days and times may change depending on the need. This is organised for the whole community and everyone is welcome.

Lockdown and Covid restrictions meant there was little need for a Social Group but we are looking to the future and would welcome more members to help with the planning and running of events. Social events add so much to our church community and are enjoyed by all.

All help is very much appreciated.

If you would like to help, or just want some more information, please speak to Irene McGugan or Norma Craigon.

*Norma Craigon*

## Church Diary

Sunday 5 February	10:30am Morning Worship Informal Holy Communion Retiring Offering for Ukraine
Sunday 12 February	10:30am Morning Worship Andy Martin from MAF
Sunday 19 February	10:30am Morning Worship
Sunday 26 February	10:30am Morning Worship
Sunday 5 March	<b>10:00am</b> Fair Trade Breakfast 10:30am Morning Worship IN CHURCH HALL Informal Holy Communion Retiring Offering for Fairtrade



## FAIRTRADE BREAKFAST CHURCH 2023



Something different will be happening on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March!

Sadly it has been a couple of years since we have been able to enjoy a FairTrade Breakfast in person. The last one was in 2020 – when the tap water ran brown!



We are making up for lost time this year and are holding a FairTrade Breakfast in the middle of FairTrade fortnight, which this year

falls between 27<sup>th</sup> February and 12<sup>th</sup> March.

As before, all are welcome to share a simple meal and enjoy a selection of tasty FairTrade products. There is no charge, though donations to FairTrade are welcome.



The difference this year is that this will form an integral part of a more informal worship service, which will be held in the Church Hall. Sometimes this is known as Cafe Church.




We encourage you to arrive from 10:00am with the service starting at 10:30am as normal.

Please feel free to invite friends and neighbours to join us for the morning, when they can enjoy a healthy breakfast plus some food for the soul.

An informal Communion follows the Breakfast at about 11:30am.

*Retiring Offering for FairTrade*





**Cuppa With A Cop**

Constables Jo Greig and Sarah Watt invite you to come and meet them and have Cuppa with a Cop.

This is a chance to speak with your local Police Officers about absolutely anything that matters to YOU in your local community.

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – 6pm-7pm  
Drummie Hall  
Letham Village Hall

TaysideCommunityWardsArbroath@scotland.police.uk

**Your Police 2022-2023  
consultation (Scan QR code)**



It's ironic that the colours red, white and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.

You know that tingly little feeling you get when you love someone? That's common sense leaving your body.

Money talks..... but all mine ever says is "good-bye".

Money can't buy happiness, but it certainly keeps the kids in touch!

## **Letham & District Community Council Meetings**

Letham and District Community Council meet on the **third Thursday of the month 7.30pm in the Feuars' Hall.** (Except December and July, no meetings)

ALL meetings are open to the public to attend.

Meetings also take a hybrid format; attendance can be in person or virtually via MS Teams.

Should you wish to attend any meeting virtually please email requesting an invitation, you will receive an email back containing the invitation for you to click on.

A programme of the meetings is displayed on the notice board outside the Feuars' Hall.

Current minutes will be displayed on the notice board at the top of stairs and can be found on the Angus Council website.

**[lethamanddistrictcc2022@outlook.com](mailto:lethamanddistrictcc2022@outlook.com)**

*As the animals left the ark, Noah told them to go forth and multiply. After some time, Noah came upon two snakes who were just lying there sunning themselves. So Noah asked them, "Why aren't you multiplying?" The snakes replied, "We can't, we're adders."*

### ***'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 Dunnichen, Letham and Kirkden Church.*



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## The Church of Scotland Stamp Appeal



The Church collects used stamps from UK and abroad and sells them to Collectors to raise money for various relief projects.

This year the funds are being used to support work in Lebanon.

In Lebanon, and in response to the financial collapse in the country, the pastors of the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon initiated a scheme in 2021, where they gave half of their salary to establish a relief programme as an expression of support to the neediest families around their congregations.

Complete stamps including perforations and backing are collected. They are trimmed and sent to volunteers in Wishaw. There they are soaked to remove backing, sorted and sold to distributors. The funds raised support the work in Lebanon.

Please give your stamps to Norma Craigon or put them in the box in Letham Church Hall.

Thank you

*Rev Martyn Thomas*

### Next Issue of 'In the PICTURE'

Deadline for March 2023 issue is

**Saturday 18 February**

Material may be sent to Joan Smith,  
9 Burnside Road (01307 818937)

E-mail: [joan\\_77@btinternet.com](mailto:joan_77@btinternet.com)

or to Rev Martyn Thomas

14 Kirkgait (01307 818084)

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



## MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP

### AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT

The work of MAF is supported by Dunnichen, Letham and Kirkden Church. MAF is a Christian mission organisation that uses planes to overcome barriers to those living in isolated parts of the world.

The reality for millions of people is that jungles, mountains, swamps, insecurity and dilapidated infrastructure are all barriers to receiving physical and spiritual care and a hope for the future. This may be because there are no roads and little access to the outside world, or no opportunity to reach a doctor for the sick and injured or to receive an education or access job opportunities.

MAF pilots and personnel deliver relief workers, doctors, pastors, school books, food, medicines – everything that can only be safely and speedily transported by air. Supporters like our Church give and pray to make this all possible. With a MAF plane taking off or landing every six minutes, the need is huge.

**On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February from 10am to 12 noon we will be holding a Coffee Morning in order to raise funds for this important work. Tickets are £3. In addition to enjoying home baking, there will be an opportunity to learn more about the work of MAF.**

**The following day, on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February, Andy Martin from MAF will take part in the Service and explain more about the work of our partner agency.**

**On both days there will be material suitable for children from around 4 – 14 years of age – maybe even a competition with prizes -!**

**Please help us provide essential support to Mission Aviation Fellowship.**

*Kirk Session*

### Letham Feuars' Committee

Registered Scottish Charity: SC003197

### Supporting In the PICTURE

#### Remember LETHAM BOOK SHOP

Open Six Days a Week

in Letham Feuars' Hall

Auldbar Road.

All takings in aid of local organisations

For information about the

Feuars please contact

[LethamFeuars@hotmail.com](mailto:LethamFeuars@hotmail.com)

## SNIPS

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## Visit Angus



### Loch of Kinnordy

The loch is a nature reserve run by the RSPB, open daily from dawn to dusk.

This shallow loch is situated in a natural basin surrounded by farmland and attracts all types of wildlife. One favourite summer visitor is the osprey, but you're just as likely to see otters, red squirrels and deer as well as wildfowl, not to mention butterflies and dragonflies aplenty.

The reserve is located 1 mile (1.6 km) west of Kirriemuir on the B951 to Glenisla road. Follow the tourist signs to The Glens, Alyth and Blairgowrie until you reach the Glenisla road. The reserve is on the right, a mile along the Glenisla road.

There are three hides that provide views overlooking different areas of the loch and a bird feeding station halfway between the Gullery and East hides, where many different types of woodland birds can be seen.

Loch of Kinnordy is a eutrophic loch which supports a number of rare species of wetland plants and migratory birds. There are internationally important numbers of greylag geese, with 1% of the Iceland population over-wintering at the site. Black-headed gulls, pink-footed geese, water rails and whooper swans occur in nationally important numbers, along with otters, red squirrels, butterflies and dragonflies.

**Contact [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk) for opening times**

Closed occasionally on Saturdays during September and October.

*For more information contact*

[info@visitangus.com](mailto:info@visitangus.com)



## Dunnichen, Letham & Kirkden Guild



**The Guild Theme for 2022/23**

**"Wee Seeds, Big Trees"**

**The Guild will meet on  
Tuesday 21st February at 2:30pm  
in the Church Hall.**

**Subject**

**The Galapagos Islands,**

**Slide show by Jane Ferguson.**

*(Isabel McClung, Interim Convenor)*



## BOOK SHOP

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## LETHAM and DISTRICT



What a wonderful start we had to 2023 on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January when we held an Open Quiz Night!

There were teams from 8 other institutes in Angus together with a good number of local visitors. The Bowling Club was well-filled!

Mr Ian White from Forfar was an excellent quizmaster who was highly entertaining as well as clear and business-like.

The winning team – which had called itself 'Mixed bag' consisted of 3 ladies from Airlie Institute – Laura Carnegie, Joyce Cocker and Karen Constable – together with Letham's own Pauline Greenhill. Kingsmuir Institute came a very close second.

A raffle was held and one lucky lady was the recipient of the 'Top Prize' – a hamper full of local Scottish produce.

President, Lynne Slater gave a very warm vote of thanks to all involved in the success of the evening.

Our February meeting will be held on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> and will be a Floral Art Demonstration by Stephen Ludlum. On that evening the competitions will be:-

3, Triangular Oatcakes

Best use of a recycled tin can

Garden Flower of the Month

Water Hyacinth (extra competition)

As ever – we will meet at 7:15pm in Letham Bowling Club.

All very welcome.

Jane Nicolson (Press Secretary)



**T: 01674 658501**

**M: 07873 566500**



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**E: info@oakwoodtreesandlandscaping.co.uk**

**W: www.oakwoodtreesandlandscaping.co.uk**

## GARDEN CLUB

January saw Colin Ainsworth, on his now annual return as our botanical quizmaster, provide us with a fun night of banter and many different debateable answers.

On Tuesday 14th February we welcome Joe Gibb, the Chair of Friockheim Garden Club, to give a talk on the rare Weeping Red Flowered Horse Chestnut found in Angus.

Time: 7:30pm. Place: Letham Bowling Club.

*All Welcome*

*Bill Muir 07908 339420*

FORFAR  
FOODBANK

## URGENTLY NEEDED

Tinned meat	Sponge puddings
Tinned fruit	Dried pasta / rice meals
Coffee	Fruit squash
Long life milk	Toiletries
Toilet paper	Nappies (size 6 & 7)

We have plenty of cereals, beans, pasta and soup.

**Letham Church is open and ready to receive items for the Angus Foodbank every Sunday morning.**

Financial donations can be gift aided, allowing the Foodbank to claim a further 25% from HMRC.

*info@angusfoodbank.org.uk Tel. 01307 466841*

*Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish?*



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Please pop in if you need any advice.



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