

In the PICTure

March 2023

Send news to: revmartynthomas@outlook.com

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



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 20th April 2023 – 6pm-7pm

Drummie Hall

Letham Village Hall

TaysideCommunityWardsArbroath@scotland.police.uk

Your Police 2022-2023
consultation (Scan QR code)
(closes 31st March 2023)



Learning Together

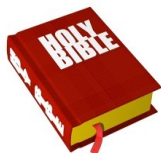
Group Weekly Bible Study

in

Letham Church
Hall

on

Mondays at 1:30 pm



Toys and drawing materials

available for children

Tea coffee and snacks provided

All are Welcome

WARM SPACES - LETHAM

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.



Broth 'n' blether

Tea, coffee and
home-made soups



Coffee and
conversation

Crafts, games, conversation

Everyone welcome, no matter what age.

Letham Church Hall - Fridays 11am to 2pm

LETHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION



COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 22nd APRIL 2023

10 am - 12 noon

LETHAM CHURCH HALL

Coffee and beverages, home baking,
photos and memorabilia of twinning
visits and raffle with many prizes!

Entry Fee £3.00

Letham is twinned with Monasterboice in County Louth, Ireland and Leguillac de l'Auche, Dordogne, France.

Proceeds go towards providing hospitality for a proposed visit by our friends from Leguillac. It's their turn to visit us this year.

“Faith and Prayer”

When deciding to pick a topic for this monthly article I like to take something that is current and pertinent to the congregation of Letham church. Last month it was “Hope” because of a parishioner’s comment and this month I have decided to air my views on “Faith and Prayer” for a very similar reason. Those of you who attend church or have been involved in church work will know exactly where I am going with this. It would be fair to say at this time that the church, while still strong in certain areas does lack the importance it once had in years gone by. The church was the mainstay of the community and had a huge impact on people’s lives, unfortunately much less so today. It is a sad reflection on society when children today don’t even know who Jesus was.

We are all probably aware that God gives varying measures of faith to his people, and I firmly believe that most people do have faith even though they do not attend worship on a regular basis and likewise people will pray in times of desperate need. I think the problem that exists is that most do not have the knowledge to be able to recognise the importance of having God in their daily lives. When was the last time you picked up a Bible just to read a passage? When was the last time you took five minutes out of your busy day to sit quietly and pray?

The power of prayer cannot be underestimated, and prayers are simply a communication between God the Father and His children.

In one sense, that is all there is to it. When prayer seems difficult, and we feel unworthy of asking the Almighty God to answer our seemingly mundane requests, we should consider that with God, our prayers are not limited by words, but it is

allowing the Holy Spirit to be with us, touching us, that leads us into a relationship with God. This means that we don't need to put our prayers into words, but can simply open our heartfelt thoughts and emotions to God.

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:12-13).

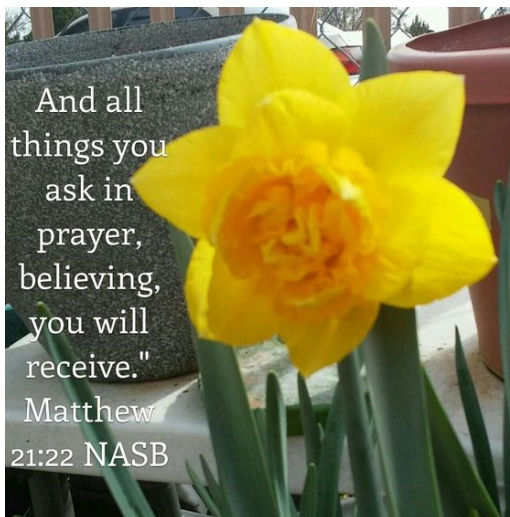
Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know. (Jeremiah 33:3).

Having the faith to believe that God will answer our prayers is the way forward for all of us, although God does not necessarily answer our prayers in the ways we expect. Prayer must be more than an emergency magical lamp rubbed in a crisis or parachute prayers as I sometimes call them. The truth is that many people give up on prayer because they never understand what prayer is. Much that passes for prayer is irrational, superstitious, and self-centred,

and is therefore unworthy of the pattern of the prayer that Jesus offered to us his disciples. When our prayers seem to be of no avail, it makes us feel as though we fall into the category Jesus aimed at when he said, "O ye of little faith!" At times like this, I join the disciples in pleading with Jesus, "Increase my faith!" It is never too late to expect miracles of Jesus. In old age as well as youth, no matter how late in the game, "even right now" Christ can come to the rescue if we put our faith in him.

Eric D Walker BTh.

Joint Locum Minister (Reader)



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

Fairtrade Report February 2023



Presented to the congregation on
19th February 2023



Since the last report in February 2022 COVID-19 restrictions have relaxed and the church has resumed refreshments after services using Fairtrade tea and coffee. Also sales of Fairtrade goods have continued thanks to the small number of people who have placed orders. These goods are either delivered to church for collection or delivered to people's houses. However the sales are well down on pre-COVID-19 levels.

Unfortunately, Traidcraft has recently entered administration. It was one of the companies which supplied our supplier with Fairtrade goods. Fortunately there are other suppliers, including local shops, but this does mean that some items are no longer available, for example the Geo Muesli.

Looking ahead, this year the Fairtrade Fortnight is from Monday 27th February to Sunday 12th March 2023 and I am delighted to say that we are holding a Fairtrade Breakfast cum Café Church in the church hall on Sunday 5th March. My thanks go to members of the Social Group and other people for their assistance in organising and running this event. I encourage you all to attend and enjoy food, companionship and worship.

My thanks go to Isabel Morrison for her assistance with Fairtrade sales in the past.

Margaret Moore

MAF Coffee Morning

The coffee morning held in the church hall on Saturday 11th February raised £201 for the work of MAF. We would like to thank everyone who came and enjoyed the tea/coffee and the lovely cakes, scones and pancakes.

We would also like to thank everybody who donated not only money but all the food and items for the sales table.

Andy Martin gave a great talk at the service on 12th February. He showed a film on the work being done to help to alleviate the mental stress suffered by refugees. If you ever have a chance to listen to Andy Martin, you will have a very informative and enjoyable time.

Elaine Saunders. Treasurer

Church Diary

Sunday 5 March	ALL IN CHURCH HALL 10:00am Fairtrade Breakfast 10:30am Morning Worship Informal Holy Communion Retiring Offering for Fairtrade
Sunday 12 March	10:30am Morning Worship
Sunday 19 March	10:30am Morning Worship
Sunday 26 March	10:30am Morning Worship
Sunday 2 April	10.30am Morning Worship Informal Holy Communion Retiring Offering for Ukraine

FAIRTRADE BREAKFAST CHURCH 2023



Sunday 5th March
in



Letham Church Hall at 10:00am
followed by

Café Church Service at 10:30am
and Informal Holy Communion.
Retiring Offering for Fairtrade




Scouts attending the Founder's Service in Letham Church on 19th February 2023.

Articles taken from church magazines

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.



**Letham
Bookshop**

is in the Square and open daily,
10 am-4 pm, Mondays to Saturdays, and
12 noon-4 pm, Sundays.

Books for children are free.

Your community bookshop is there for you!

Letham Pensioners' Christmas Lunch 2023

Letham Pensioners' Committee are looking for a caterer for the Christmas Lunch to be held on Saturday 2nd December 2023.

The caterer must be able to provide a three course meal for about 120 people.

If anyone knows of a caterer who can do this please get in touch with Elaine Saunders on 01307 818230.

Elaine Saunders, Letham Pensioners

From an American church magazine
The eighth graders will be presenting Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' in the Church basement on Friday at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Letham Pensioners' Spring Coffee Morning 15th April 2023

Letham Pensioners will be holding their first coffee morning since the pandemic. It will be in Letham Village Hall between 10am and 11:30am on Saturday 15th April 2023.

There will be coffee/tea and cakes, plus all the usual stalls. The price per ticket is £3 (£1 for children under 14), which can be obtained from committee members, or you can pay on the door.

This is one of our major fundraising events to help subsidise both the Summer Outing and the Christmas Meal, so please come and support it if you can.

Elaine Saunders, Letham Pensioners

Eco congregation report 2023

Eco-Congregation Scotland is a Christian environmental organisation helping local groups of Christians (a) link environmental issues to their faith; (b) reduce their environmental impact; and (c) engage with the community. Their vision is "A Scotland that cares for God's creation, now and forever".

Dunnichen, Letham and Kirkden Church was one of the first congregations to sign up and holds both the Bronze and Silver Awards.

Within our regular church services, "care for creation" often features, and our Locum Ministers make good use of the worship materials supplied by Eco Congregation Scotland.

In addition, as a congregation, we continue to care for creation in a number of ways. We have continued to sell and use FairTrade items, and after an enforced break because of the pandemic, we are reinstating our Fair Trade Breakfast which will take place on Sunday 5th March from 10am in the Church Hall.

This last year we organised two Rag Bag collections. And impressively we have also met our (increased) targets for donations to the Angus Foodbank.

Work on our church grounds has not yet started - we hope to create bee and bug friendly areas and a wild flower meadow. We hope also to make use of environmentally friendly materials in resurfacing parts of the church driveway.

However, responsibility for addressing climate issues rests with all of us, so we would invite suggestions about how Letham church and community can become more eco-friendly.

These ideas can be shared via "In the PICTURE" in order to challenge and help each other to find ways of significantly reducing our own impact on the environment by considering issues such as energy use, recycling, travel and finance.

If you can think of any ways to improve our eco credentials and/or would like to help with this work, please speak to Irene McGugan.

'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.

LETHAM and DISTRICT



A dismal February evening on Tuesday, 7th was fairly brightened by the impressive floral art displays created by our demonstrator for the evening, Stephen Ludlum.

He showed - amongst many other hints and tips - how to create a display which was mainly greenery for times of the year when flowers were less readily available. He also provided ideas for creating a display on a set theme; he chose 'Masquerade'.

He was thanked by Anne Simpson.

President, Lynne Slater, congratulated three members: Margaret Wright, Anne Simpson and Ethel Carnegie who had recently won the Angus Federation heat of the Stadium Bowling competition. They now go on to represent Angus at the National Final in April.

The results of the monthly competitions were:

3 triangular oatcakes:

1. M. Bundock; 2. J. Mair; 3. F. Webster.

Recycled tin can:

1. L. Slater; 2. A. Bray; 3. F. Webster.

Garden Flower:

1. L. Slater; 2. A. Simpson; 3. E. Balfour.

Water Hyacinth:

1. L. Slater; 2. A. Simpson; 3. J. Mair.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 7th March.

Then on Tuesday, 4th April we pay a second visit to Letham Craft Shop, at 7.15pm as usual, when we hope to have a demonstration and some free time to browse and purchase the many craft materials available in the shop before enjoying tea and a scone or cake etc. in the Auld Bar Cafe. All very welcome.

Jane Nicolson (Press Secretary)

Next Issue of 'In the PICTURE'

Deadline for April 2023 issue is

Saturday 18 March

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

E-mail: joan_77@btinternet.com

or to Rev Martyn Thomas

14 Kirkgait (01307 818084)

E-mail: revmartynthomas@outlook.com

GARDEN CLUB

February saw Joe Gibb,
Chair of the Friockheim Garden Club,
give an interesting and informative talk on the
Weeping Red Flowered Horse Chestnuts
found in Angus.

On Tuesday 14th March we welcome
Tracey Williams to give a talk
on spring gardens and gardening.

Time: 7:30pm

Place: Letham Bowling Club

All Welcome

Bill Muir 07908 339420

Dunnichen, Letham & Kirkden



Guild



The Guild Annual General Meeting

will take place in the Church Hall,
on Tuesday 21st March at 2:30pm

Speaker to be arranged.

(Isabel McClung, Interim Convenor)

FORFAR FOODBANK



URGENTLY NEEDED

Tinned meat	Tinned puddings
Tinned fruit	Dried pasta / rice meals
Instant 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

From an American church magazine:

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.



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

 **Hand Pict
Showcase Gallery** 

We have the finest range of Arts & Crafts
merchandise all hand made by local Artisans.
Come along and see for yourself
Telephone 01307819228

OPENING TIMES
Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am to 4.00pm
Sunday 12.00noon to 4.00pm


JOINER & BUILDING CONTRACTOR

- All aspects of joinery work
- New Builds & Extensions
- Loft conversions & Renovations
- Kitchen installation etc.

A reliable, professional service with quality assured
Tel. – 01307 819413 Mobile – 07801066772

Shiells

Solicitors and Estate Agents
ESTATE AGENCY
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
PERSONAL LAW
COMMERCIAL LAW

31A St. David Street, Brechin DD9 6EG
Tel: 01356 622171 - (Property 624458) Fax: 01356
625232 mail@shiells-law.co.uk
S Middleton : G Couston

SNIPS

Hairdressing salon
Ladies, Gents and Kids Styling
Tuesday - Friday 9am - 5pm Saturday 8:30am - 3pm
Call the salon or PM our Facebook page
to book your appointment.
**10% discount for new customers
only with this voucher.**

18A The Square, Letham, Angus
Tel: 01307 818814
f @SnipsofLetham

Sales • Repairs • MOTs
Parts • Tyres • Vapour Blasting
Ultra Sonic Cleaning



info@angusclassicbikes.co.uk
www.angusclassicbikes.co.uk
01307 463838

Angus Classic Bikes • 40 Brechin Road • Forfar • Angus • DD8 3JX

JOHN CONBOY ELECTRICAL
45a Blairs Road, Letham

Tel: 07905 824155 / 01307 818779
Email: johnconboy3@msn.com

Domestic & Commercial work
Inspection & Testing reports
Smoke alarms
PAT Testing


National Inspection Council for
Electrical Installation Contracting

APPROVED CONTRACTOR

Margaret Leighton Nicoll



Margaret was born on 14th September 1923 at Drimmie Farm, Rescobie, to loving parents William and Isabella.

The family moved to West Lownie Farm in 1931 when Margaret was eight, and she attended Kingsmuir Primary School and then to Forfar Academy.

Margaret and her mother Isabella moved to "Belmar" at Hillend of Lownie in 1957, where Margaret stayed until she moved to Storyville.

Upon leaving school she enrolled at Bruce's Secretarial College in Dundee. Her first job was working for the Ministry of Food and she was in charge of post war rationing. Later she was with the building firm Webster and Pattillo then she joined Lochwoods, a fruit farming and canning business, and was the Personnel Manager responsible for employing staff.

After retiring from Lochwoods at the age of 60 she and her good friend Romy Young went on many holidays together. The highlight being a world trip which included visiting cousins in New Zealand and Australia. She also went on many Rural holidays, the longest one being a bus trip to Oslo, Stockholm, Helsinki and Gothenburg. Also to Normandy to visit the Bayeux Tapestry and another to the History of the Shetlands.

Always wanting to be busy there were Rural Country Dance weekends, weekly dance classes in the Reid Hall, history classes in the Meffan Institute along with sewing classes which kept her interest. Margaret also loved to crochet and would crochet squares and make them into blankets to give to charity.

Her other passion was her keen love of gardening and she particularly liked to grow tomatoes in the greenhouse and loved arranging flowers from the garden.

Margaret was Brown Owl for the 1st Lour, Kingsmuir Brownie Pack for decades and she was on the committee of Kingsmuir Hall for 60 years.

As a long standing, faithful, member of Dunnichen Church, Margaret was for a time the Clerk to the Congregational Board and Flower Convener.

Margaret and Romy played golf; she was no mean golfer giving some other members a run for their money. Along with Jessie Lindsay and Sheena Benvie they had Matinee season tickets for Perth Theatre.

Occasionally they went to Pitlochry Theatre stopping at Burrelton Park or The Red House in Coupar Angus for tea.

Margaret was a faithful and devoted member of the Kingsmuir Rural Institute, and was made an honorary member in 2003. In 1946 she became Treasurer at the same time her mother Isabella became Vice President. She also held the office of President three times and served as Vice President, Secretary and Tea Convenor, continuing to attend well into her nineties.

At the age of 94 Margaret had to move from Belmar to Storyville where she spent the last five years of her life. Margaret passed away in her sleep peacefully on 5th January 2023, eight months before her 100th birthday.

HELENE STURROCK

2nd May 1937 - 30th January 2023



Helene was born in Huntly in 1937, the eldest of three sisters. Her parents were Helen and James Faskin and at the time of her birth her father was a signalman on the railways. This work necessitated many moves for the family, and in 1951 Helene's father became station master at Auldbar Station, just a few miles

north of Letham.

Helene worked there when she was younger, helping with booking in shipments of all kinds of goods, such as sugar beet, game and rabbits, fruit and vegetables, as well as deliveries of coal and livestock coming in. The station also had a very healthy passenger volume.

It was through working at the station that she met Bill Sturrock when everyone from the area, including all those who worked at the station, used to go to the dances in the Feuars' Hall where Bill compered the dances.

Helene was very clever at school, being especially competent in Latin which resulted in her getting a job as a trainee pharmacist in Forfar as she could read and understand the Latin which was on the medication and on the doctors' lines. To do this she had to cycle back and forth from Auldbar to Forfar as she was keen to stay fit. She was forced to leave the chemist when it closed.

Bill and Helene married in 1958 and have done everything together since then, enjoying 64 years together. Helene was a devoted Christian. She was a very keen gardener and took immense pleasure from the garden she and Bill created over the years. She was also a very experienced embroiderer which is where her love and passion for all things crafty began.

Helene built the Craft Shop business up over the years and in the mid 80's Bill gave up his joinery business to help Helene develop the shop, expanding it to provide picture framing, tapestry stretching and creating a café. In those early years the business employed only these two – but the couple built it up to become a thriving business which now employs thirteen staff.

Helene was a very well known individual, not just in Letham but also in the craft and hobby world, with which she was still involved on a daily basis at the age of 85. She will be missed by many.

Helene's death was unexpected and follows on from her younger son's death in September of last year. Thoughts and prayers are with Bill and son Bill Jnr and the wider family at this very sad time.

Adapted from a tribute written by her son Billy



T: 01674 658501

M: 07873 566500



Yell.com



Google

E: info@oakwoodtreesandlandscaping.co.uk

W: www.oakwoodtreesandlandscaping.co.uk



KeyStore



Convenience Store and Post Office stocking groceries, chilled and frozen products and a wide selection of beers, wines and spirits.

"We'll support you evermore"

Opening Hours:

Mon-Fri 6:00am-8:00pm Sat 6:00am-8:00pm

Sun 7:00am-7:00pm

All major credit/debit cards accepted.

Electronic and card top-ups for mobile phones.

Magazine and newspaper delivery service.

01307 818840



STRATHMORE



FUNERAL DIRECTORS

4 Roberts Street, Forfar

Privately Owned

24 hour service

Offering a personal, caring and professional service in your time of need.

Golden Charter Pre-Paid Funeral Plans

Telephone 01307 460777

Large selection of local honey available.

Naturelle

Prepare for Winter

Echinaforce 50mls.....	£10.85
Echinaforce 100 mls.....	£18.65
Echinaforce Throat Spray.....	£11.35
Echinaforce tablets.....	£10.85
Vit. D3 1,000 mg	£9.55
Vit. D3 2,200 mg	£12.50
Vit. C 1,000 mg	£9.99

Also large selection of Lip Balms and Cough Bottles available.

Please pop in if you need any help or advice.

59 Castle Street Forfar 01307 468738

Opening Hours Mon-Sat 9.30am - 4.30pm

Please pop in if you need any advice.

DUNRIC DIY

26 Blairs Road, Letham



**Flower, Herb & Vegetable Seeds
Compost, Topsoil, Bark, Manure, Potting Grit
Lawn Treatments, Plant Feeds, Weedkillers
Fence, Shed, Decking & Garden Paint/Stain
Wild Bird Food, Fat Balls, Feeders**

Open Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

Tel: 01307 818011



ANDY'S MOBILE SERVICE

Established in 1994 and still going strong

Mobile 07951 542370

Tel. 01307 818747



Radiant Looks

Health and Beauty

Salon



- Advanced Facials
- Manicures / Pedicures
- Gel Nails - Hand & Feet
- Waxing
- Tinting - Lash & Brow
- Bridal Make-up

Stockist of Decleor, OPI, Environ, Make-up

Jane Alexander

Qualified Beauty Therapist

10c The Square, Letham, DD8 2PZ

www.facebook.com/radiantlooks1

Tel: 01307 818157 or 07749 845410



CENTRAL MOTORS LETHAM

your local, reliable & family owned garage

- QUALITY USED CAR SALES
- M.O.T. TESTING
- HYBRID SPECIALISTS
- SERVICING
- AIR CON RECHARGE
- EXHAUSTS
- DIAGNOSTICS
- BATTERIES
- CALOR GAS
- TYRES

NOW DOING HYBRID SERVICING AND REPAIRS

01307 818924

MAIL@CENTRALMOTORSLETHAM.CO.UK

5 EAST HEMMING STREET LETHAM