

In the PICTure

September 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)

Letham Gardening Club Flower Show



Started in 1988, on Sunday 13th August the Flower Show held its 34th show in 36 years. The two missing years were due to the recent Covid pandemic.

This year's show was another success with a significant number of people in the village and surrounding area entering a flower show for the first time. Whilst entries from children and for the handicraft continued to increase we saw a large drop in the cut flower category. This could be accounted for by the dismal weather in July, but one of the major factors was the sad death in November of Tom Nelson who, despite living in Cupar, was a long time supporter of our flower show, and seemed to hold the cut flower trophy as his own. Tom is a sad loss to our show and it is our intention to present a new trophy next year in his honour.

Despite the success of our show it is a sad fact that many gardening clubs and flower shows are folding and we are keen that ours does not become such a casualty. As I look around the village there is a significant number of beautiful gardens and vegetable patches with the produce that would win prizes. The flower show takes a lot of work to put on and we are keen that the village will be able to say in another thirty-six years that it still has a flower show.

I would like to thank all those who entered the different categories and those who came in the afternoon to support the show. Mostly my thanks to the team who made it happen, and I invite you to join us for the next one on Sunday 11th August 2024.

Bill Muir

07908 339420

2023 Scarecrow Competition



The winners of the 2023 Scarecrow Competition are as follows:

7 and under:

Scarecrow number 2: Georgia Dorsie
£30 voucher sponsored by Village Lottery

8 - 16:

Scarecrow number 4: Connor Duke
£30 voucher sponsored by Letham Feuars

Over 16:

Scarecrow number 6: Letham Pharmacy
£30 voucher sponsored by anonymous donor

Congratulations to the three winners.

Thank you to everyone who entered. All the entries were exceptional. Thank you to the three judges for giving up their time to go around all the entries.

I am not sure if there will be a competition next year as it was stressful trying to get enough entries.

Elaine Saunders

Next Issue of 'In the PICTure'

Deadline for October 2023 issue is

Saturday 16th September

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

The Cosgrove Award

The Cosgrove Award is named after the first recipient, James Cosgrove, in recognition of the outstanding contribution he made to the community over many years.

The Award is available to be presented annually, by Letham & District Community Council, if a recipient meeting the criteria is nominated.

The plaque containing names of recipients is displayed in the Village Hall.

Criteria for making the Award

The criteria is (are) that the nominated person(s) has contributed towards the community over an extended period of time and is (are) worthy of recognition.

Nomination

To nominate someone, you must find a further two supporters of your nomination, write a synopsis, of no more than 150 words, as to why you feel the nominated person(s) is (are) suitable for the award.

Once completed, please sign in the appropriate sections.

Address to Letham & District Community Council and post it in the letter box of the Feuars' Hall, 15 The Square.

Nomination forms are available in the Book Shop, The Square.

WORLD MISSION REPORT

JULY 2023

Mission Aviation Fellowship or MAF for short is a Christian organization reaching men, women and children in more than 23 countries. Operating more than 120 aircraft, MAF's pilots overcome terrain that has become inaccessible due to derelict roads, natural disaster or violent conflict. Aircraft fly into more than 1,000 destinations transporting food, water, health professionals and medical supplies and emergency workers and Christian missionaries where they are needed most. Each flight brings practical help, spiritual hope and physical healing to thousands of isolated people and people in remote communities.



MAF UK is a member of MAF International (MAFI) which has its UK HQ in Folkestone, but MAF Scotland is a semi-autonomous organisation based in Glasgow.

To give an idea of the scope of MAF UK, its expenditure budget for the year end 31/12/22 was £17,123,000 and it raised £15,973,000 and drew £1,151,000 from reserves to balance the books. It depends on individual donations, legacies, trusts donations from churches, companies and governments. Letham's contribution this year was about £200 from the coffee morning held in April 2023.

Until recently, Letham's mission partners were the Swanson family in Uganda whose tour of duty ended in 2022 and our new partners are the Jack family (also from Glasgow) who will have an enhanced role in Uganda. Previously they served in Arnhem Land (Northern Australia).

Disturbing news reached us in March that Ryan and Annabel Koher, MAF workers in Mozambique, had been imprisoned, probably for political reasons connected with the domestic politics of that country but not for anything the couple had done wrong. Mercifully they have now been released from jail but are still detained in Mozambique pending the resolution of legal proceedings. MAF asks that we continue to pray for their total acquittal.

Recent news from MAF announces a new initiative in Guinea in West Africa where MAF have previously not been active and renews the emphasis of work in Timor Leste (a former Portuguese colony near the Philippines) struggling to cope with the after-effects of a brutal invasion by its larger neighbour, Indonesia. The current report from MAF also underlines the continuing good work being done in Papua New Guinea.

Sandra MacRae

MISTAKE MISTAKE MISTAKE...

If a **BARBER** makes a mistake
it's a **NEW STYLE**,
If a **POLITICIAN** makes a mistake
it's a **NEW LAW**,
If a **SCIENTIST** makes a mistake
it's a **NEW INVENTION**,
If a **TAILOR** makes a mistake
it's a **NEW FASHION**,
If a **TEACHER** makes a mistake
it's a **NEW THEORY**,

If a **STUDENT** makes a mistake
it's a **"MISTAKE"**...



PRESBYTERY OF PERTH

The Presbytery of Perth was created on January 1st 2023 and is an amalgamation of the former Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth and Stirling. There are nine new Presbyteries in the Church of Scotland, with the tenth one to be called Clèir Eilean Ì (Highlands and Hebrides), which will be formed on January 1st 2024.

Perth is a large Presbytery geographically with an area of nearly ten thousand square kilometres and the population is around 510,000. There are 39,304 church members in the Presbytery, which represents just under 8% of the population. It contains 168 congregations and there are 77 ministers in charges, with many others serving Presbytery as Ordained Local Ministers, Deacons, Ministry Development Staff, Readers, Chaplains, Worship Leaders and other roles.

The Presbytery meets four times a year and sometimes requires to have extra meetings. We either meet online or in person and we're looking to have hybrid meetings in the future.

We have been slowly building up a team, with Ed Morton, our Administrator, having been appointed in January. Rhona Nicol, the Presbytery Treasurer, is also employed as the Congregational Support Officer and Rhona is keen to offer help in areas such as finance and safeguarding. We have just appointed Ruth Rankin as the Communications Officer and will shortly be interviewing for a Buildings Officer.

I see the role of Presbytery as being there to enable congregations to undertake the vital work of the Kingdom and I hope that people will see it as a body that's there to support them. This is, of course, challenging at a time when the Presbytery Mission Planning process involves some difficult decisions, including the closure of many buildings.

The priority for the Presbytery is mission – we seek to support and resource congregations so that they can grow and flourish as part of the Kingdom of God. The Five Marks of Mission ought to be at the heart of everything that we do.

I hope that you will view Presbytery as being there to offer support, encouragement and a sense of direction as we seek to be the Church in these challenging times.

John Ferguson, Presbytery Clerk.

Church Diary

Sunday 10th September at 10:30 am
Morning Worship
Service conducted by
Rev Brian Oxburgh

Sunday 17th September at 10:30 am
Morning Worship
Service conducted by
Pat and Eric Walker

Sunday 24th September at 10:30am
Morning Worship
Service conducted by
Rev Klaus Buwert

Sunday 1st October at 10:30am
Morning Worship
Celebrant to be confirmed

“IN THE KNOW” LEAFLET

You will find the latest version of the “In the Know” leaflet inside your copy of “In the PICTure”. We hope you find this information to be useful. We update and (re)circulate this on an annual basis - usually in September.

If there are other organisations or helpful contact details which you think are missing from this wee resource leaflet, please get in touch and let us know.

And while every household in Letham and district should have received a copy, if you would like additional copies for yourself or friends or family, spare copies can be accessed from the Church or the Book Store.

PUBLICITY GROUP

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” (Phil 4:6)



Thanks to the Gardening Club and volunteers who planted out the flowerbeds and kept them watered, weeded etc. Once again a lovely display throughout The Square.

Bruce Mair



Guild



The Letham Guild has now closed, but we have been invited to join the Lowson Memorial Church Guild.

The meetings are held fortnightly on Wednesday afternoons at 2:00p.m. in the Church Hall.

The first 2 dates for September are:

13th September

Guild Week: Opening Social : Happy Ukes.

27th September

Theme afternoon: "New Wine : New Wineskins".

Details of the meetings for each month will be advertised in 'In the PICTURE'.

Isabel McClung

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavour, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

Why don't you ever see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?



Learning Together



Group Weekly Bible Study

in
Letham Church Hall
on

Mondays at 1:30pm

Toys and drawing materials available for children

Tea, coffee and snacks provided

All are Welcome

Free, local information to help you tackle the Cost of Living Crisis

With the price of most things going up it is important to "make every penny count" and also to make good use of the things that you already have. Information, ideas and inspiration are available at Forfar Library and online.

"Forfar Library has been selected as one of the first in Scotland to host a 'Lend and Mend Hub', as part of a trailblazing pilot project helping to tackle the cost-of-living crisis." ⁽¹⁾

The library has access to new (and older) books that can help reduce the cost of living. Topics include:

- * Making new clothes, upcycling and mending clothes, using a sewing machine, knitting
- * DIY
- * Cooking (e.g. budget cooking, batch cooking)
- * Money tips
- * Gardening (e.g. growing your own food in containers)

These books are all free to borrow by members of the library and some of them are available online. They may also be available from the mobile library. (Note: books may be out on loan but can be reserved.)



The "Lend and Mend Hub" is open (to members of ANGUSalve libraries) with free access to equipment so you can repair, reuse and upcycle your things in Forfar Library. The equipment includes sewing machines, an embroidery machine, an overlocker (for seams and edges), a table, other sewing equipment and mannequins available in Forfar Library. To use the space everyone must undertake an initial brief safety induction - to book an induction please email LendandMendInduction@angusalive.scot or telephone 01307 492121.

More information is available at <https://angusalive.scot/pioneering-lend-and-mend-hub-launches-in-forfar-library/>, by phoning 01307 492121 or popping into the library. (The library has extended its opening hours and joining the library is free.)

Margaret Moore

Source

⁽¹⁾ <https://angusalive.scot/forfar-library-service-selected-for-pioneering-lend-and-mend-hub-project/>

LETHAM and DISTRICT



Letham SWI held a very successful Tombola/Bottle stall at the annual Letham Flower Show on Sunday 13th August.

Grateful thanks to all the members and everyone who donated to the stall, also members who participated on the stall on the day.

A thank you also to Redcastle Brewery, Carmyllie and Milton Haugh Farm Shop, Carmyllie for their kind donations.

Our new 2023-2024 session begins on the 5th September and we are looking forward to seeing all our members, also to anyone who would like to come along and see what we do, you will be made very welcome.

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month from September to June in Letham Bowling Club at 7.15pm.

For our first meeting we are excited to have Kirsty Kiezebrink who will be giving a talk on Bee keeping and bringing some of her produce along for us to see.

Competitions for September are,
Handcrafts - Favourite Scottish Ornament.
Homeskills - Small jar of Strawberry jam.
Garden flower of the month.

Hope the weather remains good for August and see you all in September.

Colette McNeill (Press Secretary)

Surely every car is a people carrier?

~~~~~

I wonder how many chameleons snuck onto the Ark.



The wildflower garden which was planted by the Cubs within the Church grounds is now established and looking great with plenty of colour.  
Well done.

## LETHAM PENSIONERS

**The last day for paying the £2 subscriptions for 2023/2024 is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**

If you were previously a member of the Letham Pensioners and you would like to continue but have not yet paid your subscription, then please get in touch with Elaine Saunders (01307 818230) to arrange collection, or you can call at 10 Dundee Road to pay.

If you are a new Pensioner or new to Letham, Bowriefauld or Craigie, and would like to join, please get in touch as above. Membership gives a subsidised outing each year, a subsidised Christmas party and a Christmas present delivered to your door.

Any non-pensioner who would like to donate to the work of the pensioners can contact Elaine as above.

We hold various fund-raising events during the year, such as coffee mornings, and everyone is welcome to join us.

*Elaine Saunders,  
Treasurer, Letham Pensioners*

A guy broke into my apartment last week.

He didn't take my TV, just the remote.

Now he drives by and changes the channels.

FORFAR  
FOODBANK

As the cost-of-living crisis continues the Foodbank is now having to purchase food to meet demand.

All donations are gladly accepted though the items below are those which are needed most.

**URGENTLY NEEDED**

|                |                       |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Biscuits       | Diluting juice        |
| Tinned fruit   | Long-life fruit juice |
| Jam            | Microwave puddings    |
| Long life milk | Tinned puddings       |
| Pasta sauce    | Carrier bags          |

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. 01382 698020*



**T: 01674 658501**

**M: 07873 566500**



**E: [info@oakwoodtreesandlandscaping.co.uk](mailto:info@oakwoodtreesandlandscaping.co.uk)**

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More remedies 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.



# STRATHMORE



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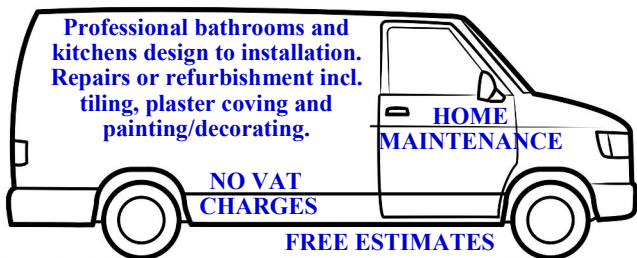
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## Red Castle



Red Castle, an impressive but shattered ruinous old stronghold, once a large and strong castle held by the Barclays, Stewarts and Beatons, in a prominent spot near the sea some miles from Montrose and near Lunan in Angus in northeast Scotland.

### Restricted Access

Following a recent mound landslip in March 2021 at Redcastle, Angus Council surveyed the historic site and concluded that the recent slope failures between the north-eastern corner of the Redcastle tower and the bank of the Lunan Water present a present danger to the public, should there be further more catastrophic landslips, or should these landslips lead to the collapse of the Red Castle tower. As a consequence, safety fencing and warning signage has been erected and Angus Council are liaising with the landowner.

Access from the bank of Lunan Water is to be avoided. Get the best views of Red Castle Ruin from the Estuary at Lunan Water. Flying drones over and around Red Castle is not permitted without prior authorisation from the Red Castle landowner and should be avoided during the breeding season of the fulmars who nest in the ruin from early January to late September.

The nearest car parking to Red Castle is Lunan Bay car park on the North side of the Bay.

*For more information contact*

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

Adam and Eve were the first people to ignore the Apple terms and conditions.



The only remaining active Angus Gold Group

## PUBLIC MEETING

**Tuesday 19th September at 10:30am  
in Letham Church Hall.**

There will be a meeting in Letham Church Hall to discuss the future of Angus Gold (Letham) - the only remaining active Angus Gold group in the county - and the Shopping Bus.

All residents are invited to attend.

The Angus Gold Committee needs new people to help provide the programme of events, talks, etc., and to schedule the Shopping Bus trips as previously provided.

Please attend and help keep these facilities going.

*Richard Moore, Chair*

A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.

### *'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 GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club begins the 2023/24 season on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm in the Bowling Club.

There is a full programme on the second Tuesday of each month until April 2024, starting off with Tracey Williams giving us a guided tour of her newly laid out Japanese Garden.

If you haven't been before come and join us for an enjoyable evening, and if you have been before welcome back and bring a friend.

Bill Muir 07908 339420

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## Letham Feuars' Committee

Registered Scottish Charity: SC003197

Supporting *'In the PICTure'*

Remember **LETHAM BOOK SHOP**

Open At Least Six Days a Week  
 in Letham Feuars' Hall, Auldbar Road.

All takings used for the benefit of Letham.

For information about the Feuars please contact

[lethamfeuars@gmail.com](mailto:lethamfeuars@gmail.com)



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## 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!

## SNIPS

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## JOHN CONBOY ELECTRICAL

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