

DORNOCH PARISH NEWS

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September 1989



MINISTER - REV. JAMES A. SIMPSON
CATHEDRAL MANSE

EDITOR - MRS. I. CALDERWOOD
5, THE PILLARS, PITGRUDY

ROYAL VISIT

During our 750th celebrations, we were thrilled to learn that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, had kindly agreed to be present at the morning service on Sunday, 1st October. As well as unveiling the plaque beneath the new memorial window, it is hoped he will also read the Lesson, and present cheques to the various charities which will benefit considerably as a result of our 750th. Not only were our celebrations successful in terms of Church life and community life, they were also very successful in financial terms.

The police, who are responsible for the safety of Prince Charles that day, have informed us that because of the recent increase in terrorist activity, security will have to be tighter than they would normally wish for a Church Service.

Everyone wanting to attend will have to have a security pass. These will be readily available for local people and regular visitors. The concern of those responsible for security is with total strangers.

Details of where and when these passes will be available will be intimated from the pulpit on the 10th September.

The congregation is asked to be seated by 10.40 a.m.

WELCOME

Mr Simpson and several of our members attended the Ordination and Induction Service of the Rev. Neil Maclean to Dornoch Free Church.

We hope Mr and Mrs Maclean will quickly feel at home in Dornoch, their first charge, and that the links between our two congregations will continue to be warm and friendly.

GUEST PREACHER

Mr Simpson has been invited to be the guest preacher on the 17th September at a special thanksgiving service in St. Andrews. The service will be attended by representatives of the town of St Andrews and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club. The service in Dornoch that Sunday will be conducted by Mr Michael Burnett.

Mr Simpson has also been invited to be the guest preacher in St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh at the thanksgiving service which is being held in connection with the Silver Jubilee of the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust. This service is on Saturday, 30th September at 12 noon. That same evening, a Gala Concert, with Bill McCue and the Inverness Choral, will be held in aid of Cystic Fibrosis in Eden Court. (Fuller information about this concert is given on page 9.)

DORNOCH CATHEDRAL

750th CELEBRATIONS

From a snowy evening in March when the floodlighting was switched on, all the months of hard work by the various 750th committees became a glorious reality. What a feast of choral and orchestral music we enjoyed. The packed and enthusiastic congregations at both morning and Songs of Praise services, sent us home uplifted. There was a truly ecumenical touch about them. For those who sit in the Cathedral most Sundays, the Cathedral will be a more meaningful place of worship - with the enriching experience of the Pageant, Flower Festival, music and the beautiful tapestries and Gilbert window to remind us we were fortunate to be there when the 750th celebrations of our Church took place.

Janet May.



THE SPECIAL SERVICES

In planning for the 750th celebrations the Special Services Committee sought to reflect the fact that our cathedral had served communities of many denominations in its long history and to reunite their descendants in fellowship and thanksgiving. How well it succeeded in doing so. Sunday by Sunday, members of the cathedral and visitors and guests of all denominations, and from all parts of the world, joined in the services.

It was fitting that in the first service on the 18th of June we were able to welcome back John Levack, Bill Edgar and Fred Fulton, all previous ministers of the cathedral. Many found this Communion Service a most moving and nostalgic occasion. That evening the band of the Salvation Army from Thurso added to our thanksgiving in the Songs of Praise.

The morning service the following Sunday was recorded by the BBC for later transmission, as was the evening Songs of Praise. As with the live Grampian TV transmission, that brought the special services to an end on the 20th August, it was reassuring to find how little the mechanics of recording and photography intruded into the atmosphere of family worship. All those concerned are to be congratulated on the quality of transmission which allowed us to share our celebrations with a far wider audience than Gilbert could ever have imagined.

Bishop Mario Conti of the Roman Catholic Church came over as a gracious and warm personality. Those who had heard the Pageant in the previous week were able to check its authenticity with the Bishop's account of the cathedral's early history. Even the dates agreed! Tain Choral led the Songs of Praise in the evening to great acclaim. Their rendering of "All in the April Evening" rekindled memories of the visit of the Glasgow Phoenix Choir.

Michael Hare-Duke, Episcopal Bishop of St. Andrews, came to the cathedral with a formidable reputation as a communicator. We were not disappointed. "A Night with the Psalms" was the theme of the evening service and must have brought back fond memories to many of the older generation.

Every extra seat available had to be pressed into service for the visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly on the 18th of July. Dr. Macdonald brought with him the congratulations and best wishes of the Assembly and continued the theme of "celebration" in his address. That evening the Songs of Praise was given over to hymns chosen and introduced by a minister or member from each of our neighbouring congregations in East Sutherland. We have often been complimented on our singing, but surely there was an added quality to the

singing that night. What a marvellous finale to a wonderful series of services. How much we owe to our minister, to the choir, to our talented organist and not least to our members for these uplifting experiences.

Mike Burnett.



THE PAGEANT

The task facing the scriptwriters and the producers of the pageant was a challenging and daunting one, for it meant finding and selecting the material over seven hundred and fifty years of the cathedral's history and presenting it in dramatic terms. That they achieved this successfully, to the great enjoyment of the audience, is a tribute to their imagination and craft.

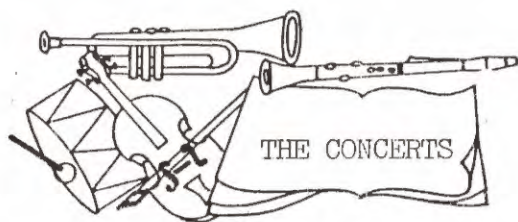
Three strands were woven together. One strand dealt with events directly based on the cathedral - the building by Bishop Gilbert in the 13th century, the sacking of the cathedral at the end of the 16th century and the effects of the Disruption in the middle of the 19th century. This was linked with the history of the local area - the murder of Bishop Adam, the battle of Embo, the sad history of the Maid of Norway and the burning of Janet Horne. These strands were placed against the wider national background - Bannockburn, the fulminations of John Knox and the battle of Culloden. A monk in the role of narrator linked these for the benefit of his young visitors - and the audience.

The pageant moved at a lively pace. Characters entered and exited briskly from the North transept, the West door and the South transept door. The settings were reinforced by back projection from the chancel and the North transept. Lighting and sound effects were skilfully varied to suit the particular event. The choir were specially effective in setting the mood and the tone of each event as well as adding to our enjoyment of the whole.

What we in the audience saw was the finished product - an enthralling two hours of dramatic presentation, reflecting the enthusiasm and hard work of the actors and singers. We are very much in their debt. But we are also in debt to the very many who worked so hard behind the scenes - those who set up the staging, who organised the lighting and effects, who made the many different costumes, and others who helped in many and various ways. Not all the actors and helpers were from Dornoch but came from a wider area. In particular our thanks are due to Golspie High School, both staff and pupils.

All who saw the pageant were enthralled by the performance and the memory will stay with us for a long time. We record our thanks to the actors and helpers who gave us this delight. They are too numerous to name, but an exception must be made for the producers Alan and Anne Barclay who gave us this memorable experience.

Laurie Speak.



I attended all the 750th concerts, except that given by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, not because I have a particular interest in the performing arts, but because I belong to a Church with a very persuasive minister.

At the end of the day, however, I am very glad I was privileged to have been able to see and listen to the array of talented people who took part in these memorable celebrations. Needless to say, I had been asked to 'sing for my

supper'. For the duration of the period I was one of the ticket-takers on the door of both the Cathedral and the Academy.

The Phoenix Choir provided me with an experience that I had not had before. I left the Cathedral that evening with a lift to my step and a joy in my heart brought about by the quality of the singing and by the content of the programme. It is one of life's lovely moments to have oneself uplifted and I know of no medium other than music that is able to touch my emotions to such a degree. But the music has to be presented in the manner performed by the Choir and I salute them for their extraordinary talent.

When I settled down to listen to the concert given by the winners of the Young Highland Musician of the Year Competition - the concert at which Evelyn Glennie was the guest artist - I was aware of the tension that was present as the young people waited for their opportunity to present their wares to an audience which, while sympathetic and willing the youngsters to do well, was still there to be satisfied. It is surely one of life's traumatic experiences to offer one's skills for public assessment. I enjoyed some of the performances more than others, but then that is to be expected. The tremendous commitment that the individual performers showed was greatly to their credit and provided all who were in the Cathedral that evening with much to enjoy.

Some years ago, I had been taken to a concert in the Usher Hall in Edinburgh on an evening when Peter Morrison was appearing as part of a supporting team to the main event which consisted of the Massed Pipes and Drums and the Bands of the Scottish Regiments. I remember being favourably impressed by Peter Morrison's stage presence and voice. Although the situation in the Academy was about as different as it could be, I believe that the evening of song presented by Mr Morrison and his troupe benefited from the much more intimate surroundings of the assembly hall. I found the evening to be a happy and engaging affair. There was neither too much of the main attraction nor too little. Peter Morrison was always willing to allow his 'guests' to have the stage to themselves.... something that not all performers are wont to do. When one bears in mind the strenuous programme that was facing Peter Morrison following his appearance in Dornoch, one is more than happy to acknowledge that the man put himself out to a considerable extent to help in marking the Celebrations.

It was with some reluctance that I took myself off to the Academy for the final concert. I do not like being entertained by six year old children - no matter how talented their parents think they are; but take myself off I did, this time out of a sense of duty, to take the tickets and no more. It was hoped the star attraction for this evening would have been Andy Stewart but as we all know, Andy is sadly not well. He had arranged for Stuart Anderson (BBC Young Entertainer of the Year) to be his replacement. Obviously a very large number of people thought this to be a most satisfactory substitute, for that night the largest audience to be seated in the Hall passed through the doors of the Academy. It was apparent to me that I must be in a minority of one and so I listened with more interest to the goings-on on the stage than I had intended. Well, the audience was right and I, not for the first time in my life, was wrong. The young man was good. More than that - he had obviously been carefully coached and trained by his father - himself an entertainer of no mean ability. Stuart appeared as a most pleasant and engaging youngster. His parents are obviously determined that he will not become one of those ghastly sugary imitations whose brass neck far exceeds their talent. All power to them. The main event was well supported by a fine array of local talent. Their musical offerings were received with much enthusiasm by the packed house.

There can be nothing but praise for the performers in each of the events.

Andrew Mackenzie.

THE FLOWER FESTIVAL

Surely, Dornoch Cathedral, in all its 750 years, never looked so lovely or smelt so sweet as on the 8th, 9th and 10th of July, the days of our Flower Festival. Every door had its archway of flowers, every pew-end had blossomed into a posy and every window-ledge and other flat surface held a beautiful floral arrangement, the colours glowing against the old grey stone walls.

The flowers gave more than their beauty and fragrance. They told the whole history of the Cathedral; they highlighted its ancient features and illustrated the subjects of the stained-glass windows.

We have many people to thank for all this beauty - Isobel MacLeod and her Flower Committee; members of the Sutherland Floral Art Club; the Girl Guides; those generous gardeners who sacrificed their choicest blooms and friends and visitors who came to help and admire, and often to leave a donation as a thank-offering.

Indeed we all owe them a very great debt of gratitude.

Jo. Joyce



TOWN AND GARDENS

Our warm thanks are due to everyone who helped to make Dornoch look so lovely this Summer. The Town and Gardens Committee, under their able convener Mr Vaughan Shaw, could not have carried out their programme without the willing help of so many local people.

The hanging baskets and the welcome signs and the tasteful planting of flowers round the War Memorial all looked very attractive. Even Dornoch's gardens seemed to bloom better than ever this year.

A special "thank you" must go to Sid and Helen Thomas who kindly propagated over five thousand pansies for us at Spinningdale Nursery and to Maggie Ross who pricked them out in an incredible one and a half days, and of course to Molly and Dodd Sutherland who lovingly cared for this huge number of pansies at Lonemore and had them ready for the start of the celebrations in June. The pansy display will be talked about with enthusiasm and appreciation for a long time.

Margaret Thomson

MEDIEVAL FAIR

11 a.m. Thursday, 13th July, 1989. The Town Crier, dressed in his richly coloured costume, takes up his position by the Mercat Cross and summons the citizens of the burgh and all visitors in their midst to the fair. The previous evening the High Street had been the scene of great activity - people erecting scaffolding, covering it with polythene and adorning it with greenery - cars, lorries and tractors transporting tables, chairs, benches, urns, enormous saucepans, boxes of crockery. Now, on Thursday morning, the High Street is traffic-free and the stall-holders are ready to display and sell their wares - cheeses, smoked salmon, wine, candles, plants, leather goods, pottery, wood-craft, quilting, knitting, even seaweed. Familiar figures are disguised by a variety of bonnets, shawls, long skirts as they persuade the customers to buy.

By/

By mid-day, people can be seen enjoying bowls of hot soup, while others gather to admire the dancing of the local Brownies, volunteer to sit in the stocks or are brave enough to be publicly weighed. In the afternoon sunshine, groups are refreshed by tea, gingerbread and shortbread beside the North porch, fiddlers are delighting their audience, and children are rushing around with very cleverly painted faces. The ladies of the Episcopal Church have still more cakes for sale! Demonstrations of spinning, weaving, lace-making and bee-keeping are in progress. By 4 p.m. Etta Hayward, the convener, and her committee members, breathe a sigh of relief. The weather had been excellent. The efforts of the past 18 months had not been in vain. A memorable Fair had been enjoyed by hundreds of locals and visitors.



Christine Murray.

DORNOCH HERITAGE SOCIETY

With the encouragement of Mr Simpson, the Cathedral's minister and the substantial assistance of the Cathedral's 750th Anniversary Committee, Sutherland District Council and the Bank of Scotland, the Society organised an exhibition named "Dornoch's Yesterdays" at the Council Chambers in the Carnegie Library Building from 3rd to 8th and 10th to 15th July daily in the forenoons and afternoons and, by public request, also during the evenings of 6th, 11th and 13th. The exhibition was part of the Cathedral's 750th anniversary celebrations and its success was proved by the attendance figures of 823 adults and 79 children. That success can be fairly attributed to the single-minded diligence of Mr James K. Bell, the Society's Chairman and the meticulous financial dealings of Mr Robert Rennie, the Treasurer, assisted by the Committee and members of the Society. It would be invidious to mention a few among so many but it would be wrong to omit reference to the massive contribution of Dr Struan Robertson's 21 feet long wall chart of the old croft houses and other sites of archaeological significance in the Evelix Valley from Loch Laro to Dornoch, details of meal mill sites at Rearquhar and Cyderhall and the hut circle and souterrain at Cyderhall gravel pit as also the expertise of Mr William Skinner in connection with the enlargement of photographs which formed such an important part of the display. Thanks are due to Mrs Margaret Randall for the school class photographs which were a focus of interest to the citizens. The Society is indebted to Mr John Callum for hand-writing the potted biographies. The items in the exhibition should form the basis of a permanent collection of all of Dornoch's yesterdays and the Society should look for a fairy godmother to produce, not a coach for Cinderella, but a permanent home for its artifacts and records.

Falco.

The remit of the DANCE AND GAMES Committee was to provide the 'light entertainment' of the 750th celebrations.

The first event was the Krypton Factor where contestants subjected themselves to various tests of memory, general knowledge, computer skills etc. but were able to relax and enjoy, with the audience, the video tape of the physical fitness round, taken previously at Nethybridge Outdoor Centre. After a nerve-racking contest, the eventual winner was Mr John Gunn. The brainteaser for the children was the Treasure Hunt in the Cathedral on the day of the Medieval Fair. The children who took part had the opportunity of exploring the Cathedral in detail, while facing the challenge of finding the correct answers. An afternoon of family fun was provided by the "It's a Knockout" competition. The four teams - the Lords, the People, the Law and the Church - vied to overcome each other in a series of mind-boggling games. After a gruelling struggle, the Lords emerged triumphant..

The final event was the Open Air Dance and Ceilidh in the Square. The talent of the artists and the clemency of the weather combined to make this a memorable, happy evening for all ages and a fitting climax to the celebrations.

I. Sorley.

Finally, a thank you.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank very sincerely the many people in both Church and community who helped make the Cathedral's 750th celebrations so memorable. Never in our wildest dreams did we think they would be quite so successful. Well done Dornoch.

Lord Strathnaver, Convener.
James A. Simpson, Minister.

T.V. FEED-BACK

I am grateful to those who volunteered to help me answer the spate of mail which has been received in connection with the recent live television broadcast. Without exception the letters were appreciative. Numerous were the requests for copies of the tune Orlington, and other parts of the service.

What a variety of titles I was given - Minister, Vicar, Canon and even Bishop! One couple expressed their joy at listening to 'an old fashioned minister'. I am not sure I regarded that as a compliment!

One letter was from a lady who lives on the banks of the Thames. Having been kept awake most of the night by the noise of helicopters hunting for survivors from the "Marchioness", she had not felt up to going to her own church. Many other letters were from elderly folk now no longer able to attend their own church.

I would like to express my thanks to you all for the part you played in the broadcast, turning up in such large numbers on a pouring wet Sunday morning and singing so lustily. My fear that many might stay at home and watch the service on television, proved groundless.

The programme controller for Grampian Television wrote in the following terms.

"Just a note to thank you and your congregation for providing such a first-class service on Sunday from the Cathedral. It is always daunting doing live television, particularly into a Network, and even more difficult when one has to choreograph so many different performers. All of us at Grampian were very pleased with the results, and I am sure the Network was equally delighted. I thought your own contribution was first-class. In particular I liked the item with the children and your topical reference to the tragedy in the Thames. Thank you again for making us feel so welcome and co-operating so effectively to produce what I feel was first-class television.

Yours sincerely,

George Mitchell. "

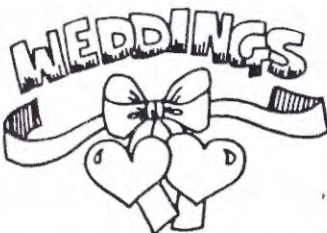
I replied, expressing my thanks to all those involved in producing the service, for being such a wonderful technical crew to work with. They succeeded in their aim - to obtrude as little as possible, on our normal worship service. I also thanked Grampian for the very generous donation of £400 towards our Cathedral Funds.

James A. Simpson.

BAPTISMS

CATHEDRAL REGISTER

Nicola Rae Murray, infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Murray, Fir Cottage, Dornoch.
Tessa Rosalind Budge, infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Budge, Easter Rarichie, Fearn.
Ashley Michael Cooper, infant son of Mr and Mrs Brian Cooper, The Meadows, Dornoch.
Dougal Kyle Scott, infant son of Mr and Mrs James Scott, Care of Kyleview, Dornoch.



Sandra Holt, Skibo Castle to William Howden, Overskibo.
Anna Carruthers, Kintradwell House, Brora to Per NG, Oxford.
Iona Patterson, 3 Castle Street to Thomas McGauran, Edinburgh.
Eleanor Fraser, Springwell Cottage, Embo to Hugh Grant, Embo.
Rebecca Carruthers, Kintradwell House to Paul Searle,
Ballinreach, Brora.

DEATHS

Our thoughts and prayers are with the relatives
and friends of those who have recently died.

Margaret Gunn, Macdonald Road, Dornoch
Euphie Mackay, formerly of Brannen Terrace, Dornoch
William Ashplant, Elizabeth Crescent, Dornoch
Georgie Lindsay, Hilton, Dornoch
Catherine Maclean, Bridge Street, Dornoch
James Seatter, Sutherland Road, Dornoch



Rota of Elders and Deacons Door Duty and Collections.

<u>Sept.</u>	
Elders:	Deacons:
D.A. Goskirk	R. Branley
J.S. Innes	K. Mackenzie

Cathedral Flowers

August	27th - Mrs M. Mackenzie, Glasgow
September	3rd - Mrs S. Preston, Hilton
"	10th - Vacant
"	17th - Vacant
"	24th - Mrs B. Reeves, Dornoch

Deacon's Court.

The next meeting will be on
Sunday, 24th September 1989
at 7.30pm in West Church Hall.

The Finance Committee will
meet at the earlier time of
6.45pm.

During the 750th celebrations in July we
enjoyed the magnificent Flower Festival.
Flowers for other Summer Sundays were
provided by Mrs Souder, U.S.A., Mrs Burnett,
Pulrossie, Weddings and the Flower Fund,
while Mrs Jean Gunn was responsible for the
attractive floral arrangement at the T.V. .
service.

Margaret Anderson, Flower Secretary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADVENTURERS. The new session has started for all children in the
age range, Nursery to Primary 7. Throughout September we shall be meeting in the
Cathedral at 11 a.m. before going along to our classes in the Hall. Three new teachers
have been welcomed - Mrs S. Gow, Mrs L. Macleod and Mr G. McCarthy.
There will be no classes on Sunday, 1st October but the children will be welcome to
accompany their parents to the special service.

John Muir, Leader.

SHIPMATES

The Shipmates began their new session on Wednesday 23rd of August. All boys in Primaries 2 and 3, and those in Primary 4, not yet eight years old, are welcome to join us at 6 o'clock in the West Church Hall for an hour of games, handwork and fun.

Morag Macaskill



DORNOCH CATHEDRAL YOUNG WOMAN'S GROUP have their first meeting on Monday, the 4th September when they are entertaining the residents of Oversteps.

Coffee Morning

The Young Woman's Group and Playgroup are holding their Coffee Morning on Saturday the 23rd of September at 10.30 a.m. in the West Church Hall.

The Committee look forward to seeing you all there.



OVERSTEPS

Our outing on Thursday, 8th June was to Altnagar, where we enjoyed an excellent lunch and a chat in the lounge. It was a pleasant 'bus run and most of the residents were fit and able to go. Later in June, children from Brora presented an enjoyable concert. Then in August, we had a visit from members of the Greenbank Summer Mission team from Glasgow.

Visitors to Oversteps remark on the beautiful gardens, tended by green-fingered residents who seem to derive as much joy and satisfaction from doing this work as we do in admiring it. What a precious gift and talent they have, and how generously they use it! Still on the same subject, four of the residents were taken to see the Flower Festival in the Cathedral, and this they enjoyed very much.

CAN YOU HELP? One service which is appreciated is the weekly shopping trip. This is sustained by a few volunteer drivers. If anyone is able and willing to take an occasional turn at driving to the town on a Thursday morning, we would be very grateful for your help. Please contact the Secretary to the Committee, Mrs M. Anderson, Tel. 810287, or the Matron of Oversteps.

M.M.A.

The Congregation of St Finnbarrs Episcopal Church, Dornoch wish to thank most sincerely all those who contributed bakery goods, etc., to the stall at the Mediaeval Fair. Your support helped us to make it such a big success.



Cystic Fibrosis
RESEARCH TRUST

GALA CONCERT

On Saturday, 30th September at 7.45 p.m. there is to be a celebration concert in Eden Court to mark the 25th anniversary of the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust. This concert will be attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, Patron of the Trust. Top artists, such as Bill McCue, will perform. Tickets are £6.

We would like to hear from anyone who is going and has a spare seat in their car, or anyone who would like us to try and arrange transport for them.

Derick and Morag Macaskill (810033)

In the Free Church Hall on Friday September 29th from 10am to 7 pm

Tearcraft creates, supports and develops a range of small-scale cottage industries and handicraft projects, and markets their products in Britain.

In the Third World, if you have no work, you get no money. And if you have no money, you and your family go without food. By supporting projects which provide employment, you can make a real difference, not only to individuals but sometimes to whole village communities. If you are unable to be at the sale, but you would like to buy or look at the goods, you are most welcome to call at:

Easdale, Carnaig Street, Dornoch. Tel (0862) 810484.

Margaret Rice.

LITTER AROUND CATHEDRAL We still need two or three extra volunteers to keep the cathedral precincts reasonably clear of litter on a weekly basis. My thanks to those few existing litter gatherers. Anyone interested, please call me on 810615.

Henry Rowe, Litter Convener.

RURAL STRESS Does it exist? Who suffers from it? Can we do anything about it?

Sutherland Local Health Council and East Sutherland Council of Social Service invite you to the Sutherland Arms Hotel, Golspie on Saturday, 30th September from 10.30am to 3.30pm to hear more about this. Speakers include Dr. S. Robertson and Miss Ann Barker. For further details, see local adverts or telephone Campbell Port on Golspie 3900, or Alison Burnett - 88 206.

ADULT RECREATIONAL CLASS AT DORNOCH ACADEMY

Wednesdays at 9.15 a.m. in Mr Mitchell's rooms in Technical Area.

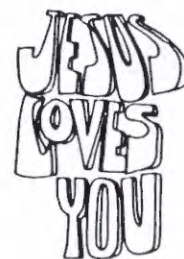
The day-time class for adults which was run last session at Dornoch Academy is offered again on Wednesday mornings. Men and women are welcome to come and make use of woodwork and metalwork rooms and facilities. The last group sharpened many garden tools, repaired furniture, varnished stripped wood and generally enjoyed the company and help offered. A few men, in addition to the hard-working ladies, would be most welcome.

DORNOCH HERITAGE SOCIETY

Beating the Bounds. The walk round the old Royal Burgh Boundaries takes place on Saturday, 16th September, starting at 2pm from the beach car park. Wear stout shoes and clothes to suit the weather.

Keep Saturday, 7th October clear for a tour of old croft sites in the Harriet Plantation and a look at the site of Proncy Castle. Meet in the Square at 2pm.

JB.



God, help me not to shun my fellow man,
The drunks, the dopes, and also-rans,
If you did not take and hold my hand,
I would be as these.
And You - if I should them despise
Could tell me, "These are Mine,
And you are not".

I.F.

1st DORNOCH GIRL GUIDES Although Meetings have started after the holidays, Guides have never really stopped this Summer. We had a Midnight Hike and sausage sizzle, flower arranging for the Cathedral, Badge Test practice, and the Haddo Centenary Camp in Aberdeenshire. Audrey Gunn, Jane Ross, Vicky Coombs and Claire Mackenzie spent a most enjoyable week learning new crafts, songs and outdoor pursuits, and living under canvas with other girls from Sutherland, Banffshire, Gordon and Aberdeen. Our Sub-camp quickly became famous for the Macramé Owl Brooches made and worn by the girls, and before long we had quite a few 'honorary' members around Haddo Estate, proudly wearing 'Blue camp' owls. Poor Kelly Thomson had the 'bug' and was unable to go to Camp, however Sutherland Guides came home laden with presents and souvenirs for her. A Camp as large as this is a wonderful experience for the girls, and a few throats had lumps in them as we said goodbye to new friends. In the future as they meet some of these friends again at other Guide events, they will realise the true 'sisterhood' of Guiding and understand why we 'old timers' get so excited about catching-up with folk we haven't seen since Camp in 19.. whatever!



Sadly, we have lost two of our most enthusiastic Guides, Mary Mackintosh, who is going to Boarding School, and Amy Ferguson, granddaughter of Mrs Kath Munro, our ex-District Commissioner. We know that Kath has thoroughly enjoyed Amy's time with 1st Dornoch, and we hope that she will continue to feel involved with us. We wish both girls good luck and are delighted to hear that Amy has already joined a Company in her new home town of Inverness.

In the meantime, the girls are busily preparing for the new session, and Mrs Yvonne Ross is running a Weekend Camp on 1st September to qualify for her Camp Licence. If the weather continues in its present pattern, we will certainly have the opportunity to prove that "A Girl Guide is cheerful in all difficulties".

There is a Nationwide plan to discover Guide 'roots', in Guide Companies' own areas, so - Dornoch ex-Guiding folk - Be Prepared - we will soon be asking for your help! More of this next month.

E.S.

DORNOCH S.W.R.I. The monthly meetings resume on Tuesday, September 19th at 7.30 p.m. in the West Church Hall. Our speakers that night will be Mrs Bridget MacKenzie with a talk entitled, "The Viking Grave of Cyderhall", and Mrs Hannah Johnstone, who will enlighten us on her hobby, "Hawaiian Quilting".

A warm welcome is extended to ladies of all ages to join us at the beginning of our new session; you will be assured of a good evening's entertainment and a friendly cuppa.

Our good wishes go with Hannah, and Nell MacDonald, when they represent Sutherland this week in Edzell at the S.W.R.I. National Golf finals. M.M.

Senior Citizens'

THE WELCOME CLUB The Summer outings were a great success and very much enjoyed by all the members. Grateful thanks are due to Beatrice Oil Trust and Moray Firth Radio for their donations to the Club.

The opening meeting of the new session will be held on Monday, 9th October in the Free Church Hall at 2.30 p.m. New members always welcome.

W.R.V.S. Once more an urgent appeal for new members - ladies or gentlemen - to attend the opening meeting in the Free Church Hall on Wednesday, 4th October at 2.30 p.m.

I.R.

