

DORNOCH PARISH NEWS

March 1987



MINISTER - REV. JAMES A. SIMPSON
CATHEDRAL MANSE

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

RECORD GIFT DAY

It is extremely difficult for me to find the right words to express my heartfelt thanks and the warm thanks of the finance committee, for the wonderful response to our Gift Day.

Considering that we are a relatively small congregation and community,

£4420

really is a magnificent total. The Cathedral and what it stands for, is obviously very precious to many folk in Dornoch - and far beyond Dornoch.

Our thanks are also due to the Guild members who organised the teas, laying on such an inviting 'spread'.

Mr Hugh Steele also deserves our sincere thanks for undertaking the mammoth task of addressing all the Gift Day invitations and for supervising the day and the counting.

STUDY EVENINGS

The first of these will be held in the West Church Hall on Sunday 1st March at 7.30 p.m. (lasting until 8.30 p.m.) As intimated in the February Parish News, our study theme this year is the "Prophets".

The programme is:

- 1st March - Introduction to the Prophets.
- 8th March - Prophetic Visions and Dreams.
- 15th March - Isaiah.
- 22nd March - Amos and Hosea.
- 29th March - The Greatest Prophet.

COME ALONG AND JOIN US. There is no obligation to speak - just to listen. Bring a Bible with you.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the congregation will be held in the West Church Hall on Wednesday 18th March at 7.30 p.m. It is hoped there will be a good turn out of our members.

The following deacons have completed their three-year term of office -

Mrs M Randall, Mr I Mackay, Mr R Maclean, Mr L Speake and Mr G Taylor.

Our sincere thanks are due to them for the time and effort they have given as deacons to the church. At the close of the business part of the meeting, which will include the election of new deacons, tea will be served.

Thereafter several of our talented musical teenagers will present a short operetta based on the Adam and Eve Story.

Best Wishes

Congratulations and good wishes to Mrs Margaret Carnegie Miller who this month celebrates her 90th birthday. Margaret, the only daughter of Andrew Carnegie, has been a wonderful friend to the Cathedral over the years. Though living in America, Dornoch and Dornoch Cathedral still have a very warm place in her affections. She follows with great interest, from the Parish News, all the 'goings-on' in our town and church life.



I recall a tearful wife saying to me, "It is not so much what my husband says. It is the way he says it that is so upsetting. Why does he always have to shout?" An office secretary said, "I am coming to loathe my boss. He never shows any appreciation. He takes everything I do for granted." I think also of a harassed parent who said, "All we get from our teenage son is surliness."

For lack of courtesy and good manners many a working day is ruined, many a friendship wrecked, many a home broken. For far too long we have under-emphasised the importance of courtesy. Good manners are not just a frill. They are an essential lubricant of human nature. Without them friction can easily generate excessive heat. Deep down, all of us want to feel needed and valued. Words like 'Please' and 'Thank you' can convey this feeling better than almost anything else we say. These simple words change demands into requests.

Whereas rudeness is a weak person's imitation of strength, good manners reflect an inner assurance and a genuine concern for others. They clearly indicate to other people that we regard their needs as being on a par with our own. Is not politeness essentially the golden rule in action, treating other people as we would have them treat us?

Please and thank you are enriching words in any human encounter. So also is the courteous phrase 'in my opinion'. Most of us speak too dogmatically. We say in effect, "I know what I'm talking about, and if you don't see it my way you are just too stupid to understand." Such an arrogant way of speaking produces a great deal of irritation, whether it is directed at your wife, your children, or the person who dares to differ with you about politics or football, or the moving of the war memorial!

If we precede what we say with the defusing phrase, 'in my opinion', a useful dialogue can frequently result. These three words acknowledge that the other person is as entitled to his view as you are to yours. They foster a spirit of mutual tolerance - at least that is my opinion!

I sometimes feel courtesy is like the zero in arithmetic. It may not add much in itself, but it is capable of adding a great deal of value to everything else! If I were allowed to add one beatitude, it might well be, "Blessed are the courteous."

James A. Simpson.

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Joining the Church The special series of teaching services continues through until the 12th April. That morning, those joining the Church by profession of faith, will be introduced to full membership. (Those interested in joining should complete one of the forms to be found in the vestibules and return it to Mr Simpson or Mr Steele.) Mr Simpson would be very willing to call on anyone who might like to discuss with him what is involved in joining the Church - either by profession of faith, or by transference from another church or denomination. In the past, people of all ages have joined. It is hoped it will be so again this year.

CATHEDRAL REGISTER

Baptism

Stuart James Mackay, infant son of
Mr and Mrs C. Mackay, 5 River Street.

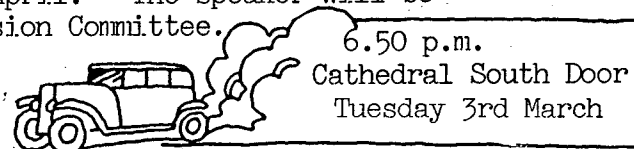
Death

William George McIntosh, Evelix.

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TRAINING EVENING FOR ELDERS

The Presbytery has arranged a training course for elders commencing Tuesday, 3rd March at 7.30 p.m. The meetings will begin at 7.30 p.m. and should last 1½ to 1½ hours. They will be held in Lairg Church Hall. Cars will leave from the South door of the Cathedral at 6.50 p.m. The dates of the other meetings are the 10th March and the 7th and 16th April. The speaker will be Captain Stephen Anderson of the Church's Home Mission Committee.



750TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

At its last meeting, the Kirk Session nominated a special committee to begin forward planning for 1989, the year we as a congregation will celebrate 750 years of worship in the Cathedral. The first service took place in the Cathedral in 1239.

Unlike many other churches with long histories, we are fortunate in having a considerable part of the original building. The four arches are the original - so also most of the chancel and parts of the transepts.

We are looking forward to celebrating such a milestone in our history. Very few churches get such an opportunity. Lord Strathnaver has kindly agreed to act as convener of the committee. The nominated committee is:
Lord Strathnaver (Convener), Laurie Speak (Vice-convener), James Simpson (Minister), Simon Bradford (Tourist Officer), Morag Sutherland (Dornoch Academy), John Calder, Donald Goskirk, Harriet Murray, Margaret Randall, Margaret Thomson and Susan Wright. At its first meeting the committee co-opted Mrs H. Davidson of Lonemore and Mrs I. Fenelon, Rearquhar, to help with secretarial and financial matters.

Though the committee won't be reporting for some time - 1989 being two years off - we can assure you we will be working hard behind the scenes, to make these celebrations a memorable occasion.

Rota of Elders and Deacons for Door Duty and Collections

Elders: Mrs S. Wright
H. Steele

Deacons A.W. Mackenzie
K. Mackenzie

Hall Cleaning Rota for March

Young Woman's Group and
Playgroup.

Cathedral Flowers

March 1st - Mrs K. Black, Fleuchary
" 8th - Miss M.J. Wright, Cluny Cres.
" 15th - Mrs Betty Taylor, Lake District
" 22nd - Mrs M.J. Grant, Migdale
" 29th - Vacant

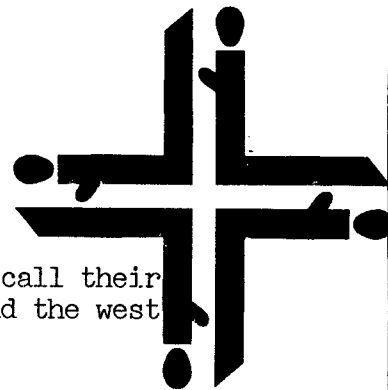
Thank-you to Mrs Fraser and Mrs Bennett, who provided flowers for the vacant Sundays in February. Thank-you also to others who have given donations to the Flower Fund. M.M.A.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, 6th March, 1987

WEST CHURCH HALL AT 7.30 p.m.

CENTENARY YEAR



The members of the International Committee for World Day of Prayer call their sisters and brothers from the north and the south, from the east and the west to celebrate the Centenary of World Day of Prayer, 1887 - 1987.

COME AND REJOICE - for the Lord has guided our footsteps and still leads us in His way.

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SENIOR BREAKFAST CLUB

The group are hoping to have an away day, the last Sunday in March. We hope to go ski-ing and those of us who are not so courageous can go swimming and skating. The same weekend, two of our girl members are attending St Ninian's in Crieff for a programme of drama and music for Easter. We look forward to hearing from them.

Our last meeting will be 5th April when we will be joined by the Junior group. We will have as our guests the ladies who have so kindly washed our dishes.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

AND

ADVENTURERS

1st March - 11 a.m. Cathedral Family Service

8th March - 11 a.m. West Church Hall

15th March - 11 a.m. West Church Hall

22nd March - 11 a.m. West Church Hall

29th March - 11 a.m. Cathedral (Mothers Day)

YOUNG WOMAN'S GROUP

At the February meeting the Group had a most interesting and informative talk from Veterinary Surgeon, Mr Tony Wall, on the choice and care of family pets. We were also highly entertained by some anecdotes relating to Mr Wall's veterinary work.

Our next meeting is on March 2nd. The A.G.M. will take place at 7.30 p.m. in the West Church Hall and will be followed at 8 p.m. by a slide show entitled, "From New Zealand to Scotland" given by Mr Don Jones from Rogart, to which Guild members are cordially invited to attend.

WOMAN'S GUILD

The members found Mr Speake's talk on Jane Austen very interesting at their afternoon meeting in February. At the evening meeting on the 24th, a panel comprising Mr Simon Bradford, Mr John Calder, Mr Hugh Steele and Capt. W. Stewart-FitzRoy, discussed a variety of questions raised by the members.

Guild meetings for March: 2.30 p.m., 10th, Mr Donnie Macdonald on Walks and Birds to Look Out For. Invitation extended to Free Church ladies.
7.30 p.m., 24th, A.G.M. and Video of Williamswood, Glasgow.

Invitation from Young Woman's Group. The meeting originally arranged for April has been brought forward to Monday, March 2nd and Guild members are welcome to share the showing of slides at 8 p.m.

News Release

● The Woman's Guild have fallen a victim of the current electricians dispute at the BBC. A "Songs of Praise" programme due to be recorded at Glasgow Cathedral on Saturday for transmission in April has had to be cancelled.

The Junior Singers are happy to be joined by ex-members and Ranger Guides for the performance of the musical "Adan-in-Eden" by Michael Hurd.

Instead of our usual 'At Home', we look forward to presenting the cantata after the Cathedral A.G.M. on March 18th, and also to singing during the morning service on Mothers Day, March 29th.

M.M.A.

SUTHERLAND PRESBYTERIAL COUNCIL

Spring Meeting
Wednesday - 25/3/87 - 7.30 p.m.
Clyne Church, Brora.
Speaker: Rev. Peter Neilson.

**"There is not enough darkness
in all the world to put out the
light of one small candle."**



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION SCOTLAND.

The Dornoch and District Branch will celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Branch formation in October of this year. It is hoped to mark the occasion in some tangible form and, to date, two functions have been arranged, viz., a Sale of Work in the West Church Hall on Saturday, 26th September at 2.30 p.m. in aid of the Benevolent Fund. A special parade followed by a Church Service in the Cathedral on Sunday 4th October at 3.00 p.m. when the Branch Standards will be rededicated. It is intended to send invitations to other Branches for this parade and a special plea is made to all Branch Members and to all local ex-service personnel to make a very special effort to support the Branch on this occasion. A warm invitation is also extended to everyone who wishes to attend the Church Service.

This is intended as a preliminary notice to that you can make a note in your diary. If anyone has other ideas on how we should celebrate our Golden Jubilee then please pass them on to any of the Branch Office-bearers.

H.S. President.

WIT'S END CORNER



Hullo again! Back in the SORTING OFFICE.

Sam and hen ass rim are can dam era had

You place one of the above three-letter words in the correct place in each group of letters. Answers are names of people or places in the Bible.

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|
| 1. TRYP A | GOS | ATS | STEP |
| 2. MON | ABA | AATHAEA | KIRJATH-JEA |
| 3. SON | UEL | ARIA | OTHRACIA |
| 4. ZPHATH | GENNEST | NAZTH | CAESA |
| 5. A | ASCUS | ARIS | AAH |

WORDS The answers are two-part words. A clue is given to the answer word.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Drink; attitude (imagine) | 2. Final word; fit (submissive) |
| 3. Fashion; allowance (temperance) | 4. Island; cereal (zodiac sign) |
| 5. Humans; card (threaten) | 6. Pulled apart; fuss (violent storm) |

CORNER CONUNDRUMS

1. We know what the seven deadly sins are - which are the cardinal virtues?
2. What grows down to grow up?
3. Two ladies fell down a well. How did they get out?

All for this time. WOO.

DORNOCH HERITAGE SOCIETY

Mr Bob Gourlay, Archaeologist in the Highland Region, gave a challenging talk to the excellent turn out in the Carnegie Library Building on February 25th. With the aid of slides, mostly aerial photographs, he drew attention to different markings of earlier habitation in our area and the need to survey and examine professionally and prevent loss of valuable information. He explained the kind of help he would welcome to keep his records up to date.

On Monday, 23rd March at 7.30 p.m., Syd Atkinson, who runs the weekly programme, "Down Memory Lane" for Moray Firth Radio, will speak on how life in the past was reflected in its newspapers. We will meet as usual in the Carnegie Library Building and please note it is a Monday.

There will be a meeting in mid-April, date yet to be fixed, when Dr. David Bell will give an illustrated talk on the story of St. Kilda.

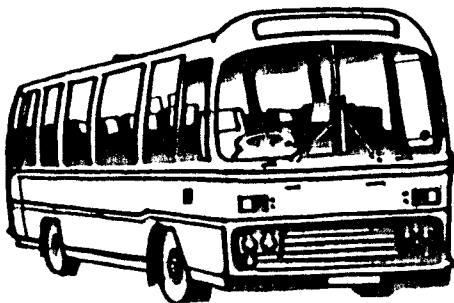


WELCOME CLUB

Mrs A. Livingstone welcomed a large number of members to the February meeting. She warmly thanked the busy knitters! Mrs Bella Maclean donated a child's suit and jacket, also the proceeds of the sale of chair-back covers. Three lovely knee rugs were given by Mr and Mrs J. Sinclair.

Mrs J. Price and Mrs M. Sutherland entertained the company by transporting them to North Island, New Zealand! Mrs Sutherland showed beautiful slides of her holiday in 1972, cheering the viewers on a dull Winter's day. Mrs Price gave a most interesting commentary, including some of the history of that lovely land. She had visited the same Island in 1982. A sincere vote of thanks was given by Mrs I. Fortune.

The next meeting will be held in the Free Church Hall on 9th March at 2.30 p.m.,



To help with the expenses of the Summer Outing, a COFFEE MORNING will be held on SATURDAY 14TH MARCH in the SOCIAL CLUB at 10.30 a.m. Donations to all stalls will be most gratefully received.

I.R.

DORNOCH S.W.R.I.

The February meeting was held at Oversteps on the 17th. Mrs Swallow, President, expressed pleasure at the large turnout of members and residents. Three members, Evelyn Calder, Agnes Livingstone and Maureen MacKay entertained with comical selections, accompanied by pianist Mr R. Maclean. Three delightful Highland dancers, Laura Campbell, Lorna Mackay and Rowan Mackay, completed the programme. Tea hostesses for the evening were Mrs M. Beddell, Mrs M. King, Mrs I. Calderwood, Mrs A. Dunlop and Mrs H. Rennie.

On behalf of the residents, Miss Chrissie Mackay thanked the visitors for their company, for the entertainment and the supper, and ended her vote of thanks with 'Haste Ye Back'.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING The Dornoch class will hold their annual rally in Dornoch Academy on Friday, 10th April at 8.00 p.m. The Tain Scottish Band will supply the music and a warm invitation is extended to all interested in Scottish Country Dancing. A copy of the programme can be had from H. Steele, Rosebery Avenue. Spectators are also welcome.

**April
event**

The following is an extract from a letter addressed to Mr Simpson from Betty Thomson, (the Secretary), 66 Tomnahurich Street, Inverness.
Mrs Mavor Wilson, Dornoch (Tel. 810885), has kindly agreed to gather names of volunteer collectors for the flag week.

SAMARITANS OF INVERNESS & HIGHLANDS

"May I through the pages of your Parish Magazine make a plea for help on behalf of the Samaritans? Your local branch, based here in Inverness, covers a vast area - the whole of Inverness-shire and the Western Isles, Ross-shire, Sutherland, plus Caithness and the Northern Isles, when the part-time branch in Thurso is unmanned.

Because of the distances involved, most of our fund-raising events take place in Inverness. What I would like to do is ask for the support of six or so Dornoch people to host one or maybe two annual fund-raising events on our behalf.

Ours is an entirely voluntary service relying on the public's help together with our own efforts to keep the branch functioning. The service which we offer to the public with complete confidentiality is:-

- a) a telephone service manned continuously for 24 hours daily, seven days a week,
- b) a link with medical/psychiatric/legal/professional help when required,
- c) a team of trained experienced Samaritans to answer any emergency day or night,
- d) a befriending service for regular callers who continue to ask for help over a period of months or even years, and
- e) a centre (when double manned) open from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. for personal interviews.

If you have the time to spare, I hope that our cause will commend itself to you. We all have problems at one time or another but most of us can confide in a friend or relative. Imagine what it would be like not to be able to talk it over with anyone, to feel friendless, abandoned and utterly alone with a private grief or problem.

Who knows what drastic measures some of our callers might take - harmful not only to themselves but to society as a whole, if they were unable to offload their troubles? A sympathetic ear or a friendly shoulder to lean on are great safety valves. Telephoning the Samaritans may be the first step on the road back to peace of mind for many at the end of their tether.

WE DO HAVE CALLERS FROM YOUR AREA.

I have been allocated a week during the Summer to use as a flag week in your area. This week starts on Monday 22nd June to Saturday 27th June. Monday-Friday having a house-to-house collection in the district and Saturday a flag day in town.

I do hope you will give this some thought and decide to help. "

ANSWERS TO WIT'S END CORNER

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Tryphena; Goshen; Athens; Stephen. | (HEN) |
| 2. Rimmon; Abartim; Arimathaea; Kirjath-jearim. | (RIM) |
| 3. Samson; Samuel; Samothracia. | (SAM) |
| 4. Zarephath; Gennesaret; Nazareth; Caesarea. | (ARE) |
| 5. Adam; Demasus; Demaris; Adamah. | (DAM) |
| 1. Suppose; 2. Amenable; 3. Moderate; 4. Capricorn; | |
| 5. Menace; 6. Tornado. | |
| 1. According to Paul, Faith, Hope and Charity (Love); | |
| According to Pluto, Justice, prudence, temperance, | |
| Fortitude. | |
| 2. A swan. | |
| 3. One lady had a ladder in her rights !! | |

Dads turn out all right—



In time.

An article translated from a Dutch magazine reflects the transition which most of us have gone or are going through in our assessment of father:

- 4 years: My Daddy can do anything.
- 7 years: My Dad knows a lot, a whole lot.
- 8 years: Dad doesn't know quite everything.
- 12 years: Oh, well, naturally Father doesn't understand.
- 14 years: Father? Hopelessly old-fashioned!
- 21 years: Oh, that man is out-of-date: what would you expect?
- 25 years: He comes up with a good idea now and then.
- 35 years: Must find out what Dad thinks about it.
- 50 years: I wish I could talk it over with Dad once more.

Many choose self-employment and work sixteen hours a day just to avoid working eight hours a day for someone else.

THE REAL DIVIDING LINE between the things we call work and the things we call leisure is that in leisure, however active we might be, we make our own choices and our own decisions. We feel for the time being that our life is our own.

CERTAINTY is the sin of bigots, terrorists and pharisees. Compassion makes us think we may be wrong.

DOCTOR to a nervous patient: "The medicine I suggest you take is yourself, with a pinch of salt."

TEATOTAL RECALL! When I was editor of the youth paper *Trend* I interviewed Jimmy Savile who told me "I find it a distinct advantage being a teetotaler because everything I do I can remember very clearly the day after."

— Social worker JOHN D. BEASLEY

HARRY LAUDER, the great Scottish entertainer, always left his audiences laughing. But as he left a theatre one night, he was handed a telegram informing him that his son had been killed in action. He cancelled his engagements, but three weeks later he was on his way to France to entertain the troops.

'When a man has a great sorrow,' Lauder said, 'he can turn sour on life, or turn to drink, or turn to God.'

Double Time

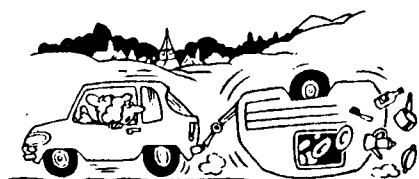
March is a jade, a fickle thing.
With the winter's wind and the sun of spring.
The sun writes "Come!" and the wind says "Go!"
The sun writes "Rain!" and the wind says "Snow!"
The sun keeps writing, the wind erasing,
And March never knows which way she's facing.
—The Old Farmer's Almanac

Fame is a bee.
It has a song—
It has a sting—
Ah, too, it has a wing.
—Emily Dickinson

IN A moment of extravagance, I promised my girlfriend a gold necklace for her birthday. But when the jeweller told us the price of the one we liked, I let out a low whistle in amazement. I had no idea necklaces could be so expensive.

"And how much are *they*, then?" I asked, pointing to another tray.

"To you, sir," replied the jeweller, "about three whistles."



"George, about that rattle in the back..."