

Malawi Sponsored Walk - 3rd March

I plan to walk from Glenapp to Ballantrae on Saturday 3rd March in order to help raise funds from my trip to Malawi.

There will be sponsor sheets in church over the coming weeks and I deeply appreciate any support you can give to this.

If you want to accompany me on the walk, please let me know. If you also want to ask people to sponsor you, then please collect a sheet from me, however if you just want to walk with me then please feel free to.



Many thanks, Stephen

Paws for Thought

Dear Friends,



For humans January is a month of getting back into a routine, and it's no different for dogs. I've slipped back into it quite easily – sleep, drink, walk, drink, eat, sleep and so the cycle continues. It only really changes on Saturdays when daddy is responsible for my morning walk, it can be a bit late sometimes but I'm still training him. Sundays are worse, I don't even get a walk in the morning – I just go out to the garden!

In January I had a holiday to Crieff (the family came too). When we go to Crieff we stay in a lovely warm wee chalet, it's so perfect for me I think they must have built it especially! Down one wall is a line of almost full height windows for me to look out of without having to stand on a chair! There are sofas and chairs that I'm not actually allowed on but I sneak up onto when everyone else is out. Even better than that, there aren't any stairs for my poor old legs to jump up. The weather was good too.

I am writing this just after returning from my walkie with mummy. Humans would think today was lovely – dry, no wind, bright and a little frost. I don't like the frost – neither would you if you were my height. I did see a photo on the internet of a Westie wearing snow boots, I think I might drop some hints about a pair of them (or should that be 2 pairs?)

Anyway, time for a nap. If you see the postman, please tell him to be careful when he carries all my Valentine cards – it must be a heavy sack.

Till next time

Dougie



From Our Prayer Correspondent

I am sorry to say this will be my last letter for our church magazine as Prayer Correspondent of Ballantrae Church. Thank you everyone for your love, support and encouragement over the past 6 years.

For reading and meditation - Mathew ch.6, v. 9-13

Ephesians ch.6, v.18

First Thessalonians ch.5, v.17,18.

Prayer! How important is it to each of us? It is or should be the most important part of our Christian life. Prayer is forming and building a relationship with God, through Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit, God hears all our prayers, not all are answered because what we ask for is not always his will for us. This can be hard to understand at times so we have to trust that God knows best and that there are reasons why our prayers are not answered. So let us never give up praying wherever we are, whatever we are doing, whether alone or with others. Remember God hears all our prayers. Jesus gave us a pattern for prayer in Mathew ch.6. we can use each line as a focus for our prayer time each day.

Prayer

Father God, help us to realise the importance of prayer, not only for ourselves but in our relationship with you.

Forgive us Lord when we selfishly ask for things that are not your will for our lives, we give thanks for the pattern of prayer that Jesus gave us, and for the Holy Spirit who speaks to us when we cannot find words.

Thank you Lord for the power that is in prayer, especially when joined with the prayers of others.

Amen

May your lives and prayer time be blessed and enriched in Jesus precious name Pat.



The Flower Calendar for 2012 is at the Church entrance, and those wishing to donate the Church Flowers should add their name against the appropriate Sundays.

There is also a Flower Fund to which donations of any amount can be given at any time. These should be left in the offering plate in a suitably marked envelope, or given to the minister. If you wish to donate the flowers but don't feel able to arrange them, this can be done for you.

Memo's from GOD!



1. Let's meet at my House Sunday before the game.
2. Come on over and bring the kids.
3. What part of "Thou shall not---" didn't you understand.
4. We need to talk.
5. Keep using my name in vain and I'll make the rush hour longer.
6. Loved the wedding, Invite me to the Marriage.
7. That "Love thy neighbour" thing I meant it.
- 8 I love you---I love you---I love you-
9. Will the road your on, get to my place?
10. Follow me.
11. Big Bang Theory? you've got to be Kidding.
12. My way is the Highway.
13. Need Directions?
14. You think it's Hot here?
15. Tell the Kids I love them.
16. Need a marriage counsellor? I'm available
17. Have you read my No1 Best seller? -There will be a test!



Congratulations to Jean & Billy McClung who recently celebrated 50yrs of marriage.

Film Nights

3rd February

- 6pm - Gnomeo and Juliet (animation)
8pm - Tron: Legacy (sci-fi)



9th March

- 6pm - Hop (animation/live action)
8pm - Johnny English Reborn (spy/comedy)



30th March

- 8pm - Tintin: Secret of the Unicorn (animation)



Date for your diary!

Ballantrae Church Summer Fair

Saturday 28th July 2012
from 2pm



Two gentlemen boarded a plane and were seated next to each other, the first man turned to the other and asked, what do you do? The gentleman replied: "I am a minister." "Oh," said the first man quickly. "I don't believe in this religious stuff. It's for kids, like the song 'Jesus Loves Me This I know, for the Bible tells me so....'" The minister politely laughed and asked the other man what he did for a living. "I am an astronomer," said the first man "Oh, that stuff," said the minister. I thought it was just for kids, you know - "Twinkle, twinkle little star...."

Weather



Everything is early this year. Snowdrops were in flower in Heronsford on Christmas Day while on 27 January the first daffodil appeared at the side of the A77 near the cemetery road entrance. Early in January severe gales affected the area an caused some damage on the 3rd and 4th. I can't record the wind speeds in my garden but I do have a wind vane which gives me a good indication of wind direction. Not as good as the smoke coming out of the chimney!

A Vane is probably our oldest known weather instrument. They may have existed in Mesopotamia 3500 to 4000 years ago but the earliest record is from Ancient Greece. In 48BC the astronomer Andronicus built a vane for the Tower of Winds in Athens with eight sides representing the gods of the different wind directions. The term vane comes from the old English word "fane" meaning flag or banner, and this may have come from the Vikings who used a flat metal quadrant vane which replaced flags made of fabric to give wind direction. By medieval times, weather vanes were mounted on church steeples, and often featured a cockerel. This came from a papal edict in the 9th century which declared that churched needed to be adorned with a cockerel to symbolise Peter's betrayal of Christ: "before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times."

Vanes became so elaborate that they could be read indoors on special wind dials connected by rods and levers. The King's Gallery at Kensington Palace features a wind dial connected to a weather vane built in 1695 for William III, allowing him to see which way the wind was blowing and when his navy was likely to be arriving. And a weather vane on top of Banqueting House, Whitehall, was erected in 1686 by King James II to warn of winds favourable for a Dutch invasion.

P.S. The inner planet Venus is now very prominent to the southwest after sunset.

George Watt



News Letter

Items for next months news letter should be in no later than
29th February

Lunch at the Manse

Thursday 23rd February 2012 at
12noon in the Manse – 1 The
Vennel, Ballantrae.

Come and enjoy food, fellowship
and faith. All welcome, even if you
haven't been before.



World Day of Prayer

Friday 2nd March 2012

The world day of prayer this year is
on Friday 2nd March. At time
Christian people throughout the
world will be joining in a service
with the title 'Let Justice Prevail'
which has been written by Christian
women of Malaysia. Each year, the
first service of the day is held on the
island of Tuvalu in the Pacific
Ocean, close to the international
dateline and continues for a period
of 36 hours until that same date
concludes in Alaska just to the other
side of the dateline.

In Scotland, many Churches and
other Christian Groups will be
hosting the service. Apart from
some small adaptations to suit local
circumstance, the service held in a
country kirk in Scotland will be just
the same as the one held on Tuvalu.

Young Woman's Group



8pm in the Vestry

Wednesday 8th February – Mary's
Meals

Friday 24th February – Safari Night

See Barbara Ogston for more
information (831252).

Annual Leprosy Collection

Penny Savage will be pleased to
accept any donations for the
Leprosy collection up to the end of
February.

Pastoral & Hospital Visiting

If you know someone who is in
hospital or is housebound and
would appreciate a visit from the
minister, please contact Stephen on
831252.

Ballantrae Church Guild



Monday 20th Feb

“Walk Humbly with God” part 2



S.W.R.I



Next meet on Monday February 6th
Travel Talk with Florence Clark

Bahulu (Malaysian Sponge cakes)

Individual cakes to make to celebrate The
World Day of Prayer



Pre-heat oven to 250°C

Ingredients

3 egg yolks
4 egg whites
100gm. All purpose flour
1tbsp tapioca flour or rice flour
100 gm sugar
½tsp Vanilla essence
¼ tsp Baking powder

Method

Sieve both flours together with baking
powder.
Whisk the eggs & sugar until the batter
thickens, add the vanilla essence.
Fold 20gm of sifted flour at a time into the
egg batter.
Lightly grease the Bahulu mould which
comes in different shapes & sizes, (to prevent
the Bahulu from sticking) and spoon in batter.
Do not fill to the top.
Bake for 5 minutes in the hot oven.
Bahulu keeps well in an airtight container, but
will harden with time. It's nice to eat it warm,
so you can reheat in your microwave oven.

LISTS AND ROTAS



Flower Calendar

Feb.
5th. R McKinley
12th M Heap
19th P McKnight
26th G McKinley

 Tea Duty-March
*Dorothy Flitter,
Margaret Maule,
Anthea Russell & Janice
Ross*

Church Cleaning Team

Feb.
12th. Anthea Russell & Jessie
Brown
26th Georgina McKinley &
Irene Stewart

If unable to fulfil your given
date, please swap with another
team. If you can help with the
Church cleaning rota, contact
Liz Gregg, tel. 841686.
**Please note church should be
cleaned prior to date
indicated.**

Sunday Duty Rota

Feb		March.	
5th	C	4th	A
12th	D	11th	B
19th	E	18th	C
26th	F	25th	D

Message from the Manse



Dear Friends,

It is with growing excitement that I look forward to my trip to Malawi in May. It is, as I have previously said, a great opportunity to meet with the people whom we have a connection with, and learn how we can best support them in the future.

All Christians belong to God's great family, therefore we have a strong link with all Christians around the world. That is one reason why it is good to be twinned with Lwambaza Church in Malawi. The aim of the link is to provide us with a connection with people who need our care and who will care for us. Let us never forget that we are all equals and we will gain as much from them, as they will gain from us.

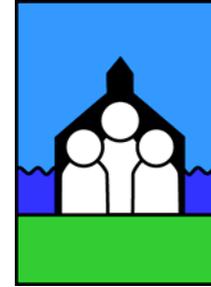
And that is why it is a real privilege to be going out to Malawi in May. It is not a relaxing holiday, but a pastoral visit to family members, to people whom we care for and who we have just begun to develop a friendship with. It is often said that a picture says a thousand words, therefore imagine how many words are equal to the days spent with our brothers and sisters in Malawi. I think we can be certain that time spent in Malawi and with the people of Lwambaza will help to develop and strengthen our link with them and will give us a clearer idea of the best way that we can support them in the future.

When Liz Banda from Malawi visited Ballantrae in September, she said to me, "One day you will come and see my home." I think I said, "Yes ... one day...." However, I never expected it to be so soon. And yet, that just goes to show our loving God can often have plans for our lives that he does not reveal until just the right time. Therefore let us pray that God will continue the work that he has begun in us and continue to use us according to his plans, every day of our lives.

May God bless you as you fulfil his calling for your lives.

Your friend and minister,

Stephen



CHURCH OF SCOTLAND BALLANTRAE PARISH CHURCH

LINKED WITH

St. COLMON

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