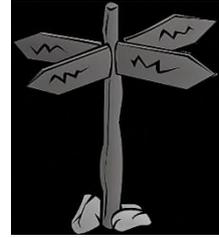


From the Rector



I have returned from my first ever trip to Canada. As you might imagine I had a great time. There is such a sense of vastness, places that are exquisitely beautiful and others that are dull because of the sameness stretching out mile after mile. Some of the things were unusual – humming birds, kayaking, chipmunks whilst others were familiar – friends, fun, beggars on street corners.

My experience of church was familiar too – in one place I was joyfully welcomed and in another my presence as a stranger was hardly acknowledged. There was much to commend it as a place to live but home is good too. Probably the sign of a good holiday – I feel refreshed and glad to be back.

Whilst travelling these distances is tiring – flying does reduce time spent: thankfully the airline was efficient, the pilots knew the route and the direction in which to point the 'plane!

October is going to be important for us to consider **our** direction as a church. I have still to meet and listen to most of you individually and look forward to doing so.

We will however, all have the opportunity to get together and listen to one another and what we think might or ought to be the direction for St John's. After the service on Sunday 14th October and again after the Wednesday service on 17th October I would encourage as many as possible to gather to discuss what we might want to do in the future. It might be what we do just now, more of what we do just now, doing different things or perhaps stopping doing something. It is not just about what the Rector wants to do! Like you, I may have suggestions, but this is everyone's chance to have a say and not just about what we do for an hour on Sundays.

I would like us to think about worship but also about reaching out to others, to us meeting together in different events and activities, and our spiritual growth. In fact, lots to think about!

Refreshed and raring to go, I look forward to the conversation...

With love

Elaine

Christmas Card

Again, this year, as last year, a St. John's Christmas Card will be produced for conveying Christmas wishes among friends and fellow-members within the church. If, instead of sending out individual cards, you would like to be a signatory to this joint card, please enter your name (as you would like it to appear on the card) on the list which will be found on the table at the back of the church. **The DEADLINE for signing –up to participate will be SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18th.** Envelopes marked 'Christmas Card donation' will be found by the sign-up list for enclosing a donation (which will help to cover the printing costs of the cards, and if any surplus, hopefully, to make a contribution to church funds.) These envelopes can be returned via the Sunday Offertory, or given to a vestry member. If you have any queries, please be in touch with Roger Cousins, who will be able to answer them.

I apologise for taking the 'post early for Christmas' slogan to ridiculous lengths, but as I am lucky enough to be away in Australia from mid-October to mid-November, it seemed a sensible thing to do.

Dorothy

Tuesday Club 2018 – 2019 Syllabus

Meetings in the Green Street Halls

2nd Tuesday in the month at 7.30 p.m. (subject to alteration)

ALL welcome, Men and Women

Year's membership £10.00 Visitors per meeting £2.00.

President/Secretary – Evelyn Balfour Treasurer – Liz Barnett

Helpers – Carol Douglas and Pat Green

October 9th Decisions, decisions! The Revd. Elaine Garman

November 13th	Old Forfar – Second Chapter	Alex Whyte
December 11th	Iona	Bob and Marion Douglas
2019		
January 8th	University of the Third Age	Kay Forsyth
February 12th	Miscellaneous Matters	The Revd. Brian Ramsay
March 12th	Churches in New Zealand	The Revd. Linda Stevens
April 9th	Forfar Open Garden	Dr Douglas Burt
May 14th	AGM Afternoon at Glen Doll Ranger Centre	Neil Lowther

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday October 9th Tuesday Club: Speaker, The Revd. Elaine Garman

Sunday October 14th Congregational meeting after 11 a.m. service to discuss ideas for the future direction of St. John's.

Saturday October 20th Coffee Morning in East and Old Parish Church in aid of the Forfar Committee of the LEPROSY MISSION, all the Forfar Churches are involved. Usual stalls, coffee and pancakes provided. Donations very welcome.

Sunday October 28th Diocesan Evensong 4.30 p.m. in St. Ninians Cathedral, Perth.

November 11th Remembrance Sunday. The time of our service will be changed to **9.30am** so that we can be at the Cross for **10.50am**, and proceed to Lawson Memorial Church for their hosting of the 'British Legion' service thereafter.

Friday November 16th Supper with speaker - Angus Macmillan Douglas will be speaking on '50 years working around the world'.
7 p.m. wine, soft drinks, and nibbles 7.30 p.m. Supper followed by talk.

Sunday November 18th AGM after 11 a.m. service

The AGM of St John's congregation will be held on Sunday 18th November, after the morning service. The Secretary would be pleased to receive reports from the various church organisations, **by Sunday 4th November**, by email preferably (secretary@stjohnsforfar.co.uk), so that they can be made available prior to the AGM. Elections to the Vestry will also be required.

Saturday December 1st Christmas Coffee Morning 10 – 12.

There will be the usual stalls. The Halls will be open for setting up from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Friday 30th November.

Services, Readings and Rotas

Wednesday October 3rd

10.15 a.m. Said Eucharist

Sunday October 7th Pentecost 20

11a.m. Sung Eucharist

Genesis 2: 18 – 24, Hebrews 1: 1 – 4, 2:5 – 12, Mark 10: 2 - 16

Reader: Douglas Burt

Wednesday October 10th

10.15 a.m. Said Eucharist

Sunday October 14th Pentecost 21

11a.m. Sung Eucharist

Amos 5: 6 – 7, 10 – 15, Hebrews 4: 12 – 16, Mark 10: 17 - 31

Reader: Richard Finch

Wednesday October 17th

10.15 a.m. Said Eucharist

Sunday October 21st Pentecost 22

11a.m. Sung Eucharist

Isaiah 53: 4 – 12, Hebrews 5: 1 – 10, Mark 10: 35 - 45

Reader: Eleanor Rowlands

Wednesday October 24th

10.15 a.m. Said Eucharist

Sunday October 28th Pentecost 23

11a.m. Sung Eucharist

Jeremiah 31: 7 – 9, Hebrews 7: 23 – 38, Mark 10: 46 - 52

Reader: Madeline Kingston

Wednesday October 31st

10.15 a.m. Said Eucharist

Sunday November 4th Pentecost 24

11a.m. Sung Eucharist

Deuteronomy 6: 1 – 9, Hebrews 9: 11 – 14, Mark 12: 28 - 34

Reader: Lee Winks

Wednesday November 7th

10.15 a.m. Said Eucharist

Sunday November 11th Pentecost 25

Remembrance Sunday See arrangements

Reader and Readings to be determined

Wednesday November 14th

10.15 a.m. Said Eucharist

Sunday November 18th Pentecost 26

11a.m. Sung Eucharist

Daniel 12: 1 – 3, Hebrews 10: 11 – 14 (15 – 18) ,19 – 25, Mark 13: 1 - 8

Reader: Fay Slingsby

Wednesday November 21st

10.15 a.m. Said Eucharist

Sunday November 25th Pentecost 27 (Christ the King)

11a.m. Sung Eucharist

Daniel 7: 9 – 10, 13 – 14, Revelation 1: 4b -8, John 18: 33 - 37

Reader: Eryl Rowlands

Wednesday November 28th

10.15 a.m. Said Eucharist

Sunday December 2nd Advent Sunday

11a.m. Sung Eucharist

Jeremiah 33: 14 – 16, 1 Thessalonians 3: 9 – 13, Luke 21: 25 - 36

Reader: Nora Craig

Wednesday December 5th

10.15 a.m. Said Eucharist

As the news is full of the BREXIT negotiations, this might ring a bell with us all...

A farmer named Bill was overseeing his herd in a remote mountainous pasture in Scotland, when suddenly a brand-new BMW advanced toward him out of a cloud of dust.

The driver, a young man in a Brioni suit, Gucci shoes, RayBan sunglasses and YSL tie, leaned out the window and asked the farmer, "If I tell you exactly how many cows and calves you have in your herd, will you give me a calf?"

Bill looks at the man, obviously a yuppie, then looks at his peacefully grazing herd and calmly answers, "Sure, why not?"

The yuppie parks his car, whips out his Dell notebook computer, connects it to his Cingular RAZR V3 cell phone, and surfs to a NASA page on the Internet, where he calls up a GPS satellite to get an exact fix on his location which he then feeds to another NASA satellite that scans the area in an ultra-high-resolution photo.

The young man then opens the digital photo in Adobe Photoshop and exports it to an image processing facility in Hamburg, Germany.

Within seconds, he receives an email on his Palm Pilot that the image has been processed and the data stored. He then accesses an MS-SQL database through an ODBC connected Excel spreadsheet with email on his Blackberry and, after a few minutes, receives a response.

Finally, he prints out a full-colour, 150-page report on his hi-tech, miniaturized HP LaserJet printer, turns to the farmer and says, "You have exactly 1,586 cows and calves."

"That's right. Well, I guess you can take one of my calves," says Bill.

He watches the young man select one of the animals and looks on with amusement as the young man stuffs it into the boot of his car.

Then Bill says to the young man, "Hey, if I can tell you exactly what your business is, will you give me back my calf?"

The young man thinks about it for a second and then says, "Okay, why not?"

"You're a Member of the European Parliament", says Bill.

"Wow! That's correct," says the yuppie, "but how did you guess that?"

"No guessing required." answered the farmer. "You showed up here, even though nobody called you; you want to get paid for an answer I already knew, to a question I never asked. You used millions of pounds worth of equipment trying to show me how much smarter than me you are; and you don't know a thing about how working people make a living - or about cows, for that matter. This is a herd of sheep..."

Now give me back my dog".