

Lindores Litanies

1st May 2023



The Newsletter of Lindores Parish Churches of Newburgh and Abdie and Dunbog



Dear Friends,

It seems no time since we set up our Remembrance book in response to our late Queen's death—and here we are, almost at the Coronation weekend.

We are celebrating in church with a range of events—I hope you can attend some of them. Pictured right is one of the stamps designed by the Royal Mail for the occasion (only the third time the RM has commemorated a coronation!) The other three stamps in the collection depict the King's support for the environment, the Commonwealth, and diversity. Meanwhile our own diverse community in Lindores has knitted a coronation crown for Newburgh post box, and celebrated creation at our annual lambing service at Abdie & Dunbog church.

Love to you all, Valerie



These beautiful painted windows are the work of Marian Thomas and, both inside and out, they really enhance our sanctuary. I asked Marian about her art, and she gave me the following generous response:

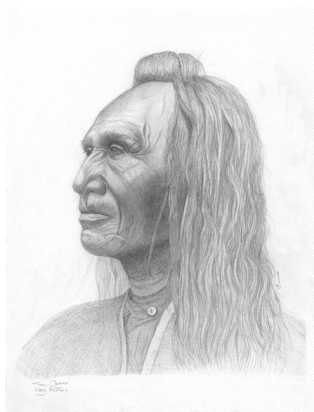
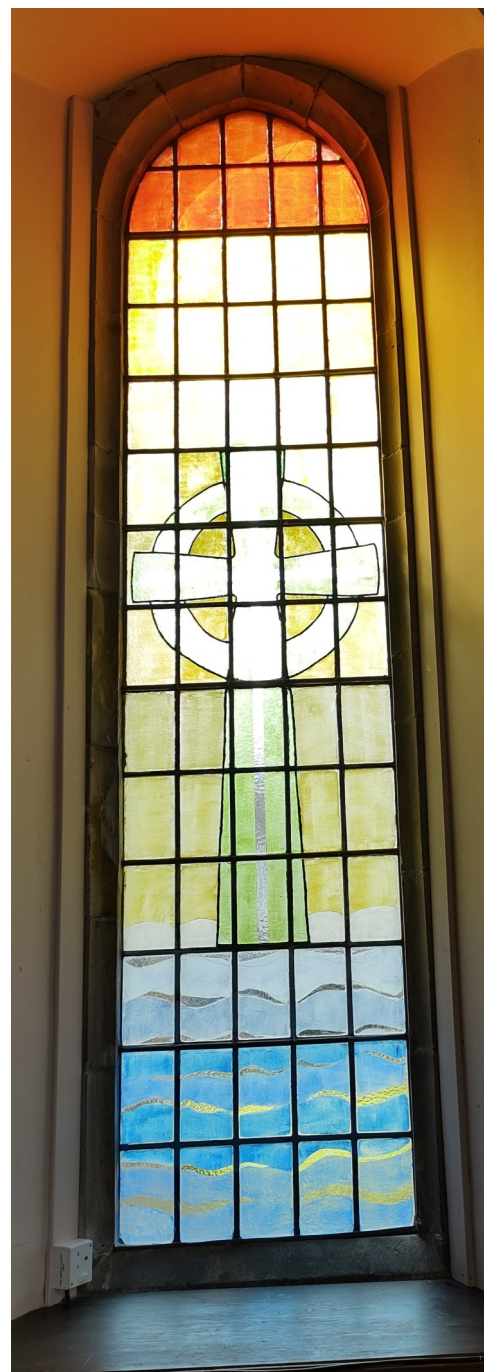
I have loved art since I was a child; all four siblings inherited a creative skill of some sort, be it painting, writing or crafting. I love that Newburgh is so full of artists and am looking forward to revisiting some of their studios this open weekend.

I joined the Art Group at the Steeple when I retired and settled in Newburgh in 2015, and thoroughly enjoyed it. However the pandemic put that to bed and to date, it has not been resurrected. My true love is portraiture, usually in pencil, although I have tried to branch out into watercolour and acrylics, and other subjects such as wildlife, pet pictures, and Native American images from an ongoing project (see below).

I somehow managed to get involved in Crazy Church at Christmas 2021, and got the kids making 'stained glass windows' using coloured cellophane. People loved the colour so Valerie talked to Bernie & me about something more permanent. She liked the idea of a Celtic cross so I worked on the design around that.

Bernie and I worked on the east transept window together and completed it in 2022, promising that the west would receive similar treatment. And this year we have finally kept our promise. I used acrylic paint on the glass as we were not sure if it would work well, or what sort of reception it would get from the congregation and the church. I knew acrylic could be removed if required. Bernie was not 100% well at the time, so was excused climbing scaffolding! This year she was instrumental in helping with colour mixing, and advice on what worked and what did not.

I am currently busy helping the Church Drama Group with props for their next production!





MEMBERS' NEWS

After **nearly 40 years** running a Scottish Country Dance class, **NETTA BERRY** has hung up her dancing-teaching shoes. During this time she has given many people a great deal of pleasure, and raised lots of money for church funds. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a church pew pen. Above she is pictured with her sister Barbara and Sandra Jarvis on the 30th Anniversary of Newburgh Parish Church's Scottish Country Dance Class, 1985/86 to 2015/16. We wish her all happiness in toe-tapping retirement.

PHILIP AND KIRSTEN TODD became members recently—pictured left with **LUCAS**, who is to be baptised on 4th June. Some members have noted this will be our second Philip Todd. So if the new Philip ever becomes an elder, he will have to be known as 'Philip Todd the younger elder'!

AVA DARCIE CLARK BECK, age 7, was baptised on 7th April and brought her family and friends for a lovely event. She is pictured above with her grandmother Kirsty and grandfather Jim. We welcome you all warmly and hope you will have good times with us.

DANNY FERGUSON, our oldest and longest-serving elder (ordained on 9th April, 1974—golden anniversary next year!) is pictured left with the 90th birthday card made for him by Margaret Stark. Danny was delighted at the authenticity of the artist's pigeon pictures—and he should know! Read about Danny's wartime experiences on Page 6 of this newsletter.





The Glebe

Or 'Monkswell Woodland'

Memory Project

The little group from across church and community that are beginning to look after the glebe are **looking for your stories and memories** of being up there, whether for walks, picnics or to look at the stars to name but a few! If you have a memory to share and would be willing to record it, we would love to hear from you. We can make a recording with you, if you want, or if you can make one on a tablet or phone, you can send it to us.

You may be wondering why we have named it 'Monkswell Woodland'? Well, we needed a name that was more specific than 'the glebe' in order to set up our groups and run our events. There are hundreds of glebes all across Scotland and Lindores Parish Church itself has more than one! The word 'glebe' is an old one and describes a piece of land that belongs to the church. In the old days, any income went to the minister; nowadays it would go to the church. While 'Monkswell Woodland' is *still* 'a glebe' - and for some of Lindores Parish Church members it might even be 'our glebe' or 'The Glebe' - it now has a new name to distinguish it from all the other glebes.

So, do you have a story about the **glebe to share**? We'd love to hear from you.

With best wishes,
Janet Foggie

Last month we told you about our Presbytery Mission funding, which we are using to train up some volunteers to run outdoors sessions with children and adults in the Glebe. This training is now under way—the photo above shows our cheery volunteers hard at work.





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LINDORES PARISH CHURCH
FRIDAY LUNCHES
 in
NEWBURGH CHURCH HALL
11am – 2pm

Commencing Friday 5th May then every Friday thereafter. If there is a joint lunch arranged elsewhere, prior notification will be given.

Come and enjoy a lunch and some company, and varied optional activities and games.

Transport available, please contact:
 Valerie Walker – lindoreschurch@gmail.com or
 Telephone: 01337 842799

RVS Service Co-ordinator:
 michelle.manzie@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk



BAKING WITH BARRY

On Tuesday evening (2nd May), Barry Batchelor (lately of the Wee Bakery) will come along to the church with a batch of Ciabatta starter dough and all that is needed for a great evening. This is by popular request of the older (Primary 6-7 and Senior 1) youngsters of the Crazy Church. Offered carte blanche on the type of activities they would enjoy, this came out tops.

This group have been coming along to help with the younger children on Crazy Church afternoons—but now it's time to offer them something just for themselves. We're very grateful to Barry and can't wait for those lovely bready aromas in the church hall!



We are delighted that the Royal Voluntary Service (previously WRVS), in conjunction with Fife Health and Social Care Partnership, are launching 'FRIDAY LUNCHES' in Newburgh Church Hall on Friday 5th May (see poster above).

RVS will bring heated lunches and games, and cordially invite anyone who would like to enjoy company for lunch. The service is free, but donations would be welcome, and we suggest £3 as an appropriate amount to cover costs.

There has been a welcome surge of volunteers to help RVS with this project. Four teams of volunteers, with five people in each team will carry out this task once every four weeks—so it should be an enjoyable project, and one which will bring huge benefit to local people.

MIDSUMMER MADNESS... Angela Rees has written and will produce 'Lindores-Anna Jones and the Quest for the Holy Griddle' with the Lindores Parish Church drama group (see poster page 7). Photos in next issue!

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better
 To paint a picture or write a letter
 Bake a cake or plant a seed
 Ponder the differences between want and need?

Dust if you must but there's not much time
 With the rivers to swim and mountains to climb
 Music to hear and books to read,
 Friends to cherish and life to lead

Dust if you must, but the world's out there
 With the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair
 A flutter of snow, a shower of rain
 This day will not come around again

Dust if you must, but bear in mind
 Old age will come and it's not kind
 And when you go - and go you must—
 You, yourself, will make more dust!

By Rose Milligan

DANNY'S WAR

Danny Ferguson recalls his WW2 experiences of evacuation. Born in Alloa, his family moved south in 1936. By 1939, he was the oldest of four boys, and his parents faced a heartwrenching decision. Their home was in Tilbury Docks, on the industrial north bank of the River Thames; right in the line of bombers flying from Germany to London.

The government had designated different parts of the country either Safe – Unsafe – or Neutral. The Fergusons' home was in one of most dangerous areas, at inevitable risk of bombing. So on 1st September 1939, his parents dispatched their four boys on the train north, to stay with an aunt and uncle in Balfron, a 'Safe' zone. Danny's earliest memory was seeing a man up a ladder propped against a lamppost – painting the lightbulbs blue.

During the 'phoney war', when nothing happening for the first few months, Danny's parents decided to take the two youngest boys, Hunter and Alan, back home with them. Danny and Bob stayed in Balfron till the summer of 1940. The timing of their return to London proved well-nigh disastrous, as the Battle of Britain led straight on to the Blitz. Soon Danny and Bob were sent back north, this time to stay with relatives on his father's side in Clackmannan. As

Danny now sees, his parents took a huge risk keeping the younger two at home till the end of the war. Danny and Bob returned home late in 1942, at the tail end of the Blitz.

Danny's father worked in a cardboard packaging factory, essential to the war effort. The factory worked on through bombing raids until it got too close. A klaxon would sound and they would all rush off to the deep shelters, surrounded by the 'ping-pong' noises of deadly shrapnel falling all around them. This was from British anti-aircraft guns, and could just as easily have killed them. On one of these rushes, Danny's mother had saved her coupons and made doughnuts. Young Alan was clutching his as they dived for shelter and was devastated to discover that in the rush, all the sugar got shaken off it!

In June 1944, just after the Allied Landings in France, the Nazis developed the unmanned V1 (V for Vengeance) flying bomb. This was also known as the buzz-bomb or doodlebug. Danny remembers standing with his father watching a V1 come down. A sudden silence alerted listeners to the impending impact. Going to school next day, the boys would see buildings flattened, and know that many people had been killed. Then the Nazis launched the V2 rocket, the world's first guided missile—silent on approach and almost unstoppable. Danny and Bob were again evacuated, to family friends in Durham—not very safe for evacuees, but safer than London.

Around the age of 11, Danny remembers lying in bed as a bomb fell. Soot rushed down the chimney, and he thought, 'this is it. This time, I will die.'

Lack of sleep and hunger (fish or meat paste on bread as a staple meal) were constants, along with the fear of being bombed. Danny says that despite all this, he and his brothers would still say they had a great childhood. *'It was an adventure. There certainly were bad events, but also good ones.'*

'The Ferguson boys were known for being wild. If there was trouble in the street, it would be either us or the Feeleys who got the blame. And I, as the oldest, was the leader of the pack.'

After the war, Danny's parents returned to Scotland. His father was offered a job with the Tayside Floorcloth Company. Danny was 17, and not at all keen to move. However he knew he would have to do National Service, and reasoned that he'd be old enough after that to defy his father's wishes. This was his plan – but instead he met Hilda, a Newburgh girl, while working in the factory. He asked her out three times before she agreed – and then, having fallen in love, still had to go off and do his national service. So all his plans changed. He returned to Newburgh, trained as a designer, and in 1957 married Hilda. They had two sons, who each also have two sons. Hilda died ten years ago, and Danny misses her terribly – but, he says, 'as Hilda predicted – I cope.' His grandsons are writing up his many adventures.

*Helen Welsh is keen to interview other WW2 evacuees. Please contact her if you would like to discuss this—
helenwelsh18@gmail.com*

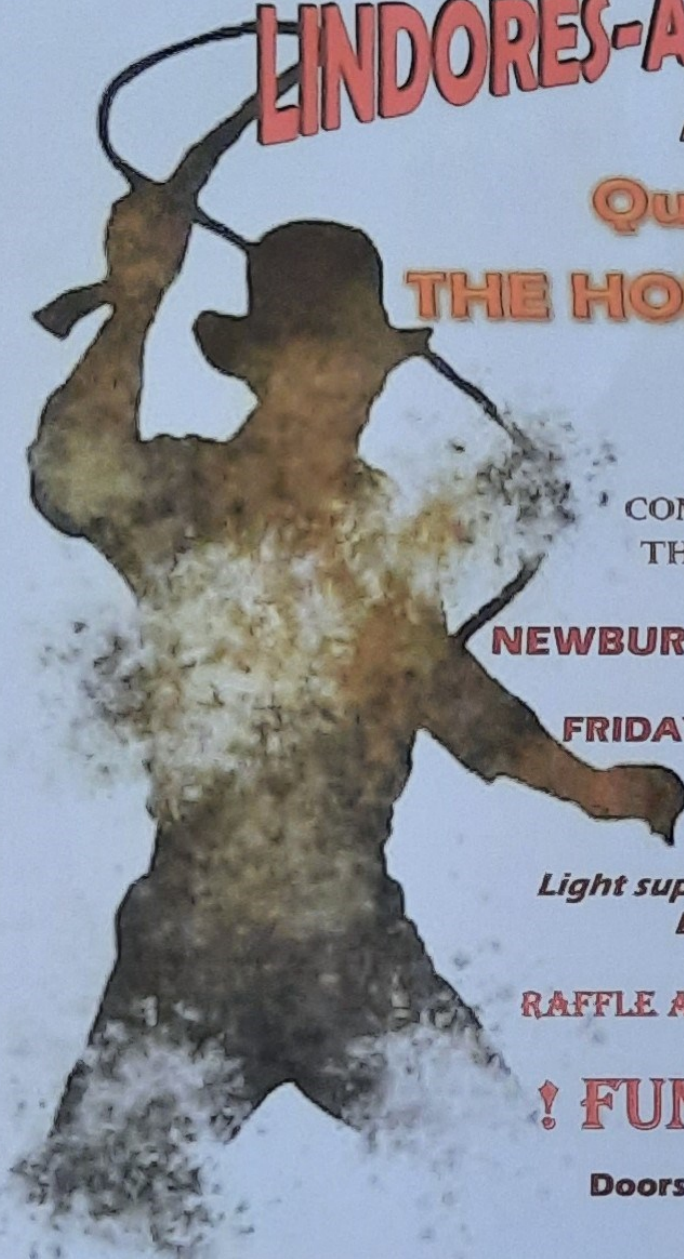


LINDORES PARISH DRAMA GROUP PRESENTS
A Midsummer Madness production

LINDORES-ANNA JONES

AND THE

Quest For THE HOLY GRIDDLE



COME ALONG AND JOIN
THE ADVENTURE AT:

NEWBURGH PARISH CHURCH
on
FRIDAY 23rd JUNE @ 7pm

Tickets £10

*Light supper and drink included
BYOB welcome*

RAFFLE AND PUZZLES TO SOLVE

! FUN FOR ALL !

Doors Open from 6:15pm

**Tickets* available from cast members, or from Lindores Parish
Church - email lindoreschurch@gmail.com
Also from Newburgh Post Office and Newburgh's Own Charity Shop**

* Profits to Lindores Parish Church

SERVICES / EVENTS IN MAY & JUNE 2023

MAY

Thursday 4th Celtic Communion, Newburgh Church, 10.30am

Saturday 6th – Monday 8th Coronation Celebration Fair, 10am – 4pm
Newburgh Church

Sunday 7th Sunday Service, Abdie & Dunbog Church, 10.30am

Monday 8th Coronation Afternoon Tea in Newburgh
Church Garden 2pm – 4pm

Sunday 14th Sunday Service, Newburgh Church 10.30am followed by AGM (stated annual meeting) and presentation of accounts

Sunday 21st Sunday Service, Abdie & Dunbog Church, 10.30am

Sunday 21st Crazy Church, Newburgh Church & Hall, 3pm – 5pm

Sunday 28th Joint Service with URC, Newburgh Church 10.30am

Sunday 28th Cluster Pentecost service, Falkland Stables, 2pm

JUNE

Sunday 4th Sunday Service & baptism, Abdie & Dunbog
Church 10.30am

Saturday 10th Coffee morning in TICC for Crazy/forest church 10am

Sunday 11th Sunday Service, Newburgh Church, 10.30am

Sunday 18th Sunday Service, Abdie & Dunbog Church, 10.30am

Friday 23rd Parish Drama Group *Lindores-Anna Jones & the Quest for the Holy Griddle*.
Newburgh Church 7pm

Sunday 25th Sunday Service at URC 11am

Sunday 25th Open Gardens Newburgh 12 noon – 6pm



Please visit our website and Facebook pages and give them lots of Likes and Shares

Valerie Walker's contact details are:

lindoreschurch@gmail.com

Phone: 01337 842799 Mob: 07720 327766