

Lindores Litanies 15th March 2021



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



Churches open for Easter (we hope!)

Places of worship are allowed to re-open from March 26th which hopefully means we'll be able to have church services on Palm Sunday and Easter Day. For those who won't be able to join us in person we'll continue to live-stream our worship via zoom. Sadly we can't yet sing together in church, but it will be very good to gather together again and see some of the well loved faces we've missed during lockdown.

Just like last year, numbers in church will be limited to allow for a 2m separation between people of different households.



Please let Valerie know **as soon as possible** if you want to attend on Palm Sunday (March 28th) at 10.30am in Abdie, or on Easter Sunday (April 4th) at 10.30 in Newburgh.

If we can't accommodate everyone on Easter Day in Newburgh we'll have two church services to ensure no-one is left out. These would be at 10am in Newburgh and 11.15am in Abdie. Further service details on the back page of this newsletter.

Mitchell Robertson- stem cell donor

Mitchell Robertson, the 18 year grandson of Elaine Clunie, recently travelled to Sheffield to donate life-saving stem cells to an unknown recipient.

Mitchell, who is studying French, economics & management at St Andrew's University, originally joined the Anthony Nolan register in 2017, when one of his father's fellow firefighters, Gary Dall, was diagnosed with myelodysplasia.



The Antony Nolan blood charity tries to match patients with various blood disorders to potential donors. Sadly Gary Dall died before he could receive a donation but Mitchell's blood was subsequently found to be an exact match for someone else.

Mitchell was delighted to be asked to donate and described it as "just doing what I hope someone else would do for me if I needed it". He describes the process of donation as being

neither scary nor painful and feels privileged to have contributed to saving or prolonging someone else's life.

Last month Neale Hanvey, MP for Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath, lodged an Early Day Motion in parliament to pay tribute to Gary Dall who, having served in the fire service for over 30 years, encouraged many people to join the Anthony Nolan stem cell register. Mr Hanvey's motion recognises Gary's inspiring efforts and celebrates the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service partnership with Anthony Nolan that has seen more than 18,500 potential donors recruited. Mr Harvey also noted that it was fitting legacy for Gary that his memory continues to inspire selfless deeds like that of Mitchell.

When Elaine told us about her grandson we sent Mitchell a card from Lindores Parish to acknowledge his admirable donation and to commend him for his generosity of spirit.

Anthony Nolan is keen to recruit more people aged 16-30 to their stem cell register. Details available on www.antonynolan.org



This is an account of how one Scottish Company helped overseas workers affected by the devastation of lockdown in 2020.

The Company Mallzee is an Edinburgh based shopping app and website that aims to take the hassle out of clothes buying online. Our son William is Head of Design at Mallzee.

In March 2020 all non-essential shops in the UK closed their doors to shoppers. Cally Russell the CEO of Mallzee began to hear stories and reports of retailers and fashion labels cancelling stock or not paying for stock already manufactured. As a result more than £1.4 billion worth of stock was cancelled in countries including Bangladesh, India and China. The manufacturers in these countries received very little or no payment at all for these items even though they had incurred the cost of production. This meant the workers were not being paid any wages.

The Lost Stock initiative set up by Mallzee allowed customers to buy a mystery box of this cancelled stock. For every box sold, it could support a garment worker and their family for a week. Boxes were available from May 2020 until January 2021 when the last box was sold. Mallzee had hoped to sell 10,000 boxes, however, when the last box was sold in January they had sold 125,000 boxes, far exceeding their expectations.



“How was it done”

After a lot of discussion Cally and his team decided the best idea was to get people to give their size, age and what colours they liked and we would sell it to them as a mystery box. By partnering with the Bangladeshi non-profit organisation SAJIDA Foundation, they were able to get aid to families fast.

The boxes cost £35 plus £3.99 shipping and 37% of each sale was donated to SAJIDA Foundation. Lost Stock also paid factories for cancelled stock.

Cally has nothing but praise for the Lost Stock team, saying they worked *“day and night”* to get boxes distributed.

Cally said that for him, probably the most emotional point in all of this was seeing the names of the people who had been helped in the first wave of support. When thousands of people who have received support and money from something your team had thought up and worked hard to create is a really powerful moment. *“You’ve stepped up and tried to do something different to help others”*



He adds that now Lost Stock is finished there will be a bit of reflection on the past year before moving on. *“What we are going to do to finish off the project is to create a report saying this is how it all happened!!”* For me, I hope that will provide learnings – not just to our experience – but also so people can understand the wider context.

“We have taken a huge amount from this. We keep asking brands to be better and I think 2020 showed a lot of that, he says.

They are now looking at a new label initiative called *“This is Unfolded”*, but that will be a story for another time!

Margaret Stark

Celebrating support in our community



Thanks to the creative skills of Angela Ellison we braved the snow to put together a Valentine display in the stable outside Newburgh Church. Having requested symbols of support in our community, local residents re-purposed five nativity scarecrows as a fireman, nurse (Sister Valentine!), road sweeper, shopkeeper

(butcher) and a postie, shown alongside three primary school children and a dog. Others hung pictures and wreaths to celebrate their loved ones.

Wellbeing Choir DVD

Newburgh's wellbeing choir have just released a DVD featuring choir leaders Dave Watt & James Ford performing some of the choir's favourite songs. Copies have been gifted to all choir members to encourage good cheer, happy memories and to keep them singing until we can make music together again.

Production of the DVD was possible thanks to a grant award from Luminare, the Dementia Inclusive Singing Network. We've had messages of appreciation from many recipients of the DVD and plan to put a link to a recording of it our new church website, which is due to go live in the next two weeks. Valerie still has a few spare copies if anyone would like a DVD for themselves or someone else.



Lent and Eastertide services

Please let Valerie know as soon as possible if you would like to attend any of the Sunday services below



Palm Sunday 28th March - Abdie Church 10.30am (also on Zoom)

Good Friday 2nd April, 12-3pm, Newburgh Church open for silent prayer & recorded, Passiontide music. Arrive anytime and stay as long as you like.

Easter Sunday 4th April – **time & venue tbc, depending on numbers attending:**
Either 10.30am Newburgh church OR 10am Newburgh + 11.15am Abdie

Low Sunday 11th April – Abdie Church 10.30am (also on Zoom)

Sunday 18th April – Newburgh Church 10.30am followed by the Stated Annual Meeting, chaired by our Interim Moderator Catherine Wilson (also on Zoom)

Sunday 25th April – Abdie Church 25th April 10.30am (also on Zoom)

Zoom Link

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/8652623623?pwd=R05HQmRsQk12bWs3d1FmMElmeVZNQT09>

Meeting ID: 865 262 3623

Passcode: Lindores

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