

Lindores Litanies 21st January 2022



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



Come and join the celebration!

Throughout December several people stopped to look and wonder at the stable outside Newburgh church. Thanks to the skills of several local people we had a wonderful display of working animals (representing the shepherds) and exotic animals (representing the magi).

Angela Ellison's elephant, giraffe and Bactrian camel along with the Distillery's dromedary camel looked stunning and provided Newburgh with a nativity scene like no other! The bright, flying birds, painted by our primary schools represented the angels. Even a trainee elf came to join the fun!

The lion is seen lying down in the stable, apparently eating straw, with a lamb and a baby goat close by. This portrays Isaiah's words (Isaiah 11, verses 6-7) which include the image of a young child leading everyone; a vision for the peace that Christ came to bring.



We still work for and dream of the day when people will be able to live in harmony with all living creatures, showing mutual respect and actively caring for our planet.

Nativity services



Thanks to the enthusiasm of our crazy church helpers and participants we managed to hold nativity services in both churches last month.



Some children enjoyed the Newburgh nativity so much they decided to come back to Abdie & Dunbog the following week



The drama group also gave a unique performance of an *Anglo-French, post Brexit, environmentally friendly, Scottish nativity play*.

More photos of this can be seen in the photo gallery on the church website

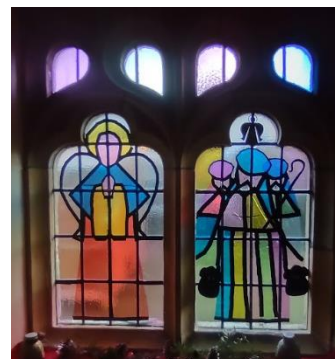


Christmas Windows

This was my first year organising the event and although it was a hard act to follow I needn't have worried; Newburgh, as usual, came up trumps. The support of Kathleen Black, and the team she had built up over the years, ensured a smooth transition.



The event started as soon as you walked in. A beautiful flower arrangement by Pat Dalrymple greeted people at the front door. The vestibule windows were decorated by Crazy Church with stunning "stained glass" images. These are still in situ and hopefully will remain so for some time to come.



The windows were amazing! So much work by those involved in portraying different Christmas Carols. When choosing two photographs to include with this write up I had to resort to drawing numbers as I couldn't decide which were best. The below photos show *Hark the Herald Angels* (Marian Thomas & Bernie Duncan)



and *We Three Kings* (Scott Ramsay).

Things were a little different this year due to social distancing. Fortunately, without the pews, we have a wonderful space to serve teas in and the

catering team did a superb job serving delicious home baking. The new catering arrangements gave a different feel to the event; instead of the usual concert scenario it was more like a café scene with everyone sitting at tables with their cup of tea, enjoying the music.

The entertainment was provided by Dave Burnett, always popular and so generous in giving his time. Elaine Clunie then gave us a reading; where she finds these gems I'll never know. The entertainment was rounded off with a sing-along led by Claire Doig. We all had to sing with masks on because of the covid restrictions but we're getting used to this new normal. There was, of course, a raffle, with prizes kindly donated by many people.



That's enough from me for now but, please, can we do it again next year?

Kirsty McLellan

All shall be well...by Rebecca Tennant

Dark Moments by Ann Lewin

'All shall be well' . . .
She* must have said that
Sometimes through gritted teeth.
Surely she knew the moments
When fear gnaws at trust,
The future loses shape,
Gethsemane?
The courage that says
'All shall be well'
Doesn't mean feeling no fear,
But facing it, trusting
God won't let go.
'All shall be well'
Doesn't deny present experience,
But roots it deep
In the faithfulness of God,
Whose will and gift is life.

**Julian of Norwich*

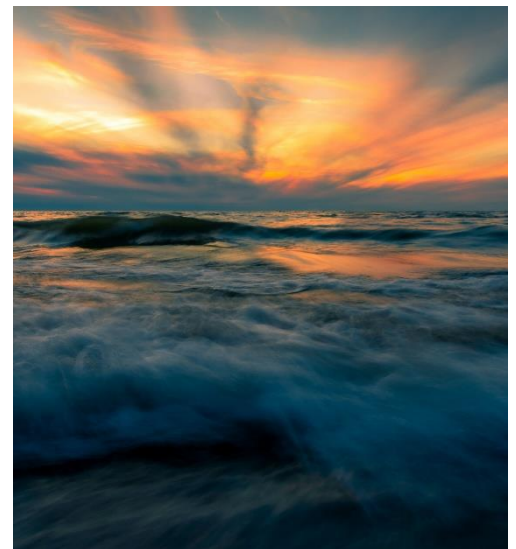
Do you have a hope for a life free of troubles and stress? A conscious or unconscious belief that once the irksome problems have finally been resolved, then we can rest, then we will know real peace of mind. Once the tension between family members dissipates, or that friend stops complaining quite so much all the time, or once the car is properly fixed. Then everything will be peaceful and ok.

It's tricky isn't it, maybe even a learned skill, to have peace when things actually aren't going at all well. To maintain some colour when our circumstances are bleak and draining, to not be swept up in the winds of panic when scenes around us start to tremble.

The 'fear gnawing on trust' has become an unwanted companion for many of us, and for those in whose lives we share. This is not a source of shame, of a faith not lived out fully, but an understandable and profoundly human response to the unprecedented situation in which we find ourselves.

Today we face an unknown day, week, month and year ahead. We can tell ourselves 'all shall be well' without denying our current fears and anxieties. Peace doesn't come from a solid surety that everything will be sorted out and life will eventually become stress-less. Peace comes from acknowledging the present storms in their fullness and telling our hearts that this won't be the last, of being real with ourselves and still being able to say with honest clarity that we will be ok.

We can grow roots deep in the faithfulness of God, enabling us to say to each storm and situation that can disturb our peace: 'All shall be well'.



I'm trying to do one thing a day that is for enjoyment only, without any other type of purpose. This week I decided that it would be to feed the swans, opposite



my house on a little pond at the base of the old, crumbling but stubbornly persevering ruins of St Anthony's Chapel. I did some research on what a swan should eat (not bread apparently) and I took a packet of oats with me to the brown water's muddy edge. I threw the oats into the air, expecting them to land on the water, only to have blanket of soft oats rain down on me a few seconds later as an

icy gust of wind decided they were better placed there. At least I tried! I'm still picking oats out of my hair.

[Rebecca is now oat free and has recently moved to Newburgh from Edinburgh: It's a joy to have her with us at social events and services. Valerie]

RECYCLE YOUR EMPTY MEDICINE PACKETS!

Every year empty medicine blister packets end up in landfills across the United Kingdom working with TerraCycle® to put an end to this enormous loss of resources.



Recycle your empty medicine blister packets in our church collection box or at Superdrug in Perth



Church Coffee Morning at TICC

Saturday 5th February 10am

Contributions welcome for baking, books, tombola, raffle & bric-a-brac stalls.

Anyone volunteering to help on the day please contact Margaret Stark 01337 841180, text 07762 609787



LINDORES PARISH CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 23rd January - Joint service with URC, Newburgh 10.30am

Thursday 27th January Celtic Communion, Abdie & Dunbog 10.30am

*Saturday 29th January - Crazy Church Newburgh 3pm **

Sunday 30th January - 10.30am Sunday Service Abdie & Dunbog
followed by presentation by Presbytery Mission Director,
Neil Campbell, and a soup & sandwich lunch

Sunday 30th January -Taize service Newburgh Church 6pm

Sunday 6th February - Sunday service, Newburgh 10.30am

Sunday 13th February - Sunday service Abdie & Dunbog 10.30am
including the ordination and admission of new Elders

Sunday 20th February - Sunday service, Newburgh 10.30am

Thursday 24th February- Celtic Communion, Newburgh 10.30am

*Saturday 26th February - Crazy Church Newburgh 3pm **

Sunday 27th February – Parish Communion Abdie & Dunbog 10.30am

Sunday 6th March – Parish Communion Newburgh 10.30am

Sunday 13th March - Sunday service Abdie & Dunbog 10.30am

Thursday 17th March Celtic Communion, Abdie & Dunbog 10.30am

Sunday 20th March - Sunday service, Newburgh 10.30am

*Please let Valerie Walker know if you wish to attend Crazy Church
01337 842799, lindoreschurch@gmail.com

Photos or comments for our website www.lindoresparish.com are
always welcome; please email them to Valerie, as above.