

Lindores Litanies

1st July 2023



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



Dear Friends,

Over 80 people met in the Distillery on 12th June to hear about the progress of the Newburgh Station Group. **Nigel Mullan** chaired the meeting and advised us that, after at least a decade of campaigning, we have leapt numerous hurdles and may now be on the brink of success.

Cllr **Willie Rennie** advised us that our next challenge is to convince the decision-makers that our bid for funding beats other bids. At £600,000 for a modular halt, ours provides low cost with high impact. We need to 'make it impossible for them to say No' - with good lobbying, wide press coverage, and continued high

commitment from local people. The audience suggested many benefits a train line would bring the community – such as giving teenagers new hope, businesses new custom, better access to hospitals and health care and easier access to work and family.

We were introduced to Cllr **Eugene Clarke**, chair of the recently successful Levenmouth bid. Specific benefits are already being realised there, after 11 years of campaigning, with new projects and jobs. Leven's strongest case was to *reinvigorate a community*, so they developed their slogan: **MORE THAN JUST A RAILWAY LINE**

Is the Church a bit like a railway

line? We have buildings, and we have kept them in good order. Are we **more than just a building**? On the night of the station meeting, gangs of teenagers were fighting each other on Hill Road and the High Street. One lad had a broken nose, and his friend had a hammer in his clothing, ready for retaliation. Three police vans were involved. I wonder if the station project would help refocus their attention...or am I on the wrong track?

We look around Scotland at all the closed churches, and those that are hanging on by a thread. Church-going is at an all-time low; many people consider the church to be irrelevant.

Like the railway line, I believe that our church can reinvigorate the community. We have people, with a range of talents. We have a bit of land up the hill. We have open minds. We have faith.

Trains, with their sense of urgency and escape and going places, have inspired many visionaries across the decades. If our church wants to be a living part of the local community, the train station project might provide a good opportunity for us all.

The 2023 General Assembly was held from Saturday 20 May until Thursday 25 May

The head of Christian Aid will serve as the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2023-24. **Rev Sally Foster-Fulton**, who has led Christian Aid in Scotland since 2016, has taken a year's sabbatical to become the Kirk's ambassador at home and abroad, succeeding the 2022-23 Moderator, the Right Rev Dr Iain Greenshields.



Addressing the Scottish Episcopal Church Synod two weeks later, Ms Foster-Fulton said:

One of the greatest joys I have experienced over the years has come from intentional ecumenical partnerships, locally, nationally and globally. What a powerful living out of the gospel, to get over ourselves to get to each other – to be intricately inter-related as part of the body of Christ. When we stand together, walk together, add our voices to a growing call for justice that turns the volume from a whisper to a roar, that embodies the 'body of Christ'.

My hopes for the Church in Scotland at this present time are for us to embrace every opportunity for love to take hold mightily, for us to genuinely shake off the stuff that might keep our making a difference together muted or slowed, and for us to be empowered and really excited about practical bridge-building and path-clearing.

Full reports of GA proceedings are available on

[General Assembly 2023 | The Church of Scotland.](#)

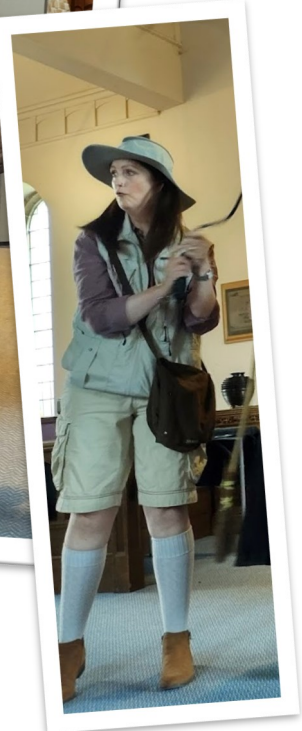
Meanwhile, here is a news roundup:

- On the opening day of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, King Charles III wrote reaffirming his pledge to 'preserve and uphold the rights and privileges of the Church of Scotland'.
- The Assembly Trustees encouraged people to be bold, take risks and 'imagine' an exciting future for the Church in Scotland.
- The Moderator of the GA has paid tribute to the longest serving female minister, Rev Jean Montgomerie.
- The Church of Scotland was instructed to prepare a statement of acknowledgment and apology for its involvement with historic chattel slavery. Congregations are encouraged to research the history of slavery and its connections in their local areas.
- The Church of Scotland is to re-examine its opposition to Assisted Dying
- The military head of the Royal Navy paid tribute to the role played by military chaplains.
- The Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, who previously addressed commissioners in 2014, told the GA that, in working together with the Church of Scotland, there was a determination to 'engage in a process of healing through dialogue'.
- The Church will remain 'impartial' on Scottish Independence.
- Scotland's care system is under strain, the GA was warned, with a call for the Scottish Government to act now and to honour its commitment to invest in the workforce. There are many stories of success. However, staff shortages and inconsistencies in staffing have an impact on the care and support provided.
- In his closing speech to the General Assembly, the Lord High Commissioner, Lord Hodge, praised the 'new and imaginative ways' the Church is serving communities.

**LINDORES-ANNA JONES
AND THE
QUEST FOR THE HOLY GRIDDLE**



Friday 23rd June 2023
Written and produced by
Angela Rees, also in
starring role
Cast of 17
Attended by 80 people
Raised £1,000
WELL DONE ALL!



Our late friend **Hilda Rosa Summersgill** died on 7th May, her 90th birthday. In a supreme final act of forward planning, she opened her birthday gifts two days before she died - somehow knowing she wouldn't be able to do so on the actual day. She is survived by her two sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Hilda was one of four children and, a promising student, loved school – but as the only daughter, was obliged to leave at the age of 16 to look after her sick father. Nevertheless, she managed to acquire qualifications in Accountancy without going to University. She applied for a job with Endress and Hauser, a Swiss laboratory company, and was taken on in a Personnel and Finance role. The company had been founded in 1953 and currently employs over 15,000 people. Hilda thrived in this male-dominated environment where her aptitude and commitment were valued; she worked with the company for 40 years and was the first woman appointed to the Board of Directors. Shortly after Hilda's death, Endress and Hauser held their annual Spring Ball, and their Managing Director gave tribute to this 'strict but fair... passionate... Iron Lady.' Over 200 people toasted her memory.

Over 30 years ago, Hilda bought Nether Pitcairlie, describing it as 'three acres of undergrowth.' Gardening became her passion after retirement, and her patch of undergrowth has recently been described as one of the finest, if least-known, gardens in Fife. Her garden, she said, was her cathedral.

*Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways ...
... Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm!
O still, small voice of calm.*

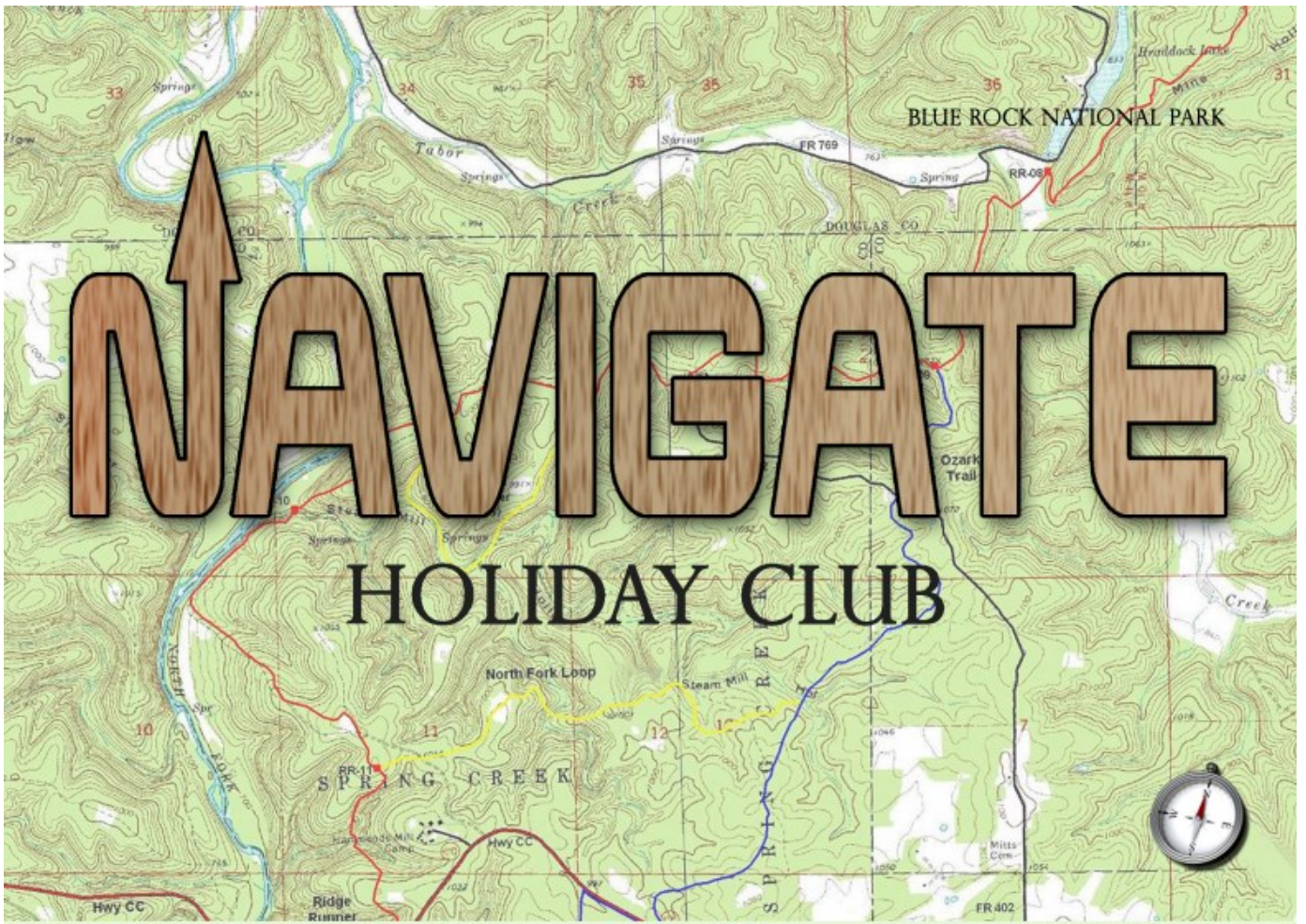


For our cluster service on 28th May, at Falkland Stables, each church was asked to bring something that 'made a noise'. Bernie, Marian and Valerie made this wind chime using shells, wood and fishing line found on the beach at Oban. Hilda, we like to think, would have approved!



What a joy it is to welcome youngsters to Church. Here they are, exploring Pentecost with the help of a parachute; having fun in the forest, making bows and arrows or just hanging out; and making bread with Barry. They even washed up afterwards!





How do we find the right path in the ups and downs of life?

NAVIGATE HOLIDAY CLUB

For Primary School Children

at Newburgh Parish Church

10 am - 12 noon

7 - 11 August 2023

Suggested donation: £15 for the week

Places limited - BOOK EARLY!

To book a place and for further details contact:

Valerie Walker

lindoreschurch@gmail.com

07720 327766



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**NEWBURGH GLEBE
(EAST), MONKSWELL
WOODLAND,
MONKSWELL ROAD,
NEWBURGH**

**SATURDAY 17TH JUNE &
SUNDAY 16TH JULY
FROM 2PM - 4PM**

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL AS NUMBERS ARE
LIMITED**
CHILDREN UNDER 16 MUST BE
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.
SUGGESTED DONATION £5 PER FAMILY

**CONTACT: VALERIE WALKER: INDORESCHURCH@GMAIL.COM OR
07720 3327766 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK A PLACE**
SPONSORED BY **INDORES PARISH CHURCH**

Lucas Paul Todd was baptised on 4th June by Janet Foggie, in Abdie Church. The church was packed with their friends and family and lots of children which was lovely, and there was cake :) His grandfather, Rev James Todd from Falkirk, also took part in the service. Lucas joined the praise band at URC —see below.



SERVICES / EVENTS IN JULY-AUGUST 2023

Sunday 2nd July: 10.30am Outdoor service Abdie Old Kirk
2-4pm Strawberry tea, Newburgh Church

Thursday 6th July 10.30am Celtic Communion, Newburgh Church

Sunday 9th July Newburgh Church service 10.30am

Sunday 16th July: 10.30am service Abdie church
2-4pm Family Forest Fun activities on Newburgh Glebe

Sunday 23rd July, Newburgh church, joint Service with URC 10.30am

Sunday 30th July, service Abdie church, 10.30am

Sunday 6th August, Newburgh Church service 10.30am

Mon 7th to Fri 11th August, 10-12am Holiday Club in Newburgh Church

Sunday 13th August, service Abdie church, 10.30am

Sunday 20th August, Joint service at URC church **11am**

Sunday 27th August, service Abdie church, 10.30am

*If you would like to join the Sunday service by Zoom,
please ask Valerie for the link*



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

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