The CONTACT MAGAZINE of St. Peter's with St. Mary and Leonard

Rector: The Revd. Canon Christine Fraser

June 2026

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We meet in the conviction that in Jesus Christ we see the character and passion of God. We gather to learn to see the world as Jesus sees it, to begin to see the image of God in one another and in our community. Our worship is in response to the invitation of God, our mission is to reflect the generosity of God in our town, and to seek the footfalls of the Spirit of God.

(Courtesy: All Saints Church, Evesham, Worcestershire)

Regular Worship at St Peter's

Sunday's *9.15 am Sung Eucharist (SPB}*

10.30 am Sung Eucharist (1982 Liturgy)

Wednesdays *10:00 am Said Eucharist (1982 Liturgy)*

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Who's *Who at St. Peter's*

Rector: Rev. Canon Christiine Fraser 01592 204208

Assistant Priest Rev. Bob Barrett 07801 519530

,,

Car Park Rentals: Maria Page 200989

Child/Vulnerable Adults Protection: Kerry Briers 202851

Christian Aid: Judy Webster 204587

	Rosemary Potter	*265499*
Church Treasurer, Gift Aid &	*Judy Webster*	*204587*
100 Club:		
Contact Magazine Editor		
Email:		
Duty & Tea Rotas:	*Judy Webster*	*204587*
	Shirley Mann	*07592 871287*
Fabric Convener:	*Vestry*	
Flower Convener:	*Jane Legge*	*581818*
Hall & Room Hire:	*Andrea Ladyka*	*07740 910221*
Lay Representatives:	*Shirley Mann*	*07592 871287*
	Maria Page	*200989*
Study Group:	*Rev. Bob Barrett*	*07801 519530*
Social & Fund Raising &	*Shirley Mann*	*07592 87128*
Committee Chair:		
Vestry Chairman:	*Rev. Christine Fraser*	*204208*
Vestry Secretary:	*Maria Page*	*200989*
Website:	*Norman Ward*	*01337 830630*

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HALLS FOR HIRE AND BOOKINGS

We welcome people/groups to hire our church, halls and rooms. Ask Andrea for a leaflet, details of charges and equipment available. **We are Open for Bookings.**

The Church Hall and Meeting Room are now connected to the Internet with full WiFi access. Please check with Christine, George, or Andrea for further information.

PREMISES ARE LET OUT IN SESSIONS OF 4 HOURS:-

SESSION 1 0900 – 1300

SESSION 2 1300 – 1500

SESSION 3 1800 - 2200

COST: (including one free car parking space}

CHURCH:	**£30 -£40 PER SESSION**	**CAPACITY 80**
LARGE HALL:	**£30 PER SESSION**	**CAPACITY 50**
SMALL MEETING ROOM:	**£20 PER SESSION**	**CAPACITY 12**

A Booking Form with full details is available for download from the website:www.stpeterskirkcaldy.co.uk

For further information please contact Andrea Ladyka:
Email:bookings@stpeterskircaldy.co.uk Mobile: 07740 910221

From the Editor

As we try to get our heads around the changes that will establish the new World Order in the Middle East and reconcile ourselves to the

changes to the land of our Saviours birth, I thought it appropriate to include the beautiful inspirational words of the Hymn, 'The Holy City'. Amidst all the turmoil and destruction let us continue to pray for the hope that that wonderful vision of a 'New Jerusalem' may soon come to pass.

Please also note my suggestions for Articles in the 'Wanted' page at the end. Thank You. Holidaymakers attention is drawn to the Article on Lost Luggage

Rector's Letter

Dear Friends

Once again we are about to celebrate our Church's Patronal Festival dedicated to St Peter. Of all the people we encounter in the New Testament, I like St. Peter the best. It's not that Peter is better or holier than anyone else in Scripture; it's actually quite the opposite. He was capable of speaking some very profound theological insights but was also capable, from time to time, of sticking his foot in his mouth. Peter was a man of strong faith at times, but he also had his weak moments. The Gospels and Acts of the Apostles have numerous examples of the ebb and flow of St. Peter's faith. This fluctuation of faith is something we each struggle with in our lives. Let's look at a few examples of Peter's faith struggles that the Gospels show us.

Jesus Stretched Out His Hand

The story of Jesus walking on the water (Matthew 14:22-33) is one most of us are familiar with, although we may not be clear on all its details. This story tells of how the Apostles, crossing the Sea of Galilee in a boat, get caught in a sudden storm. As their boat is tossed around, they see someone walking across the water toward them and are frightened, thinking the apparition is a ghost. When

Jesus reveals Himself, Peter asks Jesus to command him to also walk on the water. Jesus calls to him, and he begins to walk on the stormy sea. But when Peter realizes how strong the wind is, he begins to sink and must be saved by Jesus.

This story emphasizes the fact that, just like most of us, Peter had faith that waxed and waned. It was strong enough for him to trust Jesus and take a few steps on the water, but his faith was weak enough for fear to get the upper hand, and he sank into the water. This example of Peter's faith fluctuating between strong and weak in the same story is something that most of us can relate to. When our faith is strong, we feel God's presence in our life. When it weakens, our fears and doubts can take control.

Upon This Rock I Will Build My Church

The second story that bears further reflection is found in Matthew's Gospel (Matthew 16:13-23). It begins with Jesus asking a simple, straight-forward question, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" The Apostles respond that some people think He is John the Baptist, recently put to death by King Herod. Others think He is Elijah, and still others think He may be Jeremiah or one of the other prophets – clearly there is no consensus regarding Jesus' identity. But He then asks the Apostles, "Who do you say that I am?" and Peter replies that they have come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God.

If the story of Peter's confession of Jesus' identity ended at this point, Peter could have basked in the glow of Jesus' reply: "Blessed are you Simon, son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My heavenly Father." Jesus then tells Peter that he is the Rock upon which the Church will be built and that he is to be entrusted with the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven.

However, soon after this incident, Jesus tells His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, suffer at the hands of the Jewish leaders, be

killed, and rise again after three days. Peter takes Jesus aside and rebukes Him for speaking this way, telling Jesus that no such thing will ever happen. The Lord's response to Peter is swift and rather harsh: He calls Peter Satan and tells him that he is an obstacle for Jesus in carrying out the will of His Father in heaven. The reason Peter doesn't understand Jesus' true mission is because he is thinking not as God thinks but as human beings think.

This Gospel story indicates that Peter is capable of speaking with great insight, as the grace of God allows. However, he is also capable of saying things that demonstrate his true lack of understanding of Jesus' mission, of why the Son of God came into the world in the first place. Peter is just like any of us: his words often reveal how he thinks things should be rather than how they must be.

I Do Not Know Him

The final Gospel story that demonstrates Peter's weakness is the account of his denial of Jesus (Luke 22:31-34, 54-62). The story begins at the Last Supper when Jesus tells Peter He is praying that Peter's faith will not fail because Peter must be the one to strengthen the faith of the other Apostles. Peter responds by telling Jesus that he is ready to go to prison and to die with Jesus. But Jesus tells Peter that that very day he will deny knowing Him, that before the cock crows Peter will deny Jesus three times.

His earlier protests notwithstanding, Peter is confronted by three different individuals in the courtyard of the High Priest's house and does in fact deny knowing Jesus. The cock crows, and Jesus looks directly at him. Peter recalls the words Jesus spoke to him at the Last Supper. And the Gospel tells us that Peter went out and wept bitterly.

Peter's denial highlights the fact that the Apostles – those chosen by Jesus to be His closest associates – were not immune to the fears, uncertainties, and weaknesses that are part of the human condition.

In other words, Peter and the other eleven Apostles were not very different from you and me. Peter was the first Apostle chosen by Jesus (Luke 5:1-11) even though he was an admitted sinner and possessed all the weaknesses that are part of the make-up of every person who has ever lived.

Peter: Apostle, Rock, Role Model

If Peter was such a weak and fearful individual, one who denied knowing Jesus and was too afraid to be present at Jesus' crucifixion, why is he such a good role model for us today? The answer is that, although he was weak and fearful, he was able, with God's grace, to overcome his limitations and follow Jesus' command to proclaim the Gospel to all the world.

We know he overcame his fears and weaknesses because his activities and those of the whole Christian community are recounted in the Acts of the Apostles. The Book of Acts tells us, for instance, about the Descent of the Holy Spirit after Jesus' Ascension (Acts 2:4-6), where Peter's role is central. It also describes Peter's cure of a crippled beggar at the Temple gate (Acts 3:1-10) and how he stood before the Sanhedrin and proclaimed Jesus Christ to the Jewish religious leaders (Acts 4:1-20). These stories and many others in Acts chronicle the growth of the infant Church.

More specifically, Acts of the Apostles tells of the spiritual growth of St. Peter: how the one to whom Jesus entrusted the Keys of the Kingdom – who had previously denied knowing Him – became one of the most significant leaders of the Church, first in Jerusalem, then in Antioch, and finally in Rome. After the Resurrection, Peter hid in the upper room for fear of the Jews (John 20:19). Acts recounts how he overcame that fear and went on to boldly announce all that Jesus had instructed His followers to teach and proclaim. Peter not only overcame his fears in order to proclaim the Gospel to the nations, he also conquered his fears – as the history and Tradition of the Church tell us – to accept martyrdom for the sake of His crucified Lord.

Peter is an ideal role model for us today because we are very much like him, each in our own way. Like Peter, we too have been called by name – Peter on the shore of the Sea of Galilee and each of us at our Baptism. Like Peter, we have often found it difficult to follow our call because of fear and weakness. And like Peter, we can receive the grace of the Holy Spirit. With this grace, we can find the courage to proclaim the Gospel.

Peter was chosen by Jesus as one of the first Apostles and later declared by Jesus to be the Rock foundation of the Church. We are chosen by Jesus to live lives that proclaim the Gospel and to continue building the Church, which sits firmly on that Rock. This is why Peter is a very appropriate and very real role model for all Catholics. There are many holy women and men who have been declared saints by the Church and who are fitting role models for us to emulate, but none, I think, is better than St. Peter.

Blessings

Christine

The Holy City

Last night as I lay sleeping
There came a dream so fair
I stood in old Jerusalem
Beside the temple there
I heard the children singing
And ever as they sang
I thought the voice of angels
From heav'n in answer rang
I thought the voice of angels
From heav'n in answer rang

Jerusalem, Jerusalem
Lift up your gates and sing
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna to our King

And then I thought my dream was changed
The streets no longer rang
Hushed were the glad hosannas
The little children sang
And the sun grew dark with mystery
The morn was cold and chill
As a shadow of a cross arose
Upon the lonely hill
As a shadow of a cross arose
Upon that lonely hill
Jerusalem, Jerusalem
Hark how the angels sing
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna to our King

And once again the scene was changed
New earth there seemed to be
I saw the holy city
Beside the tideless sea
The light of God was on its streets
The gates were opened wide
And all who would might enter
And no one was denied
No need of moon or stars by night
Nor sun to shine by day
It was the new Jerusalem
That would not pass away
It was the new Jerusalem
That would not pass away

Jerusalem, Jerusalem
Sing for the night is o'er
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna for evermore
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna for evermore

Frederic Edward Weatherly 1848 - 192

St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

Ah, the joys of June! At last, I can return to the Rectory without putting on my overcoat before going inside. For the next four months, all windows and doors are left open, in order to let the heat *in*. If anyone else tells me how lucky I am to live in an 10-bedroom Queen Anne house, I shall have them excommunicated.

You will soon stop complaining about your one-bedroom flat should you ever have to live in a rural rectory; the days of wandering about your home in shirtsleeves will become a distant memory. In my first winter here, I had the central heating on full blast 24 hours a day. The house was almost warm, even if the boilers sounded like the Queen Mary coming into port. But that quarter's gas bill needed a substantial grant from the International Monetary Fund to cover it, so ever since, for six months of the year, I live in the kitchen.

Parishioners find it either touching or sad that I sleep with my Labrador. It never occurs to them that I need her for extra heat.

It does mean that evening meetings at the rectory on winter evenings can be un-Christianly satisfying. Watching committee members fighting – with infinite politeness – to get nearest to the one-bar electric fire is highly entertaining. They hold on to their coffee cups less for refreshment, more for a little extra warmth. At least it means that meetings are short.

My predecessor was a model railway enthusiast and so several bedrooms were taken up with a system of such complexity that it made Crewe Junction seem trivial. He also found it helpful to put his teenage son in the turret bedroom, where he could play his drums without anyone else in the house being able to hear a thing.

Nowadays, all these extra rooms are filled with cribs and nativity play costumes, Easter gardens and spare choir cassocks. It is remarkable how all these things used to be stored quite satisfactorily in the church vestry until the parish acquired a single priest; now the empty rooms in the rectory have become vital storage space. I so hope my successor has a plethora of children, so that the parishioners have to find alternative accommodation for all the detritus vital to church life.

No, dear boy, cherish your centrally heated, dry, draft proof, mice-free, bat-less, modern-plumbed accommodation. It will not be ever thus.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

A Smile

A SMILE COSTS NOTHING but gives much. It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment , but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. NOOne is so rich or mighty that he or she can get along without it, and no one is so poor that he or she can't be made rich by it.

A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in business, and is the cornerstone of friendship. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and nature's best antidote for trouble. Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen, for it is something of no value to anyone and it is given away.

Some people are too tired to give you a smile. Give them one of yours as no one needs a smile as much as he or she who has no more to give.

Scientists Discover New Element

Scientists have discovered the heaviest element called Administratium. It has one Neutron, eight Assistant Neutrons, ten Executive Neutrons, thirty-five Vice Neutrons, and two hundred and fifty Assistant Vice Neutrons. The whole structure is kept in place by particles called Morons. It is completely inert, but can be detected chemically because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact,

30 RARE BUT LOVELY ENGLISH ADJECTIVES

- Apricate - Sunbathing or basking in the sun.
- Balmy - Pleasantly warm, gentle, and soothing.
- Celadon - Pale, soft green, like jade.
- Chatoyant - Having a changeable lustre, like a cat's eye.

• Candescent - Glowing with heat or emotion.

• Delitescent - Hidden or concealed.

• Eburnean - Of or like ivory; smooth and pale.

• Foudroyant - Striking as with lightning; dazzling.

• Fulgent - Shining brilliantly; radiant.

• Gibbous - Rounded and swollen, usually describing the moon

• Halitous - Exhaling breath or vapor.

• Ineffable - Too great to be expressed in words.

• Lambent - Softly glowing or flickering.

• Lissom - Supple, graceful, and lithe.

• Luculent - Clear and intelligible. er

• Mellifluous - Smooth and sweet-sounding.

• Niveous - Snowy or snow-like.

• Noisome - Unpleasant, offensive (not noisy!).

• Olivaceous - Olive-green in colour.

· Opalescent - Displaying a play of lustrous colours, like an opal

• Pellucid - Transparently clear; easily understood.

• Plangent - Loud and mournful (especially of sound).

• Pulchritudinous - Beautiful, though rarely used.

• Risible - Provoking laughter or amusement.

• Scintillant - Sparkling or twinkling.

• Susurrous - Whispering, rustling, or murmuring softly

• Tenebrous - Dark, shadowy, or obscure.

• Verdant - Green and lush, especially with vegetation.

• Winsome - Attractive or charming in a sweet way.

• Zephyrous - Soft and mild, like a gentle breeze.

Norman Ward

MARGARET LEIGH

Recently we bid farewell to Margaret Leigh who was the widow of Ron Leigh, a past Rector of St Peter's. Margaret took on the role as The Rector's wife very seriously. She quietly performed her duties with care and respect. Most congregational members would not realise all the duties she carried out – these things just happened! She kept the linens in pristine condition – laundered to a high standard using starch where necessary. The silver was regularly polished, the lectern shining like a bright star. The vestments were kept in good order, repairs carried out when needed. She supported every fundraising event. She was a superb baker – we all have the extra inches round our waist after sampling her bread rolls, Victoria Sponges, scones and other baking

delights. About September/October time the Rectory began to smell of Christmas when she made her Christmas puddings, cakes and mincemeat. Even into her twilight years, she was carrying on these traditions. She would plant bulbs in small containers and sell them for church funds. Sales of work were well supported as she was a good knitter – baby clothes and soft toys being a favourite. Ron and Margaret were keen gardeners and they spent many hours digging and planting. The Mothers Union played a large part in Margaret's life. She enjoyed the meetings and made her opinions heard in her quiet unassuming manner. Margaret was a lady, in the nicest possible ways. Bill and I were honoured to administer her Home Communion when she reached the stage in her life when she could not attend Church. The Home Communion set we used had been gifted to Ron from the Congregation when he retired, which he then passed on to Bill when he knew he was terminally ill. Margaret said she felt Ron's presence even more when she was holding the chalice. I used to tease her by saying it was like giving Ron a big hug - and she agreed.

You may have memories of Margaret which are special to you. We hold you in our prayers, Margaret. You are together again with Ron which will make you blissfully happy. We thank you for sharing your life with us.

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shades lengthen, and the evening cometh, and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work done. Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a

holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Maria Page

A Family History in St Peter's

The earliest members of my mother's family that I can trace back, who were members of St Peter's are my 2x Great Grandparents , John Moodie and Catherine Christie who were married in St Peter's on 15th June 1835. Their first daughter, my Great Grandmother, Catherine Martha Moodie was born 17th January 1838 and was baptised on 4th February 1838. Next child was Isabella Moodie, born 10th August 1840 and baptised on 23rd August 1840, followed by Jane Walker Moodie, born 15th June 1842 and baptised 10th July 1842. She was followed by Norman Johnston Moodie who was born on 2nd September 1844 and baptised on 22nd September 1844. He was named after the rector at the time, Dean Norman Johnston. He was followed by Christina Rodger Moodie who was born on 9th February 1847 and baptised on 14th March 1847.

Catherine Martha Moodie married James Stewart on 7th January 1861 in St Peter's. Due to work commitments after the birth of their first son in Kirkcaldy, they moved to Burntisland and Monifeith where my grandfather Norman Moodie Stewart was born on 11th January 1873.

My grandfather married my grandmother Martha Moore Brodie in St Peter's on 7th November 1906. They had eight children, four boys all born in Lochore and four girls who were all born in Kirkcaldy. Unfortunately the two first born twin sons died after being born premature and the third daughter died three weeks after being born.

The children were regular attenders of St Michael's and St Peter's before the second world war. In their teens, my mother Catherine Moodie Stewart (born 18th December 1919, baptised in St Peter's on

2nd January 1920 and confirmed in St Peter's on 14th May 1944) and aunt Elizabeth (Betty) Comrie Stewart were both members of the Youth Fellowship and went through confirmation classes. This was where my Auntie Betty met her future husband, Colin Campbell.

My mother married my father, Leonard Victor Ward, in St Peter's on 24th April 1946. They had met in 1940 at a Dance Hall in Kirkcaldy when my father was billeted in Falkland after travelling north from Sheffield with the Royal Engineers to join the Narvik campaign. They corresponded throughout the war and met occasionally in both Kirkcaldy and Sheffield until he was sent to North Africa towards the end of 1942 to join Operation Torch. They did not see each other again until February 1946 after my father was de-mobbed. He had travelled through Algeria, Tunisia, Italy until V E Day when his unit was sent to Greece to assist in the reconstruction of the road and bridge networks.

I was born on 6th June 1947, my brother Hugh (born 30 December 1948), sister Catherine Doris (born 16th December 1950) and June (born 8th May 1953) all attended Sunday School at St Michael's, in charge was Alice Foot. We all went through confirmation classes and were confirmed in St Peter's by Bishop Michael Hare Duke.

My sister, June, was the first of us to be married to Robert Charles Carisbrooke Murison in St Peter's on 7th July 1974 followed by Hugh who married Alison Pattie on 21st September 1974. Both were married in the old church. Sister, Catherine, married Brian Dick on 6th August 1977 in the new church. All were married by Reverend David Rimmer. The family had to wait another 15 years or so until I married Marjorie Louise Dorrill on 28th February 1993 by Reverend Canon Ron Leigh. This we believe was the first marriage to be performed on a Sunday with all the congregation being our witnesses. As an aside, before we were allowed to be married in St Peter's we had to go to Bishop's House in Perth to be interviewed by Bishop Michael Hare Duke as Marjorie had been married before and was a divorcee.

Our daughter, Dawn Webster Ward and George Garry McGinty were married by Revered Canon Ron Leigh on 14th October 2000 in a joint Scottish Episcopal and Roman Catholic service.

As you can see, we have a long history with St Peter's from the first church in Coal Wynd to the second and third churches in Townsend Place.

Norman Ward

Can anyone compete with this? What are your connections with St. Peter's? Where did your Faith journey and Worship begin?

The following poem was recited at a recent funeral we attended and is a poignant reminder of the symptoms of dementia/alzeimers.

Norman & Marjorie Ward

Embers and Keys

when I am older
I might not remember
I may get confused
and I might lose my temper

and there may be times
when I don't know your name
because it's been trapped,
locked away in my brain

and though it will hurt
to think I could forget you,
offer me smiles, hold my hand
if I'll let you

and speak of adventures
we had long ago,
show me the photos
of people I know

play music we've danced to
and songs we have sung
read me the books I read
when I was young

'cause your voice and your words
might just be the key
that opens the door,
that unlocks it for me

and maybe the music
will spark tiny embers
of memories dormant
and I will remember

your name and your face
and the words to our song,
the times and the places
to which I've belonged

and it might last moments
or minutes or more
as the fire sheds light
through the crack in the door

but when the door closes
and gone are the flames,
when you are once more
a stranger again

just know you'll have stirred something
deep down inside
something familiar
that I recognise

something I feel
that's not stored in my head
but right at the core
of my heart space instead

something that's stirred
by your smiles and your stories,
the touch of your hand
and the songs you sing for me

and though I'll have no words to tell you
just trust
that deep down inside I'll remember

I'm loved

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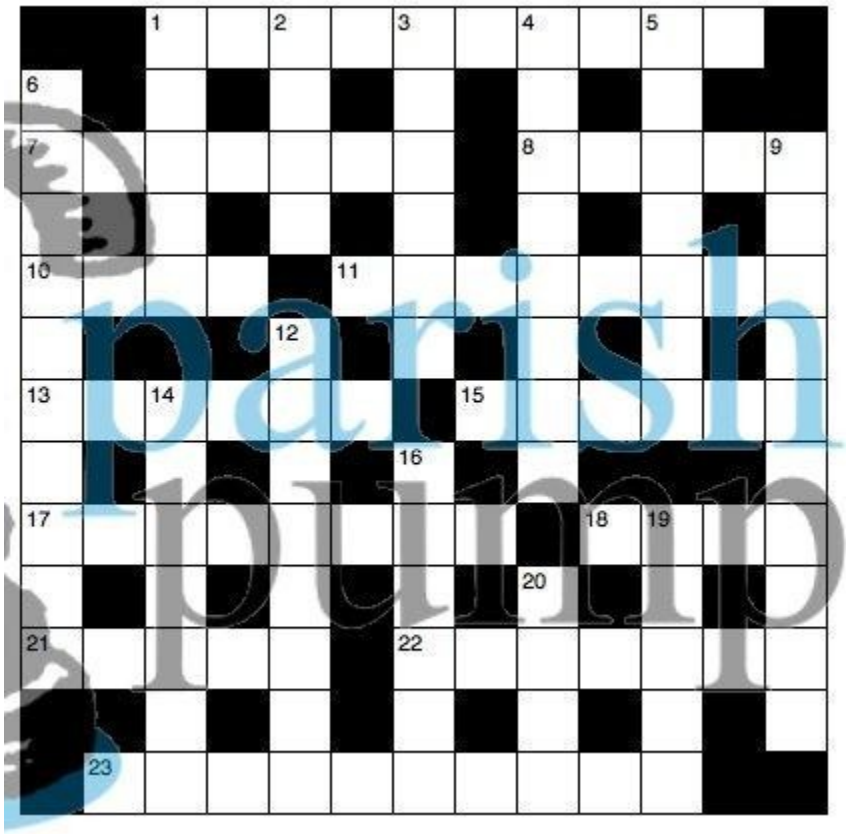
CROSSWORD



Crossword Clues

Across

1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)
8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)
10 'We are hard pressed on every—'(2Corinthians4:8)(4)
11 Fraud (2Corinthians6:8)(8)
13 'His troops advance in force;they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)
15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)

17 ‘Now about spiritual gifts,brothers,I do not want you to be—’ (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)
18 Nomadic dwelling(Genesis26:25)(4)
21 ‘As for man,his days are like—,he flourishes like a flower of the field’ (Psalm 103:15) (5)
22 Or I live (anag.)(7)
23 Those guilty of 1 Across(Romans13:4)(10)

Down

1 ‘God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son’ (John 3:16) (5)
2 ‘Away in a manger, no — for a bed’ (4)
3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)
4 ‘Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled’ (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
5 Began (Luke 9:46) (7)
6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her ***mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10) 12 Put in jail(Acts22:19)(8)***
14 Aceturn(anag.)(7)
16 Discharge(Acts21:3)(6)
19 ‘All these—come from inside and make a man “unclean”’ (Mark 7:23) (5)
20 ‘Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!’(Revelation19:7)(4)

Did You Know?

A group of Hedgehogs is called a ‘Prickle’.

Can you supply other appropriate examples of collective names?

Leisure

What is this life, if full of care,

We have not time to stand and staare!

No time to stand beneath the boughs

And stare as long as sheep or cows.

No time to see when woods we pass,

Where squirels hide their nuts in grasss.

No time to see in broad daylight,

Streams full of stars, like skies at night.

No time to turn at Beauty's glance,

And watch her feet, how they can dance.

No time to wait till her mouth can

Enrich that smile her eyes began.

A poor life this, if full of care,

We have no time to stand and stare.

W.H. Davies

Take the Train to Spain

For many years my husband and I enjoyed holidays in Spain usually in summer but often returning just before Christmas to top up on some sunshine. So it was an inconvenience to be unable to fly there because of a heath restriction.

However, happy to say we discovered that it is possible to get to Spain direct from Kirkcaldy and this is how we did it.

We bought an Interrail 4 day ticket which covers the cost of the fares but it is still necessary to book a seat (all done via the internet before hand) The Interrail ticket covers the cost of a 1st class ticket to London which includes food, but food on French trains is not included so it is necessary to buy your breakfast croissant before you board the train in Paris.

We caught a morning train from Kirkcaldy which arrived in London about 3 pm. Followed by a Eurostar train to Paris where we stayed overnight. The following morning we boarded a very early train to Barcelona which passed some really beautiful scenery including fields of Lavender and the salt lakes and flamingos of the Camargue. We then joined the afternoon train to Malaga - can't say what the scenery was like as it passed by our window, it was dark for much of the journey!). Finally on arrival at Malaga a short taxi ride took us to our favourite hotel on the Costa del Sol where we enjoyed a glorious week of sunshine before returning home.

To return home we travelled via Nimes in Province and then Lille to London before a direct train to Kirkcaldy.

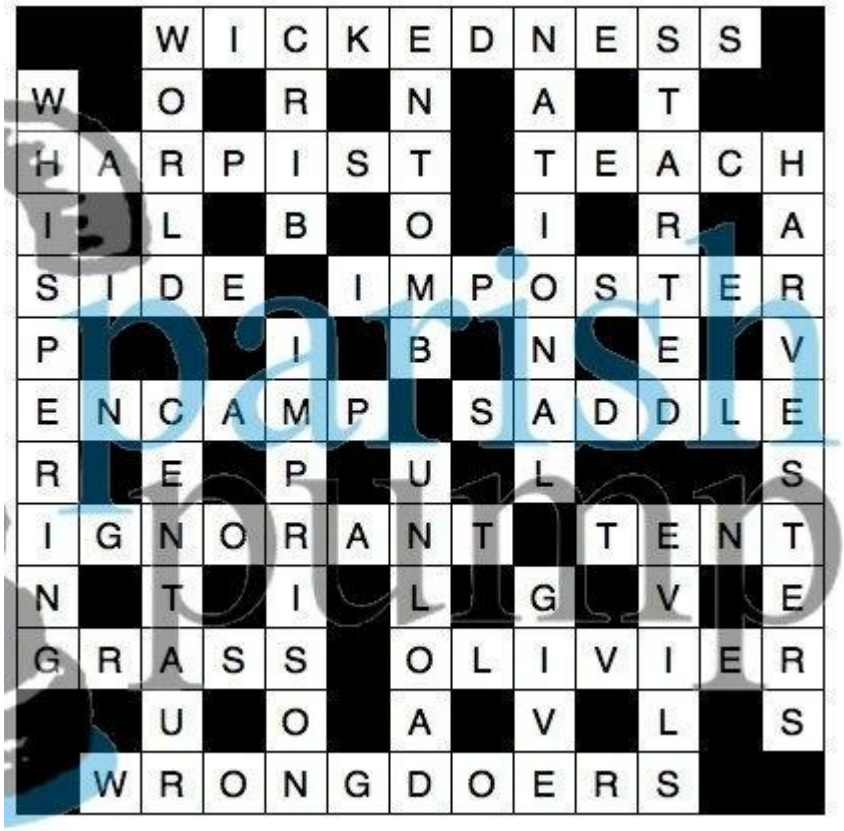
We enjoyed it so much we are repeating the exercise later this year.

Shirley Mann

Notice in Florida's Everglades

Those who throw objects at the Crocodiles will be asked to retrieve them.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION



Lost Luggage (Courtesy of Howden Insurance)

In reality, **74% of baggage issues are delays**, not permanent losses. The biggest culprit is transfers. Around **41% of delayed bags** happen when luggage has to move between flights, especially on tight connections or between different airlines. Other causes include:

Bags not being loaded (17%);

- Ticketing or tagging errors (16%).
- Weather, customs and airport capacity issues (10%).

Truly lost or stolen bags account for **just 8%** of cases. Damaged or pilfered luggage makes up the rest.

What should you always pack in your hand luggage?

While it's a positive sign that fewer bags are getting lost in transit, there's always that voice in the back of your mind… *"what if my bag goes missing?"* If there's one golden rule of stress-free travel, it's this: **never check in anything you can't cope without for 48 hours.**

That includes:

- Medication and medical equipment.
- Travel documents, chargers and electronics.
- A change of clothes and basic toiletries.
- Anything valuable or sentimental.

Tips for keeping track of your luggage

Before booking

- Choose direct flights where possible.
- Favour airlines and airports with strong baggage records (check out www.luggagelosers.com for live updates).
- Consider travelling with hand luggage only on short trips.

When packing

- Put an ID card inside your suitcase, not just outside.
- Use a clear luggage tag and a visual identifier like a ribbon or band.

- Photograph your bag and its contents.
- Keep receipts for valuables.
- Consider a Bluetooth tracker. It could be helpful, but it's not a magic 'fix-all'.

At the airport

- Check the destination code on your baggage tag.
- Remove old tags from previous trips.
- Take a quick photo of your checked bag.

If your bag doesn't arrive:

1. **Report it immediately** at the airline's baggage desk (or online before you leave the airport).
2. File a **Property Irregularity Report (PIR)** and keep the reference number.
3. Provide photos, tag numbers and contact details.

Most airlines will then track and return your bag to you, **at no cost**, whether you're on holiday or back home.

What compensation can I claim?

If your bag is delayed, airlines must reimburse you for **reasonable essentials**, such as toiletries, basic clothing, and similar items. Keep itemised receipts, as you should expect scrutiny.

After **21 days**, luggage is classed as officially lost. Under the **Montreal Convention**, compensation is capped at

around **£1,533**. That's the maximum, and only if you can prove the value of what you lost with receipts and purchase history.

Murphy's Miracle *(With sincere apologies for any offence caused to those with Irish connections)*

One morning as Murphy was having his breakfast, he dropped his toast. To his utter amazement it landed butter side up!

Convinced that this had to be a Miracle, Murphy went to his local Priest determined to have it formally recognised as such.

The Priest tried his utmost to dissuade Murphy from his belief in a Miracle, but Murphy was insistent. In exasperation the Priest finally agreed to forward Murphy's claim to the appropriate authorities.

After some time the Priest finally received a reply and invited Murphy to hear the outcome. Murphy could hardly contain himself with excitement. Have they … have they confirmed my Miracle. Father?" he asked.

As gently as he could the Priest replied, "I'm really sorry Murphy, but No, they haven't". Distraught Murphy cried out "Why ever not, Father?" To this the Priest replied; "Well Murphy, the College of Cardinals think that on that particular morning you must have buttered your toast on the wrong side!."

The Mindful Partnership (Yoga Classes)

As a returning and regular user of St Peter's facilities, the Mindful Partnership is pleased to inform readers of the following:

Pregnancy Yoga Class 7-15-8.45 pm on Wednesday evenings

Practices in these Pregnancy Yoga classes come from a yoga therapy background. Classes are suitable from 14 weeks in pregnancy until 32 weeks to complete this course and are suitable for both those new to yoga and those with experience.

Attending these specialist yoga classes helps women to rediscover trust in their body's wisdom, bringing confidence in their own body's ability to give birth.

For those that a physiological birth is not an option, techniques shared can benefit during pregnancy, all birthing options and into the early days of mothering.

The gentle practice of yoga postures, breathing practices, relaxation and meditations are included.

Yoga Base Mindful Movement Class 6-7.15pm Wednesday Evenings
Through gentle yoga movements, mindful breathing and heart meditations we connect more deeply with ourselves, fostering self-compassion and emotional balance.

In addition, the class ends with Yoga Nidra, guiding into deep relaxation, reducing stress and enhancing restorative sleep.

Together, these practices create a holistic approach to well-being, improving flexibility, soothing the nervous system, reducing anxiety, and grounding in the present moment.

Warmest Wishes,
Maggie Mckeen

Serena Williams

I thought I would share this article, which I read recently, with you -

Tennis star Serena Williams is famous for her athletic prowess, for the Grand Slam titles she has won, and for having been the number one female tennis player in the world. And there's another equally impressive, but perhaps not so well known, fact about her.

In most of her changeovers, she would lower her head, close her eyes and say a silent prayer. Not for victory, but to stay strong, whether she was destined to win or lose.

"Surely God is my salvation; I will trust Him and not be afraid. The Lord, is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation." (Isaiah 12:2)

Maria Page

WANTED

Articles and illustrations for your Magazine. Here are a few suggestions.

- **Your Faith Journey in Kirkcaldy, UK or elsewhere.**
- **People and stories that have inspired you and why.**
- **Encounters with God in Nature and everyday life.**
- **Favourite passages of Scripture and Hymns.th**
- **Favourite Hobbies and Leisure activities.**
- **Pastoral encounters.**
- **Holiday adventures.**
- **Memories and the changing scenes of Life.**
- **Overcoming adversity.**
- **Favourite recipes.**
- **Nature notes.**
- **Useful information.**
- **'Did You Know', quirky and unusual facts.**
- **Photographs**

Articles can always be published anonomously if that is preferable, but I do need your input if I am to be your Editor and not the Author of your Magazine.

Thank You.

JW WISHART

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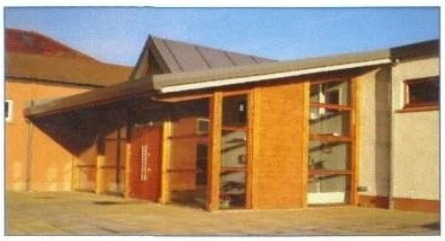

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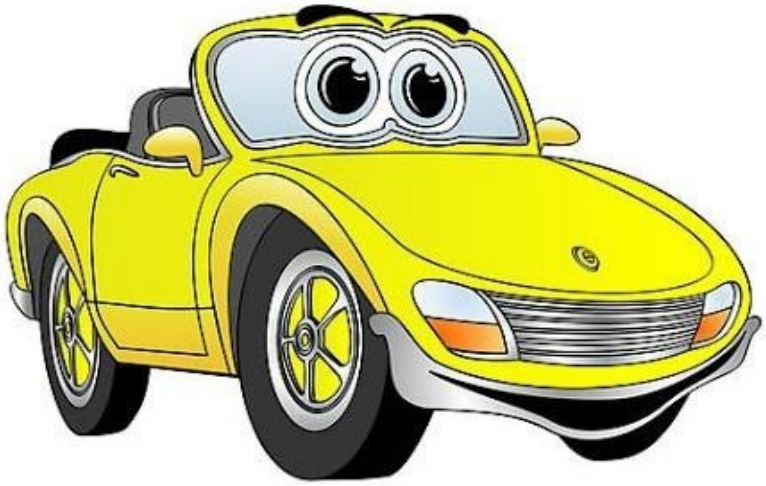

Looking for a Parking Space ?

Plenty of spaces at St Peter's Church

Easy access at Townsend Place, Kirkcaldy KY1 1HB

Low cost parking—£60 per quarter (lessthan £5 per week!)

Just a 5 minute walk from the High Street

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e-mail Maria Page – billmariap@virginmedia.com

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Kirkcaldy KY1 1HB

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