



St. John the Baptist
Scottish Episcopal Church
Perth

QUETEST



Advent - 2009



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CASTING THE NET
 Growing Faith Communities in the Diocese of St. Andrews

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A letter from the Rector

I can't quite get my head around writing an Advent message. This year has passed so quickly and at times dramatically. All the more reason then that, like Sting and his album of winter songs, we should use this period wisely, to take stock, to reflect and to prepare ourselves for the springboard to new life that comes at Christmas.

One of the worrying trends this year has been a rise in the BNP. This was highlighted on *BBC1 Question Time* recently. Seeing the bear-baiting of the BNP leader by the other panellists, while offering a form of guilty pleasure and ideologically holding my complete support, did bring out a sense of worry that maybe they were going too far and giving a sense of martyrdom to an unworthy cause. However, I believe history suggests otherwise. The silence of the 1930s to the growing horrors of the Nazi regime in Germany, the failure to hear witnesses to the atrocities to the Jewish population and too many other minority groups that fell under its evil gaze, is a sorrow the world cannot escape from. Appeasement **didn't work then and it won't work** now. Only the strong rebuttal of these heinous, bullying views can put the spectre of racism and bigotry into its place and reveal it for what it is: corruption and a deeply damaging **sore in society's life. Nick Griffin** may play at being the man for all people, but that is not what he is and not what he offers. He is really a man full of hate, who has no interest in democracy other than that it allows him to peddle his wares. Only a

strong voice to say No will reveal him as a fraud. He and his ignorant policies based on prejudice must be shown to be what they are. To identify his party with Christianity is probably one of his worst ploys. He seems to think that Christianity is a **'white' British invention that builds** barriers to preserve a form of life that never really existed. The reality is that Jesus would not have qualified for membership in his party. Jesus was a Jew who spent his life breaking down barriers that separated people from God and one another. The church might have got it wrong now and again but it eventually finds its way back to its core message.

The BNP are a political fraud on the goodwill of many who are genuinely frightened or worried by the state of our economy and by the sometimes overly fast changes to our communities, changes that are happening often due to our demographic needs or skill shortages. These must be addressed politically and fairly and openly but not through the medium of hate and not through political and social bullying.

Another matter of public concern **lately has been that of the bankers' bonuses.** A question recently on *Radio 2's Jeremy Vine show* asked whether money was evil. The point is not that money and being moneyed is evil but that the love of money is the source of evil. If we cannot see beyond our own greed and leave others to suffer when we can give a hand then there is a problem. For me I see this in our attitude to taxes as much as in

bankers' bonuses. For those who are rich (and in the world's eyes most of western society is rich) and benefit from such wealth, that is not in itself evil and those who are rich are not in themselves evil. It is how one treats that money that determines the well being of our souls and I for one will not judge another but reflect on what is going on in my own soul. Many wealthy people throughout the ages have given hugely to the benefit of others. In fact Nicodemus, one of Jesus' closest followers, was a rich member of the Sanhedrin and may even have helped finance the early church movement.

What is at stake over the issue of **bankers' bonuses is more an issue of a failed process, where those who have not achieved – those who have misused funds that belonged to others – are still rewarded for their misdeeds, and this is something that is unfair, unjust and morally corrupt. Reward should be based on a fair sense of return for what one has given, not an automatic bonus because one is part of a financial system that is misusing its power, misusing its wealth and misusing the people who are dependent on it. I find it surprising that the banks have so immediately started to pay out bonuses again, particularly those banks that are now in public ownership, so that not only are our investments paying these bonuses, but also our tax, paying bonuses for no benefit – or perceived benefit – to the community at large. It is the system that needs to be corrected and there is no point vilifying individuals until the system itself has been sorted.**

Advent offers us all an opportunity to reflect on our world, to reflect on our own lives and to repent and be forgiven those parts of ourselves that have not been what they should be – and know ourselves forgiven – so that with the coming of the Christ child we will be able to face the world anew and with positive and hopeful hearts engage in the business of bringing light to our community and the world.

On a more personal note, the last part of this year has been for me unfortunately dominated by illness. From June my health began to deteriorate on quite a rapid basis until my operation to remove a tumour took place in September, and then my treatment for cancer which began towards the end of October. May I thank everyone who has been so wonderful in their support of my family over this very difficult period for us. With your support, help, love and prayers we have been able to face this in a much better way than otherwise might have been. It is odd to say but my illness has in many ways been a wonderful blessing, to have been on the receiving end of such warmth and love and I have known myself to be so wonderfully held in prayer and for that may I offer you all my thanks.

May I also add that I have been hugely humbled to share the stories of others who are currently being treated for cancer or other difficult illness or have had something or supported someone in the past. These stories have been deeply moving and inspirational and are so important to share and in turn to receive support, love and prayer.

The next few months for me are uncertain but I hope to be back with you and be able to serve you again as soon as possible. Meanwhile, although my chemotherapy makes it difficult to plan ahead, I shall attempt to be in church to worship with you as often as I can. I have been asked if I am up to seeing visitors - the answer is **very much 'yes' but please phone**

first to save a wasted journey as the treatment sometimes prevents me mixing.

Please continue to pray for the church wardens and Vestry who are **looking after St John's so well and** please do continue to give them you full support.

With love in Christ, Patrick

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will be held in church on Sunday 22nd November 2009, at approximately 12 noon (immediately after our Eucharist service). As usual we will be asking for nominations for new Vestry members and lay reps, approval of accounts, and other routine business. If you have any issues that you wish to raise, it would be helpful if you could speak to one of the wardens beforehand. The official notice with agenda has been in service sheets and on the notice board at back of church.

The Cornhill Macmillan Centre

At 10 o'clock on Monday 10th October, the doors opened to the public to inspect the Cornhill Macmillan Centre, no longer referred to as a Hospice.

Kate Edmeades and I were warmly welcomed by the receptionist sitting at her desk in front of a large glassed area, the hub of the administration.

We joined a small group sitting in comfy chairs, in a corner of the spacious reception area. A Macmillan representative, who oversees all the similar buildings in Scotland, took us on a guided tour. Our first and, as it turned out, last disappointment was the Sanctuary room: blazing lights, a slit of a window, devoid of any sign of spiritual healing. Such a missed opportunity.

However, the rest of this building is light and airy and welcoming. The



wood is of a very high standard of craftsmanship, a lovely honey colour and no sharp edges, particularly noticeable in the ten identical large en-suite bedrooms with fitted cupboards, including a drop down bed. There is a small fridge, adjustable chair, and television. Sliding windows curtained in a leaf pattern enable access to the patio. One room has its own adjoining

sitting room with a sofa bed. There are other sitting rooms of a similar nature, thoughtfully kitted out for overnight family visitors.

There is a special full-length £7000 worth of hydraulic bath where physiotherapy can be undertaken. All hoists are hidden in the adjoining room.

Being a Member of the Order of St John, I particularly wished to see the room for which we raised £75,000.

It is well furnished, with doors leading on to the patio, where on a fine day there is a spectacular view over Perth. On one of the walls, there is a perspex plaque acknowledging our donation.

The day centre can be reached by a lift to the first floor. This is another well-equipped room with enough space for different sitting areas.

There are two kitchen bays. Food is supplied from the P.R.I.

On this floor is a small hair dressing salon. There is a large conference room with the latest video equipment linking up meetings taking place in other conference centres across the country. There are folding doors in the middle of this room, so that, fully opened, there is space for entertainment on quite a large scale.

Certainly the overall assessment of this remarkable building for Kate and myself is one of huge pride that there is, at last, a place of light and space, peace and tranquility where the needs of the patient and their relatives are of paramount importance, for the people of Perth and Kinross.

Diana Glazebrook

PACT Report

At a PACT meeting in September the issue of CATH and the fact that there was now little input from the Churches in its running and the direction it seemed to be taking was discussed and considerable concern expressed. Encouragement was given to members of all Churches to become members of CATH for a one-off joining fee and then attend the CATH AGM on 29th October.

It is regretted that the publicity for **One World Week reached St John's** too late for the events to be widely publicised but there were events in various churches during that week in October.

The latest PACT Newsletter is on the Threshold notice board. All the newsletters as well as the website have so far been produced by John Kendal of Riverside Church but he has intimated that the latest newsletter was his last. PACT are therefore looking for a volunteer with the appropriate skills to take over from John. He is willing to give help initially.

This year the Christmas Carol service will take place in the Concert Hall on Sunday 13th December at 7:30 pm.

Jean Hendry

Lectionary

22nd Nov	Sunday next before Advent - Christ the King Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Revelations 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37	13th Dec	Third Sunday of Advent Zephaniah 3:14-end Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18
29th Nov	First Sunday of Advent Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-end Luke 21:25-36	20th Dec	Fourth Sunday in Advent Micah 5:2-5a Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45
6th Dec	Second Sunday of Advent Malachi 3:1-4 Luke 3:1-6		

From the Registers

Baptism	18th October	Daniel Edward Galbraith
Eternal Rest	22nd September	Bill Salter - his name lives forevermore

Fellowship

At the Fellowship meeting on 12th October, the Chairman, Ruth Harris welcomed everyone and led prayers for Patrick and his family, Brenda Hulsmeier, who is unwell, and Lillian Salter, recently bereaved. The speakers were our old friends, Bruce and Elaine Cameron, who gave an illustrated presentation on their experience as Resident Scholars based at Bruton Church in Williamsburg, Virginia, USA.

Having lived in the old rectory and played an active role in the church community, they described a very large congregation with four clergy and many supporting staff able to deliver a wide range of church services and activities.

We were given a brief history of

events from the arrival of the first settlers from England, through the War of Independence, to the emergence of George Washington as the first American President. More than two hundred years later, we have the first black President, Barack Obama, on whom so much hope now rests.

Bruce also explained the close historical and ongoing link between The Episcopal Church (in the USA) and the Scottish Episcopal Church. This arose when Seabury, the first American Bishop, was consecrated, in Aberdeen, by three Scottish Episcopal Bishops. Following a fascinating and instructive talk there was time for reminiscences and catching up.

Val Fox



FROM BISHOP DAVID

If we offered people the opportunity of spending a day in the Diocesan Office, I suspect we wouldn't have many 'takers'. It doesn't have quite the glamour of a visit to a film set or a day in the life of an airline pilot. But your day would tell you a lot about the nature of the church.

The tide comes in every day here. It brings letters, emails, financial statements, phone calls, church magazines, applications for changes to buildings.... It's all the 'stuff' of church life. Times are testing for our churches. Money is short. It doesn't get any easier to find volunteers. We all know the problems.

But in and through all of that is another tide of hope and possibility. Casting the Net is the centre of that. It's a determination that, in the midst of all the 'stuff' which demands our attention, we shall persist in moving forward in mission.

In my own life and ministry, I've reached the stage where this isn't an 'either/or'. I know that I have to deal with all of the 'stuff' that comes my way. But I wouldn't be able to keep going at it unless, in other parts of my life and ministry, I was working with people to move forward in mission.

We need to be faithful in the everyday things. But we need to prioritise the new. I look forward to seeing the Pilot Casting the Net Congregations moving forward. We hope to learn from their experience as we cast our net over all the other congregations in our diocese.

CASTING THE NET (CTN)

I came across some interesting remarks by a Rabbi about the story of the Exodus: *"Moses' task, of course was to envision the future. It was Moses who went off alone to encounter God face to face. He would return with new energy, a sense of direction and a visible radiance from that encounter. Aaron, on the other hand, was the voice of management. He structured the trip day to day, organizing tasks and assigning responsibilities."*

After leaving Egypt, for God's people to move toward God's future for them, both Moses and Aaron had to work together. Progress required the visionary leader and the experienced manager, the spiritual and the practical, hand in glove. We are trying to embody this in the CTN process, the bonding of the spiritual and the practical. We are creating a way to help congregations hear God's voice speaking to them about their future and then work out and live out the practical implications of that God given call.

We are committed to this, because without the spiritual dimension of the process, God's voice won't be heard, and without the practical dimension, God's vision won't be turned into reality.

One of the key resources to support the spiritual dimension of CTN is a book called, *Mission-shaped Spirituality: The Transforming Power of Mission* by Susan Hope. It can be obtained through any Christian bookshop or the amazon website. It can be read individually, but may have greater impact if used in local discussion groups, perhaps over Advent. A study guide is being written for the book and will be available in November.



Moving on to the practical dimensions of CTN, we are recruiting CTN Liaison Officers in every congregation. These are people who will not just keep churches informed about the latest developments with CTN, but also champion it in their congregation, network to share ideas and provide feedback to us. This will help us to become as effective as possible. I am looking forward to meeting those who have been appointed and thinking together about mission in our churches.

Lay and clergy facilitators who will help congregations work through the CTN planning process are being recruited as well. There is also a group of very talented "Aarons" who are working behind the scenes on all sorts of things, like writing training courses, working on the new Diocesan Website and other practical aspects of CTN. So its all "go" right now with CTN.

I hope you can begin to sense that what were previously only plans are gradually becoming reality.

It's also been a great pleasure for me to get out and about to meet people from across the Diocese to talk about Casting the Net in church services and at Area Council Meetings. I wanted to thank so many of you for making me feel welcome and showing your interest in Casting the Net by coming along to these gatherings. I look forward to meeting more of you in the future.

Revd James Petticrew
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MARK 8: SERVING THE COMMUNITY IN PRACTICAL WAYS, REACHING OUT TO OTHERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN NEED

To illustrate that you can start working on the Nine Marks of Mission at any point, we'll be sharing activities that are being tried in our congregations. For this edition, we are grateful to Charmian Paterson at St Anne's Coupar Angus, who's started an initiative to serve the community in practical ways, which also reaches out to children.

The success of being part of the Quiet Space for Scotland in November 2008 and the spin off which resulted in regular contact with the local primary school, encouraged the members of St Anne's Episcopal church to try and interact more in the community. We started a "Drop-In" centre in the church hall in January 2009 on the first Monday of each month from 9.30am - 12.30pm.

The aim was to attract all age groups - both young and old - to come in to a friendly environment, relax and have a chat over a cup of tea or coffee and home baking. We were given some good play equipment and asked for 25p donations, to cover the costs of the catering, which was all prepared by volunteers.

The project was covered for insurance purposes and disclosures by the Mothers' Union (MU) and seed money was given by both the local MU branch and church vestry. It was agreed at the outset that it would run for a 6-month trial before being evaluated.



The review after 6 months found that although it had attracted some regular visitors it had not really succeeded or grown as hoped. One reason for this was thought to be the timing. Anecdotal evidence suggested people just forgot which day it was because it only opened once a month and also there was confusion as to who should attend.

We have decided to re-launch this autumn but on a regular weekly basis - every Monday between 10am and 12 noon, with focus on young parents, babies and toddlers. So it will now be a Parent & Toddler group and have a paid leader backed up by volunteers.

The NHS Health Visitors are very enthusiastic about it as no other Parent & Toddler group exists in Coupar Angus and the local 'Home Start' group only take mothers and babies by referral.

We are getting helpful advice from Perth & Kinross Child strategy scheme as well as prayer support from the church and local branch of the Mothers' Union. We'll keep you posted on progress!

A PRAYER FOR MISSION

*God our Father,
After His resurrection your Son
commissioned his apostles to make
disciples of all nations.
Empower us by your Holy Spirit for this
same work, to proclaim His gospel,
share
His forgiveness and build up your
Church
in love, trusting His presence to with us
always to the end of time.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ
our Lord and Saviour. Amen
Celia Matthews, Spirituality Group
cmatthews@toucansurf.com*

MINISTRY AND EDUCATION

The Ministry and Education Action Group will be offering two general 'discipleship' courses – one is a 3-session course called '**Compass**', which can be delivered in congregations or Area Councils. This is suitable for those who have recently joined a congregation or who are undertaking a lay ministry. It

seeks to introduce the faith and values of our church through reflection on our practice. The other is a longer course called '**Exploring our Faith**', which covers worship, the Bible and the contemporary world.

Resources more directly linked to the Nine Marks of Mission will be posted on the new Diocesan website, which will be finalised this month. We hope that this will also become a place where resources and good practice in our congregations can be shared with others.

Please let us know of events & courses so that we can develop a lively culture of learning & sharing to underpin our mission. Events coming up in the next few weeks include:

Workshop on the Healing Ministry

Saturday 17th October: 10am - 4pm
St Saviour's Church, Bridge of Allan.
Cost: £5 (bring your own lunch)

Workshop on King David: the Biblical narrative, led by Prof. David Jasper

Saturday 14 November: 10am – 3.30pm
Allan Park South Church, Dumbarton Road, Stirling FK8 2LQ

Cost: £5 (bring your own lunch)

Registration: contact Alison Peden

Canon Alison Peden, Convenor:

01877 330488

DIOCESAN CELEBRATION

Sunday 22 November, 4.30pm

**Preacher: Rt Revd. Trevor Williams,
Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe**

As this is the first time that the Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane has served as Primus since 1907, Bishop David wants to use the opportunity of his appointment to hold this diocesan event to celebrate our life together as a diocese.

All are welcome to attend this service, which will seek to tell some of the story of the diocese in the last few years and pray together for our mission.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (CYP)

We are sorry that Veronica Kinahan has been enticed back into full-time employment and so resigned from her post as CYP Development Officer. She has made an immense contribution to our work in a very short period and we look forward to seeing her at future CYP events as an enthusiastic volunteer!

The post of CYP Development Officer is being advertised again during October. ***Please pray that we identify the right person for this very important post, which is at the heart of our mission work as we remember that missionshaped churches seek to engage children and young people.***

We'll be developing accreditation for churches to become 'a child friendly church'. As part of this we launched a poster competition across all churches, to create a Diocesan logo to signify a child friendly church. We never knew there were so many budding artists amongst our youngsters—**thank you all for your wonderful drawings and paintings.**

Congratulations to Iona Gibson (aged 8), of St Saviour's in Bridge of Allan



and Sarah Cromwell (Age 6) of Holy Trinity Young Church in Dunfermline whose pictures will be used to create the promotional material for the child friendly church in our diocese.

Revd. Anne Haslehurst
CYP Action Group Convenor
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Church Diary

St John's Services

12-Nov	11:00 am	Holy Communion – SPB
15-Nov		2nd Sunday before Advent
	8:30 am	Holy Communion - SPB
	10:30 am	Sung Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Evensong
19-Nov	11:00 am	Holy Communion – SPB
22-Nov		Sunday Next before Advent - Christ the King
	8:30 am	Holy Communion - SPB
	10:30 am	Sung Eucharist
27-Nov	11:00 am	Holy Communion – SPB
29-Nov		First Sunday of Advent
	8:30 am	Holy Communion - SPB
	10:30 am	Sung Eucharist and Baptism
03-Dec	11:00 am	Holy Communion – SPB
06-Dec		Second Sunday of Advent
10-Dec	10:30 am	Sung Eucharist and Baptism
13-Dec		Third Sunday of Advent
	8:30 am	Holy Communion - SPB
	10:30 am	Sung Eucharist
17-Dec	10:30 am	Sung Eucharist and Baptism
20-Dec		Fourth Sunday of Advent
	8:30 am	Holy Communion - SPB
	10:30 am	Sung Eucharist and Baptism
	3.30 pm	Christmas Carol Service
		NO Evensong
		Other Events / meetings
17-Nov	7.45 pm	Intercession Group meeting
22-Nov	12 noon	Church AGM in church
22nd Nov	4:30 pm	Cathedral Eucharist to celebrate Bishop David being elected as Primus
07-Dec	7.45 pm	Vestry on Threshold
12-Dec		Christmas Fair

History of Episcopal Church in Perth Part II - The Ousting of the Clergy

In 1688, St John's was the only church in Perth. Though there was a presbytery and Kirk Session, there were two Episcopalian ministers, Adam Barclay and David Anderson. On the 5th September, 1689, the Privy Council in Edinburgh formally deposed the Perth ministers, on the grounds that they had refused to read the Proclamation of Estates and to pray for King William and Queen Anne. Thus they were suddenly deprived of their houses and income and any arrears of stipend were paid to the Presbyterian minister who supplanted them. Barclay set up a meeting-house in Perth, where he continued to minister to his flock as best he could. Its location is unknown. Anderson retired to Gowrie House with his family, where he ran a school.

The Town Council and most citizens were Episcopalian, and there was considerable opposition to the Presbyterians. Indeed, in August 1689, Government soldiers had been called in to escort John Anderson, a conventicler, to the pulpit of St John's. The Presbytery of Perth was required to 'purge out all insufficient, negligent, erroneous and scandalous ministers [ie Episcopalian] and to 'plant' Presbyterian ministers. As it was, they could only find six ministers initially for some forty parishes. Some Episcopalian departed quietly. However, at Methven, the laird, David Smythe, organised a party of villagers to bar the minister selected by the Presbytery; he was inducted instead in the church yard. Recusant Episcopalian ministers were summoned to appear before the Presbytery, and, when they refused, letters of horning (outlawry) were issued against them. The Revd John Blair of Kilspindy 'compeared not' and continued to baptise children 'to the great contempt of the Government and laws now established'. Fourteen parishes were still in Episcopal hands in 1698. Only one incumbent, Alexander McLagan of Little Dunkeld, renounced Episcopacy and conformed to the new regime.

When Queen Anne ascended the throne in 1702, she sent a Letter of Toleration:

It is our Royal Pleasure that they (Episcopalian) should be directed to live suitably ... and that in doing so they may be protected in the peaceable exercise of their religion, and we recommend to the clergy of the Established discipline that they live in brotherly love and communion with such dissenters.

Nevertheless, the Union of Parliaments of 1707 confirmed the Kirk in its ascendancy and Queen Anne's wishes were ignored. William Smith, once the Episcopalian minister of Moneydie and now residing in Methven, was summoned to answer a 'Libell', dated 14th February, 1710:

That whereas the puritie of Religion and particularly of Divine Worship and uniformitie therein is a signal blessing to the Church of God ... since our reformation from Papacy ... it is a veritie that you ... have not only in an most irregular and disorderly manner intruded upon the Paroch of Methven

... you have introduced a set form of worship and that is in direct opposition and contrary to the known principle of the Church, contained in the Confession of Faith (which is that God should not be worshipped according to the imagination and device of men, or any other way not prescribed by Holy Scripture).

In his 'Declinator and Protestation', Smith replied, *inter alia*,

As to the English Liturgie, which you call innovation ... I think it is agreeable to the Word of God and the practice of the Primitive Church, and is no innovation, being universally practised at the beginning of the Reformation, as Buchanan in the nineteenth book of his History affirms.

In the 'Libell' issued in 1711 against Henry Murray, he is accused of the following:

That in the Administration of the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper you oblige communicants to kneel in the act of receiving, which hath always been condemned by Acts of the General Assembly and the practice of this Church as not agreeable to our Blessed Lord's practice in the Institution of the same; as a gesture symbolising with idolators in their idolatrous worship, and a manifest breach of the foresaid puritie and uniformitie of Worship.

Nearly all our information about these proceedings come from the Records of the Perth Presbytery, since memoirs or recollections of individual Episcopalians of the time do not exist or have disappeared. They illustrate well the conflict of civil and ecclesiastical polity: the Presbytery seeking to assert itself as the sole authority in spiritual matters and using its quasi-judicial status to that end; the Episcopalians invoking the authority of the Ancient Church, but also maintaining the liberty of the individual to worship as he pleased. The latter claim comes naturally to a church now disestablished and looks forward to the non-conformist congregations of the later eighteenth century. In the minds of Presbyterians, Episcopalianism had strong Papistical tendencies, the fear of which had not diminished with the exile of James VII. Despite, or perhaps because of the Union of Parliaments, Presbytery assumed nationalistic overtones. The use of set prayers was a source of exasperation. The Revd Alexander Dinning of Abernethy is said to have declared: 'Those who read prayers worship the Devil. I defy all the world to show me where the Scripture commands us to read prayers.' He was not disturbed by the fact that he thereby condemned the entire Church of England, 'including the Queen's Majesty' as devil-worshippers. His outburst may have been provoked by the recent arrival in Scotland of 19,000 copies of the English Prayer Book.

Another difficulty faced by the Presbyterians was that the common people of Perth, not just the gentry, still adhered in their hearts to the Episcopalians, a very public repudiation of the national Church. Furthermore, by the Toleration Act of 1712 ('an Act to prevent the disturbing of the Episcopal Communion in that part of Great Britain called Scotland in the exercise of their religious worship, and the use of the Liturgy of the Church of England, and for repealing the Act passed in

the Parliament of Scotland intituled An Act against irregular Baptisms and Marriages’):

It shall be free and lawful for all of the Episcopal Communion [in Scotland] to meet and assemble for Divine Worship to be performed in their own manner ...

A condition of this liberty granted to Episcopalians was that they should swear to the Act and therefore owe allegiance to Queen Anne and her successors, the Hanoverians. Thus, congregations gradually came into being with ‘juring’ priests, ordained by English or Irish bishops and using the English Prayer Book. These became known as **Qualified, or English, congregations**. How the ‘non-juring’ priests and congregations fared will be related in my next article.

David Willington

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Chansons in the Cathedral

One of the pleasures of living in Perth is the richness of our musical life. In addition to marvellous events in the Concert Hall and delights provided by the Perth Chamber Music Society, we can occasionally enjoy glorious choral works by Chansons and increasingly ambitious performances by the Angus Chamber Orchestra.

This year, by happy coincidence, Chansons is celebrating its 30th anniversary and the Angus Chamber Orchestra its 10th; so as part of their joint celebrations they combined on Sunday evening, 1st November, to put on a beautifully balanced programme **in St Ninian’s Cathedral, conducted by Howard Duthie**. Not only did two choral works alternate with two orchestral, but also the first and last items were old favourites while the two between were new to most of us and all the more rewarding. So **Wagner’s infinitely moving ‘Siegfried Idyll’ was followed by the contemporary American composer Morten Lauridsen’s gorgeous ‘Lux**

Aeterna’, whose text combines phrases from the Requiem Mass with lines from psalms and Latin hymns. After the interval, a concerto for trumpet and strings by the mid-18th century Czech composer Johann Neruda, featuring the trumpet virtuoso Andrew Digger, was followed **by Vivaldi’s Gloria**.

Chansons features several members of our congregation, including Rhiannon Miller (soprano soloist) and David Willington (bass). They will be singing again at the Christmas Concerts in Glamis Castle on Saturday 12 and 19 December as well as a **special Charity Concert in St Ninian’s** on 21 December.

These concerts in the Cathedral would be extremely difficult to stage, of course, if the old pews had not been replaced by easily arranged **seating. We in St John’s look forward** to enjoying the same facility!

Vivian Linacre

Alba String Quartet

*Liam Lynch and Stewart Webster, violins;
Hannah Craib, viola; Emily Walker, cello*

Perth Chamber Music Society

Perth Museum and Art Gallery
Tuesday 8 December, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

Schubert *Quartettsatz* in C Minor, D 803

Ravel *Quartet* in F Major
Schubert *Quartet* in D Minor, D 810, *Der Tod und das Mädchen*

The Alba Quartet was formed in 2003 from graduates of the RSAMD and RCM in London, and quickly established itself as one of Scotland's leading ensembles. The Quartet was awarded the inaugural Enterprise Music Scotland Residency project. They have won critics' acclaim for performances at the St Magnus Festival and elsewhere. Alan Cooper of *The Herald* described their performances as 'fresh, young and brimming with vitality'. The Leader, Liam Lynch, resides in Perth and was a member of the judging panel for the Perth Chamber Music Society's first Bursary Competition for young players in 2009.

*David Willington
(for Perth Chamber Music Society)*

Message from Lis Burke

As Christians we are all called upon to use our God-given gifts to build up his church. Due to changed personal circumstances, I am now able to take on a more active role within St Johns. The support of Patrick and the Vestry

is a source of encouragement to me in my discussions with the Diocesan Director of Ordinands about the form my vocation might take.

Lis Burke

A Thank You from Margaret and Vic Broad

Margaret and Vic would like to thank all those that have enquired after their wellbeing over recent months – phone calls, cards, visits, prayers, etc. Margaret has recovered well from her hysterectomy, which was a success.

Vic had just started back at work following absence due to sleep apnoea when he ended up in

Ninewells. He has made a full recovery from the brain shunt revision surgery. Unfortunately in amongst all this he has been **‘released’ by his employer so is** currently looking for work.

We would appreciate your continued prayer support in a difficult time.

Margaret and Vic Broad

All Hallows’ Eve

On 30th October we held a drop-in event suitable for both young and old **on the theme of All Hallows’ Eve**. There were opportunities for apple-dooking, mask-making, a **‘mystery tasting’ and craft activities, as well** as a topical quiz and a buffet tea.

Several people arrived in costume and performed a party piece, and we awarded prizes for the best efforts. This was a new venture for us, and was enjoyed by everyone who took part.

Lis Burke

Photo feature on Church babies

In the Christmas edition of Quest we plan to have a feature on babies born to members of the congregation, be they children, grandchildren or indeed great grandchildren.....

So we invite you to submit photos and a few details of new members to your families

Please ensure you have permission of the parents to publish the photo in Quest.

If you don’t have digital files, we can copy them on the photocopier very quickly and while you wait; please see Malcolm Nixon.

Sue Moncrieffe

Magazine Deadlines

for the Christmas Edition

Last date for submission of material: Sunday 29th November

Publication date: 13th December

Early submission of material is appreciated

Via email if at all possible: editor@episcopal-perth.org.uk

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Photos of the All Hallows' Event, by Lis Burke



Make an Advent calendar with hand prints

Make this advent wreath using hand prints to count down the days to Christmas!

Materials:

- Paper Plate
- Green Paper
- Markers or Crayons
- Ribbon (optional)
- Glue
- Scissors

Instructions:

Cut the centre out of the paper plate to form a ring. This will be the base of your wreath.

Trace round your hand onto the green paper and cut out the hand shape. Repeat until you have 24 hands cut out of paper.

Write a good deed on each hand.

Example good deeds:

- Be nice to someone you **don't like**
- Do some housework without being asked
- Make a Christmas card for a neighbour
- **Pray for the world's** hungry people
- Give some things you **don't need to a charity** shop
- Offer to help someone



Give someone a hug

Think up some more of your own ideas to go on the remaining hands.

Starting on 1st December, pick one cut-out hand. Do the good deed listed on the hand, and then glue the hand onto the wreath. Do this every day to help you count down the days until Christmas. On Christmas day, add a big ribbon to your completed hand print wreath!