

# DORNOCH PARISH MAGAZINE

March 2019

Scottish Charity No. SC000315



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## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FRIDAY 1st March 2019 at 2.00PM  
at **St Finbarr's Church, Dornoch.**  
Refreshments served after service.

This year's World Day of Prayer has the theme "Come - Everything is Ready" and the beautiful service has been written by Christian women of Slovenia. Everyone is welcome to join in this multi-denominational service, and it is hoped that a goodly number of the cathedral congregation will be there. There is also a shortened form of the service taking place at Oversteps at 11.00 am if you wish to join the residents there to celebrate this occasion.

## LENT 2019

**Wednesday 6th March**

7pm Service in the Cathedral

**Thursday 7th March**

7pm Lent Studies in the West Church Hall

Then each Thursday till 11th April.

**HOLY WEEK**

14th APRIL to 20th APRIL

**EASTER**

SUNDAY 21st APRIL



## LIFE AND WORK

MARCH 2019 EDITION

### **Healing the Wounds**

The role of the Church in healing division

### **'My Life Was Changed'**

The life and faith of John Sturrock QC, mediator with Place for Hope

### **Ministry of Fathers**

The work of a charity bringing together dads and their children

### **Westminster, Confessions and the Church**

The Rev Dr Donald MacEwan highlights a conference to examine the Westminster Confession of Faith

### **The BB and the Rhema Foundation**

A young BB's visit to Romania

### **Doing as Jesus Did**

The Rt Rev Susan Brown urges us to treat everyone with equal respect

### **The Powerless are Not Forgotten**

The Rev Richard Baxter explains why the powerless are not ignored or neglected by God

### **A Church in 'Little Scotland'**

The work of a Church of Scotland south of the Border

Plus news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords

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## **ROTAS For DOORS & EVACUATION DUTY MARCH 2019**

Door Duty: L Manson, K Malone, I Shearer, M Graham, M Robertson.  
Evacuation Duty: M Mackay, M Wright, M Robertson

### **READERS FOR MARCH**

3rd Susan Messem  
10th Margaret MacRae  
17th John Gunn  
24th Maggie Hope  
31st Liz Manson

### **Duty Rota for both Oversteps and Meadows 17th March**

Leader: Donald Goskirk Pianist Tony Rundle

### **NEXT DEACONS COURT (WCH)**

11th March 2019. 7.00pm

### **Cathedral Register Funerals**

Mr James Munro "Hamish"  
Whin Cottage  
Achinchanter  
Dornoch

Mr Alexander Allan "Alistair"  
23 Elizabeth Crescent  
Dornoch

### **FUTURE DEADLINES FOR ISSUES OF UPCOMING PARISH MAGAZINES**

April Issue: March 17th  
May Issue: April 14th (Easter is 21st)  
June Issue: May 19th  
July Issue: June 23rd  
August Issue: July 21st

## Parish Calendar - Cathedral Life isn't just about Sundays.....

There are lots of things going on in the Parish every week. Get involved, volunteer, join in!  
[WCH = The West Church Hall]

<u>Sundays</u>	<b>Sunday worship</b> in the Cathedral, 11:00am, all welcome <b>Sunday Prayer Group</b> , Upstairs room in WCH 9:45 -10:40am, all welcome <b>Monthly services</b> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oversteps at 2:30pm</li><li>• The Meadows Nursing Home at 3:15pm, anyone welcome to join the residents in worship</li></ul>
<u>Mondays</u>	<b>NatterNNosh</b> Twice a month, from September to June, 12:30pm in WCH, main room. Open to everyone, come along and enjoy a two course meal for £4.50 [DFG] <b>Inter-church prayer group</b> , last Monday in the month, in various homes, 2.30-4.00pm All welcome to join with friends from other local churches
<u>Tuesdays</u>	<b>NatterNKnit</b> Every week, 10.00am-12:30pm in the upstairs room of the WCH. Open to everyone, bring your crafting and enjoy a blether and a cuppa. £1.50 [DFG] <b>The Guild</b> Twice a month, usually 2.30-4.00pm in the WCH main room but occasional evening meetings. Open to everyone....men too! <b>Anchor Boys/Boys Brigade</b> weekly meetings in school term at 6-7pm for the youngsters and 7-8.30pm for the older boys. In the WCH. [Morag Macaskill: <a href="mailto:momacaskill@btinternet.com">momacaskill@btinternet.com</a> ]
<u>Wednesdays</u>	<b>Common Ground</b> , Weekly, 7-9pm in WCH. Activities and occasional outings for adults with learning difficulties [DFG]
<u>Thursdays</u>	<b>Brownies</b> , Weekly meetings in school term 6-7.30pm in the WCH [Kate Matheson: <a href="mailto:katepip@btinternet.com">katepip@btinternet.com</a> ]
<u>Saturdays</u>	<b>Social events, Cake Sales, Sales of Work, Coffee mornings</b> , usually in the WCH.....keep your eye on the Cathedral notice board and the Order of Service
<u>Restarting soon.....</u>	<b>The Bakery</b> For adults with physical or learning difficulties who meet up to prepare and cook a meal which is then shared with carers, family and friends. In WCH. [DFG]
<u>To come.....</u>	<b>Community Men's Shed</b> – Renew your hobbies and interests or start new ones over a chat and a cup. [DFG]
<u>And on Tuesdays</u>	<b>Playgroup</b> , 10.00-11.30, WCH [Fay Wilkinson: <a href="mailto:fay@ecosse.net">fay@ecosse.net</a> ]

Many of our community activities are under the auspices of the Dornoch Firth Group [DFG]. If you are interested in any of the activities marked "DFG" please contact Charles Minall, DFG Outreach Worker 07533 518 399 or 01408 641279 or email Charles on [charles@dfgcommunity.com](mailto:charles@dfgcommunity.com)

The following groups have now started:-  
Dornoch Cathedral Youth Theatre Group, (Monday afternoons from 3.15)  
Tuesday Tots Playgroup (from 10.00)  
The Bakery (Wednesday Mornings from 9.00) DGF

## **SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP**

This informal prayer group meets on a Sunday morning before the church service. We meet a little before 10am for coffee and chat upstairs in the West Church Hall, and then start a session of open prayer until 10.40am. We pray for each other's concerns, and those of our church, wider community, and the World.

If you would like to join us any time, you will be made very welcome. If you would like to pray with us but aren't able to join us in person, we invite you to join your prayers with ours just where you are, and know that you are also being prayed for.

## **TUESDAY TOTS PLAYGROUP**

We have started a playgroup for pre-school children  
Tuesday mornings from 10-00 - 11.30  
in the West Church Hall.  
Helpers are still needed.

Please e-mail [fay@ecosse.net](mailto:fay@ecosse.net) or speak to Fay (in the choir)

**NATTER & NOSH.  
MARCH 11th and 25th**

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

**Dates for Fair Trade Coffee Mornings 10.30 - 12.00**

**FRIDAY 22nd MARCH**

**FRIDAY 26th APRIL & FRIDAY 24th MAY**

**On Saturday 4th May  
the Cathedral Women's Group are holding  
A Promises Auction.**

This will involve members of the Group (and any members of the Congregation) pledging services or products which may range from ironing, gardening and driving to meals, greetings cards and flower arrangements (never forgetting the bags of manure!).

We would be very grateful for any 'Promise Lots' to include in our auction but would also like to know of any requests/wishes that we can try to match up with a promise.

Please speak to any member of the Women's Group for further information.

## Links through the Cathedral Website.

I, somewhat by chance, found myself looking at a map which carried a link to Dornoch Cathedral's website and, in turn, offering to note connections to the Cathedral.

Mine go back a little over half a century when my late father (Charles) was County Architect for Sutherland and based in Dornoch between 1962 and 1968 when the family relocated to Guernsey.

In my study I have the Bible I received for perfect attendance at the Cathedral's Sunday School 1963 – 64 session: the New Testament New English Bible 9(n those days only the New Testament was available) for perfect attendance 1967 – 68. Unknown to me at the time, my father was an elder and a great friend of his (I don't recall the name) was the Churchwarden (Beadle?) and had a key to the Bell Tower. I do recall on a few occasions probably in 1967/68 watching the pipe band march through the square on a Saturday evening from the vantage point of the bell tower. I also recall, with four others, playing my recorder at the Christmas Carol Service in the Cathedral (1967). The organist was "Basher" Campbell. (I don't recall his Christian name but everyone knew him as Basher) His wife Isobel was the Primary 5 teacher. The Sunday School teacher was Mr. Steel (I think his first name was Hugh).

I noted also the appeal for the West Church Hall. My late mother ( Mary, and known in Dornoch as "Twink" – why I do not know) was the first King's Guide in Scotland and led the Brownie Pack as Brown Owl in the West Church Hall.

My parents' greatest friends in Dornoch were Alan and Dorothy Mackenzie – proprietors of the garage behind the Eagle Pub (and also Evelix Service Station). Alan passed away many years ago and I am sure through simple maths, Dorothy has passed away too.

I haven't visited Dornoch in more than twenty years when, on a visit to Scotland we showed our sons my childhood home in Roseberry Avenue (it carried the same name 20 years ago as my parents had given it some 55 years ago.)

I do believe I will be speaking at a dinner in Inverness towards the end of this year and will most definitely visit Dornoch at that time.

So there you have it – my long established and continuing links with Dornoch Cathedral resting in the bookshelves in my study.

Callum Beaton  
Guernsey,  
Channel Islands.

## OVERWORK...

For a couple of years I've been blaming it on lack of sleep and too much pressure from my job, but now I have found out the real reason..

I am tired because I am overworked.

The population of this country is 58 Million.

Of which, 24 million are retired.

Leaving 34 million to do the work.

But there are 20 million at school, which leaves  
14 million to do the work.

Of this 7.5 million are employed by the government,  
leaving 6.5 million to do the work.

2.7 million are in the armed forces, which leaves  
3.8 million to do the work.

Take from the total the 3,770,000 people who work  
for local authorities and leaves 30,000 to do the work.

At any given time there are 20,000 in hospital.

Leaving 10,000 to do the work.

However, 9,998 of this total are in Prison.

That leaves just two people to do the work.

You and me.

And you are here reading...

# Lenten Poem by Ann Weems



Lent is a time to take time to let the power  
of our faith story take hold of us,  
a time to let the events get up  
and walk around in us,

a time to intensify our living unto Christ,  
a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts,  
a time to place our feet in the streets of  
Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and  
listen to his Word,

a time to touch his robe  
and feel the healing surge through us,  
a time to ponder and a time to wonder....  
Lent is a time to allow  
a fresh new taste of God!

Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think,  
for thoughts come unbidden.  
Perhaps we're afraid to face our future  
knowing our past.

Give us courage, O'God,  
to hear your Word  
and to read our living into it.

Give us the trust to know we're forgiven  
and give us the faith  
to take up our lives and walk.



***“Hello, WELCOME to Dornoch Cathedral .....*”**

Yes, it's nearing that time again - we know it doesn't seem possible, but .....

**The Cathedral Welcome Table .....**

..... will be opening up again in the Spring and, as always, we really NEED the HELP of more VOLUNTEERS. For those of you who are already long serving and much appreciated members of our welcome team, we very much hope you will be able to help us again this year. If you have not already confirmed this one way or another, please would you do so? However, if this is all NEW to you, here are the details:

- The Cathedral Welcome Table operates from mid-May to mid-September and is open from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.
- Volunteers work in pairs (old friends, husbands and wives, and of course new friends together) covering a two hour shift.
- We organise a Rota which tries to produce one two-hour shift once a fortnight per pair, so the commitment is not too onerous.
- If any of you feel able to commit to a weekly shift - that would be wonderful!
- The volunteers run the sales table and also welcome our visitors into the Cathedral.
- This year we are hoping to offer more new items for sale, so for our faithful members - there will be different things to enthuse over!
- Last year we raised nearly £6,000 towards Cathedral funds. A tremendous and much appreciated effort by all our volunteers.

Please, please consider helping us with this useful and enjoyable way of raising money for our lovely Cathedral and also benefit socially from the fun and interest to be gained by working in a team and meeting visitors from all over the world. **We really do need you.**

Sue Boyce (810415); Anne Chambers (811520); Lisa Dickenson (810973)

Thank you

## **DORNOCH SWI**

Speaker at the February meeting was Alison MacKenzie, who gave us a most enjoyable account of her visit to Chelsea Flower Show. Much discussion followed as we viewed the different types of garden on display. It was hard to conceive that so many varieties of flowers and plants were all there in perfect full bloom in May, despite which season we'd normally expect to see them. Members also admired the workmanship in the various sculptures and works of art, noting especially the life size horses, and other animals, made from driftwood.

Alison was thanked kindly by Hazel Cameron.

Competition results: Flower of the Month – Gold- Catriona Wood; silver –Isabella Wright; red – Maureen MacKay and Stella Pettit. Photo of a Flower – 1st Maureen MacKay; 2nd Brenda McNeil

Pat Smith will tell us about her bespoke dolls at our next meeting on March 19th at 7pm.

## PERSEVERANCE

For Sparky, a young boy, school was all but impossible. He failed every subject in the eighth grade. He flunked physics in High School, getting a grade of zero. He also flunked Latin, Algebra and English. He didn't do much better in sports. Although he did manage to make the School's golf team, he promptly lost the only important match of the season. There was a consolation match; he lost that too.

Throughout his youth, Sparky was awkward socially. He was not actually disliked by the other students; no one cared that much. He was astonished if a classmate ever said hello to him outside of school hours. There is no way to tell how might have done at dating. He never once asked a girl to out in High School. He was too afraid of being turned down.

Sparky was a loser. He, his classmates, everyone knew it. So he rolled with it. Sparky had made up his mind early in life if things were meant to work out, they would. Otherwise he would content himself with what appeared to be his inevitable mediocrity. However, one thing was important to Sparky - drawing. He was proud of his artwork. Of course, no one else appreciated it. In his Senior year of high school, he submitted some cartoons to the editors of the yearbook. The cartoons were turned down. Despite this particular rejection, Sparky was convinced of his ability that he decided to become a professional artist.

After completing high school, he wrote a letter to Walt Disney Studios. He was told to send some samples of his artwork, and the subject for a cartoon was suggested. Sparky drew the proposed cartoon. He spent a great deal of time on it and on all the other drawings he submitted. Finally, the reply came from Disney Studios. He had been rejected once again. Another loss for the loser.

So Sparky decided to write his own autobiography in cartoon. He described his childhood self - a little boy loser and chronic underachiever. The cartoon character would soon become famous worldwide.

For Sparky, the boy who had such lack of success in school and whose work was rejected again and again was Charles Schulz. He created the 'Peanuts' Comic strip and the little cartoon character whose kite would never fly and who never succeeded in kicking a football - Charlie Brown.

# DORNOCH CATHEDRAL YOUTH THEATRE GROUP

The newly formed Youth Theatre Group is up and running (*well, acting, singing and dancing!*) Our first session was on Monday 21st January and the group will meet every Monday during this School Term.

**Open to any young people  
from P6 to S2.**

P6/P7 meet from 3.15 - 4.15pm  
S1/S2 meet from 4.00 - 5.00pm

The more the merrier!

The Group is led by Graham McCarthy with help from Margaret Robertson and Faye Wilkerson. Should you have any talents you wish to share with the group - from music to make-up - please get in touch with one of the leaders. We hope to put on a performance on Saturday 6th April in the Cathedral so we look forward to seeing you all there!

## **Dornoch Cathedral Guild**

Tuesday 22nd January 2019

Following our regular worship, fellow Guild member,  
**Debbie Miller** gave a talk entitled “**Read my Lips**”

Debbie gave us an interesting and informative talk about lip reading and managing hearing loss, drawing on both her personal and professional experience.

Debbie is a qualified lip reading tutor registered with the Association of Teachers of Lip Reading to Adults.

At a previous meeting Debbie had offered members earplugs to try out during the two weeks before her talk, thus helping us to understand what it is like to live with hearing loss. Our reactions to this were shared at the meeting.

We were then paired up and took it in turns to “speak” silently and then vocally the names on picture playing cards for the other to identify. This allowed us to see how words are formed by concentrating on reading lips, rather relying on sound to communicate. Our efforts made us value how important it is to convey context and clarity in speech.

Debbie concluded by highlighting a few strategies we can all use to assist those with hearing loss and so enable them read our lips more easily.

Debbie was warmly thanked for an inspirational and enlightening talk.



### **Dates for your Diary: Everyone Welcome**

**2019**

Tuesday 26th February  
Tuesday 12th March  
Tuesday 26th March

**THE MODERATOR & I**  
**MADE IN TAIN**  
**AGM followed by COLOURS OF INDIA**

Rev. Mary Stobo  
Alison Paterson & Friends  
Anne & John Chambers