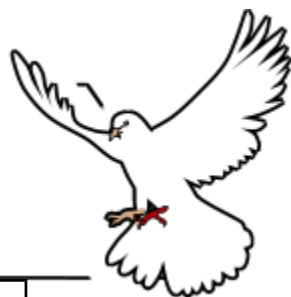


# Schaw Kirk

DRONGAN & RANKINSTON



SEPTEMBER 2011





## Romanian Trip

The Whiteman family will be returning to Romania again in October this year (15<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>) to develop further the good work that was started by our

team last year.

We tried to book the trip in November, however we were disappointed to discover that the trip was fully booked at that time.. Imagine our delight when we received a phone call in May from the Smiles foundation informing us that they had a cancellation and we were able to return.

We are returning to Romania with a little trepidation , our visit to Romania last year was not easy. I had never experienced extreme poverty before, nor had I ever come face to face with such seemingly hopeless situations. I was particularly moved by the plight of the children who had very little to look forward to in life, with little opportunity to escape poverty. People were living from “hand to mouth” many not knowing where the next meal was coming from and many not even knowing where they were going to sleep that night. It left one with a feeling of helplessness.

Last year I was very conscious of God’s presence in many of these difficult situations. The people we met were very grateful for all we gave them but they were particularly grateful for our presence, that someone cared enough to come from Scotland to see them, That they were not forgotten.

This year we are returning to Romania knowing what to

expect, but in some ways that makes it harder.

So what do we need? First and foremost, lots of Prayers please. That we will know God's presence with us in these difficult situations.

Several generous folk have offered goods but sadly we are not able to take any goods with us. last week I was offered bags of clothes but we are so limited in our baggage weight that it is impossible to take these bags of clothes with us. Last year we learned that it is best to take money. Money goes so much further in Romania. Last year we paid for care and accommodation for several families for a year. We bought paint and painted several homes and a shop. We paid for heating and also accommodation for an abandoned baby and much much more. We even provided a family with a home.

As I look forward to returning to Romania, I am reminded of Peter. Peter is sitting in the boat and he saw Jesus walking on the water, "Come and join me" said Jesus. Peter stepped out of the boat and although he floundered for a moment, he still walked on the water. Putting his absolute trust in the Lord something remarkable happened. (Matthew Chapter 14 verses 22 to 32)

I know that God will be with us as we prepare for our visit. Jesus is inviting us as a family to step out of our Boat and join him. We may flounder, We might even sink, but we trust that God will be with us and use us and I am sure that our presence in Romania will make a difference to the lives of some of the poorest people in the world.

*Rer Dare Whiteman*



## SUNDAY SERVICES AT HOSPITALS

The Chaplaincy Service has announced that the Sunday services at Ayr Hospital and Crosshouse Hospital would cease on Sunday 31st July. Over recent years the number of patients either wishing or able

to attend has diminished.

A number of new initiatives will be pursued including :-

- \* Working in partnership “on location” with church communities, schools and choirs throughout Ayrshire to record material for use within the hospital.
- \* Developing new dedicated Hospital Radio programmes.
- \* Contributing to existing Hospital Radio programmes
- \* Hosting prayer, meditation and relaxation opportunities within the chapel areas.
- \* working with Patient Line to arrange the screening of worship services.

It is anticipated that services will continue to be held in the chapels both to mark the major festivals of the Christian year and at other times as appropriate.

Sincere thanks go to all those who have helped at hospital Sunday Services over the years.

*Anne Hope.*



### CHOIR NOTES

We trust everyone has had a refreshing break this summer. The Choir are now starting to think about getting the practices on the go for this term, commencing Thursday 8th Sept at 7.30pm, when it is our intention to learn some new song for the Introits on a Sunday morning. Our thanks to everyone for the year round support you have given to the Choir. All who would like to join us will be made most welcome.

# My Harvest Offering

The date for our Harvest Thanksgiving Service this year is Sunday 2nd October.

As in recent years, the congregation is given the opportunity to make a donation by using the 'Harvest Offering' envelope which is included with this newsletter.

The envelopes can be returned any Sunday between now and the 2nd October. All donations will be forwarded to the Disaster Emergencies Committee, the Umbrella organisation that co-ordinates responses to major disasters overseas

The DEC's remit is to unite agency efforts in times of disaster - such as flood, earthquake or famine - wherever it happens in the world. The DEC approach to their work is to maximise funds raised and ensure they are spent in an effective and fully accountable way.

The DEC consists of 13 aid agencies, who are UK registered humanitarian charities that fulfil certain criteria. The DEC members have the expertise in the delivery and provision of aid. Members' performance and any new applicants are reviewed every two years.



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**Freshers' Faith :** Jackie Macadam explores the challenges faced by Christians starting university

**Out for the Summer :** Thomas Baldwin samples two major Christian festivals: Solas and the CLAN Gathering

**A Remarkable Life :** The Rev David Levison tells the story of his father, Leon, a Palestinian rabbi's son who was banished from his homeland after embracing Christianity.

**Into Injury Time :** Former Life and Work editor R D Kernohan reflects on the church of today.

**Divine Right :** Lawrence Sum highlights a major new exhibition in Glasgow celebrating the King James Bible

**The Big Question :** Who was the most influential person on your faith as a teenager?

**Out of Hours :** The Rev Scott Burton introduces a new form of worship.

**With Psaltery and Banjo :** The Rev Dr Robin Hill concludes his series on the Psalms, with half an eye to his own church band.

**View from the Pew :** Jim Cunningham reflects on sectarianism in Scottish football.

**Creation Time :** The Moderator highlights the importance of connecting to our land.

**Theology of Fragility :** The Rev Martin Johnstone focuses on the inspiration of three individuals encountered in fragile places.

**Plus :** all the regular columnists, letters, reviews and crosswords – all for just £1.80



# ITALIAN EVENING

The C6 Committee have prepared an event with a difference. With its emphasise on all things Italian, including a bit of Pizza, Pasta and Pavarotti the event is being held in Coylton Church Hall on Friday 90th September from 7.30pm. Tickets, priced Adult £5 and Children £3, are limited so you are advised to book yours as soon as possible.



## A RIDDLE

Here is a riddle that only five per cent of Stanford University graduates figured out! Can you answer all seven of the following questions with the same word?

1. *A word with seven letters....*
2. *Preceded God...*
3. *Greater than God...*
4. *More Evil than the devil...*
5. *All poor people have it...*
6. *Wealthy people need it....*
7. *If you eat it, you will die.*

Did you figure it out? Try hard before looking at the answers on page 13

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591219



## Back to church Sunday 25th September

This month hundreds of thousands of people around the world who USED to go to church, will be going BACK to church. Why? Simply because a friend or neighbour invites them, and they are made to feel welcome.

Back to Church Sunday is now the largest single local-church invitational initiative in the world. It is based on the simplest and shortest step in evangelism - that we should invite someone we already know to something we love; invite our friend to our church.

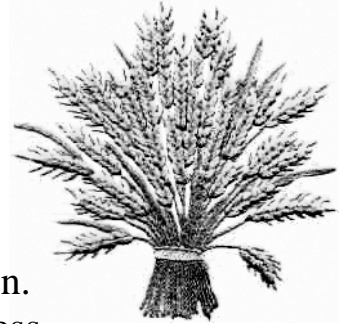
The initial focus was to invite 'back' those who used to attend, but we want to ensure that anyone who doesn't currently attend can be guaranteed an especially warm welcome.

Why are we bothering? Because the church is not just for us Christians. When Jesus gave the disciples the Great Commission, it was not to set up churches and stay in them. Instead, he said the job of Christians is to be his *witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth* (Acts 1:8).

We would ask you to keep thinking and praying about whom you will invite. How about the neighbours on your right, - or on your left? If not, you might consider one of two things: either come on your own (you'll be most welcome!), or ring our Church Session Clerk on 01292 591274 and we will gladly 'team' you with one of our church members.

So – churches are for everybody – for those who believe in Jesus Christ, and for those who want to know a bit more about Christianity. If this means you, please come along on 25th September – we guarantee you a warm welcome!

# Harvest Field



All around, confusion.  
All around, helplessness,  
People lost in the bad news of every day  
    Longing for purpose,  
    Searching for security and significance  
Here in the white field of our generation.  
    The harvest is still great,  
    The workers are still few,  
    But the Lord of the harvest  
        Is the same  
    Yesterday, today and forever,  
        And this is his field.  
He planted, he will give growth  
    If we will be his workforce  
And go out into the field - where he already is –  
    To gather the harvest  
    Of his kingdom compassion.

    Lord of the harvest,  
    In your grace, we pray,  
        Send us.

*Daphne Kitching*

# CHRISTIAN AID NEWS

Issue 52 ▶ Summer 2011 ▶ [christianaid.org.uk](http://christianaid.org.uk)



## LOOK TO THE FUTURE

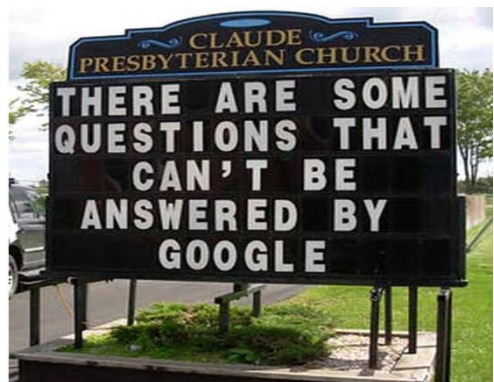
Lidia lives in a remote farming area in the highlands of Peru. The glaciers there are melting, and Lidia knows that the region faces increasing poverty as this supply of fresh water disappears. She is determined to protect her community's future.

Christian Aid partner CEDAP has taught Lidia how to store water and use it efficiently, to irrigate crops and sustain pastureland for livestock. Lidia now teaches the techniques to others – in her own community and beyond.

You can also help to change the outcome for some of the poorest people of the world. A gift in your Will can help Christian Aid provide vital training so that communities can help themselves.

[www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)

**Please look to the  
future. Leave a legacy.**





## CONGREGATIONAL OUTING

On Saturday, 3rd September a coach will leave for our Annual Congregational day's outing to the city of Perth, a town and former city and royal burgh in central Scotland. Sitting on the banks of the River Tay, it is the administrative centre of Perth and Kinross council area and the historic county town of Perthshire.

Perth is a great place for a special day out or stay having excellent shopping, eating out, entertainment, culture and heritage, leisure and sport facilities all within close proximity in the city centre.

According to an estimate taken in 2008, Perth has a population of 44,820. Perth has been known as *The Fair City* since the publication of the story *Fair Maid of Perth* by the Scottish writer Sir Walter Scott in 1828.

Our coach party is booked for High Tea at the Best Western Queens Hotel which is situated bang in the centre of the city.

People taking photos on holiday jaunts etc is still a well recognized pastime and this is where you—if you're taking the outing—come in.

We make a plea for anyone who takes any photos that day to speak to Jim Davidson regarding making a selection from your finest that can be posted on our Church's web-site.



## Join the World's Biggest Coffee Morning and help Macmillan nurses!

Today more people than ever are living with cancer. So, this year Macmillan nurses need to raise even more money to pay for their vital cancer support services. And so Macmillan is asking everyone who can, to join in and hold their own event for World's Biggest Coffee Morning on

Friday 30 September. Together we can make it the biggest ever!

Get together with friends, family and colleagues on **Friday 30 September** and raise some money for people affected by cancer. Hold a coffee morning with your friends, a garden party with your neighbours or a pub quiz with your colleagues – let's make it the biggest ever! Register now. Call **0845 602 1246** or register online at [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk)

### Child Art

*The Sunday School teacher asked her class to draw a picture of their favourite Bible story. One little boy drew a picture of four people on an airplane. "That's very nice," she said to him, "but what is it about?"*

*"That's the flight to Egypt." said the little boy.*

*"Oh, I see. That's Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. But who is the fourth person?"*

*"That's Pontius the Pilot."*



## Do you know where you're going to?

Billy Graham, the great American evangelist, told this story at one of his last public appearances:

‘Albert Einstein, the great physicist, was once travelling from Princeton on a train when the conductor came down the aisle, punching the tickets of every passenger. When he came to Einstein, Einstein reached in his vest pocket. He couldn't find his ticket, so he reached in his trouser pockets. It wasn't there. He looked in his briefcase but couldn't find it. Then he looked in the seat beside him. He still couldn't find it.

‘The conductor said, “Dr. Einstein, I know who you are. We all know who you are. I'm sure you bought a ticket. Don't worry about it.” Einstein nodded appreciatively.

The conductor continued down the aisle punching tickets. As he was ready to move to the next car, he turned around and saw the great physicist down on his hands and knees looking under his seat for his ticket. The conductor rushed back in dismay and said, “Dr. Einstein, Dr. Einstein, don't worry, I know who you are; no problem. You don't need a ticket.”

‘Einstein looked at him and said sadly, “Young man, I too, know who I am. What I don't know, is where I'm going!”

Graham concluded: ‘When you hear I'm dead, I want you to remember this: I not only know who I am, I also know where I'm going.”

Riddle Answer:

NOTHING is the answer to all of the questions



## THANK YOU

The beginning of autumn and Harvest time is here again, a time when we come together to thank God for all of his blessings.

Harvest is a popular time of the year with special school and church services. Baskets of fruit and vegetables, tins of baked beans and sliced mangos – all offerings from our garden or kitchen cupboards to be given to the sick or elderly or sold to raise money for those in other places who go hungry.

We thank God for all his gifts at Harvest. In the words of the harvest hymn we sing 'All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, then thank the Lord... for all his love.' So even the humble tin of beans becomes a symbol of God's love and care for us.



## BEAN CAKE

Well, it's not really made with baked beans but it looks as if it is...

You will need:

- 100 g (4 oz) margarine
- 100 g (4 oz) toffees
- 100 g (4 oz) pink and white marshmallows
- 100 g (4 oz) Rice Crispies

Grease and line a Swiss roll tin.

Put the margarine, toffees and marshmallows into a large saucepan and stir over a gentle heat until everything is melted together.

Take the pan off the heat and stir in the Rice Crispies.

Press the mixture into the prepared tin and leave to set in a cool place. Cut into squares when cold.

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**What do you get when you put three ducks in a box?**

A box of quackers.

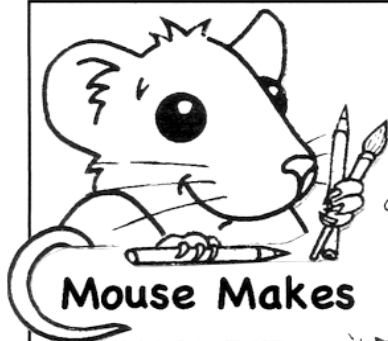
**Why did the boy eat his homework?**

The teacher told him it was a piece of cake.

**What did the hungry computer eat?**

Chips, one byte at a time.

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GOD SAID  
 "As the rain and snow come  
 down from heaven and do not return until  
 they have watered the earth- making it  
 blossom and sprout, and giving seed to be  
 sown and bread for food- so it is with the  
 word of my mouth: it will not return  
 fruitless, but will accomplish my purpose,  
 and achieve that for which I sent it"

Isaiah 55:10-11

## HARVEST WORDSEARCH

HARVEST  
 THANKSGIVING  
 PRAISE (x2) • GOD  
 BLESSED  
 SEED • SOW  
 PLOUGH • LAND  
 SCATTER • GROW  
 CROP • REAP • SOIL  
 WATER • RAIN  
 SUN • AUTUMN  
 GATHER • BALE  
 TRACTOR • BARN  
 CART • HAYSTACK  
 FOOD • MOUSE

BREAD • LOAF  
 GRAIN • CORN  
 WHEAT • OATS  
 FLOUR

PIPS • GRAPES  
 PEARS • PEACHES  
 PLUMS • APPLE  
 BERRIES • NUTS  
 VINE • WINE

BEANS • POTATOES  
 CARROTS • PEAS  
 ONIONS • PARSNIPS  
 MUSHROOMS • RICE  
 LETTUCE • SWEDE

How many mice  
 can you find on this page?

B	A	L	E	R	B	E	R	R	I	E	S
S	V	A	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	G	L
S	C	A	T	T	E	R	E	A	P	R	A
U	A	P	L	O	A	F	A	O	A	N	
N	U	R	O	V	D	U	W	D	R	I	D
T	H	A	N	K	S	G	I	V	I	N	G
S	O	I	L	C	O	R	N	I	C	P	O
O	O	S	E	E	D	O	E	N	E	M	D
W	H	E	A	T	U	W	P	E	F	I	A
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G	C	O	C	A	H	W	C	R	O	P	H
A	E	R	A	R	V	S	H	A	A	D	A
T	F	C	A	R	T	E	I	T	S	Y	
H	O	N	I	O	N	S	S	S	S	E	S
E	O	P	O	T	A	T	O	E	S	B	T
R	D	E	B	S	F	L	O	U	R	A	A
O	P	A	R	S	N	I	P	S	A	R	C
M	U	S	H	R	O	O	M	S	M	N	K



## Church Organisations Restart

The end of our summer holidays is upon us again and we return to our normal daily routines.

This is also reflected within the Church when our many organisations begin their new session.

**Super Sunday**—Restart - Sunday 21st Aug.

**Girls Brigade**—Restart - Tuesday 30th Aug

**Six O'Clock Group**—Restart - Sunday 4th September

**Scouts**—Restart - 19th August

**Happy Hens**—Restart - Wednesday 24th August

**The Guild**—Restart - Wednesday 25th September

**Choir**—Restart -Thursday 8th September

As always, new members are welcome to join the existing members in the varied programmes set out.



## Rock me gently....

Do you have trouble sleeping? Get yourself a hammock, a rocking chair, or even an adult-size cradle. A recent scientific study has found that a slow swinging motion helps us fall asleep faster and also slip into a deeper sleep than a stationary bed.

The study, published in *Current Biology*, found that the swinging helps synchronise brain activity into a pattern associated with sleep. It also encouraged deeper sleep.

The findings help explain why generations of women have successfully cradled babies to sleep, and why it is so hard to stay awake in a rocking chair.

Charity No: SC 030714 (Church of Scotland)

web site : [www.drongschawkirk.co.uk](http://www.drongschawkirk.co.uk)

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