

'Echoes'
of
**ST. JOHN'S
PARISH CHURCH
KIRKCALDY**

No. 21

JUNE, 1985

THE TWO PARTIES

The Manse,
June, 1985.

Dear Friends,

It has been said that in every human society there are two natural parties or groups - the Party of Fear and the Party of Hope. Human beings automatically divide themselves into one or other of these groupings, be they part of a football crowd, a group of strikers or simply two or three people sitting together in a room. In our Parliamentary system we have moved away slightly from the rigid two-party system, perhaps reflecting the increasing tendency of our society to break itself into fragments because of conflicts of opinion on almost every subject under the sun. No matter who we are we are very much obliged with either the Party of Fear or the Party of Hope.

Granted, there is much in our world giving good cause to direct us into the ranks of the Party of Fear. Unemployment, civil disturbance, famine, death, wars and rumours of wars - all, and more, may give us food for thought of an unpleasant nature, disturbing our waking and our sleeping.

The Party of Fear has no shortage of recruits to its ranks, which seem to swell alarmingly each day until they threaten to blot everything more positive and of more pleasing appearance.

Yet it should be a cause for rejoicing that the Party of Hope also has no shortage of recruits. Blessings abound in large and small examples, well-known to each and every one of us. Many of us are healthy and fit, with loved ones and friends to sustain us, with good jobs and a more than pleasant life-style. Simple pleasures like a day of sunshine, a word of love, an outing enjoyed can cause our hearts to leap within us, giving us hope for the future existence of human life as we know it, experience and enjoy it. Maybe the ranks of the Party of Hope are greater in number than we imagine for which God be praised.

Christians and members of the Church must be of the Party of Hope in this world of mingled fear and joy. In Jesus Christ, risen from the grave, ascended on high and ever present with us in the Pentecost gift of the Holy Spirit, we have the greatest of all hopes. As the hymn says:-

'When from the dead he raised his Son,
And called him to the sky,
He gave our souls a lively hope
That they should never die.'

As we go into summer with its promise of holidays and times of positive relaxations and refreshment, let us be quick to let the world know, by our words and deeds, where we stand - secure in the Party of Hope banishing all fear, through the power of the Risen Lord.

May/

TRIBUTE TO RUTH

At the morning service on Sunday, May 19 Mr. McNaught announced that the Young Woman's Group wished to place a memorial to one of their members Miss Ruth Taylor who had passed earlier this year.

This took the form of a very simple dedication where Group president, Mrs. Margaret Gray and secretary, Mrs. Pat Beveridge, placed a silver bowl with floral arrangement near the seat at the rear of the church which Ruth had always occupied. This was dedicated by Mr. McNaught in a very simple and moving manner.

SERVICES

At the meeting on May 1 the Kirk Session decided not to alter the time of the morning service during the summer months of June, July and August. There will be, therefore one service each Sunday at the 11a.m. time, the only exception being Communion Sunday, June 16 when there will be two diets of Communion, at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

There will be no afternoon Communion on this date, and the Thanksgiving Service will be held the following Sunday, June 23 at 11 a.m. It will take the form of a Service of Praise, with hymns appropriate to the themes of Thanksgiving and Summer.

At both Communion services on the 16th there will be a Retiring Offering in aid of the Appeal for Bibles in Korea by the National Bible Society of Scotland.

HOLIDAYS

Mr. McNaught will be on holiday from July 15 - August 2, during which time anyone requiring the services of a minister should please contact Rev. J. R. Fulton, 8 Bennochy Gardens (phone - 200012). Mr. Fulton will also be supplying the pulpit on July 21 and 28.

WORKERS FOR GOD

I never heard a flower say,
"I don't intend to bloom today"
A snowdrop doesn't make a fuss
When God says "grow" its not like us.
I never heard a blackbird cry
"I will not build my nest so high"
Nor knew the busy bumble bee
Refuse to set to work - like me
The tasks God gives us them they do
So perfectly - now what of you?

A.C.D.

ELDERS TO WED

On the occasion of their forthcoming wedding in July at the last Board meeting Mr. McNaught presented Mr. Jim Marshall and Miss Sandra Haig with a cheque to mark the happy occasion. They both suitably replied.

May the summer months be times of blessing for all, when we can travel or rest, meet new people and see new places, or enjoy the people and places we already know so that we can say with the Psalmist of old:-

'Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness,
and for his wonderful works to the children of men!'
(Ps. 107 21).

Yours.

Samuel McNaught



VARIED B.B. PROGRAMME
by Captain John Methven

We have now drawn to an end of our winter session and for the three sections it has been a very successful year.

The Anchor boys have now been taken over by Mrs. June Waddell and Miss Lynda Whyte and have proved very able and competent officers. They finished their session by taking the lads on a trip to Letham Glen, Leven, on Tuesday, May 21.

The Junior section have had an exceptionally busy session and equally successful at that.

They won the swimming cup in the Company competition and also the maze marching competition. To complete the treble they gained the P.T. competition. Their climax comes with a sausage hike later this month.

The Company section have just completed their winter activities and are now into the summer programmes. The boys have worked very hard on their particular classes and the number of awards won and presented on parents night showed their enthusiasm.

The canoe class have proved hard work pays by winning three awards in the two competitions in which they have taken part up to this stage of the season.

The expedition class has taken part in the West Lowland hike which meant covering 30 miles plus obstacles over two days.

I would like to thank all parents and congregation who have so whole heartedly supported us throughout the session.

ENVY OF THE WORK PARTY

Not long home from Australia is secretary/treasurer Mrs. J. Walker sporting a lovely tan. Mrs. Walker had a tremendous holiday in Australia and there's no doubt that tan is the envy of all the ladies - even outwith the Work Party.

In spite of illness the ladies have had another successful session. President, Mrs. R. Kemp, was one of those affected.

The ladies were saddened by the deaths of two most dedicated members - Mrs. C. Snadden and Mrs. I. Ferguson, their pianist.

The summer outing to the Trossachs takes place this month and the ladies and friends have "crossed fingers" hoping that the sun will shine.

New members will be warmly welcomed when the new session starts in September.

CHANGE OF VENUE

The Sunday School outing this year was held for the first time to Silverburn, near Leven. Though it was a change of venue the inclement weather which so often seems to haunt these outings did not change. However, despite the rain the children thoroughly enjoyed their outing.

Numbers at the Sunday School are holding up well and due credit for this must go to Superintendent, Mrs. Jean Harris, and her teachers.

The annual prize giving took place at the morning service on Sunday, May 26.

CHANGES AT THE TOP

Wife of our minister, Mrs. Janice McNaught, has been elected president of the Woman's Guild. For the last two years she has been vice-president.

Other changes are the election of Miss Sandra Haig as vice-president and Mrs. S. Findlay as vice-president in charge of afternoon meetings.

These follow the resignation of Mrs. W. G. Darling who has given diligent service over the past 11 years as president. Apart from the duties carried out at meetings Mrs. Darling put in a power of work behind the scenes. At the annual meeting these services were recognised when secretary, Mrs. J. Chapman, presented her with a Coalport figure on behalf of officials and members in appreciation of all her hard work.

A feature over the past year has been the successful Monday monthly afternoon meetings.

The drive to Inverness last month was a great success though rather late in getting home. This is one of the things that will have to be taken into consideration in future drives.

The guild resumes in September and a warm welcome is extended to ladies of all ages to attend.

PROVING ITS WORTH

The value of the "Get Together" is evident in the steady attendance of members even though at times it has meant facing inclement weather.

The afternoons out, where people who otherwise would not meet, is a recognition of the friendship and fellowship offered to those who would otherwise find it very difficult, indeed, to enjoy each others company.

This is an example where the church has given the lead in providing facilities for such a group and it is an example of how it can play an active part in different roles in the community.

Leader, Mrs. Nan Duguid, is attending regularly and her return is most welcome.

Members are avid readers and paperbacks are always gratefully received.

New members will be made most welcome.

FULL OF IDEAS

The Projects Committee are certainly an enthusiastic lot. The Scottish Thingummyjig evening was a great success and enjoyed by an audience of nearly 200. Needless to say the same went for the entertainers.

Good Scottish fare was the theme of the evening, the dumplings in particular going down well. This event proved to be a good fund raiser bringing in almost £105.

The whist and domino evenings are now established as fairly regular events and have proved to be popular. However, there's always room for more.

The beetle drive evening was particularly well attended, especially by younger members.

The tea and coffee mornings after church, now being run on a regular basis are gaining in popularity. All groups within the church are taking turns in hosting. An invitation goes out to all members who have not yet attended one to come along.

Although fund raising is not the primary objective the committee have now gathered sufficient cash to achieve one of their goals. This is the installation of a sound system for the large hall. The loudspeakers have already been purchased and the remainder of the system should be acquired and installed by September. This venture has so far been approved in principle by the Board.

Finally the committee would like to extend many thanks to all who have been associated with them this session. Without this help none of their efforts would have come to fruition.

The committee look forward to the continued support of the congregation next session.

YOUNG WOMEN'S GROUP
by Pat Beveridge

The present session of our Group has drawn to a close. Once again, however, we have all enjoyed many varied and interesting evenings.

Among various speakers Mr. McNaught spoke on the "Changing Role of a Minister".

Our outings included visiting a supermarket, skating at the ice rink, going to a cinema and theatre, and having a sausage sizzle at the beach.

Many other evenings were spent celebrating various special festivities throughout the year.

Once again, our concert this year, proved very successful and was enjoyed by everyone who came along.

Among all the happy occasions we had together we must not forget a sad time when we lost one of our members, Miss Ruth Taylor. Her courage will always be an inspiration to our Group and she will always be remembered.

Our session concluded with our annual dinner at Dunning House.

On behalf of the Group I would like to thank everyone for their support and hope this will continue in 1985-86.

FIRST NAME ON THE TROPHY IS?
by Pres., "Mac" Michie

Further to our article in the last issue of "Echoes" we can report that the Men's Association have completed the first competition for the Alf Darling trophy.

The preliminary games were played in four sections. Each section winner contested the semi-finals on Monday evening, April 29, the games being very enjoyable (and especially in one game - very exciting) and played in a friendly sportsmanlike manner.

The four semi-finalists were "Mac" Michie, Pearson Hepburn, Roddy Sellers and Brian Winton. Brian and Pearson ran out eventual winners to do battle in the final.

"Time out" was taken for a cup of tea before the nine and final and after the first end of this game it looked as if butcher Pearson might make mincemeat of policeman Brian for he picked up four shots at that end.

Undaunted, however, Brian plugged away till end eight and was trailing by only two shots (7 to 9). The last end was very close with Brian winning this, but by only one shot.

Final result Pearson 9 shots Brian 8 shots.

Mrs. A. Darling who donated the trophy spectated during the evening and graciously presented the Rose Bowl to Pearson who suitably replied to her words of congratulations.

A good competition then - enjoyed by everyone taking part.

Our indoor season is now finished - we went out to grass on May 13 and every Monday evening thereafter during the summer.

Again we extend a warm welcome to anyone who is interested in joining us at Beveridge Park.

EDITOR'S THANKS

This issue of "Echoes" represents a real cross section of news from organisations and individual members of the church.

As this is your magazine the more contributions received the wider the interest.

The success of "Echoes" is founded on your co-operation and, personally, I would like to thank all those who have so freely produced the copy.

Don't hesitate to write on any subject. The columns are always open.

CHURCH NOTICES

CRADLE ROLL

"Suffer the little children to come unto me"
by Barbara Winton

1985

FEBRUARY 10

Lisa Michelle Margaret Smith, 14 Randolph Crescent,
Boreland

MARCH 3

Scott William Turner, c/o McQueen, 1 Torridon Place

APRIL 7

Karen Elizabeth Scott, 56 Mellerstain Road
Steven Robert Morris, 228 Duddingston Drive

MARRIAGES

"Whom God hath joined together"

MARCH 23

Maureen McGinn, 203 Redcraigs to John Murdoch, 2
Elm Lane, Glenrothes

MAY 11

Pamela Stirling, 85 Greenloanings to Douglas
Henderson, 75 Overton Mains

AT REST

"I am the Resurrection and the Life"
by David Winton, Keeper of the Roll

JANUARY 11

Mrs. E. Farquhar, Denend House
28

Mrs. M. Donaldson, 40 Kennedy Crescent

FEBRUARY 10

Miss Ruth Taylor, 21 Grieve Street
23

Mrs. H. Galloway, 2 Loanhead Place

26

Mrs. C. Snadden, 24 Harcourt Road

27

Mr. Alexander Grant, 24 Viceroy Street

MARCH 16

Mr. D. R. Findlay, 4 Lina Street

24

Mrs. Thomson, formerly 17 Nile Street

APRIL 5

Mr. M. Wilson, 37 Harcourt Road

8

Mrs. Sutherland, 147 Winifred Crescent

18

Mrs. Michie, 15 Poplar Crescent

ADMISSIONS by PROFESSION of FAITH

MARCH 10

Miss Lynda Whyte, 3 Denend Crescent

Miss Diane Rae, 59 Hendry Road

Mr. Alfred McQuade, 141 Balsusney Road

Mrs. Susan McQuade, 141 Balsusney Road

Mr. Andrew Downie, 23 Meldrum Road

Mrs. Pamela Downie, 23 Meldrum Road

ADMISSION by RESOLUTION of KIRK SESSION

MARCH 10

Mr. & Mrs. McQueen, 1 Torridon Place

ADMISSION by CERTIFICATE

FEBRUARY 12

Mr. & Mrs. D. R. Stirling, 85 Greenloanings, from
Torbain Church

23

Mrs. Hughes, 5 Grieve Street, from Templehall Church

REMOVALS by CERTIFICATE

MARCH 4

Mr. Mrs. & Miss Fiona Henderson, 5 Balwearie Road -
Lines requested

APRIL 18

Mrs. Mary Coull, 71 Harcourt Road - to Inverkeithing

PLAYGROUP
by Chairman, Barbara Clark

The Playgroup will finish its session at the end of June after a year of varied activities which have been greatly enjoyed by all of the children.

These have ranged from performing a Nativity Play at Christmas to visiting the central library and a local farm (which was enjoyed as much by the mums who went along as it was by the children.)

Our roll for next year is almost full and there is already a waiting list for the year after so any parents who wish their child to attend would be advised to put their names down as soon as possible.

I'm sure that you'll all find, as I have done, that the children benefit greatly from the companionship, activities and, of course, the guidance of our two play leaders.

Our fund raising activities have been very successful, mainly due to the hard work put in by all the mums and indeed many of the dads, and have included coffee mornings, treasure hunts and a sponsored walk by the children. Memorable was a half marathon by one dad, George Tasker, who bravely went ahead with his run despite having gone down with flu!

Help has come from many sources including sponsorship from some crew members on board a north sea oil platform.

On behalf of the committee I would like to thank all of those who have worked so hard to make our efforts a success and to the church and congregation for their continual help and support.

Finally a special thanks to Mrs. June Waddell our Board representative who keeps us in touch with all that is going on and willingly comes to our aid in cases of crisis!

SENIOR CITIZENS' OUTING

The outing for Senior Citizens was held on Wednesday, May 29. Over 72 took part with voluntary drivers taking their guests round west Fife with a break for ice cream at Lochore Meadows. They then returned to the church hall where they, along with the drivers, enjoyed a meal prepared by the elders and their wives.

MUSICAL EVENING

An unusual and most enjoyable musical evening was organised by the Projects Committee on Sunday, May 19 when the Salvation Army Songsters from St. Clair Street, two members of Fife Guitar Society, Mr. McNaught and the Rev. Jack Millar provided a happy hours entertainment.

The retiring collection was for Christian Aid and realised £84.66p.

STAMP CENTRE

Mrs. I. Cripps, who is Woman's Guild delegate for World Mission and Unity, is appealing to all for the contribution of used stamps. She sends these to the Stamp Centre of the Church of Scotland, Department of World Mission and Unity. She has received a letter from the Rev. Andrew Morton, joint promotion and education secretary, thanking her for the contribution of stamps sent. He asked that his appreciation be expressed and stated that the Stamp Centre last year raised £1,354 for funds.

Mr. Morton added: "It is a great help in sorting the stamps for sale when the excess paper is trimmed to about $\frac{1}{4}$ " all round, and the packets divided into British and foreign."

HELP JIM FIX IT

Elder, Jim Marshall, responsible for the sale of "Life & Work" to church members is after your money - but in a different way. He is appealing to members for more subscribers to the magazine.

Jim points out that of a church membership of around 900 only 71 copies are sold each month and he would like to see many more being issued.

The magazine is not confined to adults as there is also an excellent youth section and a part which also caters for children.

The church recently received word from George Stree on future articles lined up for this year. One of these is 'How to be a Christian'.

At 20p "Life & Work" is not an expensive magazine - in fact less than the cost of two packets of crisps per month.

Jim concludes: "How about it? Are you prepared to help support our national kirk magazine? If so contact me and I'll be more than pleased to add your name to the list."

EDINBURGH CONFERENCE

A conference "In Search of a Larger Christ" will be held in Edinburgh from June 24 - 28. This will deal largely with the Third Countries. The Kirk Session supported a plea by Miss Margaret Y. Howden to support this and full details of fees and accommodation can be obtained from Session Clerk, Mr. David Winton.

KNOW YOUR WAY ABOUT
FROM MINISTER TO OFFICIALS

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