

# Cupar Old Parish Church

*Where Everyone Matters*

## Newsletter 22 July 2022

Dear Friends:

Last week I mentioned the Community Café that will be in residence in the Old Parish Centre lounge each Saturday, beginning 13 August. I hope you will consider becoming a partner or supporter of this community ministry.

Equally, I invite you to explore and commit to other aspects of our congregation's ministry that inspire and challenge you. Many of our former ministries have begun again, though sometimes in a new format. Others are still evolving to meet different needs. Still others have served their purpose, and will be replaced by activities that respond to new opportunities

We're pretty quiet over the summer holiday, but in the coming weeks, we'll be moving forward in a variety of ways to more actively, and more connectedly, offer Christ to one another and to our community

I invite you to be a part of our witness and service.

Warm regards,  
Jeff

PS I'm on holiday for another week, until 27 July. If you have need of support, please speak with your elder or a member of the prayer team. You may also contact the Reverend Gavin Black, the minister at St John's and Dairsie [01334 209 010]. For administrative or informational matters, please contact Jean Martin [01334 652 100] or Liz Nelson [01334 655 077].

## **From Our Prayer Team**

Janice: [janice.geddes2@btinternet.com](mailto:janice.geddes2@btinternet.com)

More than 1,000 people were killed and many more injured in eastern Afghanistan during the earthquake last month. Most families have lost at least one person in their households. With thousands of homes destroyed, as well as health centres, schools and water networks, the situation remains critical. Please pray for comfort and peace for people who are grieving and who have lost everything and for provision to meet all their emotional and practical needs.

Please continue to pray for those in our church family and community who are unwell and those who have been bereaved recently.

The prayer group continues to meet weekly through Zoom. If you would like to join us, have a prayer request, or would like a member of the team to pray with you then please contact either Jeff Martin or Janice Geddes.

## **24 July: Worship**

Please join us for in-person worship this Sunday, either at 11:00 in the sanctuary or at 4:00 in the lounge of the Old Parish Centre. The Reverend Dr David Sinclair will be our guest preacher in the morning. The East of Eden House Group will lead a family friendly service in the afternoon, with refreshments.

A recording of our morning service will be available at our YouTube channel, Monimail and Cupar Old, by mid-afternoon:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdOxFrZ\\_kg94DYogyIFAVEQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdOxFrZ_kg94DYogyIFAVEQ)

## **27 July: Coffee and Chat**

Jill: 07929 444 246

A good time is had by all when friends gather together for, as the name states, 'coffee and chat', though tea and Scrabble are also on offer for those who prefer. The group meets from 10:00 to 11:15. The Gardening Crew would also welcome new faces and new muscles, meeting from 9:30 until they go in for a cuppa.

## **Reflection from Angus Allan: Will your anchor hold**

A friend Andrew his daughter Mary, son-in-law James (all pseudonyms) and myself were assembled at the base of Loch Ness yacht charters at Laggan Locks (Loch Lochy) ready to take over our cruiser for a few days sail.

The cruiser was handed over fairly quickly with the assurance that everything was in order and that there was plenty of fuel in the tank. I had my reservations at this stage but said nothing. Soon we were on our way and into the locks which took us from Loch Lochy into Loch Oich. Then up Loch Oich and into the canal again leading on to Fort Augustus. We stopped there for a meal and overnight stay. The next day we were down the stepped canal, into Loch Ness and facing the twenty four mile journey up the loch, then on via the canal to Inverness for a further night.

After breakfast we were off again in the morning, on down the canal and into Loch Ness when the engine STOPPED. We were at the top of the loch and drifted into shallow water among the reeds. Andrew threw out the anchor to prevent us from drifting any further. Offers of help came, first of all from a yacht. I rejected that, afraid that, with the deep keel, it would be stuck in the mud. Meantime our young crew, Mary and James were getting somewhat anxious and I decided to call out the small R.N.L.I. lifeboat operating on the loch. Also George Edwards who does cruises on the loch came alongside. His launch was packed with tourists, delighted to have a photograph of the hapless crew. However he roped us up and took us down to Foyers pier on the south side of the loch with the Lifeboat following. The charter company had been watching our progress and came along with a large can of fuel to top up the tank, announcing a concession at the same time, they would not charge us for fuel used!

Breathing a sigh of relief we headed back down the loch and then back to base. An article appeared in the Inverness Courier describing the plight of a couple of very elderly gentlemen in a cruiser on Loch Ness who didn't quite know what they were doing or where they were going and had to call on the lifeboat for help. I did not reply to the article as it would have been a reflection on the charter company. We were just grateful for the anchor which kept us steady until help arrived.

In Hebrews 6 : 18 we read, “--- *we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. We have an ANCHOR for the soul firm and secure*”. He goes on to point out that Jesus is that anchor and is there to intercede on our behalf.

Priscilla Jane Owens (1829 – 1907) uses the anchor theme in the Hymn 737 which we sang in church recently when Peter reminded us that it was known as the B.B. Hymn.

Verse 1. Will your anchor hold in the storms of life  
when the clouds unfold their wings of strife,  
when the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,  
will your anchor drift, or firm remain.

Chorus: We have an anchor that keeps the soul  
steadfast and sure while the billows roll;  
fastened to the Rock which cannot move,  
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!

**Prayer:**

Amongst the trials and tribulations of life we give thanks for Jesus Christ the anchor of the soul. We pray especially for those in distress, the sick, the bereaved, the homeless. Bless and be with your people in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Amen.