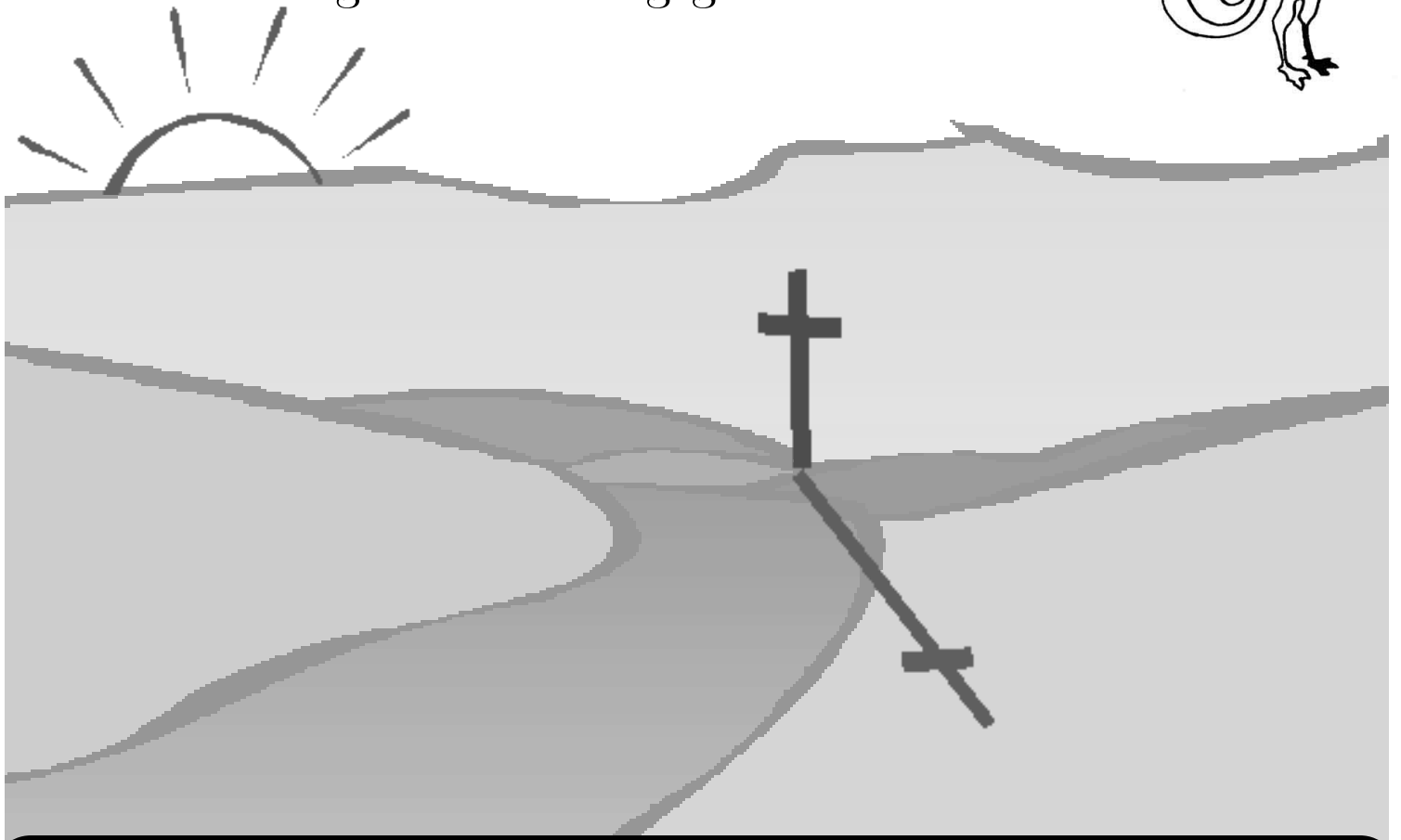


The Wyvern

The Magazine of Kingsgait Kirk Dundee



May/June 2026

Issue 721



Who's Who

Minister

Rev Anita D C Kerr

Session Clerk

Margaret Adamson

Treasurer

Morag Stalker

Fabric Co-ordinator & Rollkeeper

Mr Ron Chimiak

Church Officer

Mr Garry Collins

Presbytery Elder

James Burns

Director of Music

Ruth Irons

Hall Letting Convenor

Garry Collins

Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Pam Chimiak

Reader Co-Ordinator

Merelyn Baxter

Mission Partner

JustBee Productions

www.justbeeproductions.co.uk



Session Meeting TBC

Cong Ref No - 291743

Scottish Charity No - SC011775

**Sunday worship is
conducted by Rev Anita
Kerr, every week at 11am .**

What's On?

Girls' Group

Monday Evenings 18:30—20.00

Carpet Bowling Group

Thursday Evenings—19:00—21:00

Something else happening?

If you have anything you'd like
intimated in the pre-service slides,
please contact Stewart Kerr
by a Friday at the latest.

The Wyvern Next Edition July/August

**Contributions for the next edition are
welcome**

***anytime during the coming weeks,
but at the very latest by:***

Sunday 28th June

email to

thechurchmagazine@outlook.com

The May/June edition of the *Wyvern* will be avail-
able for collection by distributors
on Sunday 12th July

Greetings from Anita



The Fellowship of Believers.

They devoted themselves to the apostle's teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles... Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need... They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42-47



Dear readers, in our 21st century, we may look with longing at this story of the early church, the generosity, harmony and joy in a shared community, free from the trappings of material goods. Living out our faith and fulfilling our moral responsibility in and to a world driven by wealth and polarised by poverty. Loving our neighbour, seen and unseen, near and far, hungry, thirsty, naked and in prison. The idyll of the early church is hard to achieve, but not impossible.

Allow me to share with you what in Philosophy is called a 'thought experiment'. This is essentially a fresh way of looking at a problem using our imagination. A story by any other name, Jesus called these parables and used them all the time! Especially when people failed to grasp the meaning of what he was teaching them. Jesus, Saviour of the world, preacher, teacher and philosopher.

"The Child in the Pond"

A thought experiment by Peter Singer 1972.

Imagine your way to work takes you past a pond. One day, you see a child who has fallen in and seems to be drowning. But if you wade in to pull him out, you will ruin your new shoes and clothes. What do you do? You might ruin the clothing, which cost you, perhaps £200, but no one would think that's a good reason not to save the drowning child. But you could give that £200 to a charity like Christian Aid or Save the Children to preserve a life, and yet most of us don't!

Peter Singer argues that failing to give money to charity to help children is no different from failing to jump into the pond. Is it a case of out of sight is out of mind? Is it harder to put ourselves in the place of others when we can't see them? Harder perhaps, but not impossible, especially when those in need of our help are brought to our attention as they will be during Christian Aid Week, 10-16 May 2026. This is our opportunity to meet some of the challenges and of the early church: *to perform wonders, to give to any in need with glad and sincere hearts, to praise God, and to enjoy the favour of all the people.*

Bless you and thank you

Anita

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Why take part in Christian Aid Week?

This Christian Aid Week, your support could help mothers in Nairobi, Kenya, facing the devastating reality of urban poverty and the daily struggle to feed their children.

Fridah with her grandson, Quillan, outside their house in Dagoretti, Nairobi.



Most parents wake every day knowing they must go out and earn money, or their children won't eat that evening. Fridah knows this reality well. But she's determined to protect her grandchildren from hunger.

Through our partner, Beacon of Hope, she's received tools, seeds and training to grow fresh vegetables in a small city space – food she can cook for her family or sell to earn income.

'Now I can plan. I can buy this; I can buy that. I can help my family.'

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25: 40

**Donations gratefully received in cash or by cheque made payable to
Christian Aid**

Christian Aid
We believe in life before death

A Lesson Learned....

Around sixty years ago I enrolled for night classes in that well known education institution known affectionately by many Dundee people as 'The Stobbie.' Not for anything educational I hasten to add, but just for woodwork. I wanted to make a coffee table.

I knew exactly what I wanted. I had a friend who had a coffee table and I had seen a coffee table in a down town furniture shop and I wanted to combine the two designs together.

So for the next ten weeks I could be found on a Thursday evening sawing and planing, clamping and gluing and sandpapering and doing everything necessary to make a coffee table.

At the end of ten weeks my coffee table was finished and being not too biased I would have given myself eight out of ten points.

On the second last night our teacher told us he would take us to the class next door so we could see what they had made and this would give us ideas for the future. There were all the usual things but the one thing that caught my eye was a plant pot stand, not unlike the ones that we have behind the Communion table which hold flowers every Sunday. I could see it in a corner of a hall or a lounge or perhaps a conservatory, with a large pot of flowers on it. Trying not to be biased I would have given the person who made it, eight out of ten points.

So eight out of ten for my coffee table and eight out of ten for the plant pot stand.

But when I thought about it. It was not a competition. And in a certain way I was judging that person. And what right did I have to do that.

Suddenly the man appeared who had made the plant pot stand and he ran his hand over it with pride, just as I had run my hand over my coffee table. But in his other hand he carried a white stick. He was completely blind.

My woodworking classes had taught me how to use all the woodworking machinery and given me hands-on experience with many woodworking tools. But without doubt the greatest lesson I was to learn was not to be too quick and judgmental of other people.

It is a lesson I always try to remember.

J. D. Pirie

Dundee Scout Gang Show - 60th Anniversary

A Shout out for the Cast and Crew

This year's show was a fast-paced, colourful journey which celebrated the past 60 years of Gang Shows in music and dance, interspersed by comic sketches.

The show featured members of the Scout Association from young Squirrels and Beavers, through Cubs and Scouts to Explorers, Adult Leaders and Volunteers. The audience experienced the product of many hours of singing and dancing practice, with multiple scenery and costume changes.

A special Shout-Out to participants known to the congregation: Kirsty Steinson, daughter of choir member, Agnes, was on stage, while Agnes and her husband Gary assisted in the dressing rooms. Meanwhile, Aimee Brown, Wyvern Editor and Gang Show Assistant Production Director, was on duty greeting visitors in the Foyer. Billy Muir, Conductor at Total Recall Memories Choir, was Musical Director.

At the end of the show, I, along with the rest of the audience, was left feeling that I was definitely "Riding along on the Crest of a Wave" *

** "Riding along on the Crest of a Wave" is the traditional musical number at the end of any Gang Show.*

Margaret Robertson

A Very Welcome Spring Time Visitor

Sunday 29th March was a fine morning made special when Alison appeared bearing not only a posy of vibrant flowers but also a tray of fruit and our first seasonal chocolate Easter ☺ Egg. Alison came in for a quick chat but unfortunately not enough time for a cuppa as duty called. As the following day was Faye's birthday and we were off to Pitlochry for a couple days we visited Wendy with the bright posy.

Our sincere thanks once again for the thoughtfulness of the Church Family and The Ladies of the Flower Committee.

Faye and Frank Galloway

Guild News



We were forced to make several changes to our planned programme as the session came to an end.

On March 3rd, Jonathan Buchan, a freelance organist and singer, had to call off due to illness. As that day was World Wildlife Day, we enjoyed two quizzes – one about animals and the other about plants.

It was originally planned to have some quizzes after the A.G.M. on 17th May, but we were delighted when David Gibson, chairperson of Starter Packs, came along at short notice to tell us about the work of the organisation.

Our final meeting was the Daffodil Tea when, before we enjoyed a variety of culinary delights, we were entertained by David Pirie, who shared a few of his poems with us. These were interspersed with a selection of songs from Anne Gunn and Marilyn Graham.

Several members will attend a Guilds Together Mini-Gathering in Forfar where we will hear the latest news from the National Executive and have an opportunity to share programme ideas with other Guilds. Hopefully, this will help us over the next few weeks to put together an interesting programme for next session.

Sheila Valentine

Palm Trees

After the Service on Palm Sunday, several people enquired where the Palm Branches for the procession had come from. They were from the Dundee University Botanic Gardens. Richard Grossi, Team Leader, had cut them from plants that needed to be thinned out. When I told him where they would be used, he said that he had helped to build the Garden at the side of the St Andrew's Building. He and fellow trainee, Paul Kinnear, had worked on the garden while they were employed at Helm Training. He was happy to learn that the garden is still in use.

Margaret Robertson



WATCH NIGHT

RESOURCE

7 DAYS OF PRAYER AND ACTION

DAY 1 - I WILL GIVE THANKS

Psalm 103:2 - "Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits."



Act: Reflect on the things you are grateful for from this past year. Create a gratitude jar by writing your reasons to be grateful on strips of paper and placing the folded strips in a jar. Use these to prompt prayers of thanksgiving over the coming year.

We are thankful for our Christian Aid partners who make significant sacrifices to serve, even in challenging contexts. Their support helps women like Joyce, who was forced to flee conflict on foot with her four children, including her youngest, just two months old, in Rumbira, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

To learn more about Joyce's story: cald.org/watchnight



Joyce, Congo (DRC)

DAY 2 - I WILL CARE FOR MY NEIGHBOUR

James 1:27 - "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world"



Pray: God, you are so good, kind and merciful. Forgive us for the ways in which we have ignored those in need.

Be the fire that sets our hearts aflame. Give us compassion and love for what troubles and moves you. Spur us on to help those in need.

Father today we pray for Joyce and her children, may they know you are close to the broken hearted. Amen.

DAY 3 - I WILL SEEK YOUR KINGDOM COME

Matthew 6:9-10 - "Pray, then, in this way: Our Father in heaven, may your name be revered as holy. May your kingdom come. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."



Pray: God of justice, please help us to remember that you care about injustices. Your kingdom turns the kingdoms of this world upside-down. We pray for the people of Democratic Republic of Congo, as we stand in solidarity with them in this critical time of conflict in their land.

Give us strength to do what we can with what we have to see Your kingdom come. We pray for a world where people are guided by love and the vulnerable are protected.

Amen.





DAY 4 - I WILL SING A NEW SONG

Psalm 96:1-3 - "O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord; bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples."

Act: Christian Aid has been working with Black Church leaders on racial and climate justice resources, including commissioning new music for your worship.

Award winning musician **Jake Isaac**, and theologian **Professor Robert Beckford**, created a new song: 'Everything is Yours'.

Listen to the song now and add to your playlist.

caid.org.uk/watchnight

DAY 5 - I AM BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

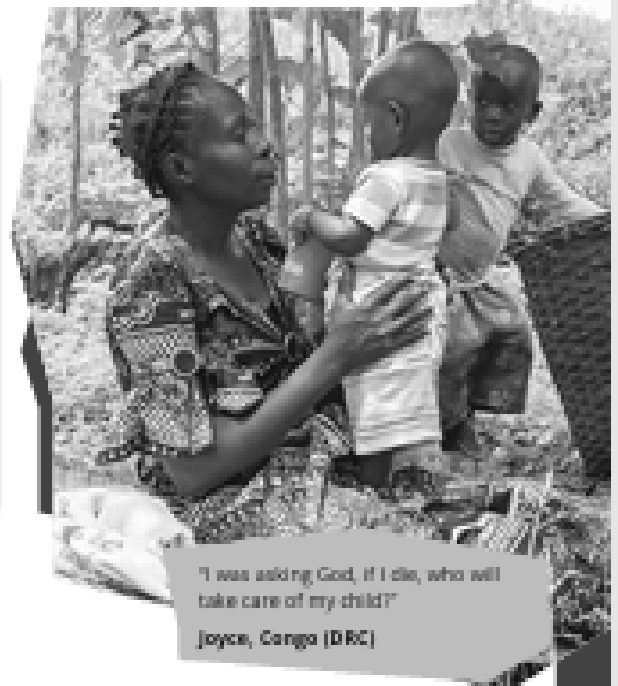
Acts 20:35 - "Remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"



Give: Today you can be a blessing to women like Joyce and their families. Every gift helps people fleeing conflict access basic support and begin to rebuild. Could you give to our DRC appeal?

£15 can help a mother fleeing conflict buy nutritious food. £70 could help a family who has lost everything start again by purchasing pots, cups, and bedding.

To donate:
caid.org/watchnight



"I was asking God, if I die, who will take care of my child?"

Joyce, Congo (DRC)

DAY 6 - I WILL INTERCEDE

James 5:16 - "The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective."



Act: Set your heart, as we begin this new year to commit to prayer. Stand with us as we pray for and with partners around the world. Receive prompts to pray in your inbox every month by joining our monthly prayer email.

Sign up at caid.org/watchnight

DAY 7 - I WILL SPEAK UP

Proverbs 31:9 - "Speak out; judge righteously; defend the rights of the poor and needy."



Act: If you'd like to find out how you and your Church can create lasting change for women like Joyce and her community invite a **Christian Aid speaker** to your Church.

Email: hello@christian-aid.org



PARTNER WITH US

If you want to partner with us, we can support your Church in taking action towards a just world. Find out more at caid.org.uk

'Hug Day!'

A Poem written by J.D. Pirie

I sometimes wonder about our world
With its troubles and all of its strife,
And I think to myself, what could I do
That would improve everyone's life.

And so my friends, I have a plan
It's quite simple, what more can I say,
But all over the land we should give it a try
And have a National HUG day.

A hug from your mother when you were young
No doubt was a wonderful thing,
And when a teenager with a pretty young girl
It was enough to make your heart sing.

Now if we all hugged each other I'm sure that you'd find
That our troubles and tensions might wane,
So it might just spread, all over the world
And we could all live in peace once again.

So if Putin and Trump gave each other a hug
And if world leaders forgot their colours and hue
I'm sure the world would be a much better place
But the good news. . . . I'm starting with YOU !

Flower Donor and Committee Information

<u>Flower Donor</u>		<u>Flower Committee</u>
<i>May 2026</i>		
3rd	Mrs. W. Petrie	Mrs. M. McKenzie
10th	Mrs. A. Black	Mrs. A. Galligan
17th	Flower Fund	Mrs. A. Sanderson
24th	Flower Fund	Miss. M. Graham
31st	Mrs. J. Walker	Mrs. M. McKenzie
<i>June 2026</i>		
7th	Mrs. A. Forbes Mrs. A. Thom	Mrs. A. Galligan
14th	Mrs. J. Walker	Mrs. A. Sanderson
21st	Flower Fund	Miss. M. Graham
28th	Mrs. M. McCallum	Mrs. M. McKenzie
<i>July 2026</i>		
5th	Mrs. D. Grant Mr. J. Spain	Mrs. A. Galligan
12th	Mrs. A. Dewar	Mrs. A. Sanderson
19th	Mrs. S. Baird Mrs. P. Wood	Miss. M. Graham
26th	Mrs. J. Smith Mrs. A. Black	Mrs. M. McKenzie

Heavenly Father, I ask Your Holy Spirit to guide me in my daily decisions. Illuminate my mind and heart so I make choices aligned with Your will. Remove confusion, doubt, and indecision, and grant me clarity, insight, and discernment. Help me act with integrity, patience, and wisdom in every circumstance. May Your Spirit guide my steps, interactions, and priorities, so I live each day purposefully and faithfully. Thank You for Your constant presence and guidance in all that I do. Amen.

***“Your word is a
lamp to my feet
and a light to my
path.”
— Psalm 119:105***

Useful Contacts

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Muriel McKenzie

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Jacqui Cox

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Sally Romilly

Church Carpet Bowling Group

Marilyn Graham

Wyvern Distribution Co-Ordinator and Editor

Alison Collins

Aimee Brown

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If you have any pastoral concerns or if you know of anyone at home or in the hospital who would like a visit, please contact our minister

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Or

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Kingsgait Kirk, Dundee

Visit our new website—Launched November 2025

<http://www.kingsgaitkirk.org.uk>

