

# Ferryhill Parish News

## February 2012

For delivery by 5<sup>th</sup> February

**T**he **Property Task Group** is pleased to report that the roof space above the Church Sanctuary has recently been insulated. Some 300 rolls of insulation were installed and we now have a 500mm layer of insulation over the length and breadth of the roof. To put this in practical terms, we have installed almost 1200 metres of insulation-that's about three quarters of a mile!! This will result in the building being warmer and make a considerable contribution to our Carbon Footprint reduction plan. We were very fortunate to have acquired the material at a very competitive price. The cost to the Church was approximately £360 (plus some dozen bacon rolls and our Caretaker Billy Pirie giving up a few rounds of golf!) The Quinquennial Report which was carried out on the Church had estimated £1000 for this project so we have made a considerable saving by carrying this out "in-house". The Property Convener would therefore like to thank **EVERONE** who assisted with this project. The whole team deserves a warm thank you from the whole congregation.

You will have received with this issue of Parish News a letter, which the General Assembly wants every member of the Church to see now, from the Moderator the Right Reverend David Arnott about the Church of Scotland's **National Stewardship Programme**. The letter sets out why and how we can support the work of the Church through the financial contribution we make. These matters were set before the membership of Ferryhill Parish Church during the Financial Stewardship Programme in 2010. At that time a number of members asked that they receive a regular reminder to review their contribution. That will now be issued later this year. In the meantime, however, in the light of the Moderator's letter, if anyone wishes either to review their contribution now or make a contribution for the first time, please contact Mary Fraser, The Convener of the Finance and Stewardship Task Group (316946) who will be happy to advise you on how this can be done.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011, with donations and promises, the Tower and Spire Appeal stands at £11,913. If anyone wishes to contribute to the appeal or wishes more information, please contact Mary Fraser.

## **PARISH REGISTER**

### **Baptisms**

Abigail Munro Mitchell 30.10.11  
Jessie Kathleen Forrester 18.12.11

### **Funerals (with date of death)**

A Ian Mutch 26.10.11  
Ian M Tolmie 19.11.11  
Hazel L Christie 9.1.12  
Thomas H Tinsley 14.1.12  
Arthur A Forrester 15.1.12  
James Barber 18.1.12

## **SERVICES IN FEBRUARY**

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February**

**11 a.m.** Worship for all ages.  
Sunday Club and crèche.

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

**11 a.m.** Worship for all ages.  
Sunday Club and crèche.

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February**

**11 a.m.** Worship for all ages.  
Sunday Club and crèche.  
**6 p.m.** Informal worship in the  
Memorial Chapel.  
Holy Communion.

### **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

**12.10p.m.** Mid-week service of  
approx 15 minutes.

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February (First Sunday in Lent)**

**11 a.m.** Worship for all ages.  
Sunday Club and crèche.

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

**11 a.m.** Worship for all ages.  
Sacrament of Holy Communion.  
Sunday Club and Crèche.

### **Services in Nursing Homes**

**Cowdray Club** at 11 a.m. on  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February.

**Devanha Gardens** at 6 p.m. on  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> and **Maryfield East**  
at 6p.m. on 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **The Congregational Board**

Meets Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.15 p.m.



### **Thursday February 9<sup>th</sup>**

***'The Prophetic Jesus'***

Please note these further LTQ  
dates for your diary  
focussing on themes appropriate  
for Lent and Easter

### **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

***'Evil and Suffering'***

### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

***'The myth of Redemptive  
Violence'***

### **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

***'Practising Resurrection'***

Each session will begin with tea and  
coffee at 6.30 p.m. with the DVD  
presentation and discussion  
following at 7 p.m.

**Please let others know  
and invite your friends.**



# LENT

Begins on Ash Wednesday  
22<sup>nd</sup> February



The Scottish Crown

## *Message for the Month from the Minister*

This month marks the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Queen's accession upon the death of her father, King George VI on 6th February 1952. Only one other British Monarch has celebrated a Diamond Jubilee, namely Queen Victoria. Sixty years is a remarkable record of service and surely worthy of recognition.

Scottish links with the monarchy have been described as informal and intimate compared to those south of the border and perhaps this has something to do with the different way in which *sovereignty* is understood in these two countries.

I remember sitting in the General Assembly back in 1989 listening to a debate on the Report of the Church and Nation Committee in which very eminent theologians and constitutional experts tried to explain the difference between the Scottish concept of sovereignty and the English, the latter having also become the British idea of sovereignty. Many eminent authorities of the past and present were quoted including Professor Tom Torrance, who actually spoke in the debate.

It was clear from questions raised that many in the Assembly, including myself, were struggling to grasp the subtleties of the differences between the two concepts of sovereignty until there came to the microphone the Revd. John Mackay Nimmo, a Glaswegian who happened then to be minister of St Columba's Parish in Dundee, where it is claimed the real Stone of Destiny resides. In his inimitable way, he very effectively distilled the argument as follows: *'I thought'* he said *'I understood Professor Torrance. He was saying that Scotland has a soul and that Scotland expresses its convictions under God in Christ through its Government, and always has done ever since in 1320 they said to Robert the Bruce, "A' richt, you're the King, but if you don't do what you're told, you're on the 'burool!'*

The Scottish medieval scholar John Mair put it almost as precisely: *'the whole people must be above the king.'* I suppose that is why the monarch of Scotland is referred to as King or Queen of Scots and **not** King or Queen of Scotland; King or Queen not because they own the land and the people in it, but because the people choose to have a King or Queen on the terms that they, the people, lay down under God and under law.

Jesus taught his disciples: *'Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all.'* It is The Queen's commitment to service and the way she has carried out her duties over these sixty years that have won the respect of many people, even those who would not count themselves monarchists. If the monarchical principle rests on the consent of the people, then it seems to me that Elizabeth, Queen of Scots, has won that consent through her sustained commitment and the manner in which she has fulfilled her role. We should therefore give thanks to God for her life and indeed celebrate with her these sixty years of dedicated service.



**Fairtrade Fortnight 2012** runs from 27<sup>th</sup> February – 11<sup>th</sup> March and the theme this year is “Take a Step in 2012”. Supporters are being asked to take a small step, like swapping your tea or coffee to Fairtrade, or a bigger step, like asking everyone at your workplace to do the same. During Fairtrade Fortnight, thousands

of people across the country will be organising events and taking steps to promote Fairtrade. Every step counts for millions of farmers, workers and communities in developing countries who urgently need a better deal from trade. Visit the Fairtrade Foundation website ([www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)) to see the steps others are taking and to find out where all these steps will lead. If you want some more information, visit the Fairtrade stall after church and pick up a leaflet.

The **Fundraising Taskgroup** is pleased to announce that two Christmas events raised over £2200 for the Tower and Spire Fund. £800 of that total came from the Christmas Shopping evening while the Christmas Bazaar's total was £1413. The taskgroup would like to thank everyone who contributed to and supported both events making them so successful.

**The Guild** will be holding a fundraising lunch on Sunday 5th February after the church service. The funds raised during the session will be distributed to charities the guild is supporting this year. Tickets are available from Guild committee members.

#### **Guild Meetings in February**

1<sup>st</sup> February - Roxburghe House – Sally Lawton

15<sup>th</sup> February - History of the Gordon Highlanders - Mike Ritchie

The **Christmas Offerings** taken at the services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day together with the collections at the services for Ferryhill Primary School and Ferryhill Court and donations to the Christmas card amounted to £1,778. This extremely generous sum will be divided equally between **Alzheimer Scotland** and **Mary's Meals** and your big-hearted response to both these charities is really appreciated.

#### **Bath Towels for Aberdeen Cyrenians**

Could you donate one or more bath towels? If yes, please contact: Pauline Gerrard, 10 Whinhill Gardens or Tel: 595113 to drop off for pick up.

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