

NEWMACHAR CHURCH



GRAPEVINE

Monthly Newsletter

OCTOBER 2006

Dear Friends,

The writer of Ecclesiastes reminds us that, *“for everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven”*. Soon it will be *time* for our building improvement work to commence. All who have been involved in the project are so glad that our dream will soon become reality. The project will take roughly twenty weeks to complete. This will mean that for a while we shall have to gather in the Village Hall for our weekly worship. Although this is not an ideal setting we ask for your patience and understanding. However, be reassured that where we worship isn't terribly important, rather it is how we worship and the fact that Jesus promises to be with us as we do so.

Can I ask you to continue to pray for the work, that it may be completed speedily but not in haste, and that any problems might be small and easily overcome. God willing, in early spring, we shall unveil our new facilities to the glory of God, the advancement of His Kingdom and the benefit of the community.

God bless you all,

Manson

Newmachar Church Book of Quotations 2006

Some of you may recall a book of quotations produced back in 1987 by Rev Claydon and members of the congregation.

As a reflection of the changes taking place at Newmachar Church and to raise funds for the building project, we have decided to recreate an up to date version of this with favourite quotations and stories from current members and friends. We are hoping to have this book on sale by the end of November .

If you would like to contribute to this, please give copies of your favourite quotations, poems or stories, funny or serious, to Bill Campbell or Christine MacLeod by Sunday 29th October.

Thank you for your support

Dear Members & Friends of Newmachar Church

You will now be aware that on Monday 25th September, the building work will get underway on our new extension. During this time, Sunday Worship will be held at 11am in Newmachar Village Hall. There will continue to be facilities for Crèche, Cool Club and Genesis Group.

In order to keep everyone up to date with the project, we will be producing the Grapevine in a shortened format on a monthly basis with details of events and progress reports. All items for inclusion should be sent to Christine MacLeod by the 17th of each month.

We will not be delivering the Grapevine to your home meantime, however they can be picked up at the service any Sunday with a new one ready before the end of the preceding month. Please feel free to take one to give to a friend or neighbour you know would appreciate one. They will also be available for download from our website. If you have any queries please contact Christine.

BELATED BIRTHDAY THANKYOU

I am writing to thank all who came and helped me celebrate my 50th birthday last year. It was a night I will always remember and I was overwhelmed by your generosity. The donations you gave added up to £165.00 to the church building fund as well as £250 (+£15.51 in gift aid) to EMMS for Malawi's Ekwendeni Hospital.

As we see the building work start it is good to remind ourselves of the many different ways in which the money has been raised. In Malawi your £265.51 formed part of £100,000 raised by last year's bike ride. EMMS write that this will be used for building work and to develop services at the Hospitals and School of Nursing. In a country where 1 million have already died from AIDS and another million are affected out of a population of 11million, this is making a visible improvement in the health of the people of Malawi.

THANKYOU !! It is wonderful to be part of a community which can give so generously, both to our own church and to needy people in other countries.

Elspeth MacLean

NEWMACHAR CHURCH BUILDING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Building improvements will commence on Monday 25 September 2006.

Once building work is underway, Sunday worship will be held at 11 am in the Village Hall. There will continue to be facilities for Crèche, Cool Club and the Genesis Group.

The building work can now commence as most of the money required to fund the project has been raised through our very generous congregation and local community, grants from organisations and of course, through the financial assistance of the Church of Scotland. The Trustees of the Church of Scotland have awarded the project a grant of £10,000 and a loan of £50,000.

A number of the congregation have already pledged monthly financial support to the building improvements to help to repay the loan, amounting to £730 per month. This means that on a monthly basis a further £300 approximately is required to meet our repayment obligations.

Are you in a position to give regularly to the building improvement project? Giving even £5 per month is the same as the price of attending a Weight Watchers meeting, buying the P&J for 12 days, buying a packet of cigarettes and less than buying a cinema ticket. If you feel able to help, please complete a Gift Aid Declaration Form which can be obtained from your Elder or from Ian Urquhart.

On a final note, the Building Improvement Project Team will in future ensure that updates on the project are made via the Church's Grapevine Newsletter and at Sunday Worship only. This is to ensure that any information is factually correct, and is quite clearly not from the source purporting to be 'Newmachar Church Building Project Team'.

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, -where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal: For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be.

Matthew 6:19-21

Newmachar Cool Club

Cool club started back on 27th August with a new look and new structure but familiar faces.

Myself, May Anne Taylor & Ann Stephen have been sharing leadership and have a wonderful team of helpers. There is room for more so if you feel you can serve in this way please contact me on 862278.

This term we have been learning how Jesus challenges us through his parables to live our lives His way which sounds very serious but we do have lots of fun as much of the learning is done through play and activities.

Due to work starting on the church extension there will be no Cool Club from 1st October - 22nd October inclusive. The services however will be family orientated and your children are welcome to sit with us if they wish. We will have worksheets and books for them to use if they start to get restless.

The crèche will take place in the carpeted area of the village hall so please continue to come along with your little ones. We would be very happy to see you.

Cool Club will commence on 29th October; we hope to have an area we can use to meet by then. All children are welcome; we hope to see old and new faces every Sunday at 11a.m.

Sheena Merchant

ANNOUNCING THE NEWMACHAR DIGITAL CHURCH MOUSE

Fear not! We will not be left in the dark while our beloved church undergoes renovation. While the church will be closed to visitors, we have a little "church mouse" that will provide digital images and written updates as progress continues. Images will be posted on the church website and at the entrance to the Village Hall on Sundays. Written updates will be featured in church newsletters to keep you informed.

Get ready for Operation Christmas Child 2006!

It's time to start filling shoe boxes again – with gifts for desperately needy children who will have no Christmas this year – unless you help.

Since 1990, Operation Christmas Child worldwide has brought the joy of Christmas to more than 47 million boys and girls. Last year Samaritan's Purse in the UK sent out over 1.18 million gifts to children across Eastern Europe and Africa.

Each year this project attracts tens of thousands of people like you across the country. Individuals, schools, churches, businesses, and other organisations work together to fill ordinary shoe boxes with small toys, school supplies, sweets, and other gifts for hurting children around the world.

Last year Operation Christmas Child sent gift-filled shoe boxes to more than 1.18 million children in desperate situations in 13 different countries. They live in orphanages, hospitals, refugee camps, homeless shelters, old railway carriages, in underground sewers, and in impoverished neighbourhoods.

The gifts are given regardless of nationality, political background or religious beliefs to children. Nothing is required of them, their families or communities in return.

For more information on our collection please contact Anne Ross at Church or by phone Tel. 862802

A Coffee Morning in aid of
Balmedie House Eventide
Home will be held at the Kirk
Centre, Ellon on Saturday 7th
October from 10 - 12 noon.
Tickets priced £1.50 for adults
and £1 for children are available
from May Anne Taylor or at the
door on the day.

Rock Solid

For all children in p7 - S2.
Will be restarting after the
October Holidays.
For more information contact
Manson.



Used Stamps for World Mission

Please help support the Golden Jubilee Project.

In Bangladesh, families often abandon their elderly relatives when they are no longer able to earn money.

The Church of Bangladesh Social Development Programmes runs the Golden Jubilee Project which provides somewhere for these people to meet, eat, receive medical care, learn new skills and pray. To provide them with a meal costs just the price of a first class stamp.

Last year £2005 was raised to purchase insecticide-treated mosquito nets for Chogoria Hospital in Kenya.



Traidcraft & Book Table

Our Traidcraft stall and book table will be on display as usual on a Sunday Morning while Sunday Worship takes place in the Village Hall.

Please take a moment to browse after the Service.

Newmachar Village Hall

Table Top Sale: Saturday 21st October, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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Gifts, Cards, Candles, Jewellery, Crafts, Bric-a-Brac, etc.

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Refreshments available: Tea, Coffee and Home Bakes

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Free juice for the children

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Free Entry

Please come along and bring the family

Thank you for your support

N. Whyte: 862244 or 07919 390449

**Sunday Services will be held in Newmachar
Village Hall until further notice**

- 1 Oct Sunday , 11 a.m.
- 8 Oct Harvest Thanksgiving Service, 11 a.m.
Summerhill House, 6.30 p.m.
- 15 Oct Sunday Service, 11 a.m.
- 22 Oct Sunday Service, 11 a.m.
- 29 Oct Sunday Service, 11 a.m.

Crèche facilities are available at all morning services

More information can be found on our website
www.newmacharchurch.org
E-mail info@newmacharchurch.org

What's On in October

- 7th - Coffee Morning , Kirk Centre, Ellon, 10 - 12 noon
- 11th - Guild, Village Hall, 8 p.m
- 14th - Coffee Morning, Village Hall, 9.45 - 11.30 a.m.
- 18th - Monthly Prayer meeting, 7.30 p.m,
- 21st - Table Top Sale, Village Hall, 10 a.m - 1 p.m
- 27th - Rock Solid restarts, Village Hall, 7.30p.m.