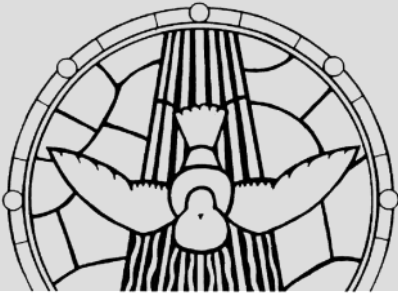


Newport-on-Tay

Church of Scotland Journal

September 2023



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Facing Fear: A Journey From Darkness To Light



A memorable event from my childhood is still fresh in my mind. My mother once returned from a missionary trip with fresh fish and prepared it in anticipation of making a stew for the following day's meals. That night, I was the last to leave the kitchen and inadvertently left the door unlocked. To our greatest dismay, by morning, stray animals had entered the kitchen and eaten all the fish. The reprimand from my mother was so fierce that, overwhelmed with fear, I sought refuge at a friend's house to evade facing her further. However, with my elder brother's encouragement, I returned home, apologised, and to my astonishment, the repercussions were far milder than I had imagined.

This personal encounter with fear seems trivial compared to the many challenges the world presents, be it a relentless pandemic, frightening diagnosis, death of loved ones, political instability, and raging wars across nations. But where does this fear really stem from? Often, it arises from the uncertainties of tomorrow. In the biblical story of Adam and Eve, the couple became afraid after realising that they had disobeyed God. This primal emotion has echoed throughout generations, urging us to question our actions and choices.

However, amidst this sense of uncertainty, there is hope. The scriptures consistently encourage us to shift our gaze from our fears to the Almighty God, the one constant in an ever-changing world. Jesus Christ offers a refuge from the chaotic world, promising enduring peace. He assures us that with faith, even amidst adversity, there is solace. His teachings, and our communities of faith can guide our steps and offer hope even when tomorrow is uncertain.

I am reminded of the comforting lines from a hymn by Ira Stanphill, a gospel writer. During a tumultuous period in his life, he penned the song, 'I know Who Holds Tomorrow'. The chorus of the song inspires hope: *'There are things about tomorrow that I don't seem to understand; But I know who holds tomorrow, And I know He holds my hand'*.

When faced with life's tempest, as Peter did on the turbulent sea, our faith may waver, and fear might consume us. But remember, when Peter kept his eyes on Jesus, he walked on water. It was only when he let the storm around him distract from the Saviour that he began to sink.

We live in tumultuous times, surrounded by challenges and uncertainties. However, instead of yielding to fear, let us set our sights on the Saviour.

Our path forward is clear: all we need to do is to keep our eyes fixed on the Saviour and let faith guide our steps.

May we find strength in God to face challenges head-on, grounding ourselves in faith and the promise of a brighter tomorrow.

Every Blessing,

Rev Dr Amos Chewachong



NEWPORT CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to be a church which inspires people with the Good News of Jesus Christ through our enthusiasm, worship, witness, nurture and service.

Church Ceiling Damage

We were delighted to be able to return to worship in the Church building from the beginning of July.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped set up and tidy away the hall each week after the services there but a bigger thank you to Morag and Bob for cleaning the church in preparation for our return. It was very much appreciated.



Garden Tidy

Thank you so much to everyone who helped to tidy the Church garden and the garden of one of our properties in Kerr Street at the start of the summer. It was a great team effort.

Sheila Johnston



Parish Register

Deaths

17 July Mrs Caroline (Carol) Whitelaw
Newport-on-Tay Dist 32

27 July Mrs Vinorah Caird
Newport-on-Tay Dist 17

14 Aug Mrs Lesley Balfour & Mr David Balfour
Newport-on-Tay Dist 18

Funeral

21 Aug Mrs Hety Varty
Newport-on-Tay Dist 1

*"Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4*

New Member by Certificate

Mrs Patricia Foulis
Newport-on-Tay Dist 6
From: Kirkwall East Church linked with Shapinsay Church

*"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has
welcomed you, for the glory of God."
Romans 15:7*

Change of Address

Mrs Sheena Gray From: Dist 20
Newport-on-Tay To: Dist 34K

*"My people will abide in a peaceful habitation,
in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places."
Isaiah 32:18*

Congratulations!!

On 11th July our organist Hannah married Raymond in a small wedding at their home in Dundee.
Congratulations Mr and Mrs Chan!
Wishing you both a lifetime of love and happiness.



Holiday Club

The Great Glen Green Welly Garden Show ran during the last week of the school holidays and was attended by 22 children. Over the course of the week the children learned about the perfect world God created and how their relationship with him and the world became irreversibly damaged. Despite attempts to rectify this, they discovered that Jesus is the only One who brings hope and can restore it. Our efforts to restore the perfect garden even made the local paper!!

Unfortunately Chris, our Youth Worker, was signed off work ill so couldn't help run the week but the week was still able to go ahead and I would like to thank all helpers who gave of their time and talents to help the week run smoothly. Thanks also go to everyone who donated craft items, snack items, money or decorations for the hall - it was all very much appreciated.

Claire Owen

Photo courtesy of Graham Johnston



manna matters



The summer holidays are over for another year. We think of our young people returning to school after the break and we welcome some to manna to work as volunteers. We are delighted to welcome Florence, Eilidh and Lily to our team.

We had sad news with two bereavements from our manna team. Andrew Bennett died very unexpectedly on 17th July. Andrew and his wife Linda were regular customers at manna. Linda then joined our manna team as a volunteer. She was one of the small core group who reopened manna during the pandemic. Linda more recently stopped volunteering but supported us with lovely cheese scones every Tuesday.

Then sadly Stewart Cram, known to so many in our church family, passed away on 18th July. Stewart was a great volunteer in the early days at manna and was on the steering group too. His wife Fiona volunteered in manna and it was only when Stewart became unwell last year that Fiona stopped volunteering.

We keep both these families in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

We continue to get new supplies for our gift shop. We are looking for a new source for Christmas cards as Traidcraft went into administration at the beginning of the year. We hope to resolve that soon.

If you have volunteered in any way in manna since we opened in 2006, please accept the invitation here to attend our social on Sunday 10th September from 2 - 4pm in our church hall. RSVP to Diane or Morag.

God bless
Diane Miller

manna is open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 4:30pm

manna (01382) 542781

Diane Miller (01382) 541141 &
dianemillermanna@gmail.com

Morag Rowley (01382) 541157 &
moragrowley.4@gmail.com

manna social for **volunteers** past and present

Sunday 10th September from 2 - 4pm

Newport Church Hall

Performance by A Choir'd Taste



light buffet provided

RSVP Diane or Morag for catering purposes

Sunday Club Update

Since the last Journal there hasn't been very much to report. The Closing Service was a great celebration of all our young people who have attended creche, Sunday Club, Youth Seekers and Youth Café over the past year. The service was followed by the congregational picnic which was held in the Church hall due to inclement weather.



Over the summer there were Funday Sundays run by different members of the congregation. Many thanks to all who helped at these and provided activities for the children over the summer to give the Sunday Club teachers a break.

Sunday Club restarted on Sunday 20th August and the teachers (and children) are ready and excited for a new year at Sunday Club.

The Sponsorship of Rimberto from Bolivia, through World Vision, continues and donations from the children (and members of the congregation) are always welcomed.

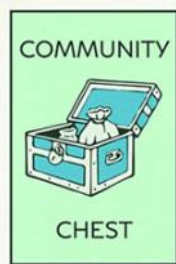


Community Chest

The Community Chest Appeal supports the Rio's foodstuff collection for inclusion in their lunch provision programme or for distribution in conjunction with the local foodbank.

There continues to be a great response to this appeal so far and as the cost of living is still high, the need of some people may well be greater so please consider supporting this if you can. Any donations, no matter how small, are gratefully received.

A large container is available each Sunday to receive foodstuff, toiletries, etc. and these items will be delivered regularly to the Rio Community Centre for their use and distribution.



Recommended items of foodstuff include:

- tins of soup
- beans
- custard
- fruit
- meat

Many thanks.

The Pop-Up Post Office continues to run only on Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11:30am in the Kirk House Complex.



Thank You!

Many thanks for the beautiful bouquet I received from the Church. I am thankful for the care I received in Ninewells, but very glad to be home. The roses brightened our house - many thanks.



Charlie Jack

Thank you for the beautiful bouquet of flowers we received. It was very thoughtful of you. We really appreciate your prayers, love and understanding at this time.

Chris and Katie Cameron

I would like to thank the Church for the beautiful flowers delivered by Eleanor; we also had a lovely chat.

Again, thank you.

Richard McNicol



Cheryl, Gavin and Ron Caird thank all relatives, neighbours and friends for the lovely cards, flowers, letters and kind expressions of sympathy following their sad loss of Vinorah. They were very much appreciated. Generous donations for Cancer Research U.K. amounted to £1087.

I am very grateful for the lovely flowers, prayers and a visit from Alison on behalf of the congregation. Kind Regards.

David Scott

Many thanks to the members of Newport Church for the beautiful flowers and kind thoughts. They were much appreciated. Sincerely.



Tessa Durham

Jane, Graham and Catherine Johnston send their sincere thanks for all the condolences, prayers and practical support they received following the deaths of Lesley and David Balfour. It has all been a great comfort at this difficult time.

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Sesquicentenary Plans

Did the heading mean much to you? Perhaps not, but you had better get used to it, because you are all going to enjoy one this autumn!

Many of you will recall that during Covid the 150th anniversary (yes that's it – a sesquicentenary) of our wonderful church building slipped by almost unnoticed. The first service was held in the church on Sunday 6th November 1870 and, if everything had been normal, we would have been celebrating that in November 2020. However, things were very far from normal in 2020, with all social interaction put on hold for an indefinite period.

However, the good news is that we have decided that now is the time to celebrate and to acknowledge the wonderful achievements of our predecessors, without whose efforts and vision we would have nothing to celebrate! I refer not just to those of 150 years ago, but also to all those who had gone before as well as those who followed on, and who continued to improve upon and add to what was started in 1870.

We have decided that our celebrations will take place over the weekend closest to the actual anniversary of the opening of the church, so this is advance notice to keep the weekend of **3rd - 5th November** free! At the moment our plans have yet to be confirmed but we hope to have a celebration concert/entertainment on the evening of Friday 3rd or Saturday 4th. On the Sunday morning our service will be in the form of a Songs of Praise service. This will be followed by a soup/bread/cheese lunch in the hall. Our church will of course be beautifully decorated for the weekend by the talented members of our flower team.

In addition we plan to mount a church history exhibition, and in connection to this, we would really appreciate the loan of any appropriate memorabilia. The exhibition will naturally focus on our church, but of course will also cover Forgan Church and St Fillan's Church, these being the two churches with whom we have been united since 1981. The exhibition will also feature the other churches in the area. If you have loaned items for exhibitions in the past, don't worry, I will have a note of that and I can ask you again! But I'm sure there are others who have old Sunday School photographs, Orders of Service from special services or other items of memorabilia that we may not have seen. If that's the case please get in touch by phone or email - details below.

We are looking forward to a very happy weekend when we can all enjoy each other's company and get to know each other just a little better!

Mairi Shiels – 07879 677120, mairishiels@gmail.com

The Boys' Brigade Update

**THE BOYS'
BRIGADE**
> the adventure begins here



We are making plans to meet again with our boys towards the middle of this month and look forward to welcoming back our enthusiastic members.

Before we went in search of some Summer weather, we concluded our meetings in late-June with an Open Evening for parents, relatives and friends of the boys. As a climax to that evening, the boys were presented with awards and badges

towards which they had been working during the previous year. One exceptional highlight was announcing the result of our annual entry in the International Team Games for Juniors, which this year attracted 253 entries from Scotland to New Zealand (via Ghana, Thailand, and many other countries in between); the scores from our relatively young team were enough to see us placed in the excellent position of 50th (and we were the 10th best of all the Scottish entries). Well done, boys!

As always, we hope that our previous boys will return to make a foundation for building upon once we start to reach out to the boys in our community and encourage them to join in our fun and activities.

Meantime, please help us by encouraging any boys of the appropriate age to come along and be part of what promises to be another mix of fun, games, hard work, and enjoyment – hopefully for boys and staff alike.

All new members will be most welcome to come along and join us at our Friday evening meetings that are held as follows in our Church Hall on Friday evenings from 6.15pm to 7.15p.m. - Anchors (P2 to P3) and Juniors (P4 to P6).

Please also keep all our boys and leaders in your thoughts and prayers, and feel free to contact me or any of our staff as soon as possible with your offers (or suggestions) of help.

Philip Owen, Company Captain
1st Newport/Wormit BB Company

For more details you can contact Philip on (01382) 543034 or by emailing philip.owen@talktalk.net

The Guild Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Return of Summer Concerts: Wednesdays@One 23

The summer concerts returned for a second season. Two concerts have been held on the 9th and 16th August. A further two are due on the 13th and 20th September (note rescheduled date for one of them).

On the 9th August we welcomed Robin Bell for an organ recital. A native of Airth, Robin was educated at Larbert High School and Glasgow University (holding the post of Organ Scholar) from where he graduated with Honours in Music. Robin has been organist in churches in Linlithgow, Grangemouth and Dunblane. He was also assistant organist to Herrick Bunney at St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh and is currently organist at Stenhouse & Carron Parish Church. Robin taught music at Madras College in St Andrews among other schools. His teaching is remembered fondly by many of his former pupils – including some of our own congregation.

His programme included Toccata in F Major by J S Bach, Wedding Introit by Sir James MacMillan and Polwart on the Green (from A Sonata of Scots Tunes) by James Oswald.

On the 16th August we were delighted to welcome Rosie McDonald a Scottish soprano who is a graduate of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. As a classical singer, Rosie has performed in choirs in performances including Bach's St Johns Passion, Britten's Spring Symphony and Bach's Magnificat. Rosie has performed alongside Scottish Opera in the chorus of Prokofiev's 'Fiery Angel' and has performed in the UK's staged premier of Jake Heggie's opera, 'Dead Man Walking'. Rosie currently works as a vocal teacher at The High School of Dundee where she teaches a variety of genres to both Primary and High School pupils as well as taking the Girls' Choir.

She was accompanied by Hannah our organist on the organ and piano. Her programme included Le Secret by Fauré, Ca the Yowes by Britten, Into the Night by Clara Edwards and ended with The Dundee Ghost by Matt McGinn.

Please do join us if you can for the next two concerts in September, one of which has been rescheduled:



13th September: Sean Smith, David Smith, Ron Oliver and Hannah Gibson (Organ)
20th September: Joanna Stark & Max McWhirter (Cello)

Wednesday Afternoon Club

This has been running from 1.30pm to 3pm each Wednesday in the Agnes Duncan Room.

There are refreshments (tea/coffee and biscuits/baking) and company (with plenty of opportunity to chat).

There is no charge, however if anyone wishes to make a donation, there is a collection plate.

We have got enough volunteers at present but more are always welcome to lighten the load and fill any gaps. If you can help with this, please do get in touch with Margaret Wright: Tel (01382) 543007

Ukraine Project

~ Fundraising for Ukraine

As mentioned previously, Morag Muir, a well-known local artist, very kindly donated four prints of the 'Royal Knight' to be sold to raise funds for the Ukraine Appeal. We have now sold three of these prints and will be arranging to sell the remaining one over the next few months. In addition, the sunflower cards (both greeting and postcards) remain on sale through manna.

All the money we raise is transferred to the Newport and Zolotarevo Twinning Association (NAZTA) to support our friends there.

Thanks so much to everyone who has contributed in any way.

~ Vigil: Every Thursday evening at 7pm on the Church Green.

We plan to continue these for as long as the conflict continues.

It is important that we continue to bear witness to the ongoing suffering of the people of Ukraine and stand with them. The Vigil is one small way of doing this.

Please do join us if you are around at that time. We usually have a time of prayer starting promptly at 7pm lasting 5-10 minutes.

Ways to support your Guild

If you have any suggestions about other projects we can start or get involved in, please do let us know.

Why not think about joining us? (Contact Catherine Merrylees or any Guild member for more information.)

The Guild Team



Youth Update

As mentioned in the Holiday Club article, our Youth Worker Chris has been signed off work. As a result some of the youth activities are taking a longer break until Chris is back to full health. Messy Church and the Reset Evening Service are on hold just now but please keep checking our church website and facebook page for details of when there are restarting. A team is in place to keep Sunday evening activities running and details will be sent out to parents. The Youth Seekers are looking for leaders to help with activities and teaching until early October. We already have some volunteers, but are looking for one or two more to make sure our teenagers get the most from their time together. If you can help, please contact Graham Johnston on (01382) 541606.

Chance Encounter

During each Sunday service we are reminded that we should be confident and bold to share our Father's love with those we meet in our daily lives. I often find this difficult as the busyness of family and working life take over. This was brought home to me a few weeks ago when I witnessed a member of our church family demonstrating God's love in action.

One Wednesday in July I was working in the office in Dundee. I had spent the morning becoming increasingly frustrated about not making as much progress as I had planned. I decided to take a 15-minute walk to burn off my irritation. Head down I started to walk along the waterfront past the V & A. This is when it happened. A chance encounter that changed not only my day, but my life for the better.

Just at the edge of the Urban Beach I spotted someone I recognised. They were just setting up their music stand and violin. Beside them was a home drawn sign saying Collecting for Malawi. I gave them a little wave and carried on my walk.

Instead of being absorbed about my frustrations I started to reflect on the courage, kindness, compassion and self-sacrifice shown by the person entertaining those fortunate enough to be there at the time. It made me realise that I had just witnessed someone who was sharing God's love in their acts.

A few clues as to who the superhero is I met that day. Having the confidence to embark on an open air concert is something that comes easily in the young people. Showing kindness in that they were not busking to make money for themselves, but for a worthy cause. Having compassion that the children in Malawi are in more need than them. Finally, the self-sacrifice comes from the fact that they gave up their school holidays to do this.

The tremendous young person I met that day was Robert Hutchinson. Thank you, Robert, not only did you make that day better, you reminded me that it is in our actions that we can spread God's love.

For those who
are led by the
Spirit of God
are the
children
of God.
-Romans 8:14



Christian Aid Week

Hearty and sincere thanks to all who returned a 'red envelope' for Christian Aid Week in May or who had recently contributed to the Penny Bucket. All these made up the sum of £872 which was sent off to Christian Aid and which, I know, will be very much appreciated. Thank you all.



Margaret Imlay

Safeguarding Training

Introductory Course - for all volunteers in regulated roles, paid workers in regulated roles, part 1 for coordinators, panel members and ministers
Advanced Course - part 2 for coordinators, panel members and ministers
Trustee Course - for all elders, board members or other trustees of the church.

All training should be redone at least every 5 years.

For more information please speak to **Lesley Gray** on 07779 506 994 or lesley.gray@talk21.com

September	Course	Time	Online/ In-person	Trainer
Wednesday 13th	Trustee	7.00pm - 9.15pm	Online	Sheila Boyd
October				
Tuesday 10th	Introductory	7.00pm - 9.15pm	Online	Alan Monk
Thursday 19th	Advanced	7.00pm - 9.15pm	Online	Sheila Boyd
November				
Thursday 9th	Advanced	7.00pm - 9.15pm	Online	Alan Monk
Saturday 11th	Trustee	9.30am - 11.45am	Oakley	Alan Monk
Monday 20th	Trustee	7.00pm - 9.15pm	Online	Sheila Boyd

Calendar of Worship

Sunday 3rd September 2023 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : A Barona **Reader** : N Pong

Welcome : K Cruickshanks

Flowers : C Merrylees **Delivery** : M Imlay

Coffee : M Heron, J Johnston, Y Simpson + G Johnston

Sunday Club : A Gray, E Wisher

Youth Elder : M Wright

Sunday 10th September 2023 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : A Gray **Reader** : C Wilman

Welcome : F Harris

Flowers : S Myles **Delivery** : J Johnston

Coffee : P Broadbent, M Cuthbertson, K Farquhar + J Cuthbertson

Sunday Club : F/S West, F Hutchinson

Youth Elder : L Robertson

Sunday 17th September 2023 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : K Campbell **Reader** : A Wilman

Welcome : M Imlay

Flowers : J Johnston **Delivery** : S Johnston

Coffee : J Campbell, L Hundal, F Hutchinson + K Campbell

Sunday Club : J Wylie, S McCowan

Youth Elder : F Ritchie

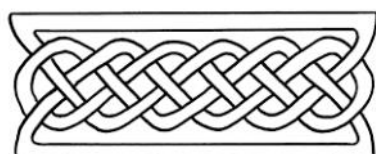
Next Edition

If you would like anything included in our October edition of the Church Journal please email newportcos@btinternet.com by Sunday 17th September 2023.



Don't miss out!

Catch up with the Sunday service at:
www.notchurch.co.uk



Sunday 24th September 2023 at 11am Harvest Thanksgiving Service

All Age Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong and our Young People

Beadle : J Campbell

Welcome : D Miller

Flowers : Harvest Flowers **Delivery** : P Laurence

Coffee : M McCabe, I Navickas, M Imlay + D Macleod

Sunday 1st October 2023 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : L Gray **Reader** : A Heywood

Welcome : J Johnston

Flowers : M McNicol **Delivery** : E Owen

Coffee : F Durward, A Heywood, M Rowley + F Ritchie

Sunday Club : A Gray, E Wisher

Youth Elder : C McCowan

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In Chris's absence please contact
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