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St. David's Dalkeith

Parish Magazine

Spring 2009



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Parish Priest :
Monsignor Allan Chambers

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Valid during June and July 2009

Child Protection

Awareness & Safety.

All existing and new workers with children, young people and vulnerable adults must read and act on the following policy statement. Contact the Parish Child Protection Officer for further guidance.

ARTICLE 1 OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE

**Policy Statement agreed by the Bishops' Conference of Scotland
safeguarding the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.**

“The Catholic Church in Scotland is concerned with the lives, safety, wholeness and well-being of each individual person within God’s purpose for everyone.

It seeks to safeguard the welfare of people of all ages who are involved in whatever capacity with the Church and its organizations.

As a Church community, we accept that it is the responsibility of all of us, ordained, professed, paid and voluntary members, to work together to prevent the physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect of children, young people and vulnerable adults.”

Parish Child Protection Officer, John McIver tel. 0131-663-2946.

A selection of Easter work from our Primary School.



News from the Schools

St. David's High School

The 2009 spring term in St. David's High School has started well, despite the snow. We had a positive HMIE inspection at the end of November last year. The inspection team commended the caring ethos of St. David's, the wide range of courses offered to pupils, the positive relationships between staff and pupils and the quality of partnerships with our local and global community. Our action plan for improvement includes raising attainment and continuing to monitor the quality of learning and teaching across the school. We agreed with the views of the team and found the inspection very valuable. Many thanks to all parents who took the time to reply to questionnaires and meet the inspection team.

We were delighted to welcome Iris Lawrie back to the chaplaincy team after her excellent work in the Philippines. Iris has been addressing all year groups about her visit. This Lent, we will be raising funds to support the school in the Philippines as well as the Association of People with Disabilities in Bangalore.

I thought you might like some early warning of a community celebration for all the family planned for Friday, June 5th from 7-10 p.m. in St. Matthew's Church Hall, Rosewell. This has been organised by our Parent Council, staff and pupils and will include music, dancing and a range of activities for all ages. We will be inviting all of our associated primaries and parishes – posters will follow. This time, all money raised will support school funds so please join us for this family event.

Lastly, please remember in your prayers all of our pupils – from S3-S6 – who will shortly be sitting their exams. Many thanks for your support.

Mrs. Marian Docherty, Head Teacher.



St. David's Primary School **- Mundum Pro Christo Vincamus**

The pupils, staff and parents of St. David's Primary continue to rise to the challenge of improving our school and its links with the parish and local community. The season of Lent brought huge scope for personal reflection and an opportunity to do more for our local and global community. The pupils were delighted to welcome Molly De Haan and Bernadette Flynn to the school in order to raise awareness of the work of St. David's Youth for Lourdes as well as Mr. Ivor Clarke who presented on the work of SCIAF in El Salvador, Central America. As a result, our P6/7 pupils focussed their Lenten fundraise towards these two outstanding programmes.



The P6/7 pupils, supported by their class teacher and learning assistant, led an Easter Fete in the school in addition to a football competition and egg-hunt. Thanks to the support of the whole school community the pupils raised a fantastic amount (£1,175.53) for these very worthwhile causes as well as increasing their understanding and awareness of both organisations and the plight of those less fortunate both at home and abroad. We aim to enhance these partnerships further in the years to come!

Lent also provided an excellent opportunity for the pupils to lead liturgical celebration at St. David's Church.

Monsignor Allan welcomed each class to celebrate Mass with pupils leading the hymns and prayers. Thank you to all who made the children feel so welcome in what were very special celebrations for the pupils and parish alike. We thank Monsignor for his continued support of the school and for his support in helping our Primary 3 and Primary 4 pupils in their Sacramental preparation. Our Primary 3 pupils received the Sacrament of Reconciliation in April and our Primary 4 pupils receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist this May.



when they got there it just added to the effect.

The children slept in their own dorms with a group of friends and had to keep them tidy for inspections every morning at 9.15 a.m.

On Tuesday night everyone went into Hoy dorm for a Midnight Feast and everyone brought sweets to share. The centre also provided a tuck shop in the evening which sold sweets, ping pong balls and other merchandise.

All around the centre were places for the children to relax in the evenings and free time. They included ping pong, pool and table football. In the evenings there were evening activities like night walks, scavenger hunts and quizzes.

On the last night there was a disco. Children from both schools went into the common room and danced to the music.

The pupils were introduced to activities such as Rock Climbing, Abseiling, Biking, Forest Walks, Gorge Walking, Caving and Ropes Course.

Everyone had great fun in all the activities and faced their fears in things such as Abseiling, Rock Climbing and Caving.

There was a group of highly trained instructors for all the activities.

The trip was a fun filled experience and all the children tried new things and became more independent.

Niall & Euan.



On behalf of the parents and parish may I also note the contribution of Mrs. Morgan and Mrs. Somerville, respectively, in preparing the children for these very special landmarks in their journey of faith.

This term also marks the final preparation for our Primary 7 pupils in their transition to St. David's High School. We will be sad to see them move on but are very proud of their achievements and know that they will

make an outstanding contribution to our associate secondary school.

As a school we value the partnership of both the high school and our local parish community. We aim to continue to work in close partnership over the coming months and years and to strengthen this partnership further. On behalf of the staff, pupils and parents of St. David's Primary may I take this opportunity to thank you for your support and to remember us in your prayers.

Mr. Anthony Currie, Head Teacher.

P7's 2009 Trip to Benmore.

This year as usual the Primary 7s from St. David's Primary went on a trip to Benmore Outdoor Education Centre.

The 16 pupils left the school on the 2nd of February at 9.00 a.m. They all bustled into the bus and were off! Snow held them up for most of the journey but

Power of One

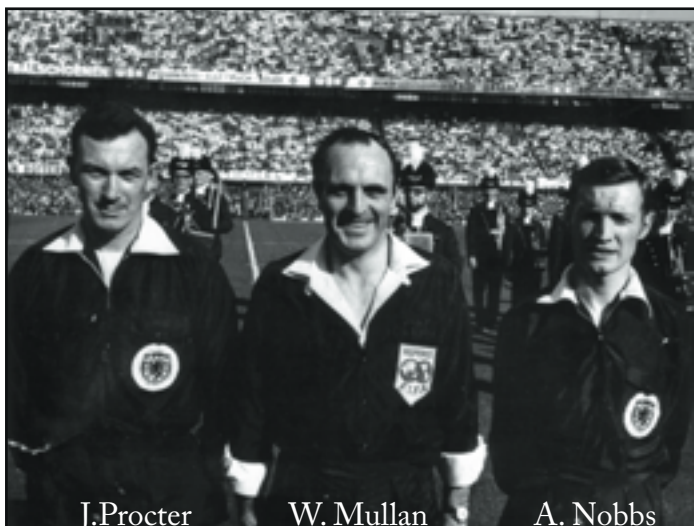
For my power of one essay I have chosen to write about my grandfather, William J. Mullan. Bill Mullan was born on March 30th, 1928 in Dublin, Ireland while his parents were on vacation there. He was brought up in Stenhousemuir, Stirlingshire, Scotland and attended elementary school in nearby Falkirk. Both he and my grandmother were students at St. Modan's High School in Stirling. Although they were in the same class, they did not like each other until after high school, when, in 1951, they got married.

So far, my grandpa's life may seem rather ordinary and it was, up until he was drafted into the Royal Navy in 1946. He served two years as an electrician on a destroyer before becoming a boiler maker at Carron Iron Works. He applied for, and was accepted as an unqualified Physical Education teacher in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1948. After taking a liking to this job, he decided to go to Aberdeen University to receive a degree in Physical Education. After getting his degree, he returned to Stenhousemuir to teach at a number of different schools and got married in 1951. When he moved to Fife in 1953, he went back to college, this time in Edinburgh, in order to get a Mathematics degree. After doing so, he taught P.E. and swimming in the morning and math in the afternoon. He retired in 1992, after teaching in various schools around Scotland and even becoming an assistant principal.

You may be thinking:

Wow your grandpa was a teacher. Whoop-dee-do!

However, aside from teaching, my grandpa also became one of seven referees who represented Scotland in soccer matches around the globe. He refereed many games in places like Belgium, Iceland, and Uruguay, with crowds of up to 80,000 people watching. In June, 1972, after refereeing at the West Germany vs. Belgium UEFA European Football Championship, he was told that he was to be one of 24 referees from around the world who would attend the Munich Summer Olympics. In Munich, he refereed at the



Hungary vs. Brazil match and at the East Germany vs. West Germany match. The latter was the first time those two countries had met in a competitive soccer match. Sadly, this was also the Olympics where eleven Israeli athletes and their coaches were killed by members of the Palestinian terrorist group, Black September, on September 5th, 1972. After this tragedy occurred, my grandfather said that everyone would have been happier if the games had been abandoned out of respect for those murdered. However, the Olympic Games continued until the 10th of September, 1972.

In October, 1972, after returning from the Olympics, my grandpa refereed Celtic vs. Partick Thistle at the Scottish League Cup Final. Celtic was a top class team and was expected to have an easy game against Partick Thistle. It came as a shock when the game ended with Partick Thistle

winning four to one. People were so surprised that they telephoned the newspapers and television channels to see if there had been a mistake with the score! Anyway, after nearly twenty years, he retired from active refereeing in 1979. He then became an observer to FIFA and UEFA matches, which involved watching other referees in action, commenting on their performances, and then compiling a report to help them improve.

These are just a few reasons why Bill Mullan, referee and teacher, is a fine example of a person who has the power of one. I am proud to call William J. Mullan my grandfather. Paul Tschida.



News from Parish Groups

School Reunion

The school reunion for St. David's Primary School intake in 1950 and the Secondary School in 1957 took place on Friday 16th January 2009 in the St. David's Church Hall, the actual site where we started school 59 years ago.



It was a great evening, meeting up after all these years and enjoying looking back to our school days. A good exercise for the memory at our age.
Ann.

Tea Dance raises funds

We had another successful afternoon Tea Dance in October supported by the parishioners and friends.

A great time was had by all enjoying ourselves dancing and eating so that we were able to give £50 to help children with Mary's Meals.

Tessa & Pat.

Tahanan ng Mahal na Puso

It has always been a wish of mine, if the opportunity arose, to work with children in poverty in a third world country.



Through the Sisters of the Sacred Heart I contacted the founder of a school who work with children in poverty in the Philippines. I decided to go during the months of January and February when it was the winter months. Even at that the temperature was 26 - 33°C. I went to a place called Montalban, 2 hours journey from the capital Manila.

My first impression on arrival in Montalban was shock at the living conditions there. Some of the houses were no better than one roomed shacks, with no kitchens, toilet facilities or bedrooms.

The school is entirely different. It was built in 2004 with money gifted from the Japanese government, thanks to the efforts of its founder, Sister Yuka Arita, who is Japanese.



The number of children from poor families is constantly increasing in the Philippines. The majority of them are entering the public school system without any opportunity of early childhood education. In the situation of poverty many children are growing up without developing their potential because of the lack of conducive, social and familiar environment for physical and psychological growth of the child.

In the presence of the vicious circle of poverty the St. Madeleine Sophie Foundation (founded by the Sacred Heart) decided to open a small early childhood education centre as part of its children's programme in Montalban, the suburbs of Metro Manila. The majority of the children who attend live in bad living conditions as described above. The parents are tricycle drivers, laundry workers, or those who have no work at all.

There are 63 children enrolled at present, and they have a waiting list. The children are fed a meal every day. There are two trained teachers and youth volunteers, who teach the children with love and care.

The English speaking volunteers are asked to teach the children the English language, as they only speak in their native language, Tagalog, and when they attend the state schools, lessons are only taught in English.



It was very rewarding working with these young children, because despite their poverty they are very happy and contented. I felt very humbled amongst these very proud people.

The school is run on charitable support, the feeding programme, the children's health expenses and the salary of the two teachers are all paid through the generosity and kindness of others.

It costs approx. £40 per week to feed the pupils and under £2000 per year to pay each of the trained teachers salaries, so all donations from St. David's parishioners, St. David's High School fund raising efforts and the £500 from Bonnyrigg Primary School, which I deposited in the Sacred Heart Foundation Fund was all gratefully received. Sister Yuka asked me to pass on her sincere thanks to everybody who donated to their fund.

I could write pages and pages about the work in the school, but I hope I have given an insight into the work done there.

Iris Lawrie.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP)

The St. David's SSVP conference (=parish group) continues its activities within the fabric of the parish and within the framework of the local (Edinburgh) group and national councils.

The annual senior citizens outing to Dobbies was enjoyed by some 40 or 50 of the parish. Many thanks to those who helped with lifts.

The annual senior citizens Christmas Party was, as always, a great success and much enjoyed by all.

Special thanks to Liz and the team of cooks for the ever excellent Christmas dinner and for organising the raffle prizes. Special thanks also to the musicians and comper for giving us both dance band and folk band!

3rd Year Social & Vocational Skills class pupils at St. David's High School under the inspiration of Mr. Gordon Macpherson commendably achieved a sponsored collection and put together a set of food parcels. They have entrusted this to SSVP for distribution. And so we continue into the year.

Again many thanks to all who have helped with SSVP activities!

John Holden.

St. David's Deanery Station Mass

A good contingent of St. David's parishioners went to the Deanery Station Mass - held this year on Friday March 27th in St. Matthew's, Rosewell.



His Eminence concelebrated Mass with the Deanery priests.

A group of Catechumans were each presented with a copy of the Creed by His Eminence during the Mass.

After Mass, an enormous amount of delicious food was consumed by the congregation who definitely hungered after righteousness.

There was still some food left after several visits!

Julian Kettle.



St. David's Primary - Easter Fete

A good time was had by all on Saturday 28th March, raising funds for SCIAF and YFL.

A special mention for the man who braved the wet sponges hurled at him by the fun lovers!



Parish Choir - Songs of Spring

"Venite adoremus Dominum."

At Christmas, despite the cold snap, the Choir were in good voice and Joe Holmes sang a welcome tenor solo. By the Twelfth Day we had included twenty different seasonal carols without overworking any particular one.

It seems a certain 'favourite' hymn is at the moment being featured only once in three months. This situation will be rectified forthwith.

Ladies outnumber men by two to one currently.

Is a better balance of numbers really too much to hope for? Do I hear male whispers:

"It's quality not quantity that counts!"

But surely a couple more wandering minstrels could help us

"sing to the Lord with cheerful voice,"

especially with the approach of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.

Frank Nicholson.

St. David's, Dalkeith - Web Site

Our own web site has been up and running for over three years. It has plenty of good information available e.g. current bulletin details for Mass times and intentions, diary of future events, magazines for download/viewing and useful links.

A recent review of its use shows that it is being accessed on a regular basis especially by searches on "St. Davids", 'St. Davids High School' & "Dalkeith" from all the major world continents (except for India?) - go on, please try it at :-

www.stdavidsdalkeith.co.uk

Julian Kettle.

Back To The Future

In days gone by in Scotland Catholic mothers and fathers would bring their children up in the faith and send their children to Catholic schools, where the faith was at the very heart of their education. Woe betide anyone who tried to interfere with that teaching! After all, these were people whose fathers brothers and sons had fought and given their lives in the wars so as they could retain their freedom and God given right to practise the faith as they saw fit.

In Ireland today, a Catholic organisation called The Iona Institute has commissioned a number of surveys (carried out by reputable polling companies) which has examined basic religious knowledge among the Irish population.

It found that among young people in particular, the knowledge was often very lacking.

For example :-

- In the age group 15 to 25 fewer than half knew what the Holy Trinity is.
- A third could not tell you where Jesus was born.
- A third could not tell you what the church celebrates at Easter.
- Only five percent could name the first Commandment.
- Fewer than half could tell you how many Gospels there are.

In the same survey the over 65s knew twice as much as the 15 to 25 year olds.

Although this is Ireland today, we in Scotland are probably no different.

Mr. David Quinn the Director of The Iona Institute tells us the passing on of the faith is the responsibility of the schools, the parents, and the Catholic community, including the Parish.

However he says sometimes schools can fail in the task, sometimes parents, sometimes the local community, and sometimes all three together.

In addition parents can delegate too much responsibility to the school and assume their child is learning the faith there, sometimes they are, but parents ought to take nothing for granted.

In fact parents ought to assume that their children know much less about the Faith than one would think, and they must take on the task of passing on the basics of the faith themselves.

The passing on of the faith to children is a task for all Catholics but first and foremost the Parent or Guardian. They should not over rely on the local Catholic schools, because even if the school is doing its job, a school can only do so much.

Parents absolutely have to reinforce, and if need be supplement what the schools should be doing.

Monsignor Allan has told us time and time again in conversation and from the pulpit, parents, grandparents and carers, the faith begins at home, and it is your responsibility to educate your children in the faith.

He is right, and if parents don't take up their responsibility, then we will find that the knowledge of the very basics of the faith will be as lacking in young people in Scotland, as it is in Ireland, if this has not already happened.

Colm Rudden.

(with special thanks to Mr David Quinn for his participation in this article).

Newbattle Abbey

Discover Newbattle Abbey!

Over the past 18 months, visitors have come from all over Scotland to discover Newbattle Abbey. Group visits have proved to be very successful so Newbattle is now opening its doors for public tours every Sunday from 31 May to 30 August. Guided tours will take place at 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm – tea/ coffee will be provided. So why not come along and hear the enchanting story of Newbattle Abbey College from the 12th century to present day; explore this ancient house and discover the link with Mary Queen of Scots, Knights Templar and the Declaration of Arbroath; learn about its fascinating history... and people buried under its ancient Crypt.

On Sunday 31st May, the Abbey is taking part in Scotland's Garden Scheme. Forestry Commission Scotland rangers will help visitors explore Lord Ancrum's Wood at 2.30 pm and 4.30 pm. Admission charge to

the grounds, to include the woodland walk, is £3. The House is also open for tours at 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm – then relax with a well deserved cuppa! The Old Sun Inn, directly across the road, is also open. The garden there is half an acre of islands and raised beds containing a collection of species, lilies, rock plants and some unusual bulbs. Come along and see what the Newbattle area has to offer.

Newbattle Abbey brings the past to life!

Ever wondered how Salter's Road got its name? In 1526, the Cistercian monks at Newbattle Abbey built a harbour at Prestongrange and began to export coal and wool to Europe. The industrious monks also set up huge salt pans and began to make salt.

To celebrate this piece of heritage, Newbattle Abbey College staff and students in conjunction with local walking groups, are planning to walk from the Abbey to Prestonpans. The walk will start at the College at 10.00 am on Saturday 20th June, with a stop at the Dolphin Inn at Whitecraig – distance 6 kms; then another break at Fisherrow – another 4 kms and Fisherrow to Prestonpans – 6 kms.

The distance is 10 miles in total for those of us who haven't converted to kilometres.

Walkers (some of them dressed as Cistercian monks!) will be greeted at Prestonpans by members of the local community who will be completing the salt making process on the beach.

Gordon, Baron of Prestongrange, is hosting an exhibition reflecting the history of salt, providing a buffet and entertainment.

If you would like more details of Newbattle Abbey, or to take part in this piece of history, then please contact Rae McGhee :-

telephone: 0131 663 1921;

e-mail: raem@newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk.



Gozo Lace

Gozo Lace donated to St. David's Dalkeith

Theresa Calleja, from Gozo Malta, hand crafted and donated lace for the altar tables in St. David's. The lace (see photo.) will be enhancing the linen of the Altar Table, the Tabernacle Altar, and the side tables, thus forming a set from one pattern. Parishioner, Isa Duff, is the person responsible for aligning the lace with the actual linen and completing this work.

Thanks and appreciation go to these women for their time dedication and generosity.



Gozo Lace under British Rule

'The Gozo lace industry had received a good stimulus when Sarah Austin interested Queen Victoria in it. It always remained a cottage industry, and suffered from normal constraints of that organisation, especially the exploitation of the women lace makers. It was also suffering particularly from what was locally described as unfair foreign competition around 1911, the foreign product being sold as Maltese lace both in Malta and London. Still, lace making became and has largely remained a traditional and characteristic occupation of the Gozitan housewife' (Wettinger, G. in Cini, C. (ed) 1990, p. 75) .

Gozo lace consists of a variety of lovely patterns, sometimes very intricate indeed . The lace was used to embellish the robes of priests and of the well-to-do. Nowadays it is a tourist attraction and a flourishing cottage industry

(Mifsud-Chircop, M. in Cini, C. (ed) 1990, p. 192).
Cini, C. ed. (1990) Gozo. The Roots of an Island
Malta: Said International Ltd.

Looking Forward

• **Friday 5th June from 7.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. in the Church Hall St. Matthews, Rosewell.**
St. David's High School Community Celebration.

• **Saturday 20th June 10.00 a.m. - Historic Walk from Newbattle Abbey to Prestonpans.**

• **Friday 10th – 17th July Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.**

Please note that the Access Travel Pilgrimage Leaflet and Application Form can be downloaded from the Lourdes website by clicking on the Lourdes 2009 page.

• **Friday 31st July 6.30 p.m. Mass - Church of the Sacred Heart, Lauriston:**

The Sacred Heart, Lauriston, celebrates 150 years as a parish from 1859 – 2009.

The opening of the year of celebration begins on **Friday 31st July 2009**, with a Solemn Mass in Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston at 6.30 p.m.

• **10th to 15th August Roxy Art House, Edinburgh - Lourdes Play**

A musical play, entitled: 'Vision' which tells the story of St. Bernadette of Lourdes through the eyes of young people in Lourdes today, will be performed in Edinburgh during the time of the Edinburgh International Festival – with the play being performed by the St. Ives Youth Theatre from St. Ives, Cambridgeshire in the Diocese of East Anglia. The highly recommended play will be staged at the Roxy Art House between **10th and 15th August**.

Further details can be seen by visiting:

www.siyt.co.uk and www.visionthemusical.co.uk

or by contacting Jonathan Salt, the Managing

Director at: 01480 493004 or 07939 213 77

or via www.ojemba.com

• **Sunday 11th October - Canonisation of Foundress of Little Sisters**

The foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor , **Blessed Jeanne Jugan** will be canonised in Rome by **Pope Benedict XVI on Sunday 11th October** and will be followed by a Thanksgiving Mass in the Basilica of St. Mary Major on **Monday 12th October**.

This is our 6th Parish Magazine and we hope you have enjoyed it.

If you have any ideas for the Magazine, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please pass your feedback and ideas for the next edition, to Isa, Winifred, Brian or Julian.

If you are interested in being a Sponsor for our next Parish Magazine, please contact Brian on 663-0556.

Children's Page

Excerpts taken from "There's a Train Going by My Window - An Animal Adventure!"
A book written and illustrated by the pupils in St. David's Primary 2 / 3.
Inspired and in the style of "There's a Train Going by My Window"
written by Wendy Kesselman and illustrated by Tony Chen.



Then out to Spain
Chucka-choo, Chucka-chalk.
I'll dance with a mouse in his house.
I'll party until it's 12 o'clock.



When we reach the cold woods
Chucka-choo chucka-cholf
I'll go walking and camping
I'll eat meat with a wolf.



When we arrive in China
Chucka-coo, chucka-chimming
I'll sleep with a panda
Until I dream about swimming.



The train goes past the ocean
Chucka-coo chucka-chases
I'll go swimming with a whale
We'll do lots of races.

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