



# NOVEMBER NEWS

Newsletter of Holy Trinity Dunoon & St Martin's Tighnabruaich

Scottish Charities Number  
SC008066

Scottish Episcopal Church

www.holytrinitydunoon.co.uk

## Rector's Letter



Dear friends

As we learned this month of the election of a new bishop for Argyll and The Isles, we can now enjoy the sense of excitement in the diocese as we all anticipate a time of new beginnings. The arrival of Bishop Kevin, as he will be, hopefully sometime early in the New Year, will be chance for us to get to him and for him to learn about us. We will all have our priorities, preferences and opinions about what it means to be 'church' in

this beautiful corner of God's creation. I am sure it will be an enjoyable and creative process to welcome and share with Kevin.

We are also moving towards the end of our church year (the business year having ended last month). Richard, our out-going treasurer, has prepared the accounts and has encouraged us to think about the future. It has been a challenging year, with all the business of a year-long vacancy, major renovation work in the Rectory and even more major renovation work needed in Holy Trinity. The year is ending well, with the vacancy ended, the Rectory restored and the essential work on the Holy Trinity fabric going ahead.

But as we look ahead to

Advent and Christmas we are all made conscious of the challenges that still face us as a church, spiritually and practically. We will have to pull together, support each other and grow as a church to meet those challenges.

Over the next while we will be thinking about our worship: how can we make the experience of joining our worshipping communities even better? How can we attract people of all ages to join us again and again as we celebrate the mystery of God's love for us? We will also be thinking about our growth as disciples: how we pray, how we study scripture, how we can grow our faith and dependence on God. And, of course, we will be thinking about practical issues:

we need to increase our regular income to pay for the ministry and mission of Holy Trinity and St Martin's, we need to raise grants and funds for ongoing fabric work, we need to work together on all the many practical tasks that keep churches functioning well. As individual congregations, and as part of a linked charge, there is much to think about.

We face a challenging year next year, even as we end this year well. Please keep the life of our churches in your prayers, and join in as we reflect on our worship, discipleship and practical life.

Bless you

## From the Editor

Many thanks to Maureen for all her hard work putting together the previous editions of 'the newsletter' - definitely not an easy act to follow!

You will notice some changes this month and over the next few editions as I 'experiment' with the format & content of the magazine - let me

know what you think!

The biggest change is that we need a new name - the newsletter covers both Holy Trinity & St Martin's, Tighnabruaich so 'Holy Trinity News' is no longer appropriate - I am therefore launching a competition to rename our mag. (I will even provide a prize for the winner). Should it

be 'The Cowal Clarion' or 'Piskie Ponderings'... I am sure you can do better - answers on a postcard as they say....(by the 21st of November).

I look forward to hearing all your thoughts & suggestions.

## Inside this issue:

Meet Val Taylor	2
Christmas Fair	3
Kingdom Season	4
Advent Course	4
Obituary Bet Andrew	5
Ordination on Iona	6
Oberammergau Visit	8

## Meet Val Taylor



Val with her stepson Michael who is a paramedic in the RAF, Michael is currently serving on his fourth tour in Afghanistan.

### When did you first come to Holy Trinity?

I moved to Dunoon from Scarborough in 1986 with my family. We bought a beautiful villa in Hunters Quay with spectacular views of the Clyde and the Holy Loch. Having come from a typically English village the changing scenery of Dunoon was breathtaking. I had been a member of the Church of England all of my life so on moving to Dunoon I came along to a service at Holy Trinity with my children and have been coming ever since.

### Tell us a little about where you were before and what brought you to Dunoon

During my early life I was born and raised in the rural Northumbrian village of Humshaugh where I regularly attended services at St Peter's Church where I was baptized, attended Sunday School and was confirmed. While nursing in Edinburgh I met my first husband and we were married in St Peter's before we moved to the USA, my husband had been offered a job in North Carolina. Following our time in the US we moved back to Scarborough, residing in Scalby Village where I was a member of the congregation at St Lawrence's Church. My eldest Hamish was baptized in Humshaugh but my two daughters Katie & Lucy

were baptized in Scalby. My children were aged 8, 10 and 13 when my husband's work brought us to Dunoon. We came here because of strong family connections; we had been holidaying in Dunoon twice a year at Easter and Cowal Games since the children were born.

### Apart from Church, how do you spend your time? What are you passionate about?

I retired from a very fulfilling career in District Nursing in 2009 and now work part time with Interlock Transport and volunteer weekly in the local Red Cross Charity shop. I enjoy being an active member of the community. I am passionate about my family, I am extremely proud of all of my children and step children and my first grandson Thomas was born in 2009. I enjoy listening to various types of music, reading and travel and I love my garden.

### What do you like about Holy Trinity?

Holy Trinity is a very spiritual place, I love the peace and tranquility of the location and its position high on the hill above Dunoon. The congregation is very friendly and welcoming and I enjoy the beautiful music and good singing. Holy Trinity is a special

place because it is where my two daughters were confirmed and married and where I was married to my second husband Alan.

### What do you do (or have you done) around Holy Trinity? What do you enjoy about it?

I have been a member of the vestry, my youngest daughter Lucy was a server when Colin Wheatly was Rector. Both Katie and Lucy as teenagers used to be bell ringers...in the days when the tower was safe to go up!! I have been a Reader and have enjoyed reading the lesson on many occasions. I am on the Cleaning Rota and regularly clean the Church with the help of my husband Alan. We both enjoy our cleaning duties in such a beautiful church.

### What is your favourite hymn and why?

I cannot possibly pick one favourite hymn as I have so many and enjoy singing hymns very much. The hymn which reminds me of my happy childhood is 'The Church's One Foundation' which I just love. Another favourite which I had when I married Alan is 'Love's Divine All Love's Excelling'. The words of 'Be Thou My Vision' really move me and 'Be Still for the Presence of the Lord' which my daughter Lucy chose for her wedding also holds a special place in my heart.

## Cooking Up a Stir



Holy Trinity is in the process of putting together a recipe book. But we can't do it without your tried and tested culinary specialities!

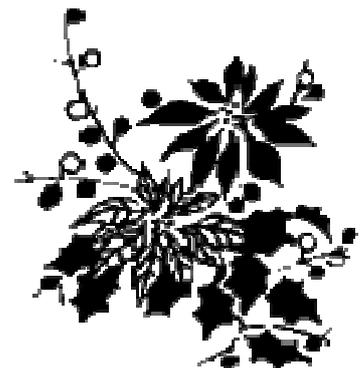
Sharon Barnard would love to receive copies of

your favourite recipes. Either fill out one of the forms which will be appearing in church shortly or email the recipes directly to her at:

[Heavenlycelt@aol.com](mailto:Heavenlycelt@aol.com)

## Christmas Flowers

If you would like to make a donation towards the Christmas Flowers in Holy Trinity please put it in the flower box by the church door or see Ann Naraway. Thank you.



## Holy Trinity Christmas Fair

**Hanover Street Hall, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

The next fundraising event is our Christmas Fair in Hanover Street Hall during the morning of Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November. There will be a variety of stalls and activities and coffee, tea and home baking will be served.

The Team is asking everyone to help with donations for tombola prizes and for goodies to be served with the teas and coffees. We have tried to limit the number of donations to be

sought from our own congregation. This will be achieved by offering stalls to non congregational members in return for a donation to our funds.

Stalls already include Christmas crafts, candles, jewellery, Avon, Gallimaufry; there will be tombola for all and a bran tub for children – as well as much more!

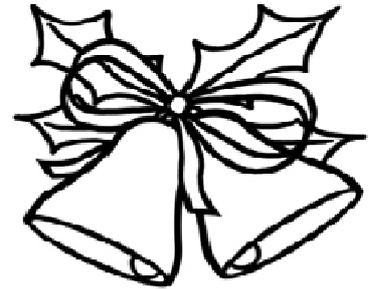
We will need a wide selection of prizes for the tombola which may include gift vouchers, paintings, games equipment or more traditional prizes such as

toiletries, canned goods or bottles of wine.

If you are a baker, donations of scones, pancakes, tray bakes and small cakes will be needed for the “kitchen”.

If you have any questions, would like to volunteer or have any idea for a stall please contact any member of the Events Team i.e. Mary, Jennifer, Ann, Susan or Pauline.

**Tickets are on sale now - £1.50 (includes tea /**



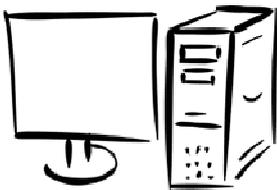
**coffee & home baking) - So get yours asap!**

Stalls co-ordinator :  
Jennifer Woodward  
707505

Refreshments

Co-ordinator :  
Pauline Revill 704731

## Easyfundraising



If you are doing your Christmas shopping online - are you using our Easyfundraising site to do it?

Easyfundraising provide a FREE service where you

can shop with your favourite online stores and at no extra cost raise funds Holy Trinity. You still shop directly with each retailer as you would normally, but simply by using the links from the Easyfundraising website first, each purchase you make will generate a *cashback donation* to Holy Trinity.

For example, spend £25 with WH Smith and 3.5%

will be donated. You will have raised £0.88, at no extra cost to your purchase. Make any purchase from Amazon and 2.5% will be donated. Insure your car with Direct Line and raise £35.00, and so on. You can shop with 2000+ Brand Name retailers and to raise funds you just use the links from the Easyfundraising website first - it's that simple!

**If you ALREADY shop online, why not help Holy Trinity at no extra cost from purchases you would make any way - & encourage your friends & family to do so to!**

The web site is [www.easyfundraising.org](http://www.easyfundraising.org) for more information contact: Susan Watling (701037)

## From the Organ Bench

With Singing and Sizzlers behind us and the Russians on our doorstep, it's time to look forward to the bright glow at the heart of winter that is our celebration of Advent and Christmas.

On the afternoon of the fourth Sunday in Advent (December 19 at 3.00pm), there will be a service of carols and readings. This

year we'll be joined by 8+1 who will have a “spot” but the bulk of the carols will be for all to sing, so please do come (and bring a friend).

John McIntosh



## Coffee & Cakes....

St Martin's, Tighnabruaich are holding a charity coffee morning on Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2011 in Kyles Parish Church Hall, Kames.

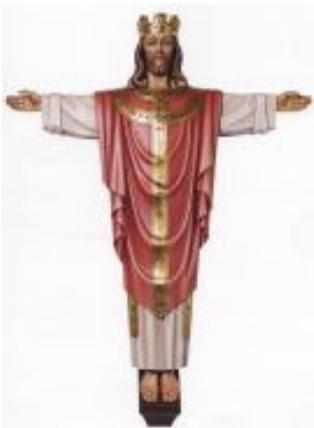
Can you help with baking or even better have a trip over and join them for the morning? More details next month or from Andrew (702444).



## Kingdom Season

### The Kingdom of God

November is a time of the year that is sometimes referred to as the 'Kingdom' season. The Sundays before Advent, ending with Christ the King, are the final few weeks of the liturgical year, so it is quite reasonable to think about what lies at the end of God's plans for his creation: when the kingdom of God comes to bring justice, peace and mercy to all. Red vestments are sometimes used in this period, rich colour to enjoy before the penitential purple of Advent.



The feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the church year, is the time when we think of Jesus Christ glorified, set at God's right hand, dressed in a rich robe and ruling with all of God's power. This is an image from the Old Testament, with Daniel's vision of the 'Son of Man' appointed by God to rule in the end times. It is also an image from the book of Revelation, with the sacrificial lamb glorified as a ruler over the world.

In the modern day the concepts of 'kingdom' and 'royalty' have become muddled with the reform of society into other forms of government. A king or queen of this country may be the head of state, but they probably have more impact on our lives because we see them on every postage stamp rather than through some sort of absolute power that they might have over us. A constitutional monarchy is not the model of kingship that we are offered in the kingdom season.

A king, until relatively recent times, was a divinely appointed, essentially omnipotent figure, with the power of life and death over their subjects. We see, in the Old Testament first book of Samuel (1 Samuel 8), when the people of Israel ask God for a king, 'such as all the other nations have', God warns them that a king will enslave their children, demand military and domestic service, take a share of their property and have virtually unlimited power over them. But the people wanted a king, so God gave them Saul, anointed, crowned and powerful.

With only a few exceptions, it all seems to go downhill from there.

For us, as we enter the kingdom season, we can hold on to the contrasts that Christ as King offers. The image of Jesus raised up in glory, robed in royal purple, crowned with power, is balanced by Jesus raised up on the wood of the cross, the mockers' purple robe

roughly pulled from his body, his head piercingly crowned with thorns. The kingdom season is about God in divine power, and also God in human vulnerability.

And when will this be, this kingdom that the early Christians waited for with such expectation? We are told many answers: the kingdom of God is near at hand; the kingdom of God is among you; but most often, the kingdom of God is like...

The kingdom of God is when justice defeats injustice. It is when peace defeats violence and war. It is when God's love and mercy are felt by all humanity, instead of hate, rejection and sorrow.

The kingdom of God is humanity lovingly restored to God's perfect image.

## Advent and Epiphany Course 2010 -The Echo of God

'Joy is the echo of God's life in us'

This is a five week course celebrating the joy of knowing God's love and encounter with us. Each week a passage of scripture that expresses joy or delight will be explored using 'Lectio Divina', an ancient monastic tradition.

The course is based on 'The Echo of God' by David Adam (Kevin

Mayhew publishers). There is no need to buy the book to take part in the sessions, which will include reading, prayer, reflection and silence.

Andrew will lead two identical one hour sessions each week, in the Rectory:

Monday evenings at 7.30pm: (29th Nov. 6th, 13th, 20th Dec. & 3rd Jan.)

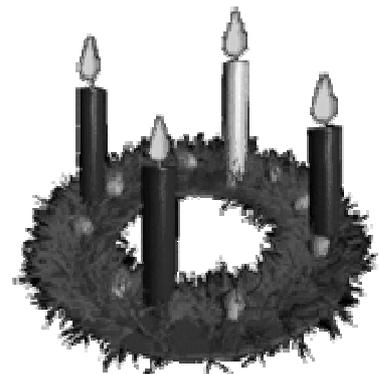
Thursday afternoons at 4pm: (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd

Dec. & 6th Jan.)

Each session will last for one hour. Please come to as many or as few sessions as you would like.

Details of sessions in Tighnabruaich will be available soon.

For further information contact Andrew (01369-702444).



## Obituary Elizabeth Andrew 1931 - 2010

Bet was from Paisley, the youngest of four children: Peter, Jean, brother Kay and herself. Bet's father was the headmaster of an approved school in Paisley called the Kibble. She always had a clear vision about life and what she wanted to do. She even went as an au pair to France against her parents' wishes, but who nevertheless made her complete the year.

She trained as a teacher at Jordanhill, then she married veterinary surgeon Hubert Andrew in Paisley Abbey. Hubert was a Glenalmond educated Episcopalian; Bet also became one once she married. She became an expert cook even acquiring really sophisticated Cordon Bleu recipes. She had a reputation for being lavish in her hospitality. Bet was also a strong supporter of Scottish Opera and loved to attend the

opera, often sitting alone to enjoy the performance.

Hubert was always a keen sailor either on his own yachts or dinghies or on larger classical Clyde-built cruisers. Bet would sometimes accompany as cook or crew on the Solent, in Ireland or on the west coast of Scotland. Much of her sailing activity was curtailed by the arrival of their son, Hugh.

Bet was very involved in the communities in which they lived. For some years while Hubert still had the large vet practice in Canal Street, Paisley, Bet was the president of the Paisley Flower Club. They were also active in the local archaeology society and rhododendron society in Cowal. She loved Argyll - Colintraive, where they had their house since the late 1960s, was a very important place for family. The Andrew family got to



know the community there, participating in regattas, barbecues and all the lively activity in that beautiful part of the world. After Hubert's retirement, he and Bet came to live at Stroneailne.

Bet also suffered from illness. Her MS, which affected her for so many years of her life, was a heavy burden for her and for her family. She was a strong, fine person, whose life touched so many people, family and friends over the years.

## From the Counting House

I had an interesting trip to see Yaro in Burkina Faso. He sends his love to everyone.

Very busy time as it is Annual Accounts time. A scramble through all last year's transactions to make sure I understand them???!!!, and that they are in the right place in the accounts. Easier said than done! We now seem to have so many "Funds" and each requires a slightly different treatment. However I trundled a "Wheeliecase" load of books and documents to the auditors.

I know I go on about this but we do have to consider the position of our giving for the general working of the Church. Our regular monthly giving and other income does not balance our costs - we are starting next year with a deficit budget. Please review your giving and help us if you can .

As you will know I have decided that I am too old to continue as your Treasurer. I am forgetting too much and misunderstanding that which I don't forget.( Thank goodness for Spellchecker). I think the essentials for the job are knowledge of "excel" a sense of humour and a bit of time. I spend about a couple of days a month on it, in a normal no problem month. I will still be around to help confuse the new "Mr, Mrs or Miss Mean".

Richard McGilvray

## Prayer Corner

### Answer to prayer:

Twice I asked for Tony and Elé to be prayed for in Holy Trinity. Tony had developed a very aggressive cancer in his face and lung in February. After radiotherapy and a course of chemotherapy, with delays caused by problems with his blood, Tony had a full body scan and a specialised one of his lungs. He went back

to the oncologist, expecting to have to undergo more chemotherapy, only to be told that the scan showed no cancer at all in

any part of his body. So he asked that people who had prayed for them be thanked.

Morag Fowler



This month please pray for:

Dean Kevin Pearson and his wife Elspeth

Stella, Neil and Ruth



“Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.”

## Ordination in Iona by Alison Clark

As most readers will know, the Rev Joyce Watson was ordained priest on 11th September on Iona. Folk will remember that Holy Trinity and St Paul's hosted a placement for her in 2008.

I had the great joy of attending, as diocesan adviser and friend, what was an extraordinary celebration. Joyce was warden of Bishop's House in the 1980s and after nearly 30 years we met up again when she was a TISEC student. It's been such a joy to accompany her on this journey.

Bishop Mark designed a peripatetic service which reflected Joyce's strong ecumenical involvement on the island. The Ministry of the Word took place in the Church of Scotland, the

ordination itself in the abbey and the Eucharist in the chapel of Bishop's House. The phrase 'standing room only' was literally true - the seats had been removed to accommodate the crowd of friends and neighbours from near and far.

The 'informal' procession was led from venue to venue by a piper, to the fascination of the tourists. It was as +Mark reminded us, a mission opportunity.

The previous night had been wild, wet and windy and we woke to huge puddles. I carried an anorak - O ye of little faith - but the sun shone for exactly three hours, two for the services and peregrinations, and one for the bun fight which overflowed into the gar-

den. The small marquee erected for the purpose had stayed upright owing to the wisdom of rolling up the sides overnight to allow the wind to blow through it! (Every day's a school day.)

Joyce made her permanent home on the island some time ago and so is well known and trusted in the community so her commissioning as 'resident priest' on Iona is an endorsement and a continuation of the quiet prayerful ministry she has been exercising. She will work closely with the warden of Bishop's House. I'm sure she won't mind my saying that we are blessed to have her there, guarding - and indeed fanning - the flame of our spiritual heritage.

## Events Report

### An Italian Evening

By Ann Narraway



On the 25th September, a select few of Holy T family and friends gathered for a very special event - Jennifer and James Woodward's Italian Night. The meal was splendid with choices in both starter and main course, with minestrone soup also provided. Desert was tiramisu (to die for!) Plus a slab of homemade tutti-frutti gelato. Coffee and liqueurs followed. We had a wonderful meal and great con-

versation too. Many thanks to Jennifer and James who gave us such a lovely evening and also made £178 for the appeal coffer.

Ehm..... when's the next one?

### Singing & Sizzlers

By Di Tennent

If there's one way to entice us at Holy T to an event it's the promise of food. John's singing workshops are always worth attending, but not too many people used to know that - the prospect of hard pews and a chilly church has often failed to entice us off our sofas of an evening. How-

ever, add in the sizzle factor and we turn up in our droves! What's more, an equal number of men and women turned up, which added a wonderful weight to the sound we made.

John led a most enjoyable workshop, concentrating on singing technique as well as new music. We learned a variety of music: a bit more of the Kilbride Mass, a new hymn and an African 'Amen', after which we moved to the sanctuary

and the choir stalls to do a 'performance'. The fact that John had a smile on his face at the end says it all.

Meanwhile, much sizzling had been going on in the rectory, coordinated by Ivor and Mary, and the hungry singers were rewarded by a splendid variety of sausages and salads. There was laughter, chatter and a good deal of munching for the rest of the evening.

Hearty thanks to John, Mary and Ivor, not forgetting all the singers who turned up and sang and the salad-makers and apprentice sizzlers who put on such a splendid feast.



## Lay Training - Christian Studies Course

The next module of the Christian Studies course, 'God's World', will begin in January. This lay learning opportunity is offered through TISEC's partnership with York St John University and so we need to register participants by the end of November. You can register for credits or simply to be part of the learning group (to 'audit' the course). The folk who

signed up to do the assignments on the first module found it very rewarding. They're all coming back for more!

You do NOT need to have completed any previous module in order to join in.

Sessions are a mix of face-to-face meetings, phone conferencing and online discussion. As yet, there are no

dates in the diary but we need to know who is interested so that we can begin the enrolment process.

Here are the topic headings for 'God's World'

- God, the universe and creation
- Acts of God: providence and miracles
- The challenge of science to religion

- Suffering, sin and freedom
- Human destiny: life after death and eschatology

Please get in touch with:

Maureen McKellar on: 01369 703058

[MPMcKellar@aol.com](mailto:MPMcKellar@aol.com)

or Alison Clark on: 01700 500489

[alison@wordsinaction.net](mailto:alison@wordsinaction.net)

## Between the Lines

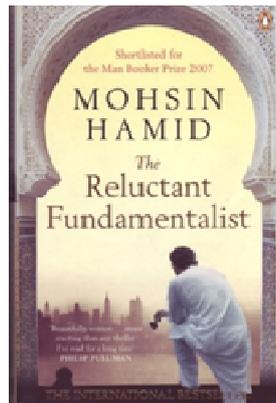
### Book Groups Choice

#### The Reluctant Fundamentalist

By Mohsin Hamid

(Penguin Books, 2008  
ISBN 978-0-141-02954-2)

This teasing title carries the reader along, questioning, through a book which does not appear to be going anywhere, yet which captivates interest. It takes the form of a monologue, delivered to a chance and sometimes



reluctant cafe companion. Character change comes slowly, almost imperceptibly, and keeps the reader

wondering if the title is appropriate. If it is, the book maps a disturbing journey, which could be taken by others, equally unexpectedly.

Morag Fowler

Book group enjoyed the read – it stimulated a lively discussion around 9/11 & its impact on world politics since. The book is full of allegories & metaphors, just who are the fundamentalists & how does it all end? What do you think – borrow a copy from one of us & find out!

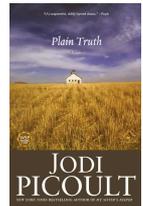
Mary Swift

### Book Group is now reading:

#### Plain Truth

by Jodi Picoult

Hodder ,  
(2008)  
ISBN 978-0340960493)



Discuss it on Wednesday 1st December in Seasons Cafe, 7 to 9pm .

All welcome

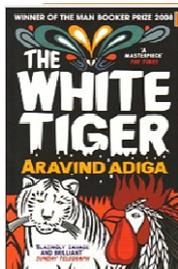
More details from Di Tennent (840779)

## Readers Recommendation By Christine McIntosh

### The White Tiger

By Aravind Adiga

Atlantic Books (2009)  
ISBN 978-1843547228



Aravind Adiga's first novel, this gives an insight into the world that was hinted at during the run-up to the Commonwealth Games in India - a world where the 21st century sits uneasily close to the India we don't really understand.

Just as the hero, Balram Halwai, realises that he is bright enough to go to college his family take him out of school in the village and send him to work in a tea-

shop. From that village, he ends up in Delhi, where the new India rubs shoulders with the old, where the people from The Darkness of poor, backward India are shunned by the people from the Light, the Microsoft workers and call-centre operatives.

Through this experience, we see how Balram becomes the 'White Tiger', A Thinking Man and an entrepreneur. He is also, a

wanted man - and as the story unfolds, we find out why.

However interesting that progress from clever schoolboy to wanted man might be, it is India that is the star of this novel.

I may have finished reading the book, but it's haunting me still.

Read Christine's full review : [www.blethers.blogspot.com](http://www.blethers.blogspot.com)

## Glimpses of Oberammergau By Dinkie McEwan

At 5am on Monday 30th August twenty two folk from Dunoon boarded the coach for Edinburgh Airport en route to Austria and the Oberammergau Passion Play in Bavaria. We met up with the Rev Jim Watson and other members of the group from Coldstream at the Airport and boarded the Ryanair flight to Memmingen a small airport on the outskirts of Munich and then on by coach to Maria Alm a small village in Austria.

We received a warm Austrian welcome when we arrived at the Almerwirt Hotel - the oldest hotel in the village- where we would spend the first 5 days of our holiday.

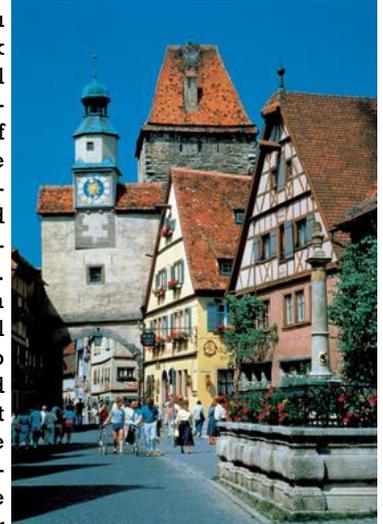
As you can see (below) Maria Alm is a typically Austrian village, beautiful wooden houses with carved balconies and some with wall paintings. The village is enclosed with the snow capped alps. It was a bit alarming to see a small covering of snow when we woke on Tuesday morning , the rain washed it away and when the mist cleared the mountains we could see the splendour of

the alps. After breakfast we set out for Salzburg where we had an enjoyable walk around the city and then attended an organ recital by Jacek Skora in St Blasius Church. Back in Maria Alm we were invited to a concert in the evening at village hall. The village folk put on a show of Austrian song and music, the men were attired in the traditional Tyrolean hats and lederhosen with the women in dresses with dirndl skirts and aprons. On Wednesday morning we had a guided tour of Kitzbuhel which still retains its old town, very picturesque, carrying on the Austrian tradition of building and dress. After the tour we had a welcome coffee, kuchen and brandy all for 4 .5 Euros! Then on we went for a lovely sail on the lake at Zell am See to get a better view of the Alps and glaciers.

Thursday we had a more relaxed day in Maria Alm with a guided tour around the village. The village church is Roman Catholic, decorated in the Baroque style, and set surrounded by graves of the local families. Some found the decoration within the church

too ornate but when you consider that the work had been done by local craftsmen and the marble pillars were of wood painted in marble effect you have to appreciate the skill and dedication of the people to their church. Next to the church is a small memorial chapel to the villagers who died in the 1st and 2nd World Wars. Against each name is a picture and age of the serviceman. Reading the names, looking at their pictures and ages made me aware of how proud these young men looked going out to give their lives and how many families in this small village lost sons and fathers. Like my own town generations of young people were lost for what?

In the afternoon we had a trip in the gondola up into the Alps and woods to walk and have a picnic lunch. The scenery was breath taking and although no doubt it would be more spectacular in winter with snow, I was quite happy looking at the distant snow caps in the sunshine. Back in the hotel we prepared for another trip to Salzburg for dinner and Mozart concert. Five musicians played stringed instruments to accompany the tenor and soprano who sang arias from Don Giovanni, the Marriage of Figaro and the Magic Flute. Each course of the dinner was served between performances. It was a most enjoyable evening. The home made Schnapps from our coach driver helped pass the time on the journey to and from



Salzburg.

Our last excursion in Austria was to "The Eagle's Nest" at Berchtesgaden. A building created by Martin Bormann and presented on behalf of the National Socialist Party to Adolph Hitler. The building has been preserved and turned into a restaurant under the administration of Berchtesgaden-Konigsee tourist Office. The road up to the building is very steep and torturous - at the top you have to enter a tunnel to get to a lift which takes you up to the building. The views on a clear day must be spectacular but on our trip the valley and mountain tops were covered in white mist and we only glimpsed the tops of the peaks when the swathes of mist moved from time to time. A corridor of photographs gives views of the construction and of visits by Hitler and Eva Braun. After coming down we drove on to Konigsee for a wander round this lovely village.

Early on Saturday morning we set off from Maria Alm to Oberammergau to attend the passion play on



Sunday. It was sad to leave this Austrian village for our long journey across to Oberammergau in Bavaria. We stopped for lunch at a motorway restaurant –not MacDonald's! We did pass the ubiquitous MacDonald's along the motorways but it was good to see that Austrians have maintained their own style of eating cafes and restaurants and small shops. Supermarkets and Euro shops are in larger towns. On arrival at Oberammergau our coach had to enter through a barrier at a large coach park to gain entry to the town and drop us off at our hotel.

Oberammergau was a much larger town than Maria Alm and did not have the picturesque quality. Our hotel was very close to the town centre and about 5 minutes walk to the theatre where the play was to be held. The history of the Passion Play dates back to 1633 when during the Thirty Years' War many villagers died through plague. The villagers vowed that they would perform a play of the Passion of Jesus Christ every 10 years and from that day it is said no deaths from Plague occurred. Since 1634 the play has been performed every 10 years with almost no interruption. All the village

families are involved in performance of the play. The population is about 5000 and 2400 take part in the play. The script of the play although based on the four gospels has changed over the years. In 1934 the performance was thought to be anti-Semitic although it was endorsed by the Nazis. Over the years changes have been made in the roles of Jewish priests, Pilot and the Disciples. A new script has been written this year with emphasis the message which brought Jesus into conflict with the world, the dominance of Rome, the social injustices, oppression and exploitation of the people. The play shows links with Old Testament and the Jesus that affirmed His faith in God, his father, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

On Sunday morning some of us attended the Communion service at the Lutheran church near to the theatre. The service was delivered in both German and English, and the liturgy was very similar to the Episcopal liturgy, except that you sat for hymns and stood for prayers, which was a wee bit confusing! The hymns were similar to our own but the music was very lively. After lunch we made our way to the theatre for the first



part of the performance which started at 2pm. The theatre does not look spectacular from the outside it is circular with several entrances around it. We were in section A which was near the stage. Inside the covered auditorium is seating for about 4700 people with the open air stage in front. Blankets are given out as you go in and some had cushions although the seats were covered. The performance opens with the choir lined up along the breadth of the stage, the singing and music is memorable throughout the Play -it is difficult to realise that these performers' singers and musicians are all villagers and largely amateurs.

Throughout the performance each stage of the Passion is preceded by tableaux depicting different Old Testament texts which link to the Jewish history and the coming of the Messiah. The doors in the centre section of the stage open to display the tableaux and form the inner part of the Temple and the Tomb as the play progresses. The first half of the play enacts Christ's entry to Jerusalem and his clearing of the temple. The disciples relationships and attitude to Christ actions are explored. In his role Judas tries to reason with Christ and warn him of the impending danger but to no avail. At 5pm the first

part ends and there is a break until 8pm to allow time for meals. The second half includes the Passover meal, the betrayal by Judas, the trial, crucifixion and resurrection. As the play progresses the silence in the auditorium becomes greater, you can hear the horrified intake of breath as the nails are hammered in at the crucifixion. Scenes during the crucifixion cause many of us to turn our heads or shut our eyes. The faces of the crowds on the stage reflect some of the horror and grief while others show curiosity and disbelief. As the thieves are taken down in a brutal cavalier way the crowds silently disperse. Christ is lowered down by his winding sheet and carried gently to his tomb. The play ends with the three women going to the tomb the next morning and the Angel telling them he is not here, he is risen. The cast silently leave the stage. The audience look at an empty stage and don't know what to do so they applaud and then go home.

The villagers of Oberammergau have given us something to think about and look at with awe, each person will view it with different emotions but I hope it was more than just a performance for everyone.



## Services

### Holy Trinity, Dunoon

Sundays : 10.30am Sung Eucharist

Nb. On 2nd & 5th Sundays in the month at this service communion may be from the Reserved Sacrament

Thursdays: 5.15pm Holy Communion

### St Martin's, Tighnabruaich

1st & 3rd Sundays : 3pm Eucharist  
In Kyles Parish Church, Kames

## Church Contact Points

Rector	Rev Andrew Swift (702444)
People's Warden	Mac McLean (705497)
Rector's Warden	Pauline Revill (704731)
Lay Representative	Ann Narraway (830400)
Vestry Secretary	Maureen McKellar (703058)
Vestry Treasurer	Richard McGilvray (830116)
Organist	John McIntosh (703304)

## Sunday Readings

<b>7 Nov</b>	<b>3rd Before Advent</b> Job 19.23-27a 2 Thessalonians 2.1-5, 13- end Luke 20.27-38
<b>14 Nov</b>	<b>Remembrance</b> Malachi 4.1-2a 2 Thessalonians 3.6-13 Luke 21.5-19
<b>21 Nov</b>	<b>Christ the King</b> Jeremiah 23.1-6 Colossians 1.11-20 Luke 23.33-43
<b>28 Nov</b>	<b>Advent Sunday</b> Isaiah 2.1-5 Romans 13.11-14 Matthew 24.36-44

## Notable Dates

Tues 2 Nov	5.30pm All Souls Eucharist, Holy Trinity
Thurs 4 Nov	7.30pm Russian Choir Concert at Holy Trinity ( <i>please note no 5.15pm service</i> )
Sat 20 Nov	Holy Trinity Christmas Fair. 10am to 12noon, Hanover Street Hall
Sun 21 Nov	9.30am, Tighnabruaich, Rev Andrew Swift will lead Kyles Parish Church Morning Service, followed after coffee by short, said Eucharist
Wed 24 Nov	Vestry Meeting <b>7.30pm (NB time)</b>
Mon 29 Nov	7.30pm Advent & Epiphany Course at The Rectory - Session 1
Wed 1 Dec	7pm - Book Group, Seasons Cafe
Thurs 2 Dec	4pm Advent & Epiphany Course at The Rectory - Session 1
Sun 5 Dec	10.30am - Sung Eucharist, Holy Trinity followed by <b>Annual Meeting for Holy Trinity &amp; St Martin's</b>
Mon 6 Dec	7.30pm Advent & Epiphany Course at The Rectory - Session 2
Thurs 9 Dec	4pm Advent & Epiphany Course at The Rectory - Session 2
Mon 13 Dec	7.30pm Advent & Epiphany Course at The Rectory - Session 3
Thurs 16 Dec	4pm Advent & Epiphany Course at The Rectory - Session 3
Sun 19 Dec	3pm Advent Carols at Holy Trinity
Mon 20 Dec	7.30pm Advent & Epiphany Course at The Rectory - Session 4
Thurs 23 Dec	4pm Advent & Epiphany Course at The Rectory - Session 4
Fri 24 Dec	11.30pm Midnight Mass (Incense), Holy Trinity
Sat 25 Dec	10.30am Eucharist for Christmas Day, Holy Trinity  3pm Eucharist for Christmas Day, Tighnabruaich



*Ted, while I appreciate your skill in woodcarving, and I appreciate the anatomical detail you have produced, but it was a ROOD screen we wanted, not a RUDE screen!*

Please send any articles or views to the Editor, Mary Swift by email to: [mary@familyswift.org.uk](mailto:mary@familyswift.org.uk) or by post to: The Rectory, 55 Kilbride Road, Dunoon PA23 7LN

**Please note the deadline for submission of articles for the December magazine is Sunday 21st of November.**