

# CANONBIE CHRONICLES

Edition 5

News from Canonbie United Parish Church

Summer 2010

[www.canonbiechurch.org.uk](http://www.canonbiechurch.org.uk)

We shall be celebrating

## *Communion*

on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2010, 11:30am

All Welcome.

Please join us

### QUIET SPACE

Our Church is open for quiet prayer and reflection every Tuesday from 10:30am to 12 noon.

The Minister, Revd. Steve Fulcher, will be in attendance for private conversations if required.

Tea and coffee will be available.

The church key is available at other times from Kirklands (the Old Manse, next to the church).

### CAFÉ CANONBIE

Before and after worship

Following the success of the pilot we ran throughout February, we have decided to continue opening the church from 10:45am before the service on Sunday mornings.

Tea & coffee

Meet friends

## Canonbie Vibe

is a **Saturday Night Drop-In** for teenagers, 7-9pm.

With Dan & Joe. Canonbie Church  
5 & 12 June

Games, Youth Café, somewhere to meet.

### Events for the Diary.....

- May 29 Canonbie School Fair 2pm  
30 Baptism of Leo Van Belzen  
June 5 Wedding of Tracy White and Richard Fisher  
6 Holy Communion  
13 New Members confirmation service  
30 Elders meeting at the Manse  
July 18 Strawberry Teas at the Manse 2.30 – 4.30  
Aug 2-6 Kidz Games  
23 Congregational Board  
31 Kirk Session

### ***Are you interested in ancestral and local history?***

#### ***Yes....then read on!***

The church receives numerous enquiries every year from people tracing their own family history or those of people long gone from the Canonbie area. Their interest usually focuses on baptismal and wedding records which until quite recently were kept in the church. These have now been passed to the Scottish Records Office where they will be made available to a wider audience on the internet. Records of some of the positions of graves in the cemetery are held by the Council.

We would like to hear from you if you would like to be involved in helping out with these enquires. Interested? Then please speak to the Editor.

As a taster, see the box to the right.....

### **Do you know of anyone who has researched the Scoon family of Canonbie c.1800?**

Margaret Scoon married James Birkett in 1816 in Canonbie (that was before our church was built!). They had 10 children and later moved to County Durham.

Margaret is an ancestor of Sharon Young, Illinois, USA.

If you have any information then please contact Beverley Hyslop. Tel. 71370.

## Letter from the Minister

The Manse  
Newcastleton

Dear Friends,

Do you ever feel like giving up? Someone with depression once confided "I have been down for so long, I no longer believe God will help me. I have given up"

"You cannot justify giving up" their friend replied," because God is on your side. He does not give up on you; He has promised never to leave you nor forsake you, so do not be discouraged."(Ecc.31:8)

Secondly, remember God is faithful. When you find it hard to believe, focus not on your lack of faith, but on God's faithfulness(2Tim 2:13).

Thirdly, God does not owe us an explanation, so do not look for one! (See 1 Cor 10:13), but He promises an end, and until we get there, He will get us through.

Fourthly, He produces good in all circumstances (Romans8:28). I recently read of a Minister in a large, growing, wildly successful church. He could not understand why the exciting growth stopped when he prayed for more; eventually he realised he was glorifying himself, and not God. Only when he learned humility did God answer his prayer! But the final outcome was good.

We sometimes feel down, confused. We often speak to people who have lost hope. Remember we serve a God who loves us, and wants the best for us; trust Him.

With every blessing,

Steve

Our Kirk Session has recently agreed to:  
**Declaration of Ecumenical welcome**  
This is a scheme run by ACTS (Action for Churches Together in Scotland). Where a congregation is the only church in a community, they can declare that Christians from all denominational backgrounds are welcome to join, and that they will try to reflect different Christian traditions in their worship, so that all can feel at home.

### The organ

Our organ has not responded well to the new environment of the redeveloped church. The Board is currently investigating the scope of the work necessary to refurbish this respected instrument.

### Sound system

We have had a few problems with this in worship too. The Board is seeking advice on improving the operation of the system.

### Memorials

The congregation has recently been consulted on re-erecting the wall memorials from the United Free and Parish Church buildings in the redeveloped church. There was no significant support for this apart from the reinstatement of two small plaques in the ceremonial entrance of the church. The remaining memorials will be kept and left leaning against the wall in the gallery.

### **Mrs Thomasine Mitchell**

The funeral was held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2010 of Mrs Thomasine Mitchell, nee Benson, formerly of 58 Rowanburn, Canonbie  
Aged 92

Mrs Mitchell was a member of the United Free Church and a very committed Christian for all her life.

She will be remembered for her strong belief, as a Sunday School teacher, and as a woman of prayer. She will be missed.

### **SAM Report** Sunday 28 March 2010

We had a brief discussion on visions for our church under four categories:-

- Worship
- Pastoral and nurture
- Mission
- Fabric and Finance

A questionnaire is being prepared for all church attenders to gain their opinions and ideas about our worship.

Elders districts have been re-vamped, and letters circulated to remind people of who their Elder is.

Running an outreach course to the village in the Autumn is being considered.

### **Christian life in Canonbie, Summer 2010.**

Our Youth Group raised over £400 by sleeping out for 2 nights in the graveyard in a sponsored **Earthquake Survivor** in March. This cash has been sent to the Haitian earthquake appeal. **Soup Kitchens** have finished for the summer....they raised over £1600 for the church over the winter. We enjoyed a wonderful concert in church from the **Solway Singers** at the beginning of May and a **Plant Sale** over the Bank Holiday raised over £750 for the

church. Following an open meeting and discussion, Elders have contributed to the Church of Scotland consultation on **same-sex relationships** in the Church. Finally, we've said goodbye to two faithful Christian friends from our congregation. **Chris Jackson and Marie Kelly** both left Canonbie recently. These people were very much at the centre of what we are and we will miss them very much.

**TELL US WHAT YOU THINK**....about this newsheet, about church etc....anything!. We can, at least pray about it.

Comments, criticisms, questions to: Anthony Lane, Beechwood, Canonbie, DG14 0SY. Tel. 013873 71386, e-mail: antolane@hotmail.com