



**Number 50:  
November  
2013**

## News from around the Diocese

### Dunoon enjoys six months in 'the wilderness'

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The congregation of Holy Trinity Dunoon have started to worship in their 1850 church building once more, as a six month programme of conservation and repair comes to a close. In this project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, SCT, Garfield Weston, The William & Jane Morris Trust, The Cruach Trust and local donations & fundraising, major repairs to water damage have taken place. The floor was completely replaced, the roof extensively repaired, leadwork replaced, windows restored, wiring replaced, masonry repointed and repaired and drainage works carried out. It will take quite a while to fine tune the project and snag the work, but the building is now drier, rot-free and ready for further development.

During the project, Holy Trinity worshipped in a local Church of Scotland hall in Dunoon, due to the generosity and kindness of the congregation of the High Kirk. Every week the nave altar and chairs were set up on the badminton court of this hall, helping all to remember that the 'church' is the people who worship week by week, not the building in which this takes place. The banner used to let people know that worship was taking place is shown in the photograph on the day Holy Trinity returned up their hill. The High Kirk Hall started its life as St Andrew's Scottish Episcopal Mission Hall, being sold to the Church of Scotland in the 1950s after wartime and government use for many years before this, so there was a sense of coming full circle as Holy Trinity worshipped in a building last used for this purpose in the 1920s.

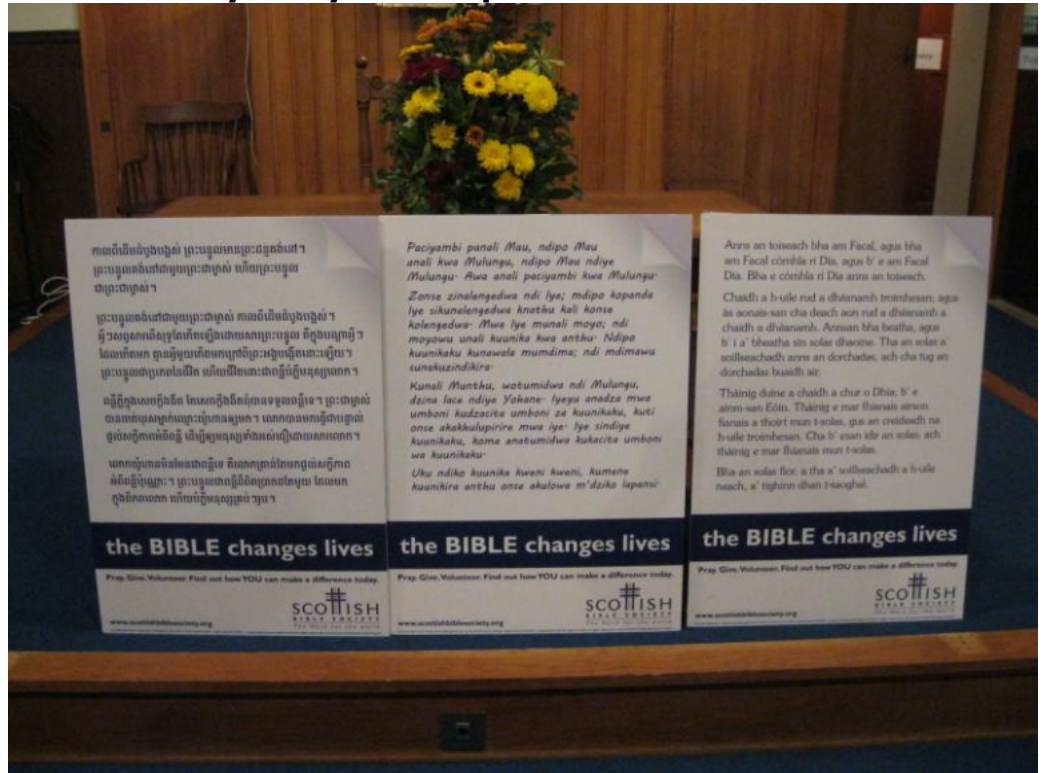
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## Dunoon enjoys six months in 'the wilderness' (cont'd)

Holy Trinity's priest, Dean Andrew Swift, said, "It has been a long six months for the congregation, but we have learned a lot about our community and what matters to us. The hospitality of our Church of Scotland brothers and sisters has been wonderful, and we will be inviting them to come for celebration and fellowship in our restored place of worship."

For more information on the project, and advice on approaching a similar task, please contact the diocesan office or the dean.

## Bible Society Rally in Campbeltown



In the beginning was the Word..... in Khmer, Chichewa and Gaelic

The Scottish Bible Society held its annual rally in Campbeltown on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October. About 40 people turned up for the evening event in the Free Church. Peter Chirside, representing the Society, led the congregation through a bible study which tested its ability to recall accurately what it had heard. He drew a parallel with the aural and oral tradition through which much of scripture had come into being. In addition he used contextual study methods to open up his chosen passage (Jesus's encounter with Zacchaeus). Everyone felt that it had been an excellent exercise in congregational development and in drawing together as different congregations with a common purpose. In the morning, Peter had worshipped at St Kieran's and had spoken about the importance of people having access to the bible in their own language. To illustrate this he showed us examples of the opening verses of John's gospel in Khmer (Cambodia), Chichewa (Malawi) and Scottish Gaelic. Although the first two meant little to us the Gaelic was recognized and was able to be translated.

The Vestry of St Kieran's supports the use of Gaelic in the liturgy. In this connection, mention might be made of a recent addition to the Diocesan Gaelic webpage <http://www.argyll.anglican.org/resources/spiritualworship-resources/gaelic/gaelic-in-the-church/> at [http://learn-gaelic.net/advanced/lganla/index.jsp?bhidio=20131001\\_01](http://learn-gaelic.net/advanced/lganla/index.jsp?bhidio=20131001_01) and of the efforts now being made in the Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness to promote Gaelic in the Scottish Episcopal Church.

David O McEwan

## St John's Cathedral, Oban - Community Garden Project



Students and staff from SAMS (The Scottish Association for Marine Science) have been offered the challenge of clearing the garden across the road from the Rectory and making it into a place usable by the community. A tremendous effort has been made by the ten or so young people who have turned up each Saturday. Stopping only for a bacon buttie, it has proved difficult to stop them working!

The picture, showing the garden **after** the first day, indicates how much work is still required. Thanks go to Iain McNelly for organising the work parties.

### - Bible Study

We have now had two meetings for Bible Study, an initiative taken by St. John's for anyone who would like to take part in informal discussion on a specified passage from the Bible. The emphasis is on trying to understand the meaning of the passage and how it applies in our lives today. We aim to keep focussed on the passage with everyone having the opportunity to share their thoughts and listen to one another. After an hour of discussion we conclude with a brief prayer then those who can are welcome to linger and to chat over tea/coffee. The group is at present led by Donald Shell and meets at his home in Benvoullin Road, Oban on the last Wednesday of the month at 7.15pm. (He says it's just 5 minutes walk from the Cathedral but others think it takes more like 10 minutes!). So far we have had two meetings studying the first chapter of the Epistle of James with between nine and twelve people present. We will look at James ch 2 on 27<sup>th</sup> November, and anyone is welcome, including members of other nearby churches. (For further information phone 01631-562688)

### - Churches Together Taynuilt

Members of St. John's Cathedral were invited to join 'Churches Together Taynuilt' at Muckairn Church on October 27<sup>th</sup> for a Songs of Praise, led by organist Andrew Lockart. Members of all denominations filled the church and a wonderful evening was enjoyed by all.

### The Great Tapestry of Scotland

Maureen McKellar, Dunoon writes "I was privileged to be one of the stitchers involved in the Great Tapestry of Scotland. I was visiting the Prestonpans Tapestry and met the Stitch Coordinator. She asked if I happened to be a stitcher and if so might I be interested in a project that they were discussing to stitch Scotland's history. They were looking for stitching groups across Scotland and I said I could easily form a group in Dunoon. The next thing I heard (a year later) was that the plan for the Great Tapestry of Scotland had been agreed and Dunoon had been accepted as one of the stitching groups. The panel was duly picked up from Edinburgh at the end of August 2012.

I quickly found 7 like-minded stitchers (including Mary Swift, the Dean's wife) and we arranged to meet. Our pack consisted of a metre square piece of fabric with the design marked on, a pack of coloured wool and a few instructions. Our panel was entitled 'The Vikings are Coming' and pictured the Vikings dragging the longboats over the isthmus at Tarbert, Argyll. At our first meeting we decided on our name, Gaels Stitchers (given we came from Argyll), discussed what stitches we would use

and how we would work. We then took the giant step of putting our first stitch in! After that we met more or less monthly just to check progress, decide on stitches and work out if we needed more wool. Between meetings we passed the panel around and each member stitched a specific part.



It took us around 400 hours of stitching but we finished by the deadline of the middle of June 2013. The group worked really well together and there was never any dissension or disagreement. We delivered the finished panel through to the Hub, Dalkeith and although pleased to see the panel completed, we were sad to see it go!

The next time we saw it was in the exhibition at the Scottish Parliament building. The stitchers were invited to a preview on 2<sup>nd</sup> September. As there were over 1000 stitchers, we were each allocated an hour to view the exhibition, 163 panels in all. The Tapestry covers 420 million years of Scottish history from the beginning of the formation of Scotland to the formation of the Scottish Parliament. It was Alexander McCall Smith who had the idea and Alistair Moffat who provided the historical background. We were pleased to meet them, together with Andrew Crummy, the Artist and Dorie Wilkie the Stitch Coordinator who all thanked the stitchers for bringing their ideas to fruition. We enjoyed the day very much and were delighted that our panel was chosen to be one of 6 postcards made. Later we discovered to our delight that 'our Viking' was the advertisement for the tapestry on the Edinburgh buses!

If you get a chance to visit the Tapestry it is well worth it. It is being shown in Cockenzie House until early December 2013 and thereafter is touring Scotland. It took 50,000 stitching hours to complete and used 300 miles of yarn. It is unique in its depiction artistically of the history of Scotland and its people. I, for one, was very proud to be part of it."



### **Family Harvest Festival Service, Isle of Skye**

The Harvest Festival in Britain used to be celebrated at the beginning of the harvest season on 1st of August and was called [Lammas](#), meaning 'loaf mass'. Farmers made loaves of bread from the new wheat crop and gave them to their local churches. They were then used as the communion bread.

Our Family Harvest Festival was held on the Feast of St Michael's and All Angels, 29<sup>th</sup> September, and we were reminded of all the good things God has given, and to think about how God loves the world and cares for it.



The Church was tastefully decorated, and the celebration of the Eucharist was led by Fr. Fred Baillie and Sr. Elizabeth Burggy. As a family seated around the central table, we all shared the communion of the bread and wine. It was a time for us to give thanks for the crops that have been grown, and to celebrate the hard work involved in planting and in reaping them. The numerous gifts of food were donated, through 'Helping Hands – Skye' to those who are not as privileged as we are.

Our grateful thanks are due to all those who decorated the Church, and also to Margaret Greer, who provided and served the Harvest Lunch. Nan Cleghorn

### **Christ Church, Lochgilphead**

The first Harvest Food & Country Home Fair to be held in Lochgilphead was at Christ Church in September and was a very busy weekend.

Local band 'Argyll Brass' played in the sunshine, setting the scene the moment visitors walked through the gates. The Travelling Tearoom in their vintage caravan served teas to thirsty and hungry shoppers who sat out in the autumn sunshine. The Rectory was filled with stalls selling food and food related products, and cookery, food styling and photography demonstrations. The Walking Theatre Company entertained the crowds from their World War II Flying Kitchen and performed a Public Information Broadcast from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.



Sunday saw the church's first 'Bringalonga Breakfast' which was an unqualified success! We met in the Rectory bringing a fine selection of goodies, Kedgeree, Savoury Bacon and Cheese pastries, Filled Ham Rollovers, Croissants, Homemade Bread, Marmalade & Jam, as fine a breakfast as anyone ever sat down to.

Grace was said by the Rev Peter Rice and much good humour and fellowship followed.

Happy breakfasters then adjourned to the church for a Harvest Celebration service consisting of a Harvest anthology compiled & read by members of the congregation Alexander Hamilton, Polly Hamilton, Margaret A mour and Brian Blench followed by Eucharist. A transcript of the Service, hymns and poems can be found on our blog here: <http://christchurchlochgilphead.blogspot.co.uk/2013/10/harvest-service.html>

We are now busy preparing for the Christmas Market which we're holding on the 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> of November. With over forty stalls will be selling an array of art, crafts, gifts and food, it is probably the biggest Christmas Market in Argyll, and will be well worth

## **Christ Church, Lochgilphead (cont'd)**

a visit! Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> is a late night shopping evening by candlelight from 4.00 – 8pm with the local community choir singing Christmassy tunes, a real chance to get in to the spirit of the season.  
Kate MacDonald

## **Pastoral Care and Mission**

***'When mission and pastoral care work together it becomes possible not just to proclaim hope but to enact hope.'*** (Ann Morisy)

A small group comprising members from St John's and from Holy Trinity Dunoon met together on September 28<sup>th</sup> to reflect on the pastoral ministry of listening and visiting. The day was led by the Congregational Development Officer and the Provost with contributions from Alzheimers Scotland and from the diocesan PVG officer.

Originally requested by St John's, the training is open to others recommended by their priest. Most worshipping communities care for each other and visit the sick and housebound on an informal basis. The use of pastoral visitors /assistants who visit in the name of the Church needs a shared understanding of guidelines and an agreed process of identifying need and planning visits. The regulations on the Protection of Vulnerable Groups requires members of a visiting team to go through the disclosure process.



Those invited by their rector (or priest with oversight) as actual or potential visitors attend development days with a view to having their ministry recognised by the Bishop and celebrated in due course at a diocesan service of dedication. Training in distributing home communion, if required, will be done by the local rector or priest.

Some of the feedback from the day:

I have more skills and experience than I thought

..one of the most valuable aspects ...was meeting others and sharing their experience.

I feel far better equipped

Although it may seem that anyone can listen to another, it is in fact a tough discipline to set aside our own concerns and our need to be helpful, in order to just be with another person. To do that is the work of mission, the bringing of good news, - 'enacting hope'.  
Alison Clark

## **Sponsorship of the education of a girl in Malawi**

Through the Bishop's Lent Appeal, we have raised sufficient funds to sponsor Brightney through Secondary School.

Brightney is 14 years old and is one of four children. She has two younger brothers who are still at primary school and a twin sister. Her sister has been selected to attend the local Secondary School for which her parents will pay the fees. Her parents are very poor with no stable source of income and were not

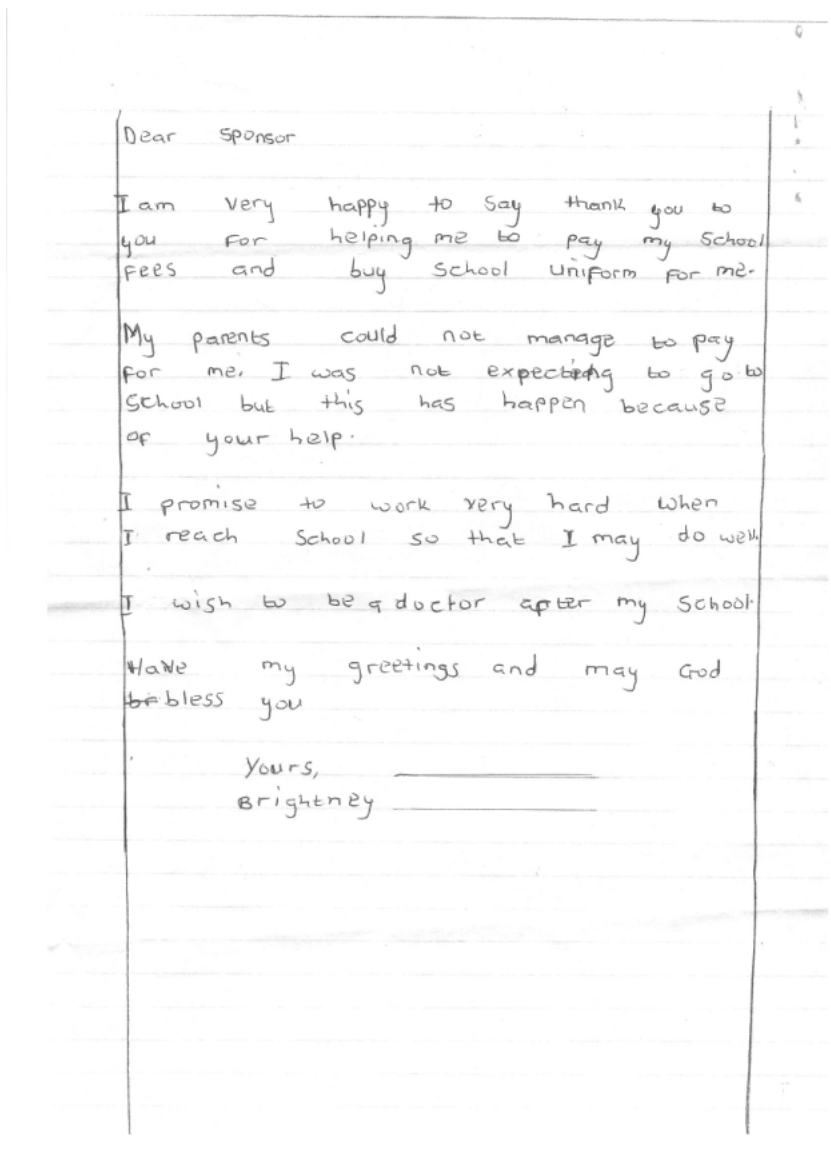


Brightney in her new school uniform

intending to send Brightney to school. Having passed the Primary Leaving Certificate well, Brightney has been selected to attend the Government Boarding School. Secondary School lasts for four years during which students sit for Junior Certificate and then the Malawi Certificate of Education.

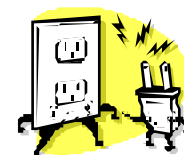
We will be paying through a bank account in England to limit losses due to currency exchange. There are no administration fees.

We will also be sponsoring a girl in Tanzania for the last two years of her education but the details have not yet been finalised.



## Electrical Testing for Churches/Halls

You must have the wiring of your church building professionally checked (Electrical Installation Condition Report under BS7671) at least every ten years, and portable equipment checked (PAT tested) every 1 to 2 years. One of the churches in this Diocese



recently required emergency rewiring. Not only does it make sense in terms of Health and Safety but if not done, might also invalidate your building insurance.

## Faith in Action—Domestic Abuse

We call on churches to name and denounce all the various forms of violence against women inside and outside the church. We call on church leaders to declare together that violence against women is a sin. We urge them to take the side of the victim instead of sheltering the aggressor, to offer pastoral counselling that targets a concrete improvement in the victim's life situation instead of simply preaching patience, silence and submission.

World Council of Churches Assembly Harare 1998.

### Christ you are the light of the world.

In these dark hours and days, when we fear for our safety, and that of our children, we pray that your light will shine in our hearts and in the lives of those who have been violated. As we light these candles, we offer their pain to you, Lord, knowing that you are present with them in their pain and suffering. Give us trust and hope and remove these dark days; so we may go forth into the light in peace. Amen (From a Liturgy used at Grahamstown Cathedral, Republic of South Africa)

Further information, prayers, contacts and actions are available from the SEC website [www.scotland.anglican.org](http://www.scotland.anglican.org)

## Scottish Interfaith Week 24th November—1st December

Scottish Interfaith week gives us the opportunity to meet with or learn about people of different faiths. The website at Interfaith Scotland [www.interfaithscotland.org](http://www.interfaithscotland.org) gives information about events happening all over Scotland. Why not join in one of these events or organise something for your own congregation? Or consider doing one of the following:-

Invite a member of another faith to speak about their faith

Invite a member of the Churches' Agency for Interfaith Relations Scotland (CAIRS) at [www.acts.org/cairs](http://www.acts.org/cairs) or someone from your local Interfaith Association to speak with your congregation.

Visit a local place of worship.

Send a greeting for Interfaith week to a local place of worship.

In this way you can help break down barriers and increase understanding of others.

## April 2014—trypraying

Over the last three years this evangelism and prayer project has taken place in Edinburgh and elsewhere, with life-changing results for some individuals. In April 2014, what if we all did it together across Scotland in towns, cities and villages?

How? **Two weeks in April:**

WEEK 1. Everyone in your church receives a copy of the *trypraying* booklet to read and pray through.

WEEK 2. Everyone looks for a God-given opportunity to give it to a friend, family member, or anyone else with whom you cross paths during the week.

That's it. *'Use it and lose it.'*

Go to [www.thereishope.co.uk](http://www.thereishope.co.uk) to find out all the under-the-counter stuff for churches or [www.trypraying.co.uk](http://www.trypraying.co.uk) for enquiries.



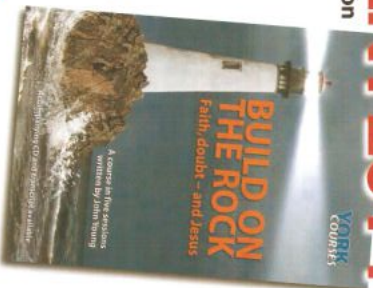
# Ecumenical News and Events

## NEW for LENT 2014

or any season

An easy-to-use discussion course for groups comprising course booklet, CD and transcript

- a 5-session ecumenical discussion course for groups and individuals
- good choice of wide-ranging questions designed to help group leaders involve all members in lively discussion
- bringing the thoughts of prominent Christian leaders into your own discussion group



**BUILD ON THE ROCK** - brings these leading Christian thinkers into your group:



**CANAN NEW YORK**  
Author of course booklet

**ERIC DINGWALTER**  
Methodist Minister

**GUYARD FLORENTIN**  
Director of Moral Challenge

**ERIC JOE ENRIQUES**  
New Testament scholar

**DR PAUL GORDON**  
Bishop of London

### Why do a York Course?

Tens of thousands of group members choose a York Course each year: I like the format. Listening to the speakers on the CD helped to clarify my own well thought-out. Although a very enjoyable course, the questions were challenging and I have come across. Excellent notes, a really useful range of questions, and stimulating audio contributions.

**YORK COURSES** SAVINGS ONLINE AT [www.yorkcourses.co.uk](http://www.yorkcourses.co.uk)  
FREE P&F IN UK, SUBSIDISED POSTAGE OVERSEAS

November 2013

Three Wee Crows Theatre Company

## Cast the Grey Eye



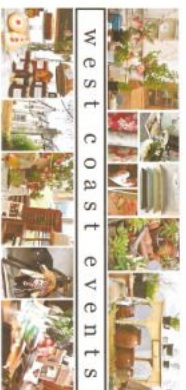
An evening telling stories of Argyll's turbulent history, in celebration of St. Columba's exile from Ireland to Iona.

St John's Cathedral, Oban  
Friday 29th  
November  
8.00 pm  
£10/£8 to include parking

[www.threewecrows.co.uk](http://www.threewecrows.co.uk)

Tickets - call 01866 833455

## Christmas Market



at Bishopton Road, Lochgilphead  
Argyll PA31 8PY

Fri 8th November 'Late night opening' 4pm - 8pm  
Saturday 9th November 10am - 4pm

Over 30 stalls. Mulled wine, refreshments, Vintage & Country Christmas shop, unique gifts, handmade crafts & local food producers

Entrance: Adults £1 with Prize Draw entry for 'West Coast Hamper'. Children free.  
Tel: Kate Macdonald 01546 830020 & Sara Qualter 07876 193083  
[www.westcoastevents.org.uk](http://www.westcoastevents.org.uk)

## CONTACT US

The office is staffed  
9.30am-2.30pm  
Mon-Thurs

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## Communications

### NEWSLETTER

The December Newsletter (Please remember to send information to the Diocesan Office) – material to be received at the Diocesan Office (e-mail above) by Monday **25th November** 2013.

**WEBSITE** [www.argyll.anglican.org](http://www.argyll.anglican.org) [www.island-retreats.org](http://www.island-retreats.org)

**FACEBOOK** Please 'Like' the Facebook page for Argyll and The Isles.

**TWITTER** Hashtag #AaTI

**THE WIDER CHURCH** Find out more about the Scottish Episcopal Church at [www.scotland.anglican.org](http://www.scotland.anglican.org)

### ONLINE INSPIRES

Sign up for news about the Scottish Episcopal Church at <http://www.inspires.org.uk/subscribe>

**Diocesan Diary** 23rd November Lay Leadership Day  
25th November Licensing of Fr Simon McKenzie

## Christian Aid—India cyclone appeal

More than a million people have been made homeless while more than 350,000 homes were damaged by Cyclone Phailin. Many have also been affected by the flooding caused by the cyclone. **The scale of the devastation is enormous.** Poor communities that depend on subsistence farming and fishing to survive have had their boats and crops destroyed. They have nothing to fall back on. The cyclone hit at one of the worst times of the year as many were expecting to harvest crops next month. The damage will affect people for years to come.

£21 could provide a month's emergency food for three families

£52 could buy 40 woollen blankets

£100 could provide 20 tarpaulin covers for temporary shelter

To donate or for more information go to India Cyclone Appeal on [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)