

CHURCHES TOGETHER in GLENROTHES and DISTRICT

Annual General Meeting

St Ninian's on Wednesday 10th June

Present: Richard Gilmour, – Christ's Kirk
Jennifer Stark – Christ's Kirk and St Margaret's
Joy Allan, Betty Menzies, David Rees – St Margaret's
Ann Burns, Margaret Duffy, Father Hand – St Paul's & St Mary's
Rev. Ali Roy, Craig Higgins (Treasurer), Mary McIndoe, Sheena Pirrie (Minutes)
– St Ninian's
George Carratt – King's Covenant Fellowship (Chair)
Irene Ross – Trinity, Leslie
Rev. Gerry Dillon – St Luke's
Rev. Alan Kimmitt, St Columba's

Apologies: Rev. Eileen Miller; Alice Davidson; Wilma Page

Action

1. **Opening**
Chair opened by thanking St Ninian's for hosting the meeting. Chair also welcomed Rev. Gerry Dillon from St Luke's to his first meeting of the Group. Ali Roy then thanked God for the unity that the group shared and asked that He blessed us in our fellowship.
2. **Minutes**
The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting (June 2014) were accepted as a true record. Richard Gilmour proposed and Mary McIndoe seconded.
3. **Matters arising from the Minutes**
There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes.
4. **Correspondence**
There was no correspondence to deal with. However Chair asked what had been the outcome of the photograph taken at Leslie Trinity – it was advised that the photograph had been used in an article in the Glenrothes Gazette.
5. **Chairman's Report**
There is much to be thankful for and much to be encouraged by during the 2014-2015 session. This report is simply to note some of the highlights and themes and not to pre-empt any of the reports yet to come.
The planning and organisation of all in the Glenrothes Böblingen Ecumenical Group came to fruition in a wonderful visit and excellent 'Friends in Praise' event. St Columba's hospitality after the worship was first class.
Thanks to the Rotary Club who promoted a walk for peace through the town, to which the churches were invited. It was well organised and was an opportunity for excellent contributions from all ages. Also to St Margaret's and Leslie Baptist who hosted the World Day of Prayer services and Ewan Oliver and the Christian Aid volunteer team for the book sale and collection.
The Carol Singing in the Kingdom Centre was once again well received by members of the public who donated £77.55. This was donated to the local Samaritans.
We had the privilege of a visit from Miriam Weibye, Programme Officer with ACTS. Miriam gave us an update on ACTS, but was just as keen to hear about Churches Together in Glenrothes and District. It became an uplifting time of remembering and thanksgiving.
A number of Lent studies ensured we could meet with others from the wider church family to study God's word and share with one another.

Finally, there are two projects I would like to see becoming obsolete, because they are no longer required: Y-lunch-together (Gravy Train) and the Foodbank. However, for now they continue to inspire us all to share what we have with those who have not and are a great example of the church demonstrating God's love.

A key passage for me is in **John 13:34-35 (NIV)**. **A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.**” The way we respect and help one another will be a big advert for the gospel of Jesus Christ and signpost to God's love for all people. To this end, I would urge everyone who is considering and planning events for the coming session to ensure they include others in this process. Whether you involve one other church, a parish grouping or all churches working together, I'm sure you will find that the whole project and experience is greatly enhanced.

May God continue to bless His church as we journey together.

6.

Reports

Treasurer's Report – Craig Higgins reported that the amount in the bank account at present stands at £527.06. Treasurer still not receiving bank statements directly from the Bank which causes delays in reporting activity. Treasurer has also suggested that an item be placed on the agenda to discuss dispersal of these funds.

GROW – Craig Higgins advised that the AGM was being held next Thursday in St Luke's with pre-meeting supper. The Committee have a strategy meeting on Tuesday 15th June. Three projects are being discussed: Communication; an H₂O event and one other. Details on the Churches Together webpage.

Christian Aid – Wilma Page submitted a report by e-mail and Richard Gilmour reported that over £400 had been raised at the Book Sale in St Columba's. The unsold books were taken to a shop in Dunfermline and it is hoped that an additional amount of cash will be received in return. Some churches arranged for door-to-door collections while others gave envelopes to their congregation. It was unfortunate that there was no stall in the Kingdom Centre however the total raised throughout the week exceeds £4,000 with some more through Gift Aid. The committee is delighted with this and wish to thank all who contributed in any way to raising this much needed cash for the work of Christian Aid.

Y Lunches Together – Margaret Duffy submitted a report stating that they had an inspection from Fife Council Hygiene Department and although they attained a Pass Certificate, they have had to re-think their menus. This has now been achieved and the new menus are up and running. This has come about because all the food now has to be cooked within the premises and not cooked at home and brought in.

GBEG – September 2014 saw our 15 friends from Böblingen sharing our homes, praise and worship in friendship and love. Visits were organised (and enjoyed) to the Kelpies, Blackness Castle, lunch at Stirling Campus, Culross, South Queensferry, (Nick Nairn lunch!), and a civic reception from Fife Council in the Rothes Halls. The highlight for many of us was the Songs of Praise held in St Columba's Church to celebrate our links with

Böblingen Christians. The service was well supported by all churches, and the bi-lingual singing of well-loved hymns was superb. Two candles were lit to mark the anniversary of the outbreak of the 1st World War to signify reconciliation which is ongoing, and emphasise the love and faith that bind us together in Christ's love.

2016 will see us visiting Böblingen once more, and we would love to have new members joining us to build on the links already established. We are holding a garden party at 29 Braid Drive (Bob and Joan's) on Thursday 23rd July at 5pm and a German Night in September. All are welcome to attend. More details will follow.

If anyone would like more information on participation, please contact Mary McIndoe on 01592 759108, or email her at marymcindoe30@gmail.com. GBEG is also on Facebook as Glenrothes and Böblingen Ecumenical Group - GBEG

Glenrothes Food Bank – Margaret Duffy and Richard Gilmour provided a report in Maureen's absence – an open day is being held to display the artwork/decorating of the premises by some of the younger volunteers. It was also stated that the post of Administrator held currently by Maureen was being advertised as the Foodbank will no longer fall under the auspices of the Y and the Trussell Trust

Scottish Bible Society (SBS) – Irene Ross advised that Allan McDonagh has not been very well so the thoughts and prayers from the Group were expressed. Over £200 had been raised to send to Malawi and it has been suggested that a field trip should be organised to see how this money is spent. A Quiz Night and also a Book Sale is planned for the Autumn – more details at a later date.

General Election Hustings - Fr Hand, who chaired the event, reported that this had gone well. It was well attended and was very worthwhile. It was suggested that we could consider how we can continue to support our MP, MSP's and councillors. (A list can be found on the CTG webpage)

7. **Any other competent business**

Faith and Light – Joy Allan is a member of this group who meet once a month in St. Pauls in Glenrothes. The group would like to raise their profile and increase membership and Joy is wondering if members of the Group could perhaps make their own organisations more aware of this group and another in Kennoway called WOW.

Rev. Gerry Dillon – thanked everyone who attended his recent ordination at St Luke's – which was much appreciated.

Churches Together Golf Tournament – Craig Higgins reported that a tournament had been held recently between St. Paul's, St. Margaret's and St. Ninian's at Falkland Golf Course – St. Ninian's won the tournament. However, the intention is that all the organisations in the CTG be invited to join in and expand this.

Communication – Sheena Pirrie asked that communication between organisations within the group be discussed at a future meeting so that events can be advertised throughout the community. Also it would be

very helpful if Sheena could receive copies of church magazines as and when they were issued and in this way events could be advertised in the St. Ninian's Update Magazine – e-mail ispirrie@talktalk.net or hard copy would be great.

The God Question – (submitted by e-mail) Eileen Miller wished to communicate that St. Margaret's has just finished running 6 sessions of 'The God Question' which was attended by up to 18 people each week. It has been both challenging and demanding in terms of the quantity of information but it has been useful in helping people to think about big questions about science, God and the search for Truth. It is broken into 3 sections which are the Cosmos, Life and Evolution and Mind and Consciousness. It is a resource that could be used by the Churches Together Group if it was something that we might want to run together.

Appointment of Office Bearers – as no-one had indicated that they wished to stand down, it was agreed that the Chair, Treasurer and Minute Secretary would carry on for a further year.

8. **Date and Venue for 2016 Annual General Meeting:** This matter was not discussed. However the date for the next AGM would be the 8th June 2016. Could a venue for this be identified in addition to the other meetings scheduled below?

All

9. **Closing**
The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m. with the blessing of the Grace.

For more information and updates please visit
<http://www.gkcarratt.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/gct.html>

Diary Dates: - The following venues have been proposed for the next few meetings as follows:

9 September	St. Columba's
14 October	St. Ninian's
11 November	
9 December	
13 January	
10 February	
9 March	
13 April	No Meeting
11 May	
8 June	Annual General Meeting