



Methlick Parish Church – Kirk Notes
April 2018

“Resurrection and Resilience”

Oxford English Dictionary defines resilience as the “capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness,” or in reference to an inanimate object, the “ability of a substance or object to spring back into shape; elasticity.”

As I get older, I’m increasingly aware that I’m not as physically resilient as I used to be. I don’t “spring back into shape” as quickly as I used to. I bruise easier and take a lot longer to heal, and for those who witnessed last year’s Methlick Under 5’s Sports Day, if I don’t properly stretch and warm up, I pull muscles rather quickly and have to be carried across the finish line (Thank you Good Samaritan from Methlick Wood! ☺).

I also know that there are things in life that make it difficult to be mentally, emotionally and/or spiritually resilient. I will be the first to admit that it’s not always easy to “bounce back” from the difficulties that life throws our way. Our “capacity to recover” is often reduced and doesn’t come as “quickly” as we would like.

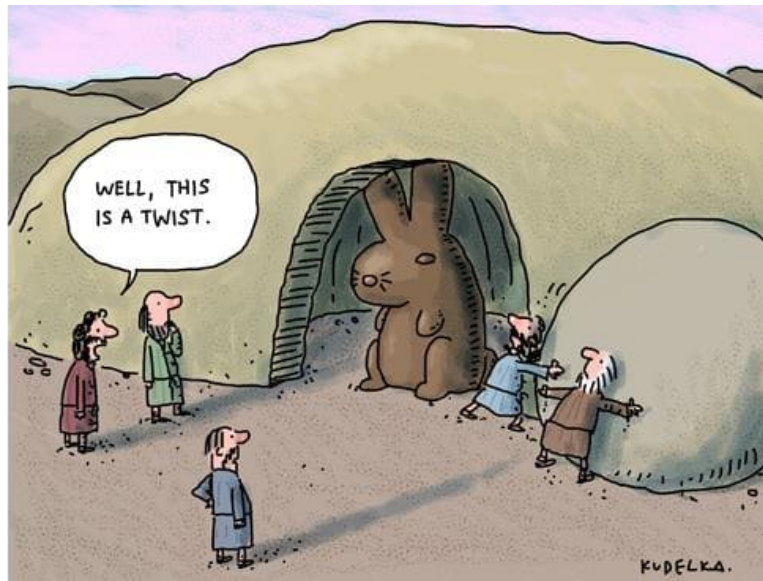
I don’t think I’m alone in saying that I would like to be a bit more resilient. It’s not without reason that resilience is a topic of conversation in all aspects of life: individually and in communities, educationally, economically, politically, for young and old, for those involved in disaster relief and/or for the betterment of society. We all want to be more resilient.

So, how can we?

In the next 45 pages, I... ☺

Just kidding. I’m not going to weary reader or writer! For those who are curious and can bear American spelling ☺, there are a number of helpful points made in an article entitled, “Road to Resilience,” on the American Psychological Association website. It’s an interesting read. You can find it on the following link: <http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/road-resilience.aspx>

Here, I simply want to make a quick point about the Easter Story, and, in particular, the Resurrection and resilience.



If the early followers of Jesus Christ happened upon a giant chocolate bunny in the tomb in which Jesus was buried, there definitely would have been a “twist” to the Easter Story. Christianity would have been a whole lot different. In all probability, it never would have come into existence. But the Resurrection gave the early followers of Jesus Christ resilience, a “capacity to recover,” a “toughness,” they never would have had otherwise.

It gave them courage in the face of persecution, love in the face of evil, joy in sorrow, peace in uncertainty, and assurance in doubt, light in darkness, hope even in death. Paul says, “We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed but not in despair; persecuted but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed” (2 Corinthians 4:8-9).

The early followers of Jesus Christ were definitely not perfect, but I think it’s fair to say that because of the Resurrection, they were certainly resilient. The spread of Christianity is hard to explain any other way.

I hope and pray that whatever difficulty you might be facing in life, you might know in equal, if not greater measure, the love and comfort of God and the power with which he raised Jesus Christ from the dead.

In short, I hope and pray God would give you the resilience you desire.

Will Stalder
Minister of Methlick Parish Church
April 2018

Chapel of Haddo House



Evening Services at 6pm
Tea and Coffee in the Library, Haddo House, 5 p.m.

June 3rd Choral Evensong

The Very Rev'd. Dr. Isaac Poobalan
Provost, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Aberdeen
Chaplain, Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen
Director of Music: Professor Andrew Morrison

July 1st

The Rev. James R. Clarke, Ellon Baptist Church

August 5^h

The Rev. Rhona Cathcart, Inverurie West Parish Church

August 12th

The Rev. Kenneth Ian MacKenzie, D.L.,
Minister of the Parish of Baremar and Crathie and
Domestic Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen in Scotland

August 19th

Professor Tom Greggs,
Marischal Chair of Divinity, University of Aberdeen

August 26th

The Very Rev'd. Gerald Stranraer-Mull,
Dean Emeritus of Aberdeen and Orkney

September 2nd

The Rev. Stephen Taylor, BA, BBS., M.Div., FSA Scot.,
The Kirk of St. Nicholas Uniting, Aberdeen



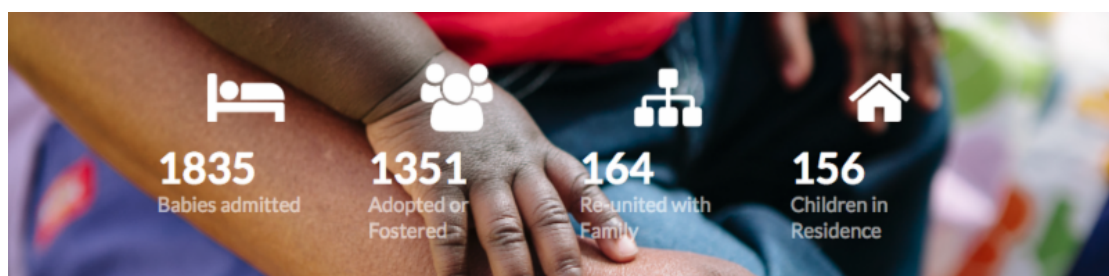
New Life Home Trust celebrates 24 years!

When New Life Nairobi opened its doors, we were just a small team of committed people who hoped and believed we could make an impact in the lives of Kenyan infants who were affected and/or infected by HIV/AIDS.

Now 24 years later, because of that small group of committed individuals, nearly 2,000 infants have been rescued and the lives of staff, volunteers, adoptive parents, and these children impacted in remarkable ways!

Of the total infants rescued, 75% have been adopted locally or internationally, 10% have been reunited with biological family members, and the remaining 15% were either transferred to another children's home or passed away due to medical complications, often a result of the extreme environmental conditions of abandonment.

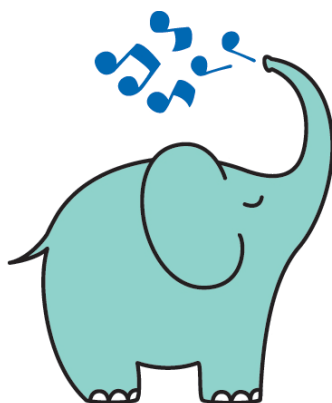
Our most recent statistics from the end of 2017 show how your donations have changed the lives of so many! See: <https://newlifehometrust.org.uk/our-impact/>



Recent success story: **22 Babies Rescued Last Month**

We admitted 22 babies across our four homes last month. Nakuru home rescued six of these babies in one go. The five boys and one girl are in good medical condition with the youngest being only a few week old.

<https://newlifehometrust.org.uk>



mainly music
est. 1990

**Fun, interactive music sessions
For young children and their parents/caregivers**

This term in mainly music we are celebrating our mothers and grandmothers with our mother's day session and mum's night in March. We also held a special session for the Methlick Under 5's group to experience a bit of mainly music.

In April, we will be having our Easter session and in the coming months before the summer holidays we will have a special theme day of Noah's Ark. Lots of fun things to look forward to! If you would like to join us we are currently not full to capacity so new families are welcome.

When: Mondays 10-11.30am (term time only)

Where: Methlick Parish Church

What: 30-min music session followed by refreshments in relaxed setting

Who: Young children (birth to school age) and their parents/caregivers

Cost: £2.50 per family

For more info, contact: Courtney at 01651 806264

www.mainlymusic.org



THE BLUE DOOR 2018 METHLICK KIRK STABLES

Selling pre-loved items
& small pieces of furniture

SATURDAY 26th MAY
SATURDAY 23rd JUNE
SATURDAY 28th JULY
SATURDAY 25th AUGUST
From 10am - 1pm

Refreshments available in the church
 Donations of good quality items (no books
 /clothes please) can be handed in at Friday
 Kirk Café or by arrangement.

Please contact
Anita 806221 or Valerie 806005

All money raised
 for Methlick Parish Church funds



Special Services at Methlick Parish Church
 (All services at 10:30am unless otherwise marked)
May 2018



Communion Sunday (10:30am & 6:30pm)
Sun 6th May 2018

A forgotten Scottish hero?

By Sylvia Valentine

Member Association of Scottish Researchers and Genealogists in Archives (ASGRA)
Associate Member Association of Researchers and Genealogists in Archives (AGRA)
Qualified Genealogist

Introduction

by Will Stalder

A number of months ago, I received an E-mail from Sylvia Valentine, who was doing some research on a gentleman called, Charles Maitland. He is one of our very own local heroes. Without giving too much away, I commend this article to you, which she wrote for our Kirk Notes. An inspiring true story of one of Methlick's own!

Charles Maitland was the Surgeon who performed the first inoculations for smallpox both in England and Scotland. 2018 marks the 270th anniversary of his death. He died in Aberdeen on 28th January 1748 and was interred in Methlick Kirkyard on February 7th. He was buried in the same grave as his parents Patrick Maitland, late of Little Ardoch, (Little Ardo) and Jean Robertson, and according to the memorial inscription, several of his siblings. Little is known about Charles Maitland's family. He was aged about 80 at the time of his death, however it is not possible to pinpoint his birth or baptism as the baptismal records for the relevant period, around 1666-68, no longer exist. It has been possible to find baptismal records of other children of Patrick Maitland, and although the mother's name has not been recorded, it's probable that some of Charles's siblings were: Jean baptised on 6th November 1670, John baptised on 16th December 1672, Lodvick baptised 7th March 1675, Anna, baptised on 27th September 1678, and James baptised on 22nd May 1680. The parochial registers record that Patrick Maitland from Little Ardo was buried on 22nd December 1687, and that Jean Robertson was buried on 17th April 1684.

An obituary in the Aberdeen Press and Journal dated 9th February 1748 stated Charles Maitland was descended from "*an honourable Aberdeenshire Family, the Maitlands of Pitrichy.*" The obituary said "*he was estimated to be worth £5000, a fortune acquired by his own endeavours.*" Alexander Bannerman of Frendraught and Mr Charles Cheyne of Edinburgh were beneficiaries of his fortune. The obituary also said he was "an excellent surgeon and famous for inoculating the smallpox, and the person appointed

by the present majesty, (George II) to go to Hanover and inoculate his Royal Highness Frederick Prince of Wales and was handsomely rewarded.”

The Maitland Family of Pitrichy (today Pittrichie) were distant relatives of the Earls of Lauderdale and returned a number of MPs to Parliament. It is entirely possible that Patrick Maitland was a cousin of this family, but cannot be proved. What is known is that Charles Maitland of Methlick became the surgeon to the British Ambassador in Turkey in 1717-18. At a time when posts were most likely the subject of patronage, it is not unreasonable to suggest that Patrick Maitland, and his son were well connected. The wife of the British Ambassador, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu championed the cause of inoculation in England. A few years after their return from Turkey, in 1721 she asked Maitland to inoculate her daughter Mary. In 1722 Maitland inoculated 6 people in Aberdeenshire, but one died, which made the procedure unpopular in that county. He is known to have inoculated approximately 80 people in England and was involved in the inoculation of the Princesses Amelia and Caroline at the behest of Princess of Wales, in April 1722. He subsequently inoculated their brother Prince Frederick in Hanover in 1724.

In 1930 John M Bulloch produced a pamphlet, *A Pioneer of Inoculation, Charles Maitland*. In addition to describing Maitland's role in the story of inoculation, it also speculated that his father Patrick appeared in a Poll Book as a tenant of Newplace in 1696, but this seems somewhat unlikely as Patrick was buried in 1687. Bulloch also makes mention of the “handsome reward” mentioned in the obituary, Maitland was paid £1000 from the privy purse for inoculating Prince Frederick. There are many ways of calculating how much this equates to in today's money, but as a minimum, it would be worth £143,100.00 and by the same measure, his estate would be worth about £715,000.00.

The Caledonian Mercury of 15th February 1748 described him as “a gentleman justly esteemed by those who knew him, who had acquired a handsome fortune by his own industry. In addition to leaving his estate to friends and relations, he had not forgotten the poor, particularly a Charity to the parish of his birth – A worthy Example to others, by reasonably remembering the poor, without hurting their Relations!” The same newspaper recorded in their edition of 20th August 1726, that the Magistrates

and others waited on Maitland and paid him the compliment of making him Burgess and Freeman of the Town.

Charles Maitland did indeed make provision for the poor of Methlick prior to his death, and the Kirk Session records of the time record the details of the bequest at their meeting held in July 1748. He did not leave a will, but rather, he made his bequest by a Deed which was registered in the Aberdeen Sherriff Court in 1746. Maitland made his “Mortification” by means of a heritable bond with a value of 6000 Merks* Scots money. Maitland loaned the money to John Grant on property and land comprising the manor of Rothmaise, near Inch which was secured by the bond. (<https://canmore.org.uk/site/150144/mains-of-rothmaise>).

Maitland assigned the bond to the then Minister (Mr Alexander Knolls) and members of the Kirk Session, and their successors. In his deposition Maitland said the heritable bond was the best way he could find to secure the funds for the benefit of the poor. The income was to be paid twice a year, at Whitsunday and Martinmass. It seems that he was very concerned about the number of poor people reduced to begging, and he gave very precise instructions to the Minister and Kirk Session about how he wanted his mortification to be used. In addition to supporting the common poor, he wanted to support local tradesmen and families who had fallen on hard times, in order that they would not need to “*go about the country as Common Beggars*”. Maitland further instructed the Kirk Session that he wanted them to use all the income and not to allow the capital to accrue.

Lady Mary Wortley Montagu’s sister Frances was the Countess of Mar, wife of the Jacobite Earl of Mar. Perhaps someday, a researcher might be able to discover if the Earl or Countess of Mar recommended Maitland to become their surgeon and explain how the man from Methlick achieved his place in history.

- A Merk was worth 2/3rd of a Scots Pound, 6000 Merks equate to about £460 or about 10% of the value of his fortune. <http://www.pierre-marteau.com/currency/converter/eng-sco.html>.

12th Methlick Guided Walk

**SATURDAY 2nd JUNE 2018
10 A.M.**

**FULL
ROUTE
8
MILES**



***SHORTER
ROUTE
4
MILES**

START/FINISH AT METHLICK CHURCH

**LOVELY GUIDED WALK THROUGH HADDO ESTATE,
POINTS OF INTEREST ALONG THE WAY**

Thanks to Haddo Estate, Haddo Country Park and our Guides

Donations gratefully received for Methlick Parish Church

For further details:

Call Lady Joanna Aberdeen 01651 806 897

Or Katherine Storey 01651 806 691

***Lifts available from Haddo Car Park**

Who's Who and Who Does What

For those who wish to contact any of the following Church Teams, here are the Convenors' names and contact numbers.

Choir	Evelyn Cook	01651 806923
Church Officer	Pete Whorley	01651 851468
Flower List	Sue Wright	01651 806995
Friday Café in the Kirk	Margaret McHardy	01651 806354
Sunday School & Crèche	Courtney Stalder	01651 806264
Guild	Margaret McHardy	01651 806354
Home Groups	Valerie Mitchell	01651 806005
Kirk Session	Colin Presly	01651 806220
Mission	Michelle Kennedy	01651 806783
Presbytery Elder	Ann Gardner	01651 806267
Property	Ian Sutherland	01651 806749
Roll Keeper	Ann Gardner	01651 806267
Safeguarding	Hazel Beaton	01779 490028
Stewardship	Lady Joanna Aberdeen	01651 806897
	Katherine Storey	01651 806691
Teas/Coffees Rota	Aileen Duguid	01651 806848
Treasurer	Ronald Storey	01651 806691
Visiting Team	Anne Presly	01651 806220
Youth	Cat Lawson	01651 806088

(FYP) Formartine Youth Project Children & Youth Worker

Claire Bell clairefyp@outlook.com

Minister

Rev. Dr. Will Stalder

Telephone: (01651) 806 264

E-mail: wstalder@churchofscotland.org.uk

Methlick Parish Church Website: <http://www.methlickparishchurch.co.uk>

Methlick Parish Church Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MethlickParishChurch/>

Gordon Presbytery: <http://www.presbyteryofgordon.org.uk>

Church of Scotland: <http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/home>

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