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# The St Cyrus News

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Issue 2

OCTOBER 2004

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FREE

Many thanks to all those who had good things to say about the first issue of our Newsletter.

A friend has kindly lent me a lot of interesting stories relating to events from the past with a St Cyrus connection- so I have included a Salmon story in this newsletter, with more to come for future editions. Sadly nothing yet received in connection with the old Railway Station..

Please keep your news coming in.....

There is also some interesting info about what I have come to think of as the landmark of St Cyrus - The Parish church. Also A very enjoyable "Profile of a local" - so hopefully somethinfor everybody

EEEEEEEEEE

Check inside for details of our prize winning quiz.....

Read on MacDuff.....



The intention of this Newsletter is to inform the people in St Cyrus of what is going on in your village, hopefully in a fun or amusing way. Please feel free to send me any articles or any interesting gossip which you think others would like to read about. It can be about anything - from people to places. If there is a St Cyrus connection we want to hear about it. It could be to tell us who is the oldest person living in St Cyrus. Perhaps you know someone who deserves a special mention - If you have a joke or a poem to share - keep it clean please.....

- get in touch with: -Joyce Joy - Rosefield, Beach Rd, St Cyrus DD10 OBJ Tel. 01674 850340 or e-mail - joycejoy@madasafish.com

Deadline for next issue -end of JANUARY 2005

## Your News

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### Inside This Issue

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- 1 Community News
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- 4 A "Local" in Profile
- 5 Calendar, organisations , Quiz,

**BROADBAND**"We Are Enabled"

For all you "surfers" on the village, and the more avid ones will know this already, BROADBAND did arrive in St Cyrus on the 4th August, well, nearly! After some initial teething troubles with the village Telephone Exchange, we actually went live around 21st August. For those who did sign up with their ISP, the transition from the old analogue 56kb speed to anything up to 2Mb has been relatively seamless. Needless to say those on Broadband are very pleased at the increase in speed for searching the net or sending/receiving e-mail

BT are in consultation with most ISP's relating to ongoing work at our local Exchange and it is envisaged work will be complete by the end of September. There may be some disruption in service but it is hoped any switching will be carried out early a.m.

For those not yet able to receive Broadband there is some hope. BT are stating that after trials in Milton Keynes (mentioned in last newsletter) it will be able to offer Broadband approximately 3km further from the exchange - taking the distance to about 8km. Additionally, from September 6th, BT have changed the way they calculate if a line can support Broadband (ADSL) or not. For the 512kb service "Every" line will be accepted (which was not previously the case) and tested regardless of distance from the exchange. If anyone not currently able to receive Broadband is unsure, contact your ISP or go to BT website ([www.bt.com](http://www.bt.com)).

Should anyone require assistance setting up Broadband, Wireless Networks, etc, contact a very

reasonable local IT supplier - John Philip on 01561 377579 or 07831 525 080

**St Cyrus. Recreation Association**

Established in Spring 2004 as a constituted body with a remit to improve and develop the provision for recreational facilities within our area. The main focus of this remit is the Public Park on Ecclesgreig Road.

To date the S.C.R.A. has -

Put in place a constitution. Reviewed possible fund-raising ventures at a local level. Investigated potential sources of lottery funding. Opened dialogue with Aberdeenshire Council. Put draft proposals and questions out to local people with regards to "Knowing what the St Cyrus Village would like to have at the Public Park.

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The following letter to the Hall Committee has recently been received from the Inverbervie Medical Practice:

I refer to your letter dated 26th July 2004 and would like to inform the committee that the GP's will only be able to **provide a surgery in St Cyrus once a month**. This is due to the number of GP's that the surgery now has. The practice has not been in a position to recruit a replacement for Dr Wilson.

The Practice is looking at all options at present and maybe in the future will run nurse led clinics at St Cyrus. We will still be running **flu clinics in October and November in the Hall.**

Mrs Lorna Grubb

Practice Manager

**Salmon Fishing at St Cyrus**

**By Michael Forsyth-Grant  
1980**

Salmon fishing on the coast between Dundee and Aberdeen has been carried out for centuries, and few places have been more closely associated with this than St Cyrus. References to salmon at St Cyrus date back to 13th Century charters. Six hundred years ago, a Scottish King landed at Inverbervie and on reaching the shore, was offered salmon. According to legend, the King ordered 3 fish to be gutted, and then asked the presenter his name. As he had no name other than a Christian name, the courtiers laughingly declared that his name should be "Gut three". Thus the local name of Guthrie was born.

In 1938, salmon fishing was the second industry in St Cyrus, agriculture being the largest. These 2 industries still employ about 30% of the total available workforce but are now heavily outnumbered by industrial workers commuting to Montrose. Probably the last 40 years have seen a greater change to the area than the last 400.

Who can foretell what the next 40 years will bring?

### THIS CLOCK

was presented to the Parish of St Cyrus  
by

MISS JEAN WATSON OF LAURISTON

AS A PARTING MEMORIAL

of the deepest interest which Uncle &  
Professor she and her

JOHN BRAND ESQr

took in the prosperity of that Parish

FOR A PERIOD OF NEARLY 60 YEARS

1848

The clock in St Cyrus Church was presented to the parish in 1848 and the brass plate show above is attached to the frame of the clock. But how does this date fit in with the date over the Church door - which is 1854. Although not checked against any church records, it is understood considerable alterations were required when Miss Watson presented the clock. I think it is likely that the original entrance to the church was through the bell tower, since at that time there was no organ. The main door was moved to the other end. The date above the door refers to the date of the alterations.

The clock was built by Brysons of Edinburgh in 1848. It has a "deadbeat" escapement and goes for eight days when fully wound. The mechanism is driven by weights on a wire rope, which fall the whole height of the tower. The pendulum is 7ft long. Originally the clock had three trains:- one to control the movement of the hands, one to strike the hours and one to strike the quarters. The one for the quarters has been out of use for as long as I know (35yrs) and the two bells were removed before I came. It is probable that they were removed after the war. The hour bell has a rope and can also be used for church services.

Throughout the war, the clock was probably stopped and the chimes were certainly not used. This was because church bells were to be rung in the event of the Germans invading. After the war a collection was held in the village to restore the clock. This led some people to believe that the clock belonged to the village and not the Church. When Miss Watson presented the clock to the Parish, as far as she was concerned, the Parish was the Church.

The clock has to be wound once a week, usually on a Sunday, and this means climbing to the top of the tower, and the handle is about 18 inches long, so it is a 3ft circle. Generally speaking the clock keeps quite good time, though now and again for no very good reason it will suddenly go fast or slow. The timing is controlled by the length of the pendulum: to make it go faster you shorten it, and lengthen it to slow it down. The clock receives an annual service. It is important not to over oil it as this attracts grit, which causes wear. It would be nice to install an automatic winding device, but the clock has gone for 150 years. The mechanism might keep going for another 100 years. By the same token some vital part may break tomorrow and if it did, a new bit would almost certainly have to be specially made. It may be that in the near future the clock will have to be electrified. There is a group in the village who hope to raise money to repaint the clock faces, and the Church would be very pleased to accept their offer, though as yet no estimates have been taken.

The Church tower has been a landmark for at least 150 years and although we are no longer dependant on the clock to set our watches, it would be nice to keep it

going for another century and a half, even if the mechanism is not original. But it will cost money

(John Gavin)

**Whats in a Name** Last issue I asked where does the name St Cyrus come from? Well I got a lot of very clever replies but to cut a long story short - (and for the uninitiated like myself) here it is for all to see - St Cyrus (Angus) "Place dedicated to St Cyricus". Formerly known as Eglesgreig (from the Gaelic Eaglais Girig, "Girig's church"). The church here was dedicated to St Cyricus by Girig, a ninth century King of the Scots and Picts.

### St Cyrus Flower Show

The St Cyrus Flower Show held in the village hall on 14th August 2004 was opened by **SIR Robert Smith MP**, he then went on to present trophies to the prize-winners.

There were a disappointing number of entries (possibly due to our inconsistent weather), however, the standard of entries remained high.

There was disappointment also in the entries from the Youth Club in the Jonwen & Craighill Cups and their own shield - where there was only **one** mini garden entry. Perhaps there will be more interest next year.

**The Flower Show AGM**, takes place on **Tuesday 5th October at 7.30pm in the village hall** and it is hoped that as many as possible "**new faces**" will come along to start the planning for the 2005 show.

New exhibitors are needed for the show and it is hoped that locals interested in plants, flowers, veg-growing, crafts, baking etc. will have a go at entering in next years show. Its a good clean fun.....

# PROFILE

(of a local)

Name -

**Durward Haig Tavendale**

Age - 45 yrs

Occupation - Postman (St Cyrus)

What brought you to St  
Cyrus/How long have you lived  
here?

My occupation now has been  
delivering mail in St Cyrus for  
three and a half years.

Q What is your favourite film?

A I have two - "One flew over the  
Cuckoo's Nest" and "The  
Searchers"

Q Do you have a hero?

A John Wayne

Q What is your favourite TV  
soap

A "Emmerdale"

Q what makes you cry?

A Any sad event, I am a very  
emotional person.

Q what is your favourite meal?

A "Chilli"

Q If you win the lottery what  
would you buy first?

A A good bottle of Malt Whisky  
to celebrate my win.

Q What book are you reading at  
the moment?

A The Murder Book by  
Jonathon Kellerman

Q Who would you most like to be  
stuck on a desert island with?

A My wife Sheila

Q what music do you like just now

A The Vatersay Boys

Q If you had to live in another  
country where would it be?

A Austria

Q Have you met anyone famous?

A Sir Jimmy Saville once ran  
along side of my Postie van

Q What do you like best about St  
Cyrus?

A The people(my customers) who  
make my job that bit easier by  
being so obliging and friendly.

## SAWADEE KA !!!!!

Update on Hannah Openshaw in  
North Thailand(remember) - After  
whizzing around the capital -  
Bangkok in a Tuk-Tuk for a couple  
of days, Hannah is now in Phrae -  
pronounced "prayer" She has  
introduced herself to three and a  
half thousand people at Nareerat  
School. Hannah is finding the food  
- um - interesting e.g. Fish Bladder  
for evening meal and breakfast the  
other day was rice, pickled chilled  
cabbage plus salty fried little fish

with eyes!! (well I guess there is  
something to be said for soggy  
cornflakes after all) Hannah was  
watching Thai Silk being hand  
painted the other day and it aint  
expensive - ( guess that makes up  
for the fish bladder... )The weather  
is very hot and the Staff, pupils and  
family she is staying with and her  
work colleague Rebecca are all very  
kind and friendly. Its good to hear  
she is settling in okay. Thanks to  
all who helped her raise the funds.

(Sawadee Ka! - means Hello)

### Donations to Hall

Whist Club (May)	£100.25
Tea Dancers (August)	£150.00

### Donations to Newsletter

St Cyrus Wildlife N Reserve	£31.65
St Cyrus Hotel	£9.31 + 2 euros
Filling station	£6.00
Post Office	£5.00

"Many thanks to all of the above  
for their generosity"

## IDIOMS

### Two-faced person

**SINHALESE:** He pats your head  
with one hand and pokes your eye  
out with the other

**MALAY:** He puts a banana in  
your mouth with one hand and a  
thorn in your behind with the other

**AUSTRALIAN:** He's about as  
straight as a dog's hind leg



**MEARNS COASTAL PARISH**

The St Cyrus church hall in Station Place has now been sold and will be made into an attractive home by its new owners. The cost of keeping and heating the hall was making a drain on our parish funds. In the coming year, the Board will be planning to repair St Cyrus steeple and roof, both of which need attention soon.

The next five years will be a testing time for the Church of Scotland generally with a shortfall of 140 ministers over the country. Presbyteries are discussing where they can make amalgamations and links. We feel we have gone a way to prevent that by closing Garvock and Benholm and putting worship in our two centres. But that is where you come in. We need you to support our church and come to worship for without people, there is no church. If you have fallen away from attending, take this invitation to make a new start. Worship is at 10 a.m. each Sunday this year (2004) and you will be welcome. In the New Year, from 2nd January 2005, we switch to 11.30 am

Mearns Coastal Parish Church covers Johnshaven and St Cyrus.

The Minister is the Rev. G. Hastie MA BD

**Church Notices:-**

**Harvest Sunday** - October 24th at 10 a.m. in St Cyrus church and 11.30 am in Johnshaven

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**Remembrance Sunday** - 14th November 10 a.m. Service in St Cyrus church and 11.30 a.m. Johnshaven - Both services will be followed by a wreath laying at the local war memorial.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Communion Sunday** for the whole parish at 10 a.m. in St Cyrus church on November 28th

There is a 3p.m. Advent Service at Johnshaven on that Day.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sunday 19th December **Family Christmas Service** - 10 a.m. at St Cyrus

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Saturday 25th **Christmas Day service** at 10 a.m. At St Cyrus church only

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Sunday 26th December normal worship on Boxing Day 10 a.m. at St Cyrus and 11.30 a.m. at Johnshaven

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**NOTE THAT IN 2005 ALL ST CYRUS SERVICES WILL BE AT 11.30 A.M. AND AT 10 A.M. AT JOHNHAVEN**

**St Cyrus Outdoor Bowling Club**

Club founded April 1984

Current President Jack McNicoll

The club plays on a regular basis, Wednesday evening and Saturday afternoons, from April through to October, at the Bowling Gyrus Recreation Ground. Current membership is 32 and new members are very welcome anytime. costs to join:-

Adults £20 per year

Pensioners £15 per year

Juniors £10 per year

The synthetic surface the club plays on was laid in 1984 and a reliable source has informed us that it is now the **oldest surface still in use in the British Isles and possibly in the world!** So it

urgently needs replacing and the club is endeavoring to raise sufficient funds to renew it. The cost of this would be in the region of £30,000. This season we have raised through various events, around £5,000. Grants from the National Lottery and Council funds are being applied for. **Any donations would be very welcome.**

This seasons competition winners are:

Club Champion- Margaret Slessor

Runner up - Margaret Burns

Mens Singles - Sandy Davidson

Runner up - Sye Jamieson

Ladies Singles - Margaret Burns

Runner up - Margaret Slessor

Pairs Champions - Sandy Davidson/Molly Neilson

Runners up - Tug Wilson/Ethel Woods

Novices Cup - Sye Jamieson

Applications for membership and other queries should be made to-  
The Club Secretary - Malcolm Wilson tel 01674 850824

Karratha

Mayfield Road, St Cyrus.

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I am looking for any photographs in connection with a German plane which came down during WW2 near St Cyrus and also photos of the St Cyrus Railway station. Contact Eric Herd tel 07821 808020

(I am also keen to start up a cyle club) Eric Herd tel 07821 808020

## Clubs/Organisations

### TEA DANCE CLUB

Every Friday 2pm - 4pm

St Cyrus village hall. Our group are v. friendly. Dancing is a mix of old time, ceilidh and sequence. New members are always welcome and no previous experience is necessary.

contact: Nan Mills - 850314

### Scottish Country Dance Club

Monday evenings 7.30pm - 9pm

13 SEPTEMBER - end of MAY 2005

Founded 13 years ago and started in the Kirk Hall -we are a friendly club and we do traditional Scottish Country Dance. We average 8 dances a night and a new dance is taught each night. The members have learn over 550 dances, although they will tell you that they cannot be expected to remember them all. New members should have some previous experience. We hold several social events also throughout the year - We hold an Annual Open Dance with a live band. These dances are greatly enjoyed by dancers from Aberdeen, Arbroath, Carnoustie, Montrose, Stonehaven and others. We also have party nights on the occasion of special birthdays, wedding anniversaries etc. - we all enjoy a party!! The season finishes with a wine & cheese night. So what are you waiting for.....

contact: Joan Davidson 850367

### Outdoor Bowling

contact - Mr M J Wilson tel 01674 850824

### Indoor Bowling

Thur 7pm - 9pm

16th September - end of April 2005

contact - 850352

### St Cyrus Comm Council

#### Meetings

7pm - 9pm - all welcome

second Tuesday in Month /contact 850371

Whist - September 15th - April 2005

Wed - 6.30 - 9pm contact 850417

OAP -second Monday each month

7pm - 10pm

Oct - April 2005 break at X-mas

contact 850417

Playgroup Tue & wed 9am - 12am/ term time . contact 850723

Parents & Toddlers - 850821

Fri 10 - 12 am

St Peters Free Church 1st Sunday every month/ contact 850607

Mearns Coastal Parish Services - contact - 850288

Sunday School - 01561 362787

### Keep Fit

Wed 8-9pm

### Gentle Exercise

Thur 10.30 - 11.30 am

WRI Sep-May 2005 1st Monday in month 7.30pm/break at X-mas contact 850739

Youth Club term times only

jnr p5-7= 6.30 - 8.15pm Fri

snr s1-3 = 8.30 - 10pm Fri/ contact 850607

### St Cyrus Friendship club

The club meets every Wednesday in the Village Hall at 10.00 a.m. Entry is through the side door.

There is no charge, and you do not have to be a member, you can just drop in as and when you feel like it. We start with coffee and a chat

followed by a quiz, and a few gentle exercises. After that we play various games such as Scrabble, Whist and Dominoes. Lunch is served at about 12 noon provided by the Bervie school kitchen, and for this the cost is £2.50. Not everybody stays for lunch, but if you do wish to have lunch you must let us know by 10.30 a.m. so that we can inform the kitchen.

Anyone is most welcome to drop in at any time, and you don't have to join in the games or exercises. You can just sit and chat.

Wed 10am +lunch 12 am /contact 850288

Hall Committee 1st Wednesday every month 7.30pm /contact 850003

### Hall Bookings

**Margaret Slessor 01674 850726**

CUBS - scout hall every Tuesday 7pm - 8.30pm /contact 01561 362017

Beavers - Mon 6.30 - 7.30 contact 01674 850539

Girl guides 7.30 - 9.00 Wed contact 01561 361996

Brownies Wed 6.00 - 7.30 contact 361996

Rainbows Wed 4.00 - 5.00pm contact 361996

St Cyrus & Mearns Youth Football Club - 850371

Summer League Football Club - contact - 01674 637809

Flower Show - 850388

Scottish Natural Heritage - contact 830736

Aberdeenshire Council - contact - Bill Howatson - 01674 830746

### Local EMERGENCY Contact Numbers

Police(Montrose) 01674 672222

Non emergency - 0845 6005700 -  
(generall assistance/information)

Dr's Surgery - Inverbervie -  
contact - 01561 361260//361448

P.O./Shop 01674 850270

School s St Cyrus - 01674 850215

Mearns Academy - 01561 378817

Mackie Academy - 01569 762071

Montrose Academy -01674 672626

High School of Dundee - 01382  
229822

Wilson's Garage 01674 850244

### DIARY DATES.....

#### OCTOBER

**Saturday 2nd** Playgroup

Coffee Morning village hall

10 am - 11.30am

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**Sunday 3rd** Guided Walk  
"St Cyrus Fungal Foray"

Join an expert mycologist for a  
fascinating insight into the fungi  
found at St Cyrus.

2pm - 4pm. Meet at the St Cyrus  
NNR Visitor Centre

Booking essential - Telephone  
01674 830736 to book or for more  
information.

\*\*\*\*\*

**4th - (Monday)** St Cyrus WRI

7.30pm village hall

Wild Life Liason Officer

PC McKinnon, Laurencekirk

(members & new visitors welcome)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday 16th** - Village Hall  
committee

Table Top Sale

10 am - 12 noon

(£10.00 per table - to reserve a  
table Tel 01674 850 003)

Coffee, tea and biscuits

**Sunday 24th October** - Indoor  
Bowls - village hall

11.30 am

\*\*\*\*\*

#### NOVEMBER

**1st (Monday)** St Cyrus WRI

7.30pm village hall

Nan Bell, West Fife from Culross  
to Dunfermline -Talk & slides

(members & new visitors welcome)

\*\*\*\*\*

**6th (Saturday)** New Hope Trust

Coffee Morning 10 - 11.30 am

Shoe Box Appeal - donations  
received

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**6th (Saturday)** Coastal Parish  
Church -

evening event - no further details

\*\*\*\*\*

**13th (Saturday)** Youth Club

no further details

#### DECEMBER

**4th (Saturday)** Village Hal comm.

Christmas Craft Fair

10am - 2pm

**6th (Monday)** St Cyrus WRI

7.30pm village hall -

Crafts for Christmas - Cath Rae,  
Laurencekirk

(members & new visitors welcome)

\*\*\*\*\*

**13th (Monday)** OAP

Christmas Party

6pm - 10pm

**18th (Saturday)** Playgroup

Coffee Morning

10am - 12 noon

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**Answers to last Quiz**

1. What was the first James Bond  
Film called?

**Dr No**

2. How many feet make a mile?

**5,280**

3. What did Sherlock Holmes  
keep in the toe of a Persian  
Slipper?

**His pipe tobacco**

Well done clever clogs - if you got  
them all right.....

**THE MOBILE LIBRARY  
VISITS EVERY TWO WEEKS  
ON A MONDAY** at the following  
times:-

Invergarry Park - 3.30pm

The Hall - 4pm

Croft Place 4.30pm

**QUIZ - QUIZ - QUIZ- QUIZ-**

The following is a list of well known films, unscramble the letters To make the title of a film - the first one has been done for you

Donations of £1.00 for this .

1 IBBAM e.g. answer - **BAMBI**

2 ELNAI -

3 ESK

4 LPTOTEGSERI

5 ALLBAARBRE

6 SITTEOO

7 SWAJ

8 NUDE

9 IIGDAN

10 SGRHEOTTSSUB

11 SSAILE

12 OPSHCY

13 TICIAAANT

14 LUUZ

15 SYOCUSPTO

16 WDLEROWTS

17 FRESCAAC

18 AGOLLZDI

19 GEVORIT

20 ATSNIAAF

THE SENDER OF THE FIRST  
CORRECT ENTRY DRAWN AT  
RANDOM **WILL WIN THE  
FABULOUS £5.00 GIFT  
VOUCHER**

Please send your ANSWERS on a piece of paper with your Name and Address and/or Telephone No (so I can tell you if you have won) to

Joyce Joy

Rosefield House

Beach Road

St Cyrus

DD10 0BJ

closing date December 12th

GOOD LUCK !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

If you have an item to be included in the next Newsletter please send this tear off slip and attach to your item then return to me. (I can only accept items which carry a name and contact details).

NAME.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Tel/e-mail.....

\*\*\*\*\*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY PETER**

**15 YRS OLD**

**ON**

**8TH NOVEMBER 2004**

\*\*\*\*\*

*Have a lovely Birthday*

**LINA**

**ON**

**21ST JANUARY 2005**

\*\*\*\*\*

Lots of people say to me "Would it be a good ideal to set up a Heritage Group in the village"

My reply is always "Yes, it would. I am sure there are postcards, letters, stories and photo's of the old railway - people still around who have memories stored away in their heads" So why don't we get together - have a chin wag and put it all together.

Anyone out there who thinks the same get in touch with me. Look forward to hearing from you.

My details are on the front cover.

**POOL OF VOLUNTEERS**

There are many things to be done in and around St Cyrus to improve the quality of the village but we need volunteers and we can't rely on the same people to do the work all the time so step forward and volunteer - its very rewarding and lets face it - not too difficult to spare a little of your time - occasionaly

come on chaps and chapesses

get in touch with me and I can put you on our list.....

Many thanks

Joyce Joy