

# O.A.K. Café Newsletter - 2018



**O.A.K.**

Welcome to the O.A.K. Café Newsletter - 2018 which I hope will bring all of the O.A.K. volunteers up to date with what you have helped to do during the past year.

Firstly however, I want to thank all of you for the time you have given to the café, in the variety of work which you have done, either 'front of house' serving our customers or in the kitchen, cooking, cleaning etc to get the meals and snacks out to our customers, both those paying and others, who for whatever reasons receive free meals which are ultimately paid for by St Mark's Church.

Inside you will find some detailed information about the café but if you have any questions please ask your daily cook, or other O.A.K. Management Committee member.

*David Macmillan*

If, like many of us, you have been involved with the Café over a few years you will know that at the end of 2016, Malcolm and Betty Steel retired from the Café after more than 20 year's involvement. At that time, St Mark's and Crown Terrace Methodist churches decided that there was a need to review the operation of the Café and to spread the load of administration and management. To this end a new, O.A.K. Management Committee was formed, made up of the daily cooks. Two 'Front of House' representatives from St Mark's and one from Crown Terrace, one representative from each church's Office Bearers and the O.A.K. Treasurer.

When this group first met it was agreed that Mike Dyer from Crown Terrace would fulfil both the Crown Terrace positions and that Alex McConochie would take on the role of O.A.K. Treasurer.

Accordingly, the full Committee comprises:

Kay Montgomery	Monday Cook
Alex McConochie	Tuesday Cook (Treasurer)
Anne Donaldson	Wednesday Cook
Marjorie Lord	Thursday Cook
Rena Macnaughton	Friday Cook
David Yacamini	Front of House - St Mark's (Chair.)
Elsa Black	Front of House - St Mark's
Mike Dyer	Front of House - Crown Terrace
Ian Lord	St Mark's Office Bearer (Secretary)

The Committee meets on a regular basis and plans eg the Special and Christmas lunches, other events such as the Macmillan Annual Tea Party and Palm Sunday Service.

As stated in its Constitution the Aims of the O.A.K. Café are:

*To encourage and support in a practical way the advancement of Christian witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ within the City of Aberdeen through working together in a spirit of mutual trust and cooperation within an ecumenical environment.*

And the Objectives of the organisation are to:

- *To advance Christian activities within Aberdeen City.*
- *To provide at low cost food and lunches particularly to disadvantaged people of Aberdeen.*
- *To provide a coffee shop and outreach facility.*
- *Sell Christian cards.*
- *To provide a facility and outreach for young and vulnerable people.*
- *To promote and encourage participation by the community in all activities of O.A.K.*
- *To contribute in a charitable way to any good cause whether local, national or international which further the Christian ethos.*
- *To promote and encourage such activities that will serve to advance Christian fellowship and understanding between the members of O.A.K.*

To these ends we provide free meals to those in need whether due to homelessness or who are otherwise disadvantaged and we provide a meeting place for 'Friends' who work with those experiencing mental health issues.

We maintain reasonable prices for meals and snacks and make financial donations to a range of Charities at home or abroad through our Special Lunches or from our annual surplus from normal activities.

Overleaf you will find an extract of our 2017 Accounts and details of our Charitable donations.

Income		Expenditure	
Jan 2017 Cash in Bank	780.98	Stock Purchases	5,282.10
Savings A/C	2,173.70	Donation to St Mark's	5,500.00
Bank Interest	3.41	Cogwheel Trust	630.00
Cash Float	35.00	Other Donations	1,917.00
Weekly Sales	16,383.66	Staff Costs	3,315.00
Free Meals	2,767.10		
Special Lunches	1,844.10	Dec 2017 Cash in Bank	6,653.87
Christmas Lunches	1,156.00	Savings A/C	2,177.11
Disaster Jar etc	366.13	Cash Float	35.00
	<u>25,510.08</u>		<u>25,510.08</u>

Other Donations included, Fishermen's School in Ghana £500, Friends (Aberdeen) £300, Scottish Bible Society £700, Macmillan Nurses £417. After approval of the Accounts the Committee agreed to make the following further donations:

Charlie House £1,000, Cairns Counselling £1,000, Befriend a Child £1,000.

During 2018 we will hold Special Lunches as follows:

Penumbra - 8 March, Ghana School - 17 May, Bible Society - 23 August, Friends - 8 November and in September we will hold a Macmillan Afternoon Tea.

On December 13 we will hold our Christmas Lunch (this year we will have only one.)

On 2 March we will host the after service tea for the World Day of Prayer and on 25 March we will host the Circle of Care Communion afternoon tea.