

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday Services 1, 8, 15, 22 March 10am Bellie, 11.30 Speymouth

Sun 29 Mar – UNITED service at Bellie Church, 10 am

Friday 6 March - World Day of Prayer service at Gordon Chapel, 2pm

Saturday 21 March – Bellie & Speymouth Church **COFFEE MORNING**
10-12 noon in Bellie Church Hall.

Sunday 5 April – Guild DAFFODIL TEA 2-4pm in Speymouth Village Hall, Mosstodloch

HOLY WEEK SERVICES 5th - 12th APRIL

Palm Sunday 5th - Services 10 am Bellie. 11.30 Speymouth

Elder led devotions Monday - Friday 8am in Bellie.

Maundy Thursday 9th – Eve Worship & Communion in Bellie – (7pm **tbc**)

Good Friday 10th - Eve Worship St Andrew's Lhanbryd & Urquhart – (7pm **tbc**)

Easter Sunday 12th **Sunrise Service** with Communion **Speymouth 7am**

United Family Worship at Bellie 10am

NEXT ISSUE

Please send in 'copy' and photos AS & WHEN you have them

CONTACT INFORMATION

Interim Moderator: Rev Bob Anderson, 01340 831381

RJMAnderson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Colin Hanover - 01542 489061. Also see Church Admin

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Scottish Charity Number [SC005310](#)



KIRK NEWS LIGHT

Issue No 1 FEB/ MAR 2020

Dear Parishioners of Bellie and Speymouth

We are all continuing to pray for a full recovery for Seòras and look forward, God willing, to his happy return to us. I know that you will continue to keep Seòras, Debbie and Sully in your prayers.

I thought I should just explain that it is normal practice for Presbytery to appoint an Interim Moderator when a Parish Minister has been on sick leave for more than a month. I have been appointed as your Interim Moderator in the meantime and, for all the right reasons, I hope I will not be with you for long.

My main tasks will consist of Moderating Kirk Session meetings, ensuring that the Sacraments are properly administered and arranging for someone to cover all of the weekly services as well as ongoing Pastoral care of the congregation and Parish. We are fortunate that Colin Hanover will continue to conduct services and undertake pastoral visitation and we are most grateful for that.

Basically for now the buck stops with the Interim Moderator, so please do not hesitate to be in touch with me if I can be of assistance in any way.

(See Back Page for Contact Details)

And now, let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together – but encouraging one another. – Hebrews 10:23-25.

Keep praying, keep singing, keep on loving, and keep serving – and feel the pleasure of God in Christ our Lord.

Yours faithfully, *Bob Anderson*



YOUNG CHURCH (& OLD) at Congregational Nativity



Three Wise (?) Men!

With Love from God to You

What better message to end 2019 with (and take with us into 2020!)
but the wonderful story of the nativity..... with a twist.



Assorted sheep and
shepherds!

With thanks to the Bible Society,
our story took us right back to the beginning
as we remembered how the world began and
reflected on the impact
a tiny baby (this unique Baby Jesus)
has on us all.

A beautifully worded script, fantastic sound
effects and background imagery and not
forgetting some wonderful Christmas hymns.

Of course it wouldn't have been complete
without all of the children and congregation
joyfully joining in.

*Love to all through 2020,
Young Church Team*

[Rev Bob Anderson is minister at Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown l/w
Rothies and is our Interim Moderator until Rev Seòras is well again. These
are a few notes from his Communion service on 16 Feb 20]

Sometimes **Communion** doesn't mean that much to people. But we are
sharing in a gift given by God who, through Jesus, has shared his thoughts
and hopes for us, shared the depth of his love for the people he created.

Bread and wine are common things. What changes them is what they
stand for, what Jesus told us they stand for. They are **signs and symbols of
the eternal, mysterious truth that one day we will sit down to a meal in
the Kingdom of Heaven!** Try to imagine it – we are at ONE with
Christians of all denominations the whole world over, some in abject
poverty, some with great wealth. We worship **TOGETHER** with all
Christians who have gone before us. We are at ONE with all those who will
come after us.

I am no ordinary person. I am a child of God, a disciple of Jesus.
In these simple signs, Jesus is saying, **I give myself to you
and ask you, to give yourself to me.**

DEPARTED FRIENDS

Jesus said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life"

December 2019

3 Dec – Heather Legge; 6 Dec – Kathleen Duncan; 17 Dec – Irene Harrold

January 2020

10 Jan – George Ramsay; 16 Jan – Gordon Rae; 20 Jan – Willie Lindsay

February 2020

7 Feb – Bunty Scott

May God's love bring to all family and friends his comfort and peace.

TUESDAY KEEP FIT CLASS showing off some nifty moves in getting to grips with the 'Birdie Song' and the 'Slosh'



Or not, as the case may be...☺!



Photos of their Christmas Party from Ruth Keir, cunningly concealed behind her camera...



TAKE NOTE'S
WONDERFUL
CHRISTMAS JOURNEY



Big Bellie Sleep-Out by Lisa Campbell



In 2018 John McC, Seòras and myself ventured into Aberdeen to support the cause to stop homelessness. After the event, I received a call from Social Bite asking why I had decided to get

involved. My answer was simple - everyone deserves a home and from small acorns mighty oaks grow. The man on the other end of the phone shared that after a separation in his family and losing his job he had been one of those homeless people a few years before. After receiving support to improve his view on life, he was given one of the nest houses in Edinburgh. [See Social Bite website] Now he had his own flat, a job and money to support himself.

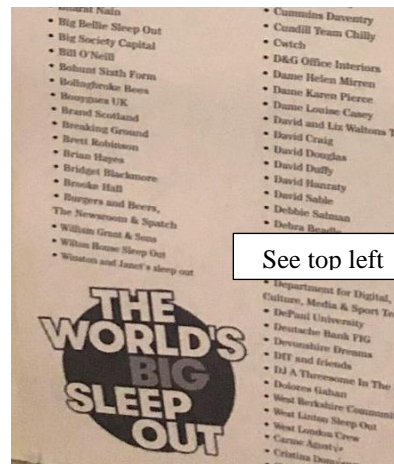
Fast forward to October 2019 - Sleep out in the Park was only going to be in Edinburgh, but the option opened up for mini sleep outs and so the Big Bellie Sleep Out idea was born.

17 children and adults signed up to participate on Saturday 7th December. The final sum raised was a magnificent £1922.56 and because of that, our name appeared on a mural displayed in the



United Nations building in New York between 10 - 19 February 2020.

Thank you to all who participated in and supported this wonderful cause. It was particularly good to see so many youngsters getting involved.



See top left

Knitting Group News from Jean Scott



We have been busy as usual.

*Through Margaret McInnes, *Step by Step* have received jumpers & cardigans for up to age 4. [Margaret, Milnsecroft]

**Dementia patients* in hospital are enjoying twiddle mitts made by June.

**Street Pastors* have passed on warm hats & scarves to those in need.

*The *Neo-natal unit at ARI* use our tiny garments for premature babies.

**Teddies* knitted by Mary Brander are loved by children who receive them.

**Moray Baby Bank* (a fairly new charity I contacted) are keen to have whatever we produce – so we will be kept busy for another year!

We were saddened to lose faithful member, Heather Legge, who passed away in November; but delighted to welcome 3 new members, Heather, Carol and Isobel.

Many thanks to all who donate wool to the group! It is much appreciated.

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Happy Birthday to *Coffee & Chat*!

On Monday 20 January Coffee & Chat celebrated its 14th Birthday. Since starting in January 2006, **it has contributed £42,600 to Church funds**. Initially contributions were given to the Reorder Campaign, followed by the Tower Fund and then the Multi-Media Fund.

It now goes into the General Fund pending a fresh target.

Considerable thanks are due to our Church Family and our Community friends who support us so faithfully week by week.

I am very grateful to all our volunteers who work on the rota each week.

Jennie Cameron.

The Church is very grateful to you for your leadership of the C & C team over all these years, Jennie, and now ably assisted by Louise Williamson.

SOME LAUGHTER FOR LENT



Helpers are needed! Please sign up
on the information sheep.



Women's Luncheon: Each member bring a sandwich.
Polly Phillips will give the medication.

The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people
who are not afflicted with any church.



The Pastor would appreciate it
if the ladies of the congregation
would lend him their electric girdles
for the pancake breakfast next
Sunday morning.



Lent is a period for preparing for Holy Weed and Easter.

BUT SERIOUSLY THOUGH... A DAILY PRAYER TO SAY DURING LENT

I will lean in, retreat from the pressures I face
and move closer and deeper into your love.

I will breathe out, refrain from the distractions I seek,
and become open and receiving of your grace.

I will linger, encircled by the depth of your care,
and receive the endless nature of your mercy.

I will whisper in the quiet of this sanctuary
and be honest and real in your presence.

I will listen, awaken all my senses to your voice
and become expectant and hopeful of your Kingdom work in my life.

Source Unknown.



*I decided to take part in the sleep out as I really felt it
was the best possible way to give back to people less
fortunate than myself after hearing heartbreaking
stories from people first hand. I think it is a great way
of supporting the charity Social Bite, but also by even
in such a small way to try to understand the reality of
why the charity exists, which for me, made it all more
worthwhile. Maisie McWilliam*



*Throughout the year Gemma and Zoe
are fortunate to receive opportunities to
try new things and always have a warm
meal, clothes and a bed to return to.
Gemma decided to not just talk the talk
of kindness but to 'sleep' her talk of
kindness and experience sleeping out for
herself. She realised that becoming homeless is not necessarily the fault of
the individual but is the result of a range of circumstances over which they
have no control.*

*At the Moray Scout Christingle
Service, we were reminded of
the fact that many hands make
light work. We all need help at
some point. Do what is right,
not what is easy and lend a
hand in 2020. Gemma Beange
Grace Urquhart wanted to
raise awareness of homelessness. She felt very tired after but enjoyed it.
Margaret felt the huge gulf between 'us', the homeless & 'late night' crowd.*



BITS FROM 'BEYOND'

Moray Presbytery



Our congratulations to Janet Whyte who was appointed as Presbytery Clerk for Moray in January this year. This is an extremely busy post and even more so in this time of change. Pray for wisdom, grace and patience.

Remember also Ann Bowie, Convener of Superintendence Committee; Margaret King, Convener of Ministries & Training Committee & Presbytery Prayer Co-ordinator, and John McConnachie, Safeguarding Training Officer for Moray Presbytery.

From the National Church

World Mission, Church & Society and Inter Faith are now 'one body' and have a new interim working name of FAITH IMPACT FORUM. The new governing body in the Forum has 15 members with the Very Rev Dr Susan Brown as Convener.

Ministries Council and Mission & Discipleship are now together under the name FAITH NURTURE FORUM.

STAMP APPEAL 2020

This year the Stamp Project proceeds will benefit

The Women's Development Centre (WDC) in Kandy, Sri Lanka
which runs a project to support women and girls who have been victims of rape and sexual violence.

The WDC gives these women somewhere to stay, and supports them in caring for their children, helps them return to education if they wish, and trains them in skills they can use to make a living when they leave.

The WDC has a social enterprise and café where the women can work and sell their hand-made products.

The WDC team care for girls who are vulnerable and often discarded by their families. It's impossible not to be moved by what they do.

[Rev Gillian Morton collects the used stamps from all over Moray Presbytery and sends them on to be sorted and sold on. £4000-7000 a year has been donated in the past, and with less 'snail mail' on the go, stamps may become more valuable in future! ☺ Many a mickle maks a muckle!]

CROSSREACH - CARING ON OUR BEHALF

CrossReach remains one of the largest voluntary sector providers of social care services in Scotland. Thousands of people every year experience God's love for them through the support they deliver.

Here are some prayer requests from CrossReach 'safe houses'

BEECHWOOD HOUSE, INVERNESS offers residential rehabilitation, community outreach and social care to people affected by substance use. *May they continue to offer a safe haven to those who are most vulnerable, a place where those who wish can learn to live again free from alcohol and drugs.*

ADAMS HOUSE, JOHNSTONE is a specialist residential care home for 30 people diagnosed with dementia.

May staff and residents all feel God's presence like a comforting spirit walking beside them in love and peace.

GABERSTON HOUSE, ALLOA, based in tranquil private grounds, is a residential service for adults with mental health issues and also provides outreach support in the community.

May God bring hope, grace and peace to all who are impacted by the work that goes on within this service.

SIMPSON HOUSE AND SUNFLOWER GARDEN, EDINBURGH provides counselling and therapeutic support to adults affected by use of drugs or alcohol, and the families, aged 5-18 affected by their actions. They provide a safe space for all who have experienced significant trauma in their lives.

May God's strength continue to support the service in all that they do and His light never waver in dark times.



Children's Mental Health Week: CrossReach help young people to 'Find their Brave' every day. To watch the video of Robbie's story www.crossreach.org.uk/news/finding-their-brave

ANYONE UP FOR A CHALLENGE?

events@crossreach.org.uk

Zip Wire Challenge, Aviemore 2 May or 5 Sep (**How about it TGIS?!**)

Forth Bridge Abseil 10 May