



September 2015

KIRK NEWS



Dear Friends

Greetings from your Manse

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Hebrews 13 v8

I have been told the following story – which may or may not be true, but either way it has in it a very valuable lesson:-

One day, there was a blind man sitting on the step of a building with a hat by his feet and sign that read *'I am blind, please help.'* A creative publicist was walking by and stopped to have a look. He saw that the blind man had only a few coins in his hat. He dropped in a few more coins and, without asking for permission, took the sign and rewrote it.

The same afternoon the publicist returned to the blind man and noticed that his hat was full of notes and coins. He paused for a moment and the blind man asked him if he was the person who had rewritten his sign and, if so, what did he write?

The publicist responded: 'Nothing that wasn't true. I just wrote the message a little differently.' He smiled and went his way.

"The new sign read: *'Today is golden autumn and I can't see it.'*

Sometimes we need to change our strategy.

**"If we always do what we've always done,
we will always get what we've always got."**

Did you ever stop to think that the New Testament part of the Bible is almost silent on the method by which we should conduct ministry? I think the reason is obvious. If it weren't, some of us would stick to the same methods used in Paul and Peter's day religiously and rigidly. While God never changes and while his Word never changes, often times our means of communicating it needs to change with the times. Remember, **"Nothing changes if nothing changes."** In other words, if what we are doing in our relationships, our family life, and in our churches isn't working, or isn't as exciting as it once was then we may very well need to change ourselves and/or our



strategies and methods, even our traditions and rituals. Change is so often feared, yet in reality it can be the best thing ever for adding new life and vigour to a task.

So let us all grasp change and trust that God's hand is upon it all. Blessings to you and all your care.

Your Minister, *Alison Mehigan*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Team Romania 2015.....	2
Bellie and Speymouth Guild....	4
Holiday Club.....	5
Organist/pianist recruitment..	6
Speymouth welcome rota.....	6
Life after Death/The Engineer	7
Eco news.....	8
Traidcraft.....	9
Christian Aid.....	10
Bellie Babes	10
In need of a laugh?!	11
Church and Society.....	11
Soup and Sweet	12
Brew and Blether	12
Scottish Country Dancing	12
Worship Team	12
Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals .	13
Getting to know you	13
Kids Corner.....	14
Event advertisements.....	15
Celtic Kirk Service	16
Our Special Day	16
Take Note.....	17
Baton Relay photographs	17
Young Church Fun Day	18
Young Church Summer Fun....	19
Dates for your diary.....	20

TEAM ROMANIA 2015 BY ISABEL MACLEOD PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANNE MURRAY



When you leave the village of Fochabers behind and head off to a different country it can be challenging – even when you are going on a holiday or on a business trip but, in July, 17 Bellie & Speymouth folks travelled on a different kind of journey – one which would lead them to a completely different experience. It was a 3,000 mile round trip and 2 of our number made the journey by car!!! John and Iain drove overland with 2 overnight stops to take a car packed with resources to a remote hill

in Western Romania where 68 children aged between 8 and 16 came to spend a week at a Friendship Camp. The other 15 of us flew out and we all met up at the camp.

Our time there was spent leading the week's activities and our duties included everything from teaching the children, singing, doing crafts, playing games and prayer to serving meals and cleaning toilets.



It was a full-on week for the 8 adults and 9 young people who made the journey. The time there was challenging, it was very hot, the conditions were basic but perfectly satisfactory, it was harrowing at times, full of fun and laughter and it was also very rewarding seeing the children there so eager to learn about Jesus and to hear of His love for them. They were happy with simple things and gave 100% in every activity they tried. Some of the children



were from an orphanage, some were children who had been adopted into Christian families and about half of them were the children of low-paid factory workers – the factory had sponsored them to come to the camp for the week. All put their heart and soul into the week and hopefully seeds were sown and they received the simple Gospel message that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend.



TEAM ROMANIA 2015 CONTINUED

For the team that went out to work there it was also a learning experience. You cannot go out into a situation like that without being changed and all of us came back enriched and enlightened and having made new friends. Our Romanian friends who live and work there – Adi, Tabita and Christina, along with Callum - do a fantastic job in running the camp for 8 weeks each summer and it is an important avenue of God's work in spreading the good news and making disciples.



Hopefully you will be able to see the photos we have brought back to give you a flavour of what life there is like. The Mission Trip is a huge undertaking in terms of preparation and your support was hugely appreciated. Every encouragement, every donation of items and money, every prayer offered up to God for the Mission counted and it was great that the whole church family could be involved in the



project in some way or another even if it wasn't on the actual team. The work there continues – so keep on praying and encouraging. God is moving in hearts and lives there as well as here and we must praise Him for all that has already been accomplished and all that is still to be accomplished in that part of the world.

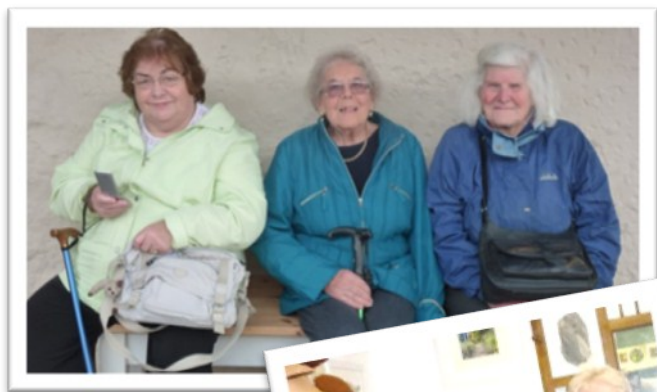


***Team
Romania
2015***



BELLIE & SPEYMOOUTH GUILD MARGARET KING, GUILD CONVENER

With summer disappearing fast, [or did it just not appear?] my mind is turning slowly to our next Guild season. We have had several happy outings over the summer – to Christie’s nurseries, the Olive Tree Restaurant, shops and Garden at Logie Steading [some photos below], The Walled Garden Café and most recently to Irene’s Tea Room in Rothes. (Irene is a Guild Member at Rothes Church and uses her front room very creatively to seat 18-20 customers.)



Our programme is starting a little later this year and is still a work in progress. Our new three year Strategy is BE BOLD, BE STRONG divided into three annual themes, the first of which is GO IN PEACE.

Our syllabus up to Christmas looks something like this – but with a ‘to be confirmed’ tag-line.

13 Oct	2 pm	Dedication Service	Speymouth
27 Oct	7.30	Guild Projects 2015-18 – Susan Gilliland	Bellie
10 Nov	2 pm	Guild Projects 2015-18 – Liz Moir	Speymouth
	7.30	Life in the Red Cross – Liz Tait	Bellie
Guild Week 15 – 22 November			
Sat 14 Nov		Guild Coffee Morning	
Sun 15 Nov		Guild-led Services	Bellie & Speymouth
24 Nov	7.30	OPEN MEETING	
		<i>Harmony in Hand</i> – Signed singing	Bellie Church
8 Dec		Christmas Meals [Lunch & early Evening]	



Why not ‘Be bold’ and let this be the year you give the Guild a try?! It is a remarkable organisation and although a syllabus may look a bit dry in black and white, we are a happy bunch and you would be made most welcome at afternoon or evening meetings [or both if there is something different on!]. The Guild is in a time of transition locally and nationally so it would be good to have fresh input!

POLAR EXPLORERS HOLIDAY CLUB 2015 MARGARET MCINNES PHOTOS BY CAROLINE MARQUIS



The Polar Explorers Holiday Club for primary school age children was attended by 57 children over five mornings. With the help of Sir Random Finds and his friend Scruff, the children became mini explorers and went on a mini expedition each day learning about a different New Testament character. Through exploring the lives of these people, the children learnt that we can *never make too many mistakes, we are never too ordinary, that we are never too near or too far, never too bad or never too young to be part of God's big expedition and to be a friend of Jesus, going out to help others to be friends of Jesus too.*

A team of thirty people gave generously of their time, talents and money to host the Holiday Club at Bellie and Speymouth. It was a fun week with the children enjoying games, a wide variety of crafts, creative storytelling, action songs, ice dancing and expedition snacks, including an igloo ice cream cake! All of the above provided an opportunity for the children to make an initial or further commitment to follow Jesus. It helped them grow in faith and it was an opportunity to present the gospel to children who have never heard it. Finally it enabled us to establish links with the children's families. The Holiday Club Team would like to thank the congregation for their prayerful support and the



lovely lady in the congregation (you know who you are) who helped sustain the team and the children with homemade chocolate chip cookies!



"I learned about directions on a compass at holiday club as the theme was Polar Explorers. I enjoyed watching the drama." Angus Low

"I liked making things and the drama as it taught us not to tell lies and not to try to be other people. My favourite things were making and decorating a backpack." Niamh Sidney

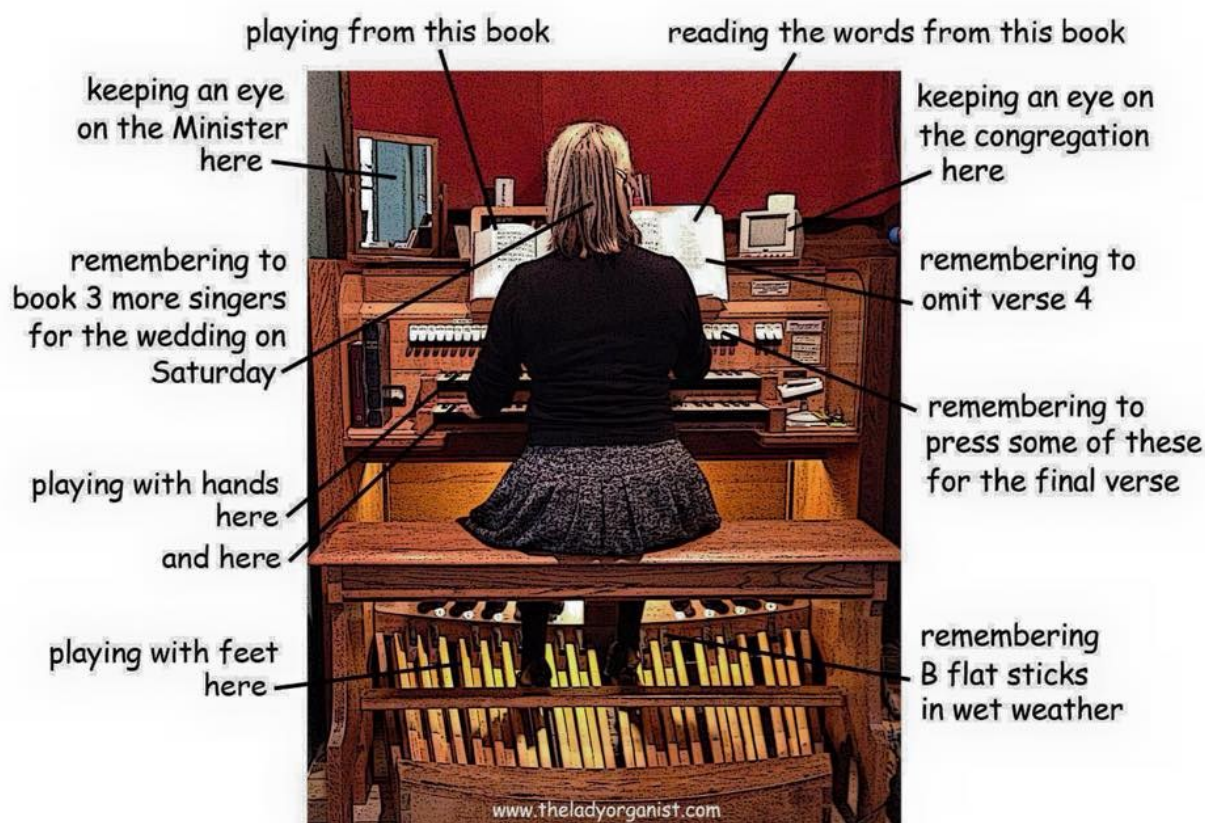


"My favourite part of holiday club was when we got to see Sir Random Finds because he was very funny!" Ethan Lambourne



CHURCH ORGANIST/PIANIST OPPORTUNITY

Bellie and Speymouth Parish Church of Scotland are seeking an organist/pianist on a full time or a rotational basis. Informal enquiries can be made to Rev. Alison Mehigan 01343820256 or M.Park 01343820801. Application in writing with 2 named referees should be made to Mrs E Rennie c/o 11 The Square Fochabers IV32 7DG



THE CHURCH ORGANIST SUBMITTED BY MARGARET KING

SPEYMOOUTH WELCOME ROTA

SEPTEMBER

6th	Olive Craigie	Winnie Hepburn
13th	Sandra Steel	Jean Ogilvie
20th	Jean Leithead	Alison McDonald
27th	Grace Hendry	Helen Morrison

OCTOBER

4th	Janet Whyte	Jennifer Reid
11th	Helen Campbell	Olive Craigie
18th	Robert Still	Winnie Hepburn
25th	Sandra Steel	Jean Ogilvie

NOVEMBER

1st	Jean Ogilvie	Alison McDonald
8th	Grace Hendry	Helen Morrison
15th	Janet Whyte	Jennifer Reid
22nd	Helen Campbell	Olive Craigie
29th	Robert Still	Winnie Hepburn

DECEMBER

6th	Sandra Steel	Jean Ogilvie
13th	Jean Leithead	Alison McDonald
20th	Grace Hendry	Helen Morrison
27th	Janet Whyte	Jennifer Reid

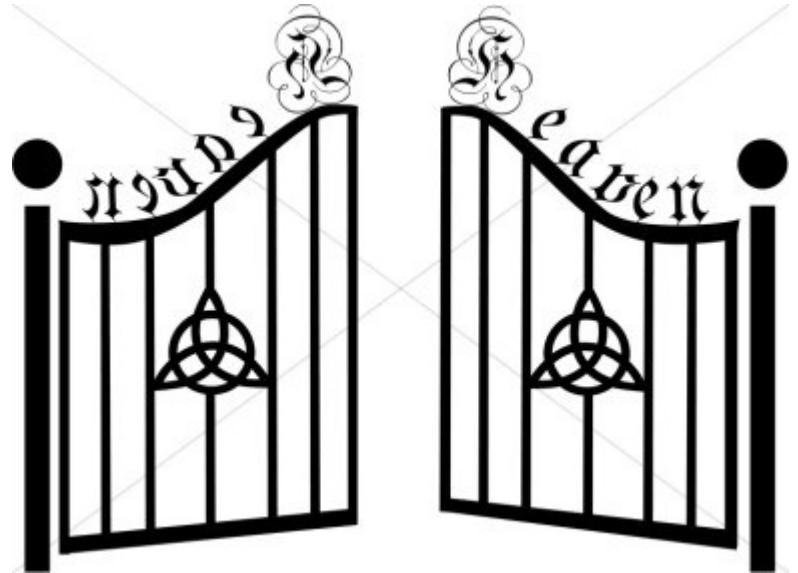
LIFE AFTER DEATH SUBMITTED BY GRACE HENDRY

This is an extract from an interesting article written by Ron Ferguson in the June edition of “Life and Work” which we would like to share with you.

The article referred to a book written by neuroscientist David Eagleman who basically believed that knowledge of God is impossible, but wanted to provoke thinking. He said “I’m often surprised by the number of people who seem to have total certainty about the religious stories they were raised on. They have no doubt about the absolute truth of their story, even though every other adherent in every other religion shares that same certainty and knows that all other religions are patently untrue”. He is also not a fan of the certainties of the New Atheists either. He says he has a deep awe for the mysteries around us.

Ron says, “The Bible has several images of heaven and hell—pearly gates, streets of gold, lakes of fire.... most of them in the hard to interpret book of Revelation. The difficulty for us mere humans is that we lack the capacity to describe what is literally indescribable..... The bottom line is this: if God is a powerful tyrant, we are all stuffed. When it comes to a final judgement on our lives, who can possibly measure up? But if God is, as the Gospel reveals in Christ, a God of unconditional love, we stand on different ground. Who will be there? Distrust those with the loudest voices, and think on this poem from the prolific pen of Anon:”

*I dreamt death came the other night,
And heaven’s gate swung wide,
With kindly grace an angel came,
And ushered me inside.
And there to my astonishment
Stood folk I’d known on earth;
Some I had judged as quite unfit—
Or of but little worth.
Indignant words rose to my lips,
But never were set free,
For every face showed stunned surprise -
No one expected me!*



THE ENGINEER SUBMITTED BY GRACE HENDRY

An engineer dies and reports to the Pearly Gates. Saint Peter checks his dossier and, not seeing his name there, accidentally sent him to Hell. It doesn’t take long before the engineer becomes rather dissatisfied with the level of comfort in Hell. He soon begins to design and build improvements. Shortly thereafter, Hell has air conditioning, flush toilets and escalators. Needless to say, the engineer is a pretty popular guy.

One day, God calls Satan and says: “So, how are things in Hell?” Satan replies: “Things are going great. We’ve got air conditioning, flush toilets and escalators. And there’s no telling what this engineer is going to come up with next.”

“What!” God exclaims: “You’ve got an engineer? That’s a mistake—he should never have been sent to Hell. Send him to me.”

“Not a chance,” Satan replies. “I like having an engineer on the staff, and I’m keeping him!”

God insists: “Send him back or I’ll sue.”

Satan laughs uproariously and answers: “Yeah, right. And where are you going to get a lawyer?”



Meat Free Monday's

Following on from the article about reducing our meat intake and having one day a week being meat free, I thought it might be an idea to have the odd vegetarian recipe to encourage you to take part. I have spoken to various people and find that in a normal week a lot of people do have a meat free option. Also there are people who are vegetarians and I would like to hear from them if they would perhaps give us there favourite recipe that we could share in this section.

This recipe is from "The Meat Free Monday Cookbook"

Aubergine Parmigiana

5 tablespoons olive oil	3 medium aubergines, cut lengthways into pieces
2 garlic cloves, thinly sliced	2 balls mozzarella, sliced
2 x 400g can tomatoes	freshly grated vegetarian parmesan
1 teaspoon caster sugar	salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 cinnamon stick	1 small bunch basil leaves, torn

Preheat oven to 180 C/gas mark 4. Heat two tablespoons olive oil in a pan, add the garlic and fry gently for two minutes. Add the tomatoes and simmer for 15 minutes until thickened. Stir in the basil and the seasoning with salt and freshly ground black pepper, and the sugar.

Pre heat a ridged grill pan. Brush both sides of the aubergine with the remaining oil, season and griddle, turning a few times until completely tender, (you could do this in a non-stick frying pan). It's important to get the aubergines as tender as possible.

Put a few spoonfuls of the tomato and basil sauce in the bottom of a 26 x 20 cm dish, cover with the aubergine and mozzarella then repeat, ending with a thin layer of sauce (you'll have roughly three or four layers). Sprinkle with vegetarian Parmesan and bake for 30 – 40minutes until bubbling and golden.

Rag Bags

The next collection date for the Rag Bags is **29th October 2015**. We will start collecting bags all of October. Look for the plastic bags at the church doors or the church hall.

Food Bank

Bellie and Speymouth are still collecting food for the foodbank. As you may of heard that there is no longer a pick for the food at the institute but we will deliver it to Elgin.

At the Institute fresh vegetables and fruit were sold on the Thursday and Fridays and it is hoped that this will continue in September. Please check the general noticeboards for further information. Also they are looking for volunteers to help, again please check the noticeboards if you are interested.

Climate change Baton Relay (photographs can be seen on page 17)

The Baton arrived at Bellie and Speymouth on the 5th July at the joint service held at Speymouth. Peter Cromar highlighted our support for Climate justice and the congregation had the opportunity to see the Baton. The Baton is still touring the country till December where it will be taken to the UN climate change conference in Paris.



TRAIDCRAFT

Fighting poverty through trade

As you know at Bellie and Speymouth we have available our Traidcraft Sales Table and we are continuing to look for ways to sell the goods (mostly gifts now). The Eco team are looking for venues to take the Sales Table out and about. If you are a member of any other groups and would like us to come along with the goods please let us know. We could also put together a short presentation about what we do as an Eco Team as Traidcraft is only one part of it. The following is a letter that has been produced by Traidcraft that I hope you will read and consider.

Dear Friends

Traidcraft has placed editorial in the July editions of the church press with a simple message –

We're telling the Church and the wider community that we urgently need help. We need your help because the world's poorest small-scale farmers, struggling to feed and support their families, need our help. Sound like a familiar plea? It should. It's the same message as when we first started our mission over 35 years ago – to practically apply the love and justice which lies at the heart of Christian faith to international trade, and so give the world's poorest farmers the opportunity to trade fairly and thrive.

Given we're about to publish our accounts which show a trading loss for the fourth consecutive year, we are taking the unprecedented step of trying to communicate directly with Church leaders and members, to try and reinforce the work that we and our supporters have been battling to do.

There are two general misconceptions. The first is that the Fairtrade battle is won. Chocolate, tea, coffee and many more products with the now familiar Fairtrade Mark are stacked high on our supermarket shelves. Something Traidcraft and our supporters can be proud to have helped bring about. However, it is a myth that the job is done. Unfortunately, injustice in trade and its resultant poverty is as much of a scandal now as it was 35 years ago, and right now we're still doing everything we can to tackle it directly.

BY AVRIL CLARK

The second misconception is that Traidcraft and Fairtrade are the same. They are not. Traidcraft is an independent trading company, with a linked development charity. We do not benefit from the sales of Fairtrade products in the supermarkets. Traidcraft trades with and supports the most vulnerable farmers and artisans (who could not cope with the demands or scale required by big business or the supermarkets.) We pioneer to bring new commodities into the fair trade arena. Our linked development charity runs projects developing peoples' potential to trade their own way out of poverty in their own countries; and we lobby big business and government for fundamental changes to the way trade works so that it benefits the poor.

We believe this is the 'best of fair trade'.

But we urgently need help to keep doing it because despite the growth of total Fairtrade sales, we've seen Traidcraft sales significantly decline. Why? People are buying Fairtrade products from the supermarket and not from Traidcraft or its supporters. This means our original pioneering mission is now under serious threat.

Our plea is simple...

Ensure there's a Traidcraft Fair Trader in your church, offer them as much support as possible and buy Traidcraft products through them.

Don't just serve refreshments with the Fairtrade Mark on, make sure they're from Traidcraft.

Watch out for our autumn "Show you care" campaign and place whole church orders at Christmas time.

We hope our approach galvanises support. That's really all we're asking; for support. Together, we will continue to make trade fairer for the world's poorest producers who still desperately need our help.

If you already have a Traidcraft Fair Trader in your church please speak to them to see how you can help. There's more information about how to take action at www.traidcraft.co.uk/churchaction.

Thank you for your ongoing love and support and please keep us, and those we strive to help, in your prayers.

Yours faithfully,

Andy Biggs Chief Executive

CHRISTIAN AID HELEN MILLS, CHRISTIAN AID COORDINATOR

The offering from the ecumenical Speyfest service allowed us to donate £650.78 to Christian Aid. Many thanks to all who donated, counted and, of course, the Speyfest committee for nominating Speyfest as the recipient for this offering.

This is part of an email received from Christian Aid this week which I would like to share with you:

"This year marks 70 years of our work with partners across the world, 70 years of rebuilding lives and communities shattered by poverty, disaster and conflict. Our Harvest Appeal this year focuses on our work in Bolivia, India and South Africa. Visitors from these countries will be attending our 'Many Mountains to Climb' 70th anniversary supporter conference in Edinburgh on Saturday 3rd October. We'd be delighted to see you and other Christian Aid supporters from the Fochabers Churches there if you can make it."

Thank you for all the support throughout the year .



Bellie Babes

ANNETTE MEIGHAN

We have had a busy time at Bellie Babes since Easter. We have continued to welcome new members and are blessed with a strong regular attendance each week. We said a very sad farewell to the Crawford Family in July as they moved to Skye – we will truly miss Alison, Finlay and Ellis (not forgetting Bruce) and wish them well as they enter this new chapter in their lives; however we had a great farewell meal for Alison at Gordon Castle on a rare beautiful summers evening.

We have also waved some of our older members off to their full time nursery places and although we will miss them and their mum's on a weekly basis, we will hopefully continue to see them in the school holidays.

However our younger numbers continue to grow and it is lovely to see more younger ones around the hall and crawling on the mats. It is still a busy session on a Friday averaging about 20 every Friday, plus we have imminent 'bumps' on the go too! So more babies on the way!

We ask for your prayers for Bellie Babes as we embark on a new adventure. On the 4th September we start formally introducing the 'Friends of Bellie Babes'. Many of you may have heard about the team, made up from the congregation who are to assist us on a Friday morning, helping the mums and children enjoy the fun and fellowship together. We have already informally tried this and have had great feedback from both mums and 'friends' and we are excited at the prospect of what we can achieve together.

This is just one of many developments for Bellie Babes that is to be introduced over the next few months – it looks like it will be an exciting and busy time for us.

If you are a Mum or family carer with a pre-school age child or are pregnant and would like to come and join us then we meet every Friday at Bellie Church Hall from 9.30 – 11am.

IN NEED OF A LAUGH?! SUBMITTED BY GRACE HENDRY

A Sunday School teacher asked her children as they were on their way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping".

A father was at the beach with his children when the four year old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead on the sand. "Daddy what happened to him?" the son asked. "He died and went to Heaven" the Dad replied. The boy thought for a moment and then said "Did God throw him back down?"

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson... "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say "Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait." Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, Ryan, you be Jesus!

CHURCH AND SOCIETY COUNCIL JOHN MCCONNACHIE

Church and Society Council continues to beaver away dealing with some thorny issues which affect our Church and all in our society especially the poor and the marginalised. Recent Government announcements of cuts in benefit payments and changes to rules in how benefits are claimed, will undoubtedly make life more difficult for the poorest in our society.

One aspect which is being examined is the intrusion into the lives of all of us by various surveillance techniques by both official and private organisations. Most of us now accept that virtually all our movements are recorded by CCTV camera covering our streets, shopping areas, public transport and now private transport (cameras being installed in vehicles and even carried on cyclists' helmets). When all this information is added to other information we sometimes voluntarily give away eg loyalty cards, it is possible to build up substantially accurate profiles of

individuals. With a benign government, this may not cause great concern for most of the population but what if the government becomes more extreme. This may not simply be a case of extreme politicians gaining power but a benign government may consider 'tightening the rules' to deal with what they describe as 'terrorism'. Also, what of those people our government considers dangerous or perhaps may simply embarrass some politicians. Could they use all of the information they gather in an inappropriate way? This whole subject will be closely examined and considered in a theological setting over the next two years.

Another issue which will be subject of a report to the General Assembly is the subject of corporal punishment of children by parents or guardians. At the moment, the Church of Scotland has no policy on the subject which is certainly on the radar of the Scottish Government. The United Kingdom is one of only five European countries which allow parental corporal punishment of children although two of these, Belgium and France, have indicated they will change their law in the near future. The whole subject has been examined and discussed by experts including a Biblical theologian and a Practical theologian and the report is in the final stages of preparation. Some regard the subject as controversial and often quote or rather, misquote, Proverbs 13:24 – spare the rod and spoil the child – look it up and see what it really says!



SOUP AND SWEET IN AID OF SARCOMA UK AND ARCHIE FOUNDATION

JENNIE CAMERON



The Soup and Sweet event help on Saturday 20th June in Bellie Church Hall to raise funds for two charities, Sarcoma.org.uk and The Archie Foundation was a great success.

Jennie Cameron and her extended family wish to thank the members of our congregation and the wider community for their generous support.

The sum raised was £1,580.00

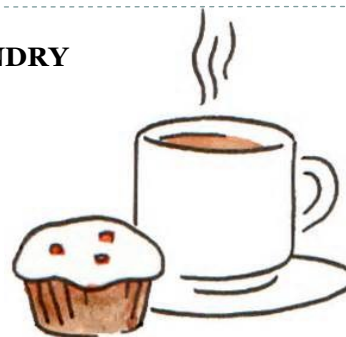


BREW AND BLETHER GRACE HENDRY

A warm welcome awaits you all on the first Friday of the month at Speymouth Church from 2pm til 3.30pm,

Bring a friend—the more the merrier!

I am always so grateful to our little team of Jenny, Dorothy and Stanley who help out so willingly.



SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CATHERINE FETTES

The Scottish Country Dancing class resumes in Bellie Church Hall on Wednesday 16th September at 7.30pm. We are always pleased to welcome anyone along to give it a try!

During the summer months we met once a month in Spey Bay Hall where we enjoyed social evenings with dancers joining us from the Inverness and Aberdeen areas and we have had around five sets dancing.

Members from our class have enjoyed visiting other groups social evenings.

BELLIE AND SPEYMOOUTH PARISH CHURCH WORSHIP TEAM LIZ RENNIE

Following the Summer recess, members of Bellie and Speymouth Worship Team have reconvened and are committed to working on 'The Way Forward' Consultation. This project allows an opportunity to consult widely across the Parish engaging members and families in a discussion to understand their perceptions of :

What currently happens? What would we like to happen? What might this look like? How do we make this happen?

.....in Bellie and Speymouth Parish Church

What is our vision for the future?

We have invited all of the Teams in the Church to come up with questions relative to their area of Parish work and we plan to pull all of these together into a consultation document. We look forward to sharing this with you over the coming months, furthermore we look forward to gathering together and analysing the information. We look forward with anticipation to your participation in this consultation. We will keep you informed of our work.

Worship Team members continue to plan for Milnescroft Worship, the next service being on 4 October, celebrating Harvest Thanksgiving. We are working on a new Christmas Carol Book for use during Advent and Watchnight Services. We always welcome any suggestions you may have around Worship ideas in our two Churches .

FUNERALS

Mr James (Jim) Webster, 73 Mossmill Park, Mosstodloch, 31 May 2015

Mrs Lily Jessie (Janet) Smith, Parklands Nursing Home, formerly Fochabers, 15 June 2015

Mrs Caroline Howells, Balhousie, Huntly, formerly Keith, 16 June 2015

Mrs Evelyn Inglis, Ashvale, Crofts of Dipple, 25th June 2015

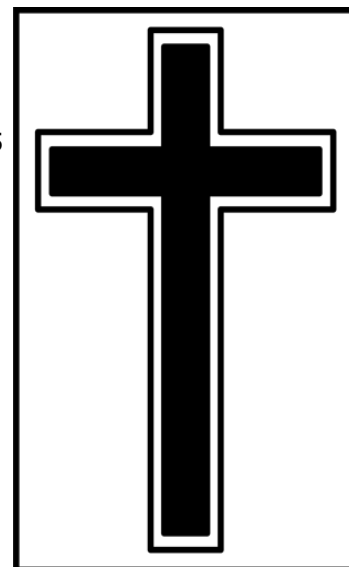
Mrs Bethia Simpson, 38 Pinewood Road, Mosstodloch, 25 June 2015

Mr Adam Brown, Abbeyvale, formerly Mill of Tynet Farm, 5th July 2015

Mrs Gail Wink, 70 Birnie Place, Mosstodloch, 5th July 2015

Mr Edward John (Eddie) Currie, 59a South Street, Fochabers, 1 August 2015

Mrs Margaret Fearnley, Burnbank Nursing Home, Buckie, 17 August 2015



GETTING TO KNOW.....YOU!

ANNE MURRAY

I have been at Bellie/Speymouth....since around 1995, when we settled back in Fochabers after moving house about 12 times in 17 years. I felt ready to get back to Church then after years of "not having time"

One thing I enjoy about Bellie/Speymouth is....the friendships I've made & continue to make

I find a lot of joy in....my wee grandson of course!! Can't believe he's 1 already

If I won the lottery I would....(I don't buy a ticket), I'd employ a gardener - but I'd still do some weeding

If I could travel anywhere in the world it would be to....Florence. I've wanted to go for years & am hoping to make it reality in 2016

If I was stranded on a deserted island, my luxury item would be....Sketch book & pencil, without a doubt - all those palm trees to draw.

The title of a book about me would be...."A Scarf For Every Occasion"

If I was to create A piece of art, the subject would be ... what ever I'm working on now! I do lots of painting

and the next one is always going to be the best ever!

One piece of advice I got from a teacher many years ago was "Paint what you know". I still keep to that - painting places I know & love.

If I could go back in time, I would travel to....1900, in particular to the South of France because it was a really exciting time in the development of modern art. I might even set my easel up next to Matisse.....!

NEIL BROWN

I have been at Bellie/Speymouth on and off since.....we moved into Fochabers in 1995.

I find a lot of joy in.....working with the teams of Praise band, Take Note, Holiday Club and messy church, learning new songs, doing new activities and generally having fun with challenges thrown in!

If I won the lottery I would....invest enough to provide a reasonable monthly living income, take a touring holiday and then look for worthwhile causes to donate the rest too

If I could travel to anywhere in the world it would be to....

Peru as the country has some kind of mystical draw for me.



Copyright 2001 - Bill Walters Publications - All rights reserved

DOWN

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | | 2 | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| 7 | | | 8 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

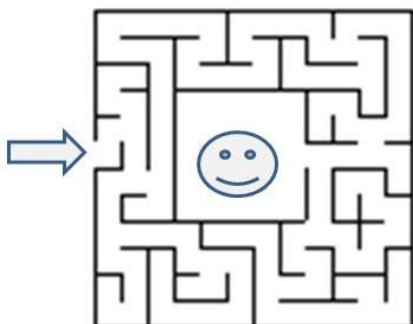
ACROSS

- 1 The wise men followed a _____ that led them to Jesus
5 human father of Jesus
7 There was no _____ at the inn for Jesus
9 one of the gifts of the three wise men
11 Jesus could not stay at the _____ because it was full
12 and on earth _____, goodwill toward men (Luke 2:14)

MIFFAITHFULFI
DEWBLEIFTVXWLRKVJ
FNRPPOWERFULKRHM
ZPUCMEHEUITNJOU
DARLISQPMTRMULG
AWSOOFDNAJSDUYF
KALYTOUEYEOKPD
CFOPOERLSGZIUUEQ
RYVGKGCIBDJPDLU
ETIOPOWTINXQJKK
ATZNFFWWJOYOBJUJ
A Z G R T O V I X R Q M T E K
O E H P R O V I D E R L A E W
R N F H D Y Y G B S G G L E K
E U L Y I H V T E A E B N Y F

GOD
CREATOR
HOLY
MERCIFUL
LOVING
POWERFUL
PROVIDER
PROTECTOR
GOOD
FAITHFUL
GREAT
WISE

God always
knows right
where I am.



I MAY NEVER MARCH IN THE INFANTRY, (MARCH)

RIDE IN THE CAVALRY, (PRETEND YOU'RE RIDING A HORSE)

SHOOT THE ARTILLERY. (CLAP HANDS TOGETHER)

I MAY NEVER ZOOM O'ER THE ENEMY,
(SPREAD ARMS OUT AND PRETEND TO BE A PLANE)

BUT I'M IN THE LORD'S ARMY. (POINT ONE FINGER UP TO GOD)

I'M IN THE LORD'S ARMY, (SALUTED)

I'M IN THE LORD'S ARMY, (SALLITE)

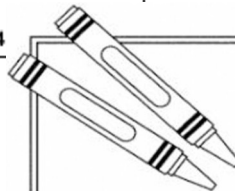
I MAY NEVER MARCH IN THE INFANTRY.

RIDE IN THE CAVALRY,

SHOOT THE ARTILLERY.

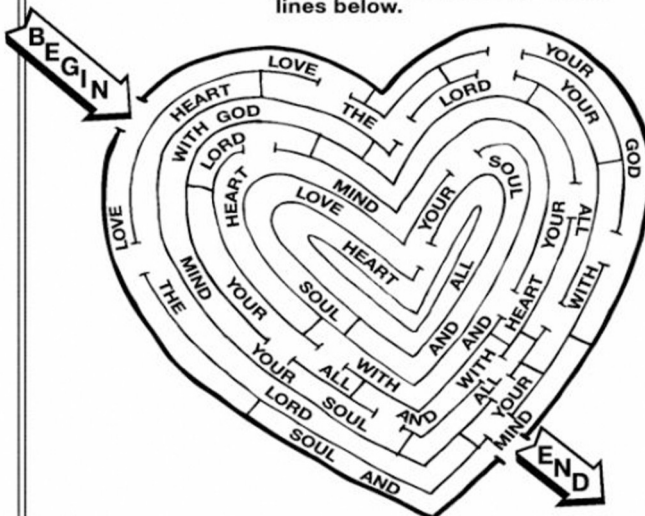
I MAY NEVER ZOOM O'ER THE ENEMY.

BUT I'M IN THE LORD'S ARMY, (SALLITE)



Just for KIDS

Find the correct path through the heart below. Write the words in order, as you find them, on the lines below.



“ _____

 _____.” Matthew 22:37

STOP PRESS!!!!

**Bellie and
Speymouth**

Christmas Sale and Coffee Morning

In Bellie Church Hall

**On Saturday 28th
November 2015
10am – 12noon**

CONTACT US:

Minister— Rev Alison Mehigan
The Manse, 11 The Square,
Fochabers
IV32 7DG

Phone: 01343 820256
E-mail: alison@mehigan.org

Editor—Mrs Clare Lambourne
The Lodge, West Street,
Fochabers
IV32 7HG

Phone: 07971 053354
E-mail: clare002@hotmail.com


**Articles for the winter
issue should be with the
Editor by 15th November
2015 at the latest.**

Scottish Charity Number
SCO05310



CROSSREACH
providing a caring future

Christmas Card & Calendar Collection 2015



2016 Calendar
2016 Reflections Calendar
CROSSREACH
providing a caring future

The Church of Scotland
Social Care Council
Operating as CrossReach, Scottish Charity No: SC011353

**Call 0131 454 4374 or
email: webshop@crossreach.org.uk
for your free catalogue**



with fun, food and fellowship for the whole family.

Saturday 26th September 2015
in
Bellie Church Hall
from
2 pm – 4 pm

Come and find out about **FRIENDS OF JESUS**

Through
CRAFTS, ACTIVITIES, STORIES, MUSIC & SONG

Followed by a family meal

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Speak Out **10,000
Voices for
Change**

***Speak Out! 10,000 voices for
change***

Imagine that in 2035, Scotland is a fairer, more equal and more just nation in a fairer, more equal and more just world. What did we commit to in 2015 that helped to make that hope come true?

This autumn the *Church of Scotland* – through its *Church & Society Council* – is asking 10,000 people in every part of Scotland to identify the things that we need to focus on to move from hoping to reality.

Take part and find out more at
[www.churchofscotland.org.uk/
speak_out/10000_voices](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/speak_out/10000_voices)



The Church of Scotland
Church and Society Council

CELTIC KIRK SERVICE JAMES ALEXANDER

The Celtic Kirk Service, which is now an integral part of Speyfest, took place on Sunday 2nd August at the tented village and was well attended with an estimated 450 people present. In keeping with the 20th Speyfest there were some changes to the layout and this saw the service located in the new performance venue known as "The Whisky Tent". There has been positive feedback from those in attendance, both in regard to the change of layout, and the content of the service. Music for the hymns was provided by the Fochabers Fiddlers as always and there were great musical interludes from Mec Lir, a lively Celtic rock band from the Isle of Man, and from singer Anna McLuckie from Edinburgh who accompanied herself on clarsach. Anna appeared on the BBC programme "The Voice" in 2014. The service was conducted by Rev Alison and Father Tad with the theme being "Beauty and Diversity". The children's activity took place at the back of the tent under the supervision of Sheila Silvestri from St Andrews Lhanbryde. They presented their work to everyone near the end of the service with Sheila conducting



short interviews which were entertaining as ever! A surprise appearance by the Manx dance group brought the service to an end. A collection for Christian Aid amounted to £650.78. Thanks to members of the different churches and to the Speyfest team for their help in ensuring the continued success of this part of the festival.

OUR SPECIAL DAY LISA CAMPBELL

24th May was a very emotional and rewarding day for Sophie and me. After attending Bellie Church for over a year, it felt right that Sophie was baptised and I become a member of the church.



The day started and ended in tears – but definitely all happy tears. A big thank you to Rev Alison who made the day so personal to us both, and to all those who have made us feel so welcome. Special thanks too for Catherine's wonderful flower arrangement – truly beautiful.

The Lord bless you and keep you

The Lord make His face shine above you

And be gracious to you;

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,

And give you peace

Numbers 6:24-26



TAKE NOTE

DENISE AND NEIL BROWN

PHOTOS BY ANNE MURRAY



Take Note had a busy time during June. The children enjoyed singing at Milnes Primary Fete in the playing fields. We joined with the Rockset Choir and held a successful concert in Bellie Church where we raised over £200 for the Nepal Earthquake Appeal. Many thanks to Lizzie Sharp for her help teaching Take Note some of the Rockset songs. We had great fun.

The Family Fun Night took a slightly different twist this year as we didn't have our traditional BBQ. George and Irene Innes are taking a well-earnt rest from BBQ's but we do thank them for all their support over the many previous years! Unfortunately the weather was more like an October evening, rather than June, so we had to have our games in the hall. Despite this, a great time was had by everybody. It was good to see so many competitive parents, (especially dads) joining in the team games! We all enjoyed the Fochabers ice creams at the end of the evening.



The new term has started and we have another new intake of enthusiastic children! This term we will be telling the children about our Romanian trip as 4 of the Take Note Leaders and helpers spent a week at summer camp in Sistarovat. Then we have craft, new songs and games and at the end of the month as a special treat we have a visit from Out of the Box Puppets from Inverness. So we've got a busy time ahead and no time to get bored!



BATON PHOTOGRAPHS



YOUNG CHURCH FAMILY FUN DAY MARGARET MCINNES PHOTOS: ANNE MURRAY

On Sunday, 23rd August we were blessed with sunshine and a warm breeze at the Mosstodloch Village Hall and Park.



The children enjoyed the super space, swings, slides, climbing frames and zip wire the park offers. As more folks gathered Craig Lambourne got us all in the picnic/party mood with lively music and cheery banter, whilst Yvonne and Lorraine organised parachute and fun team games for the children and the young at heart! Denise and Neil were made very welcome when they brought the ice cream from our favourite Fochabers ice cream shop! The afternoon was rounded off in the hall with some puppet entertainment and the message that God's love is for everyone. A memorable and happy time was had by all. Many thanks to everyone who came along, particular thanks to Craig Yvonne and Lorraine and also to Heather, Abby and Iona for their help with the puppets. Special thanks to Grace for ensuring the park was litter free and to Olive for her help on the day.



SUMMER FUN DURING THE YOUNG CHURCH HOLIDAY LISA CAMPBELL

During the Young Church Summer break, fun and fellowship was shared and enjoyed at host family's homes.

The first lesson was Psalm 23. Through the story book received at the prize giving, the children learnt about David the Good Shepherd. The children then made a sheep from cotton wool and had great fun colouring in pictures and puzzles. No fellowship would be complete without a yummy cake!



The second lesson continued the story the children had learnt at

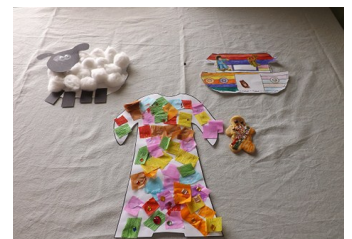
Young Church about David and Goliath. Using Interactive TV, enabled the children to hear the story via 'The Holy Tales'. This was followed by a simple game using one large stone (Goliath) and 5 smaller stones (each with a letter spelling out David's name). Here the children were to throw the smaller stones into a square where the Goliath stone was, representing David conquering Goliath with 5 little stones



Noah and the Ark was the third lesson. After hearing the story of Noah and his ark, the children went on an 'animal hunt' to find the missing animals from the ark. After the animals were found safe and well, the children coloured in their own ark before having a sing song. The children sang 'the animals went in two by two' and 'Rise and Shine'.



Our last week of learning was about Joseph and his coat of many colours. The children watched the story on 'The Holy Tales', then sang a lovely song 'God loves families'. Next it was craft time – decorating a biscuit Joseph with icing pens (which later was a yummy snack) then making a coat of many colours using tissue and crepe paper, and a prayer to finish.



It was a great, informative 4 weeks allowing the children to play, interact, make things and continue to learn about Our God. Thank you to all those families and children who were able to attend and host.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun 6 th Sept	10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth
COMMUNION	6pm Milnescroft

Thurs 10th Sept 3pm AGM Friends of Bellie Churchyard, Baxter's

Thurs 10th Sept 7pm Kirk Session – Speymouth Church Hall

Sun 13th Sept 10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth

Sun 20th Sept 10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth
Memory Walk for Alzheimer Scotland

Sun 27th Sept 10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth

Sun 4 th Oct	10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth
HARVEST	6pm Milnescroft

Thurs 8th Oct Concert in Bellie Church

Sun 11th Oct 10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth

Tues 13th 2pm Bellie and Speymouth Guild Dedication - SPC

Sun 18th Oct 10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth

Sun 25th Oct 10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth

Mon 26th Oct 7.30pm KS Stewardship Conference – Bellie Hall

Sun 1 st Nov	10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth
COMMUNION	3pm Speymouth Church; 6pm Milnescroft

Sun 8 th Nov	10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth
REMEMBRANCE	12.45am Mosstodloch War Memorial 2.30 Fochabers, 2.50 Bellie G/yard, 3.10 Dallachy

Thurs 12th Nov 7pm Kirk Session - Bellie Church Hall

Sun 15th Nov 10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth

Start of Guild Week

Sun 22nd Nov 10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth

Sat 28th Nov 10-12 Christmas Sale – Bellie Hall

Sun 29th Nov 10am Bellie, 11.30am Speymouth - Advent 1