



INSPIRE



POVERTY
LET'S END IT



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

9-15 MAY 2010

MANNOFIELD CHURCH

Scottish registered charity SC 001680

CHURCH CALENDAR

MAY

Sun 2	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship with Communion
Wed 5	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 9	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Tues 11	7.30pm	Kirk Session
Wed 12	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 16	10am	Morning Worship with Sacrament of Baptism
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 19	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 23	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 26	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 30	10am	Morning Worship
	3.15pm	Craigielea
	6.30pm	Evening Worship

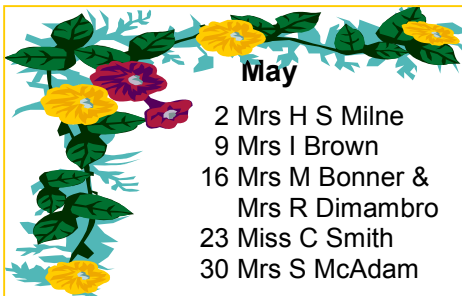
Odds and Ends

The Adult Learning Centre in Torry uses odds and ends to make collages.

If you have any broken jewellery, scraps of material or lace, buttons etc. the Centre would be most grateful if you would spare some of these items. Please hand them into the Church office for attention of Ellen Smith. Thank you.



Flower Calendar



May

2 Mrs H S Milne
9 Mrs I Brown
16 Mrs M Bonner &
Mrs R Dimambro
23 Miss C Smith
30 Mrs S McAdam

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

9-15 MAY 2010

Each year around 50 volunteers are required to help with the door to door collection during Christian Aid Week around the parish.

We raise £3000 to £4000 each year. The work we do is a great help to Christian Aid and is much appreciated.

Please help make a difference this year by giving an hour of your time to help with our door to door collection around the parish.

To volunteer please enter your name and contact details on the poster at the Countesswells Door Noticeboard, or contact Bill Manson Tel 734606.



PLEASE NOTE

**The deadline for the next issue of
InSpire is
Thursday 20 May**

Material for *InSpire* should be deposited in the Church Office or emailed to:

roddy@mccollassociates.com
office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk

Dear Friends

As a cloud of volcanic ash sits above the United Kingdom grounding the flights from all airports I ponder on the fact that nobody can actually see it with the naked eye. Radar images of the cloud resulting from the eruption of a volcano in Iceland are hard to come by hence leaving it unsafe for aeroplanes to fly.

Despite not being able to see it, we know it is there because of the signs of its presence. We know it must be there because of the effect it has on everyday life; in this case the grounding of aeroplanes.

God is a little bit like this cloud of volcanic ash. Often in church we ask the question, "How do we know God exists if we can't see Him?" It's a question that every child might ask but if we are honest even as adults we have cause to reflect at times on the fact that faith would be so much easier if we could actually get a glimpse of God.

But the thing is, we do get a glimpse of something which reveals that God exists. I believe that and I am sure you do too.

Faith is by definition that ability to trust our love to something even though we cannot see it for ourselves. In the case of the cloud of ash we trust it is there because we see the effect of its existence as aeroplanes are grounded. We learn to trust God is there because we see the effects of His existence in the beauty of creation, the variety and goodness found in most of human life and perhaps, above everything else, in the

love that comes to us from those who surround us with such warmth and feeling.

Even in the face of suffering and the agony we sometimes feel, God can reveal Himself to us as the comfort and strength we need to pull through these times.

God might not be viewed by the human eye but His love can be felt in the human heart!

Best Wishes
Keith

Mannofield Church Lunch Club

**Come and join us!
20 MAY**



Lunch is served at 1pm
Entertainment 2 - 3.15pm
A cup of tea before you leave!
Cost -- £3

Need transport?

Contact: Mhairi Clark tel. 317982

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have helped, entertained and supported Mannofield Church Lunch Club during our first year. It has been a resounding success.

After 20 May we will be taking a Summer break and look forward to welcoming you all back on:-

THURSDAY 16 SEPTEMBER



Just Imagine.....Rhoda Wright

This is not going to be a litany of places visited and experiences but rather a small glimpse of the memorable, inspirational, thought provoking people and places for me in the Holy Land 2010



- ◆ Taking Communion in the Open Air on the shores of the Galilee. Meeting Jews, Palestinians, Arabs, and Bedouins who have hopes for a changed future and are working for that.
- ◆ Being searched before you get into your church. Living below a 7 storey building where the occupants throw waste, feathers, stones into your street or backyard.
- ◆ The Shepherds –did they walk into Bethlehem, up to Bethlehem, down to Bethlehem? Looking out on a city that is dilapidated, partially rebuilt and sad. Having the water supply cut off for weeks with no reason given. Standing for an hour to file past the place where Jesus was born.
- ◆ Joyously serving lunch to 24 in your home with the help of your sister, sister-in-law. Only seeing your husband and son once a month then that being denied for no reason. Fathers and brothers taken away in night time raids–no charges–no trial and all together in jails for up to 20 years. Where are their human rights?
- ◆ Being 16 miles from the Mediterranean and not being able to take your children to the beach. Running a crèche for 27 children with one indoor swing, a TV and not much else. Walking 3 miles to work on your fields (assuming you get through the barrier) because your husband has been taken away – so you leave your child in the crèche from 7am till 4pm.
- ◆ Meeting boys in a School for the Blind. Being from the Gaza strip one 6 year old only gets home once a year when a UN official escorts him through the checkpoints and borders. He's been there since the age of 3. The BB raised money and paid for an activity centre to be built. Aim is for the youngsters to be self sufficient and no burden to their families. Imagine standing in a classroom in this school while a 6 year old sings lustily "We shall overcome" Does he mean politically or personally? Not a dry eye amongst us including the men!!

Just Imagine continued

- ◆ Being in a Bedouin tent drinking mint tea and dipping hot flat bread into olive oil. Eating the traditional dish of spiced chicken and rice.
- ◆ Not being able to get an education because you are female.
- ◆ Wearing the full robes of a Bedouin and her mobile phone hangs on a cord down her back
- ◆ Having to get a permit to travel into the city. Living in the shadow of a 20ft concrete wall with armed guards in lookout points. Having your permit denied for no reason at the checkpoint. Needing an accompanier to ease your movements through the barriers in your own country.
- ◆ Sitting in a boat on the Sea of Galilee listening to the story of Jesus calming the storm. Under the trees at the Church of the Beatitudes reading the Sermon on the Mount a verse each. Watching the boatman fishing in the traditional style. Singing hymns then totally silent meditation.
- ◆ Finding a flush toilet in the Negev Desert. Not being able to get an education unless you have your husband's or father's permission. Living in your tent/ home with jets flying low over all the morning. Having to learn a new language at 40 to be able to fill in a form or tell the doctor your symptoms.
- ◆ Looking at olive trees in Gethsemane which are 2000 years old and would have been growing at the time of Jesus. Looking across at the Dome of the Rock and the Aqsa mosque and visualising the Temple of Jerusalem. Seeing Roman stairs which Jesus would have used. The Garden tomb for me more moving than the Holy Sepulchre.
- ◆ Gobsnacked at the opulence of the hotel in Tiberias. Olives and chilli peppers for breakfast. At a service station in the Judean desert and finding 3 camels tied up. The cable car at Masada. A service in Arabic but the hymn tunes were the same. Raining just before Shabbat so not many at the wailing wall. Flash floods washing away the road to the Dead Sea.
- ◆ Keeping my patience, not rising to the bait, making new friends, feeling the Guild could make a difference, panicking when you sink up to the knees in gloopy mud, tears of anger and joy, helpless laughter — all this and much, much more.



Leap of Faithseats of faith?



How refreshing and exciting to be part of a Church which is looking ahead positively.

As I hear people talking, I gather that the hall renovations are welcomed but the removal of the pews?

You may be interested to know that consideration to a major development at Mannofield was mooted prior to the millennium. At that time I was involved in a fact finding group visiting local churches which had already undergone significant changes to their halls and sanctuaries. All churches were inviting and prospering.

Each minister reported that the removal of pews had been contentious and had generated resistance from some members. However, they also reported that once the improvements had been completed there were no regrets. For Mannofield at that time, it was felt that a new minister would be coming and we should wait. We have now waited and the time has come for us to take a leap of faith.

We have generations who have never seen inside a church and these plans give people the chance to come to church, beginning their journey with a community interest which may just lead to the beginning of a spiritual interest.

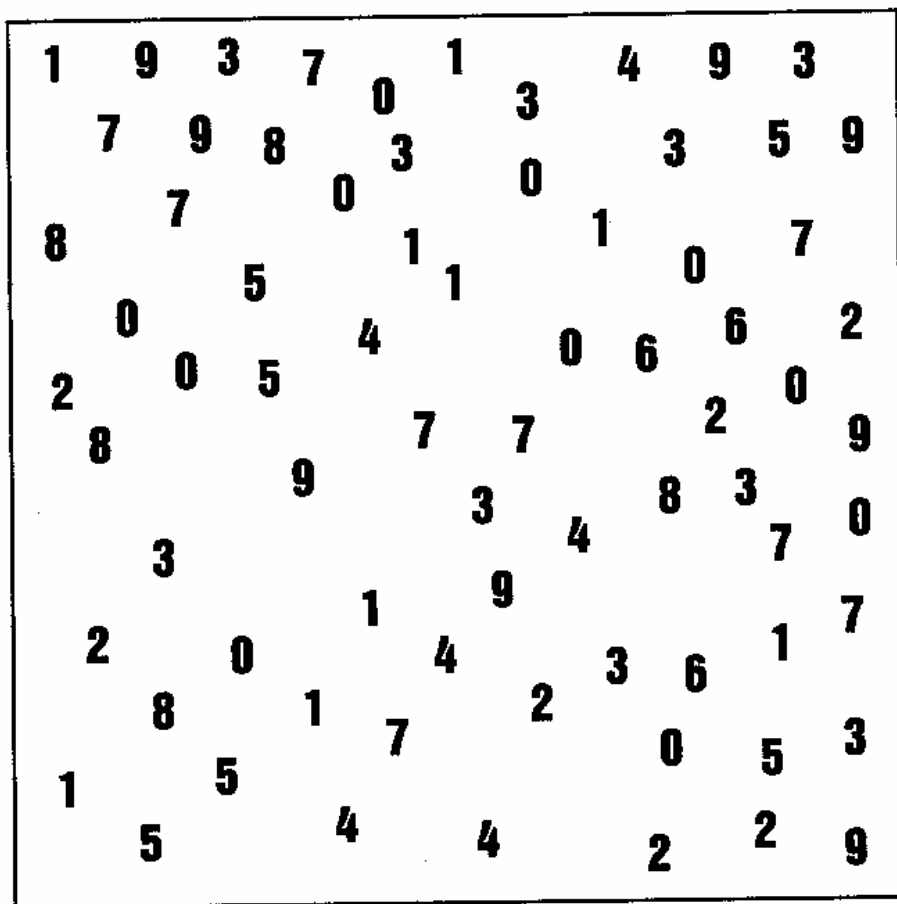
Modern seating, apart from offering more comfort, would allow Mannofield to open its doors for use more often and by a wider group of people. This is an opportunity for the church to become a centre for the community, to be a meaningful part of the community at its very heart. All of this while maintaining the dignity and serenity of the sanctuary.

While I too have some nerves about such radical changes I do hope the efforts of the development committee will be embraced and that we, like many churches before us, can become a busy, thriving church which meets the needs and expectations of the citizens of the 21st century.

"Your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven" Matthew 5

J H

Use three straight lines to divide the square into five sections, each of which contains a total value of 60.

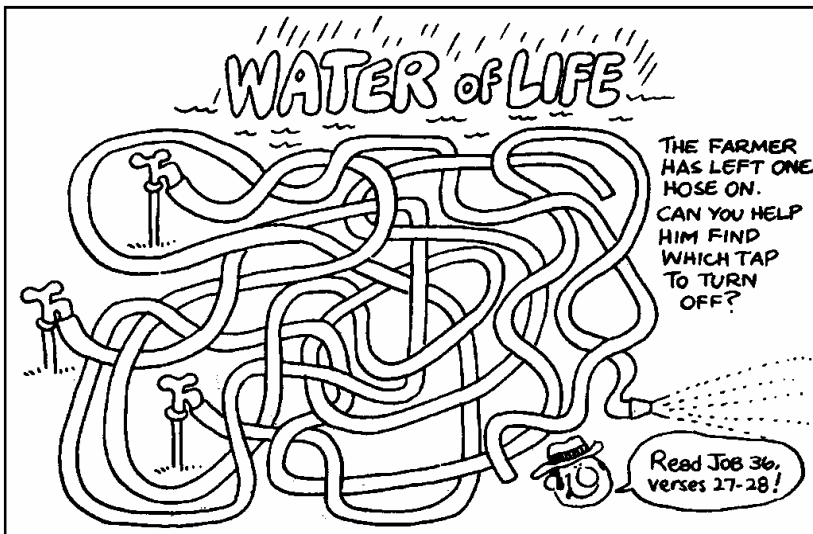


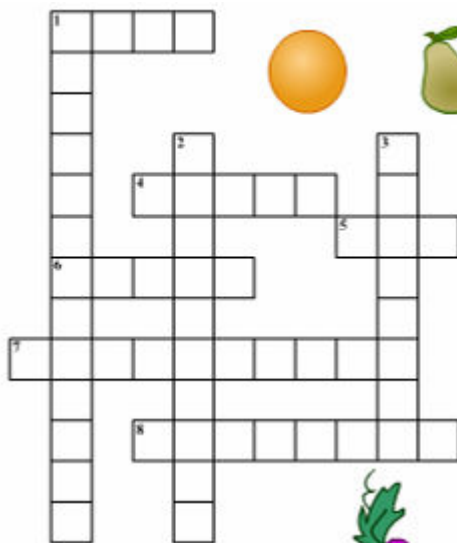
FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth; ~ Eph 5:9



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ACROSS

- 1 Defined in I Corinthians 13
- 4 Rest, quietness
- 5 Delight, cheerfulness
- 6 The substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
~Heb 11:1
- 7 Self control
- 8 Humility

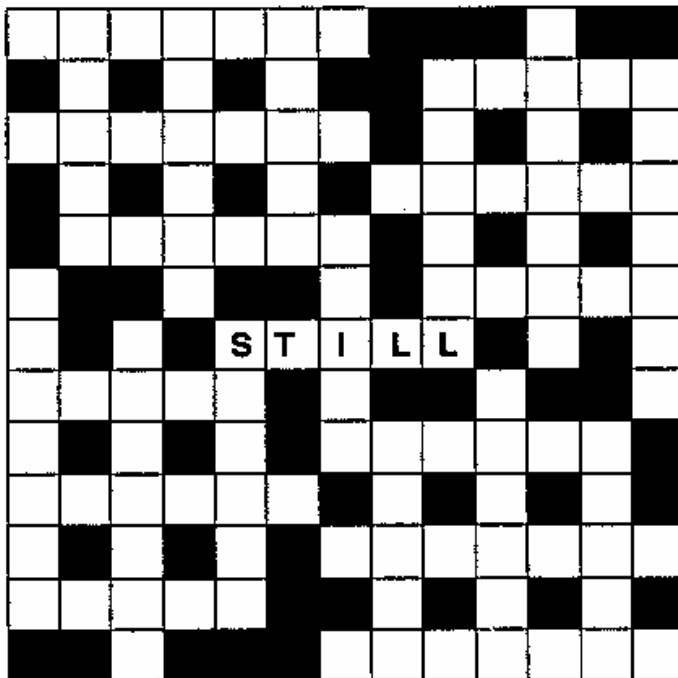
DOWN

- 1 Patient
- 2 Moral excellence of character; kindness
- 3 The quality of being beneficial; kindness



FIX A WORD

Most of the twenty-six words to be entered into the grid are given below, but seven of them are to be found in the Bible verses referred to. To help you, the word required in the Bible verse is placed alphabetically in the list. Also a word has been inserted to start.



5 Letters

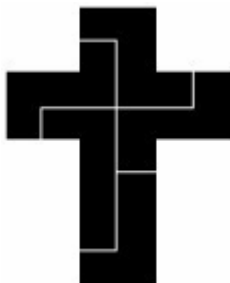
ABANA
1 Samuel 17:57
BREAD
ERROR
Daniel 3:1
NEEDS
REIGN
John 3:14
STILL
SWORD

6 Letters

DEEPER
DEMONS
GOSPEL
Luke 3:31
RICHLY
Isaiah 24:2
SHARON
SHEKEL

7 Letters

ABIGAIL
Isaiah 7:18
COLOURS
DANCING
DESTROY
HARNESS
MARRIES
John 1:41



FIGHTING POVERTY IN ABERDEEN

Poverty exists in all parts of the world, even in our wealthy oil capital of Europe. The shocking statistic of 1 in 10 people living in the City of Aberdeen in poverty is difficult to accept.



The relative wealth of many people living in the area marks a stark contrast for those who are living on benefit or a low income, and who have difficulty affording the basic needs of daily living.

Since 1984, Instant Neighbour Charity has supported the disadvantaged and vulnerable to create a better quality of life by campaigning for change and developing its social enterprises to provide services needed.

We are very grateful to the congregation of Mannofield Church for their continued support of Instant Neighbour. The provision of non perishable food has assisted us to feed around 1200 people in the last year. **Thank you.**

We continue to develop our services and in addition to accepting donations of good quality furniture, electrical goods and household items we are now seeking support for:

Carpetinc – please donate your used carpets and encourage the purchase of replacements from us – we can arrange collection and fitting – please contact Annette Young 01224 489955

Bikefit - we now recycle bicycles. We accept donations of bikes, service and repair these and either sell them or give them out free of charge. We can service your bike – please contact Peter Cooper on 01224 489955

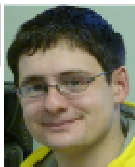
Joinerinc – we have our own qualified joiner who is willing to take on any job, size is no object. We will provide a free quote with all work being completed within an agreed timeframe! Please contact Kevin Heatly on 01224 489955

All these projects have been established to generate income to provide Instant Neighbour with the necessary finances to be able to continue to support our clients at no or low cost.

We are always looking for volunteers – this is an excellent way to meet new people, make new friends and learn new skills. We can help support you and you will be helping us to support others by giving some of your time. Interested – please contact Ian Armstrong on 01224 489955.

Please do consider purchasing and supporting Instant Neighbour as every penny earned goes towards supporting the disadvantaged and vulnerable here in the North-East!

Tim's Update



Recently I was offered an interesting opportunity, and one I was very willing to accept.

I was asked if I would be the Aberdeen youth rep to the General Assembly in May. This is a task I'm looking forward to but which comes with great responsibility to represent young people associated with the Church of Scotland across Aberdeen. I will be attending the General Assembly along with other youth reps from across the country and together we will be attending the various debates with a briefing on each of the issues the night before. My schedule was emailed to me just yesterday and is rather hectic and full of a range of activities, including a reception at Holyrood Palace.

I'm looking forward to this experience and spending time together in fellowship with the other youth representatives.

After my return I will write an article for InSpire about my experience at this important event in the life of the Church of Scotland.

Tim Still

21ST MAY

General Knowledge
Songs & Lyrics
Sports
Geography
Film & TV
Picture Round

MANNOFIELD QUIZ NIGHT

**21ST MAY
7:30 FOR 7:45**

TEAMS OF 6
SIGN UP AFTER CHURCH OR JUST SHOW UP!
£3 PER PERSON

CHURCH OUTING



Bervie Bay

Saturday 8th May Coastal Walk at Inverbervie

This year's expedition is not into the hills but along the coast from Inverbervie to Gourdon and Johnshaven. As before, we will travel in private cars. The plan is to arrive at the car park near the shore around noon for a picnic, followed by a walk. The walk can be as long or short as suits you.

If you intend to come please inform Peter Stewart Tel 313721
p.stewart1@btinternet.com

The Visitors

I've tidied up the tiddly-winks
And moved the marbles from the floor;
The sticky paper shapes that cling
Determinedly to everything
Present no hazard anymore
The old toys rudely roused from sleep
And dragged out from the window seat
Are back again where they belong;
Now everything is back in place
And everything is as before –
Or is it? Since grandchildren came
To turn the handle of my door
And let their sunshine strike my face,
Nothing can ever be the same

Jean Macdonald Watt

The daughter of a Scottish doctor and a Welsh nurse, Jean Watt wrote poems from the age of seven. She married in 1943 and followed her husband William to Jerusalem where he had taken a post as assistant to the bishop there. Palestine figures widely in her poetry as does her experience in voluntary social work.

A Personal Insight.....Bob Anderson



Q What is your age, occupation, marital status and family

A Age 49, Solicitor, married to Niki since 1985, 2 children, Ruth (21), Peter (19)

Q What is your favourite verse from Scripture?

A John 13 v 34 “And now I give you a new commandment. Love one another. As I have loved you, so must you love one another.”

Q What motivates you spiritually?

A See 2! Seeing goodness come out of unlikely sources. Also I have been fortunate in my life to come across motivating ministers!

Q It's not cool but.....

A I am a Nairn County supporter. At court this gets me much ribbing. However a new phrase has developed for jury verdicts. “I got a Nairn County” means 14-1 against, reminding me of that disaster of a defeat by Cove a few years back!

Q What was the best piece of advice you've ever been given?

A My ‘apprentice master’ gave me a few – most not printable. For me the best was “If everything has been said by someone else just adopt it, don't open your mouth and make a mess of it”.

Q Who is your favourite fictional character?

A Inspector John Rebus. Just to prove lawyers do like some policemen.

Q What are you afraid of?

A I am a total wimp! Heights, spiders, bugs and small furry things all cause difficulties for me.

Q What situations make you lose your temper?

A Obvious injustice being endorsed by the system. Referees giving Rangers a penalty for a dive. I suppose the second is an example of the first!

Q If you could choose a profession that you would like to try what would that be? Why?

A Politics. Just to see if it could be done with honesty.

Q If you could change something about yourself, what would it be?

A To have more patience

Q If you could travel back in time, where would you go?

A Ancient Rome. This is where Scots Law comes from. Maybe I could change a few things!

Q What would you do if you ruled the world?

A Those who have worked with me know the answer to this – delegate all the work to others who can do it better than me.

Q What is your most treasured possession?

A My Nairn County scarf worn to each and every game in the mid 1970's when we won the Highland League!

Q What has been your greatest achievement

A Watch this space!!

NOTES & NEWS

The Retiring Collections at the June Communions will be sent to the Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire and Kincardine Branch of the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) Forces Help.



What is SSAFA Forces Help?

The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) Forces Help is the national charity helping and supporting those who serve in our Armed Forces, those who used to serve and the families of both. This includes those who serve in our Reserve Forces and anyone who did National Service as well as close relatives, widows and widowers. Each year SSAFA provides assistance to more than 50,000 people. Any donation received by the Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire and Kincardine Branch, based at Gordon Barracks, Bridge of Don goes directly for local assistance. Over the past 12 months the Branch has considered 158 cases and disbursed some £2400 to needy applicants.

What SSAFA does

It takes action, on request whenever there is hardship, loneliness or need. The help given varies enormously; from financial assistance such as paying a heating bill for a widow or assistance with the costs of household effects, to help for children with additional needs and emotional support for the lonely, ill or bereaved. In all cases, the criterion for assistance is need. SSAFA's support and advice are completely confidential.

For those wishing to donate by Gift Aid, it is hoped to make envelopes available in the office, and at the front of the Church from mid-May onwards.

Mannofield Guild Events Diary



MAY

- May 13 Coffee Morning
- May 16 Guild Walk St Mark's Church
- May 29 Visit to House of Dun, Montrose

JUNE

- June 2 Summer Meeting Dyce Church
- June 5 Plants, Books & Home Baking Sale

PLANT SALE 5 JUNE

Now you have split up the perennials and grown the seeds you'll need to bring them down on 4 June for us to sell next day. We'll be in the kitchen from 6.30pm-7.30pm to collect them.

Second Hand Book Stall



Katrina and Niki are pleased to announce the first second hand book sale will take place on Sunday 9th May in the large hall after the morning service. Many thanks to all who have donated books. We have a wide selection of both fiction and non-fiction including children's books.

CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister	Rev Keith Blackwood	k5blackwood@btinternet.com	315748
Associate Minister	Rev Alisa Ferlicca	alisa.ferlicca@gmail.com M 07838 835778	277428
Youth Ministries Worker	Tim Still	tj.still@btinternet.com M 07535 356346	
Secretary	Mrs Gill Terry	office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk	310087
Church Officer	Nick Youngson	nick.youngson@talktalk.net	322239
Session Clerk	Bob Anderson	Nnikibob@aol.com	743484

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

New Members

Miss Ailsa H Shepherd

Disjunctions

Mr J & Mrs M Rennie

Miss P Hutchison

Deaths

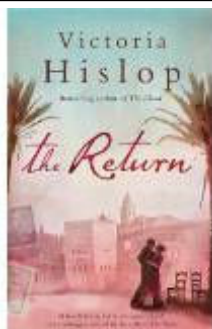
23 March Mrs Frances Ford

28 March Mrs May Plenderleith

30 March Mrs Betty Riach

Change of Address

Mrs Claire McHattie



Mannofield Book Club - Book for June "The Return" by Victoria Hislop

From the internationally bestselling author of **The Island** comes a dazzling new novel of family betrayals, forbidden love and historical turmoil.

Sonia knows nothing of Granada's shocking past, but ordering a simple cup of coffee in a quiet café will lead her into the extraordinary tale of a family's fight to survive the horror of the Spanish Civil War.

Seventy years earlier, in the Ramírez family's café, Concha and Pablo's children relish an atmosphere of hope. Antonio is a serious young teacher, Ignacio a flamboyant matador, and Emilio a skilled musician. Their sister, Mercedes, is a spirited girl whose sole passion is dancing, until she meets Javier and an obsessive love affair begins. But Spain is a country in turmoil. In the heat of civil war, everyone must take a side and choose whether to submit, to fight, or to attempt escape.

We will discuss this book on Wednesday the 2nd June.

