

YARN BOMBING AT CRATHES

All rolled up and ready to go to the Syrian refugees!!



Ruby Robertson brought the idea to our notice and what fun we had doing it!

We asked for help.

Men and women donated wool. Knitters came forward. Some would only help if we took them down and used them. So 30+ blankets were made out of the "tree scarves" crocheted or sewn together.



The congregation helped, the Guild helped and some members of the parish helped. Fiona Stark donated copious quantities of scarves.

The scarves were attached to the first 9 trees in the driveway to Crathes Castle. We were not adventurous!

Brownie groups from Inverurie had a snake crawling up their tree. There were knitted squirrels, birds, and caterpillars decorating the trees. One tree was 'bombed' by a lady from Germany who sent her yarn across but was coming to see the trees when she came here on holiday! We'll know for next year?



To celebrate "World Knit in Public Day" we went to Crathes on Saturday 10 June to have a picnic. Secretly it was to check that our scarves had not fallen down!

We took our knitting, answered questions from those visiting the Castle, had a cuppa and as we left the rain started just as the forecast had predicted.

The question "Why"?? has been asked most often.

Our answer to all was: "For Fun".

And boy did we have that by the bucketful!!!

Rhoda Wright



Vol.LV No. 5



September 2017



MANNOFIELD CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ABERDEEN

Scottish registered charity SC 001680

www.mannofieldchurch.org.uk

CHURCH CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Sun 3	10am	Morning Worship
	4.30pm	Café Church
Wed 6	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 10	10am	Morning Worship
Wed 13	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 17	10am	Morning Worship
Wed 20	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 24	10am	Morning Worship
	3.15pm	Craigielea Gardens Service
Wed 27	10.30am	Midweek Service

OCTOBER

Sun 1	10am	Morning Worship
Sacrament of Communion at both services	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 4	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 8	10am	Morning Worship
		Harvest Thanksgiving

Blessing

May God
kiss the top of your head with His blessing,
consecrate your hands for His caring,
cleanse your feet for His journeying,
and fill you with love for His living.

AMEN

Acknowledgement: This extract is taken from "Living Stones: Pray Now" and is used with permission www.standrewpress.com

Flower Calendar

September

3 - Mrs Marlene McLeod
10 - Flower Fund
18 - Ms Lorna Howie
25 - Mrs Caroline Black



Aster
September's
flower

OBITUARY

Hector Macdonald died on 22 June 2017. He was 89 years old. Hector had a long association with the Church of Scotland beginning at Cults East Church where he was a Sunday School Teacher. He was ordained as an Elder in 1955 and upon moving to Fyvie was admitted as an Elder serving within that congregation before returning to Aberdeen.

We know him for his excellent and committed work as an Elder within our own congregation. Hector undertook different work within Mannofield which included preparing the church magazines for delivery, escorting patients at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary to the Hospital Chapel on Sundays, and visiting patients in hospital. He also organised the Junior Badminton on Saturday afternoons—a commitment that meant he had to give up supporting his beloved Gordonians Rugby on Saturdays for a while.

Hector was a great servant of the church. We thank God for his faithful life and work within our congregation and other churches. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Adeline and family.

There will be NO October InSpire
The deadline for the November issue is
12 October

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

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

CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister	Rev Keith Blackwood	kblackwood@churchofscotland.org.uk	01224315748
Parish Assistant	Dot Getliffe	dgetliffe@churchofscotland.org.uk	07766910171
Secretary	Jean Sharman	office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk	01224310087
Church Officer	Nick Youngson	nick.youngson@gmail.com	01224322239
Session Clerk	Bob Anderson	Nnikibob@aol.com	01224743484

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Certificates of transference:

Dianne Bridgeford transferred to St Columba's Parish Church, Edinburgh
Mr Gordon and Mrs Janella Cameron

New members by transference of lines: Mr Ian and Mrs Fiona Falconer
Baptism:

11 June Lois Vivienne Bertram

Deaths:

14 June Mr George Mackie
21 June Mr Leslie Christie
22 June Mr Hector MacDonald
30 June Mr John Thomson
7 August Mrs Irene Thain
12 August Mrs Jean Turner

Calling One and All!..... Dot's Short Term Vision

Colossians 2 vs 6,7 All our ministries and giftings for service come from an overflow (excuse the plumbing metaphor!) when our nourishment needs have been met by God through Word and Spirit as we dig our roots into Christ.

John 15 4,5 When we abide in Him, we bear FRUIT through our BEING, in our inward and outward character, not just our doing activities SO....

♦ **Outreach to Young Families In Church:** Big need for volunteers whose SOLE calling/service will be to love, to inspire and to build fun/faith relationships with children and their parents and grandparents: teaching Jesus through basic Bible stories and encouraging faith at home, at school and in downtime.

♦ **Outreach to Young Families in Community through Messy Church ***

*** Involves 3 team training/workshops Autumn 2017 - tbc ***

Investment in community families by forming a flexible trans-generational team who will deliver Messy Church monthly in Airyhall Community Centre - tbc

Mixed Team of church and non church folks such as Airyhall Primary parents/staff and others including Mannofield Youth so they too enjoy and grow in service.

(Maybe we can recruit one or two adults from the Toddler Group or from the community).

Prayer for Young Families at Wednesday mornings, at Sunday services and in all our prayers

Aims: By Autumn 2018 to have a flexible, happily serving rota of leaders for Young Church AND welcome at least 2 more families coming regularly to Sunday mornings.

Please pray about your involvement in Mannofield and whether the Lord is calling you to try something new.

I will encourage you every step of the way.

Dot Getliffe, Deacon and Parish Assistant



MANNOFIELD CHURCH BOWLING CLUB



The indoor session starts on Friday 29 September.

The club meets on Friday afternoons in the Balmanno Hall from 2– 4pm.

New members will be made very welcome.

Flat shoes should be worn and bowls could be supplied for beginners.

For further information contact:

Yvonne Allan – ☎ 01224 326840

MANNOFIELD GUILD



Session begins 5 September.
New members very welcome.

SEPTEMBER

- 5 John Dunn, *Boddam Loon*
- 7 Coffee Morning
- 19 Margaret Clarke, *Malawi Fruits*

OCTOBER

- 3 Rona Matheson, *Blythwood Care*
- 5 Coffee Morning



HELP!!

We are short of a piano or keyboard accompanist for our Wednesday morning service rota.

If you can play for us, or know someone who can, please contact the office.

Thanks, Dot Getliffe



Mannofield Church Lunch Club



21 September

Lunch is served at 1pm

Entertainment 2 - 3pm

Come and join us

A cup of tea before you leave!

Cost -- £5

Need transport?

Contact: Lynn Allan

☎ 012224 323206

We look forward to welcoming our regular patrons and meeting new ones.



SATURDAY
30 SEPTEMBER



6.30 for 7p.m
Balmanno Hall,
Mannofield Church
Tickets £6 p.p.

Bring your own nibbles, picnic supper, B.Y.O.B. & glass!

Tea or coffee will be available

Raffle will be drawn while scores are checked.

Come as a team of 4 or make a team on the night.

Quizmasters:
Jill & Bruce Campbell

Tickets from the Church Office

☎01224 310087 or
members of the
Social Committee

Dear Friends

How often do we consider that we don't matter very much? There are many circumstances in life which can sometimes leave us questioning our worth. We consider our contribution to be limited or we surmise that other people don't notice our value to the cause, or even don't notice us at all.



Such circumstances crop up in the arena of working life, in our social life, within families, within a church congregation and especially a larger one.

We might even recognise that this feeling of unworthiness is a common one when we broaden this consideration to include society at large. There are many people who feel that they don't 'matter' as much as others. Many elderly people feel this way, as do the younger generations. The racial tensions around the world remind us that sadly there are certain people who make it their nasty objective to identify those who are different from them by way of skin colour, nationality or religion. They then assert that these people don't 'matter' as much as they do themselves. Black Lives Matter (BLM) is an international activist movement, originating in the African-American community, that campaigns against violence and systemic racism towards black people on the basis that all life matters equally.

The Bible I read, confirms my understanding that all people 'matter' equally to God and that Jesus came to Earth and died on the Cross to confirm just how much we ALL matter to God.

As we look forward to a return to the normal activities of church life after summer, I wish to remind all of you that just as each one of us 'matters' to God – each one of us 'matters' within our church family in Mannofield.

In a large congregation such as ours it can easily feel as if we are not known, or valued, or able to make a big contribution. This can especially be true if we feel that our age or physical abilities are limiting what we can do, or that other factors in life mean we can't attend Church as often as we would like or be involved in the way other people are. We can easily feel overshadowed by those who seem to be busy with everything in church and this at times makes us feel content to slip increasingly into the shadows. We begin to attend Church less and we convince ourselves we matter so little - that nobody will notice anyway.

The truth is we all 'matter'. Our Church is a 'family' and we seek to make everyone feel comfortable coming to church when they can and contributing in whatever way they can.

I encourage you as we look forward into this session, to believe that you 'matter' and invite you to try to get involved in our Church life as often as you can.

Perhaps the following saying that someone shared with me this summer will remind us that we 'matter' and will encourage us to recognise that each one of us is called upon to contribute to the work and life of our Church and that each contribution is as valuable as all the rest.

'Your own candle doesn't get dimmer no matter how many other candles may be burning around you'.

God Bless

Keith

Pastoral Care



Last month I joined almost 400 Church members for a Pastoral Care workshop in Dunfermline. It was inspiring to hear of the work being done across the country and the very diverse needs and challenges of different communities. A delegate from a deprived area of Glasgow talked of their work with teenagers and young adults, including young mothers. Many come from a background where no one prepared food from scratch, so their cookery classes are very popular. They give help with budgeting, form filling and locating agencies if needed. Difficulties with homework are addressed and a listening ear for new Mums is provided.

The problems described by a rural minister were entirely different. As church membership dwindled, parishes were combined and he struggled to address the needs of a scattered population, conducting services in 3 different locations. He described the struggles of agricultural workers and the loneliness of many in the current economic climate.

Dr Kenneth Jeffrey (pictured) from the University of Aberdeen gave an inspirational talk. He quoted from Ezekiel, where we are called to strengthen the weak, heal the sick and seek the lost. He suggested that healing the sick was, for us, not the stuff of miracles, but rather helping to heal the hurt of loneliness or bereavement. In seeking the lost we look to refugees, who have lost their country and to those who may have lost family through distance, disagreement or death. He spoke too of those who are lost to worship, where faith has gone.



The message for each member of the Church was that faith is not about doing, but rather about being.

Pastoral Care is about who we are in relation to God and the "we" is all of us, all of the time. What a challenge!

Lesley Reid, Convener, Pastoral Care Group, Mannofield Church

Social Committee Dates for your Diary

Look out for

- ♦ The **Quiz Night** on 30 September- see the advert on page 14.
- ♦ An evening **Floral Demonstration on Wednesday 29 November** in the sanctuary and
- ♦ The popular **Christmas sing-along** and **afternoon tea** in early December.



Morning Prayer



What is on the horizon for today, Lord ?
Will I feel as if I'm at the top of the mountain,
secure in all my relationships,
my work and my ministering to others ?
Or will this be a day when unexpectedly
I feel as if I am drowning in responsibilities,
expectations and misunderstandings ?
Remind me Lord,
that I am grounded in Your blessing and promise
whatever the day may bring.
And if I need it, Lord,
please reassure me with a rainbow smiling in the sky
or on the face of friend or stranger.
Amen

Acknowledgement :This extract is taken from "Living Stones : Pray Now " and is used with permission. "Living Stones" publications are available from
www.standrewpress.com

Remember the
gold and silver
collection last
June?



Guess how much it raised?

A whopping £1390.00!!!

A BIG THANK YOU to all who
donated their unwanted items.

Any CRAFTERS out there?
CRAFT FAIR @ MANNOFIELD

Saturday 4 November
10.00am – 4.00pm

Tables are available for anyone wishing to sell their work.

For further information contact the church office ☎01224 310087 or

office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk

TABLE TOP SALE

Saturday 7 October

10am - 12 noon

Balmanno Hall

ADMISSION FREE

To book a table to sell your own items ☎ 01224 311261



Share The Joy of Reading



Thank you for your support with this initiative.

The congregation's generous donations of both books and money (circa £200) were used to buy books to help the Syrian refugees develop their English skills.

A wide selection of books targeting different reading levels and interests were purchased and on the 16 July Sheona Bell from Aberdeen City Council came to our service to accept the books on behalf of the project and shared with the congregation more about the ongoing work with the refugees both during the service and at coffee afterwards.

Lorna Howie

A personal insight

Lorna Howie



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

A I am in my mid-forties and single. I have an older brother who lives with his family in Guildford and my parents are in Monifieth. I am an accountant with an oil company.

Q What is your favourite verse from Scripture and why?

A I relate to The Parable of the Sower – Luke Chapter 8. I try to use the verses as guidance in my everyday actions.

Q What motivates you spiritually?

A Nature, we live in an amazing world.

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

A I like doing tapestries! I am currently on my third Christmas decoration.

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

A Listen and then make up your own mind.

Q Who is your favourite fictional character and why?

A Anne of Green Gables, I like her attitude and the trouble she gets into!

Q What are you afraid of?

A Snakes.

Q Did you have a nickname growing up?

A McTavish – I have no idea why – ask my father!

Q What situations make you lose your temper?

A Pointless bureaucracy.

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

A My temper or perhaps my sarcasm.

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

A I'm not sure I would want to go back in time. I think I would prefer to go forward and see how much of science fiction becomes reality.

Q What would you do if you ruled the world?

A Try to undo some of the damage we have done to our environment.

Q On what purchase have you spent most apart from a car or property?

A Travel – and there are still lots of places on the list.

Q Who was your favourite teacher and why?

A Mrs Curry – I don't remember her classes particularly. However for years after school she taught Scottish Country Dancing to primary school pupils including myself.

Q Who or what is the love of your life?

A My family (including the pets).

Q What is your most treasured possession?

A My passport – there is a theme here about going out and seeing the world.

44th Boys Brigade *The adventure starts here - come and join in.*



Although it's been a quiet summer for both Anchor and Junior Section boys, our Company Section has been busy with a camp and summer programme.

Back in May two of our boys were presented with their Presidents Badge by the President himself. Not Donald Trump but BB President Lord Griffiths of Burry Port. He presented Presidents and Queens badges at a special ceremony at BB HQ in front of parents and friends.



Then in June, 15 boys and staff spent a weekend in Glasgow. We visited the island of Cumbrae and hired bikes to cycle round the island. It was a lovely day with the wind on our backs but of course by the time you go all the way round the wind is in your face making for a tough last mile. We stopped to say hello to the Cumbrae Croc Rock before the ferry back and a trip to the swimming leisure pool. We had a joint games night with our hosts, 45th Glasgow, who we also took on at Laser Tag on Sunday. The 44th narrowly won. The rest of Sunday was spent at the excellent Transport Museum before heading home.



A group of 9 of us explored Hazlehead and Blacktop on mountain bikes and by the time you read this we will have tried out the new Footgolf course at Hazlehead. It's like golf and football merged where you kick the ball round instead of using clubs. We have our usual beach cookout in the pipeline for later this month and a small group of boys are going to the Braemar Gathering in September as stewards with Aberdeen Battalion.



All sections will soon be restarting once the schools are back so please give our details to anyone you think would enjoy BBs.

Anchor Boys for boys in P1-P3 meets on Thursday 6-7pm starting 31 August.

Junior Section for boys in P4-P6 meets on Thursdays 7-8.15pm starting 31 August.

Company Section for boys in P7-S6 meets on Fridays 7.45-10pm starting 1 September.

For more information or to join email info@40four.co.uk or visit our website at www.40four.co.uk.

Dave Tait, Captain, 44th Aberdeen Boys Brigade.

LifeGroups are taking place at various times throughout the week.

If there is not a LifeGroup available at a time that suits you, don't be put off. It may be possible to start one up at a time that will suit you.

For more details please contact: Church Office on ☎ **01224 310087**

Alternatively, check the church notice board for more details of the LifeGroups, which will continually be updated, or by looking on the Church Facebook page.

NEW Monday in the Manse: 7- 8.30pm

Monday: 7- 8.45pm

Tuesday: 1.30 - 3pm

Thursday: 11am - 12noon (in Vestry)



Young Peoples and Families and Young Church Joint Outing

Sunday 10 September
Milton of Crathes for a picnic and afternoon of fun and fellowship

From 12 noon



The Tree

Trees are a *Good Thing*, generally speaking. They absorb carbon dioxide and convert it to oxygen and wood. They soak up urban traffic-generated pollutants and add character to an area. They provide shelter and, in forests, reduce flash flooding. They are a haven and food source for wildlife and provide material for building and furniture etc...

There are downsides. Autumn leaves look good until they become a slippery hazard. Big trees have big roots which can damage foundations, drains and paved surfaces. Here in Aberdeen, large species are avoided in street planting and in many modern developments the gean or wild cherry (*Prunus avium*), a British native, is the species of choice.

The gean is not without drawbacks. It crops heavily, and masses of wee cherries can carpet footpaths for weeks at a time, squished to a sticky pulp by passing feet. More significantly, it has a relatively short lifespan of about 60 years.

All this was brought to mind a few weeks ago during gale-force winds. A gean in the footpath opposite our house began to lean over and was in imminent danger of toppling. A quick Saturday evening phone call to the Council emergency line and, two hours later, it was felled. At a geriatric 60 years old, the gean was dying from the roots up.

This is not good news for its many local contemporaries, but it's how life works. Perhaps this gean left one or two self-seeded offspring in gardens, but none in the street itself. So if we are to continue to enjoy their advantages, it's up to the Council to replant with suitable saplings. I'd welcome that.

*Alistair Stark,
Convenor, Eco Congregation Committee*



CRAFT FAIR @ MANNOFIELD

A feast for the eye and gifts to buy

**Crafters will display and sell their work
Saturday 4 November 10.00am – 4.00pm**

Admission free

**Finish off the outing in our lovely café for coffee,
tea or lunch**

Oh! Don't forget to invite your friends as well

Saturday 4 November 10.00am – 4.00pm

Proceeds to the Development Fund



ARE YOU CRAFTY?

There will be a table **at the
Craft Fair** for Mannofield crafts.

Please start knitting, sewing, painting, making jewellery, baking, taking photographs etc. whatever you can do we can sell.

**Donations to the church before
Wednesday 1 November. Thank You.**

**Any questions to Mhairi 01224 317982
or Sandy 01224 311261**



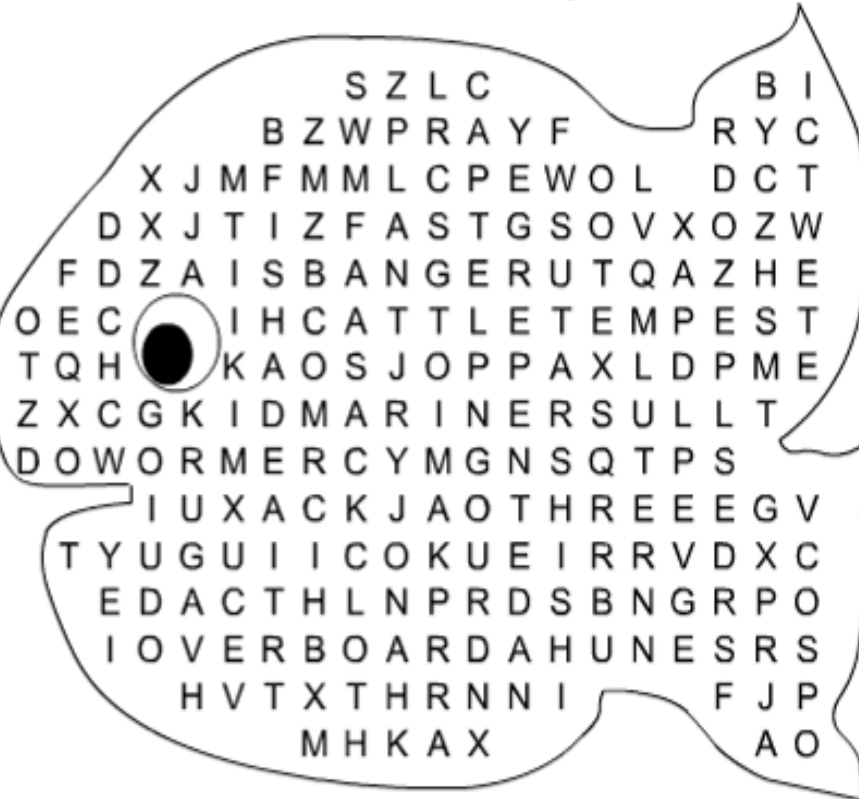
InSpire dates 2017/18

2017	Copy deadline	2018	Copy deadline
November	12 October	February	18 January Mini InSpire
December Community edition	9 November for 3 December issue	Easter Community edition (March/April)	8 February for March issue as Good Friday is 30 March
		May	19 April
		June	17 May



Jonah and the Big Fish

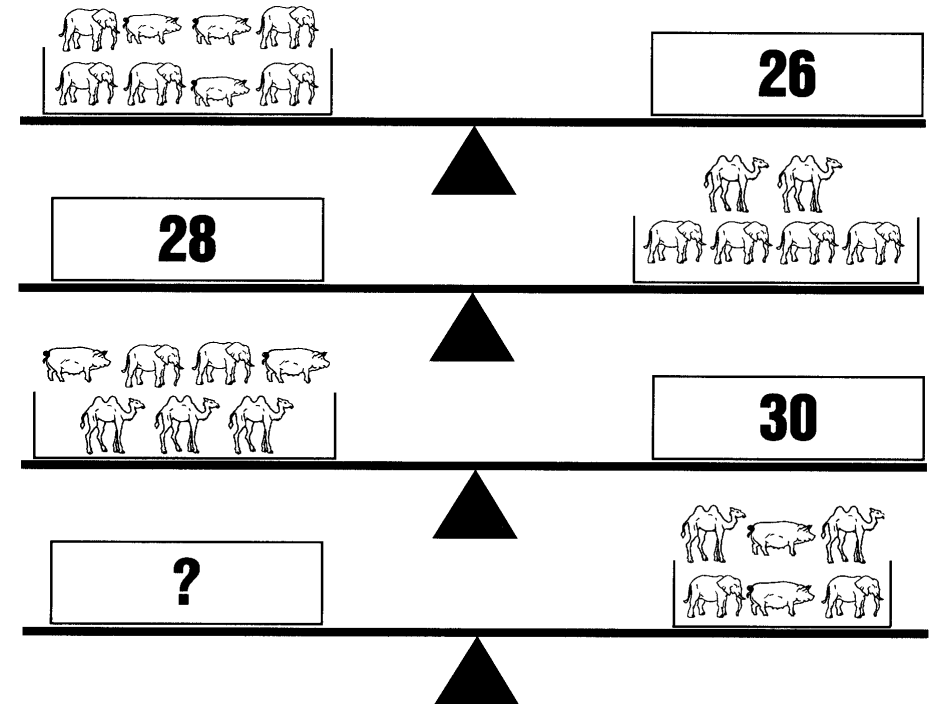
Find the words hidden in the puzzle.



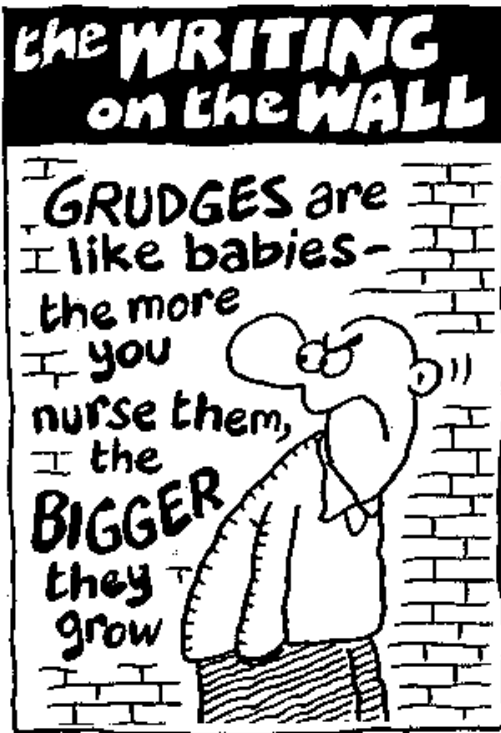
ANGER	JONAH	PLANT	TARSHISH
CATTLE	JOPPA	PRAY	TEMPEST
FAST	MARINERS	REPENTED	THREE
FISH	MERCY	SACKCLOTH	WORM
GOURD	OVERBOARD	SHADE	

©akidsheart.com

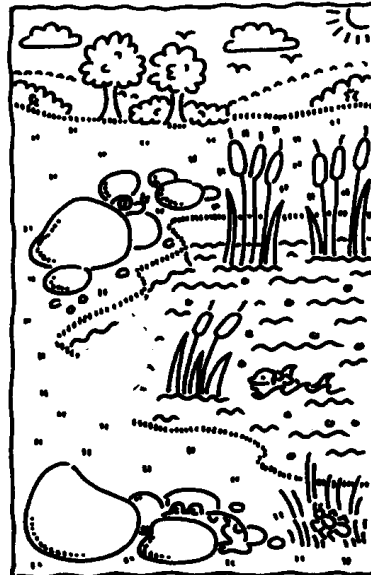
Can you balance the last see-saw?



If all of the above are balanced, can you find the missing number?



Can you find a FISH, a FROG, a SNAIL and an ANT in the picture?

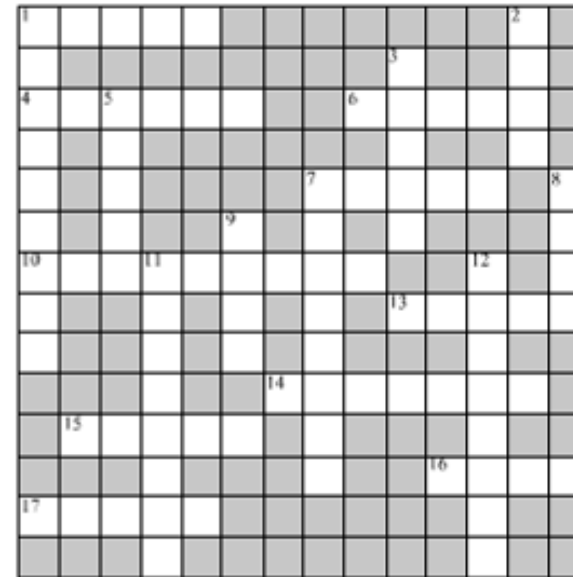


Now you can colour it in.

CAN YOU SPOT SIX DIFFERENCES?



Jonah and the Big Fish



©akidsheart.com

ACROSS

1. God made a plant to provide this for Jonah
4. Other than the people of Nineveh, what God mentioned he spared
6. Jonah found a ship going to Tarshish in this city
7. What God showed the people of Nineveh
10. Where the mariners threw Jonah
13. What God prepared to provide shade for Jonah. NKJ version
14. A storm
15. The prophet sent by God to preach to the city of Nineveh
16. God prepared a big one to swallow Jonah
17. Jonah's emotion after God spared the city of Nineveh

DOWN

1. Clothes for repentance
2. What Jonah did in the belly of the great fish
3. What God prepared to provide shade for Jonah. KJV
5. The number of days and nights Jonah was in the fish's belly
7. Sailors
8. To go without food
9. What God prepared to destroy the plant that provided shade
11. What the people of Nineveh did after Jonah preached to them
12. The city Jonah was trying to flee to

©akidsheart.com