



INSPIRE



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



MANNOFIELD CHURCH

Scottish registered charity SC 001680



CHURCH CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Wed 3	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 7	10am	Morning Worship with Sacrament of Baptism
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 10	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 14	10am	Remembrance Sunday with Sacrament of Baptism
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 17	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 21	10am	Guild Dedication Service
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 24	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 28	10am	Family Communion and presentation of Development Plan
	3.15pm	Craigielea
	4.15pm	Advent Celebration and Pot Luck Supper
	6.30pm	Advent Worship
Tues 30	7.30pm	Kirk Session

Advent Bible Study

This will run on Mondays from 29 November at 7.30pm in the Centenary Hall.

Flower Calendar

November

7 Mrs C Duncan
14 Mrs M Hillocks (vestibule)
21 Mrs A Hall
28 Mr W Nicolaisen

Flower Calendar 2011

The Flower Committee would like to thank all those who have donated flowers and donated to the Flower Fund during 2010.

The Flower Calendar will be in the Vestibule towards the end of November for those wishing to place their names for 2011. *Sheila Taylor*

POPPYSCOTLAND APPEAL



There will be a retiring collection in aid of Poppy Scotland on Remembrance Sunday 14 November. For those wishing to make a Gift Aid donation, forms will be available at the church door and at the church office from 31 October. Completed forms should be put in the collecting bags along with donations.

PLEASE NOTE

The deadline for the next issue of InSpire is Thursday 18 November

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

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

Dear Friends

I think one of my favourite episodes in the Bible is the account of Abraham being so bold as to interfere with God's decision-making processes as he seeks to change God's mind.

The description of this exchange is found at Genesis 18:20-32. In a quick summary what we have is God stating that he is going to tear down Sodom and Gomorrah because of their sin. Abraham intervenes putting forward the argument that if innocent people live in these cities, might not the cities be spared as it would be wrong to take the lives of those who are sinless.

God accedes to this request and agrees that if 50 innocents were found the cities would be spared. That's not enough for Abraham and he keeps the negotiations going reducing the number of required innocents little by little until ultimately God agrees if 10 innocents are found then the city will be spared. Let's not worry about the fact that these cities were destroyed on account of fewer than ten innocents being found; the point of the story is God appears to be influenced by the pleading of Abraham.

This is wonderful news for us because it reveals a God who is not so distant from us or immune from our pleading that He is immovable in His emotions towards us or so reticent in His willingness to act as He receives our petitions.

Our God 'never slumbers and never sleeps'. Although we cannot ever be 100% certain of how God will respond to our pleadings and our prayers, what we can be sure of is that He listens and He responds in love. God is not immovable.

He is as emotionally pliable as any loving human parent should be when their child unburdens their innermost feelings in open and honest conversation.

Let us then be persistent in our prayers and be confident that whatever we seek for ourselves, for our Church and for our world, can be taken to God in prayer.

Best Wishes

Keith

Remembrance Sunday Prayer

Loving God, in a world where justice has not rolled down as waters, nor righteousness as a mighty stream, where knowledge floods in, but there is only a trickle of wisdom, we pray for this Church.

Turn our efforts to good, so that as our understanding increases, our sense of responsibility will deepen and we will complete our time here having made the world more habitable and ourselves more humane.

We pray this, O God, in the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Inviting young people to the Table..... Alisa Ferlicca



Our next service of Holy Communion is on Sunday 28 November. On this first Sunday of Advent we are opening the Table to the young ones of our congregation. By participating in Communion, a child, as well as youth and adults, experiences being accepted in the community of believers. Gathering around the Table of the Lord which is a symbol of God's abundant and everlasting love, nurtures and strengthens our children. So, with this letter and useful teaching tips, I encourage parents and grandparents to sit down with their child in the weeks to come and discuss Communion.

Communion: many names for the same meal - *Holy Communion, Table of the Lord, Eucharist, Lord's Supper* and *Breaking of the Bread*. The church views Communion as a sacrament, which is a visible or tangible way of understanding God's grace. Understood as a gift from God in which we receive God's love and forgiveness, Communion is anticipated with joy and thanksgiving. It is an act of worship where we gather to celebrate Christ's life, death, and resurrection. Through receiving the bread of life and the cup of the new covenant, by the grace of God, we experience the presence of the living Christ.

Through scripture we are reminded of the role of meals shared with Jesus and of God's nearness to us in the sharing of bread and wine—(or grape juice.) Paul, a follower of Jesus, retells the words and actions of Jesus at the last supper in *1 Corinthians 11:23-25*. Jesus used the most common items available to Him at a meal—bread and juice—and gave these things a special meaning. He asks us to take the bread and the cup regularly as a way of remembering Him and His teachings for our daily lives. A good discussion with your child is how she or he and you feel Jesus is important to your lives—a *remembering*. There are three other places in the Bible where you can find a record of Jesus' special meal with His disciples in Jerusalem.

See if you and your child can find them: *Matt 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:14-20*.

Communion, a meal of many meanings:

Remembrance: We remember God's acts of love toward us going all the way back through the OT stories of freedom from captivity to the NT stories of Jesus' life and teachings.

Thanksgiving: We give thanks and praise to God for the many gifts we have received throughout history and in our daily lives.

Celebration: We celebrate with great joy God's continuing presence with us, in times of joy as well as in times when we are hurting and receive strength and comfort.

Forgiveness: In Jesus' life, death and resurrection our brokenness is forgiven and healed. And when we come to the Table we are forgiven again and again. We experience God's forgiveness for things we have done wrong.

Inviting young people to the Table continued



Being Fed and Feeding Others: When we share in the bread and the wine or grape juice, we are reminded that as our needs for food, for God and for love are cared for, we are also called to offer to others the same care and love.

Belonging: Through baptism we become members of the Church, the body of Christ, in the world today. In Communion as we include people of all ages we reaffirm the covenant made at baptism and deepen the sense that we all belong to the people of God.

Faith is a lifelong process. Faith grows within as we worship God within a community of faith, giving praise and thanksgiving, when we hear and retell the stories of faith from the Bible, people in history and our own lives. It grows when we ask questions about faith for our daily lives. Just as we do certain things to care for our physical growth and well-being, so too, there are steps to help us grow spiritually.

You can do this with your children by telling the stories of meals Jesus shared with people (such as a “Meal with Levi” *Mark 2:13-17*; “A meal with Simon” *Luke 7:36-47*; “Road to Emmaus” *Luke 24:25-32*; “By the lakeside” *John 21:5-13*; “Feeding the 5,000” *John 6:5-14*). Exploring Bible stories with your children can be fun as well as informative. You may find these questions helpful in the investigation of the stories: Who was there? What took place? What did they have to eat? What did Jesus do? What did he say? Can you find the words “take”, “blessed” or “give thanks” “broke” and “gave”? What is your favourite verse? Try drawing a picture of the story.

It is important that as a whole congregation we invite and welcome children to the Lord's Table. The experience is enriching for all. We all learn by participation in events and then reflecting on what we have done. Through the repeated act of Communion we grow in our understanding of the miraculous power, awe, mystery and joy of this sacrament and add new dimensions to our faith journeys as individuals families and communities. Share your personal reflections on the meaning of Communion with your child, or for that matter, anyone else because all are invited to the Table. When we meet at God's Table we are reminded that this was a special meal Jesus shared with those who followed Him and His disciples. There is no age restriction on following the Lord.

Grace and peace Alisa

Mannofield Guild

NOVEMBER

2 “Music Matters” Neil Meldrum

4 Monthly Coffee Morning.

Please return Blythswood Boxes

16 “The Russia Experience”

Janette Mackie

20 Victorian Afternoon Tea 2 -4pm

21–28 Guild Week

30 “Travels in India” Audrey Milne

DECEMBER

14 Christmas Party

Deeside Golf Club





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

A Too old! I'm a wife, mother and granny.

Q What is your favourite verse from Scripture?

A There are so many, but Ruth's declaration of loyalty to Naomi is good – in the AV of course.

Q Who is your favourite character from the Bible?

A Hannah.

Q What motivates you spiritually?

A Grace, mercy and the love of God.

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

A Neither am I!

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

A My Orkney Granny always said, you girls should wear a semmit, you'll catch your death of cold. In Glasgow we paid no attention, but coming to Aberdeen it seemed like a good idea.

Q What are you afraid of?

A My grandson Peter will be in Afghanistan in less than six months – enough said.

Q Did you have a nickname growing up?

A I answered to my sister's name and we were called the twins or worse the English twins.

Q What situations make you lose your temper?

A My husband Peter bounding down steep heathery slopes leaving me struggling miles behind has been known to cause a few imprecations to be muttered!

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

A District nursing fulfilled my ambitions, and nursing was the only career I ever considered.

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

A My inability to sing.

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

A The Highlands before the clearances and the degradation of the land.

Q What would you do if you ruled the world?

A Give universal education and equal rights to women.

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

A A cashmere coat. Very luxurious.

Q Who was your favourite teacher and why?

A My mother who was a teacher and gave us a love of poetry and literature, more than any other teacher.

Q Who or what is the love of your life?

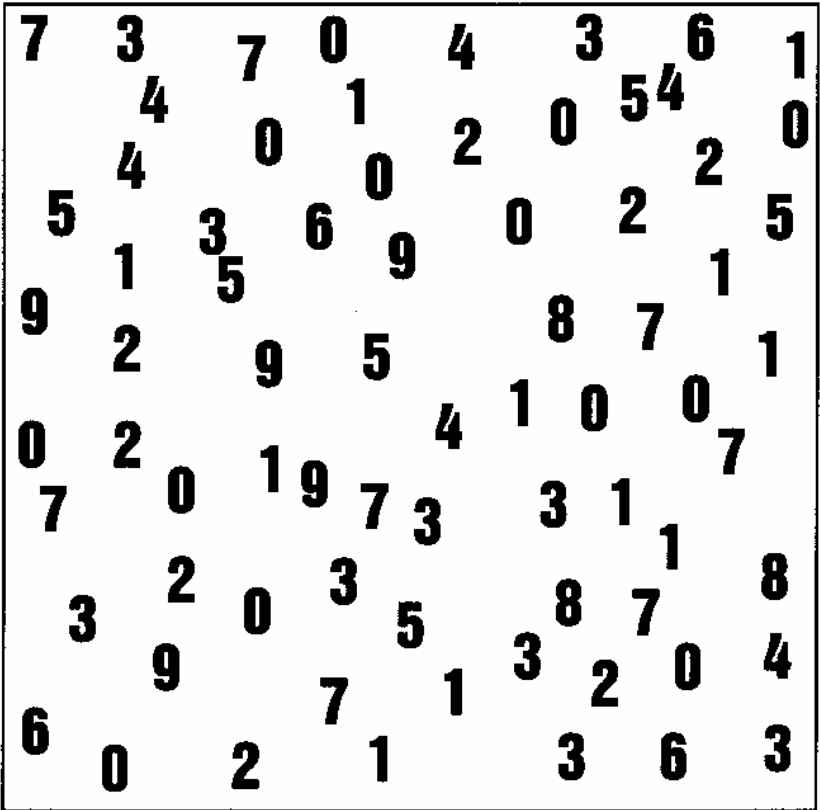
A My husband Peter, my sons, daughters in law and grandchildren and also my twin sister.

Q What is your most treasured possession?

A The above are blessings and good health enables me to enjoy them.

Q What has been your greatest achievement

A Climbing Munros – despite the boulders and heather!, plus the long distance walks I've done and running 10k races in my fifties all give a sense of achievement.



*Use three straight lines to divide this square
 Into five separate sections each containing
 A total of 52.*



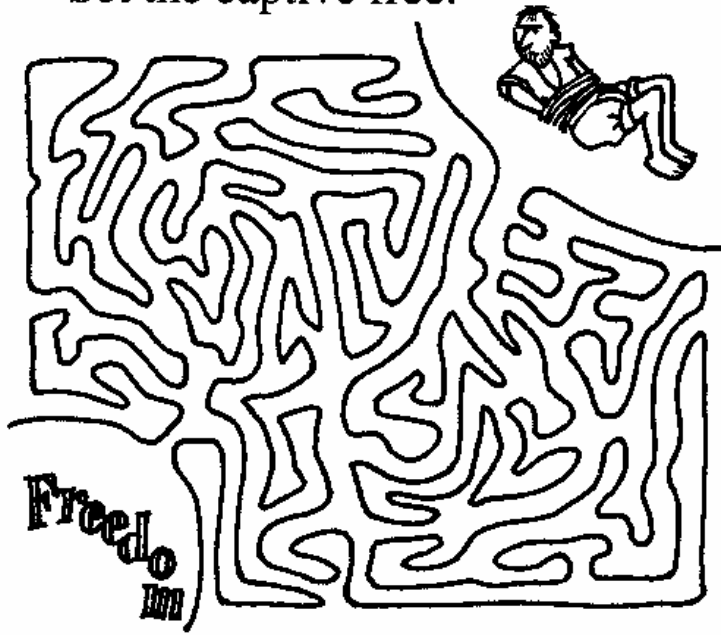
How many skunks does it
take to make a big stink?

A Phew!!!



"Well, I must be off — see you next week, Fred . . ."

Set the captive free.





How many children in the crowd around Jesus? (Some are hiding)

CODEWORDS

You are given three letters as clues to help you crack the code. The same letter represents the same number throughout, e.g. A is No. 10. You'll discover among the words Cain's eldest son, a precious stone, a cold season and a woman Peter raised from the dead.

A 10	N	2	25	7	7	17	5	22	17	20	11	18	3	
B	O	10		18			1	18			10		17	
C	P	24	18	8	8	19	18	5	20	11	8	18	7	
D	Q	8		25			10	18			20		13	
E	R	18		7		24	8	10	19	15		23	10	
F	S	3	10	11	13	18		14		11	18	18	3	24
G	T					10	19	20	23	18				
H	U	14	18	7	9	19		3		18	11	17	13	1
I 20	V	17		18		24	4	10	19	19		2		17
J	W	7		5			20		17			2		25
K	X	7	18	10	24	17	11		17	2	2	18	7	24
L 19	Y	17		7			3		15			11		18
M	Z	5	20	3	17	5	24		24	1	10	3	18	24

But Whom Do You Say That I AM?



- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Advocate | Door | Lawgiver | Redeemer |
| Almighty | Emmanuel | Life | Resurrection |
| Alpha and Omega | Everlasting | Light | Rock |
| Amen | Faithful and True | Lion of Judah | Savior |
| Apostle | First and Last | Lord | Servant |
| Beloved Son | Forerunner | Lord of Lords | Shepherd |
| Bishop | Foundation | Master | Son of David |
| Branch | Governor | Master | Son of God |
| Bread | Head | Mediator | Son of Man |
| Captain | High Priest | Messiah | Vine |
| Carpenter | Holy and Just One | Mighty God | Way |
| Chosen | Horn of Salvation | Morning Star | Wonderful |
| Christ | I AM | Nazarene | Word |
| Consolation | Jesus | Only Begotten Son | |
| Cornerstone | Judge | Passover | |
| Counselor | King | Priest | |
| Day Star | King of Kings | Prince of Peace | |
| Deliverer | Lamb of God | Prophet | |

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October's solutions:- pg 7 - 5 men. Each man digs 1 hole in 5 hours, and thus 20 holes in 100 hours.



Advent Celebration and Worship

Sunday, November
28th
4:15 for 4:30
until 7:15pm

Pot Luck Supper

Dinner will be served at 4:30pm. Food should be in a normal quantity that would feed a family. Food should not need to be re-heated or refrigerated. Also, please no cold meats or cream. Please feel free to bring any special requirement foods, depending on your families needs. **Suggested food items include:** chili, soup, lasagna, pasta, macaroni and cheese, pizza, curry, cheese sandwiches, variety of salads, vegetable sides, potato sides, tarts, biscuits, or tray baking goods. Please refer to the sign up lists located in the church as regards to who is bringing certain dishes.



Building Development News

A church at the heart of the community



We are moving to a crucial stage in the progress towards agreeing an appropriate plan for refurbishment of our buildings. An article in the September issue of InSpire outlined a timeline for the remaining part of the year and the Development Committee is now pleased to offer more detail.

On Sunday 28 November it is planned that during the morning service the Kirk Session makes its presentation at, what will be to all intents and purposes, a congregational meeting. The presentation will include three elements.

Firstly, the Vision we have for the future of our congregation particularly its relationship with the community;

Secondly, a description of the plan for the refurbishment of our buildings and

Thirdly, an outline of how we proceed with a fundraising campaign.

After this presentation the congregation in attendance will be asked to give backing to the proposals in the form of a vote. During the meeting the Kirk Session will be very clear that this vote is not so much a matter of merely giving approval to a plan; instead what the Session will be seeking is a pledge from as many people as possible that they adopt this Vision and plan, individually and collectively, and are prepared to do everything they can to make it a reality.

In order to allow for every member of the congregation to be informed of the details of the Vision and the plan, the District Elders will be asked to visit homes during the month of November, taking with them a leaflet which summarises the visions and outlines the building plans. The plans also will be available to study on display boards in a much larger form within the church during the weeks preceding this meeting.

Preparing and talking about new Vision and creating a plan for the future is of course all very exciting. At the same time it brings with it a need for the backing of as many of the congregation as possible. By congregation we don't just mean those who regularly are able to attend and participate in worship. We mean everyone who is a member of the Church and associated with our Church family. Whatever category you fall into, please now consider your commitment to the Church and your willingness to be part of a movement that could realise an appropriate ambition to create the best opportunity possible for furthering the best work of the Church for many years to come. We are asking those who may have fallen away from regular participation in Church life now to make an effort to renew their involvement. These plans portray a high level of ambition and a strong desire to be an active, purposeful Church with a strong sense of family and a focus on the community around it. Surely such a Vision can inspire each one of us and move us towards the desire to be part of it.

Our desire is:-

- ◆ To play a crucial part in the community by providing the opportunity and encouragement for people to worship in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.
- ◆ To capture the imagination of all generations living in our community and welcome them into active involvement within our Church family.
- ◆ To use the gift of our building and its situation to make our church a place of busy activity and a hub for care and support for the community around us.

This as a time in our history when we must plan for and build a legacy that will include a suite of rooms fit for purpose in today's society and for future generations too.

**THE MEANING OF LIFE
IS _____**



**Fill in the blanks at the
Alpha Course in Mannofield**

**Starting Monday 24th January 2011
Mannofield Church-Large Hall
7pm-9pm**

WHAT IS ALPHA?

The Alpha course is an opportunity for everyone to explore the Christian faith.

It is relaxed, low-key, friendly, fun and free. There is a meal together at the beginning of each meeting (the course runs for 10 weeks) which gives everybody an opportunity to get to know each other.

Then after supper we watch one of a series of talks by Nicky Gumbel. We listen, learn, discuss and discover.

Ask anything..... Alpha is a place where no question is too simple or too hostile.

Alpha is supported by Church of Scotland and all the main Christian denominations.

WHO IS ALPHA FOR?

EVERYONE – you, your family & your friends.

If your own faith is strong, be supportive and bring along someone who may need some encouragement in their Christian life!! The Alpha Team is looking forward to welcoming you on the Alpha Course.

* Please complete an Alpha registration form; you can pick one up from the Church office or look out for one of the Alpha team handing them out after some of the Sunday Church services.

Alan and Anne Thompson



“With All Your Heart”...Margaret Malloch

There is something inspiring about that phrase – “with all your heart”. It conjures up a vision of your utmost effort and commitment.

King Hezekiah did that which was good and right before the Lord his God and, whatever he did, he did it with all his heart and prospered. *II Chron 31 v20,21.*

Dear Lord wouldn't it be wonderful if we could serve You with all our heart, like Hezekiah, not so that we would prosper, but simply because we love You and wish to be obedient?

These ancient kings were very powerful, able to make or break their people according to whether they themselves worshipped You or other gods.

But we don't have that excuse. We are free to choose whom we shall serve. Perhaps we are hesitant to hunger and thirst after righteousness lest the commitment is more than we are prepared to give.

Dear Lord we confess with sadness and shame how our Church in Scotland is diminishing, victim of the great sickness apathy. Perhaps Lord that is more destructive than wickedness, for the wicked can have a change of heart, but apathy has no heart, just a bland face, immune, uncaring.

Father, what we desperately need, and now pray for, is a revival in the Church, a spirited TSUNAMI that will try the sinews of our soul.

We remember with thanksgiving how, in the past, great things came to fruition in our darkest times. So, if the lean years are to be sent to us now they will only bring home to us, yet again, our total dependence upon You.

But all is not lost, nor will it ever be, for You are our God and we are Your people. You have said *(Isaiah 55.11) A.V.*

“My word shall not return unto me void...it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it”. Lord, how can we be less than optimistic? We bring these things before You in Christ's name. AMEN

NOTES & NEWS

Youth & Children's Ministries Worker Report



Mannofield Church Lunch Club

Come and join us!

18 November

Lunch is served at 1pm

Entertainment 2 - 3.15pm

A cup of tea before you leave!

Cost -- £4

Need transport?

Contact: Mhairi Clark tel. 317982

MANNOFIELD GUILD
VICTORIAN AFTERNOON TEA
20TH NOVEMBER
2 - 4PM
ADULTS £4 CHILDREN £2
HOME BAKING STALL
CHRISTMAS TREE
SURPRISE PARCELS

Guide Dogs Coffee Morning & Sale

A very big thank you to all who helped and supported this event. The magnificent sum of £1473 was raised.
Sheila Taylor

Mannofield Coffee Stop

Do you remember the Millennium?



It was the year Mannofield Coffee Stop was born! Ten years down the line thanks to the support and generosity of our customers we have provided many charities with our proceeds including our own Church.

We have a great team of helpers just now and have had others over the years all of whom have been part of our success.

With 2011 just around the corner, we look forward to continuing with our Coffee Stop "par excellence".

Volunteer helpers always welcome!!!

Maureen Allan

Things are developing well within the youth projects. We now have fifteen coming along on a Sunday and are considering starting soon a course called Christianity Explored. They are a good group of young people.

Recently a youth breakfast was trialed one Sunday morning. It was well attended but currently I am working on tweaking things slightly, mainly making the time slightly later!

The event consisted of breakfast followed by a short thought. A Twelve Plus group has also been launched as part of Young Church on Sunday morning.

Mondays continue well, although once again working on tweaking things slightly. The age was lowered to P6+, recognising that the primary school is more local to the church than the academy. Leaflets were distributed amongst the Primary 6 and 7s with sadly no response, but I will continue working hard on advertising.

Advertising and promoting the youth projects are ongoing especially for Mondays, with Sunday nights aimed at the current group.

Through prayer and discussion the youth are very much considering the place of the Church and God in their lives. They are also excited about the future development plans of the church and what the future holds for Mannofield Church.

A common misconception is children/youth are the Church of tomorrow - they are - but they are also a big part of the Church today.

Tim Still

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 07535356346	
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

Baptisms

10 October Morgan Paul Christie

Deaths

Mrs Maureen Bennett

Mrs Isobel Ogilvie

Disjunctions

Mrs Lorna Dewar

Mrs Kathleen Laird

Change of Address

Mr Robert Ford

Mrs Angela Main

Miss Freda Williamson

Mrs Sheila Clark

Mrs Mhairi MacMillan

Mrs Ethel Venters

Hill Walking in Mallorca

Most people associate Mallorca with beach holidays and lazy days in the sun and not with energetic hikes in the mountains, but there is more to Mallorca than sand.

In June this year the church hill-walking club opted for a trip to the island instead of the Alps in the hope of getting better weather. We were not disappointed and spent a fine week exploring the mountains and gorges of the NW coast.

Based at Port de Soller in a good hotel, it was possible to reach most of the interesting routes in the guide book by walking and using public transport.

The hills are similar in height to Scottish Munros and the good walks took around six hours and were quite steep in places. It was a trip to remember.

Peter Stewart



A legacy for Future Generations

