



# INSPIRE



**MANNOFIELD CHURCH**

Scottish registered charity SC 001680

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY

Sun 5	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 8	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 12	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 15	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 19	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 22	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 26	10am	Morning Worship
	3.15pm	Craigielea
	6.30pm	Evening Worship

### MARCH

Sun 4	10am	Sacrament of Communion at both Services
	6.30pm	

### PLEASE NOTE

**The deadline for the next issue of *InSpire* is Thursday 16 February**

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

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

## Flower Calendar

### FEBRUARY



5	Mrs E Thain
12	Mrs C Strachan
19	Miss M & Miss R Archibald
26	Mrs Parkinson

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm

#### **'Your Questions' and 'Keith's Answers'**

At the evening service on Sunday 19 February it is proposed to try something different. Rather than a sermon there will be the chance to put the minister on the spot by asking questions.

While no guarantee can be given on the absolute truth of all the 'answers' it is clear many of us have questions when it comes to faith, the Church, Mannofield Church or life in general.

While there will be opportunity on the night to ask questions it would be helpful if at least some of the questions to be asked were known in advance so please get in touch with Keith if you think you might have a question to ask.

### Tillydrone Vision



Tillydrone Vision is a community project helping young people in the area develop a sense of community and citizenship. For the last 5 years the project has been working with Bezalle Primary School, Kamuli, North East Uganda. On 5 February Nicola Youngson (Nick's daughter) and her husband are taking part in this year's project.

Nicola (Wednesday Brownie Leader) is appealing for lightweight children's clothes and shoes (age 7-teenage) to take with her when she travels to Kamuli. Items can be given to Nick or left in the office labeled "Uganda."

Dear Friends

What are your bad habits? What are your good habits?

Probably best to keep the answers private but none-the-less I am sure you will agree that we all have habits.

A habit is described as,

*'A recurrent, often unconscious pattern of behaviour that is acquired through frequent repetition.*

*...a customary manner or practice'*

When Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life" He effectively issued an invitation to all would-be followers to take on "His habits" as our very own.

Being a Christian is not just about being well informed about the Gospel - it is about "living" the Gospel as part of our nature. It is not just a case of knowing the "marks" of a Christian disciple - it is about revealing these "marks" in how we live.

Christian practices are the individual and communal "habits" of the people of God; those attitudes and actions that express God's life-in-us for the sake of others. They require and evoke belief, but they are more than doctrine. They are our discipleship, our following of Jesus' way.

The book of Acts tells of the early disciples having an impact on those around them. "Habits of faith" are the simple, yet profound, rhythms of daily life that form faith and transform lives. God calls on us to reveal these "habits of faith" to

such an extent that our very contours start to resemble the very image of our role model - Jesus our Lord.

It's up to each and every one of us to seek to train ourselves that, in all our interactions with others and with the world, we reveal an "*unconscious pattern of behaviour*" that leaves "Christ's mark" on the people and situations we encounter on our journey through life.

Best Wishes

Keith

### Wayside Pulpit Posters

As Mannofield Church moves forward with hope and enthusiasm for the future, we take this opportunity to recognise and acknowledge with gratitude the talent and work of the Poster Committee over many years. That Committee has now handed over its work to the Communication Group and as from 1 March 2012 Elizabeth Paterson will lead the new committee.

Whereas only some posters will be retained from the significant collection, all posters will be photographed to create an archive of this art work for future generations of Mannofield's members who will be able to enjoy not just the posters on display, but also to feel part of the continuing community that Mannofield has been, is now and will be in years to come.

The intention is to add some commercially produced posters and some new designs to the collection to give variety to our community approach. This diversity of resources will help to meet the evolving needs of the parish adding a new dimension to the outreach made possible by the considerable work of the past members of the Poster Committee.

We hope you enjoy the selection of posters on the front and back pages.  
*Communication Group*

# Mannofield Church...130 years old and still counting

## THE FOUNDING OF THE CHURCH

*extracted from "A Century at Mannofield — The Story of a District Church" 1882-1982*

In 1880, the first approach was made to Aberdeen Presbytery for permission to set up a new congregation at Mannofield. It was a time when church extension was very much in the air. The Established Church had by then recovered from the shock of the great split in 1843, which had seen the setting up of rival Free Churches throughout Scotland. Towns had grown rapidly in population and area during the 19th century. By the 1870s, one outcome of this was the establishing of new churches of both Presbyterian persuasions on the fringes of many towns. In this, Aberdeen was no exception. At that time, several prominent churches like Causewayend, Ferryhill South, Rosemount, Queen's Cross, Rubislaw and Ruthrieston South came into existence.



By and large, these churches were set up in the areas of the then outskirts of Aberdeen where a sizeable nucleus of population for a new congregation had already grown. As the present authors sat round scrutinising the maps of the district of Mannofield in the late 19th century, however, there seemed no obvious *strong* case for a church at Mannofield in 1880. Later researches confirmed that our suspicions, that an interesting story about the origins of the church might emerge, were fully justified.

The name of Mannofield does not figure prominently in the annals of Aberdeen. For much of this century, to most of the citizens of the town, it merely meant the name of the county cricket ground—at one time the mecca of thousands looking for a summer afternoon's entertainment by Alma Hunt, the famous West Indian professional - perhaps a different kind of century at Mannofield!

For long the area lay well outside the boundaries of the town. Its name is traditionally derived from that of an 18th century Quaker merchant, Robert Balmanno, whose religious connection with the Society of Friends is remembered in the name of his house, Friendville, which still stands on Great Western Road. Farther east lay another reminder of that link in Friendship Farm on which Ashley Road School now stands. Beside the school lies Friendship Terrace, with some of the old farm buildings converted into a modern dwelling house. By 1840, the district was mentioned in the "New Statistical Account of Scotland" as being the site of a horse and cattle fair held on the second Monday of each month. But the importance of the district was more horticultural than agricultural because round big cities, the need for fresh vegetables, fruits and flowers was satisfied locally by the establishment of large nurseries like those that

## Mannofield Church 130 years old and still counting

covered the area of Forbesfield. Industry did not make much impact on the area except for the substantial Rubislaw Bleachworks, whose drying grounds and water storage tanks covered what are now the playing fields of Rubislaw and Harlaw.

Another indication of a changing world was the improvement in the water supply of which the Mannofield reservoir, opened in 1866, was a vital part. When the parish boundary was established, part of it was defined by the Deeside Railway line which, from the station at Ruthrieston, provided one of the best means of getting to the area from the town centre until the coming of the tramway system in 1881. The first tramway was horse-drawn and the electric trams had to wait until the beginning of the 20th century.

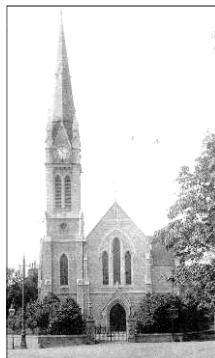
Depots for the two tramway systems which ran along Great Western Road were established; one the building which housed the municipal trams now occupied by William Wilson & Co., (*now the Spires apartments, Editor*) and the other on the site of the filling station at the corner of Morningside Road (*now Tesco's, Editor*), where the suburban trams, which ran as far as Bielside, were serviced.

By 1880, many of the familiar features of the district were already well established. The road connecting the town with Deeside, now known as Great Western Road, existed, but it was divided into three sections known as Cuparstone Place, Ashley Place and Cuparstone Road. There was, of course, no ring road until the period between the two world wars and, as a result, Seafield Road ran from the top of Countesswells Road then turned sharp right to meet Cuparstone Road, along the line of Thorngrove Avenue. A slip road to join with the top of Cromwell Road across the Ring Road, became the lower part of Seafield Road in the 1930s.

There was no Mannofield Cricket Ground in 1880, although there was the Holburn Cricket Ground, lying along Broomhill Road between what is now Pitstruan Place and Allan Street. Springbank Cemetery was not brought into use until 1893, although the outer edges of the settled areas of the town had already seen the establishment of first Nellfield and then Allenvale on the south side of the town.

**We will continue to look back at the founding of the church in future editions of InSpire**

***The Editor***



*Chapel of Ease -The first church*





## In Session .....With Scribe



The redevelopment of our church buildings had a prominent and promising role to play at the December meeting of the Kirk Session.

The Development Committee report indicated that after almost a year of fundraising, the satisfying sum of £330,000 has been accumulated and even more gratifying has been the real sense of togetherness inspired by this focus on our efforts to improve our buildings.

A feasibility study has now been received from the architect which will be considered by the Development Committee. Planning of the work to be done will be considered which would allow the work to commence sooner and may also allow for continued use of the building while work is being undertaken.

On a more general topic, Mannofield has been asked to appoint a commissioner to the General Assembly in May. Session decided to appoint Maurice Bridgeford, and in the event that he is unable to attend the Assembly, Keith and Session Clerk Bob Anderson would have authority to nominate a substitute.

Session gave their approval to a retirement request from Iain Black, who was thanked for his valuable contribution to Session work over many years, while on a sadder note, tribute was paid to the life and work of Bill Hall and Angus Smith, two retired elders who died recently. The next Session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21 at 7.30pm.

## Letter to the Editor



### Hard of Hearing

Only those who are hard of hearing can appreciate the joy of the loop system, whereby every word is clearly heard. That is, if the system is working! Over the years it has been faulty and it was frustrating to only hear every other word.

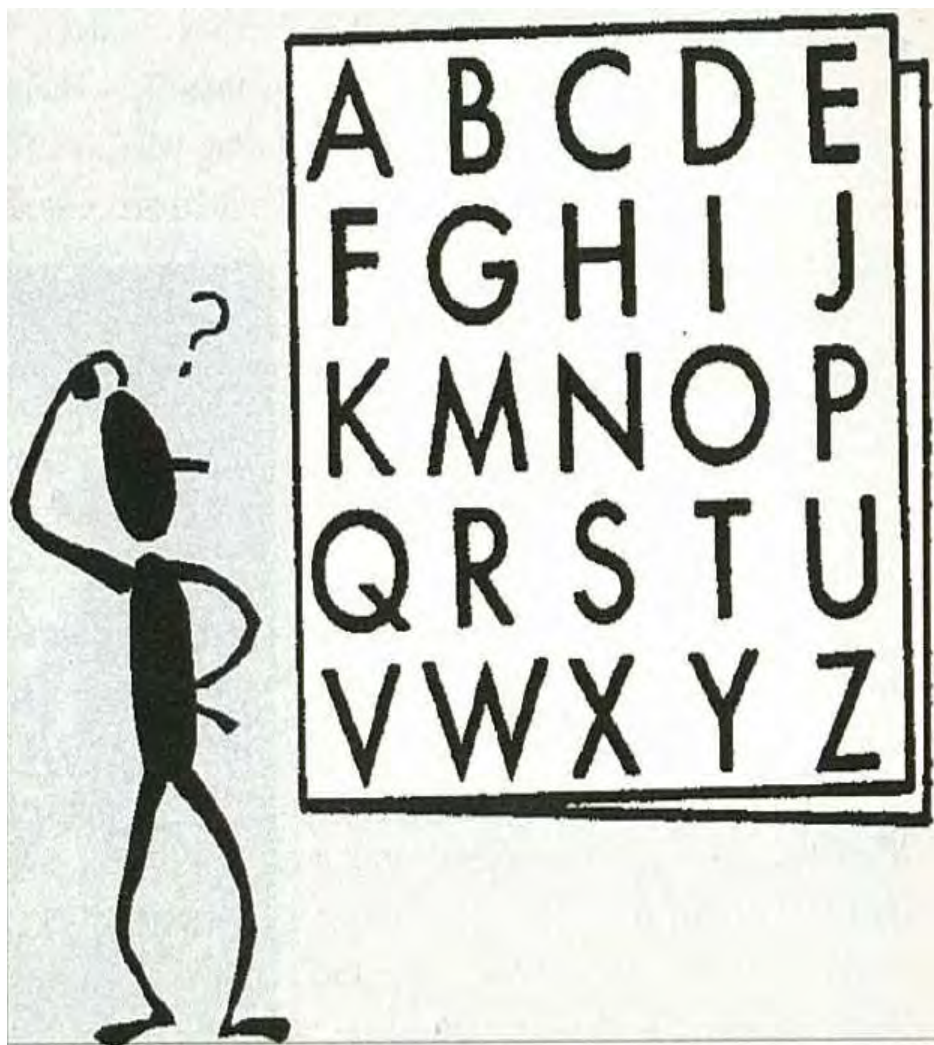
When I informed Keith that there was a problem he immediately told Tom White and between them they traced the fault and it is now the clearest system I have heard – the “Best Christmas Present”

I could have got.

Yours sincerely

James Fowlie

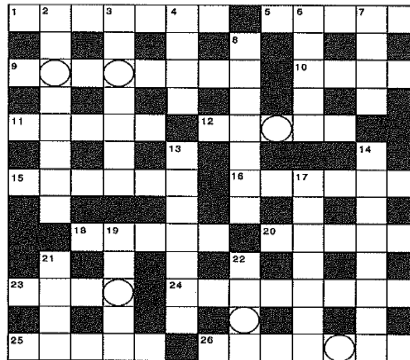
**What kind of greeting card is this, and what does it say?**



## STORY CROSSWORD

As you read this New Testament story of one of the disciples of Jesus, you'll see that some words have been replaced by a reference in brackets. Try to find the

missing words, then enter them into the grid. Then place the circled letters in their right order to give you the disciple's name.



He was known as the doubting disciple of Jesus, although devoted in his (17D). On one occasion he would have (2D) with Jesus to an (10A) of Judea where the religious (13D), expressing (4D), had tried to stone them.

He was not (16A) put off with (18A). In the (5A) room, in reply to a (3D) from Jesus that he was going to (1A) a place for them, with a little (20A) he asked the Lord 'We don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'

But when Jesus said: 'I am the way, the truth and the (21D)', his questioner (24A) he needed a much (9A) faith.

Suffering (15A) depression when Jesus was crucified, he was not at the cross.

On the day of resurrection when the (19D) disciples said they had seen the Lord, he answered: 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were . . . I will not believe.'

Yet (7D) in his doubt itself, lay a (11A) of faith.

Later he went (23A) the other disciples to their meeting place. After they (8D) and had locked the door, Jesus (22D), and with (14D) said '(6D) be with you!' And as he turned, the one who doubted (25A) him say, 'Stop doubting and believe.'

He who until then had not believed in the (12A) Lord Jesus, confessed 'My Lord and my God'. He knew (26A) from further doubt.

## STORY CROSSWORD SOLUTION

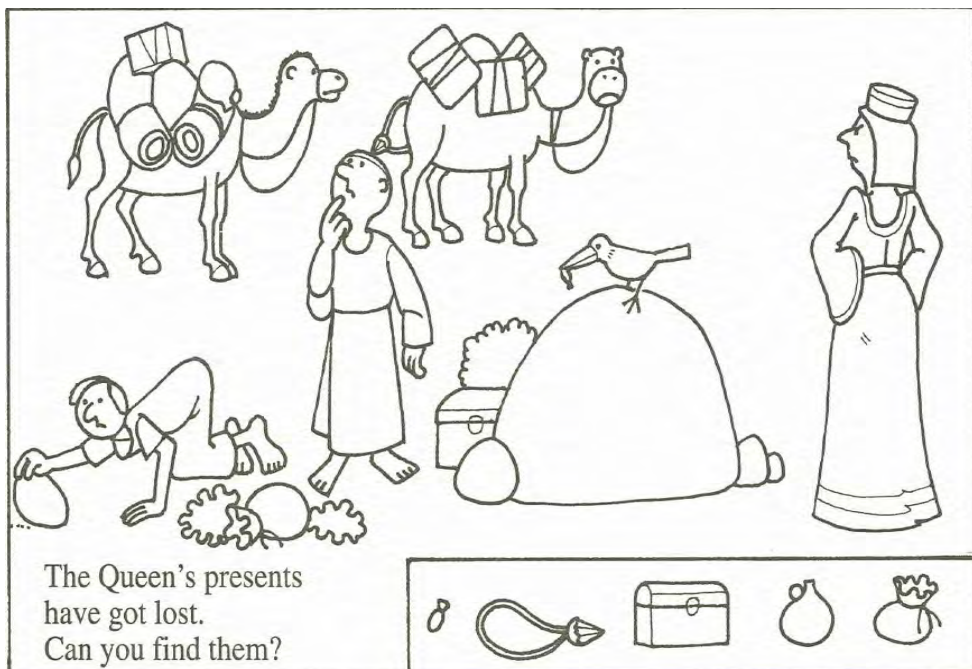
### Across

- |           |             |            |            |          |
|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|----------|
| 1 PREPARE | 5 UPPER     | 9 STRONGER | 10 AREA    | 11 GRAIN |
| 12 RISEN  | 15 SEVERE   | 16 EASILY  | 18 WORDS   | 20 PRIDE |
| 23 WITH   | 24 REALISED | 25 HEARD   | 26 RELEASE |          |

### Down

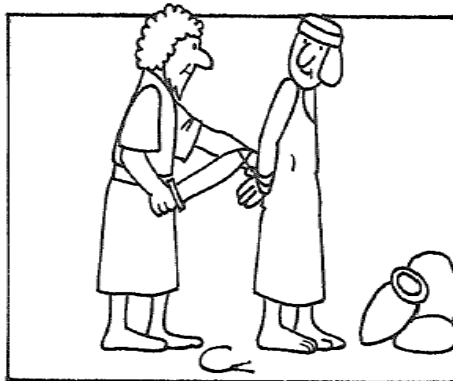
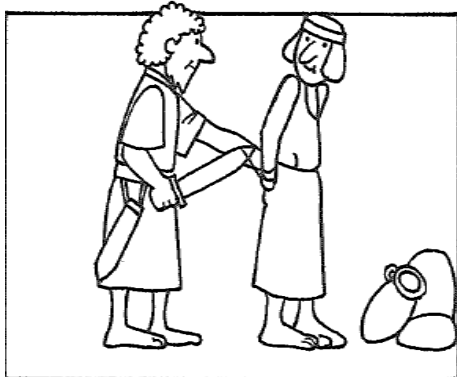
- |            |            |             |            |          |
|------------|------------|-------------|------------|----------|
| 2 RETURNED | 3 PROMISE  | 4 RAGE      | 6 PEACE    | 7 EVEN   |
| 8 ARRIVED  | 13 LEADERS | 14 GLADNESS | 17 SERVICE | 19 OTHER |
| 21 LIFE    | 22 CAME    |             |            |          |





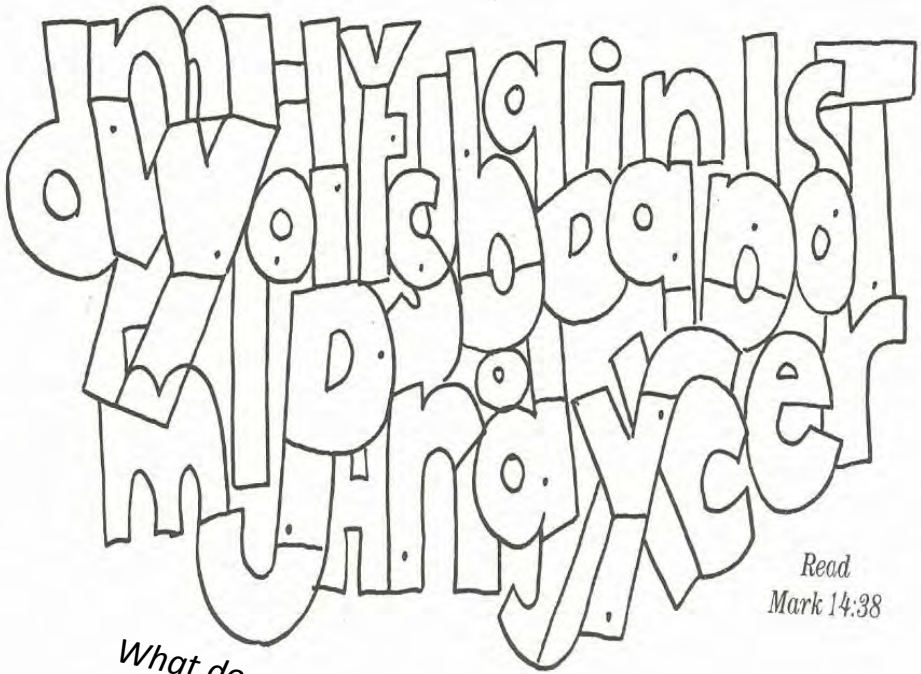
## Spot The Difference

Lot is pleased that Abram has rescued him. The Pictures may look the same, but can you find ten differences between them?



Colour in the dotted areas below:

Jesus will come back again  
in all his glory.  
But we don't know WHEN.  
How can we be sure to be ready?  
Colour in the dotted areas  
to find out.



*Read  
Mark 14:38*

*What do you get if you pour boiling water down a  
rabbit hole?  
Hot cross bunnies!*

**December's solution: Mr Robinson built his house  
in the North Pole.**

## **In the service of Christ for 125 years -The Church of Scotland Guild** *extracted from Life & Work January 2012*

‘The Association shall be called “The Church of Scotland Woman’s Guild.”

‘The general object of the Guild shall be to unite together all women who are engaged in the service of Christ in connection with the Church, or desire to give help to any practical Christian work in the parish as well as to all who are receiving Christian teaching and looking forward to Christian service.’

That is an extract from Life and Work, January 1887, suggesting the provisional regulations and suggestions for the organisation of women’s work. In May the same year the General Assembly approved the suggestion for the ‘better organisation of women’s work in the Church and commended the object of training women workers for service in the home and foreign fields to the liberality of the members and friends of the Church’.

And so the Church of Scotland Woman’s Guild was formed.

Its founding father, the Rev Professor Archibald Charteris, was a real visionary. He founded Life and Work in 1879 (and was its first editor), the Young Men’s Guild in 1880 and later the Diaconate but unlike many of his contemporaries, Charteris (who was Moderator of the General Assembly in 1892) was a man with a great deal of respect for the women he saw around him in the Church.



**Charteris**

In 1884 he appealed through the pages of Life and Work to find out more about the work being done by women, such as that carried out for the fisher women throughout Scotland.



In 1886 women were allowed to train as doctors in Scotland for the first time—and the following year, 1887, Charteris was given the go-ahead to form the Guild and Deaconess House was opened, a home and school for women to be trained as Deaconesses. In retrospect, Charteris was way ahead of his time in recognising the contribution that women made to society and was determined that others should recognise it too.

He was laughed at in the General Assembly when he first proposed his plan for the foundation of the Guild. Women at the time—many years before the Suffragettes marched demanding the vote—were subservient to men. Charteris was married to a strong, educated woman, Catherine “Katy” Anderson a formidable, intelligent woman, the daughter of a lawyer, and well able to hold her own in any debate with the men around her.

Within a year, there were 33 branches throughout the church with 2087 members. Life and Work was used to rally support and Katy eventually edited a supplement within the magazine specifically for the Guild.

**To be continued**

## ABERDEEN CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU



Aberdeen Citizens Advice Bureau exists to provide a free, confidential advice and information service to residents of the city and of the north-east generally. The service covers a wide range of subject matter, including debt, state benefits, consumer and utilities issues, employment, immigration, housing and relationship issues. The advice and information provided by the Bureau ranges from basic information, such as “signposting” clients to other appropriate agencies and services, and simply informing clients of their rights; through helping with the completion of official forms and the drafting of letters; to representing them in correspondence and court proceedings involving third parties such as creditors, landlords and the sellers of goods and services. By arrangement with local firms of solicitors, the Bureau is also able to offer to clients short, free legal advice sessions with solicitors who visit the Bureau’s offices for that purpose on two afternoons each week.

The Bureau provides predominantly a drop-in service, although a limited number of appointments are available for the general advice service or for specialist money advice or for the sessions with solicitors. The service is not aimed exclusively at any particular client group, but is available to, and used by, all sectors of the community.

The Bureau is staffed by a core group of paid employees and a much larger number of part-time volunteer advisers and support workers. The volunteer advisers receive a detailed training on all aspects of the Bureau’s service, including opportunities to observe experienced advisers in action, and to be supervised by experienced advisers when they start to give advice directly to clients. They are also supported by an extensive database of information and advice, and by full-time professional staff who are always available to provide that support.

The Bureau is constantly on the look-out for new trainee volunteers. The work is varied and demanding but is often very fulfilling and satisfying. It is particularly suited to retired or semi-retired people who wish to participate in a useful voluntary service. Interested members of the congregation or their family or friends can express an interest by completing a short form obtainable from Bureau Manager, Zara Strange [zara.strange@AberdeenCAB.casonline.org.uk](mailto:zara.strange@AberdeenCAB.casonline.org.uk).  
*Alan Towns*

### ***A little Biblical Humour***



*Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth?*

*A. Ruthless.*

*Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?*

*A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.*

*Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?*

*A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.*

At a recent meeting of the Kirk Session tribute was paid to two retired Elders who had died recently.

Bill Hall was born in Australia and raised in Lanarkshire. He graduated Master of Arts at Glasgow University and after National Service he worked for most of his life at the Marine Laboratory in Torry. In 1964 his family settled at Cranford Road. Bill was originally a member of West Church of St Nicholas before moving to Mannofield where he was an elder for many years, serving as Presbytery Elder.

Angus Smith was born in Torry and raised there and in Aberdeen. After school he served in the Army before enjoying a career as a school teacher finishing as Depute Head Teacher at Linksfield Academy. Originally of St Margaret's Church, on marriage he joined Bucksburn Church where he was ordained as an Elder. After moving to Kinkell Road in 1963 he joined Mannofield and was soon made an Elder of the Session. Among other roles Angus was a teacher in the Sunday School.

The Kirk Session expressed its gratitude to these gentlemen who gave tremendous service to the Church over many years.

### **Helen Cobb's 100th birthday party 11 January 2012**

#### ***Grand old lady of Mannofield***

"We had a really lovely family party with family and friends at Fergus House, Dyce where Helen now lives.

We were really delighted to have a visit to the celebrations from Rev Keith Blackwood from Mannofield which added immensely to Helen's enjoyment of the day.

Helen's two sons Stuart and Mervyn were there and her niece Aileen Loney came from Lingfield near London, and three of her five grandchildren were able to be there. There were cards and flowers from Australia and the USA as well as from many friends and family in Scotland including Mannofield Church! Thank you to everyone who sent cards and flowers!

She also had a visit from Jenny Shirreffs, Deputy Lieutenant of the City of Aberdeen who presented Helen with a beautiful brooch.

It was a lovely afternoon and the staff at Fergus House were very helpful with the arrangements".

*Anne Woolridge (wife of Mervyn Cobb)*



**Helen with sons Mervyn and Stuart**



# NOTES & NEWS

14 December 2011

I would be grateful if you would convey my thanks to the Church Congregation for the Christmas gifts they so kindly donated to the families at the **Williamson Family Resource Centre**.

Any help we receive at the Family Centre is greatly appreciated by all and more so at this time of year. It helps the families who may for one reason or another have difficulties in purchasing gifts for their children.

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you all a very merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

*Forest Templeton*

## **Mannofield Church Lunch Club**

**16 February 2012**

Thereafter 3rd Thursday  
each month until May 2012

Lunch is served at 1pm

Entertainment 2 - 3pm

A cup of tea before you leave!

Cost -- £4

Need transport?

**Contact: Mhairi Clark tel. 317982**



## **ADVANCE NOTICE ADVANCE NOTICE**

### **CHARITY SHOP - GEORGE STREET**

We will be renting the Charity Shop in George Street for a week in late September.

What a great opportunity to clear your house of unwanted clutter-----surplus Christmas presents, clothing, house ware, books, DVDs, CDs, children's toys, etc. This is recycling at its best! We know it seems a long way off, but start a CHARITY BOX now!

We will give details of collection points and dates later.

As this is a week long undertaking we will also require LOTS of HELP---storing, sorting, stocking shelves, serving -- it can be a lot of fun.

**For more information phone Jane Harper 315144 or Ellen Smith 867028**

13 December 2011

Everyone at **Deeside Family Resource Centre** would like to say a huge "thank you" to you all for the very kind donation of Christmas presents, which were delivered here yesterday. The presents will be distributed to the families that we work with and I'm sure they'll all be absolutely delighted!

Thank you so very much for your generosity.

*Susan Stewart,*  
Team Leader

# CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister	Rev Keith Blackwood	k5blackwood@btinternet.com	315748
Associate Minister	Rev Alisa McDonald	<a href="mailto:alisa.ferlicca@gmail.com">alisa.ferlicca@gmail.com</a> M 07838835778	277428
Youth Ministries Worker	Tim Still	<a href="mailto:tj.still@btinternet.com">tj.still@btinternet.com</a> M 07902811528	
Secretary	Mrs Gill Terry	<a href="mailto:office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk">office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk</a>	310087
Church Officer	Nick Youngson	<a href="mailto:nick.youngson@o2.co.uk">nick.youngson@o2.co.uk</a>	322239
Session Clerk	Bob Anderson	<a href="mailto:Nnikibob@aol.com">Nnikibob@aol.com</a>	743484

## CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

### Baptisms

20 Nov Lacey Samantha Moir  
25 Dec Ethan James Alexander  
Urquhart

### Change of Address

Fred Nicol  
Ruth Ward

### Disjunctions

Mrs Aileen Brown

### Deaths

Miss Freda Williamson  
Mr Bill Hall  
Mrs Charlotte Duncan  
Mr Angus Smith  
Mr Robert Bruce  
Mrs Rena Lazenby

## Mannofield Guild



### FEBRUARY

Thurs 2 Coffee Morning in Large Hall

Tues 7 A personal pilgrimage to  
Santiago de Compostela –  
Ron Taylor

Tues 21 Thanking God for His  
Creation

## Mannofield Ringers

Have organised

a Quiz...



You can get one  
from the office  
or in the large  
hall after the  
services.

ONLY 50p!



In aid of Mannofield Church Development Fund

## Miscellaneous Fund Raising

The Christmas Hamper organised by the Baking Group, which was won by Ellen Smith, raised £260.

The Alma Christmas Evening at Craigielea Mews raised £55 and the Christmas Quiz by Sheila Thomson which raised £180 was won by Mrs A Gibson.

All monies to the Development Fund.

Thanks to all who participated.

*The Development and Fundraising Group*

Walk  
in His  
Way

Walk  
in the  
Light.

Love  
is  
patient

Peace  
on  
Earth

Let there  
be  
Light

HE LEADS  
ME BY  
STILL  
WATERS

God  
Loves  
Us  
All.

PEACE

DO  
YOU  
KNOW  
JESUS  
?

Christ  
Be With  
Me.