



# INSPIRE



**PENTECOST**

**MANNOFIELD CHURCH**

Scottish registered charity SC 001680

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## JUNE

Sun 3	10am	Sacrament of Communion at both Services
	6.30pm	
Tues 5	7.30pm	Kirk Session
Wed 6	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 10	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 13	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 17	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Last Evening Worship until September
Wed 20	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 24	10am	Morning Worship
	3.15pm	Craigielea
Wed 27	10.30am	Midweek Service

### NOTE

Sunday morning services will continue at 10am and Wednesday services at 10.30am over the summer.  
Evening services resume on 2 September

**The deadline for the next issue of *InSpire* is**

**Thursday 16 August**

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

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

# Flower Calendar

## JUNE

- 3 Mrs M Allan
- 10 Miss F Walker
- 17 Mr G & Mr M Falconer
- 24 Miss N Shearer



Rose  
June's birth flower

## JULY

- 1 Mrs M Murray
- 8 Miss C Smith
- 15 Miss E Torrance
- 22 Rev G Goldie
- 29 Mrs C Bridgeford



Larkspur  
July's birth flower

## AUGUST

- 5 Mrs J R Hamilton
- 12 Mrs I Philip
- 19 Mrs I Byars
- 26 Mrs C Boyd



Gladioli  
August's birth flower

## ASAP

Ever wonder about the abbreviation ASAP? Generally, we think of it in terms of even more hurry and stress in our lives. Maybe if we think of this abbreviation in a different manner, we will begin to find a new way to deal with those rough days along the way.

There's work to do, deadlines to meet;

You've got no time to spare,

But as you hurry and scurry-

**ASAP — ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER**

In the midst of family chaos,

"Quality time" is rare.

Do your best; let God do the rest-

**ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER**

It may seem like your worries

Are more than you can bear.

Slow down and take a breather-

**ASAP— ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER**

God knows how stressful life is;

He wants to ease our cares,

And He'll respond to all your needs

**ASAP— ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER.**

Dear Friends

When you consider the history of the Church you recognise that at various times there have been challenges caused by differences of opinion and the arguments and fall-outs that ensued. We are not talking here of such issues taking place *between* denominations, but in fact they have occurred often *within* a denomination.

The Church has had to confront many huge issues since the first days in Acts. Sometimes the Church has done this with humility and grace, preserving the unity of the body and at other times she has torn herself apart, leaving many hurt and alone.

On the occasions when the Church has successfully worked through its differences I recognise that the singular reason why this has been possible is because eventually the parties involved have learned to trust God's Spirit instead of their own wisdom. They have learned to live together in God's Spirit instead of living in a spirit of enmity.

As I write this I head to Edinburgh for this year's General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. On paper there appears little that is particularly contentious but within the Church there is currently a tense atmosphere, the result of the required reduction to Ministries across Scotland and the continuing debate on sexuality.

At this time in the Church of Scotland may God give us courage and wisdom to face the realities of our wonderful diversity and of our debilitating disunity and help us live the life of unity to which He calls us.

Despite the continued cold weather and as this is the last magazine before the summer I wish all of you a joyful and happy time in the months ahead.

Kind regards

*Keith*

Many thanks to all members of the congregation who attended Stuart's funeral. It was a celebration of his life.

Keith worded the service with sincerity and humour which would have appealed to Stuart.

Yours sincerely

Joey Ross



### **In Session with Scribe**



As might be expected at this stage in the history of Mannofield Church, the Development Committee's latest report had a prominent part to play in the agenda for the April meeting of Kirk Session.

The report revealed an encouraging number of fund-raising events arranged for the coming weeks. Among these, it was indicated that we are running a shop in George Street for a week in September. Items to sell in this shop will be welcomed. However as storage of these goods is a problem it will be nearer to the time of sale before they can be collected.

Other fund-raising events include Keith and friends walking the Lairig Ghru on June 9, the Pickled Cow summer show, a Zumbathon and a Silent Auction. The Guild has again committed the proceeds from their monthly coffee mornings for the year to the Development Fund.

Session was informed that Tim Still, our Youth Worker, has accepted an appointment as a City Warden with Aberdeen City Council. With the Presbytery Plan still being formulated, Session agreed to wait and see what is proposed by that before deciding on the way forward.

Tim has prepared an action plan and it is hoped that youth activities can continue, covered by volunteers within our congregation from the various youth organisations.

The next Session meeting is scheduled for 5 June at 7.30pm. Subsequent meeting dates in 2012 are 28 August, 30 October and 11 December. The first quarter's dates in 2013 are 19 February, 23 April and 4 June.

### **The Team behind InSpire**



**Editorial Committee:** Pat (that's not right dear) McColl, Roger (church or Church) Imrie, Alan (2 spaces) Harper, Lesley (no commas) Reid and the long suffering Editor Roddy McColl.

**Centre pages:** Ryan Webster – you can't miss him!

**Printing and emailing:** Alan Harper assisted by Andrew (I have a home to go to) Harper.

**Collation:** Jimmy Walker (leader), George Walker, Sandy McKenzie, Misses R & M Archibald and Jess Bowden.

**Stapling;** Frances (Ouch!) Walker and her team.

**Sorting to Districts:** John Philip, Arthur McCombie and helpers.

**Distribution:** 60 "willing" helpers  
Not forgetting Gill Terry for typing handwritten articles etc.etc.

**Thanks to all for your efforts which are greatly appreciated.**

**Enjoy the Summer**

# 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*

*Continued thanks are due to all those who contributed to this excellent historical record especially Arthur McCombie, Fred Thomson and Alastair Macdonald.*



In the March InSpire we asked the question — “Why then a new church?” This instalment on the founding on Mannofield provides part of the answer. The concluding instalment will be included in the September issue of InSpire or perhaps October!

On 9 September 1880 a petition was presented to the Presbytery and on the 28th of that month a letter was received from John Couper objecting to the rival church being established on the proposed site, but intimating that no objections would be made if the proposed church were moved nearer the Mannofield village. Douglas of Airyhall, who had supported the original petition, now said he preferred a site at Mannofield to that at Springbank. The Rev. William Paul of Banchory-Devenick, the parish from which the new parish would be detached, agreed to the scheme for a church at Mannofield as an area of obvious expansion.

The minister of Holburn Parish Church (now Holburn Central) was the Rev. J. A. McClymont, later Moderator of the General Assembly. He also opposed the new church. His case was that a church as proposed would be premature and might do harm instead of good, and that the interests of Craigiebuckler and Ruthrieston would be best protected by moving the church farther west. This move westwards would also, he argued, allow the opportunity to erect a church between Mannofield and Ashley - little did he probably foresee how a Free Church would fill this role - Holburn West being established in 1893 after moving westwards from its old site at the corner of Justice Mill Lane and Bon Accord Terrace

By 15 November 1880, it was intimated to the Presbytery that land had been acquired “on the angular portion of ground at Craigielea close to the village of Mannofield.” It was agreed by the Presbytery that further consultation about the situation should take place and a committee shortly afterwards recommended that Craigiebuckler Church should be shifted northwards to the neighbourhood of Walker Dam. Parishes with interests involved, like Holburn and Ruthrieston, were asked for their views and Holburn continued to express its opposition and commented on “the haste and irregularity with which the Presbytery committed itself to a scheme for the erection of a new church in the neighbourhood of Mannofield”.

During the discussions in Presbytery about the whole controversy, one person whose presence was noted in the affair was William Gordon, the driving force in the move to set up the new church and the man who, more than any other individual, was responsible for the eventual establishment of Mannofield Church. To his generosity, concern and support, the infant church was deeply indebted. **Continued on page 12**

## “What do you do?” ..... by Alisa MacDonald



How quickly this question bubbles to the top in initial social interactions. The question might arrive in a tone of real or feigned curiosity, but make no mistake, in our social line-up of introductory questions you do have to account for what you do. So, what is my name? What do I do exactly? I am Alisa McDonald. I am Associate Minister at Mannofield Parish Church and a PPW (Presbytery Parish Worker). I deeply appreciate my job. I have worked at Mannofield for almost four years now, starting my calling and vocation as a minister of word and sacrament, working together with Keith in preparing services, parish visits, funerals and oh so much more. In my calling to ordained ministry when someone asks what I do, I sometimes hesitate. After all, I am expected to respond with a single word to describe my occupation, or at least a single phrase. I'm not generally expected to give you an account of my background, sense of vocation, education and "call" story. I have reached a point that when someone asks for my occupation, I don't want to respond with two words anymore. I want to tell a story.

In our society, we don't practise telling stories enough. We are rarely asked to describe how our life came to be, what it is or where we hope it goes. When do we ever ask for someone's story upon first introduction at a social gathering? Instead, so often we ask who someone is and what he or she does, all in the same sentence. Then we move on to the good stuff, like the weather or football.

True, settling in for a very full story isn't always the most appealing way to spend a happy hour. Also, I don't want to build the case that we should all stand around, hoisting our profound and extensive experiences of God on each other. When I visit homes I am blessed with the stories of peoples lives and it makes me wonder how many people they also tell.

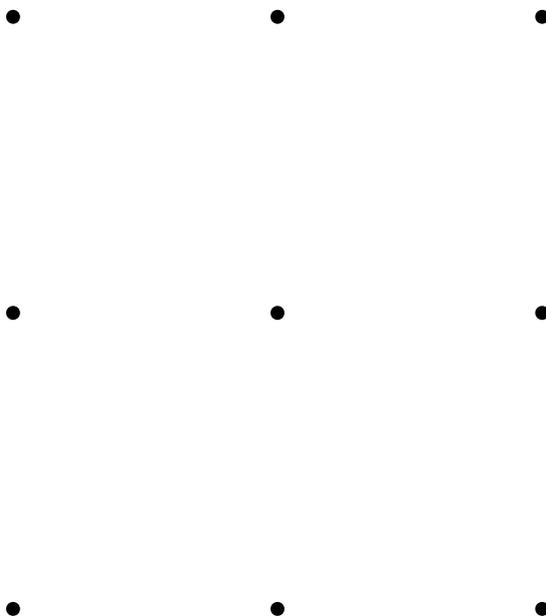
So why should we not dig deeper and cast our vision wider when asking 'Who are you?' and 'What do you do?.' So often something is missing from the conversation. Something is missing when we collapse our lives into a few words. Something is missing when we move from name to occupation and skip over any sense that we are creatures of a Maker, who is acting in the world through ourselves who at this moment are participating in the embodied work and movement of the Holy Spirit. God has named and claimed us, all of us.

If we truly believe this, then surely we can create more conversational space for the richness and beauty that one person's particularity breathes into this world. If God has taken on human form in Jesus Christ and we hold up the gospels to tell that story in many different ways, why do I hesitate even to ask my friend a little more about her day? "Truly, how was your day? What did you do that gave you joy? How have you felt sadness?"

I don't do this enough. Instead, I ask the same questions and hear myself give the same answer, "Oh, Associate Minister at Mannofield", and the conversation moves on.

**Continued on P11**

Can you draw a straight line through these 9 dots without lifting your pencil from the paper?



## CHILDREN'S SOLVE AND SEARCH

Pick which you think is the correct answer to each question, then find it in the letter grid. Words may read either vertically or horizontally.

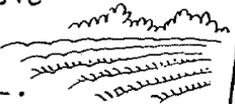


- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Where was Jesus born?<br/>NARARETH/BETHLEHEM/<br/>CAPERNAUM</p> <p>2 In which river was Jesus baptised?<br/>JORDAN/NILE/PHARPHAR</p> <p>3 Where did Jesus perform his first miracle?<br/>CANA/DAMASCUS/HEBRON</p> <p>4 Who was Jesus's first disciple?<br/>THOMAS/JOHN/ANDREW</p> <p>5 Which king wanted Jesus killed?<br/>DARIUS/HEROD/BELSHAZZAR</p> <p>6 Who was the mother of Jesus?<br/>MARY/ELIZABETH/SARAH</p> <p>7 In which city was Jesus crucified?<br/>JERICHO/JERUSALEM/JEZREEL</p> <p>8 Who carried the cross for Jesus?<br/>SIMON/CAIAPHAS/JAMES</p> <p>9 Who betrayed Jesus<br/>ANNAS/JUDAS/MALCHUS</p> | <p>10 Who denied knowing Jesus?<br/>ZACCHAEUS/BARNABUS/PETER</p> <p>11 Who visited Jesus at night?<br/>NICODEMUS/JOSEPH/SIMEON</p> <p>12 Who condemned Jesus to death?<br/>AGRIPPA/FESTUS/PILATE</p> <p>13 Jesus rose on which day?<br/>THIRD/SEVENTH/TENTH</p> <p>14 Who was a disciple of Jesus?<br/>JUSTUS/PHILIP/MARK</p> <p>15 Where did Jesus teach?<br/>UPPER ROOM/SYNAGOGUE/SINAI</p> <p>16 The meaning of the name Jesus?<br/>SAVIOUR/APOSTLE/ARCHANGEL</p> <p>17 A blind man healed by Jesus?<br/>BARAK/BARTIMAEUS/BARABBAS</p> <p>18 A brother of Jesus<br/>JOHN/JAMES/THADDAEUS</p> |
|---|---|



# WHAT IS GOD'S KINGDOM LIKE?

(READ LUKE 13:18-19)

A  takes a  and plants it in his 

The plant  and becomes a 

and the  make their  in its 

## L EARNING TO L OVE

LOOK AT  
1 CORINTHIANS  
13: 4-7



# LOVE

CAN YOU PICK OUT  
WHICH SHOULD BE IN  
THE **LOVE** MIXTURE?  
WRITE THE WORDS ON  
THE ARROWS...

kind

irritable

humble

unselfish

unkind

selfish

patient

jealous

never gives up

faithful

proud

# Ark Larks!



What gets bigger the more  
you take away?  
A hole!

Why was the insect thrown  
out of the forest?  
Because he was a litter bug!

**May's answers:** The largest number you can write with 3 digits is 9 to the power of 9, to the power of 9. There are too many digits to list the full number here!

## Worship in Scots -- Scots i the Kirk at Pentecost

His pairtin wird tae them wis, 'Bide ye tryste';  
Belyve they socht the weil-loed upper room  
Wi aa its waesum memories o Christ  
The nicht afore men drave him tae the tomb.

Foregethert wi accord they bade in prayer:  
They mindit, though they didna unnerstaun  
Sum wirds he spak, that he wad aye be thair  
As near tae them as their ain fit or haun.

They mindit hou he lowned the win at sea  
The time they speired, 'wis he tae lat them droun?'  
An hou wi Jeames an John he wadna gree  
Fan they'd hae brunt wi fire the fremit toun.

A suddent blast gaes rummlin roun the houss,  
Win reemishes an shaks the verra waas,  
Fae airt oonseen the lowpin fire braks loose  
An flambeau sets on ilka heid it faas.

Upo them comes, wi force o win an flame  
The Halie Ghaist wi tokens o his micht;  
In ilka toung wi pour they preach God's Name,  
An set ableeze the age-auld mirk wi licht.

**Ivo Macnaughton Clark** (1883 -1950)

### What do you do? *Continued from page 6*

So how do we create the space in conversations for us to share the complexities of our vocation, our calling as God's people in life?

We are so much more than our occupation or that thing that pays our bills. Let us begin to ask different questions about who someone is. Let us listen for different responses.

Let us grab this phrase "what we do" and run with it. Let's stretch it out until it covers every aspect of our life, tugging it around our work and our passions, blanketing the needs, the longings and the satisfying fruits of our labours. Let's stretch this idea of our doing until it loses tension and simply drapes comfortably over every hill and valley of our life, wherever those places might fall. Then we can step back, look at our whole life and tell our whole story.

I hereby promise that, the next time some poor friendly inquisitor asks, "What do you do?" I will take a deep breath and try to remember that my response has nothing to do with what I do to pay the bills. My response has everything to do with who God is and who God claims me to be. So, may we all practise responding, without hesitation or self-effacement, speaking with the voices of saints from every time and place, "I do ..... and, let me tell you the story."



## Mannofield Church 130 years old and still counting

But when considering the whole story, one is bound to ask why a man who resided at 35 Albyn Place, almost on the doorstep of the new Rubislaw Parish Church, should be so deeply involved in a dispute so far removed from his own home.



This very question was asked during the long discussions in Presbytery and the answer offered was that Mr. Gordon spent summer time in the western suburban area of Aberdeen and had officiated as an elder at Communion in Craigiebuckler Church. It must be assumed that for him the clear pure air of the countryside was seen as a welcome relief from the smoke-polluted atmosphere of late 19th century central Aberdeen in summer.

William Gordon was quite a different type from his rival John Couper. He was a solicitor in Aberdeen a partner in the firm of Hunter and Gordon. He was a son of the manse and his mother had important landed connections with the Boddam area. Although he was educated in Aberdeen, he spent many years of his youth in England before returning to take up his profession in Aberdeen. His obituary refers to his "amiable disposition" and his "retiring and unobtrusive nature" as well as his generosity to the many benevolent and philanthropic schemes brought to his attention. Despite the generosity and kindness for which he was noted, however, he seems not to have been one to allow Couper, this self-made man from the East, to rule the religious roost unchallenged in the western suburbs of Aberdeen. What the origin of the dispute was unknown.

Caught up in the cross-fire of the dispute was the Rev. Wm. Forbes who was the minister at Craigiebuckler. He had been misguided enough to take the chair at a meeting called to discuss the Mannofield Church project and this incurred the wrath of his patron, Couper, who now came to see him in terms of a traitor and one who had to be removed as soon as possible.

John Couper obviously expected unquestioning loyalty from his subordinates and so it was not surprising that the Presbytery in January, 1881 faced a demand from him for Forbes' immediate resignation. Couper's case was stated for him by solicitor Lachlan McKinnon as Couper was deaf and explained he could not follow the arguments and counter-arguments in Presbytery. The strong card in Couper's hand was the complete reliance on his financial support for Craigiebuckler's continued survival as a separate church. His main objection to Mannofield had been removed by the agreement on re-siting, but now a new issue was introduced by his insistence that Mr. Forbes had to leave Craigiebuckler immediately.

The Presbytery was now called on to exercise the Wisdom of Solomon, to appease and satisfy the demands and interests of the various parties concerned, the Church itself, Couper, Gordon and Forbes. The Church was obviously anxious to retain the support of Couper and Gordon for its schemes of extension.

**To be concluded!!**

# DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Nearly New  
**SALE**  
£852



The **Nearly New Sale** held on Saturday 10 March raised the sum of £852 for the Development fund. Thanks to all those who trusted us to sell their goods and to the members of the wider community for coming to buy the goods on sale.



**Keith's Lairig Ghru Sponsored Walk 9 June**  
 Sponsor forms can be signed on Sunday in the large Hall and in the vestibule  
[www.justgiving.com/Keith-Blackwood](http://www.justgiving.com/Keith-Blackwood)



Wow! I got the bargain of the day.

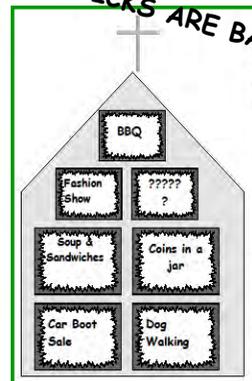
## Table Top Sale



**French Onion Soup**  
£100



THE BRICKS ARE BACK!!



# NOTES & NEWS

## Mannofield Church Lunch Club 20 SEPTEMBER



Lunch is served at 1pm

Entertainment 2 - 3pm

### COME AND JOIN US

A cup of tea before you leave!

Cost -- £4

Need transport?

**Contact: Mhairi Clark  
tel. 317982**

The Lunch Club Team thanks everyone who supported our monthly lunches over the last nine months.



We hope that you all have a happy and relaxing summer. We certainly will!!

We look forward to seeing all our regulars and new friends when the Club resumes on 20 September.

### Deeside Family Resource Centre

Everyone at the Centre wishes to say a huge 'thank you' to you all for the very kind donation of Easter Eggs.

The eggs were distributed to the families that we work with.

### Williamson Family Resource Centre

Many thanks to Mannofield Church Congregation for the Easter Eggs they so kindly donated to the families at the Williamson Centre. All help we receive is greatly appreciated.



## MANNOFIELD HOLIDAY CLUB

Mannofield will be running a Holiday Club from 6-10 August between 10am & 12 noon for Primary School aged children.

We will have lots of fun with games, stories, music, drama, crafts, sports and much more.



This is an outreach event, so please encourage friends and neighbours with children to come along and join in the fun.

Leaflets and registration forms will be available soon at the church door so please take some and spread the news.

## Mannofield Guild



### June

- 6 Summer meeting at Newhills Church 7.30pm
- 7 Monthly Coffee Morning in Large Hall 10 -11.30am
- 9 Summer outing to Glenesk. Lunch at Museum and Afternoon Tea at Brechin

## CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

### Baptisms

29 April Bethany Rosemary Russell

### Deaths

6 May Stuart Ross

# CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister	Rev Keith Blackwood	<a href="mailto:k5blackwood@btinternet.com">k5blackwood@btinternet.com</a>	315748
Associate Minister	Rev Alisa McDonald	<a href="mailto:alisa.ferlicca@gmail.com">alisa.ferlicca@gmail.com</a> M 07838 835778	277428
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

## S.O.S STOCK OUR SHOP

We have the use of the charity shop in George Street for the week beginning Monday 17 September and need good quality second hand goods - lots of them!

Unwanted gifts, DVDs, Toys, Clothes [on hangers, if possible], CDs, Books [and book shelves], Household goods.. etc. etc. We cannot accept electrical goods or large items.

Have a clear out and call us to arrange for your goods to be delivered or uplifted.

## H.O.W HELP OTHER WAYS

We will need:

- \*Cars and helpers to transport goods
- \* Help in the shop \*Strong black bags
- \*Carrier bags

### Call us now

*All proceeds will go to improve our church premises.*

Jane Harper 315144  
 Bob Littlejohn 313576  
 Alison McDonald 311170  
 Joan Milne 319947 Ellen Smith 867028

## Thank you

## Mannofield Scottish Country Dance Class

### Join us for our 50th

MSCD is 50 years old on  
2 OCTOBER 2012.

We would love to celebrate together with those from past years.



Please let us know if you wish to join us by contacting

Maureen Allan Tel. 319043



### Annual Bus Trip

Make a note in your diary.

This trip will be on 12 September.

Full details nearer the time.

*John Allan*

# The Pickled Cow Drama Group



THE PICKLED COW DRAMA GROUP PROUDLY PRESENTS...

## Ludicrous

The Extended Acts



Its a Roman Soap Opera!

Original script by Nick Page  
Adapted by THE PICKLED COW DRAMA GROUP



Wednesday 20th June @ 7.30pm

Thursday 21st June @ 7.30pm

Friday 22nd June @ 7.30pm

II VIIIS IS XIV

Tickets are available from the office or any **PICKLED COW** member.

### Wayside Pulpit Posters

The responsibility for producing the Wayside Pulpit posters has been willingly taken up by Elizabeth Paterson. We are sure you will agree that her creations are enhancing the message Mannofield wishes to give to the community.

