



INSPIRE



**Hannah Charley, Gbap with a selection of tools donated by
Christian Aid partner the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone**



Christian aid/Heidi Bradner



**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK
13 - 19 May 2012**

**LET'S GIVE THE TOOLS
to help people in poverty out
of poverty**

MANNOFIELD CHURCH

Scottish registered charity SC 001680

CHURCH CALENDAR

MAY

Wed 2	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 6	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 9	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 13	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 16	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 20	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 23	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 27	10am	Morning Worship
	3.15pm	Craigielea
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 30	10.30am	Midweek Service

JUNE

Sun 3	10am	Sacrament of Communion at both Services
	6.30pm	

Blessing

Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son;
Love is the kingdom their will has begun;
Love is the pathway the saints have trod:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

HOLY WEEK AT MANNOFIELD



Holy Week began on Tuesday with a service by the Guild of readings, meditations and hymns to direct our thoughts to the Passion of Our Lord. On Maundy Thursday all who were present agreed that it was a very special service, with a silent Communion.

Good Friday saw the joint service taking place at Mannofield. The singing was beautiful, enhanced by the joint choir. The service had been devised by Alisa and called a Service of Shadows. It was amazing.

We sang 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord' in a darkened church. Then we saw a powerful video of the Crucifixion and really felt we were at the foot of the cross. I'm sure all the people from the various churches will remember it for a long time.

Easter Day began with the early service followed by breakfast. Mhairi and Kathleen had to contend with a power cut which spoiled the plans for boiled eggs! Undaunted they served a breakfast by candlelight which was very evocative, and managed to give us tea and coffee as though nothing had gone amiss!

The Family Service was blessed with several families attending and included a baptism. Keith spoke encouragingly about the apostle Thomas, known as "doubting" to us, but in India he is still revered for bringing the Gospel to that country.

Over the years I have been at many Holy Week services but never at ones that were so meaningful and charged with love, forgiveness and joy. We are very blessed to have two ministers with such gifts and abilities to refresh, challenge and renew us.

Thank you to them both!

Margaret Stewart

Dear Friends

In the lead up to the two major festivals in our calendar people often ask me 'Are you ready for Christmas?' and 'Are you ready for Easter?' These are big events for all of us and people recognise that for me as a minister, they are big events to plan for and celebrate. When the big days finally arrive and people offer the greeting 'Happy Christmas' and 'Happy Easter', I feel the same adulation we all feel in celebrating the presence, promise and assurance of God in our lives but as someone who has a heavy workload in the run up to these days there is also a sense of relief to have finally reached the focus of the work.



We recognise Christmas and Easter as two big events for the Church and secular society has in a sense adopted them and adds fervor of its own to these occasions.

As you read this we are about four weeks away from a very significant event in the Christian calendar. The day of Pentecost is Sunday 27 May. Part of me would wish you to say, "Isn't it a shame that we don't observe it with the same fervor as Christmas and Easter?" Another part of me is quite happy that we don't create a third religious and secular festival season in the year for me to plan for and be greeted with the words, 'Are you ready for Pentecost?'.

With a good splash of decorum and poise I do think it valuable to consider the relevance of the time we are now entering - leading up to Pentecost. A popular misconception is to say Pentecost is the Church's birthday. That suggests, like our own birthdays, we use a date to annually remember the date we were born.

ACTS 2: 42 however says the Lord "**added** to their number". That clearly means the Church was in existence before Pentecost.

There already was an 'ekklesia' (church) which believed in the resurrection and which came together to find ways to influence others and society with a message of God's Love. What Pentecost added was a dash of God's Spirit that gave impetus and direction to the new movement commonly referred to as '*The Way*' that moved on from the great deeds of God, witnessed in the resurrection and Jesus' self-sacrifice on the Cross.

Pentecost is a far older festival in the Christian calendar than Christmas or Easter and it deserves a bit of a fanfare; for the gift of God's Spirit to His Church and to His people is no small act. We will say more of Pentecost a month from now but meanwhile we might wish to ponder the fact that long before Pentecost a group of believers were already forming themselves into a Church. They came together as a fellowship of people - brought together by a sense of God's Love for the world. They would have common beliefs on certain matters but as human beings I suspect that they had their different positions on specific points of faith much as we have differences in perspectives within the Church of Scotland today.

I am sure we can learn from this fledgling Church - that the **way** we believe and **what** we believe matter less (far less) than the fact that God draws us together because **we do** believe that God has revealed his love for the world in the Cross and Resurrection, and has commanded those who believe in Him to 'love the world as He loves us'.

I suspect it was this simple mantra of shared conviction and experience that brought the Church together and shaped it and fuelled it in its embryonic days; in that time before God's adrenalin shot of Holy Spirit was given on the day of Pentecost. I hesitate to say it but, 'Have a Happy Pentecost' when it comes. Meanwhile give thanks for the Church in its earliest days and now.

Keith

IS YOUTH WORK WORKING

Recently I read a challenging, thought provoking article in the Christian youth work magazine. The writer posed the question: *Is youth work working?*



The writer shared his experience of growing up in a close youth group which attended various retreats and residential courses along with other special events. They participated in youth bible study and undertook various church projects. At the time who would have thought that in a few years when they were older, only three people out of a large group would still be attending church?

Sadly, looking around the Salvation Army in Aberdeen and the North of Scotland area, I share the writer's experience. Having attended various Bible camps with my youth group friends and friends from other Salvation Army centres, worshipping and sharing together today only around two or three of us from Aberdeen remain committed Christian believers. So many others throughout the area have fallen away and become disinterested. So I am researching how to help our young people build a lasting faith and to try and look to the future as well as the present.

It was a privilege to help with the Prayer Space in Airyhall School. One of the 'zones' was 'Big Questions' where kids were invited to write a question on a card and peg it on a string. By the end of the week this zone was full of so many deep questions. Some of the profound things the children came up with simply blew me away.

For one thing in a society which doesn't like to 'do God', these children clearly want to engage with Him and have questions ranging from the simple to the profound.

That encouraged me as did the 24 March sleepover of the Youth Group followed by their presentation at the Service on 25 March

That presentation was based on the work of OPEN DOORS UK, a charity which campaigns on behalf of persecuted Christians around the world. In the service the youth led prayers of intercession on behalf of six of the countries where Christians suffer the most for their faith.

The prayer time included lighting candles representing the light of Christ for each of the countries as they were read out. Other readings included stories of persecuted Christians.

Tim Still, Youth Pastor

The deadline for the next issue of *InSpire* is

Thursday 17 MAY

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

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



THE LEPROSY MISSION, SCOTLAND

WARMLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

THE ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

AT

HEBRON EVANGELICAL CHURCH
(FORMERLY DENBURN CHURCH)
SUMMER STREET, AB10 1RR

On SATURDAY 12TH MAY 2012
2PM – 4PM

SPEAKERS

Ms Karrie Williams
Elective at Anandaban Hospital (Nepal)

and

Mrs Pat Lomax
Author of "Sunshine in the Shadows"

Join us for refreshments after the meeting..See you there!!

The Leprosy Mission Scotland is a Registered Scottish Charity No. SC022411

What does it mean to give more than 100%? What equals 100% in life?

IF

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Equals

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

IF

H A R D W O R K
8 + 1 + 18 + 4 + 23 + 15 + 18 + 11 = 98%

AND

K N O W L E D G E
11 + 14 + 15 + 23 + 12 + 5 + 4 + 7 + 5 = 96%

BUT

A T T I T U D E
1 + 20 + 20 + 9 + 20 + 21 + 4 + 5 = 100%

THEN

Look how far the Love of God will take you

L O V E O F G O D
12 + 15 + 22 + 5 + 15 + 6 + 7 + 15 + 4 = 101%

While HARDWORK and KNOWLEDGE will get you close and ATTITUDE will get you there it's LOVE OF GOD that will put you over the top!



BUILDING A STRONG FAMILY LIFE 5 WEEK COURSE

The parenting children course — 0-10 year olds

The parenting teenagers course

Courses are free

Can't get a babysitter?

We can help by creating some fun and creative activities for the children while you do the course.

Any donations go to the Mannofield Church "Heart of the Community Appeal"

8 May - 5 June 2012

Every Tuesday-7.15pm to 9.15pm

Mannofield Church, Centenary Hall, Great Western Road, Aberdeen

Spaces are limited so please call to secure your place on

TEL 01224 310087 (Mon –Thurs) (9am—12 noon) or

Email: office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk



Let's give the tools to help people in poverty out of poverty



Christian Aid Week: 13–19 May 2012

Poverty is a scandal - It can be ended

Huge change is taking place in the town of Gbap (pronounced bap), Sierra Leone.

Sierra Leone is one of the poorest countries in the world. More than half the population live on less than 80p per day. Ten years of brutal civil war has severely hampered development. With little infrastructure in many areas, it is one of the hungriest places in the world.

Four out of five families in rural Sierra Leone do not have enough to eat.

Things started to change with the arrival of the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone (MCSL)

Christian Aid works entirely through local partners – local organisations on the ground – who know the needs of the communities in which they work. MCSL is one such partner.

It encouraged the community to set up a village development committee (VDC) that gave the community a channel through which to make their voices heard. Power structures in Sierra Leone are complex, and the voices of women and younger adults, in particular, have traditionally been ignored.

MCSL has helped the people of Gbap to move beyond hunger.

Tools for the job

At the same time, MCSL also looked at the small town's farming output and set up a food production group. It provided seeds and some basic tools – hoes and farming knives – which were distributed by the VDC. It helped the group to cultivate the vast floodplain outside the town. By doing this, they developed a communal rice farm in addition to a cassava plot.

The benefits of being properly fed speak for themselves: but the security of being fed has allowed the community to think beyond mere survival.

The people of Gbap have taken their future into their own hands.

Helped by MCSL, the people of Gbap lobbied for government funding to improve life in their small town. They are well on the way to having two strong and inspiring symbols of change.

An agricultural work centre will house machinery with which the people of Gbap can process their raw produce and command a higher price at market.

Building for the future

Children in Gbap can now look forward to a brighter future.

A new school building is a long overdue replacement for the previous building, which was cramped, termite-ridden and structurally unsafe. It opened this school year, and is complete with latrines and a new kitchen.

MCSL is working with 63 other Sierra Leonean communities near Gbap. In some, the project was met with scepticism, but people are starting to see the benefits this can bring.

Around the world, Christian Aid is giving people the tools to help themselves.

What is the largest number
you can write with
three digits?

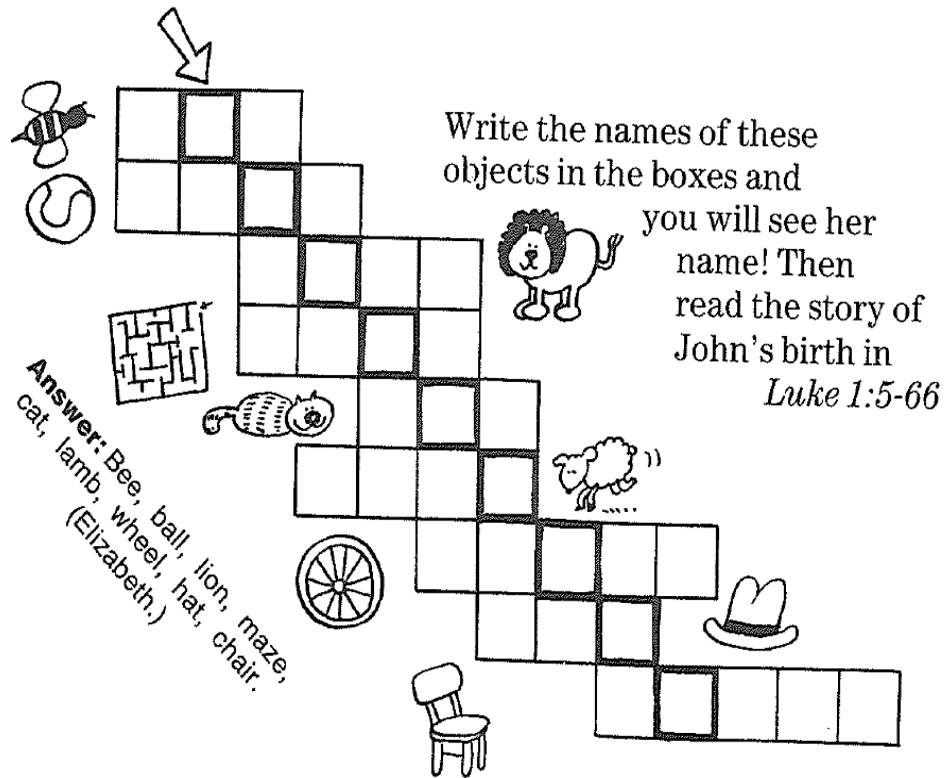


SEND FOR HIM (1 SAMUEL 16:11)

- 1 God told the prophet Samuel to anoint a new king over ----- v. 1
- 2 He was told to go to this town ----- v.1
- 3 How many sons had Jesse? ----- v. 11
- 4 Samuel sacrificed this animal ----- v. 2
- 5 Seven of Jesse's sons were invited to the ----- v. 5
- 6 Who was the first of the sons seen by Samuel? ----- v. 6
- 7 We are told the Lord looks at the ----- v. 7
- 8 After Samuel had seen all seven he asked, 'Are these all the sons you -----?' v. 11
- 9 Which son was away tending the sheep? ----- v. 11
- 10 'Send for him' said ----- v. 11
- 11 As the youngest son arrived, the Lord said, 'He is the -----' v. 12
- 12 What was the name of this youngest son? ----- v. 13
- 13 He was anointed in the presence of his ----- v. 13
- 14 Who came upon David in power? ----- v. 13
- 15 He was to take the place of Saul whom God had ----- v. 1
- 16 After this an evil spirit did this to Saul ----- v. 15
- 17 To comfort him his servants searched for someone to play the ----- v. 16



WHO WAS JOHN THE BAPTIST'S MOTHER?



What am I? (Genesis 8:8-11)

My first is in BUILD but not in ARK.

My second is in FLOOD and CLOUDS so dark.





My third is in LIVING so squashed there inside.





My fourth is in WATER and RIVER and TIDE.




My whole brought an olive leaf that she had found.

So Noah was sure there was now some dry ground.

JESUS WAS A...

 +  +  -ga +  -ing
 =

 -ad +  -b,l +  -gg +  -ope
 =

 -cup +  -air +  -a

If a boxer was knocked out
 by Dracula, what would he
 be?
 Out for the Count!

Why don't centipedes
 play football?
 Because by the time
 they've got their boots
 on it's time to go home.

March's answers: coercion, sciatica, cyclamen, believer, neutrino, syndrome, educator, original, hysteric, eulogist

April's answers: fife, flute, lute, tuba, oboe, trumpet, tambourine, pipe, viol, viola, violin, drum, piano, gong, tambour, tabret

Bethany Christian Trust is a Scottish charitable organisation established in 1983 by the Rev Alan Berry of Leith to help the plight of homeless people in Scotland and to tackle the issues of homelessness. It operates in various towns in Scotland including Aberdeen. It has a full time staff of 200 and about 2,800 volunteers. In Aberdeen it works in partnership with Kings Community Church in King Street who provide drop-in facilities. Crown Terrace Baptist Church also has drop-in facilities.

During the winter months, December to February inclusive, sleeping facilities are provided at various churches (20 I believe) in Aberdeen seven nights a week. Before homeless people bed down for the night they are provided with a hot two course meal. Mannofield volunteered to provide the catering for at least two nights during the winter and 14 people from Mannofield volunteered. I was included in a team comprising Lynn Allan, Alan Thompson, Anne Thompson, Linda Fraser and Mairi Marr.



Our instructions were to appoint a leader, a buyer (for the food) and go forth and cook a meal for possibly 10 people. By due democratic means I was appointed the leader and I also agreed to be the buyer. Lynn Allan came to my rescue by volunteering her husband Joe as the chef and then accompanying me to ASDA to help out with the purchases. We decided on a beef and vegetable curry with a date and walnut sponge and custard for the pudding.

We all met at Kings Community Church on Sunday 22 January at 7.30 pm and some of the team assisted Joe in preparing the meal in the small but well equipped kitchen. The number we had to cater for had been reduced to 6 so we had plenty of food. Two staff from the Bethany Christian Trust arrived and their job was to collect homeless people from the agreed rendezvous outside the Citadel in the Castlegate. Their other tasks included preparing bedding for the night and manning the church during the night.

After we were briefed by the Trust we had a short service and the Trust chaps went off to collect homeless people. It turned out that only one man was picked up as another had arrived at the Church under his own steam. We therefore definitely had plenty of food! We were told that the numbers needing the facilities had dropped in recent months because Aberdeen City Council was making progress in housing homeless people and the mild winter was also a factor. In the event it was decided that the two men could be accommodated in a hostel in the centre of the city and they were duly taken there after a good and very ample meal! After clearing up, members of the team were back home by about 11 o'clock. All in all, it was a very satisfying night. It would be rather remiss of me not to say that the other Mannofield team led by Tim Still did a similar task on 16 February at Queen Street Church where they catered for 10 people. *Jim Ruxton*

44th BBs Company Section

At the end of February our Company Section Boys Brigade enjoyed a weekend trip away to South Shawlands Church in Glasgow. For some years we have been visiting the home of the 45th Glasgow BB Company as one of our previous officers is now there.



Our group of 8 boys & 3 staff drove down to Glasgow on Friday night then on Saturday visited the new £70m Riverside Museum: Scotland's Museum of Transport & Travel which opened last year. It's a fantastic place and a very unusual building. There are several reconstructed streets, walls of both cars and motorbikes where everything is positioned on giant shelves. We were able to explore the exhibits and lots of interactive terminals around the building. We spent the whole morning there before a quick picnic lunch and off to the swimming pool.



This was no ordinary swimming pool however. Billing itself as Scotland's only indoor water theme park there was a lot of anticipation. We were not disappointed. Waves, flumes, rapids, dump buckets, slides - it had everything. The highlight was the 4 man tube ride where 4 people occupied a giant rubber ring. We then rocked and floated down a huge flume, sliding high up each of the sides of it as we went. The ride didn't last long but was brilliant fun. A well spent hour and a half.



Saturday evening was spent in the hall with a chipper tea, some games, sport and a DVD to finish off. On Sunday morning we joined the congregation for worship. Several of our boys took part in the service by doing a reading, a short talk about our visit and accompanying the local praise band on trumpet. The highlight of Sunday afternoon was a game of LaserTag, indoor golf and a ride on the dodgems at Xscape in

Braehead. But all good things come to an end and it was time to have tea and travel back to Aberdeen. A thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all of us. Roll on next year!

Dave Tait, Captain

Nicola Youngson's visit to Kamuli, Uganda

In February 2012 my husband Gary and I went with a group of people from Tillydrone to an area called Kamuli in North East Uganda. Our aim was to continue previously made links with a school and orphanage and a community of people who have HIV and AIDS.



In order to do this we needed the help and support of friends and family by way of fundraising and donations of clothing, school equipment and suitcases to carry everything.

We were overwhelmed by the generosity of everyone who contributed including those people in the congregation of Mannofield Church. We personally raised over £3000, the majority of which was raised by us doing a 24 hour radio marathon on Shmu fm. £300 was raised by the Wednesday Brownies from a Beetle Drive for their families. A Dad of one of our Brownies also raised £500 through donations from his work colleagues.

We personally did a lot of work at Bezallem School including redecorating a nursery classroom, kitting out the medical room with supplies and arranging for further improvements to be made for the pupils, boarders and staff.



One of the most significant changes we funded was to introduce a lighting system for the whole school including the dormitories when the power is off — which is most of the time! Could you imagine sharing a bedroom with over 50 other children aged from 2 to 15 with no lighting?

The whole experience reminded us about what we take for granted at home - electricity and water on demand and free education for all children. The children were really appreciative of anything they got from a lollipop, pencil to a new T-shirt. They never complained and thrived on attention they got from their new friends and visitors from Scotland. Although it was very difficult emotionally at times we loved our experience and feel that Uganda now has a special place in our hearts.

Thank you again for the help and support you offered us and the children of Bezallem.

*Nicola Youngson,
Brownie Leader, 40th A Brownies Mannofield.*

NOTES & NEWS

Mannofield Church Lunch Club

17 MAY 2012

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 Ladies thank all who have cooked, helped, entertained and most importantly joined us for lunch and fellowship.



We wish you all a happy sun-filled summer and look forward to welcoming you back in September.

HOLIDAY CLUB 6-10 AUGUST

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

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.

Flower Calendar

MAY

- 6 Mrs S Brown
- 13 Mrs K Martin
- 20 Mrs M Bonner
- 27 Mrs S McAdam



Lily of the
Valley
May's Flower

Mannofield Guild



May

- 3 Coffee Morning in Large Hall 10 -11.30am
- 13 Guild Walk Cults Church 2pm
- 26 Plant & Book Sale with Refreshments

June

- 7 Coffee Morning in Large Hall 10 -11.30am
- 9 Summer outing to Glenesk. Lunch at Museum and Afternoon Tea at Brechin.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Baptisms

8 April Oscar Douglas Craig King

Disjunctions

Mr Albert Duff

Deaths

24 March Mrs Audrey Morris
13 April Mrs Eileen Burt

CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister	Rev Keith Blackwood	k5blackwood@btinternet.com	315748
Associate Minister	Rev Alisa McDonald	alisa.ferlicca@gmail.com M 07838 835778	277428
Youth Ministries Worker	Tim Still	tj.still@btinternet.com M 07902811528	
Secretary	Mrs Gill Terry	office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk	310087
Church Officer	Nick Youngson	nick.youngson@o2.co.uk	322239
Session Clerk	Bob Anderson	Nnikibob@aol.com	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

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

All proceeds will go to improve our church premises.

Thank you

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 13-19 MAY 2012 VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED



Every year we manage to raise thousands of pounds during this week in May towards the work of Christian Aid, which is much appreciated by Christian Aid and the many millions of people around the world living in poverty who benefit from our generosity.

Most of this money is raised by the door to door collection which is carried out during Christian Aid Week.

This amount of money cannot be raised by a coffee morning or jumble sale, but it requires around 35 volunteers who can spare 1 or 2 hours during the week to put the envelopes through the letter boxes and return a few days later to collect them.

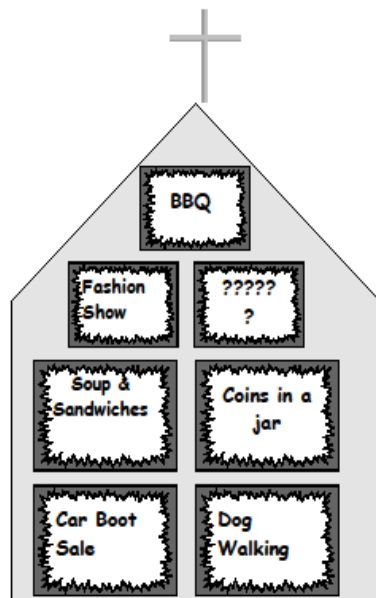
This is a great opportunity to meet people in the parish who would not normally come to church but are keen to support a national charity which has a proven track record of fighting poverty around the world.

PLEASE! PLEASE! Help with this year's collection.

Please call BILL MANSON (07758862794) or add your name and Tel No. to the poster at the Countesswells Notice Board.

THE BRICKS ARE BACK!!

There's a Buzz about Mannofield



So many of you have been buzzzzzy raising funds for our much needed repairs and development.



Many of you took inspiration from the ideas on the building bricks of our model church - remember it was at the front door of the church last year?

Thousands of pounds were raised from hosting garden parties to filling smartie tubes, baking cakes to French lessons.....

All the events not only raised money but created fellowship and fun - and yes, there's a buzz about Mannofield.

Every event is a winner!

But we need to keep going - "Life is an opportunity, benefit from it..... Life is a challenge, meet it." - Mother Teresa

The bricks are back

For more ideas see them at the front door on Sunday. There's always blank ones for your own ideas!

From the valleys of South Wales

Tonyrefail Ladies Choir

Conducted by Diane Wright

Saturday 19 May at 7.30pm

Mannofield Church

Tickets £5 Adults; £4 Concessions

From Church Office or at the door

Refreshments available after the concert

