



INSPIRE



'The spirits of the air live in the smells
of fruit; and Joy, with pinions light, roves round
the gardens, or sits singing in the trees.

Thus sang the jolly Autumn as he sat,
then rose, girded himself, and o'er the bleak
hills fled from our sight; but left his golden load.

"To Autumn" by William Blake

MANNOFIELD CHURCH

Scottish registered charity SC 001680

CHURCH CALENDAR

OCTOBER		
Sun 6	10am	Morning Worship <i>Sacrament of Communion at both Services</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Worship <i>- God is greater than our disappointments</i> Rev K. Blackwood
Wed 9	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 13	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship <i>Stardust</i> Barton Brown
Wed 16	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 20	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship <i>Prayer Space</i> Keith and Katrina Blackwood
Wed 23	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 27	10am	Morning Worship
	3.15pm	Craigielea Songs of Praise
	6.30pm	Evening Worship Andrew Cattanach
Tues 29	7.30pm	Kirk Session
Wed 30	10.30am	Midweek Service

The Church office will be closed 10-17 October as Jean will be on Annual leave.

Flower Calendar

OCTOBER

- 13 Miss A. Farquhar
- 20 Mrs A. Wright
- 27 Mrs S. Taylor



NOVEMBER

- 3 Mrs N. Anderson

Mannofield Church Lunch Club



17 OCTOBER

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

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

The GUILD

October

- 3 Coffee Morning, large hall
 - 8 Prof. Ray McAleese, *'Prayerful Gentlemen and Old Relics'*
 - 9 Autumn Meeting, 7.30pm
Craigiebuckler Church
 - 22 Sheila Den, *'Scarves'*
- At the last monthly Coffee Morning a total of £150 was raised for the Church Development Fund. Over the last 2 years £2,900 has been donated from Coffee Mornings proceeds to the Fund.
- A fantastic sum THANKS**
Roddy McCoil Development Group



Dear Friends

I have been doing a lot of writing this week and including this letter I calculate that the total number of words written in four days will be around 10,000! My English teacher would give me a Gold Star for effort but as for quality others will have to decide over the course of time.

The reason for this writing is that in the early part of 2013 I was invited to join a writing team that produces Worship Material called 'Spill the Beans'. The deadline for the January to March material is the end of September and I have just about finished my contribution. Add in the Sermon and Prayers for this Sunday's Service (which have been written) and the word count total is complete.

In our day-to-day personal lives we recognise the importance of 'words'. Communicating with our fellow workers, neighbours, strangers and family is something we do constantly through the course of any day. Choosing the correct words is important. Avoiding the wrong words is probably even more important.

'Words' inform our knowledge. We are grateful for the books we have read, and the newspapers that update us and the words spoken on radio, on stage, on television and film that entertain us.

Without 'words' the story of the Christian Faith would not have reached us. Two thousand years on from the birth of Christ we are thankful that through words the story of Jesus' life is as alive now as it ever was. The correct words have been spoken to us and not only have they

made some sort of sense for us and resonated with our personal life experience, they have touched our hearts.

'Words' we know have a strong impact on our lives.

But perhaps the last 'word' in all of this is best left to a writer far more astute than me – the writer of the Gospel of St John, who writes,

*"Before the world was created, **The Word** already existed; he was with God, and he was the same as God"*

We have used and heard many 'words' across our lifetimes, but there is only one '**Word**' that has existed with God since the beginning.

John's Gospel presents Jesus as the eternal **Word** of God who became a human being and lived among us. Jesus maybe died on a Cross but He was raised to life and exists in the World today. The **Word of God** is alive and is active in the World today. It is something we must seek and something for us to live by.

For the **Word of God** and all it expresses provides for us the best 'words' of all. Best wishes *Keith*

Bible Study Group



The Bible Study Group meets on a Thursday morning from 11am until midday in Room 1. We are using the 'Pray Now' booklet produced by the Church of Scotland.

The 2013 booklet's theme is '*from generation to generation*' and looks at a selection of biblical characters.

Do come and join us. For more information contact Edna Cromarty Tel.317453

Think global, act local - Church Eco Congregation Committee RECYCLING AND LIGHT SWITCHES



It's well known that we in the developed world consume more than our fair share of the world's resources, whether that be minerals, food or energy. We also throw away quite a lot, whether it's food past its "Best Before" date, or sometimes just to keep in fashion. The result is a steady depletion in the earth's natural resources, massive landfills around our cities and, almost certainly, adding to climate change.

You might think that there's little you can do to change all that. But you'd be wrong, because it's only through the small actions of everyone that meaningful change will come about.

The new Eco Congregation Committee has been busy over the summer with a couple of quick, easy actions. You may have noticed that the recycling collection bins around the Church halls have been given a facelift. So if you have any waste paper, if it's dry pop it in a recycling bin. There are also the usual bins for metal cans, provided, of course that they are empty (sugary drinks make an awful mess). Finally, there's a new opportunity to recycle plastic containers; but please rinse them first, because milk makes a bit of a pong after only a day or two!

Try counting the number of light switches and bulbs in our rooms and corridors. It's quite a lot, and the "please switch off the lights" notices were becoming so familiar as to lose their impact. So to save electricity, we've renewed the lot.

The Eco-Congregation Committee now has a strategic plan to guide its work for the coming few years.

Ideas for Action, "Greening church spending"



The Church Office can make use of any size of unused envelopes you have lying around at home.

We believe that our strategic plan is ambitious but not impossible to achieve. But if we are to make an impact, we need a few more to join us.

We meet every second month or so, in the evening, with some individual tasks in between.

You don't need special expertise, although plain common sense will always come in handy! If you can spare an evening every few months, please join our committee; or get in touch with Alistair Stark on 01224 318536 or mail@agstark.co.uk.

ALPHA Advance Notice

- ◆ The 2014 **Alpha Course** will run on Monday evenings from 20 January for 10 weeks.
- ◆ **Alpha Plus**, a new follow-on to the *Alpha Course* will run in parallel with this.



Annual Bus Trip

On a glorious afternoon in early September a large group of senior but intrepid explorers from Mannofield set off on the annual bus trip organised by the Social committee.



We were particularly blessed by the weather, at times dare I say perhaps too hot, which afforded us marvellous views of the landscape on our mini tour of Buchan. The harvest was happily well under way, the rowans were beautifully red and the sea views superb... there was a particularly good view of Slains castle too.

Our driver skilfully wove his way past the busy harbour and through the narrow streets of Peterhead before heading inland for Mintlaw. Many commented on how interesting it was to be able to see the changes after some years since their last visit.

At *The Happy Plant* garden centre we found a delicious afternoon tea awaiting us in a light and airy private room and eagerly dived in to the various scones and homebakes before Keith chose 15 names from the hat who were in line for a small raffle prize. It was hard to break up the lively chat around the tables but it gave us a short opportunity to wander around the centre before returning to Aberdeen by a more direct route.

Thanks to all who joined us on the trip, you really know how to enjoy yourselves and make everyone feel welcome (and keep me calm during the minor moment of panic when I miscounted heads on the return journey!). Of course thanks also go Keith, to Jean in the office, to the organisers, to the careful driver and the hospitable folks from Mintlaw for making it such a success. I hope that we can do something similar next year... remind your friends and watch this space!

Sheila Towns

Today's Short Reading from the Bible...

From Genesis: "And God promised men that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the earth."

Then He made the earth round...and He laughed and laughed and laughed!

The Editor's wife likes this!



prayer ministry training

3 week course designed to encourage people to pray with others in a helpful way.

Mon 28th Oct

Mon 4th Nov

Mon 11th Nov

7:30-9:30pm @
S. St. Nicholas.



If you knit or sew – please help with some of The Guild craft projects.

We are knitting fish & chip jumpers and baby hats for Africa; making Linus blankets, knitted and patchwork, for A.R.I. with smaller ones going to Africa; all seamen using Aberdeen harbour get a woolly hat.



Patterns will be available from the Church Office from 7th October.

Thank you for your help. Every little bit makes a difference and, just to get you started, the woolly hat pattern is below

PATTERN

Using No 4 mm knitting needles cast on 100 stitches

K1, P1 for 3 inches

Change to 1 row Purl and 1 row knit for 5 inches

Then decrease as follows (on every knit row only)

K9, K2 together to end of row

K8, K2 together to end of row

K7, K2 together to end of row

K6, K2 together to end of row

K4, K2 together to end of row

K3, K2 together to end of row

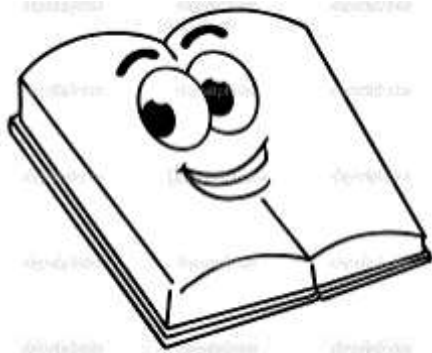


Thread wool through remaining stitches and sew up.

Editor: I only typed this (not understanding it) so if it's wrong I have no liability!!

Riddle

A book costs £1 plus half its price.
How much does it cost?



Can you work out the names?

AEIOU

We've left out all the vowels from the names of these well-known people of the Bible... Can you fill in the gaps to find their names?

Ezekiel, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Benjamin

from the Psalms

A man who has riches without understanding...

...is like the beasts that perish

Ps 49:20

from the Psalms

Cast your cares on the LORD...

...and he will sustain you...

Ps 55:22

Story Wordsearch

Here you will meet the famous son of a famous father. 18 words have been left out of the story and the number of letters in each missing word is given in brackets. Decide what these words are, then find them in the grid (some letters being used more than once). Then put the circled letters in their correct order to give you the character's name. Read the story in 1 Samuel chapters 13 and 14.



King Saul and his three-thousand-strong army prepared to do battle with the (11). These men of Israel were camped at Michmash and also at Gibeah where the king's son was in charge. (4) had already gained an important victory over the Ammonites.

As the Philistine outpost at Geba was (8) the news spread throughout the land. Saul told the people, 'Now (6) has become an offence to the Philistines'

But the (7) of Israel were able to field a far greater (4) than Saul. Soldiers and charioteers in their thousands went out and camped within close range of the Israelites. The Philistines' presence (8) Saul's men and many of them hid themselves in caves and among the rocks. By the time Saul took stock of his army he found it numbered only about six (7) men.

The young prince was distressed to hear the news. But as he looked out at their camp at (6) and saw the huge numbers of enemy forces, he took this as a challenge. Saying nothing to his (6), he instructed his

armour-bearer to go with him in a (7) attack on the Philistine outpost on the other side. He knew that nothing could hinder the Lord from (6) the men of Israel from their enemies.

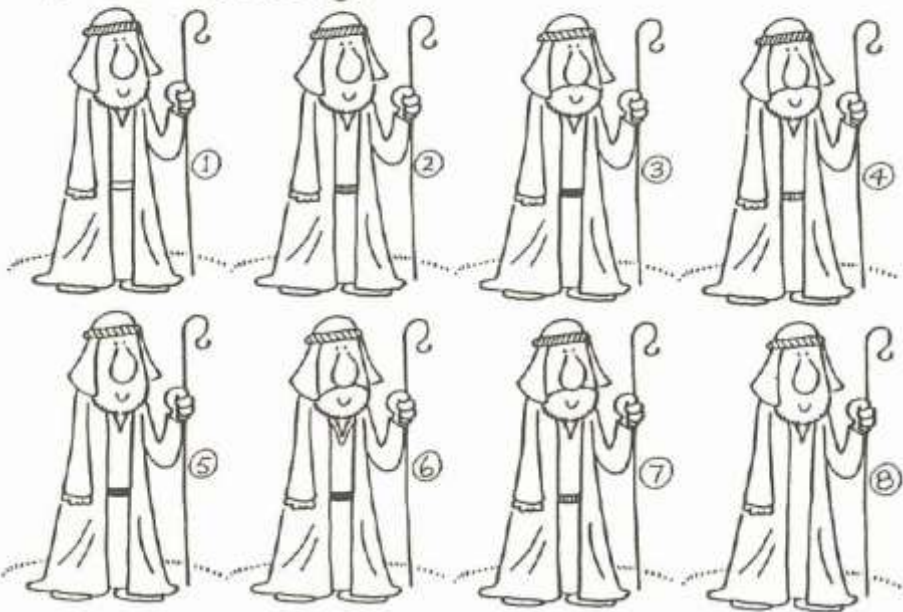
As the two crossed over toward the enemy camp the young leader (8) their plan to his companion. They were to show themselves to the Philistines. If told by the enemy to stay where they were, then they would go no further. But if told to go forward, that, he believed, meant that the (7) was theirs.

But when they showed themselves, they received a (7) reception from the enemy forces.

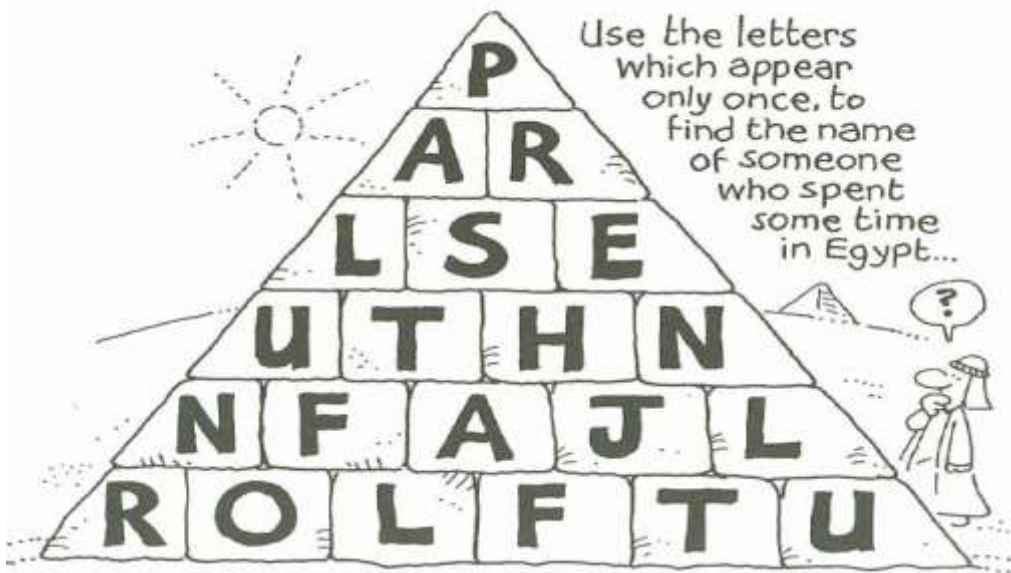
'Come up to see us and we'll teach you a lesson', they shouted.

Climbing up the hillside, the (6) and his armour-bearer surprised enemy by the power which which they overcame them. Then, as the ground shook, (5) seized the Philistine army. They were in total confusion and even fought each other; after which they were (8) to their own land.

TWINS! — CAN YOU SPOT THE TWO IDENTICAL SHEPHERDS?



Use the letters which appear only once, to find the name of someone who spent some time in Egypt...



A personal insight.....Lesley Reid



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

A. I am a 62 year old part-time teacher of languages with a husband, David and 3 adult children.

Q. What is your favourite verse from Scripture and why?

A. Isaiah ch 40 v 31. "But those who trust in the Lord for help will find their strength renewed.

They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak." This passage always brings comfort on dark days.

Q. Who is your favourite character from the Bible and why?

A. Ruth. She shows such courage, determination and loyalty in the face of adversity and there is even a happy ending!

Q. What motivates you spiritually?

A. Observing the faith in action of others at home and abroad.

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

A. I like wood-chip wallpaper.

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

A. Albert Einstein's "Learn from yesterday, live for today and hope for tomorrow," was passed on to me by my mother.

Q. Who is your favourite fictional character and why?

A. The Whisky Priest in Graham Greene's "The Power and the Glory." He acknowledged his flaws but never lost his vision or the optimism that he could make a difference.

Q. What are you afraid of?

A. Not too keen on heights or water in large quantities.

Q. What situations make you lose your temper?

A. Bullying in any form. Whether children, adults, institutions or nations, the misuse of power or position over others is very ugly.

Q. If you could choose a profession that you would like to try what would that be? Why?

A. Gardener. To make a living from a much loved hobby would be great fun.

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

A. I would like to be more tolerant and develop greater resistance to chocolate.

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

A. I thought about Bethlehem and Calgary but decided that sharing in the loaves and fishes would have been amazing.

Q. What would you do if you ruled the world?

A. Abdicate.

Q. Who was your favourite teacher and why?

A. Mrs Allan my primary 1 teacher at King Street School. I have vivid memories of chalk-boards and plasticine, glitter and glue and the steam rising from wet mittens on the radiator.

Q. Who or what is the love of your life?

A. My family

Q. What is your most treasured possession?

A. Photographs – see above.

44th Boys Brigade



A group of 9 Company Section boys & 4 staff recently spent a weekend camp at the Guide campsite in Ladenford, near Forfar. Despite the forecast it was a lovely, sunny and dry weekend, the only heavy rain being overnight on Friday. This was just as well since we were in tents. We have our own 10man dome tents and with the smaller group everyone had loads of room.

The Saturday started with a challenge to cook breakfast on wood fires. These were made on little purpose built metal braziers. It took a while to get them going and to perfect the right cooking technique but the food was great when it came. Sausage, bacon, egg & beans with toast. Not all at the same time mind you.

The rest of the day was spent in Dundee. We visited The Discovery Point where the boys learned of the RRS Discovery and its various journeys. One of particular interest was the journey to the Antarctic of the famous Captain Scott. In the afternoon we went swimming in the new Olympia pool. This is a re-building of the old pool now being demolished to make way for dockside developments. The new pool is modern but still features the favourite bits recreated from the old pool, the cannonball slide and doughnut rapids being 2 examples.



Saturday night meal was at Pizza Hut followed by some wide games by torchlight back at camp. Then something of a first for the 44th - a campfire. BBs don't normally have campfires but the Guides do and so they have a special area at the campsite to safely build and light a large fire. Great fun especially with the roasted marshmallows.

Sunday morning was more leisurely then we headed to Perth for some karting. We had hired the track for an hour which was plenty of time for the racers to get their fix. Great fun with some surprising overtaking moves especially from one young driver whose bodyweight advantage made overtaking Martin, one of our officers, look easy. Well done Aaron!

On our way back we took in Dundee Law which offered brilliant views over the city. Then it was back to camp to relax in the sunshine and play a construction game. The boys had an hour to make a watertight shelter in the woods. Needless to say neither group managed it completely but they had great fun trying and the staff had even better fun testing them with buckets of water.

Thanks to everyone, both the boys and the staff, who made the weekend such a success. Plans are already underway to take the Company back to Orkney in summer 2014 for a week long camp. Watch out for news on that in future InSpire issues.

Dave Tait Captain

CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister	Rev Keith Blackwood	k5blackwood@btinternet.com	315748
Secretary	Jean Sharman	office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk	310087
Church Officer	Nick Youngson	nick_youngson@o2.co.uk	322239
Session Clerk	Bob Anderson	Nnikibob@aol.com	743484

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Baptisms:

Dionne and Nicole Ray

Leah Elizabeth Hendry

Change of Address:

Miss Milne,

Mrs Edith Glenesk,

Mr and Mrs Ian Stephen,

Mrs Alice Gorrod,

Mrs Margaret Ewen.

(Please let the Church Office know when you change your address)

Deaths:

23 Aug

Mrs Moira McLaren

26 Aug

Mrs Margaret Reid

28 Aug

Mrs May Stirling

31 Aug

Mrs Olive Porter

3 Sept

Mr Fred Nicol

12 Sept

Mrs Aileen Johnston

Mannofield Church Annual Golf Match

30 August 2013 Inverurie

Winner – Norman McLeod

Longest Drive – Eric Murray

Nearest the Pin – Alastair Hunter

Yellow Ball Team Prize – David Clark, Keith Campbell, George Esson



The deadline for the next issue of *InSpire* is

17 OCTOBER 2013

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

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

MALAWI PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

A small group from Aberdeen Presbytery visited Blantyre Presbytery Malawi, for two weeks from 27 August 2013.

On Thursday 10 October at 7.30pm in the Rubislaw Church Centre, the committee will be hosting a celebration of this visit.

You are warmly invited to come along.

NOTES & NEWS

Church Book Club OCTOBER 2013

Family Life

by Elizabeth Luard

Food, meals eaten together in many different places and circumstance is the common thread of this book whose underlying idea is that the family at the table is the source of its strength.



The book recounts the Luard family's life in a cork-oak forest in southern Spain, a snow-bound farmhouse in Languedoc or a sheep-farm in Northamptonshire.

Containing anecdote, humour and curious food-lore, this book is written by the author of "European Festival Food" and "The Barricaded Larder".

For further information contact:
Niki Anderson Tel 743484.

Mannofield Church Bowling Club



The new Season has commenced. Come along and try out a new sporting pastime. We can supply the bowls for beginners. Flat shoes are required.

Large Hall, Fridays 2-4pm

Coffee Morning
Saturday 19th October

Large Hall 10am– 12noon



Waltz Afternoon

**Tuesday 15th October
2013**

**2.00 pm in Large Hall
Tickets £5 including
Afternoon Tea**

**Guide Dogs
Puppy Walking Group
Annual Coffee Morning
and Christmas Card Sale
Saturday 5th October**



Large Hall 10am – 12noon
Come and meet the puppies, enjoy the company and choose some quality cards.
Tickets from Sheila Taylor or from the Church Office.

MANGO



Mannofield Gospel Choir numbers are now around 26 and we are preparing for Christmas.

The last chance to join us for this occasion will be on Monday 21st October in the large hall at 6.45pm.

Please call Rhonda on 07712570065 if you wish to find out more.

**People Get Ready,
There's a Train
A-Coming**

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE and EVENTS

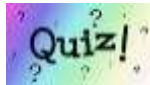


Fundraising QUIZ NIGHT
Saturday 5th October 2013 7.00 p.m.
The Ashvale Great Western Road
Raffle
Ticket: £12.50
includes an Ashvale Supper



Districts in Aberdeen Quiz

Thank you all for your support. The quiz raised £236 for the Development Fund. Twelve all correct entries were received. Mr. and Mrs. McFadyen from Bridge of Don submitted the winning entry.



BAG Packing

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WHEN: 16 November 2013
FROM: 10am to 4pm
WHERE: Sainsburys Bridge of Dee

£800 was raised by the young folk of the Church in February.



This is what £800 in loose change looks like :)!

**Please contact John Mowat to help
Tel 316626**

December InSpire—Parish Publication

This year instead of a Christmas Card the Parish will receive a special edition of InSpire and your business could be advertising in it.


For more information send an email to

MPC_publications@btinternet.com

NOVEMBER 2013

INSPIRE

DECEMBER 2013



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
from MANNOFIELD CHURCH

MANNOFIELD CHURCH
WARMEST BLESSINGS

Music to Inspire

Multi prize winning
musicians

Claire Telford
&
Wayne Robertson



All proceeds to Development Fund

Mannofield Church

Friday 25 October 2013 at 7pm

Ticket £8 from Mannofield Church office Tel 01224 310087

GUIDES

The guides have been very busy since you last heard from us! From a local treasure hunt involving tent making to food tasting we have even managed to squeeze in a beach cookout in June which was fantastic fun even though the BBQs took FOREVER to light!



More recently we have had a Disney themed sleepover in the church involving pillowcase decorating and of course watching some Disney classics.



Our first night back involved making Minions (from *Despicable me 2!*) bookmarks and playing lots of games.

In the near future we have Halloween "mummy" mugs planned as well as making perfume trays and going to camp for the weekend!