

April 2023

We are delighted to bring you this Newsletter showcasing the busy life of Mannofield Church.

I like the name 'Mannofield Matters'. It's a good play on words.

The Newsletter of course covers congregation and organisation 'matters' - as in, what has been going on, and what is coming up. But the Newsletter also shows how much we 'matter' as a church, how relevant we are to people's lives in what we offer and how contributory we are to better and fairer societies. This of course is the whole point of our church. We believe the Gospel matters - and we seek to share the gospel in real and relevant ways.



I think we are doing that and a big thanks goes to everyone who gives of their time, talent and money to the work and activities of the church.

We are almost at Easter – an important and significant Season in church life.

Please see the details of the Holy Week Joint Services. We hope to welcome you to our special Services on Palm and Easter Sundays. God's Blessing to you all.

Keith

I have been using an Afrikaans benediction at the end of the midweek services and some people have asked me to share an Afrikaans benediction for Easter.

Seën/ Benediction

Ontvang die seën van die opgestane Here
en gaan in sy vrede

Loof die Here, want Hy is goed.

**Receive the blessing of the risen Jesus
and go in His peace.**

Praise the Lord for He is good.

Die Vader wat Christus uit die dood opgewek het,
seën julle met 'n lewe wat getuig van die opstanding uit die dood.

Aan sy liefde is daar geen einde nie.

**The Father who raised Christ from the dead,
blesses you with a life that testifies of the resurrection from
death.**

His love endures forever.

Dieselfde Gees waarmee God vir Jesus gesalf en met krag toegerus
het,

salf julle ook nou met sy krag en stuur julle in sy Naam uit
om dié soort lewe te gaan leef wat getuig van die opstanding van ons
Here Jesus Christus.

Aan sy liefde is daar geen einde nie.

**The same Spirit with which God anointed and empowered Jesus,
anoint you also now with His power
and send you out in His name
to live the kind of life that testifies to the resurrection of our
Lord Jesus Christ.**

His love endures forever.

(Psalm 118 and Acts 10)

AMEN

Rev Corne Randall

Let us know if you know of anyone who

- has gone into hospital
- has moved into care
- would like a visit or a video call from an elder



Aberdeen West Parish Grouping

HOLY WEEK SERVICES *Peter's Diary*

Monday 3 April - Craigiebuckler 7pm

Tuesday 4 April - Cults 7pm

Wednesday 5 April - Mannofield 7pm

Maundy Thursday Communion - Peterculter 7pm

Good Friday - Ruthrieston West 7pm

Easter Services at Mannofield

2 April Palm Sunday 10am

9 April Easter Sunday 10am



Coronation Events



St. John Aberdeen and North East are arranging a concert of Coronation Music in Mannofield Church on Thursday the 8th of June at 7pm to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. Singing by the St. John Festival Choir will be led by the renowned Professor Paul Mealor who is composing some of the music for the Coronation.



The concert is open to all and tickets can be purchased at the door.

Mannofield Church invites you to a Community Lunch in the Sanctuary

CORONATION LUNCH

Sunday 7th May 2023
1pm

2 course lunch with teas and coffees

£12.50 per head

Tickets available from café connect

Tickets will be required for entry



Monday 8 May

Volunteering Day

We will be holding a volunteering event.

Come and support your local community.

Further details will follow



This is not a Church Fundraiser. Any profits leftover will be shared with local causes.



SUMMER SING ALONG
@ MANNOFIELD CHURCH
THURSDAY 1ST JUNE 2.00PM - 3.30PM



ALL ARE WELCOME TO ENJOY
A SING ALONG WITH AFTERNOON TEA



No charge, donations gratefully received



PLACES MUST BE RESERVED

Reserve your place by calling Café Connect 01224 318962 or
the church office 01224 310087

Youth Organisations



44th Boys Brigade News

All sections have been busy each week having fun with a variety of activities, games and crafts.

Our youngest boys, those in Primary 1 – Primary 3, our Anchors, have been doing some scratch art and they put their colouring skills into the North Scottish Area BB colouring in competition. They also made some finger paint hedgehogs. Continuing with the artwork they made a giant painting collage with a Superhero theme. This years Teams are named after their favourite superheroes of Ironman, Spiderman and Flash. Anchors best game is dodgeball and we play it most weeks. They love running around dodging the foam balls thrown at them by the leaders. They have also enjoyed playing Cups & Saucers where 2 teams complete to turn over as many marker cones they can to make either a cup or saucer shape.

Our Juniors, for P4-P6 boys, have also been busy. There are a lot of new Juniors this year so they have had weekly sessions where they have been learning the art of figure marching. This needs concentration and a good memory especially for the older boys at the front who have to remember the whole routine. They have been impressive in practice. Some of the new BB material provides ideas for themed nights so Juniors had a night of things in the dark. They made up a shadow puppet show, made some shadow art and played a blindfold game in the dark. Lego is always fun and one week the boys were challenged to make as tall a tower as they could but one which was strong enough to withstand some shaking of the table. Some great results.

Company Section, which is for P7-S6 boys, has also been trying out themed activities. We have had some basketball themed games and recently a range of activities to teach them about the difference between sportsmanship and gamesmanship. The importance of being a good sportsman playing competitively but fairly and being generous to your opponents, rather than using questionable means to win by bending the rules or breaking the spirit of the game. Some interesting opinions!! One week we also challenged the boys to do a 3-legged race. This developed into a 5-legged, 9-legged then eventually an amazing 15-legged effort. They have been practicing some gymnastic skills on the vaulting horse and parallel bars as well a jump style routine with the trampettes and crash mats. The older boys love sport and have also been playing football, unihoc and volleyball.

Finally we have quietly been involved in church life. As well as attending and taking part in the Remembrance Service in November, each month since September, a different one of our BB sections has helped with the Church's foodbank collection. Our Company Section boys couldn't help but made a tower from their donated cans.

If all this sounds like something a young boy aged 5-18 who you know may enjoy, please get in touch or have a look at our website and social media presence.

44aberdeen@boys-brigade.org.uk

www.40four.co.uk

www.facebook.com/44thaberdeenbb

youtube.com/@44thaberdeenbb

Dave Tait, Captain

44th Aberdeen Boys Brigade



40th Mannofield Guides

We continue to have around 20 guides and four leaders attending every Wednesday. We enrolled several new girls in January and have a few more who will be enrolled by the Spring holidays.

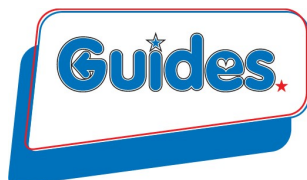
Girls have enjoyed a variety of activities including celebrating Burns night with some dancing and Valentines day with kindness quotes for each other and crafts.

The girls have also been working on their Skills Builders badges. These require lots of preparation and then taking part in four different tasks related to a theme. Once the four tasks and an interest badge is gained, they are awarded their Skills Builders badges. We are on track to award these before the holidays.

We visited the Gang Show in March at the Arts Centre and some girls are looking forward to a County camp at Crathes in July .

Heather Tait,

Guides Leader



Rainbows are the youngest section within the Girlguiding family and have just recently lowered the starting age to four. We were excited to have our first four year old start in January.



Although we have been working on activities from the Rainbow Programme, we have also completed some other interesting challenge badges.

One badge which we focused on was "Adventures in the Dark", and one activity the Rainbows enjoyed was doing pictures on black card using glow in the dark paint. Other activities encouraged the Rainbows to think about how we use our different senses. The other Challenge Badge we completed allowed them to think about dealing with emergency situations. This included knowing where to find AED's in the community, and learning how to put somebody in the recovery position.

We recently had a Pancake theme night, decorating pancakes with icing and sweets, practicing flipping pancakes and a pancake relay race. Great fun was had by all. Easter themed activities are planned along with activities to achieve Programme Badges and other Challenge Badges.

Helen Keith,

Rainbows Leader



Mannofield Church is proud to support the Inchgarth foodbank which is open every Wednesday from 2pm - 4pm. The church covers the salary of Victoria Alexander the Coordinator of the project. Victoria works from our Church Office most Thursday mornings.

Within the first 9 weeks of this year, 2000 people attended. This number is based on the amount of adults and children that are registered with the foodbank.

There is a variety of services available every week offering support and advice: Penumbra, Rape Crisis Grampian, Shelter Scotland, Pathways, ENABLEworks and the financial inclusion team.

A group of 6-8 dedicated volunteers are at the foodbank every week ensuring that the most vulnerable people in our communities are being fed.

When receiving donations from the public, we accept non-perishables - bleach, dish soap, laundry pods, toiletries and sanitary products. These items are given out on a three-week rotation.

Mannofield Craft Group

The Craft Group meets in the church on Thursdays from 9.30 -11.30am.

We support the hospital by making Calming Muffs, Animal novelties, Easter Cards, Baby bonding squares, Draught excluders, Worry 'monsters' and much, much more.

Come along and learn a new craft!!



Mannofield Singers

Meeting in the Sanctuary on Monday evenings for about an hour, we are a group of around 25 adults who are keen singers of all styles of music, who rehearse for occasional performances in Church Services. The atmosphere is relaxed and friendly and new friends from around the Parish are always made most welcome. So, if you can keep a tune, we would all be delighted for you to join us and increase our merry band!!



Church Flowers

We are fortunate to have so many people support the weekly floral arrangements by their generous donations. This year many of the gaps in the calendar have been filled and some have gifted a sum of money to be used as required. There are a few more dates available for consideration. Please contact the office if you wish to help. A big thanks to the team who help with arranging and those who distribute them. The flowers are always appreciated by the recipients who do feel the love of others remembering them.



Sheila Towns, Flower Convenor

Faith & Outreach Committee @ Mannofield Church

Faith & Outreach is a vibrant, active committee, with plenty of things going on all year round. If you are interested in being part of this busy committee, don't be shy, please come and join us!

Mannofield Church weekly Foodbank collection continues to be a great success. Donations can be dropped off on Thursday mornings from 10am-12 noon, outside the church on Countesswells Road (look for the car with its boot open!). The charity Somebody Cares, which receives the donations each week, thanks everyone for their continued support and generosity. It is a real lifeline for many in the local community, particularly in the current economic climate.

This Spring 2023 we are planning:
Sunday 23rd April – a Community Litter Pick from 11.30am-1pm.
We are delighted to be doing this litter pick after a 3 year absence! We do hope that you will come along and join us at the church.



Mannofield Guild

A fundraising Tea Party to support VSA (Aberdeen) will be held on 21st March. During Holy Week, the meeting on 4th April will feature hymns, readings and poetry. Meeting fortnightly on a Tuesday afternoon the last meeting is on 2nd May



All welcome at any of our meetings

Check the church intimations for details.

Thursday Food Collection 10am-12noon

The food collection has been very well supported by our community. **THANK YOU!**

We are also part of the Co-op community partnership. Are you a member? They give us 2% of every Co-op product purchased.



Mannofield Church of Scotland

Registered Scottish Charity SC 001680

Rev. Keith Blackwood

email: kblackwood@churchofscotland.org.uk

For more information please contact the office.

Office hours:
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9.30am-1.30pm
Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm

Office Tel: 01224 310087
Email: office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk

Community Newsletter



EASTER BUNNY HUNT

1ST – 10TH April

Bunnies are hiding in windows around Mannofield and Seafield

Can you find them?

Pick up an entry form from the shops, Community Centre or Mannofield Church

A prize for the first 3 correct entries drawn

Join in the fun!



MANNOFIELD PARENT & TODDLER GROUP



Every Monday and Friday morning 9:30-11:00 in Mannofield Church.

For babies/toddlers/pre-school 0-4 years and their carers

£1.50 per session

FREE entry for volunteers

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

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Monday 8th May



As part of the nationwide Coronation Celebration Weekend, we are hoping to participate in 'The Big Help Out'.

From rolling up your sleeves to help a local group, to supporting some of the UK's

best-known national charities, the Big Help Out on Monday 8 May will give everyone an opportunity to join in.

Hundreds of activities are planned for the day by local community groups, organisations and charities including The Scouts, RNLI, Royal Voluntary Service, National Trust.

Why not be part of it and volunteer to support your local community?

We now recycle :

batteries and blister packs in the bins in the vestibule at the Mannofield Church office entrance



Dates for your Diary

- 13th May Table Top Sale 10am-12noon
- 28th May Joint Café/Lego worship from 4pm
- 1st June Summer Sing Along 2-3.30pm
- 8th June St Johns Coronation Concert 7pm
- 17th June Table Top Sale 10am-12noon

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