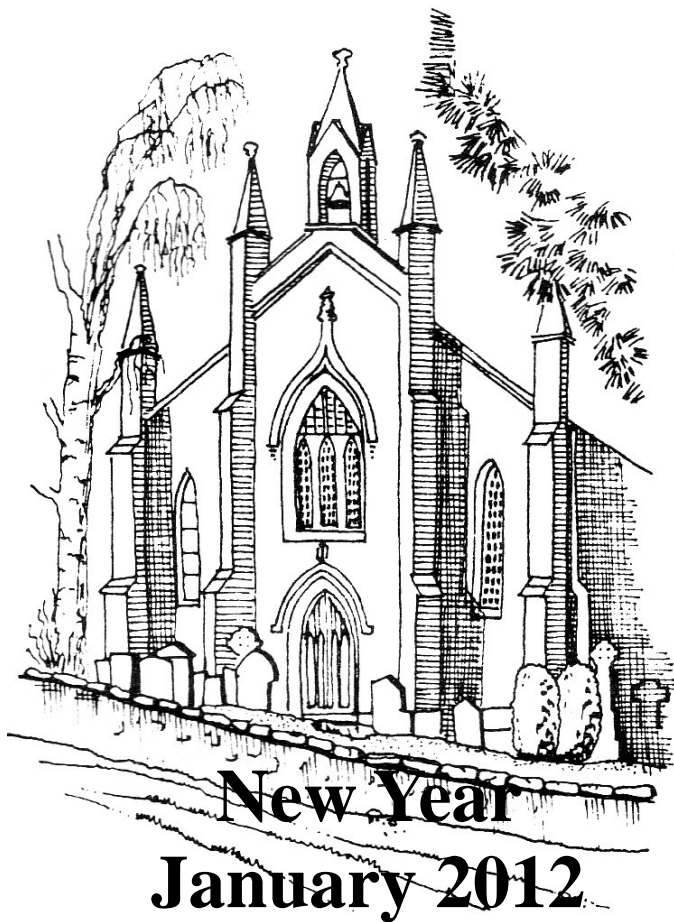


# ABOYNE-DINNET CHURCH

Aboyne-Dinnet Church exists to glorify God  
Tell of salvation in Christ  
Share the fellowship of the Holy Spirit



Happy  
New  
Year!





## Our Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

As I write this, December is not yet done, but we have held all our Christmas Services, and now the New Year beckons. I must say it has been a real joy, spending and celebrating our first Advent and Christmas with you, and wonderfully satisfying to see so many turning out to all our services over these seasons.

As we turn our attention to the New Year, my own sense of keen anticipation of good things to come is undiminished. Let me highlight a few of the things coming our way, some of which are also expanded in this issue of the magazine. I will have started, by the time you read this, a series on the Church. I will be aiming to make clear the theological/Biblical basis for the Church, and also her function in the world, and how it is she accomplishes her calling. It is an interesting conjunction of intentions that the Church of Scotland should be sending out a message encouraging our stewardship, through a Moderatorial letter, which the General Assembly has asked each congregation to send to all its members. We include it in this edition of the magazine. It is a happy conjunction of intentions because as I preach on the subject of the Church, I will inevitably be covering the Biblical area of Stewardship.

Another thing to be looking out for is the appointment of three more elders to our Kirk Session, whose small number ought to be augmented. We will be appointing well known, faithful and hard working members of our congregation to the Session, so look out for news through the announcements reasonably soon. This will enable us to move forward to carry out our proposed change in church government to that of a Unitary Constitution, which we hope to do at our annual meeting. As it happens, this change makes it easier for us (I believe) to truly be the church where we are, which fits in again with our overarching theme of "The Church".

Finally, another thing which has gladdened my heart enormously has been the appearance of more children and young families in and around church recently. Not only will our Sunday Kids be happening on Sundays, but, as a follow on from our Nativity Play rehearsals on Fridays before Christmas, one of the parents, Esther Gooch, has volunteered to keep the momentum going by offering a Kids on Friday after school club. We will also be welcoming the Guides and Brownies and Scouts, Cubs and Beavers back for their Thinking Day Service in February.

As you can see, there is an enormous amount to be thankful for. Thank you all too for your encouragement and support and ongoing help.

Frank Ribbons.

# An Old Song For The New Year: O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing

Charles Wesley 1707-88 (altered)

## Lyngham

C.M.

T. JARMAN (1776-1861)

This is a hymn which is so well-loved that it deserves to be committed to memory. We have many allies to help in this task:

Firstly, take advantage of the tune - tune and words together are so memorable! A psychologist would explain that the part of the brain used for language and for music lie close together, and therefore one can prompt the other. Other allies are rhyme, rhythm and sense.

One small reservation is that the language is old-fashioned. In those days, to be deaf was automatically to be dumb. These days, the deaf have been encouraged to rise to the challenge of communication and so by implication 'dumb' is a person who can't or won't make the effort. Please make allowances here and elsewhere and take the hymn in the spirit in which it was written.

Let's see how well we can respond to the challenge of mastering the six verses. They fall into three parts. The first three verses centre around 'my' tongue. Verses four and five are on the theme 'he speaks' Verse six answers the question 'and what now?'.

### Verse 1

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer's praise  
The glories of my God and King  
The triumphs of his grace.

It is short and sweet on the page but when sung to the arrangement ‘Lyngham’ the hymn is quite long. In the first line, the word ‘thousand’ occupies a whole bar and quite a few notes – quite appropriate if you think about it. A lot of the rest is repetition, which is a gift to the memoriser.

The key words of those first two lines are tongues, Redeemer and praise. But in order to remember the first verse, the big help is in the rhyme. The third line has to end in a rhyme for ‘sing’, the fourth in a rhyme for ‘praise’ ‘The glories of my God and king’ follow the sense, and rhyme. ‘Triumphs’ are an aspect of glory and we know the line must end in a rhyme for ‘praise’ and so the hymn virtually ends itself.

We haven’t been given a name yet. Verse 2 obliges.

### Verse 2

Jesus! The name that charms our fears  
That bids our sorrows cease  
‘tis music in the sinner’s ears  
‘tis life and health and peace.

This hymn is about the value and power of words, and so follows a reflection on the power of His name. It charms our fears. A charm is a spell. Now Jesus is no magician, but our fears are like black magic. We often call them our ‘demons’. Jesus can break the spell. The black twin of fear is sorrow, which gives our next line ‘that bids our sorrows cease’. Now all we are looking for are rhymes for ‘fears’ and ‘cease’ and we have the whole of the verse. As the hymn is about singing, ‘tis music in the sinner’s ears’ comes quite naturally. One line begins ‘tis’ so does the next.

The third line warns us where we are going next. Sin has been mentioned.

### Verse 3

He breaks the power of cancelled sin  
He sets the prisoner free  
His blood can make the foulest clean  
His blood availed for me.

No-one can forget that glorious second line. He sets the prisoner free. Now we have to find rhymes for lines one and two. ‘His blood can make the foulest clean’ is logical enough. So far the song has followed expectations but now comes the twist that I so love about Charles Wesley. ‘oh yes’ we are thinking, ‘jailbirds and filthy folk, they need Jesus’. But then we find that the appropriate rhyme for ‘free’ as in ‘prisoner’ is ‘me’. What me! Do I need his grace too?

At this point it’s fair to expect a bit of a change of direction, which happens. So far, the hymn is about ‘me’ singing ‘his’ praise. Now there is an answer.

In verse 4, He speaks.

#### Verse 4

He speaks and listening to his voice  
New life the dead receive  
The mournful broken hearts rejoice  
The humble poor believe.

What, Jesus asked, was easier, to forgive sin or perform a miracle? Even the dead can listen when He is speaking. We now want rhymes for voice and receive, which give the next two lines.

Still on the theme of Jesus speaking and of miracles, comes the miracles of Verse 5: The deaf can hear!

#### Verse 5

Hear him, ye deaf, his praise ye dumb  
Your loosened tongues employ.  
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come  
And leap ye lame for joy!

Once the deaf have been mentioned, the dumb are also released. For both, they are not just free, but free to act. The deaf can hear, the dumb employ speech. We are now looking for rhymes for 'dumb' and for 'employ'. The blind see and the lame walk. As Jesus himself said to the disciples of John the Baptist, 'What are you waiting for?'

Well?

Verse 6 has the joyous response.

#### Verse 6

My gracious Master and my God  
Assist me to proclaim  
And spread through all the earth abroad  
The Honours of Thy name.

The key themes are 'Name' and 'God' which conveniently give us the rhymes for the other two lines, 'proclaim' and 'abroad'

It wasn't that hard after all.

S. Wright

# Trying to find Lost Family

My grandfather John Edward Gordon was born in Lumphanan in 1917. His parents lived in Loanend and Orton cottage, Burnside for many years up to the early 1900's. By the 1911 census they had moved to Hirley, Aboyne. Just before the 2nd world war my grandfather's mother had passed away and he joined the RAF. He ended up in Gainsborough, Lincolnshire after the war where he had a family and remained until his death in 1991. He never returned or spoke about his family in Scotland, even to his son my father. I have tried to track down any remaining family members and I have created a family tree but it only goes up to the last released census in 1911.

My grandfather's parents were: Charles Gordon 1893 - 1955,  
Jessie Gordon (Geddes) 1875 - 1934  
He had brothers and sisters: Charles (1901 - 1982), Georgina (1903-1985),  
William (1908 - 1994) & Cecelia (1912 - 1990)

I know that Charles Gordon lived at Northbone (?) Durris around 1929.  
If anyone has any information regarding this part of my family, I would be grateful if you could pass it on.

Thank you,  
Daniel Gordon  
e-mail: danjgordon@mac.com

**Editor's note:** This request was passed to us through Morag Keith, our former Assessor Elder. It was originally sent to her husband in his capacity as editor of the Drumoak-Durris Newsletter.

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## Friendship Hour

If you have a spare hour, please come and join our group on the first Wednesday of every month. Meetings are 2.30 pm to 3.30 pm in the church hall. A programme of interesting topics and speakers for 2012 is being put together by Jessie McKay. The entertainment for the first meeting on 4 January 2012 was provided by Jessie herself. Why don't you come along to future meetings and enjoy an afternoon with old and new friends?

Further details - Jessie 87280

# Seventy year old household tips!

Searching for an important document I came across the Bishop Latimer Memorial Church Magazine of January 1942. This is the Church where my parents-in-law would have worshipped, in Birmingham. A section called “Weekday Pages for Women with Homes (Wartime Hints and Economies)” made me smile but please see for yourselves:

When your tin of talcum powder is finished, fill it with water and use it for sprinkling clothes preparatory to ironing .- Miss Harding.

Much time is saved on washing day if instead of blueing all the small clothes, you add blue to your hot starch. It means only one wringing and shaking out. - Miss Beresford..

A child’s sixpenny cricket bat, well padded, makes an excellent sleeve board for ironing. - Mrs Stockbridge.

When washing white clothes add a drop or two of paraffin to the washing and rinse water and they will not require boiling. This is a useful hint when washing cannot be hung out of doors. - Mrs. Oldman.

Iron lace curtains quite dry on a dress board and they will keep their shape. - Miss M. Moore.

To prevent shrinking of wool stockings and socks, after a good wash in rain water, if available, have ready some good-size pebbles, quite hot. Place one in each, and hang up in a warm room. Heat pebbles in oven. - Miss R. Brown

Medicine and other bottles can be freed of the smell of their former contents by half–filling them with cold water to which has been added a teaspoonful of mustard. Shake well and leave standing for a few hours, then rinse in cold water. - Mrs. Dick.

When your butter ration is slightly rancid, try putting it in cold water for an hour or two to which you have added a good pinch of bicarbonate of soda. Finally wash in clean cold water. - Mrs. E. Moyne.

During the black-out, when small electric bulbs are in use, try silver paper pasted inside the parchment shade as a lining. It will brighten a room considerably.—Mrs. McPheil.

The best way to stick on tyres of perambulators is to buy some oak varnish at

an oil shop and rub a little of it round the rim and press on tyres. Do this at night so that it has time to harden by morning. Here is another thing worth knowing: When tyres are worn down to the rim, if gently eased out with handle of a spoon, *reversed*, and put on again, they wear for a good long time, thus saving money, which is very essential at any time. - Mrs. C. Taylor

Reading these tips made me realise how easy our life is nowadays. It also made me wonder what kind of household tips we would want to pass on nowadays? I for one always keep gift wrapping paper and ribbons to use at a later stage. If you have some good tips, please let me have them and I will publish them in the next magazine.

Christa Markham

P.S.: The aforementioned Church magazine did cost TWOPENCE - now here is a thought!



Before we had modern laundry detergents with optical brighteners, there was a mysterious little blue bag which was stirred around in the final rinse water on washday. This was laundry blueing or blue. A factory-produced block was the "modern" (mid-19th century onwards), commercial version of older recipes for whitening clothes, with names like stone blue, fig blue, or thumb blue. It disguised any hint of yellow and helped the household linen look whiter than white.

Until the mid-20th century Reckitt's blue-bags were well-known in many countries, sold as penny cubes to be wrapped in flannel or muslin, or sold ready bagged. The product had various names over the years: Reckitt's Blue, Bag Blue, Paris Blue, Crown Blue, Laundry Blue, Dolly Bags. The main ingredients were synthetic ultramarine and baking soda, and the original "squares" weighed an ounce.

Source: <http://www.oldandinteresting.com/laundry-blue.aspx>



# Aboyne-Dinnet Church Guild



Theme

**‘Called to Walk Humbly’**

Our new session for 2011/2012 began with the Guild being dedicated at the Morning Service by Rev. Frank Ribbons on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

For our first meeting we had a very interesting talk and slide show by Frank and Lorraine on their experiences encountered on their trip to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro and back. This was an open meeting and was thoroughly enjoyed by members and non-members alike.

The November meeting was also an open meeting when we welcomed guests from our congregation and other Guilds. Our speaker was Nicola Watson who spoke on her involvement in raising funds for a ‘Maggie’s Centre’ in Aberdeen. She showed us, through a slide show, the work covered in cancer support for those suffering from cancer and their relatives in the Maggie’s Centres throughout the country, and their hope to bring this to Aberdeen to help people in the North East area.

On Sunday November 20<sup>th</sup> we invited members of the congregation to celebrate Guild Week after the service by joining us for a soup, bread and coffee lunch. This was very well supported and we were delighted with the outcome.

Our Christmas Bazaar on December 3<sup>rd</sup> was next on our calendar and we were pleased that the weather was kind to us this year allowing this venture to go ahead. The Bazaar proved to be very popular and was well attended. Our thanks to all who supported it.

The Christmas Party on December 14<sup>th</sup> was a great success. We were entertained by ‘Couthie Company’ who made this a very enjoyable evening. There was much ‘tapping of feet’ and ‘clapping of hands’ with everyone enjoying the ‘sing-along’. Our minister also added his part to the entertainment and a great time was had by all.

Weather permitting our first meeting in the New Year will be on January 11<sup>th</sup> when we will have a Member’s Night with member’s participation.

On February 8<sup>th</sup> our speakers will be Colin and Gill Moffat talking about their experiences working with the Red Cross both in the UK and overseas.

Our Guild AGM and Film Show by Alicia Bandeen is on March 14<sup>th</sup>. This concludes our business for the year until our session starts again in October.

Best Wishes for the New Year go to our members and to members of the congregation and a warm welcome is extended to anyone who wishes to join us at any time.

**The Guild Committee**

# The Unitary Constitution

Our congregation of Aboyne-Dinnet has for many years been organised according to the administrative structure which divides the spiritual and material concerns of the church into two different parts. The spiritual matters have been the responsibility of the Kirk Session, and the material concerns have been the concern of the Congregational Board.

In recent years congregations have been encouraged to consider moving to a different system of Church Government. This system is one in which all matters are the responsibility of the Kirk Session, but, all the different areas of the congregation's work and responsibility are looked after by different teams. Each team has an elder or two on it, who may be the convener but does not have to be. In this way each team has access to the Kirk Session's support and encouragement. The teams themselves are made up by and large from the people who actually do the work which is that team's area of responsibility. To give even more power to the teams to get things done, each team is allocated a budget, and can simply get on with carrying out its own work, without having to wait for the Kirk Session to decide on whether it can or cannot proceed with a piece of work which the team considers to be important to its responsibility to fulfil the congregation's mission.

There would still be Annual Meetings in order to inform the congregation of the year's activities and finances, and the main difference is that hopefully more people will be involved not only in doing the work but in deciding about what work we do.

The number of teams, and their areas of responsibility are not fixed, and each Kirk Session can decide on how many teams it will have, and what their areas of responsibility will be. We will be communicating these to you in the weeks leading up to the Annual Meeting so that you can see how we would like the congregation to be developing, and how each area of our work fits in with the whole.

A list of suggested groups is also included in this magazine. If new areas of work and opportunity arise in the future, entirely new teams can be created, or old ones can be split and new areas of responsibility can be added to each.

Needless to say, I feel that this new model of organisation fits very well with the Biblical principles of Church life, and I am very glad that the Kirk Session had this plan well considered, with the encouragement of Presbytery, long before I arrived.

Frank Ribbons

# Groups for Unitary Constitution

## Community Life

- Magazine
- Web site
- The Guild
- Social and fundraising events
- Church presence within the community
- Press articles
- Welcome pack

## Finance

- Preparing annual accounts and interim reports
- Prepare and agree budgets with teams
- Encouraging congregational giving
- Roll keeping
- Contracts and salary for employment
- Office equipment (except IT)
- Nominations for financial officers
- Insurance
- General purposes

## Pastoral Care

- Training and appointing parish visitors and pastoral carers
- Flowers
- Visitations to the sick, elderly and housebound
- Baptismal follow ups
- Bereavement care
- Identifying members who would benefit from a visit from the Minister
- Care Homes

## Property and Fabric

- Updating property register
- Maintenance of church property, fabric and furnishings – church, hall, grounds and manse
- Compliance with legislation – Health and Safety, public entertainment
- Tendering and approval of capital works
- Cleaning of church and hall
- Hall letting
- Eco congregation
- IT equipment – provision and maintenance

## **Worship and Spiritual Nurture**

- Arrangements for services (including special, combined and seasonal)
- Preparation of rotas
- Musical input
- Bible study and prayer groups
- Faith groups e.g. Alpha, Christianity Explored
- Youth and young people development
- Safeguarding
- Leadership training
- Worship resources
- Communion arrangements
- World mission
- Retiring collections

Members of the congregation will be invited to an open meeting in the Hall on Monday **30 January at 19:30 hours** where proposals for the Unitary Constitution can be considered.

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## **A Visitor's Letter**

### **From Rev and Mrs David Craig, Bournemouth**

We were both Aberdonians but have lived almost all of our working lives in London and Bournemouth.

Two years ago we handed over to another senior staff member the senior leadership of the church in Bournemouth that we have led for 30 years.

Since then we have been able to spend time twice a year at our mobile home at Aboyne Loch and have worshipped at Aboyne-Dinnet on most of the available Sundays. It has been good to meet with you all and to worship and pray together.

We are grateful to those who have welcomed us and made us feel "at home". We pray for you that the Head of the Church, our Lord Jesus Christ, will envision and lead you into all His purposes and that you will have the joy of seeing more people in Aboyne coming to know and love Christ through your witness and prayers.

David and Maureen Craig.

# Aboyne-Dinnet Sunday Worship

Sunday morning services start at 11.30 a.m.



Alternatively you might want to worship at Cromar Church in Tarland where the morning service starts at 10.00 a.m.

## Pastoral Care

Please let the Minister or myself know of anyone requiring a visit.

Rev. Frank Ribbons	87267
Helen Murray	01339755144

*We're thankful for the blessings, Lord,  
You give us day by day;  
Now help us show our gratitude  
By walking in Your way*

Helen Murray

# Church Library

Many of you are aware of the books that are for sale in the crèche area in the hall, but did you know that there is also a library? The bookshelves are situated in the main hall by the door to the kitchen. There is a wide variety of Christian literature, a section for children, as well as CD's. It is well worth having a browse and do feel free to borrow any of them.

On one of the shelves there is a note book for you to enter the item borrowed, date and your name!

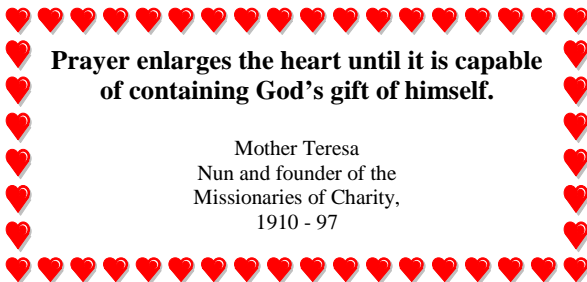


## A Time for Reflection and Prayer

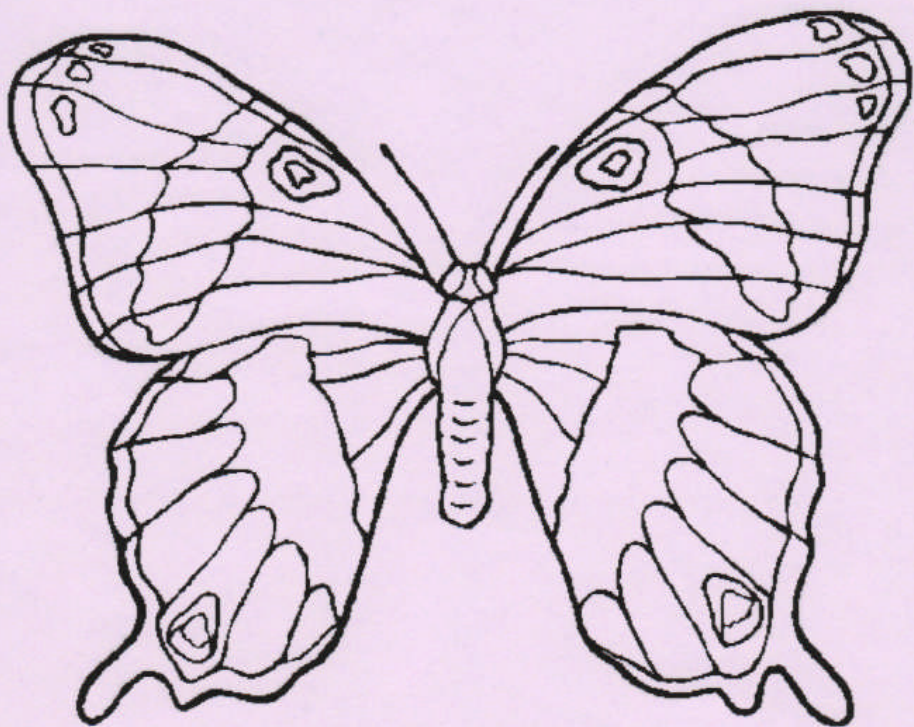
A Time for Reflection and Prayer continues to meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 3 pm. It is held in the crèche area of the church hall.

What is it about? Well, the first part of the meeting is taken by our minister Frank, who leads us in a time of reflection, opening our eyes to see a passage of Scripture in a new light. That usually gives us a lead into a time of prayer. He also suggests topics that need our prayers. Some of the group talk to the Lord audibly while others pray in silence. In November Frank reminded us that Jesus hears our prayers, gathers them up and presents them to God.

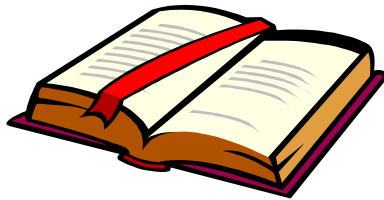
All of us come away feeling it has been a time of quiet refreshment and togetherness. Do come and join us. You will be made very welcome.



# Colouring-In Page



The Butterfly  
God has created a very beautiful world!



## Isaiah 43: 16-25

Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)

<sup>16</sup> The Lord is making roads through the sea. He is making a path for his people, even through rough waters. The LORD says, <sup>17</sup> “Those who fight against me with their chariots, horses, and armies will be defeated. They will never rise again. They will be destroyed. They will be put out like the flame in a lamp. <sup>18</sup> So don’t remember what happened in earlier times. Don’t think about what happened a long time ago, <sup>19</sup> because I am doing something new! Now you will grow like a new plant. Surely you know this is true. I will even make a road in the desert, and rivers will flow through that dry land. <sup>20</sup> The wild animals will thank me. The large animals and birds will honour me when I put water in the desert and make rivers flow through that dry land. I will do this to give water to my chosen people. <sup>21</sup> I made them, and they will sing songs of praise to me.

<sup>22</sup> “Jacob, you did not pray to me. Israel, you became tired of me. <sup>23</sup> You have not brought your sheep as sacrifices to me. You have not honoured me with your sacrifices. I did not force you to give gifts to me like slaves. I did not force you to burn incense until you became tired. <sup>24</sup> So you did not use your money to buy things to honour me. But you did force me to be like your slave. You sinned until the bad things you did made me very tired.

<sup>25</sup> **“I, I am the one who wipes away all your sins. I do this to please myself. I will not remember your sins.”**



# Word Search

The words to find from Isaiah 43: 16-25 are:

**SONGS - WILL - NOT - REMEMBER - PRAISE - HONoured - SOMETHING - NEW - DEFEATED - SACRIFICES**

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

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

... and here is the solution of our Autumn word search:



# Missionary Focus:

## Mission Aviation Fellowship

Mission Aviation Fellowship, or MAF as it is more generally known, is a mission dedicated entirely to flying light aircraft (135) in over 30 countries. Around 280 flights every day transport patients, relief teams, medical supplies and Christian workers in the world's remotest regions and places of need. Places where flying is not a luxury but a lifeline. Normally passengers contribute a highly subsidised fare towards the true cost. The balance comes from people concerned that others should have a better life physically and spiritually. In the UK, MAF is a registered charity funded by voluntary gifts which help finance MAF's operational work and support services.

Lorraine's son Andrew worked with MAF in Tanzania for a year, using his aeronautical engineering and also computing skills to help the ongoing servicing of this important humanitarian and Christian work.

Find out more by looking at their website: [www.maf-uk.org](http://www.maf-uk.org) or send for their newsletter: MAF, 29 Canal Street, Glasgow, G4 0AD.

Frank Ribbons

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### Missionary

What the dictionary says:

mis•sion•ar•y [mish-uh-ner-ee], plural -ar•ies

noun - A person sent by a church into an area to carry on ministries of evangelism using activities such as preaching, teaching, education, medicine, etc.

Derived from the Latin missionem (nom. missio), meaning "act of sending" or mittere, meaning "to send".

# The great Aboyne-Dinnet Quiz No. 2



If you enjoyed the first quiz, please look out for Quiz number two! The places where you can pick up a quiz-sheet will be announced during January.

It will once again tickle our grey cells with questions relating to our Parish of Aboyne-Dinnet.

The price/donation will remain £1 per sheet and the person with the highest score will receive a box of chocolates.

I hope you will have fun.

Christa Markham

## Capturing Autumn

All 2011 autumn photos were taken this time by Joanna Strachan who proves to have a keen eye for the beauty of our area.

Please see for yourselves how striking the collection of Autumn photos is. The poster will be displayed on the notice-board and if you have internet access you can view the previous Summer impressions and the Autumn poster on the magazine page of our Church website.



If winter inspires you to pick up your camera and to go out and take some photos, please send them electronically to me or let me have a print for scanning in and I will once again do a collage.

Christa Markham

# Our Scrap Book/Events Remembered

On **14 and 15 November** *Operation Enduring Courage* took place in our Church Hall. For two full days up to 26 children met to hear bible stories and to play games under the heading of *Daniel and the Lions*. The event was once again co-ordinated by Andrew Thompson, Scripture Union Leader, and Jessie McKay who was responsible for all the craft activities. The children enjoyed drama, songs, games and bible activities and often looked absolutely spell bound. Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way.



By **20 November** a dozen or so members of our congregation had reacted to this year's shoe box appeal. We have to thank Marigold Findlay for taking on the administration, suggesting that we take part in the appeal and for collecting and taking the boxes to the nearest depot. After checking the content of each shoe box with respect to customs regulations, Blythswood would have added a biblical storybook for children, a book for teenagers or a calendar with bible verses to boxes for adults. This way the message of Christmas will be delivered to recipients in Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, India, Moldova, Pakistan, Romania, Kosovo or Serbia!



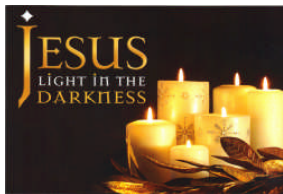
## 11 December:

We were delighted to see the beautiful Christmas tree in our sanctuary which was gifted by the Guild!

During the talk to the children our minister showed the congregation that sometimes things can happen even if one doubts that they will. He managed to "hold" a bucket of water upside down over his head without getting wet. How? Easy, he swung the bucket quickly around so that the g-force would not let the water escape!

Thank you also to Jenny Marsh for all the shoe boxes she has send over the past years.





*We do hope that you received a Christmas card from Aboyne-Dinnet Church and apologies if your home was forgotten!*

Aboyne-Dinnet has delivered Christmas cards to every house in Aboyne as well as to parts of Dinnet, Glen Tanar and Birse. The 1,500 cards were delivered by members of the Congregation and by the 1<sup>st</sup> Aboyne Guides. Approximately, half the cards have been distributed by the Guides. A big “thank you” goes therefore to everyone who has helped and especially to Diane Smith, Guide Leader, her girls and the parents who were no doubt brought in to assist!

**18 December:** This was the Sunday when the children delighted us with their Nativity Play. There were approximately 14 boys and girls taking part and their performance was brilliant. Everyone remembered their lines and it was a joy to listen to their words, the “moo” and the “baa” from the “animals” and the singing of the children. More photos are available on the web. To view them go to the news page of our web-site and click onto the link called “here” underneath the Church Life article.



It being the third Sunday in the month meant that the service was followed by as delicious soup lunch and tea or coffee with mince pies.

It was a great event in our Church Life!

After a few years without a midnight service, Aboyne-Dinnet once again opened their doors for a traditional Christmas service on **24 December**. Approximately ninety people attended the short worship!

# Church Diary



**Please keep a note of the following dates:**

Wed	11-Jan-12	Guild Meeting, Members' Night, 19:30 hrs in Church Hall
Wed	18-Jan-12	Reflections & Prayer Meeting, Church Hall, 15:00 hrs
Sun	29-Jan-12	Last Sunday in the Month Evening Service, 18:30 hrs
Mon	30-Jan-12	Members of the congregation are invited to an open meeting in the Hall to discuss proposals for the Unitary Constitution, 19:30 hrs
Wed	01-Feb-12	Friendship Hour, 14:30 hrs in Church Hall
Wed	08-Feb-12	Guild Meeting, experiences with the Red Cross, 19:30 hrs in Church Hall
Wed	15-Feb-12	Reflections & Prayer Meeting, Church Hall, 15:00 hrs
Sun	26-Feb-12	Last Sunday in the Month Evening Service, 18:30 hrs
Wed	07-Mar-12	Friendship Hour, 14:30 hrs in Church Hall
Wed	14-Mar-12	Guild Meeting, AGM and Film Show, 19:30 hrs in Church Hall
Wed	21-Mar-12	Reflections & Prayer Meeting, Church Hall, 15:00 hrs
Sun	25-Mar-12	Last Sunday in the Month Evening Service, 18:30 hrs
Wed	04-Apr-12	Friendship Hour, 14:30 hrs in Church Hall
Fri	06-Apr-12	Good Friday
Sun	08-Apr-12	Easter Day
Sat	14-Apr-12	Guild's Daffodil & Buttery Morning, 10:00 - 12:00 hrs in Church Hall - Baking Stall

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You might also be interested in the following on 6 and 7 April:

**“The Aberdeen passion – one life given”**

Fri 06-Apr-12, 19:30 - 22:00 hrs,  
Sat 07-Apr-12, 14:30 - 16:00 hrs and 19:30 - 22:00 hrs

Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen AB23 8BL.  
A traditional telling of the final week of Jesus Christ's life performed by members of the Aberdeen community through a blend of onstage action, live band and choir.  
Tickets: £12, concessions £10, (evenings); £10, concessions £8, (Sat afternoon),  
from Aberdeen Box Office, T 01224 641122, [www.boxofficeaberdeen.com](http://www.boxofficeaberdeen.com).  
Production website: [www.aberdeenpassion.com](http://www.aberdeenpassion.com)

# Church Flowers

People appreciate receiving the church flowers. It's good that they know we are thinking of them.

Helen Murray



<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
01-Jan-12	Elspet Hislop
08-Jan-12	Helen Murray
15-Jan-12	Christa Markham
22-Jan-12	Doreen Ewen
29-Jan-12	Joanna Strachan
05-Feb-12	Jennifer Mackie
12-Feb-12	Jean Shand
19-Feb-12	Jean Maxwell
26-Feb-12	Betty Harvie
04-Mar-12	Elspet Hislop
11-Mar-12	Sheila Kinniburgh
18-Mar-12	Christine Ross
25-Mar-12	Christa Markham
01-Apr-12	Helen Nicol
08-Apr-12	Guild
15-Apr-12	Helen Murray
22-Apr-12	Mary Auld
29-Apr-12	Communion

# Aboyne-Dinnet Session and Board

Rev. Frank Ribbons	87267	Hugh Moffat	013397 56308
Christa Markham	86562	Ron McKay	87280
Eddie Ross	85231	<u>Session Clerk:</u>	
Helen Murray	013397 55144	Adrian Sims	86393

## Elected Board Members:

### Clerk to the Board:

Sarah Wright	86494	Sarah McKay	86829
		Catherine Thomson	87389
		Bill Keen	86728
		Neil Meldrum	87549

### Next Meetings:

Mon	16 Jan	Board Meeting	19:30 hrs	Church Hall
Mon	23 Jan	Session Meeting	19:30 hrs	Vestry
Thu	15 March	Board Meeting	19:30 hrs	Church
Sun	25 March	Annual Stated Meeting	after worship	

## Farewell and Thank You

After approximately 10 years of being our treasurer, Alan Howat is leaving this honorary position to hand over to Adrian Sims.

We would like to say a big **Thank You** to Alan who has done an excellent job throughout the years. It is remarkable that he has been our treasurer for such a long time especially as he does not live in Aboyne. He has attended our board meetings on numerous occasions and always came fully equipped with hand-outs and prepared to answer our questions about the financial position of the congregation. Alan's last visit to Aboyne-Dinnet church in this capacity will be to present the 2011 accounts at the Annual Stated Congregational Meeting in March 2012.

We wish him well for his future activities.

Aboyne-Dinnet Session and Board

# Congregational Register

## Funeral Services

### Jesus said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life"

19-Sep-11	Mrs Gladys Stewart, 4 Birchwood Place, Aboyne
07-Nov-11	Mrs Iris Robinson, Allachburn, Aboyne
10-Nov-11	Mr Haldie Winton, Oldtown Farm, Lumphanan
16-Dec-11	Mrs Isobel Smith, Dee Sealladh, Charleston Road



# Magazine Bulletin

This edition of the magazine should have been delivered together with a letter/appeal from the Rt Rev David Arnott, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. If you have not received it or if your copy has been damaged, please request a print-out of the leaflet from Christa Markham.

The deadline for sending in your articles or items of interest for the next edition of the magazine is the 12 April 2012.

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this edition. My thanks also go to those who help to proof read, the production team and to the kind people who deliver it.

Christa Markham (Editor)                      013398 86562

**[christa.markham@btinternet.com](mailto:christa.markham@btinternet.com)**

The illustrations in our magazine can also be viewed in colour on our website  
**[www.aboynedinnetchurch.org.uk](http://www.aboynedinnetchurch.org.uk)**

## Contact List for Christian Reading

<u>Title</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Tel.</u>
Life and Work Magazine	Vi Dinnie	86517
Scripture Union – Daily Bible Guides	Lynne Johnson	86747

# Contact List

<b>Minister</b>	Frank Ribbons, The Manse, 49 Charlton Crescent, Aboyne (87267)
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Adrian Sims, Heatherdee, 5 Kinord Drive, Aboyne (86393)
<b>Clerk to the Board</b>	Sarah Wright, Burnside Cottage, Birse, (86494)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Adrian Sims, Heatherdee, 5 Kinord Drive, Aboyne (86393)
<b>Gift Aid Promoter</b>	Ray Markham, 37 Barclay Park, Aboyne (86562)
<b>Pastoral Coordinator</b>	Helen Murray, 1 Monaltrie Way, Ballater (013397 55144)
<b>Church Flowers</b>	Helen Murray, 1 Monaltrie Way, Ballater (013397 55144)
<b>Organist</b>	Stanley Ewen, Balanreich, Bridge of Gairn, (013397 55538)
<b>Guild President</b>	Helen Nicol, Birkdale, Ballater Rd, Aboyne, (86354)
<b>Guild Minute Secretary</b>	Elizabeth Rowley, 2 Huntly Cottages, Aboyne (86065)
<b>Guild Correspondence Secretary</b>	Sarah Wright, Burnside Cottage, Birse, (86494)
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Lynne Johnson, Takata, 9 Barclay Park (86747)
<b>Webmaster</b>	Frank Ribbons, The Manse, 49 Charlton Crescent, Aboyne (87267)
<b>Publicity &amp; Communications</b>	Adrian Sims, Heatherdee, 5 Kinord Drive, Aboyne (86393)
<b>Roll Keeper</b>	Sarah McKay, 1 Huntly Mews, Aboyne (86829)
<b>Hall Bookings</b>	Jessie McKay, Allachfern, Barclay Park, Aboyne (87280)
<b>Friendship Hour</b>	Jessie McKay, Allachfern, Barclay Park, Aboyne (87280)
<b>Crossreach Contact</b>	Sarah Wright, Burnside Cottage, Birse, (86494)
<b>Reflection &amp; Prayer Meetings</b>	Alicia Bandeen, 18 Formaston Park, Aboyne (86325)
<b>Magazine Editor</b>	Christa Markham, 37 Barclay Park, Aboyne (86562)

[www.aboynedinnetchurch.org.uk](http://www.aboynedinnetchurch.org.uk)

Aboyne-Dinnet Parish Church, Church of Scotland, Registered Scottish Charity No. SC014112