

ISLA LINK



February/March
2020

Bendochy Parish
linked with
Coupar Angus Abbey
Church



Who's who at the Abbey

Treasurer:	Peter Godfrey	Tel: 01828 627028
Roll Keeper:	Ellen McGibbon	Tel: 07541009398
Gift Aid:	Ellen McGibbon	Tel: 07541009398
FWO:	Donna Hindmarch	
Fabric:	John Easson	Tel: 01828 628001
Flowers:	Helen Pithie	Tel: 01828 627365
	Sheila Robertson	Tel: 01828 627375
Life and Work:	Anne Richards	Tel: 01828 628138
EPACTS:	Anne Richards	Tel: 01828 628138
Presbytery Elder:	Jeff Brewer	Tel: 01828 628126
Organist:	Austin Wilkie	Tel: 01250 876104
Isla Link Editor:	Rachel Ewins	Tel: 01250 876638
Children's Ministry:	Irene Henderson	

Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Mrs Joanne Chinn	Tel: 01828 670454
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Who's who at Bendochy

Treasurer:	David Donaldson	Tel: 01828 640017
Gift Aid:	Graeme McNeill	Tel: 01828 627751
Fabric:	John Morison	Tel: 01828 627223
	Dave Patterson	Tel: 01250 870398
Presbytery Elder:	Bill Pate	Tel: 01250 874548
Flowers:	Christine Pate	Tel: 01250 874548
	Margaret Donaldson	Tel: 01828 640017
Bendochy Ladies:	Judy Long	Tel: 01828 632515
EPACTS:	Susan Meldrum	Tel: 01828 628209
Health & Safety:	John Morison	Tel: 01828 627223
	Dave Patterson	Tel: 01250 870398
Organist:	Austin Wilkie	Tel: 01250 876104



Minister:

Rev Andrew F Graham

Tel: 01828 627864

email: andrew.graham@churchofscotland.org.uk

Bendochy Church

Sunday Service 10.00am

Session Clerk:

Mr Graeme McNeill

Tel: 01828 627751

Abbey Church

Sunday Service: 11.15am

Session Clerk:

Mrs Ellen McGibbon

Tel: 07541009398

Website: www.bandcachurch.org.uk

Featuring in this edition of your Isla Link:-

- ◇ A Reason, A Season Or A Lifetime.

- ◇ Thoughts From the Manse.

- ◇ The Abbey Gate Opening Ceremony.

- ◇ Life And Work.

- ◇ Life After Delivery?

Friendship

As we go through life we all have our own paths to follow, but the direction we take can alter at any time as our decision making is often influenced by our interactions with others.

I have changed jobs many times over the years and therefore met many people through work and others through hobbies, my children and the Church. I am still in contact with some of these people on a regular basis, some less frequently and some, for a variety of reasons, not at all. But the frequency of contact in no way negates the value of that friendship as each person has brought something to our relationship. With this in mind, I thought I would like to share this with you.

Rachel Ewins

A Reason, A Season Or A Lifetime

People come into your life for a reason, a season, or a lifetime. When you figure out which one it is, you will know what to do for each person.

When someone is in your life for a REASON, it is usually to meet a need you have expressed or just felt. They have come to assist you through a hard time, to provide you with guidance and support, to aid you physically, emotionally or spiritually. Then, suddenly, the person disappears from your life. Your need has been met; their work is done.

Some people come into your life for a SEASON, because your turn has come to share or grow or give back. They bring you an experience of peace or make you laugh. They give you great joy. Believe it; it is real. But only for a season.

LIFETIME relationships teach you lifetime lessons—things you must build upon to have a solid emotional foundation. Your job is to accept the lesson, love the person and put what you have learned to use in all your other relationships.

Think about the people in your life over the years. Whether they were there for a reason, a season or a lifetime, accept them and treasure them for however long they were meant to be part of your life. And when they are gone, be thankful for the gifts you received from them when they were here— whether it was for a reason, a season or a lifetime.

Magazine Deadline

Deadline for the next issue: 17 May 2020.

Please send articles to:-

Rachel Ewins - 01250 876638 - rachel.ewins@btinternet.com



Thoughts From The Manse

Here we are in February and it doesn't seem a long time at all since our last Newsletter. January has been a busy month and seemed to pass so quickly. In the last week of January I was invited to attend a meeting with a team from the Perth and Kinross Health and Social Care Partnership and it opened my eyes to the needs of the community of Coupar Angus and the surrounding area. One of the things we looked at was Older Persons Week, which will run from the end of September into the first week of October, where amongst other things we considered the needs of the elderly members of our community.

The writer of Ecclesiastes tells us that, '***There is a time for everything...***' (Ecc. 3:1) and how true that is. However, times change and as they do, so too do our needs and as an ageing church community we may begin recognise different needs in our own lives and the lives of our loved ones, and perhaps within our church families, and sometimes we can find that daunting - even overwhelming.

During such times of change how comforting it is to know that, '***Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever...***' (Heb. 13:8) and that His love for us will never change. If we stay strong in our faith and hold on to that love God will help us to navigate a way through all the changing needs that we face in life. But more than this, He will also show us how we might help others whose changing needs are greater than ours. So I would encourage you all to pray for God to show us the way forward to helping those in greatest need within our community that together we might seek to serve our community as God would have us.

With Every Blessing,

Andy

Easter Services

We will be having a Maundy Thursday Communion Service in the Abbey Church at 7.00pm on the 9th of April and a Good Friday service in Bendochy Church at 7.00pm on the 10th of April. All are welcome to come and join us for these Holy Week services. Then on Easter Sunday, the 12th of April, we will have Easter Day services in Bendochy and in the Abbey Church at the usual times.

Communion Services

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion in Bendochy Church on the 19th of April and in the Abbey Church on the 26th of April.

Prayer Group and Bible Study

The Prayer Group and Bible Study Group has restarted and take place in the Abbey Church each Wednesday 2.00pm for the Prayer Meeting and 7.15pm for the Bible Study - and this session we will conclude our look at Isaiah. Both of these meetings are relaxed and informal and all are welcome to come and join us at either or both.

Friendly Friday

Friendly Friday continues to be a great time for all who come along to it and it's so good to hear the chat and buzz around the church as everyone is sitting enjoying their tea and coffee. If you've never been, then come along and join us on the first Friday of the month - anytime between 1.30pm and 3.00pm - a warm welcome awaits and I'm sure you'll have a good time.

Bible Study - The Book Of Ruth

Background Information :

The book of Ruth was written during the period of The Judges of Israel, sometime between 1350 and 1050 BC. We do not know who the author is, but many believe it to be Samuel. It was a dark period in the history of Israel when society was crumbling apart and when many were living simply to please themselves. God had been abandoned and forgotten by many, as worship of other foreign gods and idols swept through the land. The aim of this book is to show how three people, and in particular Ruth, remained faithful to God throughout this period. Of Ruth herself, very little is known other than what we read of in these chapters, but as they unfold, we are presented with the story of an astonishing woman of faith.

Chapter 1

What are the over-riding themes of this opening chapter?

- The faithfulness of Ruth as she shows great loyalty and love towards Naomi.
- The kindness of Ruth towards Naomi.
- The importance of family relationships and community, especially in times of adversity.
- The faithfulness of Ruth towards God.

Chapter 2

What can we learn of Ruth in this chapter?

- She accepted that she was in a difficult situation and set out to do something about it.
- Not only did she set out to work for her survival, she also worked hard and so we see a strength of character in Ruth in the way that she went about things.

- Again we see her faithfulness shine through in the way that she was prepared to do these things - a faithfulness that was rewarded with her needs being provided for.
- We also see an element of bravery in Ruth as a widowed foreigner prepared to go out into the fields in this way.

Chapter 3

What strikes us as being significant in this chapter?

- Her obedience in following the advice of Naomi.
- Her faithfulness as she once again puts her trust in her Mother-in law and in God.
- Her humility in presenting herself to Boaz as she did.
- Again her love for and kindness towards Naomi shines through in her behaviour.

Chapter 4

In this chapter we see Boaz redeem Ruth as he promised he would and take her as his wife. The love, kindness and faithfulness shown by Ruth throughout are now rewarded in full.

Lesson From Ruth:

In the story of Ruth, the widowed foreigner who went on to become the wife of Boaz and the Grandmother of King David, we see a picture of how we all come to faith in Christ. The story begins with a dire, hopeless situation where, on the surface at least, there is nothing at all to look forward to. Yet through an acceptance of her situation, a desire to change it and the faith to do so, Ruth effectively re-builds her life.

This is exactly what God can and will do for us through Christ, when we act in the way that Ruth did. The ending where Boaz redeems Ruth looks forward to Christ redeeming us. And although we have focussed on Ruth, we also see in Naomi and Boaz tremendous faith in God and a willingness to follow Him and His ways. This is a story of God's grace in the midst of difficult circumstances, of hope where there is despair, and serves to remind of how God can and will act in our lives if we allow Him to do so.

Children's Ministry

The groups continue on a Thursday evening and are well attended. On Thursday, 6th February 2020, the YF young people held a "Come Dine With Me" event at which myself and Shona Grant were guest judges!!! A great evening was had by all.

We are hoping to plan a trip for the groups early in the Spring.

Irene Henderson

The Lord Will Provide

A recent happening to me reminded of a greater happening of about 30 years ago. My friends who are ‘Salvationists’ attended a multi faith concert by an ex prisoner who had become a Christian whilst in prison. He performed his own songs whilst playing his guitar and sold cassettes of his music. All monies to go to charities.

Sitting over halfway down the hall, and whilst talking to the lady next to him at half time, the lady said, “Excuse me, there is something I have to do”. My friend saw her go up to the performer and speak with him. On her return he asked why she had gone forward. The lady told him that before leaving home she had found a £5 note on her dresser and just knew she had to bring it with her. Whilst talking to my friend she ‘just knew’ she had to take it to the performer. When she approached the performer he had said, “So it is you who is going to give me money”. When she asked what he meant he had told her that he had travelled a long way to the concert that night and had no money for petrol to get home, and he knew someone would give him money. (This was the time you could fill the car with petrol for a fiver).

Two items at our November Session meeting were to empty the brown bin at the church, and to volunteer to help with the new chairs and tables which would be delivered the next afternoon before 5.30. At 9.40 am the next day I decided to go to the church and empty the brown bin which I found to be stuffed with grass, leaves, brambles and bush branches. I needed my secateurs from the car. It was 10 am and at the front of the church was Andy who had received just a few minutes notice to be on hand to take possession of 40 new chairs any moment.

Without any expectation he had my help, the secateurs also came in handy to break through the tough polythene packaging and I had the means to remove the packaging and pallet. We had the chairs off the lorry, unpacked and into the ‘Abbey Gateway’ for 10.30 am, right on time for me to be home at 10.40 am to collect my wife for our flu jab appointment.

How many times do we attribute things that happen to us down to coincidence or luck? I shouldn’t have been there, the timing for me to attend couldn’t have fitted better. When Andy rushed off at a moment notice, did he believe the Lord would provide him with some help? I never asked him. There must be times in our lives when we need the faith of the performer depicted in the first story.

Jeff Brewer

Congregational Roll

Deaths

Abbey Church Mr Roy Meldrum

Coupar Angus Abbey Treasurer's Report

It is the end of financial year again and the books are away for audit. Once returned, they will be presented to Session for acceptance then presented to the Congregation at our Annual Stated Meeting. Other copies will be sent out to the various places as required.

I must thank all the various people who, throughout the year, have kindly given time, donations and effort into maintaining the workings of the church.

The funds held at present are as follows:

General Account	£14,730.06
Fabric Account	£1,370.75
Reserve Account	£2,791.56
Development Account (ACRE)	£28,204.58
Children's Ministry	£4,362.34

Peter Godfrey, Treasurer

The Regeneration of Coupar Burn

LEADER is the charity that made the vital difference to complete the fund raising needed for Pride of Place to be able to go ahead with plans to coppice, remove invasive trees, and plant new alongside our Coupar Angus Burn. Prior to this work the Coupar Angus Mad Squad, and local farmers on their stretches of burn, had worked hard to clean out the burn and create clean flowing water.

LEADER paid for this private promotional video to show their donors that money donated to them was well spent; and it was. Hopefully this video will help LEADER generate more money for worthwhile projects.

The 'video' tells the story of the regeneration of Coupar Burn by Pride of Place in collaboration with other local conservation and community groups. Funding came from various sources including the essential £7000 contribution made by LEADER that Anne Easson talks of in her engaging story. Featuring wildlife that has returned to the area and music by Hans Troost 'Woodland'.

To see this video, you must access the internet and for those unable to do this our local library will assist.

Website:- <https://vimeo.com/379648940>
Password: CouparBurn2019!\$

Jeff Brewer

Whats On

18/02/20	St Anne's Lunch Club	Noon	St Anne's Church
22/02/20	Spring Fair	10am-2pm	Abbey Church
06/03/20	Friendly Friday	1.30-3.00pm	Abbey Church
17/03/20	Bendochy Kirk Session	7.30pm	Coach House
03/04/20	Friendly Friday	1.30-3.00pm	Abbey Church
09/04/20	Maundy Thursday Communion Service	7.00pm	Abbey Church
10/04/20	Good Friday Service	7.00pm	Bendochy Church
12/04/20	Easter Sunday Services		Both Churches
19/04/20	Communion Service	10.00am	Bendochy Church
26/04/20	Communion Service	11.15am	Abbey Church
01/05/20	Friendly Friday	1.30-3.00pm	Abbey Church
05/06/20	Friendly Friday	1.30-3.00pm	Abbey Church
14/05/20	Bendochy Coffee Morning	10-11.30am	Coach House
06/07/20	Friendly Friday	1.30-3.00pm	Abbey Church
06/06/20	Fete	11am-3pm	Abbey Church

Coupar Angus Abbey Church



FETE



Saturday, 6 June 2020

11am-3pm



In Abbey Church and the Glebe

Crafts, Plants, Tombola, & Many Other Stalls and Activities



Prayer for

DISCERNMENT

Dear Heavenly Father, give us the discernment to make decisions that enable us to follow the path you have set before us. Enable us to trust that the Holy Spirit is with us, guiding us. Help us to accept our past, enjoy our present, and embrace our future. Give us faith the size of a mustard seed. Give us the discernment to trust that you will provide us with our every need. Enable us to trust that you will surround us with your people and remove those that mean us harm. Grant us the wisdom that only you can provide. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

www.chellbee.com

Prayer Request

Please pray for

.....

Name.....

Name.....



Bendochy Church Ladies Group



2020 Dates

Hostess

12 March 2020
8 April 2020

Bridget Lithgow
Christine Pate

With the exception of the April meeting which will be held at 10.30am, all meetings will begin at 2.15pm. Annual Subscription remains at £6.00 and we give a donation of £2.00 at each meeting.

Christmas Lunch—Rosemount Golf Club



Bendochy Coach House

14 May 2020

10.00 -11.30am.



Come along and enjoy refreshments and fellowship.

Judy Long

Foodbank

It is nice to see just how well the church Foodbank box is supported Sunday by Sunday. I would like to thank all who so kindly contribute to it. The variety of food and toiletries is really great and much appreciated by the staff of the Blairgowrie centre.



As you can imagine the needs keep changing and the last appeal was for pasta sauces, mashed potatoes, tinned vegetables; potatoes, peas, carrots or sweetcorn, and tinned fruit; peaches, pears or fruit salad. Another need is for washing up liquid. If you feel you can supply any of those it would be much appreciated.

Helen Pithie

The Abbey Gate Opening Ceremony

Last summer the Minister and Kirk Session of Coupar Angus Abbey Church decided to create a meeting place within the church where various groups could meet. The aim was to create a space that could be used not only by church groups but which would also be made available to other groups and charities within the local community.

After many months of planning, work finally began in July this year and after being refurbished in November, the Abbey Gateway was officially opened on Sunday the 1st of December by Mr. Bill Pattullo, our senior Elder and Miss Esme Rodger, our youngest member. The name Abbey Gateway was chosen because of the link to the last remaining ruined remnants of the original Abbey and also because in Biblical times, the gateway was not only the way in to different towns and cities, but often a place where people would meet and congregate. The logo and stencilling, designed by Miss Catriona Henderson, was also intended to reflect this idea.



None of this would have been possible without the hard work and commitment of everyone within the Abbey Church. Over the past year we have had members of the congregation organise and take part in quiz nights, soup lunches, fayres and fetes, and a kilt walk. We have also had many generous individual donations from members of the congregation, as well as financial help from the Church of Scotland and other charitable organisations.



On Friday the 6th of December the Abbey Gateway was used for the first time at our monthly Friendly Friday afternoon, a time where we are open for all in the community to come along and catch up with friends as they enjoy some tea, coffee and cakes together - and all who came along had a wonderful time.

It is our hope that the Abbey Gateway might afford other opportunities to our local community as a meeting place for regular or one-off events. With small tables and chairs for 36 people and a small kitchen area offering tea and coffee making facilities it is the ideal place for such meetings. To check availability or to make further enquiries please contact our Session Clerk, Mrs. Ellen McGibbon on 07541009398.

A View From The Pew

At one of the Abbey Church Bible studies last year we came to Isaiah Ch:6.

Right at the start of the Chapter Isaiah cries out, “I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted”. Then in V.5 Isaiah cries out again, “Woe is me, I am ruinedfor I have seen the Lord Almighty!”

Then a seraph flew down and touched Isaiah’s mouth with a live coal which, he says, “has taken away your sin.” (A foretaste of what Christ can do for each of us!)

Then the big question from God; “Who shall we send and who will go?”

Isaiah’s answer, “Here am I, send me.”

Now we are frequently encouraged to “go and tell” what God has done for us, but to do that, I do believe we must have met our Saviour Jesus in a personal way so that we have an authentic message to share what He has done for each of us.

Now Friendly Fridays with a “friendly cuppa and a blether” may well be enjoyable and a good welcome to all who come to the Abbey, but surely at least a glimpse of what Isaiah saw and heard from God could be shared in some way on these Fridays without offending anyone there. How about an Elder (or a Member) giving a “three or five minute” testimony of how they met God and what He has done for them?? It would be of great encouragement to themselves and a challenge to all there. I think it would make Friendly Fridays really worthwhile.

Author’s Name Withheld



Coupar Angus Pride of Place

Re-Use Charity Shop

George Street, Coupar Angus

15-28 March 2020

Volunteers/Helpers please contact Anne Easson.. Goods and shoppers will be needed. For contributions that need to be collected please contact Anne Easson or Jeff Brewer.

Volunteering Opportunity—Pride Of Place are in need of a ‘Communications Secretary’. Can you be the volunteer for this work which is indoors and you can volunteer to come out with the teams if you choose. Please contact Anne Easson for further information.

EPACTS – East Perthshire Action of Churches Together in Scotland

As I write this some of the ladies from EPACTS are preparing to open a charity shop in Coupar Angus in aid of Christians Against Poverty (CAP).

CAP is an organisation which helps people who, for various reasons, have accumulated unmanageable levels of debt. The volunteers give advice and stay in contact with their clients until they manage to climb out of the spiral of debt. The clients can then complete a CAP Money course to help them stay out of debt by managing their money better.

At the moment CAP Highland Perthshire is based in Aberfeldy but they are helping people from a large area including some in Blairgowrie and Rattray. This is not sustainable and the reality is that if our churches do not take a lead in this, CAP Aberfeldy will have to stop taking clients from our own area. There are also debt centres in Perth and Crieff so a centre in Blairgowrie would be ideal but it would need to be funded.

Hopefully the church leaders here will discuss it soon but in the meantime individuals can help with donations to CAP and hopefully the charity shop will raise some much needed funds.

More information can be had by contacting CAP Highland Perthshire Advisory Group Chair and Church Link Co-ordinator: Katie Allstaff.

Email: katie@k2-consultants.co.uk Tel: 01887 820632.

Importantly keep them in your prayers.

Anne Richards (EPACTS Rep.)

St Anne's Lunch Club

This friendly lunch club takes place fortnightly on a Tuesday at 12noon in St Anne's Church Hall on Forfar Road.

Homemade soup and toasties are the order of the day
followed by tea/coffee and biscuits.
All for the price of £3.00.



The next date is Tuesday 18th February when the team from the Abbey are on duty. Why not come along and join us and enjoy the company.

Pride of Place

After a short break over the Christmas holiday, PoP's first task was out harvesting snowdrops which are now lining the entrance to the Grampian View Cemetery. We shall also be planting some in the boxes at the Cross ready for the start of the Snowdrop Festival on 22nd.

On Saturday, 25th January, eight Poppers from Coupar Angus Pride of Place worked with Jane Wilkinson, from the Carbon Reduction Team, part of FCA (Forward Coupar Angus), to construct 7 obelisks with willow harvested from the willow project in Larghan Park. A local source of willow transported from the park to the Cycle Hub equals very low use of carbon. Great fun was had learning how to construct these under Jane's guidance.



It was a long, cold day but we survived and are very proud of our results.

We are intending to use these obelisks around Coupar Angus in the summer, adding to the floral displays. We will sit them in pots, having planted them up, outside businesses and shops, and will be encouraging the businesses and shop keepers to water them.



We will have an obelisk on display at the Snowdrop Fair in the Abbey Church on Saturday 22nd February, on the PoP stall and in the window of the Reuse Shop when PoP are running the shop from Sunday 15th to Saturday 28th March. PoP would welcome items for the Reuse (Charity) Shop. They can be taken to the shop after 3pm on the Saturday 14th and during opening hours, 9.30am 'til 4pm. Collection of large items can be arranged by contacting Anne Easson on 628 001.

We do hope you will have noticed how much cleaner our town is looking. This is the result of the hard work of Brodie, who was appointed as temporary Street Sweeper for Coupar Angus and we sincerely hope that he will be staying.

We also hope his work will encourage us all to put our rubbish, and smokers their cigarette butts, in the bins. AND PLEASE Dog Walkers, their dog's poo in bags and put in bins, not left on paths, people's gardens or in the parks.

Let's look forward to a cleaner town this year.

Anne Easson

Coupar Angus Snowdrop Festival—14 February—1 March 2020

Now into its seventh year, the Coupar Angus Snowdrop Festival retains its unique mixture of events for visitors to the town as well as local residents.

New this year is a range of events hosted by local enterprise support organisation, BrowBiz. At their premises on Union Street, GrowBiz will showcase work by local creatives and run events including a networking meeting with speaker Catherine Erskine for local makers and creatives.

With new additions to the programme and favourites from previous years, there is a wide selection of events for all ages.

PROGRAMME		
FRIDAY 14th FEBRUARY		
PoP Family Snowdrop Ceilidh	Town Hall	19.00 for 19.30
FRIDAY 21st FEBRUARY		
Snowdrop Cycle for Cake	Cycling Hub	10.00
Snowdrop Garden	Princeland House	10.00 - 16.00
Snowdrop Quiz	Cycling Hub	19.00 for 19.30
SATURDAY 22nd FEBRUARY		
Abbey Church Snowdrop Fair	Abbey Church	10.00 - 14.00
Strathmore Tattie Day	Town Hall	11.30 - 16.00
Snowdrop Café	Town Hall	12.00 - 14.30
Snowdrop Garden	Princeland House	10.00 - 16.00
Alison's Vintage Teas	St Anne's Church Hall	14.00 - 16.00
Crafts: Yarn & Wood	Cycling Hub	11.00 - 16.00
Art at GrowBiz	GrowBiz HQ	10.00 - 16.00
SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY		
Snowdrop Cycle	Cycling Hub	10.00
Snowdrop Garden	Princeland House	10.00 - 16.00
Alison's Vintage Teas	St Anne's Church Hall	14.00 - 16.00
Art at GrowBiz	GrowBiz HQ	10.00 - 16.00
MONDAY 24th FEBRUARY		
GrowBiz networking	GrowBiz HQ	18.30 - 20.30
Art at GrowBiz	GrowBiz HQ	10.00 - 16.00
TUESDAY 25th FEBRUARY		
GrowBiz networking	GrowBiz HQ	18.00 - 20.30
Art at GrowBiz	GrowBiz HQ	10.00 - 16.00
FRIDAY 28th FEBRUARY		
Snowdrop Bingo Tea	Town Hall	19.00 for 19.30
SATURDAY 29th FEBRUARY		
CAYAG jumble sale	Y Hall	10.00 - 12.00
SUNDAY 1st MARCH		
Sunday Snowdrop Cycle	Cycling Hub	10.00
Snowdrop walks	around Coupar Angus	year round

LIFE AND WORK

With the Church of Scotland looking to decrease the number of church buildings in order to save money, there is an interesting article in the February issue. This looks at the practical and, importantly, the human aspects of uniting congregations.



The Rev John Orr from Kirriemuir rightly points out that your Church is a very special place to the people involved and any necessary union must be approached sensitively. He also acknowledges that the process is extremely complex and can be very frustrating, but it can be achieved through prayer and in the case of the churches in Kirriemuir, with the help of the Guild. Even before the union was agreed the Guild committees from both churches were already meeting to discuss the way forward.

Another question is also dealt with in the same article about the communion ware from each of the churches involved. To this end a Church of Scotland elder and his wife, who is a retired minister, are travelling the country noting and photographing communion ware to include on a database.

So many changes will probably happen in the Church of Scotland in the future and as Christians we must learn to move with the times and look forward with hope.

Also in Life and Work

Start Loving - A reflection on the nature of Christian love by Rt Rev Colin Sinclair (Moderator).

The Big Question - How do you pray?

Be the change you want to see - Matthew Macneil (Youth Worker) talks about the Awakening Youth Conference on Lewis.

To order Life and Work see Anne Richards or for a digital copy go to www.lifeandwork.org

Anne Richards

Life After Delivery? (Father Corapi, Catholic Channel)

In a mother's womb were two babies. One asked the other: "Do you believe in life after delivery?" The other replied, "Why, of course. There has to be something after delivery. Maybe we are here to prepare ourselves for what we will be later."

"Nonsense," said the first. "There is no life after delivery. What kind of life would that be?"

The second said, "I don't know, but there will be more light than here. Maybe we will walk with our legs and eat from our mouths. Maybe we will have other senses that we can't understand now."

The first replied, "That is absurd. Walking is impossible. And eating with our mouths? Ridiculous! The umbilical cord supplies nutrition and everything we need. But the umbilical cord is so short. Life after delivery is to be logically excluded."

The second insisted, "Well I think there is something and maybe it's different than it is here. Maybe we won't need this physical cord anymore."

The first replied, "Nonsense. And moreover, if there is life, then why has no one ever come back from there? Delivery is the end of life, and in the after-delivery, there is nothing but darkness and silence and oblivion. It takes us nowhere."

"Well, I don't know," said the second, "but certainly we will meet Mother and she will take care of us."

The first replied "Mother? You actually believe in Mother? That's laughable. If Mother exists then where is She now?"

The second said, "She is all around us. We are surrounded by her. We are of Her. It is in Her that we live. Without Her, this world would not and could not exist."

Said the first: "Well I don't see Her, so it is only logical that She doesn't exist."

To which the second replied, "Sometimes, when you're in silence and you focus and listen, you can perceive Her presence, and you can hear Her loving voice, calling down from above."

Maybe this was one of the best explanations of the concept of GOD.

Abbey Flower Rota

March

Co-ordinator: S Robertson
627375

- 1*** Mrs M Pattullo
8 Mrs M Matthews
15 Miss P Campbell
22 Mr B Anderson
29 Mr & Mrs J Easson

May

Co-ordinator: H Pithie
627365

- 3*** Mrs S Jack
10 Ms S Thomson
17 Mrs M Pattullo
24 Mrs H Pithie
31 Mrs A Richards

April

Co-ordinator: S Robertson
627375

- 5*** Mrs M Ferguson
12 Mrs S Legge
19 Mr Ian Neill
26 Mrs S Robertson

June

Co-ordinator: I Rodger
627703

- 7*** Mrs B Crighton
14 Mrs I Rodger
21 Mrs Donaldson
28 Mrs I Jack



Bendochy Flower Rota

March

- 1*** Margaret Donaldson
8 Jean Fairlie
15 Jean Fairlie
22 Jean Fairlie
29 Sheila Lindsay

May

- 3*** Christine Pate
10 Christine Pate
17 Christine Pate
24 Christine Pate
31 Ann Wilkie

April

- 5*** Sheila Lindsay
12 Sheila Lindsay
19 Rosemary Patterson
26 Rosemary Patterson

June

- 7*** Ann Wilkie
14 Ann Wilkie
21 Jane Davidson
28 Jane Davidson



Bendochy Cleaning Rota

2020

March

Christine Pate and Bill Pate

April

Jean Laburn and Graeme McNeill

May

Rosemary Patterson and Susan Meldrum

June

Marie Cormack and Bernice Mackenzie

Coach House Hostesses

2020

March

Jean Laburn

Jane Davidson

April

Bernice Mackenzie

Margaret Donaldson

May

Erica Espley

Sheila Lindsay

June

Jean Laburn

Bernice Mackenzie

***Coffee is served in the Coach House
at the end of the service
on the first Sunday of each month.***

All are welcome.



Used Stamps

A big THANK YOU to all the members of both Congregations who donate their **used stamps / postcards**. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

The 2019 appeal was in aid of a Women Training Centre in Blantyre, Malawi. It works with disadvantaged and unemployed girls and women. It is run by the Blantyre Synod of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian.

Postcards with stamps (pre 1950) are also sought and should be left whole. **Please leave a ½ inch border round stamps.** Do not include damaged stamps - they have no value. If stamps are in an album, please leave in album. Boxes are at both churches. So, come on, bring your used stamps along.

Harry Walker

Readers in the Abbey and Bendochy



	<i>The Abbey</i>	<i>Bendochy</i>
<i>2020</i>		
<i>March</i>		
1	A Easson	M Davidson
8	J Easson	S Cumming
15	Rev A Graham	R Patterson
22	J Brewer	G McNeill
29	A Richards	J Davidson
<i>April</i>		
5	M Pattullo	J Laburn
12	E McGibbon	J Morison
19	C Henderson	M Davidson
26	J Chinn	S Cumming
<i>May</i>		
3	D Chinn	R Patterson
10	I Henderson	G McNeill
17	A Easson	J Davidson
24	J Easson	J Laburn
31	E McGibbon	J Morison
<i>June</i>		
7	Rev A Graham	M Davidson
14	J Brewer	S Cumming
21	A Richards	R Patterson
28	M Pattullo	G McNeill

The Abbey Beadle Duty

	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Other</i>
<i>2020</i>		
<i>Services</i>		
<i>March</i>	S Robertson	E McGibbon
<i>April</i>	W Pattullo	P Godfrey
<i>May</i>	P Godfrey	I Rodger
<i>June</i>	I Rodger	E McGibbon

Welcoming you at Bendochy today

Will elders please note that the first named for each Sunday is responsible for ensuring that there is someone on Door Duty.

February 23

D Grant

S Grant

March 1

J Laburn

B Mackenzie

March 8

D Donaldson

J Morison

March 15

W Pate

C Pate

March 22

D Patterson

G McNeill

March 29

J Laburn

B Mackenzie

April 5

S Grant

D Grant

April 12

R Patterson

J Morison

April 19

G McNeill

D Donaldson

April 26

J Laburn

B Mackenzie

May 3

C Pate

W Pate

May 10

J Morison

D Patterson

May 17

D Grant

S Grant

May 24

B Mackenzie

J Laburn

May 31

W Pate

R Patterson

June 7

G McNeill

C Pate

Welcoming you at The Abbey today (subject to change)

It is the responsibility of the people on Welcome Team rota to request assistance to ensure that there are 4 people for the Collection.

February 23

S Turnbull

J Brewer

March 1

H Pithie

E Jack

March 8

K Godfrey

S Robertson

March 15

D Hindmarch

I Jack

March 22

M Pattullo

W Pattullo

March 29

S Jack

A Legge

April 5

I Henderson

J Rennie

April 12

B Crighton

R Ewins

April 19

D Chinn

J Chinn

April 26

COMMUNION

May 3

K Godfrey

P Godfrey

May 10

J Easson

A Easson

May 17

B Anderson

A Richards

May 24

E McGibbon

I Rodger

May 31

S Turnbull

J Brewer

June 7

H Pithie

E Jack

COUPAR ANGUS AND BENDOCY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Group	Start	Age Group
Stepping Stones	5.30pm to 6.30pm	P1 to P3
Compass and Crossover	6.45pm to 7.45pm	P4 to S1
Youth Fellowship (YF)	8.00pm to 9.00pm	S2 upwards

Groups meet on Thursdays during school term time:

COME ALONG AND JOIN THE FUN



SNOWDROP FAIR



Craft stalls, raffle, tombola, home baking, face painting, activities for children and adults. Try your hand at snowdrop crafts.



The Abbey Church

10am - 2pm

Saturday, 22rd February 2020



Entry £2.50 - Includes refreshments.

Accompanied school children free

Soup and roll will be on sale at lunchtime.



Bendochy Parish Church of Scotland ((SC004358) and Coupar Angus Abbey Church of Scotland (SC014438) are component elements of the Presbytery of of Dunkeld and Meigle (SC036630) which is itself a component element of the Church of Scotland (SC011353).