




**CRUDEN
PARISH
CHURCH**

**BULLETIN
APRIL 2010**

Lord,
by your
cross and
resurrection
you have
set us
Free.
You are the
Saviour
of the world.



The only shadow on a cloudless Easter Day of God's victory is the poverty of my own devotion, the memory of ineffective hours of unbelief, and my own stingy response to God's generosity.
(A.E. Whitham)

www.crudenchurch.org.uk

A Registered Charity SC 006408

DIARY DATES

APRIL 2010

EACH WEEK

Sundays 10.00 am Children's Sunday Club in the Church & Stables

Thursday 1st	:	Property Committee	7.30 pm	Manse
Friday 2nd	:	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	6.45 pm	
Sunday 4th	:	EASTER SERVICE	10.00 am	
Tuesday 6th	:	Social Committee	7.30 pm	Manse
Wednesday 7th	:	Coffee and Chat	10.30 am	Hall
Thursday 8th	:	Education & Worship	7.30 pm	Manse
Sunday 11th	:	MORNING SERVICE	10.00 am	
		Service conducted by Miss Alice MacLeod, Fetterangus		
Monday 12th	:	Watch and Talk Group	7.30 pm	at the home of Marilyn Samways, Burnview, 3 Main Street, Cruden Bay
Tuesday 13th	:	Outreach Committee	7.30 pm	Manse
Sunday 18th	:	MORNING SERVICE	10.00 am	
		Church Walk – More Aberdeen March Stones		
Monday 19th	:	Kirk Session	7.30 pm	Hall
Sunday 25th	:	MORNING SERVICE	10.00 am	
		Service conducted by the Rev Fred Coutts		
		Guild Sponsored Walk	1.00 pm	
Monday 26th	:	The Guild AGM	7.30 pm	Hall
		Cruden Singers		

GUILD ANNUAL SPONSORED WALK

(in aid of Guild funds and the annual Senior Citizens' outing)

Sunday 25 April 1 pm Please come and enjoy the walk.

Sponsor Forms with details available from Church Notice Boards

PARISH REGISTER

*(denotes church member)

DEATHS

*Mrs Vena Hockell, Ty Hafan, 2a Golf Park, Cruden Bay.

*Mr Jack McGillivray, Sunnybank Care Home, Cruden Bay.

*Mrs Jess McKenzie, Ugie Hospital, Peterhead.

APRIL HYMN BOOK - CH4

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN WILL COME OUT ON **25 APRIL**. Copy for inclusion to be handed in to the Manse as soon as possible.

The Kirk Session would thank all members who have responded positively to our Stewardship Campaign last month.

We are grateful for the returned cards promising financial support and also for the money donated.

CRUDEN GUILD

The Guild AGM will be held on 26 April after which all those attending will have the Chance to enjoy the Cruden Singers This takes place in the Church Hall beginning at 7.30 pm.

KIRK SESSION

At its March meeting, the Session were pleased to reappoint Robert Esson to be its Presbytery Elder for 2010/11. The next Kirk Session meeting is at 7.30 pm on 19 April in the Church Hall. Any member of the Church can attend as an observer if they wish. At this meeting, the Session will consider what response they might wish to make to the Church of Scotland's consultation on Same-sex Relationships and the Ministry.

***FROM THE MINISTER** 24 March 2010*

Dear Friends

The Kirk Session meeting on 19 April will be a very important one. That is when the agenda will include discussion on the Consultation Paper produced by the General Assembly's Special Commission on Same-sex relationships and Ministry.

By this time most church members will realise the importance of this issue, not only to the Church of Scotland but to all Christian denominations. This was, of course, the issue that dominated the 2009 General Assembly and the newspaper headlines last May.

To assist Kirk Session consider the matter, a DVD has been prepared, an 18 page Consultation Paper printed for every elder and ballot papers provided for the answering of some of the questions posed in the Paper.

We anticipated this through our March Adult Sunday School series which has just finished. It was encouraging to see between 20 and 25 each evening coming along to listen, consider and discuss. I wanted to give people a chance to hear from the wide spectrum of opinion on the matter so the middle two evenings were occasions to listen to guest speakers. I am grateful to all attending that they respected my wish that the question and answer session after the talks remained non-confrontational for these were to be evenings when we listened and learnt. And this we did and we are grateful to the Rev Peter Dickson, High Hilton Church, Aberdeen and the Rev Keith Blackwood, Mannofied Church, Aberdeen.

In our final session, we had the chance to consider what we had heard and see how it had helped our understanding. I was left with the feeling that all could understand the difficulties the church faces when confronted by issues which challenge traditional bible teaching. As Christians belonging to a Reformed Church, our source of authority is the Bible and we need to be able to show how our views fit in with what the Bible teaches – always bearing in mind that through time different generations need to find how to interpret the Bible to make it relevant to contemporary society in a way which does not lead to a human redrawing of a divine message.

Your friend and minister





CRUDEN CHURCH FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS

to **Mrs Joyce Nicholson, 157 Braehead Drive, Cruden Bay** who will be celebrating her 80th Birthday this month.

to **Mr & Mrs A Lawrie, 50 Slains Crescent, Cruden Bay** who will be celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary this month.

The minister would welcome, in writing please, any news for this feature in the Bulletin



Please note the following dates.

LAST COFFEE and CHAT OLD HALL
WEDNESDAY 7 April 10.30 am

16 JUNE 2010

A CONCERT BY THE ABERDEEN CHOIR
ACCLAMATIONS

A SUMMER SUNDAY

AN OPEN AIR SERVICE AND PICNIC ON A DATE
STILL TO BE FINALISED

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

WATCH AND TALK GROUP

How do we know that God exists?

Our latest meeting asked the question does God exist? The results of a survey regarding the existence of God produced the following results. Four in ten people believe there is a God, 40% of those surveyed were unsure but believe in something and one in ten do not believe in a God and have no religious beliefs of any kind. Five leaders, of various faiths, on being questioned about their belief in the existence of God, gave varying reasons for why we should accept the fact that somewhere there is a God. The five questioned were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of Westminster, a Chief Rabbi, a spokesman for the Muslim Faith and another spokesman for the Hindu Faith. Each one of those questioned confessed to the fact they, on occasions, had doubted and questioned their own Faith, but on reflection realised there is only one God, the Creator of the Universe.

Surprisingly, it was also suggested the Bible, Torah and Koran should not necessarily be interpreted word for word. In this ever changing world it may be necessary to 'adapt' the texts of these books to suit the current modern day situation; nothing is static in the world or religion. Believing in God and following his teachings is possibly the anchor we all need to hold on to. Strangely enough, whatever religion we belong to, we are closer together than we realise.

Our next meeting is on Monday 12th April at 7.30 pm, at the home of Mrs Marilyn Samways, 3 Main Street Cruden Bay. All those wishing to join us will be made very welcome.

Jenny McGarrol

Fair Trade

The Fair Trade Stall over the two Sundays of Fairtrade Fortnight realised the sum of £278.30. We are allowed 10% of the proceeds and therefore £27.80 has been handed to the Church Treasurer. Warm thanks to all who supported the Stall.

Church Quiz

The Quiz held at the Cruden Bay Golf Club House on 12 March realised the sum of £401. The social committee members would like to thank all those who attended, who provided raffle prizes and gave donations.

Minute of Annual Stated Meeting held on Sunday 7 March 2010 in the Old Church during the morning service. The Rev Rodger Neilson presided over the meeting which was opened with prayer.

Minute: The minute of the 2009 Annual Stated Meeting was approved on the motion of Mary Bratton seconded by Anne McNaughton.

Annual Accounts: The accounts had been approved by the Kirk Session at its meeting on 23 February and in the required independent examination found to be in order. A summary of the Annual Report had been previously distributed to members in the Bulletin and a number of full copies including the budget for 2010 were made available to those attending the meeting.

Rosemary Pittendrigh, Treasurer, reported that givings to the General Fund totalled £51,771 with a total income of £54,447. General Fund expenditure was almost £61,000, leaving a deficit of £6,531 but after other accounts are taken into consideration the total deficit over all the accounts is £4,414 leaving us with an overall balance of £44,122.

Mrs Pittendrigh went on to give an account of the 2010 Budget which was based on reducing the deficit over the year to £2,500 but this would only be achieved if extra fundraising totalled £2,000. This means a good result from the annual Stewardship Campaign is paramount.

Mr Neilson thanked Mrs Pittendrigh for all her work throughout the year and expressed thanks also to the Congregation's Independent Examiner Alistair Bain who, once again, had been assisted by Shonah Taylor and also to the organisation treasurers required to submit their own accounts in time for inclusion in the church accounts.

Minister's Report: Slow progress was reported on the Sale of the West Church but it is expected now that an outline planning application will be submitted by the architect within the next few weeks. In September, in conjunction with the other two parish churches, a Bring a Friend Sunday, as expected, did not have the same impact as last year's Back to Church Sunday. Encouragement comes from the number of people over the year showing interest in the Christian Education programmes on offer. He expressed his thanks to all the elders and members from whom he receives support and encouragement. A special word of thanks was extended to Mrs Anne Smith for her willingness to drive our organist to church each Sunday and whenever else he is needed. Finally he reminded members that his time needs to be shared with Deer Parish Church consequent to him being appointed Interim Moderator.

Election of Members to serve on Kirk Session Committees: Having thanked the retiring members, Mr Neilson called for nominations to fill the three vacancies for members to serve on Session Committees.

Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Margaret Adams	Wilma Moir	Betty Forrester
Rosemary Reid	Beatrice Fawkes	Marilyn Samways

Mrs Elizabeth Carnie was also proposed but it was not known whether she had indicated willingness to continue to serve. There were no further nominations so Mr Neilson declared that those nominated were elected to serve on the Kirk Session Committees, with a vacancy still to be filled..

Closure: There being no other business, Mr Neilson closed the meeting with prayer.

CONGREGATIONAL WALKS

At our walks planning meeting in February we looked at many walks, read the details and studied the maps, drank tea and coffee, ate biscuits, and then decided on a programme of walks as follows.

Sunday 21 March	Inverquhomery
Sunday 18 April	Aberdeen March Stones
Saturday 15 May	Speyside Way, Craigellachie to Ballindalloch
Saturday 19 June	Strathdon
Sunday 19 July	Rattery to Fraserburgh
20 – 23 August	Badaguish
Sunday 19 September	Mormond Hill
Sunday 17 October	Port Elphinstone

Robert Petticrew

MARCH WALK

Longside and Inverquhomery Walk - Sunday 21 March

We were delighted to have in our midst two former walkers back, namely Katharine and her daughter Sophie, who were our pacesetters throughout, and a new walker, Liz, whose sturdy footwear ensured she was blister-free at the end of the 5 mile walk.

Our 11-strong all-female group set off westward along the main street, through the new housing estate, and up the short grassy rise to emerge onto the Inverquhomery road. At Inverquhomery House, we decided against encroaching on the privacy of Gordon Hay, and skirted round his beautiful garden to the farmyard to find three striking doocotes, believed to be the only threesome in the UK.

The farmland, formerly owned by Sainsburys and renowned for its Aberdeen Angus beef herd, is now owned by the local farmer Doug Fowlie. We swung past the Bronze Age burial ground along a good track flanked by splendid beech hedging to emerge at the top of the hill overlooking the village.

We chose not to go along the section of the track past Linshart, the home of the prominent Episcopalian minister, John Skinner, preferring to check out his grave and that of Jamie Fleeman, the Laird of Udney's Fool, in the kirkyard. We rounded off the afternoon with coffee at the Happy Plant, managing in the throng to commandeer a couple of tables to keep our group together.

We were extremely pleased that Wilma was able to join us, as her knowledge of local history, people and places made for a most enjoyable walk. Our next walk is another section of the Aberdeen March Stones on 18 April, and we hope to see you all again then.

Margaret Wiseley



Christian Aid Week

9 -15 May 2010

The Buttery Morning, to be organised by Wilma Moir, will be on Saturday 8 May from 10.00 am until 11.30 am in the Public Hall, Hatton. Raffles will be on sale as usual. Admission £2 per person.

It is hoped that there will be a Christian Aid Lunch on Sunday 16 May following the morning service but check the next Bulletin for confirmation of the date. Tickets will be available near the end of April costing £2.

The House-to-House collection, to be organised by Mary Bratton in Cruden Bay and Rosemary Reid in Hatton, will take place during the week of 9 - 14 May and as usual we are on the lookout for anyone willing to assist. Even if you can only do one evening or a couple of hours collecting, that would be a big help.

People in rural areas may find an envelope in their Bulletin if we end up struggling to get enough collectors. If that happens, please return it to your Bulletin delivery person, pop it in the plate at the church door or hand it to someone who will be coming to church.

We appeal to those who are tax payers, if they would be willing to complete the Gift Aid part on the envelope - this has a value of 28% currently, which means for every £10 gifted, we can claim another £2.80 from the government in tax, which is a very worthwhile boost for charities.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS IN ABEYANCE

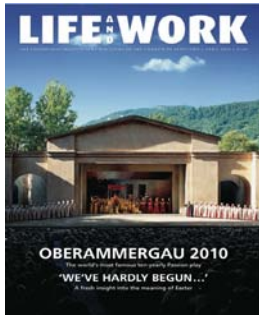
The Church of Scotland has changed its policy with regard to the receiving of used stamps to raise funds for the Board of World Mission.

To allow us, therefore, to put alternative arrangements in place with regard to passing on used postage stamps to a charity, we would be grateful if, until further notice, no stamps are left at the church.

THE LATE ELIZABETH MANTELL

Many of our members will remember Elizabeth as one of our former Missionary Partners. We donated to the fund to install a stained glass window erected in her memory in Macduff Church. Her minister, the Rev David Randall, has published a short biography of her. If anyone would like to borrow it, speak to the Minister on any Sunday morning.

INCIDENT LOG - Following best practice, there is beside the First Aid Box on a church hall bookshelf an Incident Report Log. Any accident, particularly causing injury, however slight, should be recorded by filling up a form from the Log.



LIFE^AND^DWORK **IN APRIL'S ISSUE**

Oberammergau 2010 Every 10 years, half a million people descend on the small Bavarian town of Oberammergau to witness the renowned Passion Play. Thomas Baldwin visits the town to see the preparations and interview the play's director, Christian Stückl.

'We've Hardly Begun...' Easter Reflections by the Rev Laurence Whitley, Ron Ferguson, the Moderator and James Simpson.

Fact or Fiction The Rev James Martin puts forward the case for the Resurrection.

Circles of Stillness Ruth Harvey explores the differences between Quakers and Presbyterians.

Stepping Out of the Boat Jackie Macadam speaks to two young Christians whose promise to go where God wanted them took them to projects in over 20 countries all over the world.

The Cost of Arms A Christian response to defence spending, by Dr Murdo Macdonald.

Plus: Presbytery of Jerusalem, Culross Abbey, the winning entries of the SSPCK hymn and prayer competitions, all the regular columnists, news, letters, reviews and crosswords. **Facebook:** You can now follow Life and Work on Facebook.

If you would like to read Life & Work, the magazine of the Church of Scotland, contact Isobel Young on 812360

SUNDAY MORNING DUTIES OLD CHURCH 10 am

Date	Door	Flowers	Teas	Children
4 Apr	Joyce Willox Adrian Smith	Mary McNaughtan	Anne Cadey Jessie MacDonald	Easter Holidays
11 Apr	Joyce Willox Adrian Smith	Elma Watson	Liz Carnie Lewis McKechnie	Easter Holidays
18 Apr	Rosemary Reid Mary Bratton	Norma Forman	Marilyn Samways Norma Forman	Karla Buswell Brenda Cadger C or S Skinner Joyce Fowlie Charlotte Lamb
25 Apr	Rosemary Reid Mary Bratton	Jean Beedie	Kathleen Craig Dorothy Cruickshank	Katherine Hyman Maureen Reid S or C Skinner Mary Bratton Charlotte Lamb
2 May	Norma Forman Robert Petticrew	Lewis McKechnie	Alison Neilson Doreen Buchan	Holiday
9 May	Norma Forman Robert Petticrew	Wallace Donaldson	CHRISTIAN AID LUNCH	Karla Buswell Marie Forsyth Brenda Cadger Sharon Rennie Charlotte Lamb
16 May	Kathleen Craig Anne Cadey	Anne McNaughton	Wilma Moir Sharon Rennie	Katherine Hyman Maureen Reid S or C Skinner Joyce Fowlie Charlotte Lamb
23 May		NO SERVICE		Karla Buswell Brenda Cadger S or C Skinner Mary Bratton Charlotte Lamb
30 May	Dorothy Cruickshank Robert Esson	Beatrice Fawkes	Iris Durno Elma Cumming	Katherine Hyman Maureen Reid S or C Skinner Helen Smith Charlotte Lamb

TO THOSE ON SUNDAY DUTY If you are unable to fulfil your door duty, please try to find your own replacement before informing Sandy Beedie (door rota)- 841370 or Wilma Moir (teas rota) 841516.