CRUDE N PARISH

DECEMBER 2013



Why not come and visit the manger this Christmas and sing your favourite carols.

www.crudenchurch.org.uk

A Registered Charity SC 006408



DECEMBER 2013

EACH WEEK

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

Sunday 1st : MORNING SERVICE 10.00 am

Tuesday 3rd : Craft Group 2.00 pm Hall

Wednesday 4th: Coffee and Chat 10.30 am Hall

: Choir Practice 7.30 pm Hall

Sunday 8th : MORNING SERVICE 10.00 am

Ythan Singers Christmas Concert 3.00 pm

Church

Monday 9th : The Guild Christmas Party 7.00 pm Hatton Mill

Wednesday 11th: Choir Practice 7.30 pm Hall

Sunday 15th : MORNING SERVICE 10.00 am

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE 4.00 pm

Tuesday 17th : Craft Group 2.00 pm Hall

Wednesday 18th: Choir Practice 7.30 pm Hall

Sunday 22nd : FAMILY CHRISTMAS SERVICE 10.00 am

Tuesday 24th : WATCHNIGHT SERVICE 11.30 pm

Wednesday 25th : CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE 10.00 am

Sunday 29th : MORNING SERVICE 10.00 am

DECEMBER HYMN BOOK - CH4

THANK YOU

Blythswood Parcels

A big thank you to everyone who filled shoe boxes, gave donations or helped in any other way. Thanks to you, 41 people, will have a happier Christmas.

Rosemary Reid

FROM THE MINISTER 20 November 2013

Dear Friends

It must be a sign of my advancing years that I can hardly believe it is almost 12 months since we were last celebrating Christmas. However, we all know that time passes more quickly the older we get.

As this should be my last Christmas with you, you will not be surprised if my mind has wandered into the past to recollect some memorable Christmas occasions.

I won't say any more about our cancelled Christmas 3 years ago when snow and ice on the access roads to the church made it sensible to cancel all our services.

I remember fondly our Christmas Eve services in the West Church in Hatton when nearly all the seats were taken and we approached the midnight hour in candle light, as we, of course, still do today in the Old Church. We dispensed with the candles one year, however, when we had a guest preacher at the Watchnight service – the Rev James Bews present on the 50th Anniversary of his induction to the West Church. What a delight it was to welcome such a fine man back to the pulpit and it is with sorrow I heard of his passing only a few days ago. You will read more about Mr Bews elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin.

I am now looking forward to our Christmas services this year, I hope you are too. We have a variety of services at different times on different days starting with the Christingle Service on 15 December. If you haven't been to it before, why not come along and enjoy a new church experience. The choir will be singing special Christmas anthems on 22 December. It is good to see so many different faces at our Watchnight and Christmas Day services.

Why not make my final Christmas with you memorable by coming along to these services, even bringing a friend with you who is not a church member. I look forward to seeing you.

Your friend and minister

Rodges Nailson

PARISH REGISTER

*denotes member

DEATHS

*Mr David Singleton, 16 Station Place, Cruden Bay Mr Harry Wood, 3 Harbour Street, Cruden Bay. Poppy Grace Ross, Whinhill, Castle Road, Cruden Bay.

TO THOSE ON SUNDAY DUTY

If unable to do door duty, please inform the Minister - 841229. If unable to do tea duty, please inform Wilma Moir - 841516. We would prefer, if you are unable to fulfil your duty, that you endeavour to find your own replacement before informing the Minister or Wilma as appropriate.

2014 FLOWER CALENDAR



The Calendar for the Church will now be found on the notice board at the Church and members are invited to add their name beside any date on which they would wish to place flowers on the communion table. The gift of such flowers is always greatly appreciated. In particular, it is hoped that the early months of next year will soon be filled up.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN WILL COME OUT ON **29 DECEMBER**. Copy for inclusion to be handed in to the Manse as soon as possible.

CHRISTMAS CARDS and 2014 CALENDARS

For the first two weeks in December, the few remaining Cruden Calendars for 2014 (photographs by Fred Coutts) and Christmas cards (specially designed by Jim Taylor of Cruden Bay) will be for sale in the Hall after the Service. Calendars are priced at £12, the cards at £3 for 10. Proceeds to the Windows Project. *Enquiries to Beatrice Fawkes* 841814

SUNDAY MORNING DUTIES 10 am

| Date | Door | Flowers | Teas | Junior Church |
|--------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1 Dec | Shonah Taylor Robert Petticrew | Rosemary Reid | Janice Hutchinson Dorothy Cruickshank | Karla Buswell Helen Smith Brenda Cadger |
| 8 Dec | Shonah Taylor Robert Petticrew | Betty Forrester | Margaret Adams Norma Forman | Katherine Hyman Maureen Reid |
| 15 Dec | Sarah Paterson Kathleen Craig | Beatrice Fawkes | Elma Cumming Betty Forrester | Karla Buswell Helen Smith Brenda Cadger |
| 22 Dec | Sarah Paterson Kathleen Craig | Betty Forrester | Rosemary Reid Lewis McKechnie | No Junior Church |
| 29 Dec | Alison Neilson Betty May | Robert Esson | Helen Cay Marilyn Samways | No Junior Church |
| 5 Jan | Alison Neilson Betty May | | Irene Stott Fiona Stephen | No Junior Church |
| 12 Jan | Margaret Adams Sandy Beedie | | Beatrice Fawkes Liz Carnie | Katherine Hyman Maureen Reid |
| 19 Jan | Margaret Adams Sandy Beedie | Marina Bruce | Doreen Buchan Wilma Moir | Karla Buswell Helen Smith Brenda Cadger |
| 26 Jan | Carol Paul Stewart Paul | Irene Stott | Dorothy Cruickshank Iris Durno | Katherine Hyman Maureen Reid |

ACTUAL STATEMENTS

APPEARING IN OTHER CHURCH MAGAZINES

- The sermon this morning: "Jesus walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."
- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- Potluck supper Sunday at 5 pm prayer and medication to follow.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

WATCH and TALK GROUP

November 2013 In the Steps of Paul (2)

In this programme we followed Paul's journey from Asia Minor to Europe. He was driven by his conviction that the world would soon end and God's mission for him was to convert as many people as possible to the new religion.

Travelling by road and sea he preached the gospel in Philippi and there he baptised Lydia the first European convert, then on to Thessalonica, Athens and Corinth, where he settled for a short time working as a tentmaker. He met with indifference, opposition and direct danger but carried on keeping contact with his early converts by his letters. On returning to Jerusalem he was accused of breaking the strict laws of the Temple, and he was arrested and imprisoned.

As a Roman citizen he demanded to be tried in Rome where his story ended as it is believed that after some time he was executed.

As David Suchet ended he moved from Presenter to Actor speaking Paul's words as though he is Paul himself, giving powerful and convincing reason for his claim that whether you like or dislike Paul you can't ignore him.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 13th January 2014 when the subject will be "Strictly Kosher."

Annette Garden

"ON BEING THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD" by John A T Robinson (1964)

"The conception of 'being the Church' as opposed simply to 'going to church', is one that has brought new vision and vitality to many a congregation in recent years."

"The early Christian writers centred their hopes, not in life after death, but in the new resurrection order of 'life in Christ' which they entered at Baptism and to which death could make no difference. Indeed, the Marxist, with no belief in an after-life, is in a real sense closer to the biblical outlook than the Christian who pins everything upon it."

REV JAMES BEWS MINISTER OF CRUDEN WEST CHURCH 1942 - 1950

The Rev James Bews has recently died and his funeral was at the end of November. Mr Bews was born in Edinburgh and Cruden West was his first charge, being inducted to it on Christmas Eve 1942. To celebrate the centenary of the founding of the congregation in 1843, Mr Bews wrote a short history of the church, no doubt making use of the electric light which had just been installed in the manse. In the late 1940's, the congregation was coping with periodic falls of plaster from the ceiling of the church, with the receiving and subsequent selling of property gifted to the church and with the need to install electricity in the church and then redecorate it. In 1944, the congregation voted 47 for and 49 against there being lady elders in the Church of Scotland.

Mr Bews, after leaving Cruden West, was minister of Wick Central until 1967 when he moved to Dundee Craigiebank, retiring in 1981 to St Andrews. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, and his son, James.

POINTS TO PONDER

He who receives a benefit with gratitude repays the first instalment on his debt.

Children are a great comfort in your old age – and they help you reach it faster, too.

One great use of words is to hide our thoughts.

Happiness consists in activity – it is a running stream, not a stagnant pool.

To see God in everything makes life the greatest adventure there is.

A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all the other virtues.

Those who have never known anything but prosperity and pleasure become hard and shallow, but those whose prosperity has been mixed with adversity become kind and gracious.



IN DECEMBER'S ISSUE

Christmas 2013 The journey and impact of a Blythswood Christmas shoebox. Christmas prayer Reflections from the Rt Rev Lorna Hood, Ron Ferguson, the Very Rev Dr James Simpson and the Rev Scott McKenna The Big Question: What is the most moving Christmas service you have attended?

'God Can Do Miracles' The work of HIV/AIDS charities in Scotland and Africa

A Safe Place Douglas Brown describes the challenges facing an adult with autism

Saving Lives and Preventing Misery The part of the Church of Scotland in the fight against TB

Changing Church How a Perth church is bridging the gap between traditional and contemporary

Honouring a Role Model The role of a Fife Sunday School teacher in a high profile award to Malala Yousafzai, the teenager who was shot by the Taliban for campaigning for girls' education.

Plus all the regular columnists, letters, reviews and crosswords

If you would like to read Life & Work, the magazine of the Church of Scotland, contact Isobel Young on 01779 812360



to Mrs Margaret Matthew, 12 St Peter's Court, Hanover Street, Peterhead who will be celebrating her 80th Birthday

The minister would welcome, in writing please, any news for this feature in the Bulletin. He feels that it should not simply be a list of anniversaries and birthdays.



CHRISTMAS IN CRUDEN CHURCH

There will be a **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE** at the Old Church at 4 pm on **Sunday 15 December.** This service, where everyone present receives a Christingle (an orange with a candle) is particularly suitable for children to come to with their parents and grandparents and uncles and aunts and friends. Adults are even known to enjoy the service on their own without being accompanied by children!

The Christmas Family Service is on 22 December.



The Church will be open at 11:05 pm (and not before!) on Christmas Eve for the WATCHNIGHT SERVICE and as soon as enough people are in the church, carol singing will begin. The service will start around 11.30 pm, finishing at about 12.10 am.

Our **CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE** will be held in the Church at 10 am. Children coming are invited to bring along one of their Christmas presents.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

The Kirk Session has decided that the charity to benefit from the offerings at the **Christmas Eve and Christmas Day** services this year will be

Syria Crisis Appeal (British Red Cross)

Donations from the Ythan Singers Concert in our Church on 8 December will also be going to this cause.

CRUDEN GUILD REPORT.

Monday 30th September 2013.

DIGGING HOLES IN THE ROAD. Bob Forman.

Rosemary Pittendrigh welcomed members and guests to the first meeting of the session. After the opening hymn, reading and prayer, she warmly welcomed Bob Forman, our speaker for the evening. He needed very little introduction, as he is a well known member of our Church and community.

He gave a very interesting and informative talk on the treasures and other items that can be found while digging the foundations of new building works. He also passed around some coins found in the dig, and we were treated to a history lesson at the same time. This was appreciated by all.

Robert Esson gave a very heartfelt vote of thanks, echoing all of our thoughts. After a lovely cup of tea, Rosemary bid everyone a safe journey home.

Monday 28th October.

THE STARFISH PROJECT Jane Wiseman

Rosemary welcomed all to a well attended meeting. After the hymn and prayer she introduced our speaker for the evening, Jane Wiseman and her husband Her talk was on a project they had set up themselves to help children in Kenya. The decision to 'go it alone' was made, after they discovered that aid being sent to that area through another charity, was reaching the greedy and not the needy. She spoke very enthusiastically on how they went about this, by opening charity shops in their area and the Fraserburgh area. They also got friends roped in to do coffee mornings etc. Her talk was both amusing and thought provoking. Also it was delivered with such feeling, that it left us all thinking that we had to help in some way. She also told us the story of how her son was rescuing stranded star fish on Fraserburgh beach, by throwing them back into When his father asked why he did this, as it could have been a pointless exercise, he said 'If I can save one of these, at least I will have done So that is the code they are living by now, and as she said. 'Saving one bairny makes it all worthwhile'. Hence the name Starfish. Alison Neilson then gave a lovely vote of thanks, before we had our tea. Lorraine Neilson

CHURCH WALK

Stirlinghill - Sunday, 20 October

The last walk in this year's programme was one of the shortest but the most interesting of all, with a wealth of information being provided for us by Betty May, Chairperson of Boddam and District Community Association. Their tireless campaign for recognition of and funding for the pathways network came to fruition in 2012 with the restoration, upgrading, and signage of the network of tracks across the area.

Our starting point was at the Map Board on Lendrum Terrace, close to the Bridge over the Admiralty Railway, used until 1956 to transport granite and prisoners to Peterhead. From there we proceeded along the old Ennnstone Thistle quarry entrance road towards the only remaining quarry, now used and owned by Breedon Aggregates. A little further on we passed a gate, a reminder of Boddam campaigner Dod White's long struggle with Boddam Estates for recognition of a local right of way over the hill. The "Viewpoint" with splendid polished granite seat and rustic cairn was our next objective. On a clear day, Bennnchie and Mormond Hill are visible but in the dreich mist, we settled for Reform Tower and the power station as local landmarks.

We passed the derelict Smiddy Croft, with historic family connections for Betty, and squeezed into the Shelter, a reconstructed "pooder hoose", to study the excellent information boards with fascinating factual material and graphic photographs of the quarries and the polishing works. The east-most point in our walk was the commemorative Queen's Diamond Jubilee plaque, unveiled by the Lord Lieutenant James Ingleby in October 2012. We gave the Tattie roadie a miss and headed back to our starting point and up the brae to the Den Dam, the venue for annual model yacht races known as "The Boaties". The heather clad area surrounding the Dam is an archaeological site, unique in Scotland, and noted for its flint mines. We did not see any mines, but unearthed some flints close to the boathouse. We rounded off the afternoon at the Buchan Braes with coffee and further chat, with thanks to Betty for her gift for bringing the past into the present for us.

Margaret Wisely