

# **Aberlemno Guthrie & Rescobie**

Registered Charity in Scotland (Sco18944) & (SCO17327)

Issue 112

December 2021

## **Church Services**

### **December**

10.00am Rescobie (except 26<sup>th</sup>) 11.30am Aberlemno

### **January**

Aberlemno 10.00am (except 2<sup>nd</sup>) Guthrie 11.30am

### **February**

Aberlemno 10.00am Rescobie 11.30am

### **March**

Aberlemno 10.00am Guthrie 11.30am

## **Christmas Services**

### **5<sup>th</sup> December**

Toys for needy children collected today at both services. This year the toys will go to the Angus Toy Appeal and should be unwrapped.

### **12<sup>th</sup> December**

A candle for Advent - Remembering lost loved ones

### **19<sup>th</sup> December**

Family Services

### **Christmas Eve Carol Services**

Rescobie at 6.30pm Aberlemno at 8.00pm

### **Christmas Day at Guthrie at 10.30am**

26<sup>th</sup> December United Service at Aberlemno at 11.30am

2nd January United Service at Guthrie at 11.30am

Our Christmas retiring offering this year is in aid of Betel UK. See the Minister's letter for more information

# **CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

The Manse,  
Advent 2021.

Dear friends,

As I write this letter we are hopeful that this year loved ones will be able to be together and we will be able to celebrate Christ's birth in Church this Christmas. In many ways this has been a very difficult year and frustrating that we are still not as near to normal as we had hoped. Our Kirk Sessions have decided to hold two Christmas Eve Services this year in order that we will be able to space out in Church and so feel safer. We have also decided to support the Angus Toy Appeal this year which you can read about in Heather's letter.

Our Congregational Boards have agreed that this year's Christmas Collection will be for a Charity called Betel U.K. Betel UK is an independent Christian residential charity for men, women and families affected by drug and alcohol addiction and homelessness. Through work, well-being and worship, they aim to restore broken lives. Like respected Christian communities of the past, residents gradually work problems through in an environment based on two simple and time-honoured concepts:

**Extended Family** Residents build meaningful relationships, inspiring hope and self-esteem, in an atmosphere of acceptance and love.

**Meaningful Work** Residents help to fund their own recovery by working in one of our charitable businesses. This significantly reduces the financial burden on their families and the government while restoring self-dignity and a sense of purpose. The result is that, on leaving Betel, they contribute positively to their own family life and society.

One young person from our parishes is a resident at one of Betel's communities and has seen his life transformed. I have had the privilege of meeting two of the staff members from the residence he lives and works at. Their attitude, devotion and I would have to add their humility represented all that is best about our Christian faith. I had not heard of Betel before but having found out about its amazing work I am proud that we have chosen to support it this Christmas.

Despite these difficult times our Churches have been well supported by members and by an amazing variety of fund-raising events. I would like to add my thanks to those of the treasurers you will read later to all concerned. Well done.

This year also saw a very special event at Aberlemno Church with the Ordination of Heather Gourlay as an Ordained Local Minister. I am sure that the Rev. Heather will use her many gifts to help the Churches of Angus with the faith and commitment I have seen all the years I have known her.

I hope that you are all able to share time with loved ones and feel comfortable coming to worship this Christmas. Christmas is all about love; God's love shown in His coming amongst us as a baby born in a stable and the message of love and forgiveness which that baby grew up to teach us by word and example. These are the greatest Christmas gifts of all.

Wishing you and your loved ones joy and peace this Christmas,

Brian and Christine

## **ANGUS TOY APPEAL**

Angus Toy Appeal having been running for over 20 years. They provide gifts to children in Angus living in poverty who don't have anything to open on Christmas Day. Last year they gave to approximately 1700 children in Angus who were referred by professional agencies like schools, health visitors, social workers, Macmillan cancer support etc.

The thought of children waking up with nothing to open on Christmas day makes me so sad. Since having our two boys I have realised how fortunate we are to provide them with a gift as many can't.

This year I wanted to help get more gifts for these children.

I am working with the community of Aberlemno, including the village hall, Church and school, to bring more joy to these boys and girls by accepting unwrapped gifts for ages 0-18 years.

These gifts can be dropped off at Rescobie Church 10.00am Service, Aberlemno Church at the 11.30am Service or at Aberlemno village hall between 12.15-1.00pm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December. Alternatively, if you would like to drop off/ arrange a collection outwith this time please contact me on 0777 4338921 or [heatherandbillyw@sky.com](mailto:heatherandbillyw@sky.com)

Many thanks

Heather Watson

## **Guthrie and Rescobie Church Treasurer's Report**

Over the last year and a half you would have thought with the Covid restrictions and the reduction in services we would have seriously struggled financially. Not so - members of Guthrie and Rescobie have risen to the challenge with really generous donations. In addition, the Garden Opening at Gardyne Castle, Raymond Kennedy's recent marathon run and Joyce Smith's Whisky quiz have more than made up for the loss from the Open Plate offerings.

Our recent retiring offerings have also been very well supported;  
Mary's Meals (Harvest Thanksgiving.) - £170.73  
Poppy Scotland (Remembrance) - £86.60

A big thank you to all who continue to support the Church financially.

James Osborne – Treasurer

## **Aberlemno Treasurer's Report**

Raymond's sponsored run (The 3 Church Challenge) raised the total sum of £1,700 which was divided between the Churches and the significant amount of £850 was added to our fund-raising figure. Well done Raymond!

Our 'Smartie' Saver also continues 'playing its part' with the sum, so far, around £200.

At our Harvest Thanksgiving service in October, the retiring offering of £149 was sent to Mary's Meals. They have asked me to pass on their heartfelt thanks to everyone.

From our Remembrance Day service held on 14<sup>th</sup> November, we were able to send £101.50 from our retiring offering to Poppy Scotland.

At our Communion Service on 21<sup>st</sup> November, I would like to thank the person who donated a sum of money to cover the costs involved in obtaining the 'fellowship cups' which were used.

Many people have not attended Church for quite some time, which is understandable in the circumstances, however many are finding other ways to maintain their financial support for their Church. I have received several donations at my home address and a few people have set up an automatic monthly bank transfer which ensures our Church is receiving a regular source of income.

I would like to thank everyone who is supporting our Church to remain financially stable.

My very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Lorna Hooghiemstra

Treasurer

## **Guthrie Hall**

Since we opened in the summer the hall has been reassuringly busy, which has been very positive. There are a few rules and regulations concerning covid but everyone who has hired the hall has managed these well and enjoyed returning to a more normal life.

We've taken the opportunity to have the interior of the building painted so the hall is looking fresh, smart and ready for action. We've also had the outside play equipment thoroughly over hauled at a huge cost. It is hard to believe the equipment is nearly twenty years old and as such was showing its' age. We hope this will benefit the children of the community for many years to come. As the only amenity for children in the village we felt it to be vital to keep this facility in use.

If anyone wishes to use Guthrie Hall please contact Christine Shand on 01307 819473.

## **Guthrie and Rescobie Guild**

The Guild has still not met and we don't think we will meet again this year now. We wish you all the very best for the coming year and hope you all stay safe and are able to meet up with your family and friends over the Festive Season.

May Christmas bring peace  
And the New Year bring hope  
With freedom from fear  
And the strength to cope.

Thanks to everyone for buying a quiz sheet. £126 was raised for Church funds. The winner was Christine Donaldson from Friockheim.

Joyce Smith

## **Answers to Whisky Quiz**

Macallan, Highland Park, Glenmorangie, Knockando, Tobermory, Glenlivet, Dalwhinnie, Talisker, Tomintoul, Laphroag, Glengarioch, Isle of Jura, Eileandour, Royal Lochnagar, Bunnahabhain, Fettercairn, An Cnoc, Bowmore, Lagavulin, Auchentoshan, Blair Athol, Port Ellen, Inchgower, Pittyvaich, Glenfiddich, Strathisla, Ardbeg, Glenglassaugh, Leinburn, Glendronach

Rev Brian Ramsay B.D. D.P.S. M. Litt  
The Manse  
Guthrie  
Forfar Tel: 01241 828243

### **ABERLEMNO**

#### **Session Clerk**

Mr Ian Wilson  
Ward of Turin  
Aberlemno  
Forfar  
01307 830377

#### **Treasurer and Gift Aid**

Mrs Lorna Hooghiemstra  
Wood of Aldbar Cottage  
By Brechin  
01307 830441

#### **Clerk to the Board**

Mrs Beth Trainer  
Muiryloan House  
Brechin  
01356 622854

#### **Treasurer (WFO)**

Mike Macleod  
Hillbarns  
Tel: 01307 830318

### **GUTHRIE & RESCOBIE**

#### **Session Clerk**

Arthur Smith  
The Cottage  
Gardyne  
Tel: 01241 828465

#### **Clerk to the Board**

Mrs K Gray  
Meadowlea  
Clocksbriggs  
Tel: 01307 464173

#### **Treasurer and Bonds**

James Osborne  
Balmadies  
Forfar  
Tel: 01307 818242

## **PARISH REGISTER**

### **Aberlemno**

#### **Ordination**

On 21<sup>st</sup> September, the Rev Heather Gourlay, Pitkenney Schoolhouse was ordained as an Ordained Local Minister

#### **Wedding**

Alex Barclay to James Fairlie at Balgavies House on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

#### **Death**

Mr Rab Connacher, (formerly of Pitkenney) on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
Mr George Horsburgh, Turin Cottages on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

### **Guthrie & Rescobie**

#### **Weddings**

Nicola Gray to Calum Findlay at Glen Clova Church on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021

#### **Deaths**

Mrs Wilma Milne, Smithyton on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021  
Mr Grant Stewart, Dubton Cottages on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
Mrs Anne Kydd, Glenhead, Glen Isla on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
Mr James Kelly, Forfar on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
Mrs Irene Hardie, formerly of Rescobie on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021  
Mr Jock Angus, formerly of Middleton on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Items for the March Newsletter to be with  
Mr Ramsay by 13<sup>th</sup> February 2022**