Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland

Kirk Newsletter - Summer 2024



Midmar Church



Cluny Church

The ‘I AM’

The ‘I Am’ spoke from the burning bush
And Moses heard the voice of God,
Take off your shoes he was told
For it was holy ground he trod.

When Jesus came, He said ‘I Am’
The Bread of Life that Moses knew
Who fed them in the wilderness
With fire and cloud He led them through.

Good Shepherd who will lead us on
Through desert times of pain and strife,
The same ‘I Am’ that Moses met
Who is the Way, the Truth, the Life.

By Megan Carter
- Courtesy of Parish Pump

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland Newsletter.

The Communication & Publications Group met recently, part of the agenda involved a discussion on the content of the newsletter and taking onboard comments received following issue of the Spring edition. The content is evolving. As stated previously our aim is to inform, communicate, stimulate and inspire.

Sadly, we have reached the end of a long era for two of our Bennachie Parish Churches namely Midmar & Cluny. Services of thanksgiving were held at these two churches to commemorate the many years of Christian Witness. These events and a brief history of the two churches are featured in this edition of the newsletter. Amongst the other articles you'll also find:

- A letter from the manse at Echt.
- A summary of the May 2024 Session Meeting.
- Details of a new Bible Study 'Mostly Harmless' by Rev. Neil Meyer
- An interesting and informative article by Bill Hern about the connection between Chapel of Garioch Church and the *'Empire Windrush'*.

As always your comments on the style and content of the newsletter are very welcome as are suggestions on a new name for the newsletter.

Finally, a thank you to all of the contributors and thanks in advance to all those involved in the production and distribution of the newsletter.

Newsletter Editor

Newsletter by e-mail: If you do not yet receive notification by e-mail when the newsletter is issued, so that you can access it digitally, please consider doing so instead of having a printed copy as this will save on costs too.

If you would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail please let us know by scanning the QR code (see **'How to use'** instructions on Church Services page) then complete and submit the online form.

Alternatively contact the church office on 01467 643883 or by e-mail to office@bennachieparish.church

A Letter from the Manse at Echt



Dear Friends,

It was in 2019 that the achievement of the now famous Apollo 11 mission was commemorated, fifty years after astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin became the first of only twelve men ever, to set foot on the moon.

Sixteen years later, at the height of the Space Shuttle programme, Space Shuttle Discovery made the fifth of its total of thirty nine flights into space, in June 1985. Aboard Discovery for its week-long mission were seven crew members, one of whom was Prince Sultan bin Salman Al-Saud of Saudi Arabia. A Royal Saudi Airforce pilot and payload specialist, Al-Saud made history as the first Arab, Muslim and royal, in space.



Talking later at the First Congress of the Association of Space Explorers, the prince said memorably, 'The first day or so we all pointed to our countries. The third or fourth day we were pointing to our continents. By the fifth day, we were aware of only one Earth.'

Perspective can have a profound ability and influence on how we see and experience the world and one another, and over a period of days, the astronauts' perception of the earth changed forever.

But of course, perspective *is* a powerful thing – both literally and figuratively. It can challenge and inspire us; it can change and motivate us. In fact, the lenses through which we all look, have a profound ability to shape the future as well as to interpret the past.

As we are finding, perspective is one of the many invaluable gifts that each of us brings to our new parish. As we journey together, may it be our prayer that we continue to be enriched, challenged and excited by the perspective and by the experience of one another.

Rev Sheila Mitchell



Good Morning Group

Over the last few months Good Morning group have met on the first Tuesday of the month.

In March we had a look at Lent, a time of discernment and preparation for Jesus' ministry and we talked about what to give up during Lent. One idea was that we gave up something we did regularly but maybe doing it because we ought to! People were invited to make a list of all their activities/commitments and consider giving up one.

We considered also stopping in our day for 5-10 mins and sit with God, what's He saying to you?

In April we looked at Easter and the post resurrection appearance particularly the Emmaus road story.

In May we each shared a hymn, a bible reading, a special book or a poem. These included two special bibles, a poem by George Murray, another poem of unknown origin, a psalm, many other poems psalms and special moments in our lives. A very worthwhile sharing time when we all heard new words from various sources.

In June we will go to Hope Cafe in Echt and have coffee there.

We then have a break and reconvene on September 3rd when no doubt we will have many holiday experiences to share.

Please feel free to join us as you are able - 10am at the Church Centre Kemnay first Tuesday of the month. We'd love to see you.

Noel Lord

Bennachie Parish Church Office Hours

Monday to Thursday from 9.00 am – 3.00 pm

Friday from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

Contact Information

Tel: 01467 643883

Email: office@bennachieparish.church

Address: Church Lane, Kemnay AB51 5QP

Bennachie Parish Church Services

Services will take place in the parish churches at 10am each Sunday

All Are Warmly Welcomed

Scan the QR Code to see the Bennachie Parish-Wide Services Schedule

(See **'How to use'** instructions below)

Access Bennachie Parish Church at Services Live WebCasts

At Kemnay

https://viewservice.kemnayparish.church

At Kintore

Zoom Meeting ID: 838 9692 5396 Passcode: 712200

At Blairdaff and Chapel of Garioch

https://www.youtube.com/@blairdaffchapelofgariochch7337/live

What's on in Bennachie Parish Church?

Scan the QR Code to play the Bennachie Parish Church 'What's on' Video.

How to use:

If you have a smart phone or iPad etc. switch on the Camera App and point the camera at the QR Code - you should then see a button or link to press to view the current version of the what's on video. The video is updated on Friday each week.

Summary Minutes of Bennachie Parish Kirk Session held on 28th May 2024 at Chapel of Garioch Church.

41 people attended, this included two non-elders. Rev Neil Meyer started the meeting with a period of reflection on some verses in the gospel according to Luke, and thereafter we attended to the business of the evening.

Topics discussed included what role a Ministry Development Staff member (MDS) might undertake with our parish. We are allowed to employ a person in a half time post. Suggestions included someone to help with Sunday worship, or to work in community Outreach, work with young people or be in a pastoral care role. All four areas of involvement could be undertaken. A further time of discernment is to take place.

Session welcomed Karen McGinn as the new manager of Loaves and Fishes. They wished her well in her new post with us.

The Newsletter was discussed and the need for submission of articles by a given deadline to aid David Porter in his excellent work as editor. Articles were requested.

As usual, John Whittal from St Anne's church gave us an update from their Church. He told us about their Green Mondays initiative which, from 10am, one can attend for a swap or donation of produce as well as have a cup of tea and cake.

Blairdaff and Chapel of Garioch reported that their plant sale raised £1,500 for the Church. Echt and Midmar raised £919 for Christian Aid, recently.

Both Cluny and Midmar church buildings have been sold. Session received information about methods of disposal of contents which was approved. The last service for Cluny would be held on 16th June at 18.30pm.

Under property matters, session approved plans for a coffee area at Chapel of Garioch and replacement of two balcony windows at Kintore. Both approvals are subject to acceptable quotes for the works.

Subject to a positive outcome from her interview, Ruth Radcliffe will be appointed as Safeguarding Officer for Bennachie Parish Church.

Two elders have intimated their wish to retire: Mary Burnett from Kintore, and John Mathew from Echt and Midmar. They were thanked for their service, and Session agreed to confer the title of Elder Emeritus to both of them.

Sheila Simpson, Session Clerk, intimated her plan to retire from this office at the completion of her planned year of service. Applications were invited for the post.

The next meeting of session - 10th July at Kemnay Church Centre at 7pm.

Acrostic by Matthew Early

Trust. Jesus said I am the way the truth the life

Risen Jesus has risen from the dead

I am the bread of Life

Not my will but yours be done, Jesus said

I am the light of the world

Trinity Father Son and Holy Spirit

Your saviour and mine

In your name Amen

Signs found outside churches

~ It is unlikely there'll be a reduction in the wages of sin.

~ If you don't like the way you were born, try being born again.

~ This is a ch_ _ch What is missing? (U R)

~ Forbidden fruit creates many jams.

~ In the dark? Follow the Son.

~ Running low on faith? Stop in for a fill-up.

~ If you can't sleep, don't count sheep. Talk to the Shepherd.

- Courtesy of Parish Pump

Update on Fundraising Events

Christian Aid

The Soup and Sweet event at Echt Hall raised £919.84 for Christian Aid.

DISCO

Cluny and Monymusk Sunday School organised a DISCO, Craft Table, Activities and Food to raise money to help children to be in school in Tose's home village in Zimbabwe.

We are very pleased as we raised £460, part of which is already being used to pay for 2 boys to be in school until December.

The event was fun and went well, it was very generously supported by families in our communities.

Our thanks go to Doug for the DISCO, Marks and Spencer for the delicious sausages and Monymusk Thrift Shop for their help to put on the DISCO event.

Plant Sale

A very successful fundraiser, coffee morning and plant sale was held at Chapel which raised just over £1600 for Bennachie Parish Church funds.

Daffodil Tea

A very successful Tea was held at Millbank Hall on 20th April. £450 was raised for Bennachie Parish Church funds.

Update on our Church Buildings

Churches

The sales of Midmar and Cluny Churches are currently nearing completion.

We expect Blairdaff Church to go onto the market this year.

The Old Blairdaff Church has now formally changed hands and is no longer in our care.

Manses

Kemnay Manse has now been sold, which leaves us with Manses in Kintore, Echt and Monymusk.

Forthcoming Events

BRUNCH

Bennachie Parish Church at Cluny and Monymusk

Advance Notice

A Brunch will be held on **Saturday 7th September** in Monymusk Hall from 10.00 – 12.00.

Bacon butties, butteries, scones, pancakes, tea, coffee, juice, and much more.

Activities for children.

Come along and enjoy!

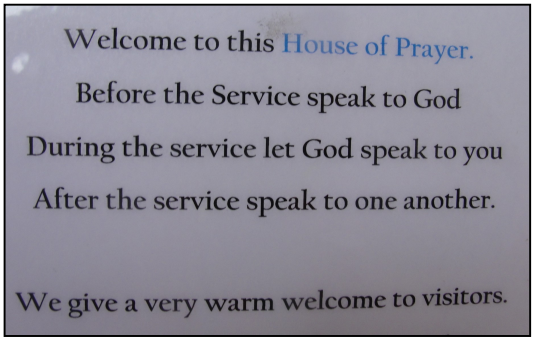
DOORS OPEN DAY

Monymusk Church will be participating in Aberdeenshire Council's 'Doors Open Day' on **Saturday 21st September.**

The theme this year being Heritage of Routes, Networks and Connections.

This is in conjunction with a community archaeology group who will have an exhibition on "Prehistory in the Garioch" and an afternoon tea in Monymusk Village Hall at 2pm

You Are Welcome



This poignant welcome notice was spotted by one of our parishioners on a visit to the Methodist Chapel on Fair Isle.

With kind permission of Fair Isle Chapel Pastor - Steve Charman

You might like to keep a look out on your travels through the Summer and if you see any notices with striking newsletter-worthy wording - take a photo and submit them to the Editor.

Midmar Church

On Sunday 3rd March 2024 a Thanksgiving Service was held at Midmar Church Commemorating 237 Years of Christian Witness.

A booklet was prepared for the service with the following words on the front cover:

Look backwards with gratitude
Look onward with hope
Look upward with confidence

The following text has been extracted from the booklet and a few photos have been included to supplement the text.



Midmar Church has a rich history dating back to its construction in 1787. The present church was built to replace St Ninians Church (built in 1677) or 'Midmar Old Kirk' the ruins of which are nearby on the south side of the main B9119 road.

Christianity had been brought to the Midmar area by St Nidan who was a cousin and disciple of St Kentigern. Kentigern who had met both St David and St Columba, travelled widely in Britain and founded monasteries as far apart as Wales and Glasgow.

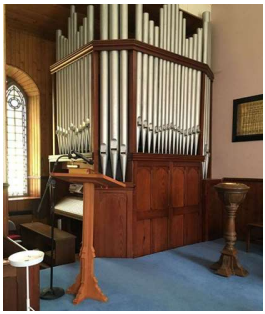
The current church building was designed by John Middleton of Shiels in 1786 and is a typical country kirk. A distinctive aspect of its architecture is the 'cherry-cocked' decorative pointing on the external walls, where small stone chips have been inserted into the cement.

The Rev Dr John Ogilvie was Minister when the current church was built, and he served faithfully both the church and parish for 53 years. Ogilvie was a friend of, and very much admired by James Boswell, the great Scottish biographer, diarist and lawyer.

Extensive alterations were made during Edward Lumsden's ministry in 1884. The entrance porch, three gallery lancets and a roundel above were added. The side walls and gable end of the main entrance were also extended, and the vestry enlarged. The seating area, balcony and pulpit were also renewed.



During Rev Johnson Oliphant's ministry 1904-08 the paraffin lamps both inside and outside the church were installed. It would be 1985 before the church had an electricity supply so use of the paraffin lamps, are still within living memory.



Rev Francis McHardy was ordained in 1908. He was responsible for both the extension of the cemetery around the north, east and south sides of the church, and, in 1914 the installation of the church organ. The organ, of course, until the arrival of the electricity supply, had bellows that had to be hand pumped this was undertaken by various local boys.

A church member recalled having to 'stand in' as a blower in the late 1970's:

'You went down steps below the dais where there was a wooden lever that had to be pushed up and down. With a signal from the minister, you began pumping before the hymn started. You kept pumping until a gauge showed there was enough air in the bellows and then you had to keep it level with a line marked on the wood. You could hear the wheezing of air as it rushed into the pipes. You had to stay there through the whole service, it was quite cramped.' (Anne Dunbar).

With the installation of electricity in 1985 the hand pump was replaced with an electric pump. In 2006 an electric organ was installed.



The familiar and much loved church bell was originally the bell of the old St Mary's Church of Kinnernie. The bell was made in Holland and bears the inscription PETER JANSEN 1642.

Random or otherwise, our collective memories of Midmar Church are many, varied and greatly cherished.

Steeped in a unique history, this remarkable church has nurtured and sustained the lives of countless Christians past and present, and we are privileged and honoured to have been part of its story.

Mostly Harmless



In the autumn, Neil will be running a 6-week Bible Study on the Creation and our place in it, titled “Mostly Harmless”. See details below.

Mostly Harmless

A Bible Study about Creation and Our Place in it.

6 Week Study.

Thursday evenings: 29th August to 3rd October

7.30 to 9.00 pm

Kintore Church

Everyone is welcome

Thursday Drop-in at Kintore

Coffee and bakes, soup served from 11.30 am

Kintore Church Hall from 10 - 2 pm Up to 27 June

Note:
Jul & Aug - Drop-in is on a break
Sept - from 10 to 12pm with tea, coffee and homebakes
Oct onwards back to normal (10 to 2pm)



Food Bank Donations welcome

Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland

What's on for children and families

Blairdaff & Chapel of Garioch - Kintore - Cluny & Monymusk - Echt & Midmar - Kemnay

Meets in Kemnay Kirk Centre
Friday mornings / 9.15-10.45am / £2 per family
Play and toys, a snack (special diets are catered for) and a time of musical fun.

Contact Rita Custard for more info: ritacustard@bennachieparish.church

Sunday mornings 10 - 11am in Kemnay Kirk
We start off in the Church to hear a story from the Bible, pray and sing some songs before heading through to continue learning through craft, activities and snacks.

Contact Sarah Earley for more info: sarahearley@bennachieparish.church

Note: Fantastic Families is on a break from 30th June to 11th August

Messy Church Kintore (term time only)
Meets the 2nd Sunday of the month in Kintore Church Halls. 3.30 - 5.30pm
Find us on Facebook

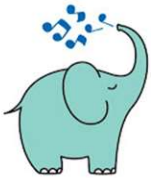
Contact Meta Chalmers for more info: metachalmers@bennachieparish.church

Blairdaff and Chapel of Garioch Church
Families always welcome to services.
Pew bags with fun activities available for children.

Cluny & Monymusk Sunday School (term time only)

Meets monthly at 10am to take our part in the life, worship and work of our Church. We hear the Christian stories, wonder, do activities, sing in Monymusk church and in the Hall next door.
All Families and members of your family are very welcome.

- Mairi, Jess and Susan.



mainly music (term time only)

Monymusk Village Hall
Tuesday 1.30-3.15pm / £3 per family
FUN, songs, rhymes, children's snack followed by toys and activities for the children, tea & cakes for parents and carers and a chance to get to know other people.

Contact Susan Reid for info on Sunday School and mainly music activities:
susanreid@bennachieparish.church

QR code to Children's area of the Bennachie Parish Church website:

HOPE Cafe

Tea & Toast
Tots & Toddlers
Young or Older

Every Tuesday 9 to 11am At Bennachie Parish Church at Echt

Coffee & Chat
Grandparents
Mums & Dads

Play corner available for children

All welcome - well behaved dogs welcome too!

We hope you will come and join us

Suggested Donation £2.00

This is going to be a fun, busy week NOT TO BE MISSED!
Asking for your help please to let the young people know. Thank you



The club will be led and run by the **OUT OF THE BOX COMPANY,** but we are looking for volunteers to help with registration, craft and catering and to work with small groups. Please contact Carole Horne: Carolehorne@bennachieparish.church

** **Please note the age criteria**

Cluny Church

On Sunday 16th June the final service was held in Cluny Church, in a building which goes back to 1789 but on a religious site where a church has existed since the 1300's. Rev Euan Glen in giving thanks for the church and its people gave a history of the church which has been adapted to suit our newsletter.

While there is no evidence of the location of the earlier church it is thought that it was constructed on what is now the oldest graveyard in the area which hosts the mausoleums for both the Linton estate and the domed roof Mausoleum of Miss Elisa Fraser from Castle Fraser.

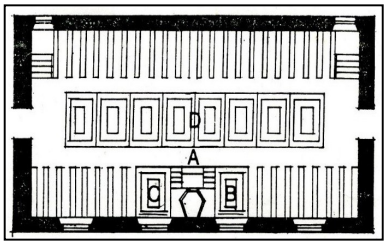
The old church tradition says it had fallen into disrepair possibly due to the reformation and the change of liturgy and ownership of the church and its grounds. So in 1789 a new church was built - the current church of Cluny.



The church was not built on the original churchyard but on part of the glebe and part of the ground given by Cluny Estate. And so in 1789 the church was opened and the first minister was likely to be Rev Mr Robert Michie who wrote the Statistical account of the parish in 1799. He tells us of the union between Kinernie and Cluny, and the building of the new church which was opened in 1789, two years before we received the gift of the communion silver some of which are still in use today.

In keeping with the centrality of the Word of God the interior of the church was simple and the pulpit was in the centre of the long wall of the church with doors on either side, the evidence of a later change can be seen on the wall adjacent to the newest church yard when this door was closed up.

The church and land had three heritors (owners) and they were Cluny Estate, Castle Fraser Estate and the Crown, this being as a result of the union with Kinernie who had the Crown as its heritor.



Cluny Kirk 1804. From a drawing in the Scottish Record Office (GD.244/361/1/4)

For reasons unknown, while the pulpit was placed on the long wall which was traditional within reformed churches the box pews were all at right angels to the pulpit as shown in an early plan for the church. The upstairs gallery which unlike

today had three sides also had some missing pews to allow the heritors to bring their own more comfy chairs in to sit for worship!

The church continued in this layout until the late 1800's when an organ was installed and the church changed to its current layout with a chancel and Pulpit at one end and pews facing it. Only one of the upper galleries remained, the one that would face the pulpit and communion table.

In 1843 with the disruption the assistant minister of Cluny (employed because the parish minister was incapacitated) left to join the Free Church and over the years two churches existed in the parish, the current Cluny Church and the Free church built in Sauchen.

A new manse was built in the second half of the 1800's which was a grand Victorian home complete with stables and separate office block for the parish (forward thinking though it was not used much)

The union of the Free Church and the Church of Scotland led to the parish having the South Church (in Sauchen) and the North Church (current Cluny Church). The south church was closed in 1970 and the building returned to the Linton Estate.

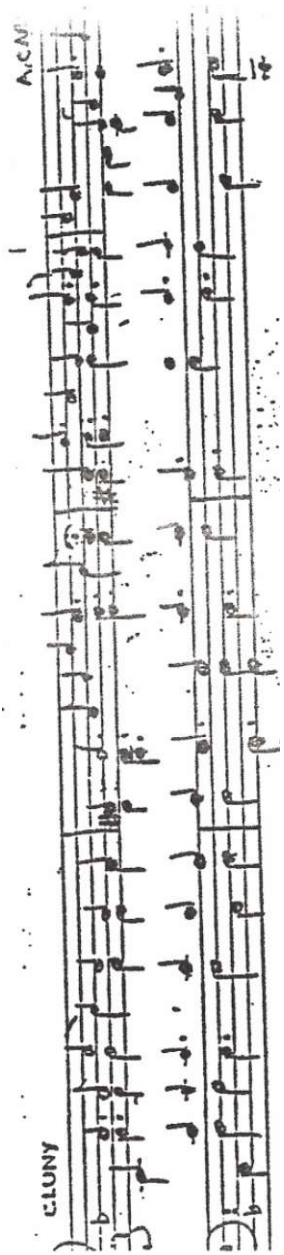


It seems strange to think about it but electricity did not reach Cluny church until 1965 when a major upgrade of the building was undertaken with new windows electric heating and redecoration among other works.

Cluny continued on its own until 1983 when a linkage was formed with Monymusk. The Manse at Cluny was sold and the minister stayed in the Manse in Monymusk. From the proceeds of the sale of the manse the new hall was built.

Over the many years of Christian worship fellowship and service the parish church stood at the centre of this rural parish. It was served by many hard working local folk. It is sad that the current climate in the Church of Scotland meant that this building with its isolated location made it subject to review and ultimately to be closed.

Though the building is now closed some of its artifacts are to be used in Monymusk Church. The faith that led to the church being built will still dwell in the hearts of the people of Cluny in the new Bennachie Parish Church.



Cluny Kirk 1789 – 1989

A Hymn of Praise

O, God I know a church that stands
In lovely, wooded pasturelands,
Its solid walls are built in stone
A house that worships You alone.

Down leafy lane, where time stands still
Sits Cluny's Kirk – upon a hill,
Where faithful souls have laboured on
Two hundred years have swiftly gone.

In changing seasons, changing days
Our lives have changed in many ways
But You have drawn us into light
And kept us ever in Your sight.

In Spring when birds are on the wing
And from the hedgerows sweetly sing,
Our church is there to hear their praise
And welcome back the sun's first rays.

As Spring gives way to Summers long,
Our hearts grow stronger in the song
That in Your garden all is well –
A sacred place in which to dwell.

But when the golden fields are bare
And frosty winds do chill the air,
We gather in Your house to hear
The comfort that Your love is near.

And as the church bell calls us home
It bids us swiftly, Lord to come
To place our souls with Thee is best
Forever more with Thee to rest.

Author - Mr Sandy Argo

This hymn was written as part of a 200-year birthday celebration in 1989 after a competition.
The author was the church organist for many years.

Bennachie Parish Church
Prayer and Praise Chain



If you or someone you know is in need of Prayer support, it is our privilege to help.

Please send an email to: prayerrequest@bennachieparish.church or phone Joyce and Jeff Thomas on 01467 643434.

- Please, if possible, have the consent of those for whom the prayer is requested.
- Please provide the wording of the prayer to ensure that all are praying for the exact same thing.
- People can give as much or as little detail (e.g. name or initials) as they wish.

This is a confidential service. No information will be shared outwith the Prayer Chain members.

Online Newsletter: To view this magazine online please go to: https://www.bennachieparish.church and click on NEWSLETTER in top banner.

Bennachie Parish Church Newsletter

Your comments, ideas & material are always welcome. Letters and articles should be sent to: The Editor, 'Oxencraig', Bridge Road, Kemnay AB51 5QT or preferably via email to the following address:

newsletter_editor@BennachieParish.Church

Please include your name and address. The editors reserve the right to edit material to suit the space available.

The DEADLINE for the Autumn edition is **15th September 2024.**

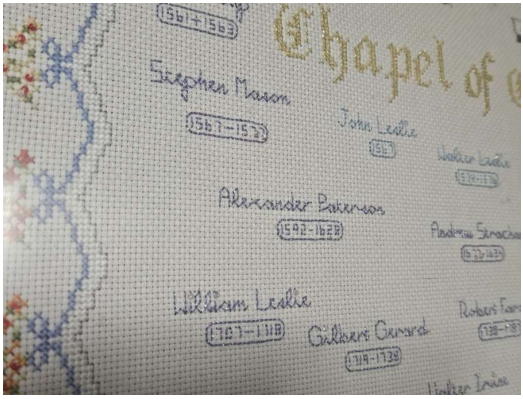
Please ensure all material is submitted by this date so that we can publish on time. *Thank you*

We hope you find the following article interesting and informative it has been kindly submitted by Bill Hern who has carried out extensive research into the passengers on the *Empire Windrush*.

Connections: Chapel of Garioch Church and the *Empire Windrush*

On 22nd June 1948 at Tilbury Docks in Essex over 1,000 passengers disembarked from the *Empire Windrush*. Almost half of the passengers on board were West Indian and, while the *Windrush* was not the first ship to bring West Indians to Britain, it became symbolic of the migration of people from the Caribbean to the UK. So much so that 22nd June is now recognised as 'Windrush Day.'

You may be wondering what this has to do with the Chapel of the Garioch Church? Well, Windrush passenger Vincent McFayden, was one of those disembarking on that historic day in 1948. McFayden is a good old Scottish name, meaning 'son of Patrick,' but Vincent was in fact Jamaican. However, his roots were in Scotland and his nine x grandfather was Reverend Alexander Paterson, Minister of the Chapel from 1592 until 1622.



Beaded Tapestry - Courtesy of Stella Gauld

The beaded tapestry on display in the church records Reverend Paterson's long and loyal tenure.

Let us look at what happened in the 356 years between the young Reverend taking over at the Chapel of Garioch and 26-year-old Vincent arriving in the 'Mother Country' where he had secured a job as a valet to one of the richest men in England – Felix Fenston.

They may have been separated by three centuries and 4,000 miles but Reverend Paterson and Vincent McFayden shared the same DNA.

In 1604 Reverend Paterson and his wife Elizabeth had a son, John. Young John would have listened to many sermons at the Chapel of Garioch. In due course he followed in his father's footsteps and, after serving in churches at Foveran and Ellon in Aberdeenshire, he was appointed as

Bishop of Ross in 1662.

John, the Bishop of Ross, had seven children, the youngest of whom, also called John, was born in 1632.

John junior succeeded his father in the church at Ellon before going on to reach the dizzy heights of Bishop of Galloway in 1674 and Bishop of Edinburgh in 1679 before becoming, in 1687, the Archbishop of Glasgow.

When he died he was buried in the Chapel Royal of Holyrood Palace.

However, it is John's brother, William that we need to follow on the path that will lead us to the *Windrush* and Vincent Mc Fayden.

William became a barrister and clerk to the privy council and was created as the 1st Baronet of Eccles in 1687.

On his death in 1709 William's son, Sir John Paterson inherited the title becoming the 2nd Baronet of Eccles.

Sir John and his wife Margaret had three sons and a daughter and it is that daughter, Margaret Elliott Paterson, who, when she married Stephen Bromfield II of Hassington Mains near Eccles, took us a step closer to the Caribbean.

Margaret and Stephen's son, Captain Andrew Bromfield had settled in Jamaica in the 1770s when he was aged about 30. In 1785 he married Mary Parchment. The Parchment family, although hailing from Jamaica, were white.

Mary, twenty years younger than her husband, went on to have eight children with him but in addition the Captain had at least five children outside of his marriage.

It is here we introduce Rose Reynolds the heroine, or victim, or perhaps both, in this story. Rose was an enslaved person who gave birth to four of Captain Andrew's children.

Captain Andrew struggled to produce a legitimate son and heir. Seven of the eight children he shared with his wife Mary were female and it was not until the birth of their sixth child in 1799 that they had a son.

This put Rose Reynolds in a powerful position as she had given birth to a son, John Frederick Bromfield, as long ago as 1777. When John Frederick was baptised in Jamaica on 19th October 1785 he was shown as the "reputed son of Andrew Bromfield and Rose Reynolds."

There is little doubt that, impatient for a male heir, Captain Andrew treated John Frederick as such.

It is equally apparent that the relationship between Rose Reynolds and Captain Andrew was a long-term one. Their first child John Frederick was born in 1777 and their fourth, Sarah Bromfield, in 1788.

Born into enslavement Rose was now recognised as the mother of the heir to Captain Andrew's estate, a position of some privilege and influence.

As Captain Andrew's heir it is highly likely that John Frederick was sent to Scotland to be educated before returning to Jamaica to manage the Bromfield's plantations.

It would take a whole book to document the stories of the generations that followed John Frederick and his mother Rose.



This concludes the first part of the story. We will publish the final part in the next edition of the newsletter.

Rather than keep you in suspense until the next edition we thought you might like to see this photograph of Vincent.

We will hear about his arrival in Britain in 1948 onboard the *Windrush* in the next instalment.

Vincent McFayden
- Courtesy of Suzanne McFayden

The Beaded Tapestry - Introduction

The tapestry was designed and created by Angela Hogg, an elder of Chapel of Garioch initially, then elder of BCoG and now of course BPC.

It includes the names and dates of all the ministers over hundred's of years, and the most recent 5 had their country flags included. It is a beautiful piece of work.

It is located on the wall of the church hanging almost under the right hand balcony, to the right of the vestry door on full display.

- With thanks to Stella Gauld

The Beaded Tapestry



The cross stitch shows all the ministers and readers since 1561 at Chapel, after the kirk at Old Logie was closed. The readers are in a different colour to the ministers.

It was a really interesting research project.

The figures at the top are: St Moluag, Christian Bruce, Robert's sister who founded the original chapel of our lady of the Garioch, Mary Queen of Scots who worshiped at Chapel when she stayed at Pitcaple and Balquaine castles and a figure to represent the ministry in general, who may bear a passing resemblance to Eric Milton.

The flags represented the main nationalities that were worshiping with us at the time of sewing, so not related to the ministers, except Kim Cran who was American.

The border symbolises the burning bush, with each bush being different due to the thread I used for it.

In the centre, the pastoral scene shows the purple headed mountain (Bennachie) the river running by (the Ury), and the sunset. Underneath are 4 fish to represent the 4 Gospels. The sheep stand on granite rocks.

It was one of two large projects I undertook from design to finished article.



Location of Beaded Tapestry in Chapel of Garioch Church

The phrase at the end was taken from Hebrews 13:2 “Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.” At the time, Chapel was well known for its hospitality to others.

- With thanks to Angela Hogg

Memorable Moments





The 'Holy Rollers' Boules Team

Kemnay buggy walk five year celebration



The Buggy Walk families celebrated five years of walking together with a party at Kemnay Church Centre on 16th May. There was a delicious home-made cake and the usual cuppa and chat. Buggys were decorated in celebration of this landmark occasion.

Every Thursday morning, the buggy families end each walk with a social time at the centre. The children can play with the toys and each other while mums, dads and grandparents can relax and have a chat together.



We are delighted to host this time each week and it's always a delight to watch the youngsters grow and thrive together. Long may this group continue and grow.

Bennachie Parish Church Hospital Transport Project

This is a project run within Bennachie Parish by volunteers and is for all who meet the criteria shown below and live within parish boundaries, whether church members or not.

We try to ensure those who are elderly, or with a mental health issue/ physical disability, have equal access to health care through the provision of a transport system for medical appointments. We aim to provide transport to and from appointments for those who are unable to use public transport, do not have a car and who have no family or friends able to take them.

Initial requests for transport should be made to THinC on 01467 536111 or by email travel@thinc-hub.org THinC will then source a local driver, if possible, who will make contact to make pick-up arrangements for the trip. If no local volunteer is available, THinC will seek a driver from another organisation.

We currently have funding in place to help with costs but donations are always welcome. (Please note - other organisations have their own set of charges).

We are always on the lookout for more volunteer drivers, so if you have a few spare hours every few weeks and you enjoy driving and meeting new people, this is a good group to work with.

For further information please contact Irene Reid at:

irenereid@bennachieparish.church

Echt Church Craft Group

Patchwork

Sewing

Cross Stitch

Blether over a cuppa

Felting

Knitting



No Experience Needed

Tuesdays 1 - 3pm

Bennachie Parish Church Contacts

Ministers:

Rev Sheila Mitchell sheilamitchell@bennachieparish.church

Rev Neil Meyer: neilmeyer@bennachieparish.church

Rev Euan Glen: euanglen@bennachieparish.church

Church Office: office@bennachieparish.church

Session Clerk:

Dr Sheila Simpson sheilasimpson@bennachieparish.church

Blairdaff and Chapel of Garioch

Local Leadership Team: Stella Gauld - stellagauld@bennachieparish.church

Andrew Ruck - andrewruck@bennachieparish.church

Cluny and Monymusk

Local Leadership Team: Susan Reid - susanreid@bennachieparish.com

Anne Harrison - anneharrison@bennachieparish.church

Echt and Midmar

Local Leadership Team: Alistair McRobb - alistair.mcrobb@gmail.com

Kemnay

Local Leadership Team: Rota / Church Office - office@bennachieparish.church

Kintore

Local Leadership Team: Carole Horne - carolehorne@bennachieparish.church

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BPC Free Will Offering & Gift Aid Jeff and Joyce Thomas
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BPC Christian Aid: Elizabeth Watt - Echt
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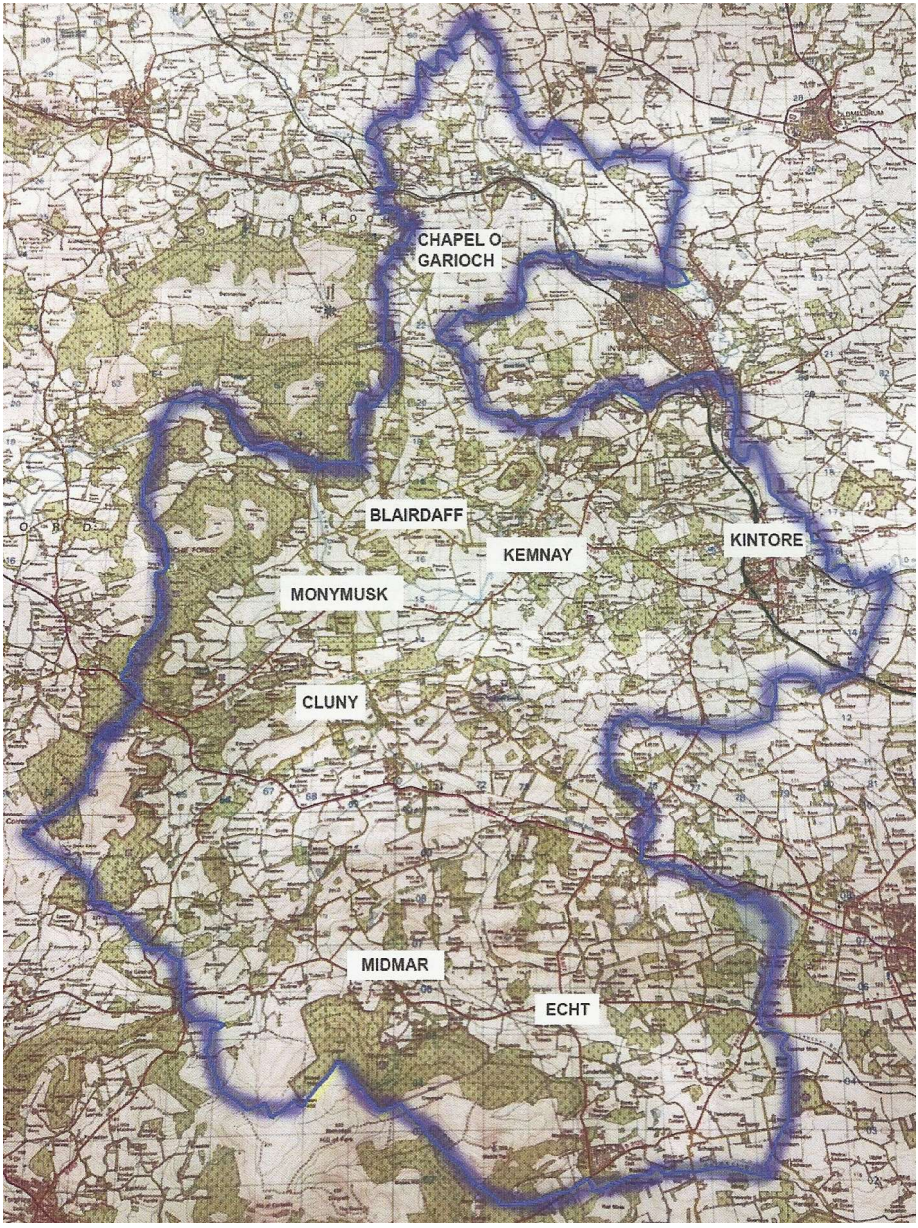
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Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland



Scottish Charity No SC014790