Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland

Kirk Newsletter - Winter 2024



I heard the Bells on Christmas Day

I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along th'unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head:
'There is no peace on earth,' I said
'For hate is strong, and mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men.'

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
'God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men.'

Till, ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Courtesy of Parish Pump

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Winter edition of the Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland Kirk Newsletter.

The Communication & Publications Group met in September when it was agreed that we would forego an Autumn newsletter (apologies for that) and concentrate on this Winter edition. The content for this edition and the publication schedule were discussed amongst other items.

On 17th October, our much loved and respected Assistant Minister Rev Tose Shayamunda was inducted into his charge at Kincardine Coastal Church of Scotland. Further details of this event can be found inside.

You will also find in this edition:

- An encouraging message from the manse at Kintore.
- Details of a forthcoming 'Ukes and Dyooks' social event.
- Schedule of events and church services around Christmas.
- The final part of the interesting and informative article by Bill Hern about the connection between Chapel of Garioch Church and the *'Empire Windrush'*.
- An informative story about the new owner of Old Blairdaff Church.

As always your comments on the style and content of the newsletter are very welcome as are suggestions on a 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 - scan this QR code, then complete and submit the online form.

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

How to use QR code: If you have a smart phone or iPad etc. switch on the Camera App and point the camera at the QR Code. You will be directed to an online form in the church website.

A Letter from the Manse at Kintore



From the Manse – Christmas 2024

In 1982 a man from my home-town who delighted in the name, "Crocodile" Harris, made it into the South African Christmas pop charts with a song called "Give Me the Good News". He was a one-hit wonder; we never heard from him again. The song wasn't much musically either but in terms of capturing the spirit of the moment it was a corker.

As we headed towards Christmas that year, the news each night alternated between reports of violence in Beirut, Belfast and Soweto, followed by an update of how many of "our boys" had been killed in the South African Border War in Angola. Against this backdrop Crocodile Harris sang:

> "If we accept the word forever, maybe we should live together.
> And not be scared to watch the late night news.
> You can't use guns to build a nation, a bullet never was creation.
> Give, give me the good news.
> War's the one game where we all lose.
> Give me the good news"

40 years on and it seems the nightly news is just as scary as it was then. How we could use some Good News this Christmas!

Closer to home, we've navigated our first full year together as a united parish and as a team ministry. As we head into our second Christmas together, there is a great deal of Good News to celebrate.

- Tose's departure was sad for us but wonderful news for him and his family and we wish him and the Kincardine Coastal Parish every blessing as they celebrate their first Christmas together.
- The terms of our union required that we dispose of three of our church buildings and, while there was sadness in parting with them, we can be grateful that we have made good progress towards selling Cluny, Midmar and Blairdaff favourably. The good news lay in our celebration of the rich history of these buildings and of the communities that worshipped in them over many generations.
- Another area of good news is the team ministry. Euan, Sheila and I meet weekly to plan and reflect on the congregations and the parish

and this has been a source of tremendous support and encouragement to us all.

- After helping to get the union off to a flying start Sheila Simpson completed her term as Session Clerk and our new Session Clerk, Carole Horne, has taken over from November.
- We have a new office administrator, Paulette Campbell, who is lightening the administrative load and providing a central hub for the parish.
- A number of parish committees have been established to work on logistical matters such as communications, administration, property and finance.
- We have a wide range of social and youth-related projects up and running such as the Hope Café (Echt), Thursday Drop-ins (Kintore), mainly music (Monymusk), Little Lambs (Kemnay) and Messy Church (Kintore) and our Loaves & Fishes Café (Kemnay) has a new manager, Karen McGinn.
- Fundraisers run throughout the year, for church funds and charities, have been well supported from all corners of the parish.

Most of all though, as the ministers get to know each worshipping community better we are discovering the rich tapestry of skills and passions that our united congregation possesses. We truly have some remarkable saints among us! Each place has its own ethos and style and there are inevitably times when we don't all do things the same way. But that is not a weakness. As the Kirk Session works to develop a shared vision for our whole parish in the new year, I am excited by two bits of good news: The variety within our united parish; and the deep, deep love I see in every corner for Christ, His Church and His mission in the world.

So go on, give me the Good News.

In 1965 Charles M. Schulz, creator of the Peanuts cartoon, was invited to write a television special for Christmas. In "A Charlie Brown Christmas" Schulz's characters get involved in competitive Christmas lights displays, greedy letters to Santa, an uncooperative Christmas play cast and a search for the perfect Christmas tree – all while Charlie Brown is trying to find out what Christmas is really all about. Amidst all the hype his quest seems hopeless until his friend Linus hushes the cast and gives them the Good News:

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding

in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,
and the glory of the Lord shone round about them:
and they were sore afraid.
And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold,
I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe
wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the
heavenly host praising God, and saying,
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will
toward men."

May your Christmas be filled with Good News and may the New Year bring a time when no one is afraid to watch the late night news.

Neil



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

ALL ARE WARMLY WELCOMED
Services take place at 10am every Sunday
They may be Minister led or Community led
Joint services are also held, on these occasions there may not be a service at your local Parish Church

For further details of the Bennachie Parish-Wide Services Schedule scan the QR code (instructions below) or contact the church office

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.

A New Session Clerk

At the meeting of Session on August 19th, I formally demitted the office of Session Clerk to Bennachie Parish Church. I was Session Clerk in Kemnay for many years, then I served as Session Clerk to Bennachie Parish Church after the union on 1st September 2023.



Sheila receiving her gift of flowers at the Session Meeting on 19th August

It has been an interesting and challenging tenure, but I am very happy that Carole Horne from Kintore has agreed to take over this post. I wish her well, as I am sure we all do, and we look forward to her time in this role.

Dr Sheila Simpson

An Important Notice for Church Members
Data Protection > A Legal Requirement

By now you should all have received, completed and returned to the Church office your personal **Member Information form.**
To date **836** have achieved this. A big `Thank you' to you.
This leaves over **800** who have not managed to do this. To those folk, we must stress the importance of this legal requirement under the **Data Protection Act of 2018.**
We need your permission to store and use your personal information as a member of the congregation. It is not too late to complete and return your Member Information Form. We ask you to please complete your copy and to return it to the Church Office as soon as possible.
If you do not have a form you can request a copy from the Church Office.
Church Lane, Kemnay, AB51 5QP
Tel. 01467 643883
Email: office@bennachieparish.church
Thank you

John Cook



Rev Dr John Cook has retired from his post as minister to West Gordon Parish Church. This parish is the result of the union of the parishes of Cushnie and Tough, Howe Trinity and Upper Donside, which took place on September 1st 2023.

John and their assistant minister Simon Crouch shared the care of these former parishes. Members of Kemnay Kirk will remember John's commitment to us as Interim Moderator when John Renton retired, and before Joshua Mikelson was appointed as our Minister.

I am certain he will be sadly missed, and we wish him and his wife Alison a restful but fulfilling retirement.

Our ministers have been appointed as joint Interim Moderators for West Gordon Parish Church during their vacancy.

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

Tose's Induction

On 17th October, our much loved and respected Assistant Minister Rev Tose Shayamunda was inducted into his charge at Kincardine Coastal Church of Scotland. This parish is a result of a union of Church of Scotland parishes in Portlethen and Newtonhill which occurred in January 2024.

Both the church in Portlethen, and the hall later, were packed with a variety of folk from that church and beyond. Bennachie Parish Church was well represented, as well as people from other churches in the area. It was clear that Tose had made his mark already…the social event after the induction service even ran out of some of the food they had prepared, such was the response to the event.

The induction service was formal, as is the case with these events within the Church of Scotland. The Moderator of Presbytery, Rev Shuna Dicks was in charge, and there were contributions from Ken Cruikshank, the session clerk at Kincardine Coastal Church and Dr Edmond Gatima from Torry St. Fittick's Church.



The Welcome Social was a very different, informal and busy affair ably led by Ken Cruikshank. It started with the family being piped in by Dr Peter McEwan. Presentations were made to the Interim Moderator Rev David Galbraith, the locum minister Rev John Watson and to Tose and his wife, Sheanesu, as well as their children who delighted everyone with their involvement in the evening. A mock 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire' was produced by their very active Girl's Brigade group, but the highlight of the evening was an unexpected performance

from friends and relatives of Tose as they sang hymns in Shona, their home language, unaccompanied and quite beautifully.



Warm greetings were extended to Tose from local clergy; it is clear he is a welcome addition to the area.

Finally, Dr Sheila Simpson, from Bennachie Parish Church gave a short presentation about Tose, managing to embarrass him with anecdotes from his time with us in Bennachie Parish Church, but also giving examples of his invaluable contribution to the life of the congregation. Mindful of his growing interest and fluency in Doric, she presented him with a Doric dictionary, much to the approval of the audience. The evening closed with a rendition of Auld Lang Syne – very appropriately.



We shall miss Tose and his family greatly, but we wish him, Sheanesu, and their children Munashe, Mufaro and Munopa God's blessing on their exciting future in their new home.

Forthcoming Events





Eadie and Ethel

Present

UKES and DYOOKS
A Blend of Doric Comedy and Music

Kemnay Church Centre
Saturday 23rd November at 2.30pm

Entry Free but donations welcome

'Bilin het in Italy and Doug's had his budgie smugglers on!'

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!

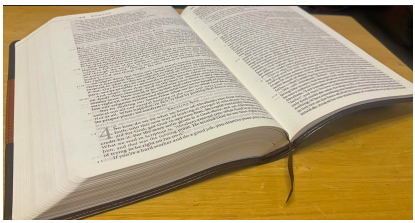
We hope you will come and join us

Suggested Donation £2.00

Weekly Bible Study at Bennachie Parish Church

Monday 7.30pm on Teams

Studies are recorded and available to watch again as needed



Led by David Bale
If you would like to get involved get in touch and we will provide further joining details

Bennachie Parish Church
Daily Prayers

Volunteer Opportunity

An opportunity is now available to assist in creating the daily on-line prayers which are published on the church website, Facebook page, twitter feed and on Teams.

- This is a shared task that can be a bi-monthly commitment assuming we have two or more volunteers.
- Resources available to assist on-line and/or from using your own quiet time devotions and readings.

If you have suggestions, ideas for prayer topics that can be used please also get in touch.

Contact Noel Lord noellord@bennachieparish.church

Bennachie Parish Church

Christmas Services & Events Nov-Dec 2024

The Church of Scotland

Special Christmas Events

Sat, 7th Dec – **Christmas Lights Switch-on**	4:00pm	Kintore
Sat, 30th Nov – **Christmas Lights Switch-on**	5:30pm	Monymusk
Sun, 8th Dec – **Christmas at Blairdaff**	2:30pm	Blairdaff
Wed, 11th Dec – **Time to Remember**	7:00pm	Kintore
Tues, 17th Dec – **Carols in the Square**	7:00pm	Monymusk
Sun, 22nd Dec – **Carols by Candlelight**	6:30pm	Kintore

Christmas Gift Services – Sun, 8th Dec

Kemnay – 10:00am
Kintore – 10:00am



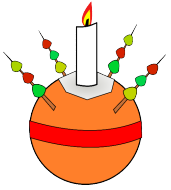


Nativities and Carol Services

Chapel of Garioch – **Lessons and Carols** Sun, 15th Dec, 10:00am
Kemnay – **Nativity Play** Sun, 15th Dec, 10:00am
Monymusk – **Church Nativity** Sun, 15th Dec, 10:00am
Echt – **Instant Nativity / Carol Service** Sun, 15th Dec, 6:00pm
Kemnay – **Lessons and Carols** Sun, 22nd Dec, 10:00am
Kintore – **Instant Nativity** Sun, 22nd Dec, 10:00am

Christmas Eve – Tues, 24th Dec

Kintore – Christingle, 5:30pm
Kemnay – Clothing the Cradle, 6:30pm
Monymusk – Family Service, 7:00pm



Watchnight – Tues, 24th Dec

Echt – 11:00pm
Kemnay – 11:00pm
Kintore – 11:15pm



Christmas Day – Wed, 25th Dec

Monymusk – 10:30am
Kintore – 11:00am



Joint Service – Sunday, 29th Dec, Echt, 10:00am (Communion)



Bennachie Parish Church Children and Families

Families are always welcome at our Church services where there are activity bags for the children.

In addition, all children are welcome at the Children's Sunday groups.



Kemnay Fantastic Families meet each Sunday in school term times.

Farewell Party for Munashe, Munopa and Mufaro.

Sarahearley@bennachieparish.church



Monymusk and Cluny Sunday school for all the Family meets monthly

Sheila telling the Parable of the Sower.

susanreid@bennachieparish.church

Kintore Messy Church Families meeting monthly on a Sunday afternoon

Metachalmers@bennachieparish.church

Summer Holiday Club attended by children from all the Parish.





The children's groups are looking forward to taking their part in the Nativity Family Services at Kemnay and Monymusk Churches on December 15th at 10.00am.
We welcome all Families to join us.

Happy Christmas



More information about the Sunday and the preschool groups, Monymusk mainly music (Tuesday pm) and Kemnay Little Lambs (Friday am) is available on the website.

Blairdaff Old Church

I recently received an informative story about the new owner of Blairdaff Old Church. Most of the material has been previously posted on Facebook through a local contact.

Having made contact with the new owner - Mike Taitt (thanks to the help of local contacts) I found his story and his motivation for purchasing the ruin very interesting. I hope you do too. Here is his story:

"Let me begin with some background leading to my interest in purchasing

the Old Church at Blairdaff. Some forty years ago I was invited by the Minister Eric Milton and the Kirk Session of Chapel of Garioch to be an Elder. I was then living in the parish at Braeside. At that time I was serving with the Gordon Highlanders in the post of Adjutant at Gordon Barracks.



I had always had an interest in historic buildings and when I left the army in 1983 I set up business specialising in the restoration and repair of old buildings. My first commission was Terpersie Castle at Tullynessle which I completed in 1987. We picked up a number of awards for conservation.

During this time I joined the committee of The Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland, North East Branch, and took on casework providing advice on Listed Building applications to local planning authorities. I am still involved as a committee member and attend regular meetings in Aberdeen.

In 1991 I took on the rebuilding of the porch at Castle Forbes. I had no formal training in stonemasonry, nevertheless the completed work attracted further conservation awards.

From the mid 80s until the reorganisation of Presbyteries two years ago I was a member of the Glebes and Property Committee of Gordon Presbytery. I served for 8 years as Convener.

My interest in Blairdaff stems from 2002 when I was invited to carry out some limited conservation work on the ruin, sealing the wallheads, skews, and lintels. Like many others who have visited, and particularly those who have relatives buried there, I was taken with the tranquillity and beauty of the place.

Some years later I was able to buy the ruin from the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland with a view to doing more serious conservation work, and to set up a charitable trust to preserve the building and to maintain it in a safe condition for many years to come.

Over the next couple of months I hope to complete the necessary work to make the building properly safe. This will include removing all vegetation from the masonry, sealing the wall head and skews, making good loose masonry, and re-pointing where necessary.



Essentially the building will look the same but it will be safe and masonry repairs will blend in with existing using traditional lime mortar. I am grateful to the Kirk Session for agreeing that the bell should be returned to its rightful place in due course when worship ceases at Blairdaff Parish Church. I also propose to re-roof the vestry in Scotch slate so that it can be used as a safe depository for recoverable elements of the old church and archive materials. Someone has a pew which has been offered and there may be other items as well as documented memories from those who were around before worship ceased in 1950.

I see myself not as owner but as custodian, recognising community ownership. I promise that there will be no demolition partial or otherwise of this very special building.

Newsletter Editor

I had a recent update from some visitors to the site who reported as follows:

"My friend and I stopped at Blairdaff Church today, and had a lovely conversation with Mike (and his dog Hector). He is an incredible character and a very fit/sprightly 80 year old. His energy and enthusiasm for this project is amazing! I must admit we both had our hearts in our mouths as he chatted to us while strolling along the rooftop like a 20 year old as he awaited the arrival of his much younger helper - Blair. In the 5 mins that we spoke to Blair we could see what a fantastic bond the 2 of them have made. They had their work all planned out for the day so we left them to it, but we are sure to return to see their ongoing progress with the project. Great work lads, keep it up!"

Appeal: If you or anyone you know has any previous knowledge of the church please email Mike on mtaitt@btinternet.com

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

As promised in the Summer Newsletter, here is the final part of the interesting and informative article kindly submitted by Bill Hern, who has carried out extensive research into the passengers on the *Empire Windrush:*

It would take a whole book to document the stories of the generations that followed John Frederick and his mother Rose so let's return to 1948 and Vincent McFayden, the direct descendant of Reverend Alexander Paterson.

Employment prospects in Jamaica were poor immediately after the Second World War. When Vincent heard that the Windrush would be sailing from Jamaica to Britain on 27th May 1948 he spotted an opportunity to make a better life for his family which at that stage comprised his wife Renie and two young children, with a third on the way.

The plan was to earn enough money to either bring his family to England or return to Jamaica to set up a business or buy some land. In the event, Vincent like so many of his fellow passengers, found that England was not the land of milk and honey that they hoped for.

Vincent wasn't really cut out to be a valet and soon found a job as a chef so he could at least work in a warm kitchen. He worked hard but was only able to eke out an existence rather than build up any savings. Eventually he decided to return to Jamaica and in October 1957 he left Southampton destined for Kingston, Jamaica.

Reunited with Renie and the children, Vincent found employment in his homeland and enjoyed a good life providing for his family which in time grew to six children, all of whom went on to have successful careers. His youngest child, Suzanne, is now an author and leading collector of modern and contemporary art and a sponsor of national and international humanitarian efforts to feed the hungry.



After retiring, Vincent and Renie moved to Florida where they died in 2005 and 2020 respectively.

Although his life didn't always run smoothly, Vincent never lost his sense of humour and was much loved.

Vincent McFayden
- Courtesy of Suzanne McFayden

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.

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 Spring 2025 edition is **16th March 2025.**

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

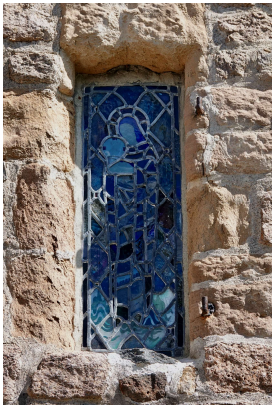
Thank You

Annie Ferries has kindly and quietly behind the scenes been making jam for Loaves and Fishes over the last 24 years. She recently decided to step down from this activity for a well deserved break. Thank you Annie for your dedication and support to Loaves & Fishes over this time.

Christmas Photo Quiz

Can you identify these images taken within Bennachie Parish?

Send your answers to the Editor



A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H

Loaves and Fishes Coffee Shop



Loaves & Fishes Coffee Shop, Kemnay Church Centre have a new Manager, and we welcome Karen to head up our team!

Join us for a coffee, fine piece or lunch, it will be great to see you.

We are also looking to recruit more men and women volunteers to serve in the café. Get involved in a whole range of activities; taking orders, serving drinks and food, making light lunches, operating the dishwasher, kitchen or café tidy up. If you can spare as little as 2 hours a week or even a morning or afternoon. The rota is any time between the hours of 9:30am and 2pm Tuesday to Thursday or until 3:30pm on a Friday.

Other volunteer opportunities are to join our Monday shopper team, normally once a quarter commitment, or our baking team!

Why Volunteer?

Boost your Self Esteem

Christian Outreach

Achieve your Goals

Expand your Interests

Develop New Skills

Be Part of a Team

Serving Others

Benefit the Community

For more information contact the Church Office 01467 643883, email Loavesandfishes@bennachieparish.church, or pop in and see what we do, Church Centre, Church Lane, Kemnay, AB51 5QP

The True Origins of the Internet?

An old, bearded shepherd with a crooked staff walked up to a stone pulpit and said, "And lo, it came to pass that the trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a young wife by the name of Dot. And Dot Com was a comely woman, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she had been called Amazon Dot Com.

And she said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why doth thou travel far, from town to town, with thy goods when thou can trade without ever leaving thy tent?" And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, Dear?" And Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale and they will reply telling you which hath the best price. And the sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums. And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had, at the top price, without ever moving from his tent. But this success did arouse envy. A man named Maccabia did secret himself inside Abraham's drum and was accused of insider trading. And the young man did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Siderites, or NERDS for short.

And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums, that no one noticed that the real riches were going to the drum maker, one Brother William of Gates, who bought up every drum company in the land. And indeed did insist on making drums that would work only if you bought Brother Gates' drumsticks.



And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others." And as Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or as it came to be known "eBay," he said, "we need a name that reflects what we are." And Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators." "Whoopee!" said Abraham. "No, YAHOO!" said Dot Com.....and that is how it all began.

Author Unknown

From The Parish Window - www.parishwindow.co.uk

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



Bennachie Parish Church Contacts

Ministers:

Rev Sheila Mitchell smitchell@churchofscotland.org.uk

Rev Neil Meyer: nmeyer@churchofscotland.org.uk

Rev Euan Glen: gglen@churchofscotland.org.uk

Church Office: office@bennachieparish.church

Session Clerk:

Carole Horne carolehorne@bennachieparish.church

Blairdaff and Chapel of Garioch

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

Andrew Ruck - andrewruck@bennachieparish.church

Cluny and Monymusk

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Kemnay

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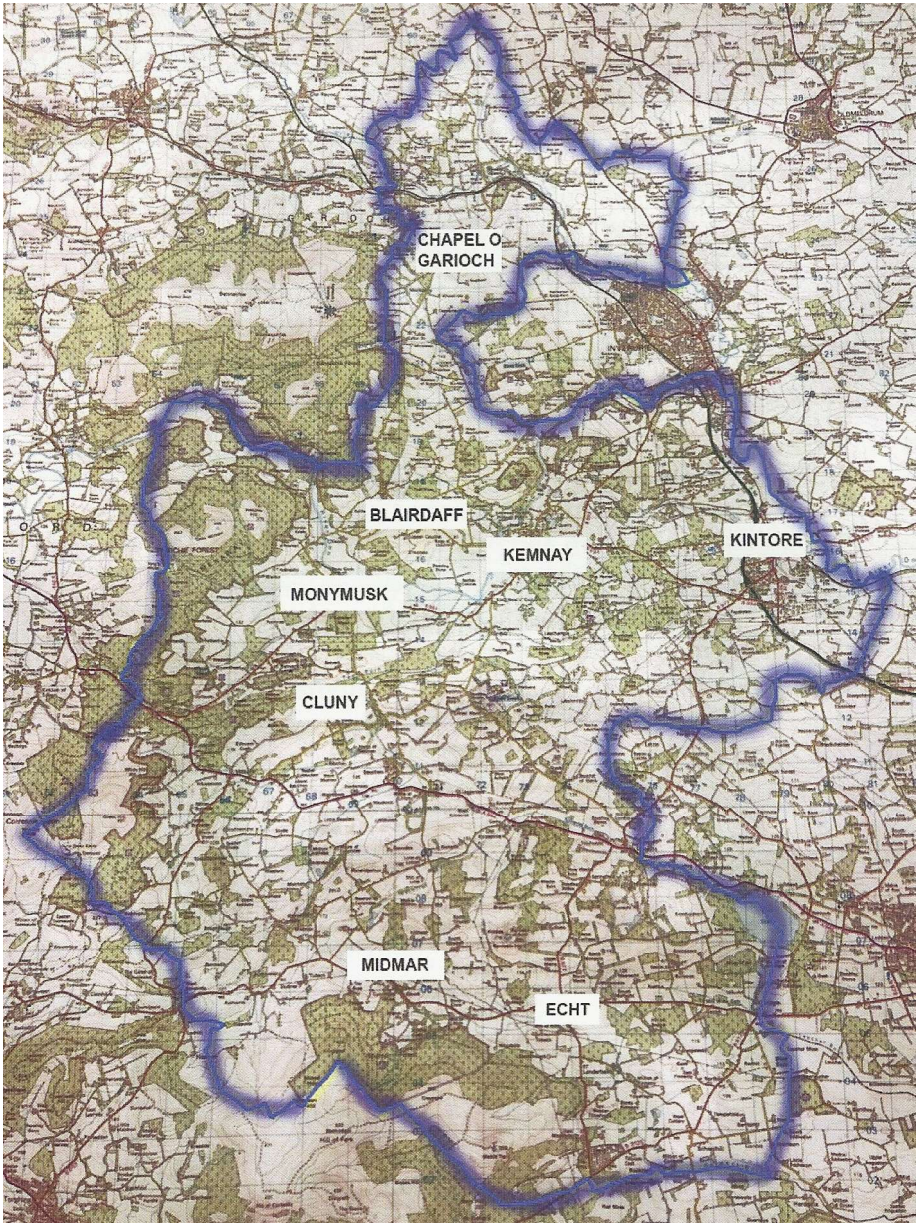
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Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland



Scottish Charity No SC014790