Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland

Kirk Newsletter - Spring 2026



That Day

That day was a day like never before
As the Saviour died and the darkness grew,
Earth shuddered and rocks were split apart
As the veil of the temple was torn in two.

The centurion who witnessed all these things,
The earthquake, the One who was nailed to the wood,
Seeing Him die could only say,
'Surely this man was the Son of God'.

Death was defeated, the stone rolled away -
And man was released from all his bonds,
Christ rose as victor that glorious day.

The Light had pushed the darkness back,
He now stands resplendent for all to see,
Forgiveness, redemption all wrought on the cross,
The eternal fruits of Calvary.

By Megan Carter
Courtesy of Parish Pump

Cover Photo - Sunset Over Bennachie by Jim Buchan

Dear Reader,
Welcome to the Spring/Easter 2026 edition of the Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland Kirk Newsletter.
This edition features a calendar of events for Holy Week and Easter, an elder's long service award and a certain editor's retirement. You will also find the following:

- A thought provoking Easter message about the resurrection from our minister Neil Meyer.
- Forthcoming events for Children's and Families within Bennachie parish over the Easter period and beyond, for youngsters and the young at heart.
- Information about the Foodbank from Marbeth Ritchie.
- An article on the evolution of Information Technology leading to the current live streaming and catch-up availability of our services by Jim Buchan. Also, the opportunity to get involved.

As always your contributions for the newsletter are welcome, as are any comments on the style and content of the newsletter or 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.

Are your e-mail address details correct? If you have elected to receive the newsletter by e-mail but you have not been receiving them, please inform the church office of your current e-mail address.



A message from the Manse

Dear friends,
Easter is the season of Resurrection. But why did the Resurrection matter then? And why does it matter now? Systematic Theologian, Daniel Migliore, notes 5 dimensions in which the Resurrection changed everything.

God the Father
Firstly, the Resurrection of Jesus proves that God the Father is faithful. During his earthly life Jesus had claimed a special relationship with God, whom he referred to in intimate family terms as "Abba". The Resurrection showed that, as Father, God did not abandon his Son – even beyond death. The Resurrection similarly vindicated Israel's hope in God as the one who would save His people and usher in a new age.

God as Son
The Resurrection also makes a powerful statement to vindicate all that Jesus had said about himself. The Resurrection itself was not immediately understood as evidence that Jesus was God. But when his teachings and prophetic actions received the vindication of the resurrection, it became clear that there was more than just a special relationship between Jesus and the God of Israel. It became clear that Jesus is Lord, that Jesus had the power to forgive sins and that Jesus had the power to save. All these were characteristics only attributable to God. One can see then that a full doctrine of the divinity of Christ was bound to develop.

God as Spirit
The Resurrection of Jesus was understood in the Early Church as a work of the Holy Spirit (Rom 1:3-4). Moreover the same Spirit at work in the Resurrection was understood to be the source and first fruits of the experience of Resurrection life that became the hallmark of the new community of faith, that is, the Church.

The Church
It is quite clear from the New Testament witness that the Church was a community of the Resurrection. No community would have sprung up if Jesus was understood to be a failed Messiah. Again, the particular form that the Church took was a direct result of the Resurrection – namely a

community of reconciliation, a community which began to live as if the kingdom of God promised by Jesus was a reality, a community that lived as if Jesus was still active amongst it, most of all a community that continued Jesus' mission to the lost and even extended it to include Gentiles!

Politics

Finally there is no denying the political dimension of the Resurrection. Where Jesus' program had been counter-Temple, the church was counter-empire. The point is not simply that Jesus and the Church were revolutionary – but specifically that they rebelled against establishment's systematic exclusion and oppression of the weak and marginalized. The Resurrection was a vindication of Jesus' choice not to abandon sinful humanity. As Prof Dirkie Smit, South Africa's leading Systematic Theologian, has put it: If someone appeared outside the Houses of Parliament in Cape Town today, saying that the current government was corrupt and soon to be replaced by another power, and that person claimed divine authority for his pronouncements, that person may well be tried for treason. Let us say that such a trial were held, the person was found guilty and executed. If such a person were to suddenly reappear resurrected in Cape Town three days later, our first reaction would not be "Oh, how odd that a human being should be resurrected." It would be, "Good grief, he was right!"

Easter for us

In short, the Resurrection is the vindication that all Jesus did and taught and called his followers to do is not simply good teaching or useful life-lessons, but carries the weight of divine authority. The forgiveness of sinners, the healing of the sick, the care for the outcast and the offer of new life to all – as well as the grace and love embodied in such actions – are the gifts God chooses to give. And in Christ on the Cross, God was willing to die rather than be denied.

Today we are the beneficiaries of these gifts and their stewards. Is it any wonder we still call the story of Easter "Good News"?

Much love and good wishes to you and those whom you love this Easter.

Neil

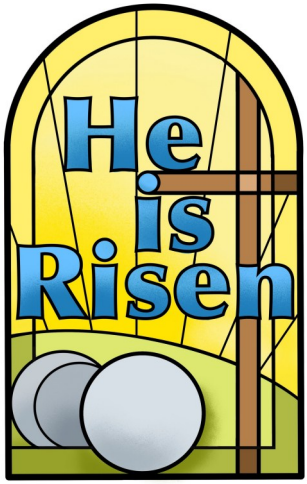
PS: And on a few personal notes…

I would like to thank our Interim Moderator, Rev Elspeth McKay, for helping us through the process of filling the vacancy. I want to reassure you

that she and the Kirk Session and, in due course, the Nominating Committee are hard at work to find us a second Minister. Please pray for them all in this holy work that they are doing for us.

I would also like to thank Euan who, you will know by now, has been appointed to us as a Locum Minister during the vacancy. It is so good to be working with Euan again and we all wish him every blessing in his ministry with us.





Bennachie Parish Church Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday from 9.30 am – 4.00 pm

Contact Information

Tel: 01467 643883

E-mail: 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 (see page 6) 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.

Bennachie Parish
Dates of Joint Church Services 2026

29th March*	Kemnay
3rd May	Echt
7th June	Monymusk
5th July	Kintore
2nd August	Chapel of Garioch
6th September	Kemnay
4th October	Echt
1st November	Monymusk
6th December	Kintore

* Palm Sunday

Parish Picnic – Sunday, 14th June, Monymusk Park

Our annual Parish Picnic will take place this year on Sunday, the 14th of June at Monymusk Park. We'll be there any time after church finishes (usually around 11am) and well into the afternoon.

Bring a picnic blanket and a picnic basket filled with all your favourite treats.

The afternoon is a relaxed opportunity for us spend time together as a church community, getting to know each other better – or for the first time! So please feel free to invite the whole family – and the neighbours too.

There will be fun activities including games for the whole family and a tour up the Monymusk Church Tower and Clock. We even have space to move inside if the weather doesn't play along.

We look forward to seeing you there.







Time to Renew

As those who have been called by Jesus Christ and are members of Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland, let us use this time at Easter to ask God for the grace needed to renew our commitment to the covenant that God made with us in Jesus Christ.

Holy Scripture tell us that "even if we are faithless, God is faithful, for he cannot deny Himself." (2 Timothy 2:13)

In the same way when we made a covenant/promise to give a fitting portion of our Time, Gifts and Money to the Church when we joined the Church, should we not now consider anew, what we can do to help today as the need is great in all areas of Time, Gifts and Money. Let us trust in His promise and rely on His Grace.

There are many opportunities to help with the Life of Bennachie Kirk. If you are involved – Thank you. If you are not involved and are able to get involved – Please do so.

As we approach easter, it gives us the opportunity to thank those who have supported the Church with their Gifts, Time, and Money.

"Each of you must bring a gift, in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you". (Deuteronomy 16 v17). Christian Giving is a privilege: sharing in the work that God is doing in the world today is something each one of us will want to do. Each little adds up and can go a long way, whether your Gifts, Time, or Money. We hope that everyone will feel encouraged to be part of and support Bennachie Church in any way.

It is now two and a half years since our churches joined to become Bennachie Parish Church and much has changed for the better, but there are over still many who gave Free Will Offering and Gift Aid to their home church who no longer give or attend, and still a great number who have not yet completed a "member information form", which we require to keep our records accurate and up to date.

If you have moved home or changed your name during the past few years or after you returned your member information form, please advise us by completing a new member information form. Similarly, can you please complete a Gift Aid form if you are able to give Gift Aid and you haven't

already done so for Bennachie Parish Church.

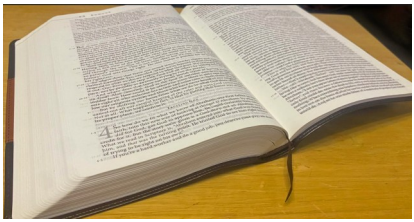
If you need any assistance, please contact the Church office on 01467 643883 or office@bennachieparish.church



Weekly Bible Study at Bennachie Parish Church

Monday 7.30pm on Teams

Studies are recorded and available to watch again as needed



Taking a break for now but will hopefully start again soon

Led by David Bale
If you would like to join us please get in touch and we will provide further joining details
You can contact David via email:
davidbale@bennachieparish.church

Bennachie Baking Book

Last call for those favourite receipes.
Please pop them in the envelopes available at each of our churches or email them to the Church Office.

David Porter – 30 years of Good News

This Easter edition of the Bennachie Parish Kirk Newsletter marks the swan-song of our wonderful Editor, David Porter. David has edited the church newsletter for 30 years, first at Kemnay and latterly for Bennachie Parish Church. At it's most frequent circulation, the Kemnay Kirk News was circulated 10 times a year.

A church newsletter is an invaluable source of information and a vital instrument for keeping us connected as a community. David's keen eye for detail, kind cajoling of content providers, resourceful writing and technical expertise meant that the newsletter was always of an excellent standard and filled with helpful, timely news. At the union in 2023 it was decided that we would continue to produce a newsletter, albeit less frequently, and David embraced the new way of working, generously giving his time and energy to create a newsletter that is truly inclusive and a celebration of our whole parish.



In September last year David notified the Kirk Session that he would be stepping down from his role for health reasons. Nevertheless he committed to completing the Christmas Edition last year and the Easter Edition this year. David has graciously done so in the middle of a move that has seen him and his wife, Diane, relocate to Perth. In his letter to the Session David wrote, "I have had the privilege of being Kirk Newsletter Editor for some 30 years and I have really enjoyed getting the Bennachie Parish Church newsletter up and running since its inception in 2023. I greatly appreciate all the support I have received from ministers, the communications committee and the congregation during this time."

David, through your faithful service with the Newsletter you have kept us connected and helped build community. Such work is on the side of the angels – we thank you. We wish you and Diane God's richest blessing in your new home and in all your new adventures.

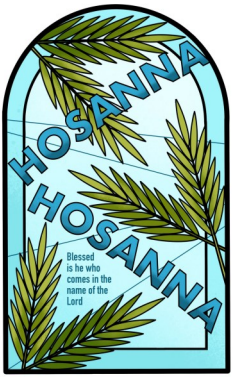
Rev Neil Meyer

Bennachie Parish Church Children and Family News

Children and Families from Bennachie Parish and beyond are very welcome at any of the groups. Come and visit to find the group that works best for your family. We look forward to meeting you.

For the regular Sunday and week day groups please see Bennachie Parish Church website for all the information and contact details.

Looking forward to welcoming you to our groups.



EVENTS COMING UP

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday March 29th Kemnay Church at 10 am

All Age Worship with Communion on Palm Sunday with a special welcome to Families.

The service will be led by Rev. Neil Meyer.

We will take part in Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and then journey through Holy Week, the Last Supper and Jesus' death on the Cross.

People are asked, if you can, to bring along daffodils for the Cross.

Marvin the donkey (with his friend Scooter) is coming along to help tell the story of Palm Sunday.

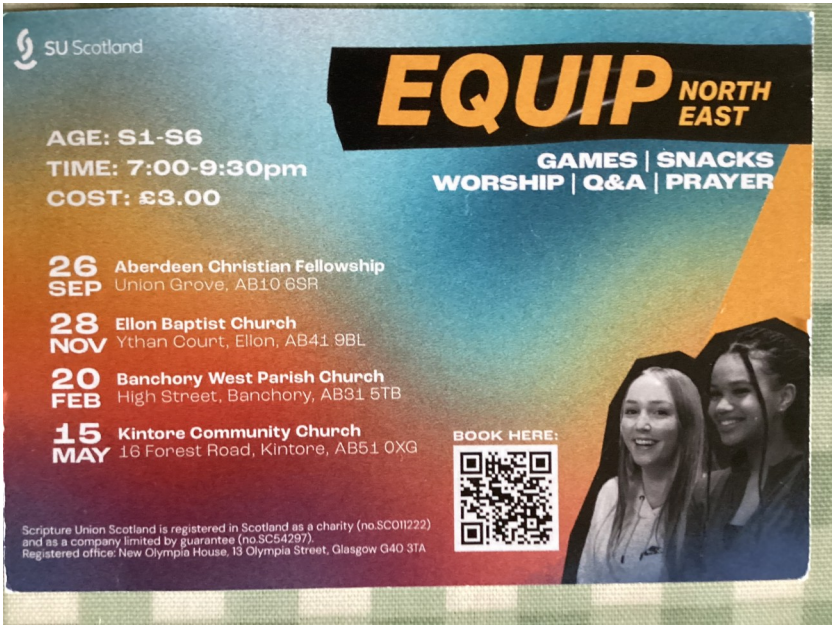
Refreshments afterwards in Kemnay Church Centre

EASTER EGG HUNT

Please see poster on page 12

EQUIP NORTH EAST

Scripture Union presents



HOLIDAY CLUB

This year's Holiday Club will be from **10th - 15th August** (the last week of the school holiday) at Kemnay Church Centre 9-30 to 12-00.

Run by Chris Watt (from Out of the Box Scotland).

We are sure it will be a great full on week of fun, teaching challenges and more (not forgetting the puppets).

All school age children welcome (children who have completed P1).

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN please contact:

Carole Horne: carolehorne@bennachieparish.church

Susan Reid: susanreid@bennachieparish.church


TIME TO
BOOGIE ON DOWN TO
THE EASTER EGG SELFIE TRAIL
Easter
Egg Hunt
Between March 29th - April 12th
Kemnay Church Centre
Kemnay
AB51 5QP
Greetings
ISLAND

Aberdeenshire North Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Mention a food bank and one immediately thinks of a food parcel being provided to meet the immediate needs of a household living in food poverty and, of course, with your generous support and regular donations of both food and money, that is what we at Aberdeenshire North Food Bank do. But are you aware that there is more to ANFB than that?

Just as Christian Aid suggests that giving a man a fish feeds him for a day but teaching him how to fish helps feed him for a lifetime, so we in the Trussell Trust nationwide network of food banks believe that it is not simply enough to provide food for hungry people in crisis. Our ultimate aim is to wipe out the need for food banks by identifying the root causes of food poverty in the UK and to help bring about the social changes to ensure that no-one in the 21st century should have to live a life of hunger.

Due to the current challenging economic outlook, we know we will need to continue to support significant numbers of people who are going without the essentials. So ending hunger today means making sure food banks can be there for everyone who needs them, offering a warm welcome and emergency food, alongside signposting to tailored support and advice, making it less likely people will need a food bank again. But our ultimate aim means tackling the causes of food bank need and challenging the systems that leave people facing hunger and hardship. This includes gathering information about why people end up in food poverty by using referral partners who can identify the background reasons that results in a particular household's need. This not only helps towards accurate targeting of signposting for additional help and support but builds a bigger picture of the principal causes of food poverty, to help drive real change across society.

We are SO grateful for every donation of food and money that reaches us but we long for the day when we no longer have to ask for your support. In the meantime, from everyone associated with Aberdeenshire North Food Bank, we simply say a huge **'Thank you!'**

Bennachie Parish Church

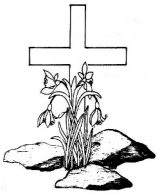
Easter Services March/April 2026

The Church of Scotland

Sun, 29th Mar	**10:00**	**Palm Sunday Joint Service**	**Kemnay Church**
Mon, 30th Mar	19:30	IDCT Holy Week Service	St Andrews, Inverurie
Tue, 31st Mar	19:30	IDCT Holy Week Service	St Andrews, Inverurie
Wed, 1st Apr	19:30	IDCT Holy Week Service	St Andrews, Inverurie
Thu, 2nd Apr	**14:00-16:00**	**Maundy Thursday Labyrinth**	**Echt Church**
	18:00-20:00	**Maundy Thursday Labyrinth**	**Echt Church**
	19:30	IDCT Holy Week Service	St Andrews, Inverurie
Fri, 3rd Apr	08:00	Process of Witness	Catholic Church, Inverurie
	12:00	Solemn Meditation	St Anne's, Kemnay
	19:00	**Good Friday Service**	**Kemnay Church**
	19:30	IDCT Holy Week Service	St Andrews, Inverurie







Sun, 5th Apr	**08:30**	**Prayers at the Cross**	**Kemnay Church Centre**
	08:45	**Easter Communion**	**Echt Church**
	09:00	**Easter Communion**	**Kintore Church**
	10:00	**Easter Morning Services**	**Chapel of Garioch, Echt, Monymusk, Kemnay & Kintore**
	10:00	Family Service	St Anne's, Kemnay
	15:30	**Mini-Messy Easter**	**Kintore Church**

.



Everyone is welcome to join us at all of these services. If you would like more information about any of our Easter Services, please contact our Church Office at 01467 643 883 or email office@bennachieparish.church

Live Service Streaming and Catch-up Over The Years by Jim Buchan

The history of putting church service content on-line started with the publishing of audio versions of Kemnay Services on Podbean. Services were originally recorded on CD with copies locally distributed to people who could not attend church due to ill health or age. In the early days of this service 10 – 15 copies were originally made. After some time the Gospel4Grampian project was established as an internet radio station which broadcast Gospel content 24/7. The station was looking for new content and it was agreed that publishing recordings of local church services would be a good way to increase the stations playlist. This continues today and the Kemnay Service can be found on-line on Gospel4Grampian every Tuesday evening. Gospel4Grampian now has a truly international following with listeners in all continents.

After many years of publishing service audio recordings on CD and also on -line in partnership with Gospel4Grampian a new project was conceived - Kemnay Kirk Anytime Anywhere. KKAA was the basis for broadcasting a video and audio live stream of Kemnay services which could be watched live or in catch-up mode by local people who could not attend church. Working with the residents of Littlewood Court a small group of people would meet each week in the Littlewood Court lounge to view the live video webcast. Initially, they would connect a laptop to the lounge TV and latterly using an iPad but now using a smart TV as technology has evolved. This was achieved by broadcasting on Youtube which was accessible to anyone with access to YouTube on-line – even now on smart phones.

The church user base of on-line viewers has steadily grown. In addition to the live/catch-up service on-line the church continued to offer some local users versions of the service to view by distributing video recordings on DVD a small group of people preferred this method as they were unable to access the on-line webcasts.

When COVID happened, we were no longer permitted to meet for worship in church. It was decided to continue to produce and broadcast our services with the minister Joshua, and his wife Heather producing service recordings at home in the manse which were then streamed each Sunday morning. We did this both on YouTube and Facebook.

This practice led to a surge in our online congregation. Other churches also rushed to get online too. We started to work with local partner churches which would lead to a formal union now known as Bennachie Parish Church. We have continued to develop this online ministry by broadcasting every week from all of our churches. Services are also accessible through our only catch-up service page on the church website.

Originally, Bennachie Parish Church had 4 ministers and 1 associate minister but due to one minister and the associate minister moving on and one minister retiring (now acting as our locum) we now have only 1 minister in place (whilst selection of a second minister is underway). This has made it necessary to use of our live streaming capability to allow our churches to access the live webcast of the minister's sermon wherever he is preaching. This is now done routinely on a weekly basis.

All of this would not have been possible except for the faithfulness of our Audio Visual volunteers. This group of people operate the AV equipment at each of our churches every week so that our services can be seen remotely also enabling access to our ministers live sermons.

We are always looking for new volunteers to fulfil this role. We believe it's a wonderful opportunity for young people to learn about the technology that's involved and who knows where it could lead. If you are interested please get in touch with the Church Office 01467 643883 or email office@bennachieparish.church

Feel free to access live webcasts from all of our churches each Sunday at 10am and also our catch-up service by using the link below or scanning the QR Code with on your smart phone.

https://viewservice.bennachieparish.church

Celebrating Faithful Service

On February 13, the Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles gathered at Cults Parish Church to celebrate people who have distinguished themselves in serving the Church.

The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt Rev Rosie Frew, presented Long Service Certificates to 25 elders, Sunday school teachers and Guild members along with a drama group from 9 congregations.

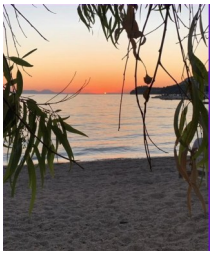


Mrs Frew's sermon was inspired by a speech given in the final episode of the drama New Amsterdam: 'Remember what that moment was for you, when you knew that Christian service, eldership, ministry was your calling. Because this job can wear you down, even on the best days it takes a toll on your heart. If you find yourself in a tough moment, thinking that all is lost, feeling like what you do doesn't matter, I want you to remember…. that coming to faith, that call to Christian service, that call to ministry. What it was that engaged you, opened your eyes and your heart…. and let that moment continue to be your inspiration, your guiding light.'

One of our own Elders, Hilda Mowat, received a Long Service Certificate celebrating her 30 years of service as an Elder. We celebrate with Hilda and thank her for her many years of faithful service.



Good Morning Group at Kemnay



GMG did not meet in January there was rather a lot of snow around.
In February Rita and Jane presented some more Women in the Bible (with a little assistance from Win, Jane's husband).

In March we looked at people's circumstances in several countries and how Tear Fund and other organisations were enabling them in setting up businesses, dealing with trauma and enabling communities to have taps thus reducing the risk of assault to and from water collection places.

We also heard the story of one woman's genital mutilation and cutting and how this helped her to speak with other women and they as a group shared the dangers of this practice and they are slowly putting an end to it in their part of the world.

We prayed for these folk and each of us had a short prayer to say for others in different circumstances.

The next meeting is on 7th April at Kemnay Church Centre.

Noel

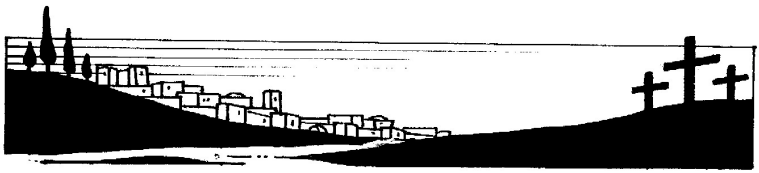
Correspondence - Follow up

You may have seen a letter sent to the Editor of the Kemnay Village Newsletter from the family of Brian Gedge. Thanking the folks of Kemnay and surrounds for the support he received in recent years.

Brian passed away quietly at home on the morning of 30th December at the age of 95, after a period of declining health.

Condolences to the family.

John Brian Gedge 17/02/30 - 30/12/25





A Farewell from the Editor

After much prayerful consideration I decided to step down from the position of Newsletter Editor in August last year, having had the privilege of being in the role for some 30 years.

I first took on the role of editor of the Kemnay Kirk News in when Mary Duncan stepped down. A great deal has happened since then.

Back in the early days of the Kemnay Kirk News cutting and pasting was used extensively in preparing the newsletter. A master document was put together in A4 landscape format, printed text was straightforward but graphics were not as readily available as they are now. So, they were photocopied from various sources and cut and pasted onto a blank page or within pre-printed text.

External resources available through subscription have been a great help to church newsletter editors over the years. One of the first I recall was the Church News Service, this was issued in paper format and then floppy disk, providing poems, text articles, cartoons and graphics,

Having produced a master document it was passed to Les Brown for printing in black and white on his home printing press. Several hundred printed copies were then collated and stapled by Mary Duncan and her team of helpers. As now, they were divided up and put into brown paper bags ready for distribution to the various areas in the parish by the team of volunteers.

A step change took place with the use of MS Publisher software. This enabled text and graphics, in the form of clip art, to be copied and pasted electronically into a magazine format that could be manipulated very easily. For some time now an online resource for church magazines and websites, called Parish Pump (other sites are available) has been available by subscription. This has proved to be very reliable source of excellent 'filler' material to improve the look and content of the newsletter. A further change has been the ability to include more photos, this results in a very large MS Publisher file size but it's now feasible to send it via email to the printers using WeTransfer (other software is available).

More recently I have enjoyed developing the Bennachie Parish Church newsletter since its inception in 2023. Taking on the role of editor for

Bennachie parish has been quite challenging but very fulfilling. There is now a communication and publication team which provides invaluable support towards prep of the newsletter and participates in the process of checking the newsletter prior to publication.

I greatly appreciate the support I have received over the years, from ministers and members of the congregation, without whom the editor role would be very challenging. Having the support of the communications team has also been a great help. I also had support from Andrew Radcliffe for many years, as we took it in turns to edit Kemnay Kirk News.

If you are considering taking on the role of newsletter editor I would be delighted to offer any assistance I can. Remember you don't need to make it a long-term commitment. I'm sure like me you would find it a joy and privilege in filling the role.

David Porter

A Farewell from Both of Us

In November 2025 my wife Diane and I decided it was perhaps time to make plans to downsize and move to new pastures. We were soon swept along putting our house on the market and looking for a new property. We had actually viewed a 2 bedroom apartment back in July but dismissed it as too much of a challenge. Then we took a second look and decided to meet the challenge.

To cut a long story short, with many prayers and blessings and a great deal of support from close friends we moved to Glenfarg in Perth and Kinross at the end of January 2026.

We still have a lot of unpacking to do, mostly by Diane, but we have had a very warm welcome by the locals and we're getting to know our way around. It's a very small village but there are many community activities and events - soup and chat and cinema club in the village hall (just next door) and bus trips to a local pub, to name a few.

So, if you are passing by on the way south via the M90 we'd be happy to see you, it's a very short diversion except you'll need to give us some notice as we may well be out and about somewhere.

Best wishes to you all for the future.

David & Diane Porter

Resurrection
(John 20:1-18)

Even in the darkness
Still she went,
Stumbling, longing for light,
Finding a stone-moved emptiness.

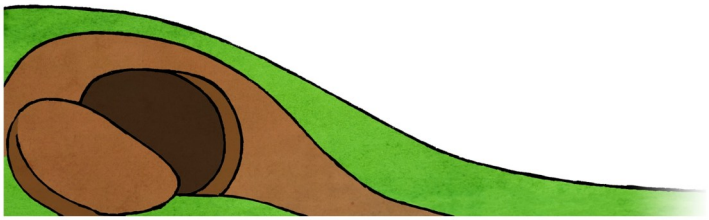
Then her running
And the running and out-running of the men,
The believing whilst not understanding,
The tears and the angels with questions and messages.

Death transformed to Life
In the turning,
And revelation in a name,
Mary!

Lord, sometimes I don't understand
And the world seems dark,
But I choose to turn from darkness to You.

Speak *my* name Lord,
Hold me safe
In Your resurrection power and light.

By Daphne Kitching
(Courtesy of Parish Pump)



3rd April - Good Friday, the day the Son of God died for you



Good Friday is the day on which Jesus died on the cross. He was crucified at 9am in the morning, and died six hours later, at 3pm. It is the most solemn day in the Christian year and is widely marked by the removal of all decorations from churches. In Lutheran churches, the day was marked by the reading of the passion narrative in a gospel, a practice which lies behind the 'passions' composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750). Both the St Matthew Passion and the St John Passion have their origins in this observance of Good Friday.

The custom of observing a period of three hours' devotion from 12 midday to 3pm on Good Friday goes back to the 18th century. The 'Three Hours of the Cross' often take the form of an extended meditation on the 'Seven Last Words from the Cross', with periods of silence, prayer, or hymn-singing.

(Courtesy of Parish Pump)

HOPE Cafe

Tea & Toast

Tots & Toddlers

Young or Older

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

Coffee & Chat

Grandparents

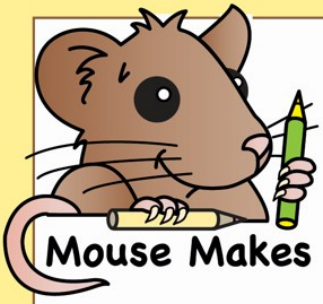
Mums & Dads

Play corner available for children

All welcome - well behaved dogs welcome too!

We hope you will come and join us

Suggested Donation £2.00



G O O D N E W S
O H O S A N N A
D E A T H Q B V
V N C O E E U I
U A H N A A R O
M I R E V S Y U
A L I V E T D R
R I S E N E O K
Y O T H O R N S
P A L M S Q K A
R P I L A T E N
C R U C I F Y G
R H I Q U A K E
O C J E S U S L
S T O M B V D Y
S R Y E M P T Y

JESUS • DONKEY • PALMS
HOSANNA • PILATE • THORNS
CRUCIFY • NAIL • CROSS
QUAKE • DEATH • BURY
TOMB • STONE • EMPTY
ANGEL • MARY • HEAVEN
RISEN • ALIVE • GOD
GOOD NEWS • CHRIST
SAVIOUR • EASTER • JOY

EASTER WITNESS - I WAS THERE

I carried Jesus into Jerusalem

Read Matthew 21:1-11

I handed Jesus over to be crucified

Read Matthew 27:11-26

I nailed Jesus to the cross

Read Mark 15:16-32

We watched Jesus die

Read Mark 15:33-41

I laid his body in my tomb

I guarded the tomb

Read Matthew 27:62-66

Read Mark 15:42-47

We saw the empty tomb

and spoke to the angel

Read Matthew 28:1-10

Jesus is alive!
He ate a meal with me!

Read Luke 24:13-35

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BPC WiFi Free



The project to establish a wireless network in all our church buildings is now complete

Look out for the QR Codes which are now displayed - scan these with your mobile device to connect

Bennachie Parish Church Newsletter

Your comments, ideas & material are always welcome. Letters and articles should be sent 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 Summer edition will be announced via the church intimations in due course.

Bennachie Parish Church - Newsletter Circulation

To reduce newsletter production and distribution costs we encourage readers to opt for the e-mail version however we are aware that some recipients are willing to pay towards the cost of the printed version and probably are already doing this - Thank you.
If you receive the printed version, once read, please consider passing it on to others in the neighbourhood especially if they are new or have relocated to the area.
Many Thanks

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.

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



Opportunities

Men and Women

As little as 2 hours to 4 hours a week

Or join our Monday shopper team or baking team!

Serve in the café : take orders, serve food, clear tables

Serve in the kitchen : food preparation or wash up / tidy up.

Achieve your Goals

Christian Outreach

Serving Others

Develop New Skills

Expand your Interests

Benefit the Community

Boost your Self Esteem

Be Part of a Team

For more information contact Karen at

Loavesandfishes@bennachieparish.church call in

or phone 01467 643883



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

Minister:

Rev Neil Meyer: nmeyer@churchofscotland.org.uk

Church Office: office@bennachieparish.church

Session Clerk: John McCall - SessionClerk@bennachieparish.church

Blairdaff and Chapel of Garioch
Local Leadership Team: Stella Gauld - stellagauld@bennachieparish.church

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

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: Graham Ritchie - geritchie@sky.com

BPC Finance: Andrew Radcliffe
andrewradcliffe@bennachieparish.church

BPC Property: Kevin Gilbert (Convener)
kevingilbert@bennachieparish.church

BPC Free Will Offering & Gift Aid Jeff and Joyce Thomas
jeffthomas@bennachieparish.church

BPC Christian Aid: Elizabeth Watt - Echt
ewatt567@aol.com

Val Reid - Kintore
valeriereid@bennachieparish.church

Suzanne Bunton - Kemnay
suzannebunton@bennachieparish.church

Elaine Percival
elaine_percival10@btinternet.com

BPC Safeguarding: Ruth Radcliffe (Convener)
ruthradcliffe@bennachieparish.church

BPC Data Protection: Jan Guild
janguild@bennachieparish.church

Further contacts can be found on the website: www.bennachieparish.church

Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland



Scottish Charity No SC014790