

Dec'17/Jan'18



Cults Parish Church
reaching out to the community

Dear Friends,

Christmas is a time for outsiders.

The Nativity Story from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke is about outsiders.

There were Mary and Joseph the outsiders returning to Bethlehem. Returning to a town, and to a people, that had no room for them. Mary even more of an outsider as a pregnant unmarried mother.

The first to hear the news of the Saviour's birth were outsiders – the shepherds. Men who were on the fringes of society, not to be trusted, to be kept at arm's length.

Then there are the Magi. These mysterious visitors from the East. Outsiders in the sense that they were foreigners. Gentiles representing a world that for some, at least, of the Jews was considered "unclean". A world from which the Jews were to keep apart.

But the God who comes to us at Christmas, in the weakness and frailty of a baby, is the God of the outsiders.

During the Christmas season many "outsiders" come to our churches. It is up to us to welcome them. To create an atmosphere of welcome, hospitality, and warmth that allows them to experience the love of God which is at the heart of the Christmas message.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Kenneth

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

Sat, Dec 2nd

Cults Kirk Centre

Singing Waiters! Mince Pies!

and the rest!

In aid of Roxburgh House and
Crossreach

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Cults Kirk Sanctuary

Dec 11th - 17th

1pm - 7pm

Admission Free

*Maybe Christmas
doesn't come from a store.*

*Maybe Christmas
means a little bit more.....*

CHRISTMAS MORNING

We will be joining with **Peterculter Church** for a short service at 10:30 to which children are invited to bring their toys.

Sign-up sheets for anyone wanting transport to Peterculter are available in the vestibule of the Church and at the Kirk Centre reception desk.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office

- 404 North Deeside Road, Cults, AB15 9TD

Tel 869028

- e-mail cultsparishchurch@btinternet.com

Website

- www.cultsparishchurch.co.uk

Interim Moderator

- Kenneth Petrie, 185 Springfield Rd. Aberdeen AB15 8AA

Tel 315125

- e-mail KPetrie@churchofscotland.org.uk

Charity No

- SCO17517





Shuna Dicks, is all set to move into the manse towards the end of January. We're all looking forward to welcoming Shuna and her family. In the meantime, here is Shuna's Baker's dozen.....

HOW DID YOU COME TO BE IN CULTS CHURCH?

I sensed that God thought I should apply for the vacancy and well its seems He was right.

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES FAITH MAKE IN YOUR LIFE?

My faith is an integral part of who I am. It is my guide and strength.

FINDING GOD: WHAM-BANG-WALLOP OR SLOW-AND-STEADY?

Slow and steady. My earliest memories of church are from when I was very small and chasing the minister's son around the hall at a party.

WHAT HYMNS MAKE YOUR SKIN TINGLE?

I love so many different styles and types of hymns but if I could only choose a few the 'How Great Thou Art' would be right up there – it says everything to me about God that needs to be said. I also really like 'For everyone born a place at the table' because no-one is excluded from the love of God and that includes being welcome at His table.

WHAT WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND DO BETTER?

We need to shout louder about all the good things we do. The church is doing fantastic life affirming and life changing work and all we ever seem to read in the press are the negative stories.

WHAT MUSIC ARE YOU LISTENING TO AT PRESENT?

Ha-ha! – as I was typing it was Bananarama - but it was Neil who had put that on his iTunes playlist earlier. I have a rather eclectic taste in music – anything from Iron Maiden to Irene Cara, with a wee drop of classical music in the mix too.

WHAT BOOKS ARE AT YOUR BEDSIDE?

My Bible, and my Kindle – which is full of murder mystery novels and thrillers.

GOD GRANTS YOU A ONE-TO-ONE INTERVIEW WITH TWO QUESTIONS. WHAT ARE THEY?

Wasps and midges– why?
Am I doing ok?

IN WHAT NON-CHURCH SETTINGS HAVE YOU FELT GOD'S PRESENCE?

Sitting on top of a hill with a 360 degree view of the world around me.

WHAT CHURCH BUILDING HAS MADE THE BIGGEST IMPACT ON YOU?

Ooh this is a hard one... perhaps the Church of the Transfiguration on top of Mount Tabor in Galilee... or the wee church on the site of the home of St Catherine of Siena (see below)

IF HEAVEN'S A RESTAURANT, WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

Starter: Chicken chat on puri from Bengal Spice in Keith
Main: M&S Butter Chicken with their naan bread
Sweet: Bread & Butter pudding or the cheese board (just no blue cheese please)
Pre-dinner drink: a Bramble Cocktail
Wine: A Sauvignon Blanc from Chile

FAVOURITE BIBLE STORY?

The Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus did not judge her – he set her free from her past and sent her off as the first evangelist. Those who deny women the opportunity for ordination need to go back and read this story again.

INSPIRATIONAL FIGURE?

St Catherine of Siena – if ever someone deserved the title of 'Patron Saint to Stropky Women' it is her.
My Hubby Neil – he is one of the nicest people you will meet; hardworking, helpful and never utters a bad word against anyone (not that he doesn't drive me potty at times too and his taste in movies isn't great!)

MCKAY & INNES
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

154 North Deeside Road, Peterculter. Tel: 01224 730233

324 North Deeside Road, Cults. Tel: 01224 868832

Contact us at : mckayandinnes@outlook.com

Cameron McKay & Callum Innes

Let us help, guide and support you through a difficult time.

Available 24 Hours

Pre Paid Funeral Plans Available



VACANCY UPDATE

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISM

Poppy McCombie,
Laurencekirk

WEDDING

Paul Innes & Kirstie Watt,
Sheddocksley Drive,
Aberdeen

NEW MEMBERS

Janis Brown,
Binghill Grove
Milltimber
(Torry St Fittick's Church)

Mr Bill Kemp
The Rowans,
Cults
(Resolution of Kirk Session)

DEATHS

Ann Couper,
Baillieswells Rd.
7.11.17.

Elaine Golding,
Dunmail Manor, Cults.
10.11.17.

Gilbert Mackintosh,
Florence Court, Cults
10.11.17.

Sunday, 26th November saw a full church hear Shuna Dicks from Aberlour Parish Church preach for the post of minister of Cults Parish Church. This was the final stage in a rigorous process to determine who should be our next minister and the overwhelming vote "FOR" was conclusive.

The "Call", which is basically an invitation to the new minister and a promise of support, will be available for signing by anyone on the electoral register between 9 am and 1 pm in the Kirk Centre until Monday 4th December. Anyone not on the electoral register, including children, may sign the "Paper of Concurrence".

Shuna's induction, to which everyone is invited, will be in the Church at 7pm on Thursday 25th January, 2018 and there will be a social event afterwards in the Kirk Centre. Her first service, at which she will be "preached in" will be Communion on the 28th January.

In the meantime, essential pastoral calls should be referred to the "Interim Moderator", Kenneth Petrie.

Flower Rota

December 3rd	Stella Anderson
December 10th	Val Wilson.
December 17th	Vanessa Gerbrandy
December 24th	Flower Team.
December 31st	Flower Team.
January 7th	Betty Sainsbury
January 14th	Ian Wilson.
January 21st	Helen McGregor.
January 28th	Lizetta Garwood.

SUNDAY BIBLE READERS

Dec 3 rd	- John Troup
Dec 10 th	- Pauline Varley
Dec 17 th	- TBC
Dec 24 th	- TBC
Dec 31 st	- Bruce McKenzie
Jan 7 th	- Philip Bell
Jan 14 th	- Vera Crichton
Jan 21 st	- Lilian Brown
Jan 28 th	- Irene Paterson

CRECHE ROTA

Dec 3 rd	- Kathleen MacPherson & Gillian Stewart
Dec 10 th	- Anne MacKenzie & Fiona Stone
Dec 17 th	- Eleanore Olley & Janette Dey
Jan 7 th	- June Gilchrist & Dawn Rae
Jan 14 th	- Ann Smith & Anne MacKenzie
Jan 21 st	- Emily Rumbles & Gillian Stewart
Jan 28 th	- Fiona Stone & Kathleen MacPherson

10.30am SUNDAY WORSHIP

Dec 3 rd	Rev Gordon Craig (Baptism)
Dec 10 th	Very Rev Alan McDonald
Dec 17 th	Rev Gordon Craig (Nativity)
Dec 24 th	Lessons and Carols
Dec 31 st	Rev Mark Rodgers
Jan 7 th	Rev Mark Rodgers
Jan 14 th	Stiubhart MacChoille
Jan 21 st	Rev Duncan Eddie (Pulpit exchange)
Jan 28 th	Rev Shuna Dicks (Communion)



All types, costs and sizes of projects undertaken
All commissions treated with friendly competency
All you have to do is call

01224 313080

1b Ruthrie Terrace
Aberdeen AB10 7JY



A message from the "Green Group"

Christmas Glitter

You may have noticed that glitter is getting a bad press these days because of the harm it can do to marine species when it makes its way through our waste systems down to the rivers and sea. However, you can still enjoy the sparkly stuff by making your own bio-friendly version. Not only is it not harmful to the environment, but it's fun for kids of all ages to make. Choose from 3 versions - the sugar-based one is edible, salt isn't, and Epsom salts have the best sparkle if it's just for gluing on home made cards or wrapping paper. Large grain (organic) sugar is more sparkly than ordinary sugar, but it all works out as something you can sprinkle on your cakes.

Put approximately 1/4 cup of sugar or salt in a bowl and add 5-6 drops of food colouring. Mix it in thoroughly and spread it over a baking tray covered with food parchment. Put in the oven at 350 degrees F, 180 C, and bake for 7-9 minutes. Salt isn't so fussy, but sugar will begin to melt if you leave it too long.

Use the paper to help you funnel the coloured salt/sugar into a bowl and use a spoon to crunch it up into crystals again, then store it in airtight plastic tubs or jars. Or allow it to cool until you can touch it, and funnel it into zip-lock bags for scrunching up and storage. Alternatively, if you have a nice warm place, put the damp crystals straight into bags but keep them open and allow them to dry out naturally then scrunch and store.

William Morris biodegradable Coffee Cup - now available on the Traidcraft Stall



Did you know that each year over 100 billion single-use coffee cups end up as landfill? You can help with this problem by drinking from a natural product, made from one of the world's most renewable, sustainable sources: organic bamboo.

Traidcraft are marketing limited edition Ecoffee Cups inspired by the designs of William Morris. They are made from fully compostable materials and are dishwasher safe. A removable sleeve and resealable lid makes this a travel cup which you can present in any coffee shop when you order a coffee or simply fill with fairtrade coffee made in your own home.

Scott Gilmour

OPTOMETRISTS

PROFESSIONAL EYE CARE FOR ALL THE FAMILY

5 THE COURTYARD, NORTH DEESIDE ROAD, CULTS, AB15 9SD

T: 01224 863344 E: info@sgoptom.co.uk

www.scottgilmouroptometrists.co.uk

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



ABERVET

Your Friendly Local Vets!

www.abervet.co.uk

"A truly exceptional practice"

Mr Fullerton

Nigg Kirk Hall
Nigg Kirk Road, Aberdeen
AB12 3DB

Tel: 01224 872024

Opening Times

Mon - Fri: 08:00 - 19:00hrs

Sat: 08:00 - 12:00 Noon

Out of Hours Contact - VetsNow 01224 379091

The Courtyard
Cults, Aberdeen
AB15 9SD

Tel: 01224 869366

Opening Times

Mon - Tue: 09:00 - 16:30hrs

Wed: CLOSED

Thur - Fri: 09:00 - 16:30hrs

Sat: 09:00 - 12:00 Noon



THE HUB CAFÉ IS OPEN TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY FOR SNACKS, SCONES AND LIGHT LUNCHES (CLOSED 25th DEC to 9th JAN)
MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE REQUIRED. PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING A FEW HOURS A MONTH TO HELP. IT CAN BE GREAT FUN AND VERY REWARDING. SPEAK TO JUNE OR TRACY (07765 252125).

Retiral Offerings

This year, the **Christmas** offerings will be divided between Marys Meals and Barnardo's. Marys Meals is a Scottish charity that feeds over 1.2 million children in their place of education in 15 countries across the world. It costs just £13.90 to feed one child for a whole year. Barnardo's is a well known national charity that helps children affected by sexual exploitation, domestic violence and poverty. It is also involved with adoption and fostering and helping children who are carers.

The retiral offering following the January communion will go to Dee View Court in Kincorth. This is a fantastic place and the only one of it's kind in Scotland that provides round the clock care to adults suffering from serious neurological conditions such as Multiple Sclerosis and Motor Neurone Disease thus preventing younger adults from being cared for in nursing homes. They are trying to raise £3.9 million pounds to double the number of people they can accommodate. Let's help them on their way at our new minister's first communion here in Cults.

YOUTH CORE GROUP
BEETLE DRIVE

The postponed **YCG Beetle Drive** has been rescheduled to **Friday 23rd February 2018** at 7.00pm

This event will be raising funds for our Youth Work and will be a night of frenetic fun.

Entry, which will include tea/coffee and cake, will be £2 for adults and 50p for kids or why not prebook a table of 4 players for the discounted price of £6.

Contact Karen Fawcett 07970285885 or Carol Sinclair 07960158135 for tickets.

CULTS O50 GROUP

DECEMBER PROGRAM

Lunch from 11.45 Notices & talk at 12.45 Tea and cakes 2pm

- | | | |
|----------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 6 th Dec | "Musical Entertainment" | Eva Robertson & Friends |
| 13 th Dec | Christmas Party – raffle proceeds to 'Gordon Highlanders Museum' | |
| 10 th Jan | "Aberdeenshire - a new perspective" | Andy Hall |
| 17 th Jan | "Weaving" | Doreen Cowe |
| 24 th Jan | "Unearthing Family Gems" | Prof John Usher |
| 31 st Jan | "The Doric in 18 th Century Poetry" | J Derrick McClure |

Contact: Liz Kilvington (Chairman) 01224 867103
 Margaret Wood (Speaker Convener) 01224 310685

Bridge and scrabble continue to be popular on a Tuesday morning. Other games are available too, including mahjong.

Anyone wanting to join in would be made very welcome. Contact person for the Tuesday games morning is Liz Thomas 01224 869413

CULTS PARISH CHURCH
MUSIC IN THE SANCTUARY

Concerts all take place on Sunday afternoons at 2.30pm

21st January Derek Buchan (piano)
 Schubert, Haydn, & Mozart

Refreshments will be served afterwards in the main hall.
(Entry by Donation)

WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN

A quiet, reflective, monthly evening service will be organised and led by the Faith Journey and Worship Core Groups.
Sunday 3rd December at 6pm in Cults Kirk.

BODY STRESS RELEASE
 Unlocking tension - Restoring self-healing



07880 – 69 55 69

I.F. Borodatencu, Cults
 BSR Practitioner, MBSRA(UK), BCMA Reg.

ionela@bodystressrelease.org.uk



BSR can help with:

Back pain, sciatica, herniated discs, Neck pain, arthritis, whiplash, hip pain, frozen shoulder, restricted movement, migraines, headaches, neuralgia, TMJ problems, constipation, indigestion, gynecological disorders, and many others.

A low impact method to relieve pain, stress and tension with an established technique:
Body Stress Release (BSR).

Gentle enough for babies, children and the elderly.

www.bodystressrelease.org.uk



The (temporary) editor wishes to thank everyone for their contributions to this edition of the magazine. Keep them coming! Graeme Robertson (a.g.w.robertson@btinternet.com)

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Our 9th Christmas Tree Festival starts on Monday 11th December and runs until Sunday 18th. The sanctuary will be open each day from 1.00 to 7pm.

Christmas is a special time for many, but it can also be stressful with so much happening, presents to buy and not enough time to do everything. Coming to visit the Christmas Tree Festival can offer some peace and quiet; it can allow one to have some time to meditate, pray or just relax and enjoy the experience.

There will be an Advent journey with an accompanying leaflet which may help people to interpret the Christmas story in a more meaningful way.

If you can help with stewarding, please speak to Ann Middleton (tel 01224 867334) or enter your name on the roster sheet in the main hall.

Our thanks go to all the groups and organisations who have sponsored trees.

Please come along and bring your friends and family.

GOOD NEWS from CHRISTIAN AID

The final tranche of the £5,000 we committed to for the BALAKA Partnership has now been sent off 3 months early!

We're also taking part in the Christmas campaign "Enough for Everyone", which focuses on Burkina Faso and South Sudan. The aim is to provide tools and seeds to enable local people to set up local market gardens. The money we raise carol-singing at Drum on Saturdays 2nd and 9th December, plus the coffee money from Sundays 3rd and 10th will go to the campaign. The UK government has agreed to DOUBLE any money raised - so we hope to do well!

Singers Needed!

We've been invited to sing carols at Mains of Drum Garden Centre from 12.00 to 2.00pm on Saturday 2nd and Saturday 9th December.

It's a wonderful thing to be able to share the joy of Christmas with the shoppers and raise money for Christian Aid.

If you would like to join us, come along to the Mains of Drum for 11.45am. We have song sheets for all.

Also, Woodend Hospital are asking for singers and instrumentalists to sing and play carols around the wards. This is on Monday 11th December from 5.30 to 7.00pm.

For more information, contact: Anne Wilcox 01224 869276

Cults Kirk Christmas Card

Wish your friends a Happy Christmas with the Cults Kirk Christmas card. Available in the Hub and at the Traidcraft stall.

Christmas Lunch at the Hub

June Gilchrist is once again organising a Christmas Lunch at the Hub - 12:00 to 2:00pm Christmas Day.

Speak to June on 01224 867353 or 0777645 8191 by 15th Dec.

Brian Smith Funeral Services Ltd

Private Family Business Since 1992

24 hour Telephone Service

Directors: Brian and Angela Smith

Head Office & Funeral Home

317 N Deeside Road, Peterculter (01224 732530)



Printed T-Shirts
Sweat Shirts, Polo Shirts
Hoodies, Aprons, Workwear
 etc.



Unit 2, Tillybrake Ind. Estate, Banchory, AB31 5UN
 Tel: 01330 823126 - Email: printing@imprint-deeside.co.uk



We have a fantastic Crèche area! Why not spread the word to your friends and neighbours?

Kids are looked after by PVG checked volunteers, so parents can be fed by the service.

The Kids' Table

Family Service

Sunday, 17 December

Come along and enjoy the service full of Christmas cheer and a Nativity celebration.

Invite all your friends and neighbours to join in our all our Advent services this year at Cults Parish Church!

Looking for something fun and exciting to do in the New Year?

*We are always looking for more **volunteers** for our youth ministries. Join the Youth Core Group or just join in helping with one specific activity.*

Contact Peter Cross (07734207203)



"I WANT A SMALLER CARROT."

What's the craziest Advent Calendar **you've** seen?

I've seen Gin and Craft Beer Advent Calendars being sold all the way back in mid-October. I've seen chocolate Advent Calendars and makeup Advent Calendars. Lego Advent Calendars, Yankee Candle Advent Calendars, and even an Advent Calendar for dogs with wee treats! Those all sound nice to have, to be honest. But, whenever I see them I get a funny feeling. It's not that our culture has co-opted Christmas into something other than being about the birth of Jesus (when I searched "advent calendar" on Amazon only one on the front page was Jesus-related). Really, I'm past feeling sorry for myself about that. **But the feeling I get comes when I see the word Advent.**

You can have Santa and reindeer and all that. In fact, I love all that Baubles/Snow/Sleigh bells type-of Christmas. But Advent? Advent is Theological. Advent is the time when we celebrate God becoming a human being and all the events that led to that. It's not about what we can consume in bite-sized pieces of Lego, but anticipating the most incredible thing that's ever happened. And when you get to the end of this Advent you get to keep the sense of wonder and excitement that comes from knowing our **God came to Earth as Jesus.**

So, anticipate Christmas however you want. Countdown the days till presents and jumpers and crackers. I know I will. But Advent is a special word and a special time and it's not to be trivialized. It's why we're in church in the first place.

Messy Church

We've got crafts, games, fun, and messes on the 7th of December!

All are welcome to join us in worshipping God and learning in new and exciting ways.

Friday Café Christmas Party 15 December

Goofy jumpers, fabulous food, frozen mocktails and the best "human snowman" competition!

Free entry for two if you bring a friend who hasn't been before, otherwise £2 on the door.

S1-S3s

After School-6pm
@Cults Kirk Centre

Peter Cross is our Youth & Families Worker. Contact Peter on 07734 207203 or look for him in the Kirk Centre, he's there most days.

Trichology is the study of hair and scalp science giving personal specialist advice for all disorders.

/Aberdeen Hair+Scalp Clinic/ is the North East of Scotland's only fully certified Trichology clinic, offering a personalised approach to diagnosing and treating hair loss and scalp problems

01224 517700
info@aberdeenhairandscalpclinic.co.uk
214 Union Street Aberdeen AB10 1TL
aberdeenhairandscalpclinic.co.uk

/ ABERDEEN HAIR+SCALP CLINIC /

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SEASON SERVICES

Sunday, Dec 3rd - First Sunday of Advent

- 10:30am Rev Gordon Craig (with an act of baptism)
- 6:00pm When The Sun Goes Down (quiet reflective worship with candles and contemplation)

Sunday, Dec 10th - Second Sunday of Advent

- 10:30am Very Rev Alan McDonald

Thurs, Dec 14th

- 6:30pm Service for Bereaved Families and Friends
(to which all are welcome)

Sunday, Dec 17th

- 10:30am Nativity Play & Gift Service

Christmas Eve, Dec 24th

- 10:30am Readings & Carols
- 7:00pm Family Carol Service
- 11:30pm Watchnight Service

Christmas Day, Dec 25th

- 10:30am
Family Service @
Peterculter Parish
Church

(Sign up in Church
for transport if
required)

