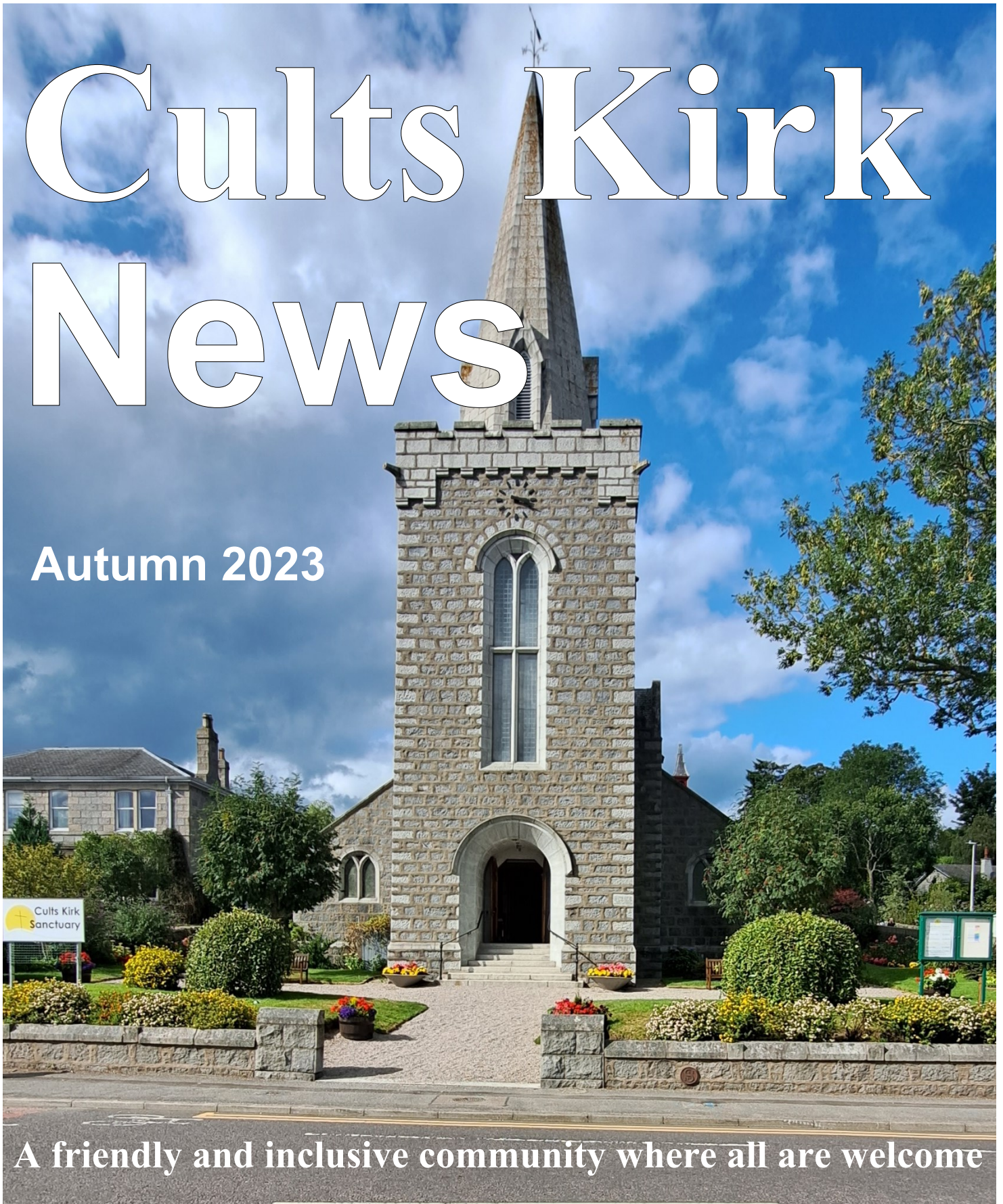


# Cults Kirk News

Autumn 2023



A friendly and inclusive community where all are welcome

OFFICE:

404 NORTH DEESIDE ROAD, CULTS, AB15 9TD

☎ 01224 869028

✉ [cultsparishchurch@btinternet.com](mailto:cultsparishchurch@btinternet.com)

[www.cultsparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.cultsparishchurch.co.uk)

MINISTER:

Rev Shuna Dicks, 1 Cairnlee Terrace, Bieldside AB15 9AE

☎ 01224 861692

✉ [sdicks@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:sdicks@churchofscotland.org.uk)

CHARITY NO: SCO17517





## **PARISH REGISTER**

### **BAPTISMS**

Alexander Lawrie 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023  
Aiden Anderson 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023

### **WEDDINGS**

Francis Neill & Pauline Thom  
Maryculter House 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
Dale Sweeney & Fiona Farquharson  
Cults Parish Church 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
Willie Alexander & Sammy Strowger  
Meldrum House 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
Andrew Skinner & Shona Duthie  
Cults Parish Church 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
Rolf Goss & Marsha Michael  
Cults Parish Church 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023  
Nick Burton & Sarah Brand  
Cults Parish Church 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023  
Karsten Heinrich & Hannah Cunningham  
Drumtochty Church 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023  
Michael Ewen & Sarah Reid  
Meldrum House 17<sup>th</sup> August 2023



## **In Memoriam**

*Jesus said, 'I will be with you always, to the end of time' - Matthew 28:20*

Our prayers remain with each and every family who has experienced the death of a loved one.

Tony Vaughan	22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022
Eve Downie	28 <sup>th</sup> December 2022
Cathie Barron	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Connie Douglas	17 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Helen Sutherland	24 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Charles Mitchell	24 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Marian Yule	11 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
Muriel Massie	2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2023
Marjorie Scott	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
Joyce Dewar	6 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Leslie Robertson	24 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Christina Couper	15 <sup>th</sup> July 2023
Charles Farquharson	10 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
Peter Michie	18 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
Charles Adams	19 <sup>th</sup> August 2023

### **CULTS CONNECTIONS**



With attendance at evening services having dwindled, the Worship and Faith Journey Core Group have decided to try something different. Using the experience of prerecording services during lockdown we are going to be producing a series of short worship videos that can be used at home or as part of a group. In addition, on the first Sunday evening of each month we will meet in the Kirk Centre to watch the video together and then using a supplementary booklet to discuss the theme of the video and enjoy a cuppa together.

The booklet and video will be available for anyone who would like to use them at home. You could, for example, watch the video and then use the booklet to dig deeper into the theme on your own. Or you might like to invite some friends round for a coffee and do this together. The video will be available on our YouTube Channel and the booklet can be downloaded from our website or a printed copied picked up from the Church or Kirk Centre. The videos will remain on YouTube and so can be used at any time. A new video will be uploaded each month. We are going to start by looking at the Beatitudes over the winter months.

## **COMMUNION**

Come and share the Lord's Supper  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 10:30  
All Welcome

## Message from our minister, Rev Shuna Dicks.....

Dear Friends,

Now that things have settled down and we have the summer holiday season more or less out of the way, we felt it was time to put a magazine together.

The last few years have brought many challenges and a degree of uncertainty to our church life. But most of that is now behind us and it is time to look forward. One update I want to share is what is happening within the Aberdeen West Parish Grouping. The main updates are:



1. Our parish is to increase in size to include the Countesswells development. Whilst this is a change to our parish boundary, I am pleased that the Parish Grouping is committed to helping with the outreach to this new housing development. We have already started discussions about how this might be achieved, and I will keep you up to date on this as time goes by. I am excited about the possibilities of reaching out to a new community and seeing how the church can get involved.
2. A union is to take place between Ruthrieston West and Craigiebuckler. With the Ruthrieston West Church building due to close towards the end of the year and with the Rev Kenneth Petrie due to retire next year, both churches are keen to see the union happen as quickly and smoothly as possible and are well on their way.
3. Peterculter are working towards a union with Durris & Drumoak. The union will enable Peterculter to proceed with calling a full-time minister as a half post has been assigned to Durris & Drumoak under the Presbytery Mission Plan. They too have begun the work of arranging the union. As of the 1st of September, Rev Corne Randall will be taking up a temporary appointment within the Parish Grouping. His main duties will be to serve the parish of Peterculter until such times as a new minister is appointed. Corne has been with the Rev Keith Blackwood on familiarisation for the last year under the same scheme as Sharmann.
4. Mannofield, like ourselves will remain a single parish. It is anticipated that the area of Garthdee will be added to the Parish Grouping area in the near future. This will have an impact on all of us, but the logistics have still to be worked out.

With all these changes, please be assured that we have been working with the best of intentions towards Cults Parish Church. The Church of Scotland as whole is going through a period of massive change and no congregation or parish is exempt from this. We are all having to play our part.

Looking to the future I am really keen that we strengthen ourselves as a church. And with that in mind I am asking everyone to consider how they might play their part. As a first step you will find enclosed with this magazine a leaflet highlighting a number of our groups that require more help. What we would like you to do is consider if you can help in anyway and commit to signing up to help. You can use the form to sign up or to ask for more information. At our service on the 3rd of September, we will be focussing on service. This would be the ideal Sunday to return your form. You can place it in the offering plate on your way in or, if you would rather, you can return it to the Church Office.

Now, I know that some of you will be wondering what on earth you can do to help, as you feel unable to commit to physically helping. For those of you that fall into that category, there are three things you can do. One is to continue to support the church financially. The second is to continue worshipping with us, whether that is on site or from home. The third is to pray for the work of our church, asking for God's guidance and strength for those who serve our church so diligently and give so much of their time to everything we do. Prayer is an important part of our church life – it really does help knowing that what we do is held in prayer.

On the 3rd of September we will be dedicating our Guild. The Guild Motto is 'Whose we are, and whom we serve', a reminder to us all that church is more than a community of people that gather to worship on a Sunday morning. Church is about service too. Serving others and serving God.

We are a wonderful church community and I continue to be inspired and lifted by the wonderful people who serve us in Cults. Thank you for the part you play in this.

Yours as ever, in love

*Shuna*

THE HUB CAFÉ IS OPEN TO EVERYONE TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY FROM 10AM to 2PM FOR SNACKS, SCONES AND LIGHT LUNCHESES. TO VOLUNTEER, SPEAK TO JENNY (07881 664 864).

### CULTS O50 GROUP

The Cults O50 group has now been running from Cults Kirk Centre for more than 16 years and is open to anyone over the age of 50. You don't need to be a Cults resident or a member of the Church to become a member. As well as talks and board games (see below), there are outings and activities such as Indoor Bowling, Croquet, and new for this year, gentle Social Dancing. There is also a Discovery Group, which is similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme for people over 50. Don't worry however, you don't have to go to everything - it's "pick and mix" - you find what you enjoy and meet like-minded people to do it with.

### CULTS O50 PROGRAMME

We meet every Wednesday in Cults Kirk Centre. Doors open at 1pm and we have a speaker and tea/coffee from 1.30 to 3.00. The following are the talks planned for September.

#### SEPTEMBER 2023

6 <sup>th</sup>	September	'Mountain Rescue'	Charlie Hunter
13 <sup>th</sup>	September	'The Life Story of Selim Aga'	Callum Stuart
20 <sup>th</sup>	September	'Streets and Shop Fronts of Aberdeen'	George A. Wood
27 <sup>th</sup>	September	'The Shakkin' Briggie'	Guus Glass & Friends

**For more information contact:- Margaret Wood 01224 310685 Libby Brand 01224 867717**

Bridge & Board Games are enjoyed every Tuesday from 10-12, Rummikub, Upwords & Scrabble being the most popular. New members & guests will always be made most welcome.

**For more information contact:- Lizzie Thomas 01224 869413**



**HUB CAFE**  
@  
**CULTS KIRK CENTRE**

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES  
WOULD YOU ENJOY VOLUNTEERING IN OUR HUB CAFE? WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WILLING TO OFFER A WARM AND FRIENDLY WELCOME, SERVE OUR CUSTOMERS AND WORK IN THE KITCHEN. PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF INTERESTED  
TEL 01224 869028  
EMAIL CULTSPARISHCHURCH@BTINTERNET.COM



### PRAYER GROUP NEWS

We have continued to meet over the Summer and have enjoyed meeting in the Sanctuary, where, with the doors open, we have encouraged others to join us or to use the Church for silent prayer. There are many issues and concerns to remember in prayer, in the World, in our Nation, in our Community, and for our Church. We always welcome personal prayer requests which can be posted in the prayer boxes or given in confidence to Kate Kindness or Mary Troup. Our next meeting is on 27th September when we return to meeting in Morven in the Kirk Centre at 2.30pm. You will be made most welcome to join with us.

In the words of Joseph Scriven's hymn,

"What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer".

Congratulations Sharmann! – As we go to print we have heard that Sharmann has passed his final assessment with the Church of Scotland, and he can now start to look for a charge of his own for when his period of acquaintanceship with us is up at the end of November. Don't worry though, there is provision for his employment to be extended if this doesn't happen by then.



**Scott Gilmour**  
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"Oh God, make the doors of this house wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride, and strife. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children, nor to straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power. O God make the door of this house the gateway to thine eternal kingdom." Amen

### CHRISTIAN AID

We like to keep up the momentum with Christian Aid as the need never ends! So, our next fund raiser is a Sponsored Walk along the old railway line on the 16<sup>th</sup> September. We start at 1.30pm and would love to see you there to help us promote Christian Aid whether you are walking or not! You can always sponsor someone! We talk about the work of Christian Aid to everyone who will listen to us. Details are on the posters in the church hall and in the Hub.

After that, we are hosting the teas and coffees at the annual Christmas card sale in the Hub on the 18<sup>th</sup> November. We had our second attempt at a delivery only in Christian Aid week this year and delivered 3,500 envelopes! And we had some new volunteers who helped out for the first time. It was just great that folks were willing to volunteer. We did do a lot of promotion for Christian Aid and with the help of generous congregations, we have been able to send £3,000 to Christian Aid this year.

Finally, a big "thank-you" to everyone who supports Christian Aid in any way. Christian Aid needs and appreciates all the help that we can give.

## Blythwood Shoe Box Appeal

The Christmas boxes will be put out at the Sanctuary and Kirk Centre at the beginning of September for donations as the Guild are holding their Shoebox filling afternoon on October 3rd. Our actual Shoebox Sunday will be on the 15th October. Contact Carol Sinclair for more information: [carol.sink@yahoo.com](mailto:carol.sink@yahoo.com) tel 07960158135



## KNIT AND NATTER

Knit and Natter is a great way to spend every other Monday afternoon. We meet in Scolty in the Church centre from 2pm to 4pm and are starting again after our summer break on the 4<sup>th</sup> September. Come along and bring your knitting, sewing, embroidery, crochet, or any other craft work and join us. Do not worry if you do not know what to knit as we have lots of ideas. We have knitted hat, scarf and glove sets for Blythwood, blankets galore for Linus, poppies for Armistice and sheep for Shuna!

We also indulge in a cup of tea and a biscuit and put the world to rights and would love you to come along with or without knitting!

### HELP FOR THOSE STRUGGLING

We know that many people will be finding life financially difficult at the moment. If you know of anyone who is struggling, please let them know that we can help. We have contact details for agencies and groups that may be able to help.

Our Hub Café is also open to everyone. A number of coffees and teas have been paid for under a pay it forward scheme. Anyone wanting a free tea or coffee simply needs to ask for 'Tina' when placing their order. If anyone would like to pay for an extra cup of coffee or tea to support this scheme, they can do so by telling the server they wish to pay for 'Tina's' drink.



## CULTS GUILD

We hope that you have enjoyed a relaxing and refreshing summer break and are ready for the start of the Autumn Session of the Guild. We begin with a Guild Service on 3rd September at 10.30am in the Sanctuary.

Our meetings are generally held on Tuesdays, usually twice a month, in Lochnagar at the Kirk Centre at 2 pm. You can be assured of a warm welcome, interesting speakers and events along with good conversation and a fine cup of tea.

### Dates for your Diary

*Thursday	7 <sup>th</sup> September	"Calling from Zimbabwe to Aberdeen"	Rev Sharmann Maromo
Tuesday	19 <sup>th</sup> September	"Linus Project"	Mrs Betty Hunter
Tuesday	3 <sup>rd</sup> October	"Blytheswood Shoe Boxes"	
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup> October	"Travels of a Retired Gardener" [Open Mtg]	Jimmy McRae.
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup> November	"Hurtigruten Tour"	Peter Fogiel
Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup> November	TBC	
Tuesday	5 <sup>th</sup> December	"Christmas Party"	

We look forward to welcoming members, their friends, and especially new faces to any or all of our meetings. Transport can be arranged. Contact Person: – Evelyn Sangster Tel 01224 868038.

**\*Please note that the first meeting of the session has been moved to Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September\***

*Mary Troup*

## BIBLE STUDY

The Bible study group resumes its weekly meetings on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September when they will continue with their study of Acts. They meet in Scolty in the Kirk Centre with coffee and fellowship from 10am. The Bible Study itself begins at 10.30 and ends at 11.30. New members are always welcome.

For more information, please contact Alan Johnson tel 07775 762 027

email [alanj02@btinternet.com](mailto:alanj02@btinternet.com)

## MUSIC TO REMEMBER



Music To Remember is a monthly singing group for people with dementia, those who support them and anyone else who enjoys singing and would like some company. The sessions are held in the Lochnagar Room at the Kirk Centre from 2pm-3.30pm. We sing well known songs, have fun, a cup of tea and chat together. We're meeting on the following dates:

Tuesday 12th September  
Tuesday 10th October  
Tuesday 14th November  
Tuesday 12th December

For more information or if you are interested in helping at the sessions please contact Brenda Lurie 01224 868850.

### ECO GROUP

The former Green Group is now called the ECO Group and the first meeting was held in March. The group reports to the Justice and Peace Group and over the last few months, we have been examining how we can become more effective in presenting important environmental issues that affect us all.

Currently there are a number of recycling boxes both in the Kirk Centre and Church Hall and we would encourage members and users of our facilities to deposit the following used items:

**Batteries, Ink Cartridges, Stamps, Spectacles, Computer parts, Mobile phones**

As a Church and as individuals it is becoming even more important how we look at environmental issues such as energy use, recycling, looking after our environment, transport etc. Our planet is precious, and we all need to combat environmental damage and build a more sustainable future.

If you would like to join the ECO Group, you will be very welcome.

*John Troup*

### CHURCH BADMINTON CLUB

The Church Badminton Club meets on Monday evenings starting on 4th September from 7.15 to 9.30p.m. in the Main Hall on Quarry Road.

Our friendly group currently has a membership of 14 and new members are welcome even if you have not played for some time. There is a refreshment break midway through the evening. If you are interested, do come along on Monday evenings. For more information contact John Troup, Tel 01224 732701.

#### CULTS MONDAY LUNCH CLUB

Come for lunch and a chat. Make some new friends, everyone very welcome to this friendly group.

We meet on Mondays at 12.00 at Cults Kirk Centre.

The cost is £4 for a two-course lunch and a cup of tea/coffee.

Contact Jacky, tel 01224 861736 for more information. Booking necessary

#### BIG SCOTTISH BREAKFAST 2023

for STV Children's Appeal

When: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September.  
8am - 12 noon

Where: The Hub at Cults Kirk Centre.

Come along and enjoy a continental / cooked breakfast, while supporting this very worthy cause.

Entry by donation

### SUMMER STRAWBERRY TEAS

This summer Cults Kirk Centre played host to 13 charity coffee mornings each Saturday during June, July, and August. The charities produced wonderful bakes topped with strawberries to enjoy with Fairtrade coffee and tea. These were enjoyed by loyal local weekly supporters and their own following. Hence many new people were introduced to the cafe and hope to return.

Each charity raised a good sum, and they were able to promote their charity. They have expressed their thanks to the church.

Those taking part this year were: DAWGS, VSA, SOROPTOMISTS, AURORA DANCE GROUP, 050, WE TOO, HOSPITAL RADIO, JUSTICE AND PEACE (for Church of Scotland HIV Programme), ARCHWAY, HOMESTART, CHRISTIAN AID, CHARLIE HOUSE, and THE LEPROSY MISSION.

The strawberries were delivered by Castleton and the quality was excellent.

Thanks to all from the Outreach committee, other church helpers and friends as well as church secretaries who made this happen. *Stella Anderson*



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THE CARE  
GROUP

# COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER  
10AM-12NOON  
CULTS KIRK CENTRE



  
Cults Parish Church  
*reaching out to the community*

Save the date!  
Santa will be in his  
Grotto at  
Cults Parish Church

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER  
2.00PM - 4.30PM

More information in  
our next Newsletter



## HALLOWEEN PARTY

Fancy Dress competition  
Pumpkin/Neep competition  
Games, Crafts, Activities, Food.  
Fun for all ages - Entry by donation  
Children must be accompanied by a  
responsible adult.

Saturday 28th October

Cults Kirk Centre

4pm-6.30pm

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**01224 861421**

## 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](mailto:mckayandinnes@outlook.com)  
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