

Cults Kirk News

EASTER 2025

A friendly and inclusive community where all are welcome

OFFICE:

404 NORTH DEESIDE ROAD, CULTS, AB15 9TD

☎ 01224 869028

✉ cultsparishchurch@btinternet.com

www.cultsparishchurch.co.uk

MINISTER:

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

☎ 01224 861692

✉ sdicks@churchofscotland.org.uk

CHARITY NO: SCO17517



PARISH REGISTER



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.

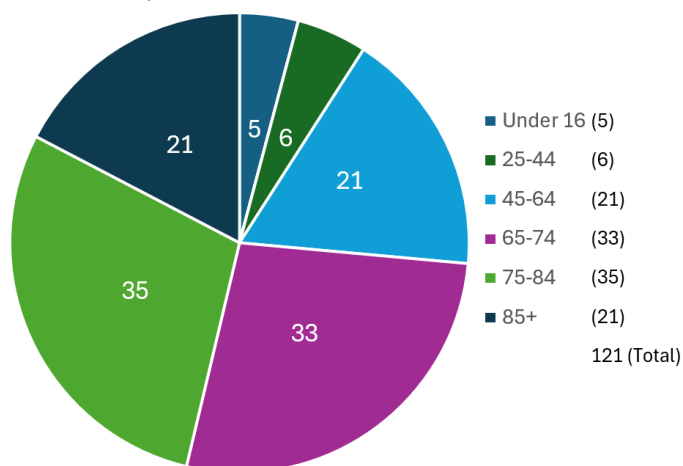
Vera Galloway	4 th January 2025
Elizabeth Patterson	8 th January 2025
Ian Lyon	12 th February 2025
Irene Eunson	18 th February 2025
Agnes Smith	11 th March 2025
Isobel Corrigan	26 th March 2025
Aileen Brown	23 rd March 2025
John McMahon	30 th March 2025

WEDDING

Greg & Juliet Young
Ardoe House Hotel 6th April 2025

STATISTICAL RETURN

At the end of every year we are asked for statistical information by the Church of Scotland. It might be of interest to readers to know that in 2024 Shuna conducted 10 weddings, 1 baptism, and 24 funerals. A proportion of the funerals are people living in the parish who aren't members of the church. We also reported that 15 people were admitted to the congregation either by 'Certificate of Transference' or 'Kirk Session Resolution' and that we have 42 elders, 27 of whom are female and 15 male.



On the 15th of December we carried out a survey, and the age distribution of the 121 people in church on that day is shown above. It's important to note that this doesn't catch the fact that a similar number watch on-line each week.

To anyone living in the parish, we are the 'Parish Church' here for you, member or not, whenever you need us. Anyone wishing to "join" the church, can speak to Shuna.

COMMUNION

Come and share the
Lord's Supper
Sunday 27th April at 10:30
All Welcome

Prayer Requests

Our prayer group are happy to take prayer requests. These can be left in the boxes in the Kirk Centre and Church, as well as in the box on the wall outside the entrance to the Main Hall on Quarry Road.

All prayers will be treated in confidence and only shared with the Prayer Group and Prayer Circle. All we need is a first name of the person and or a little about the circumstances to be prayed for. Please also seek permission from the person to be prayed for.



BIBLE STUDY

Our Bible Study group continues to meet in Scolty at the Kirk Centre at 10:00 on Thursday mornings, meeting for coffee and fellowship (chat) at the balcony tea station next door from around 10 am. We are currently mid-way through a 20-lesson study of Mark's Gospel. Our discussions are lively and often quite wide-ranging. Although we may not always come away with definite answers, our meetings certainly leave us with plenty to take away and think about.

If you are interested and would like to find out more, please feel free to come along on a Thursday, where you will be most welcome. Otherwise call Alan Johnson on 07775 762 027.

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

Dear Friends,

As I write the sun is shining and with the clocks having sprung forward our days are starting to lengthen. Spring is also in the air.

There is something very refreshing about Spring. Life is popping up through the ground with the daffodils and other bulbs giving a burst of colour, much needed after the dark winter days. They fair brighten our hearts, do they not?

Lent is more than halfway through, and Easter is fast approaching. Lent, like Advent, is a time of waiting. We know that Holy Week culminates with the celebration of the Risen Jesus on Easter morning. In the same way Advent ends with the celebration of the birth of our Saviour. Waiting is not always easy to do whether that be for Christmas, or Easter, or for a long-anticipated holiday or family event. And yet as the excitement builds so does our joy at what is to come.

The birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus are shrouded in mystery. We may never fully understand them. We can try and pinpoint historical facts, try and find scientific explanations but we will never truly fully understand the 'how'. One thing we can be sure of however, is that through these key events in our Christian calendar the love of God for all humanity is laid out for us. Our task, our mission, is to share this with our community and to do what we can to bring others to know that they are loved - that there is a God who loves them so much that God's own son died on a cross so that we might understand the depths of that love. And we know that the cross was not the end. Jesus resurrection offers the promise that God's love will bring us all to glory, and as John's Gospel promises, there is a place for us in God's home and Jesus has gone ahead to prepare that place for us.

"Do not be worried and upset," Jesus told them. "Believe in God and believe also in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going to prepare a place for you. I would not tell you this if it were not so." John 14:1-2

As we look forward to Easter and to the year ahead, be assured of God's love. Have a blessed and joyous Easter.

Yours in love,

Shuna



KIRK SESSION PHOTOGRAPH



It is always difficult to find a day that suits everyone, so sadly a few faces are missing.

Front to back (L to R): -

G Robertson, Rev S Dicks, F Dey, B McKenzie; M Taylor, K Kindness, J MacPherson, K MacPherson, L Thomas, S Anderson, B Morrison, A Robertson, A Hogg, S Angus; D McLellan, B Ligertwood, F Douglas, K Murray, I Paterson, R Ferro, J Vickers, E Olley; G Greig, J Troup, B Lurie, N Taylor, J Sangster, A Bell, A Fairhead, P Bell.

Not available on the day: B Falconer, J Gilchrist, C Grant, B Irvine, A Johnson, S Moir, I Rodger, S Smith, M Troup, A Waters.

With thanks to our photographer, Ian Logan



Cults 050 Group



A warm welcome awaits all over 50s every Wednesday in Cults Kirk Centre. There is a speaker, tea and coffee and lots of chat. Our topics vary from 'A Search for Orangutans' to 'A Walk Through Old Aberdeen'. We have various activities like a Bridge and Scrabble Group, a Book Group, Rambling Group, and even a Theatre Group. In the next few months there is an outing to Newton Dee as well as a lunch at Gate 63 in the North East College.

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 9 th April | 'Preserving our History, from the Big to the Small' - <i>John Lemon</i> |
| 16 th April | 'Working with Asylum Seekers' – <i>Rev Gary Smith</i> |
| 23 rd April | 'Murders, Battles and Executions in Aberdeen and the Shire' - <i>Barney Crockett</i> |
| 30 th April | 'Exploring the Imposter Syndrome' - <i>Nara Morrison</i> |
| 7 th May | 'European Security Realities' - <i>Prof James Wyllie</i> |
| 14 th May | 'Our Union Street' - <i>Bob Keiller</i> |
| 21 st May | 'Birthday' |
| 28 th May | 'Hurtigruten Adventure' - <i>Peter Fogiel</i> |

If you would like to join us or find out any more, please contact **Janette Glass** on 07801 938883 or **Marta Moody** on 01224 867628 or just 'Turn up' on a Wednesday at 1.00pm.

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

Scott Gilmour

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THE HUB CAFÉ IS OPEN TO EVERYONE, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
FROM 10AM to 2PM FOR SNACKS, SCONES AND LIGHT LUNCHES.
TO VOLUNTEER, SPEAK TO SUSAN (07562 917 890).

THE HUB CAFÉ

The Hub Café can now cater for Private Functions or Afternoon Teas which can be delivered to your home.



Email:- hubcafe@cultsparishchurch.co.uk or
speak to Susan on 07562 917 890

CHRISTIAN AID

2025 is the 80TH ANNIVERSARY of Christian Aid and we hope to continue to be as supportive of its aims as always. To that end, we are taking part in a "delivery only" envelope distribution again this year. We will host the Strawberry tea on the 5th July and intend to organise our sponsored walk on Sunday 7th September. If you would like to get involved in any of these activities, please get in touch! We sent £6,285 to Christian Aid in 2024. The money is spent in over 25 locations throughout the world including war-torn Gaza. A local partner, the Agricultural Development Association (IPARC) has been very active in providing desperately needed supplies of water in Gaza.

So, many thanks for all your generosity last year as always and please continue to be so supportive in 2025.

Our collection of foreign currency
raised an amazing £853.64
for **mary's meals**
a simple solution
to world hunger

THANK YOU!




Cults Parish Church
Sunday 20th April
10.30am
Easter Celebration



Pilates
Aberdeen
SOLVEIG DAHLE SMITH
Cert. Pilates Inst. MAPPI
Retired Physiotherapist

CULTS KIRK CENTRE
Tuesday morning & evening
Friday morning
Contact details:-
solveig@pilatesaberdeen.com
www.pilatesaberdeen.com
01224 861421

MCKAY & INNES
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

154 North Deeside Road Peterculter: Tel 01224 730233
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

CULTS GUILD NEWS



We resumed our meetings on 4th March after our winter break and it was so good to be back together. It is always a pleasure to welcome new friends and guests to our group. We had a very successful Guild coffee morning raising over £800 for Guild funds and for the 4 new Guild projects. It was a great team effort with members and friends providing home baking, items for the stalls, and serving coffee and tea. Thank you to all who helped to make it a happy and worthwhile event.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 15th April 'Wish you'd been here!' (Aberdeen) - John Johnstone

Tuesday 22nd April 'Working with U.K. retailers to address dietary inequalities' - Prof. Alex Johnstone

Tuesday 6th May 'Bear Necessities, Guild project' - Christina Ross & Cathey Reece

Tuesday 6th May 'River Dee Trust Lower Deeside' - Keilidh Ewan

Meetings are at 2pm in Lochnagar at the Kirk Centre. Everyone is very welcome to attend any or all of the above meetings. Further information from Evelyn Sangster 01224 868038.

Tuesday 3rd June 'Outing to Culter Heritage Centre' - Tour, talk and afternoon tea - 2-4 pm, cost £10.00.

Names to Kristeen Murray before 27th May.

Mary Troup

ASYLUM SEEKERS UPDATE

There is an ongoing need to support Asylum Seekers (awaiting decision on leave to remain) and Refugees (who can enter the employment market and earn a living). Local charity AARC (Asylum and Refugee Care) is delighted with the regular support of clothing received from our church community.

AARC provides advocacy and practical support in daily living to a fluid community of around 1,000 adult males in the City and Aberdeenshire. There is a regular turnover of asylum seekers but the number remains constant at around 250. Countries of origin include the war-torn countries of Yemen and Sudan and the Middle East.

Requirements:

Adult male clothes and footwear in good condition as well as new underwear and socks (in original packaging). Outdoor wear is particularly welcome as is sportswear. All sizes but there is always a shortage of smaller sizes. Prospective donors may consider purchasing from charity shops.

Contact Bill Falconer on 07527 534171 to arrange drop off/collection or enquire at the church office (Kirk Centre) on weekday mornings.

Contact Bill Falconer on 07527 534171

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

CHURCH BADMINTON CLUB

The Church Badminton Club meet weekly on Monday nights from 7.15 to 9.30p.m. It has been encouraging that we have been recently joined by four new members, so our club is flourishing. We plan to continue over April and May and then have a short break before resuming in August. For more information contact John Troup. 01224 732701

Simeon Care
In conjunction with
Cults Parish Church

**Plant Sale
& Coffee Morning**
Saturday 24th May
10am-12noon



**Cults Kirk Centre,
404 North Deeside Road, Cults,
AB14 9TD**

KNIT AND NATTER

We meet every other Monday at 2pm in Cults Kirk Centre (Scolty) and everyone is welcome. We natter and we knit. Just in case you think that we only natter, here is some of what we have achieved in the last 3 years.

For SHUNA:- 1500 red poppies (Remembrance), 150 angels (Church Christmas Tree), 100 bells (Christmas Services), 50 sheep (Nativity Trail and then to Archie), 150 Christmas trees for Countesswells School Fair and CPC services.

For the UKRAINIAN CHURCH, EDINBURGH 20 trauma teddies. To the PORT CHAPLAIN, 14 woollen hats for seafarers unused to Aberdeen weather. For THE GUILD, 130 hat, scarf and mitten sets for Blythswood boxes. For EKWENDENI HOSPITAL MALAWI, 34 small blankets, 66 infant jumpers and 20 beanie hats. To NORTHCOTE LODGE, 9 Twiddle Muffs for dementia patients. To LINUS for hospital patients 34 large blankets.

What we achieve while we natter!

MUSIC TO REMEMBER

The Spring session of Music To Remember is now underway. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at the Kirk Centre (Lochnagar) from 2pm-3.30pm to sing well known songs, have fun, a cup of tea and chat together. The group is for people with dementia, those who support them, and anyone else who enjoys singing and would like some company.

We're meeting on the following dates:

Tuesday 13th May 2025

Tuesday 10th June 2025

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



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.



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01224 313080



The Aberdeen West Parish Grouping Holy Week

You want it darker

Monday 14th April - Springfield
Tuesday 15th April - Peterculter
Wednesday 16th April - Mannofield
Maundy Thursday 17th April- Cults
Friday 18th April- Cults

Each evening at 7pm

EARTH DAY

Earth day, an Internationally recognised event dating back to 1970, takes place this year on 22 April and represents the world's largest environmental movement. The theme for Earth Day 2025 is "Our Power, Our Planet", inviting everyone around the globe to unite behind low carbon (renewable) energy, the goal being to triple the global generation of low carbon electricity by 2030. Earth action day encourages all to educate, advocate and mobilize!

A significant increase in low carbon power requires many measures, including the method of delivering it to where it is needed, whilst minimising the ecological and environmental impact. The UK no longer has any coal fired power stations, whilst other countries are still building them! A pragmatic approach is required to ensure the lights won't go out when, for instance, the wind doesn't blow or extreme weather conditions occur, and many measures are required to fulfil these criteria.

The Earth Day website provides a series of quizzes, fact sheets and tool kits, all accessed by typing <https://www.earthday.org/tag/explainer/> into your browser (Microsoft Explorer, Safari, Google Chrome), moving your mouse onto the drop-down menus "Earth Hub", "Initiatives" and "Stories & Events", and then clicking on the item that interests you. The information is designed to help make sense of our global environmental dilemma. And if you would like to participate in Earth Day 2025 events click on "Earth Day 2025".

Caring for God's environment is something that we can all play a part in. If you would like to learn more about Earth Day in particular, or environmental issues in general, please contact Philip Bell – 07814 730622.

**Remember we have a
number of boxes for
recycling various items
at both the Church and
Kirk Centre.**



**Including empty medicine
blister packs**



*Caim means
'enclosure/sanctuary' and the
retreat will, weather permitting,
have an outdoor activity,
giving time for conversation.*

Fancy some time out?

Join us at The Caim Project in
Luthermuir for a morning of
quiet reflection and retreat.

Saturday 7th June

10am-12.30pm

£20 per person

Shared transport can be arranged.

Please contact Shuna for more details and to book a place.