

Aberlemno Guthrie & Rescobie

Registered Charity in Scotland (Sc018944) & (SC017327)

Issue 114

December 2022

Church Services

January

Rescobie 10.00am Aberlemno 11.30am

February

Guthrie 10.00am Aberlemno 11.30am

March

Rescobie 10.00am Aberlemno 11.30am

Angus Toy Appeal

4th December

Toys for needy children collected today at both services and should be unwrapped

18th December

Family Service

Aberlemno 10.00am

Guthrie 11.30am

Christmas Eve

Carol Service

Aberlemno at 6.30pm followed by tea in the Church

Christmas Day

Rescobie 10.30am

1st January 2023

United Service at Aberlemno 11.30am

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

November 2022

Dear Friends,

It seems as though that old cliché, 'change is here to stay' is the only way to describe life in 2022. I'm sure we have all noticed unsettledness in all our institutions – in politics, the monarchy, the economy and in the church. Most of you will now be aware that the Church of Scotland is undergoing its most dramatic restructuring since the Reformation more than 400 years ago. The losses we are experiencing here (the closure of Guthrie and probable closure of Rescobie) are being experienced the length and breadth of Scotland and hearts are sad in town and country. Our churches are especially ancient - it can seem unthinkable to lose them - and the long period of stability that we have enjoyed under the faithful ministry of Brian Ramsay has perhaps blinded us to trends very clear elsewhere.

We can't see very far into the future, can we? After all, Prime Ministers can change in the blink of an eye! Still, we believe that God, who has been our help in ages past, will be our hope for years to come. With that assurance, let's make sure we face an unpredictable future in solidarity with each other, supportive of our Kirk Sessions and understanding of those further off whose unenviable task is to make difficult decisions on behalf of us all.

In the meantime, you have all been very warm and encouraging and I count it a privilege to do what I can to support our congregations. My thanks to you all.

Heather Gourlay

Aberlemno Treasurer's Report

At the end of March, we had a retiring offering for the Ukraine Appeal and the sum collected was £484 which was very much appreciated by the Disasters Emergency Committee. Their grateful thanks are passed on to you.

On 3rd April, another successful Tractor Run was organised by Ewan and Wendy Cameron. Over £700 was raised which was then divided between our Church and Guthrie & Rescobie Churches. Thanks to the Cameron family and all who took part.

Our thanks also go to Harry and Lynn Barclay who opened their beautiful garden at Balgavies House on 21st and 22nd May for a 2 day Garden Tea event. A very enjoyable and successful event which raised £726.

At our Harvest Thanksgiving service on 23rd October, a variety of tins and dried food was donated and thereafter delivered to the local Foodbank in Forfar.

A very enjoyable Quiz night was held on Thursday 27th October at Canmore Bowling Club. Lovina excelled herself in her new role as our Quizmaster! The total amount raised was £289.

Our 'legendary' November Coffee Morning held on Saturday 5th at Aberlemno Village Hall was a resounding success, raising the grand sum of £753. Thanks go to everyone involved for all their hard work. Photos can be seen on the Aberlemno.org website.

We have had a good response during 2022 in our fund-raising efforts which help greatly towards our financial situation. A big thank you to all who gave up so much time and energy to make these events successful. Thanks also to family and friends who supported us.

My very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Lorna Hooghiemstra
Treasurer
November 2022

Guthrie and Rescobie Church Treasurer's Report

Following the departure of Brian Ramsay as our Minister at Easter there has been the threat and uncertainty of our losing our churches in the latest Church of Scotland re-organisation.

If there seems a desire to keep a church, we must seek the support from the wider rural community to keep one.

The Reverend Heather Gourlay has nobly stepped into Brian's shoes and has taken our services along with those at Aberlemno. We are extremely grateful for her inspiration and dedication at this time.

With regard to the finances it is too early to tell whether or not there will be a surplus at the end of the year but we are hopeful that we will end up on the right side.

In June once again we had a most successful Vintage Tea Party organised by Grace Stewart and her stalwarts. They raised the phenomenal sum of £513.25 towards church funds. A big thank you to Grace and to all who took part.

James Osborne Treasurer

Guthrie Village Hall

We held a community BBQ, a photographic display and tree planting ceremony on June 5th to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This event was very well attended and even the weather was perfect.

After a two year absence the Guthrie Craft Fair was held on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd October from 12pm to 4pm both days. Teas were served for a modest charge but entry was free. There was a good selection of stalls and crafts most of which were new to the Craft Fair.

On Friday 2nd December, Steven Carcary is holding his Christmas Scottish Social Dancing Evening at 7.30pm. All in the community are invited to join in a fun evening of music and dancing. Steven would appreciate a phone call from anyone who doesn't go to his regular classes so he knows the number attending on 07952 026633.

If you wish to hold a party, meeting or event at Guthrie Hall please telephone Christine Shand on 01307 819473.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported and bought tickets for "Guess The Whisky" at the Craft Fair. £100 was raised for church funds. The whisky was Auld Pulteney and the winner was Sheena Adams.

Joyce Smith

Aberlemno Community Council

The Community Council had reformed and that its Inaugural meeting was held on 6th October. There are still four places available and young people under 16 can also be part of it. So if you would like to join or just find out more watch the Aberlemno web site, facebook page and notice board at the Hall. The new Community Council members are just finding their feet so look out for meeting dates etc in the near future. The Community Council is there to represent your views and meetings are open to all.

Aberlemno Hall

The Hall has been fairly busy over the summer, with a number of events - from plant sales to Pictish talks. This Autumn there will be a Christmas Craft fare at the end of November. A Craft Group has been meeting on Monday afternoon and the School is using the Hall on a regular basis.

If you have an interest group or activity, the Hall is available to hire and there are always spaces on the Committee for those who would like to be involved in your local Hall.

Just get in touch via the website or Facebook page and see what's going on (and not just Hall activities!)

Finally we would like to welcome Heather to her new role in the community.

Isabelle Davies

Arthur Smith

As of 31st December 2022 Arthur Smith is standing down as Session Clerk of Guthrie and Rescobie but will continue as an Elder.

PARISH REGISTER

Rev Heather Gourlay
Pitkenedy
Forfar
01307 830372

Interim Moderator
Rev Maggie Hunt
St Margaret's Church
Forfar
Tel 01307 462044

ABERLEMNO

Session Clerk

Mr Ian Wilson
Ward of Turin
Aberlemno
Forfar
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Treasurer and Gift Aid

Mrs Lorna Hooghiemstra
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Mrs Beth Trainer
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01356 622854

Treasurer (WFO)

Mike Macleod
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Tel: 01307 830318

GUTHRIE & RESCOBIE

Session Clerk

Arthur Smith
The Cottage
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Clerk to the Board

Mrs K Gray
Meadowlea
Clocksbriggs
Tel: 01307 464173

Treasurer and Bonds

James Osborne
Balmadies
Forfar
Tel: 01307 818242

Guthrie & Rescobie

Deaths

Mrs Isobel Stewart, Dubton, Guthrie 11th August 2022
Mr D. Ferguson, Muir of Pearsie 15th October 2022

Transfer:

Mr and Mrs A Thomson, Frockheim to St Cyrus 18th
October 2022