



# INSPIRE

EAST, OLD & INVERARITY  
PARISH MAGAZINE

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Issue 10: SUMMER, 2026



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## **EAST, OLD and INVERARITY PARISH**

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### Services of Public Worship:

- † **INVERARITY: Every Sunday at 9:45am**
- † **EAST & OLD, FORFAR: Every Sunday at 11:15am**

### Additional service:

- † **First Sunday of the month: Breakfast Service  
9:30am at East and Old Church**

### Minister:

The Rev. Thomas MacGregor


Tel: 07353185017

e-mail: [\*\*tmacgregor@churchofscotland.org.uk\*\*](mailto:tmacgregor@churchofscotland.org.uk)

**Church website:** <https://www.thebigkirk.co.uk/>

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## **A Message from the Manse**

Dear Friends,

*As I sat down to write this summer message, I was looking out at a rare and glorious stretch of sunshine—proof, if ever we needed it, that miracles still happen in our wee corner of Angus!*

*Whether you're enjoying a quiet cup of tea in the garden, chasing grandchildren around the park, or simply, like me, marvelling at a dry washing line, summer brings with it a gentle invitation: to pause, to breathe, and to notice the goodness of God all around us. There's something deeply spiritual about this season. Seeds planted months ago are now bursting into life, flowers are turning their faces toward the sun, and the long evenings stretch out like a gracious gift. Creation itself seems to whisper the words of the Psalmist: "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." And perhaps that's our calling this summer—to rejoice, to be glad, and to rediscover hope in the ordinary.*

*In the busyness of life, it can be easy to overlook the quiet presence of Christ walking alongside us. Yet summer has a way of slowing things down just enough for us to notice Him again—in laughter shared, in kindness given, in the beauty of a sunset that stops us in our tracks. Jesus often met people in the everyday moments: by the sea, along the road, around the table. He still does.*

*As a congregation, we are wonderfully placed to be signs of that hope in our community. A warm welcome at the church door, a friendly conversation at the shop, a helping hand offered without fuss—these are the small but powerful ways Christ's love is made visible.*

*So here's a gentle challenge for the months ahead: take time to rest, yes—but also take time to notice, to give thanks, and to*

*share hope. You never know how a simple smile or a kind word might brighten someone's day, or how God might use you in ways you didn't expect.*

*And if the weather turns—as it inevitably will—remember that the light of Christ does not depend on sunshine.*

*It shines steadily, faithfully, in every season.*

*May your summer be filled with laughter, rest and moments of holy surprise. And may you know, deep in your heart, the peace and presence of Christ with you always.*

*With every blessing,*

***Tommy***



### **Bible Study: 1 Peter 1:3**

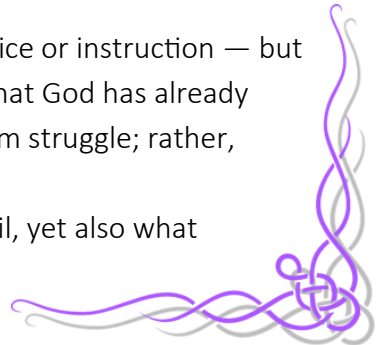
*“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”*

### **Summer Bible Study – A Living Hope**

Before we reflect on these words from Peter, it's helpful to remember the context in which they were first written. The letter we know as 1 Peter was addressed to early Christians scattered across different regions, many of whom were facing uncertainty, hardship, and even persecution because of their faith. Life was not easy, and following Christ often set them apart in ways that were costly.

Into that reality, Peter does not begin with advice or instruction — but with praise. He points them immediately to what God has already done. His words are not naïve or detached from struggle; rather, they are deeply grounded in it.

Peter himself knew what it was to falter and fail, yet also what it was to be restored by the risen Christ.



So, when he speaks of hope, he does so as someone who has experienced the transforming grace of Jesus firsthand.

Summer is often a season of light, growth, and renewal. Gardens bloom, days stretch longer, and there's a sense that life is opening up again. It's a fitting time to reflect on one of the most precious gifts of our faith: hope.

But Christian hope is not the same as wishful thinking. It is not a vague "maybe things will get better." The hope spoken of in Scripture is something far stronger, deeper, and more certain. Peter calls it a *living hope*—something active, alive, and rooted firmly in what God has already done through Jesus.

This hope is grounded in the resurrection. Because Christ is risen, hope is not dependent on circumstances, good weather, or easy days. It remains steady even when life feels uncertain. It reminds us that endings are never final with God, and that new life can emerge in the most unexpected places.

We see this hope beautifully illustrated in the parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11–32). Even when the son had wandered far, made mistakes, and lost everything, there was still a way home. The father never gave up hope. He watched, waited, and when his son returned — even in shame and uncertainty — he was met with open arms, compassion, and joy.

That is the shape of God's hope for us. It is not fragile or easily lost. It is patient, forgiving, and always ready to welcome us back.

So where do we see hope today?

Perhaps it's in small signs: a kind word, a fresh start, a moment of peace after worry. Perhaps it's in the quiet assurance that we are never beyond God's love. Or perhaps it's simply in the knowledge that Christ walks with us, even when the path ahead is unclear.

A question to reflect on: Where do you need hope in your life just now — and how might God already be meeting you there?

A short prayer:

*Lord Jesus,*

*Thank You for the living hope we have in You.*

*When we feel uncertain or weary, remind us that Your love never fails and Your promises remain true. Help us to trust You, to rest in Your grace, and to share Your hope with others.*

*Amen*

*May this summer be a time of renewal*

*— not only in the world around us, but within our hearts as well.*



**A**CCORD - Our entertainment group held concerts in April for ‘See Hear’ in Arbroath and the Disabled Club in the OAP Hall, then Benholm Care Home in May. We welcome singer Kenny Orrock who has joined us and the return of May Clark.

**T**he Art Group has been running successfully in East & Old Social Area for several years. The weekly cost to participate is £3. We paint in any medium of our choice, choosing our own subject and bringing our own art materials. Every year we choose a theme for creating the Church Calendar, usually on sale in November.



We have 10 people currently attending our very relaxed group, with capacity for a further 1 or 2 to join us, at any skill level of painting (or drawing if preferred). Enquiries to Glenda Robertson



In February we read ‘**25 Library Terrace**’ by Natalie Fergie. Set in Edinburgh, Library Terrace is a fictional place where families lived from around 1900, taking in the 1st and 2nd World Wars along with real events that occurred in the city. The chapters revolve around the Census and the people who

lived in the house. It includes the suffrage movement, family secrets, longings, and transformation. We all enjoyed this book.

Our March read was **'To See Ourselves'** by Alistair Moffat, a well-known journalist and former director of the Edinburgh Fringe. He has written many books on Scottish history. In this personal history of Scotland since 1950, he relates his time as a youngster in the Borders, taking the reader through the massive changes in people's lives he has witnessed e.g. the rise of the supermarket, television, the internet and computerisation. Some did not like the book as the history was recent, however, others enjoyed reliving these events.

In April we read **'The Elephant Whisperer'** by Lauren Anthony, a conservationist in South Africa and how he came to understand the herd of 'rogue' elephants he kept on his game reserve. The trouble he had with the indigenous Zulu people and authorities to keep the elephants safe, thus preventing their demise. All enjoyed the book except one who is not an animal lover!

Our next books: **'Twice'** by Mitch Albom; **'Dangerous Destiny'** by Chris Longmuir; **'The Figurine'** by Victoria Hyslop.

We have changed the day and time of our meeting to Tuesday mornings 10am - 12noon. If anyone would like to join the group, please contact me first on 07709652952 or email [linda@muirlands.plus.com](mailto:linda@muirlands.plus.com)

*Linda Spence*

**B**oys Brigade & Girls Association - Activities over the past weeks have covered speed, balloons, paper aeroplanes, Red Arrows and Nature. David Attenborough, Earth Day, seed bombs and frogs were all included. We also held two taster sessions to try to encourage new members, where chocolate played a large part in the form of keyrings, chocolate wrapper designs and hunt and make your own, with some interesting ideas.



Tyler and Alistair did a practice for their gold Duke of Edinburgh award.

Completion is in August, when they will be canoeing/kayaking down Loch Tay over three days. Alvin will tackle his silver practice at the end of May, completing in September. Well done for all your hard work.

Our annual camp took place the middle weekend in May at Scott Lodge, with the Anchors joining the rest in their activities on the Saturday.

Parents Evening is on Thursday 4 June at 6:30pm when the Boys will receive badges/awards. Tyler and Alistair will be presented with discharge certificates, having reached the age of 18; both have been members since they were 5. We wish them well in the future and thank them for all their hard work and service over the years in 2nd Forfar.

Games nights continue on Thursdays until the end of June. The new session will resume late August, so please encourage boys and girls to come along and join us. We also welcome any adults who can spare an hour to help us out. Thank you all for your continuing support.

**C**elebration of Spring Service at Inverarity Church - As part of reaching out to the rural EOI community, Inverarity Church replaced their usual 9:45am service on 3 May with an afternoon service, celebrating spring and all things countryside. Rev Tommy took the congregation on a journey through drifts of daffodils, ploughed fields, tattie planting and newborn lambs and the Sunday School performed a spring poem. Although unable to attend the service, contributions from RSABI, the charity which supports farmers and those involved in agriculture and the Farmer's Union were read to the congregation, highlighting the more serious aspect of Rev Tommy's reflection.



Whilst farming can be a tremendously rewarding vocation, both organisations highlighted the very real problems facing farming businesses and their families. We are delighted that Inverarity Hall has

been hosting the regular RSABI 'Plough On' lunches for the past 18 months, which have proved a huge success in tackling the isolation many older farmers and workers experience at retirement. With our newly updated Inverarity Hall facilities, we are very much hoping to be able to build on this successful event and provide a local meeting place for use by rural organisations.

## EAST & OLD CHOIR

We continue to help boost the praise on Sundays in Forfar and were honoured to be asked by the family of our late choir member Jean Smith to sing a Schubert piece at her funeral in April. We accompany Rev Tommy at care home services, distributing large-print hymn sheets to residents and encouraging their singing, which they thoroughly enjoy. Please give the choir your support and think about joining us for our rehearsal session on Thursdays at 2:30pm to prepare for each Sunday's anthem and congregational hymns.

**Cosy Corner & Wee Blether** - Cosy Corner lunches are having a break during the school summer holidays with the last one on Wednesday 24 June, resuming Wednesday 19 August.



It would be great to have more volunteers to help with these lunches, providing soup or sandwiches for our rota system. If you are interested in joining our team, please contact Jean Alexander on 07719564782.



The Thursday morning **Wee Blether** in the Church Office is also having a break from 25 June, and will resume in October.



**February** - Maureen Jenburn of Forfar Open Garden gave an interesting account of the charity's move to new premises on Lochside Road and the service they give to the community.

**March** - Rev Tommy led devotions before chairing the AGM when the committee was elected and accounts for the year approved. At Inverarity a talk on Angus Independent Advocacy was given by ex-primary teacher Elaine Cargill. It is a free service based in Arbroath for Angus people of all ages, unable to speak up for themselves or safeguard their rights. One of the National Projects "Bear Necessities" was also presented that month to Guild members from both Forfar churches. The charity was started by Christina Ross and Cathy Reece in Alness, 15 years ago, after Christina visited Orizari in Bulgaria as part of the Blythswood ShoeBox appeal. She saw the needs of adults & children there, spurring her on to start an aid campaign with friend Cathy to provide toys (teddy bears), winter boots, pencils and jotters for children to attend school, a homework club and soup kitchen, plus necessities like a warm place for a women's 'knit 'n natter' group to meet. This charity inspired Rumén, a local youth pastor and minister for the last 15 years with a great team behind him who wanted to build an outreach in his hometown of Sliven where there is no Protestant church. Thanks to Guild fundraising under 'Build a Church' he is signing a lease for premises which will provide medical triage care, soup kitchen, food bank, Alpha courses, church services, Sunday school and so much more.

**April** - Mike McEwan led the closing social on accordion, giving us entertaining foot-tapping pop, country & western and Scottish melodies with a few well-chosen jokes in-between.

The Coffee Morning on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> in East & Old Social Area was very successful - thanks to all the workers, customers and donors raising over £600!

**May** - The Guild Mini-Gathering had 40-50 in attendance from all over Angus and Tayside in East & Old Social Area. National Convener Kay Coull presented on Living Stones and General Secretary Karen Gillon described the Guild's long-term work in Malawi and outlined the National plans for the next 5 years. Coming up are the summer trip on 24 June and annual Strawberry Cream Tea at Inverarity Hall the next day at 7pm.



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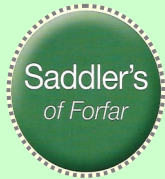
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**E**aster Sunday at Inverarity - Starting with the Easter Breakfast in the hall, we welcomed people of all ages to enjoy the celebrations, company and chat. We then went into the church for morning worship, which was a lovely service and great to see such a turn-out.



**E**lder Vision and Mission Planning Day - Recently, Elders from both worship centres gathered for a Vision and Mission Planning Day. It proved to be a very positive and encouraging day filled with fellowship, discussion, hard work and a real sense of shared purpose for the future of our congregation.

The purpose of the day was to begin reflecting on what our future congregational vision might look like and to consider the missional activities needed to help achieve that vision. Throughout the day, many excellent ideas and suggestions were shared, with everyone contributing thoughtfully and enthusiastically.

The morning session focused on exploring what our congregational vision should be, while the afternoon was spent reviewing the activities and ministries we currently undertake. Together, participants considered what we should continue doing, what may need to stop, and what new opportunities we might begin in the future.

Feedback from the day was extremely positive. Comments included:

*“Friendship, Co-operation, Common Purpose and Togetherness.”*

*“A positive forward-thinking day celebrating the good and not just reflecting on the negative.”*

*“Very positive forward-thinking day. A very enjoyable day.”*

*“Excellent collaboration.”*

*“The co-operation of all involved helped greatly.”*

*“A great day. Enjoyed getting to know new people.”*

*“Many positive ideas to think about. We must work together.”*

The day also highlighted the importance of working together across the whole congregation as we seek God's guidance for the future. A small working group of Elders from both churches will develop a draft vision statement and prepare the congregation's Mission Plan. This will be presented to the Kirk Session then to Presbytery.



Every Church of Scotland congregation is required to prepare a Congregational Mission Plan. This is intended to be a living document, reviewed and updated regularly, setting out how the congregation will engage in worship, outreach, discipleship, pastoral care and service within the community. The plan will also reflect the Five Marks of Mission adopted by the Church of Scotland and the priorities identified within the Perth Presbytery Action Plan.

Special thanks go to the facilitators, Rev William Strachan, Rev Malcolm Rooney, Rev Robert Nicol and Gillian Strachan, for guiding the discussions and helping to make the day such a success. Thanks also to Elizabeth MacLeod and the Social Committee for providing lunch and refreshments throughout the day.

Finally, thank you to everyone who attended the day, and also those who submitted ideas and suggestions for the congregation's future Action Plan. Your support, enthusiasm and willingness to contribute are greatly appreciated as we continue this important journey together. Well done everyone!



- **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE** - There was a good turnout for this service on 6 March in Forfar Social Area. Representatives of the town churches led with reading, prayers, responses and stories from Nigeria, describing how God provides rest through community support, faith and hope. Amali in exquisite, bright costume, taught us her local hymn Keleya Nobueze (Praise God He's the King) and brought her local food for tasting.
- The **Lent Lunches and Studies** held at East & Old Church were successful, though it would have been good to see more people as attendance was variable. The church was thanked for the use of the premises. £956.25 was raised at the lunches.
- A **Coffee Morning for Christian Aid** held at Letham Church on 16 May raised in excess of £400.
- The **Inspiration Orchestra** are coming to East & Old Church on Friday 19 June at 7pm. The orchestra consists of individuals who are disabled and it is amazing what each of them can do to produce the wonderful music. It is a joy to be part of this evening – do come along.
- St John's Church at Lunanhead, are holding a Flower Festival on Saturday 27 June 10am-3pm. All welcome. Floral contributions welcome. Upcoming FACT meetings at Forfar Community Church: 7pm on Wed 22 July, Tuesday 20 October and Wed 20 January 2027.



Another well attended night with approximately 50 attending and a great line up of talent playing accordions, fiddles and guitars, as well as singers. The entertainers put on a great show as usual but the highlight of the evening was Bill Carr and his friend Dr Peter Dick, visiting from

Tasmania, who finished the first half of the evening. Bill and Peter used to entertain together locally many years ago, and they've certainly not lost their touch. We now take a break over the summer months, restarting Wednesday 16 September when we hope you can join us.

**F**amily Worker Report - All our groups continue to be well supported and well attended.

We are delighted to welcome new families to our 'Toddler Time' that runs on a Monday 9:15-11:15 (term time) It's a fun, inclusive and welcoming group where parents/carers can have a cuppie, while their wee ones play and make new friends.

Our 'Baby & Me' group on a Thursday (term time) has changed its time slot to 12:15-2pm - this now incorporates lunches, parents bringing packed lunches - this is to encourage social time, and helps when the children move on to nursery.

On Wednesday 14 May we had a lovely outing to Murton Nature



Reserve; we were given 35 free spaces for our Toddler Time and Baby & Me families, which was amazing and we were very happy to have been given this opportunity, a big thank you to Murton Trust.

Our Lego Club is held after school on Wednesdays (3:45-5pm). We have started to build a Lego model of the East & Old Church; we are in the planning stages and are gathering lots of Lego pieces to start our build. (If anyone can donate Lego, we would be very happy to accept it).

Titch from "Build Recovery" was a guest visitor at our Lego Club in early May - <https://www.buildrecovery.org> He was at East & Old as part of the week-long Lego Workshops around Angus and he kindly donated his time and expertise. The children loved taking part and used all their construction skills and determination building a spectacular Helter-Skelter Roller Coaster - what a great achievement.

For our end-of-term outing on 1 July, we are going to Glamis Castle to

see the Lego Model Exhibition of Glamis Castle, we are very excited about this.

I help at Inverarity Kids Club which is thriving, and the children enjoy their time there. I also support Mrs. Bruce's class at Strathmore PS, it enhances the links between the church and school.

We will be celebrating Volunteers Week in the Social Area of East & Old Church on Friday 5 June from 2- 4pm.

We are always on the lookout for new volunteers for all our groups - if you think you can help with this, please get in touch with me (07735938528).

A BIG Thank You to all the volunteers who continue to support me with our groups throughout the year – your help is very much appreciated  
*Sheila Whitelaw – Family Worker*

**S**ocial Committee - we held a successful Hungarian themed "Goulash, Strudel & Quiz Night" on Friday 8 May. Rev Tommy started the evening with saying Grace, then we served a Forfar version of Goulash with crusty bread, then Apple Strudel with ice cream or custard. All very delicious!

Those who had visited Budapest in April shared their stories and memories, and Bob Kidd showed some of the many photos he had taken. The main reason for visiting Budapest was to meet with our twin Church, Zuglo and take part in the Sunday Morning Service, renew friendships and make new friends. Val Kidd compiled a challenging quiz with some Hungarian content. It was a very enjoyable evening.



The following day, Saturday 9 May, our committee provided tea/coffee and lunch for the Mission and Strategy Day held in East & Old Church. Edith Watson and June Richardson were a great help setting out the lunch and tidying up.



The Summer Term has seen the children busily involved with many fun events and lots to look forward to, keeping in mind their School's Star Standards of: Kindness, Responsibility and Honesty.

Rural Schools Football Tournament - the Boys team recently attended the Final Match(es) of the tournament at Gayfield Park, Arbroath. They made an exemplary account of themselves, working well as a team, encouraging one another and scoring some fantastic goals.

The Girls team played their final game on 7 May - they took second place for the day and second place overall! Additionally, they were awarded the 'Fair Play Award' thanks to their Sportsmanship, Manners and Positive Attitude! Congratulations to all for your efforts and achievements!

P1-4 pupils recently spent an afternoon with Aberlemno Primary School pupils as part of a STEM Project on renewable energy, in partnership with the Royal Society. The Big Question they explored was: 'How do Renewable Energy Sources Work'.

The children are busy running their Leadership Groups - The Reading Ninjas, The Eco Group and Community Company on a range of issues affecting them: reorganizing the library, making bird feeders, planting up the school planters and gathering ideas to improve their playground to present to the Parent Council.

A schools Cross Country event at Forfar Campus on 8 May, had 7 of our P5-7 pupils taking part. They all completed the course but unfortunately didn't achieve a placing. However, they enjoyed themselves and recognised that to improve their standings, they need to put in more training before next year, which they are keen to do!

In collaboration with the Parent Council, Community Council, Parents & Carers, the pupils plan to start up a Community Library, hopefully to be placed on Gateside Road, for use by all. More details to follow.

#### Upcoming Events

✦ Sports Day: Thursday 11 June at 11am, with an invitation extended to parents and carers to stay for a picnic lunch

✦ 'Community Cafe' - Friday 12 June, 2pm, School Dinner Hall

End of Term Service, Wednesday 1 July, 2pm at Inverarity Church followed

by refreshments in the hall, with a Parent Council Fundraiser: a children's 'Mystery Date with a Book' table.

Parents, Carers and the Community are warmly invited to celebrate the above events with us!

*Annie Gourlay*



**A**fter discussing what makes us grow, the children asked if they could learn more about stories in the Bible and complete craft activities, which is exactly what we have done! We looked at the stories of The Creation, Noah and the Ark, Ruth, David and Goliath. We learned about The Easter Story, created a visual sequence of the event and created decorations for the church on Easter Sunday. We also had a scavenger hunt that day, where the children found pictures of the Easter bunny to swap for chocolate.

At the recent Celebration of Spring service, we created an acrostic poem about Spring that was shared with everyone.

We are now looking at the life of Moses and look forward to learning more about him through stories in our Bibles. It has been wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm for the stories and craft activities.

*Heather Bruce and Helen Pate*

**K**ids Club - The children continue to enjoy the different sessions at our Kids Club. With the lighter nights and better days, they have been able to get outside and play lots of fun outdoor games and activities.

Picture of the week continues with the children and adults choosing the theme for the week ahead. Arts and crafts, construction, cars and exercise routines/yoga on the TV are all still favourite activities among the children.



Key events like Mother's Day and Easter continue to be celebrated through arts, crafts, baking and lots more.

**P**roperty Report - Springtime always gives me a sense of re-awakening and hope for the future whether for this year or for years ahead.

Looking around at nature is a marvel of excitement and energy. For many months I have been watching three crows literally sitting on a wall and as nesting season approached, one of the crows of course lost out. However, he or she constantly carried twigs to the pair's nesting site, so take your pick whether it was an effort to attract a mate or a co-operative effort. Then the swallows arrived back from their African adventure. Watching them busy darting about on the wing or in the muddy puddles mixing their cement for their nest is inspiring.

In each case their nests are their building blocks for their future up in a high tree like the crows or clinging to an eave like the swallows. Engineering new nests or resurrecting old ones are a joy to watch. In many ways it's like creating the environment for our own worship and community missional work - block by block.

At East & Old, an area at the west stairwell required urgent attention for what turned out to be dry rot. It was a lesson in just how quickly it can spread. A larger area than first expected required stripping out followed by chemical treatment to prevent and kill the fungus. We will keep a keen eye on the area.

The house at Melvaig has been sold with the young couple taking ownership at the end of March. We hope it's a happy home for them. Half the sale proceeds go to Strathmore Parish as was agreed in the 'Basis of Disjunction' between Glamis and Inverarity.

*David Pate*

***Transport to Church on Sundays***

*Another plea - we need several drivers willing to help bring elderly members to and from the church on occasional Sundays.*

*Please contact Jean Alexander on 07719564782,  
if this is something that you could help with.*

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On 9 April, 14 members of East, Old & Inverarity Parish, along with our minister, Rev Tommy, travelled to Budapest in Hungary to visit members of Zuglo reformed church, our twin church. While this was the 1st opportunity for Inverarity, it was the 5th time East & Old members could visit Zuglo. Adult members were there in 2013, 2015 and 2018, along with a youth visit in 2015. It was also the first time we had been there in 8 years, with the Covid-19 pandemic, travel restrictions, preoccupations with the union of East & Old and Inverarity and no full-time, substantive minister all postponing our intended visit. It was an enjoyable trip, with half the group having been before and knowing the ropes, and half the group visiting for the first time. We travelled to Edinburgh airport, then took an evening flight to Budapest, arriving late evening.



Friday morning was spent looking at the work of the Scottish Mission church in Budapest, with a tour of St Columba's Church from the Rev Aaron Stevens, Church of Scotland minister there for 20 years. This was followed by a trip to a children's hospital run by the churches in Hungary, where we met both the Director and the Chaplain, and heard about their ground-breaking work, as well as the Christian ethos within the hospital. After lunch and free time, we visited the Opera House in Budapest, where we were treated to a private tour of the magnificent building, followed by opera extracts from the Operatic company's singers. In the evening we visited Zuglo church for some magnificent Hungarian

hospitality and a chance to socialise with members, as we enjoyed a delicious meal and traditional folk dancing and singing.

On Saturday we had a full daytrip to Lake Balaton, which involved car journeys and a short ferry crossing before arriving at the beautiful village of Tihany and visited the abbey there. After our tour, we headed off on our road trip around Balaton, stopping at several villages to visit local old churches, one which was very similar to Inverarity Church. The day was rounded off with a visit to a very upmarket winery for a special wine-tasting and dinner, where we heard stories from the owner who runs the business along with his 4 siblings. It has been in the family for over 200 years!

Sunday was spent at Zuglo Church and attending morning worship, where Rev Tommy delivered an excellent sermon on unity, despite differences, while Mihaly interpreted for the Hungarians. The afternoon was spent

with various members of the congregation and their families, with a chance to enjoy more hospitality before heading back to Zuglo for a quiz which required Hungarian and Scottish collaboration and was a fun way to get to know



people better. In the evening, Mihaly took us up to Buda Hill to the Citadel and Castle – a fantastic vantage point to see the whole city lit up at night.

Monday was spent at leisure and we split into groups to do some sightseeing and relax. Activities included a boat cruise, thermal spa,

and a big red bus tour to see the city. We headed back to the airport for our return journey, arriving back in Forfar after 2am. We were very tired, but all agreed it was a fantastic trip, with a



wonderful group of people and it was great to continue

to strengthen the bond between East, Old & Inverarity Parish and Zuglo church. We look forward to welcoming them to Forfar soon.

The Souper Friday lunches on the last Friday of the month have continued throughout the spring with the last one held on 29 May raising funds for Murton Trust.

Then we are having a break for June and July – starting again at the end of August.



**M**onthly care home services seem to be working well and fulfilling a need in the four homes in town, with the FACT rota set for the whole year. We visited St David's on 29 May and will go to Benholm on 12 June at 2:30pm, Windyedge Cottage in July and Finavon Court on 14 August, both at 2pm.

Rev Tommy reports that the Prayer Group and Bible Study groups are going well, with small but dedicated groups meeting on Tuesdays at 7pm. The monthly early Sunday breakfast services continue till 6 September and the mid-week online reflections published on Facebook and YouTube until the end of October with possible addition to presenters. Studies were held in East & Old Social Area on the 6 Fridays of Lent, organised by FACT, and Rev Tommy led Maundy Thursday Communion, Good Friday and Easter Sunday Services in both churches. Lay members of our church led the dawn Easter Service on 5 April, transferred to Lawson Church from St Margaret's Inch because of storm Dave. Rev Tommy started an open "Sanctuary Time" in April for reflection weekly on Wednesdays 2 – 3pm at East & Old Church after Cosy Corner lunch, with prayer stations and quiet music playing. There was a well-attended Sunday Spring service at Inverarity on 3 May. It was decided to hold joint Sunday services with the other sanctuary closed on the following fifth Sundays in the month: Sunday 31 May at Inverarity, (no service at East & Old Church). Sunday 30 August at East & Old Church, (no service at Inverarity Church) and Sunday 29 November at Inverarity, (no service at East & Old Church). The next Worship Group meeting is in September.

## CHRISTIAN HOPE - Word Search (Challenge Version)

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

*The words may be hidden forwards, backwards, vertically, horizontally, or diagonally - so take your time!*

*Words to Find:*

- HOPE
- LOVE
- PEACE
- TRUST
- SALVATION
- ETERNAL
- FAITH
- GRACE
- JOY
- PROMISE
- RESURRECTION
- COMFORT

*"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."  
(Romans 12:12)*

*Happy searching - and may you be reminded of the many ways  
hope is woven through our faith.*

## East & Old Church ~ Ministry of Flowers

7	<b>JUN</b>	Alex Wilson	26	<b>JUL</b>	Stewart Davidson
14	"	Alistair McDonald	2	<b>AUG</b>	Glenda Robertson (F)
21	"	Sheena Benvie	9	"	Alex Wilson
28	"	Jennifer Gair	16	"	Glenda Robertson (K)
5	<b>JUL</b>	Edith Douglas	23	"	J Gair & C J Milne
12	"	Adelaide Bradley	30	"	Sheena Ewart
19	"	Jean Alexander	6	<b>SEP</b>	<i>available</i>

Please pass your donations prior to your chosen Sunday to Catriona Milne, Irene Duthie or pop it in an envelope and hand it to Jennifer at PRIMA Gift Shop which is located next to the church gates.

**We are looking for additional volunteers to join our Flower Team - please contact either Irene Duthie or Catriona Milne, if you are able to help with this.**

*Thank you*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 25 June - 'Strawberry Cream Tea' Inverarity Hall at 7pm

Saturday 8 August - 'Summer Fruits Afternoon Tea' - E & O Church

# CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

## DEATHS

Jean Smith	23 March	< 34 >
Elizabeth Campbell	31 " "	< 20 >
Margaret Mackie	17 April	< 29 >
William Morton	29 " "	< 9 >
Ian Duncan	10 May	< 8 >

## BAPTISMS

Kayden Carling - 22 March  
Shannon and Madeline Clink - 28 March  
Freya Scott - 29 March



### **CHURCH MINIBUS**

Our Church Minibus is available for hire.  
Drivers must have a valid D1 code on  
their driving licence.  
To make a booking, please contact  
Johnny Forbes on 07718244872



### ***PLEASE NOTE***

*We regularly take photographs and videos  
in all of our buildings.  
They can be used in print, on our website  
and on social media.*

*If you are not happy for your image/recording to be used,  
please make an elder aware or  
contact: [admin@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk](mailto:admin@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk)  
07897 456655*





## PLEASE NOTE: NEW E-MAIL ADDRESSES

■ Session Clerk	Karen Kelly	07749036013
■ Roll Keeper	<a href="mailto:session@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk">session@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk</a>	
■ Inverarity Organist	Diane Acheson	07835847588
■ Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk">treasurer@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk</a>	
■ Inverarity Team Contact	<a href="mailto:inverarity@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk">inverarity@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk</a>	
Administrator		07897456655
	<a href="mailto:admin@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk">admin@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk</a>	
FWO Treasurer	Joyce Archibald	07815676452
Safeguarding Coordinator	Helen Pate	
	<a href="mailto:safeguarding@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk">safeguarding@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk</a>	
■ Flower Group Admin	Catriona Milne	07962065936
■ INSPIRE Editing Team	<a href="mailto:editor@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk">editor@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk</a>	
■ Website/Facebook	<a href="mailto:media@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk">media@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk</a>	
East & Old Organist	Bruce Simpson	01307 468179
Choirmaster	Bob Kidd	01307 462701
Church Officer	Bill Duthie	01307 465895
Inverarity Sunday School	Heather Bruce <a href="mailto:sundayschool@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk">sundayschool@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk</a>	
Family Worker	Sheila Whitelaw	07735938528
	<a href="mailto:family@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk">family@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk</a>	
East & Old Guild Contact	Marion Duncan	01307 463075
■ Inverarity Guild Contact	Lillian Carnegie	07944 294848
■ Inverarity Flowers		
Property Convener	David Pate	01307 820340
		07970071166
	<a href="mailto:property@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk">property@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk</a>	
Big Kirk Shop Organiser	Muriel Fairley	01307 463936
Prayer Group	Mary Pickstone	01307 466569
2nd Forfar Boys' Brigade & Girls Association	Betty Lovegrove	01307 466467
	<a href="mailto:2ndforfar@boys-brigade.org.uk">2ndforfar@boys-brigade.org.uk</a>	
Minibus Bookings	Johnny Forbes	07718244872

### ~ NEXT ISSUE OF INSPIRE ~

The deadline for submission of articles for the **AUTUMN** issue is:-

**5pm on SATURDAY 15 AUGUST 2026**

Please pass your articles to the Editing Team or e-mail:-

**[editor@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk](mailto:editor@eastoldandinverarityparish.org.uk)**