

## Church Services

	<b>Kinnaird Abernyte</b>	<b>Inchture Longforgan</b>
	9.30am 11.00am	9.45am 11.00am
December 6	Rev J Roy	Mr Tim Xenophontos-Hellen
December 13	Rev J Powrie	Rev R Donald
December 20	Rev R Donald	Rev J Powrie
December 27	Mr Bill Strachan	Rev R Donald
January 3	Rev J Roy	Rev J Rogers
January 10	Rev J Rogers	Rev R Donald
January 17	Rev R Donald	Rev J Laidlaw
January 24	Rev L Kay	Rev R Donald
January 31	Rev R Donald	Rev J Laidlaw
February 7	Rev J Rogers	Rev J Roy

## Christmas Services

**December 13<sup>th</sup>**

Abernyte Sunday School Play & Christmas Service, 11am  
 Carol Service at Inchture Church, 7pm

**December 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Family Services in all churches**

The service at Abernyte will be followed by Soup Lunch.  
 Services at Inchture & Longforgan include Sunday School Christmas plays

**Christmas Eve**

**Watchnight Services in Abernyte, Inchture and Longforgan**

Churches are open for carol singing from 11pm,  
 Services start at 11.30pm at Abernyte and Inchture; and  
 at 11.25pm at Longforgan, where a candlelight service is planned  
 so please bring a torch!

**Christmas Morning Service at Kinnaird Church at 10am**

This is a family service and children are invited to bring along  
 one of their Christmas gifts to show to the congregation.

The deadline for the February/March edition of Church News  
 is **Friday 29th January**

Please send to Moira Borwell, 8 Wheatfield Avenue, Inchture  
 t. 01828-686556; e. moiraborwell@dsl.pipex.com

# CHURCH NEWS

**December  
 2009/  
 January  
 2010**

**Abernyte**  
 linked with  
**Inchture  
 &  
 Kinnaird**

linked with  
**Longforgan**

**CHURCH  
 OF  
 SCOTLAND**



**Christmas Carol Service**  
**Inchture Church**  
**Sunday 13th December, 7pm**  
 organised by Hazel Smith

In aid of Menzieshill High School, Mission International,  
 Uganda Project.

More information on page 8

**Interim Moderator:** Rev James A. Roy, 7 Northwood Terr, Wormit, DD6 8PP.  
 Tel 01382-543578; email j.roy@tesco.net

**Associate Minister:** Rev Robert Donald, 2 Blacklaw Drive, Birkhill, DD2 5RJ.  
 Tel 01382-581337; email robandmoiradonald@yahoo.co.uk

**Church Website: [www.carsechurches.com](http://www.carsechurches.com)**

## From the Interim Moderator

Dear Friends,

I am writing this on the First Sunday in Advent, that period when Christians turn their thoughts afresh to Christmas and the coming of the Saviour. It's a time for reflection before the end of year celebrations.



This hasn't been an easy year for the Carse churches. In the Spring you said farewell to your minister. And today marked the departure of the Rev Robin Rae as your locum. During the months Robin has endeared himself to the congregations, and particularly to the folk of Longforgan for whom he has been pastorally responsible. His endearingly warm and friendly personality was much appreciated by the many members he befriended and visited. We thank him sincerely for all that he has done for us in these past months and wish him well for the future.

He will be a hard man to replace, but I am hopeful of finding someone to succeed him in the near future. In the meantime Robbie and I will deal with any pastoral duties in Longforgan. Please keep us informed of members anywhere in the charge who are ill or in hospital or would appreciate a visit.

These months of the vacancy have not been wasted. We have indeed been reflecting on how we do things in our churches and on how we might do them better. There has been an encouraging spirit of cooperation among the three Kirk Sessions and a determination to create a real improvement in the ways we relate and work together. It would be our hope and our prayer that by this time next year we will be well on the way to filling our vacancy.

I have always received encouragement and hope at this time in the year from a poem which was written in 1908 by Minnie Louise Haskins, an American lecturer at the London School of Economics, who wrote as a hobby. It was a favourite of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, who showed it to her husband King George VI. He included it in his famous Christmas message broadcast in 1939 at the beginning of the Second World War. After the King's death, the Queen Mother had it engraved on bronze plaques on the entrance to the King George VI Memorial Chapel, Windsor, where both are now buried. It was also read at the funeral service of the Queen Mother.

*I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year  
'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'  
And he replied, 'Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God  
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way!'*

*So I went forth and finding the Hand of God  
Trode gladly into the night  
He led me towards the hills  
And the breaking of day in the lone east.*

With all good wishes for a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year,

Your Interim Moderator

## Longforgan News continued

### Fairtrade

The Kirk Session has agreed to obtain Fairtrade accreditation and to

- serve Fairtrade tea and coffee after church services and in all other church meetings;
- move forward on using other Fairtrade products, such as sugar, biscuits and fruit
- promote Fairtrade during Fairtrade Fortnight and during the year, through events, worship and other activities whenever possible.



### Meditations and Prayer (Cynthia Clare Grant)

“... they brought out their gifts .... and presented them to Him ....”  
(Matthew 2: 9-12)

Seasons come and seasons go; likewise from the Springtime, Summer and Autumn of our lives, we come to the Winter. This does not mean we should become discontented, for Wintertime can be very beautiful, looking towards new beginnings. A time of hopefulness, as the essence of our lives becomes consolidated in our faith in God and Jesus Christ. This fragrance of our experiences can diffuse to others, both young and old, to inspire and invigorate them.

Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 2: 14-17 “... in union with Christ ... God uses us to make the knowledge about Christ spread everywhere like a sweet fragrance. For we are like sweet smelling incense offered by Christ to God, which spreads among those who are being saved and those who are being lost.”

The Wise Men brought frankincense to the Baby Jesus and our lives and prayers should be like that sweet smelling substance, an offering to God as John wrote of his vision in Revelations 5: 7-8. Seek to live meaningful and fragrant lives for the New Year to all who would seek to follow Jesus Christ. That is the best gift to offer to God.

“Eternal Spirit, who does speak  
To mind and conscience still,  
That we, in this our day, may seek  
To do our Father's will:  
Thy Word of Life impart,  
That tells of Christ, the Living Way;  
Give us the quiet humble heart  
To hear and to obey.” (by G.W. Briggs)



*[When Cynthia was diagnosed with terminal cancer, she wrote all of the remaining Prayer pieces for the year, and although she has now passed through the “Winter of her life”, it was appropriate I think to complete the series. Moira]*

# Longforgan News

## Church Flowers

We are indebted to the following for the provision of flowers in the Church in December and January:

December 6	Mrs A Lindsay
December 13	Mrs E Randall
December 20	} Christmas
December 27	} Tree
January 3	Mrs M Wilson
January 10	Mrs A Addison
January 17	Mrs J Menzies
January 24	Mrs W White
January 31	Church Flowers
February 7	Dr C Duff

Longforgan Church will be decorated for the Festive Season on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December**, 10am-12noon.

Donations of flowers and greenery will be gratefully received and helpers warmly welcomed!



Margaret Anderson would like to thank the teams who deliver the newsletter and other flyers around Longforgan. Merry Christmas to you all!

## Carol Singing

Anyone wishing to join the Session Clerk, Church Officer and other Elders carol singing in Longforgan village would be most welcome. Meet at the Parish Hall on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm.**

Enthusiasm essential, skill not required!!

## Longforgan Sunday Club



The children from the Sunday Club will be performing their Christmas Nativity Play on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December** and it's also hoped that the children will take part in the Carol Singing in Longforgan that afternoon.

## Longforgan Guild

Our Christmas Party on the **16<sup>th</sup> December** will take the form of a "Pot Luck Supper" at 7.15pm in the Church Hall.

Longforgan Guild will meet on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.15pm in the Church Hall when the Rev Robin Rae will give a talk.

## Manse

A tenant is to be living in the Manse as from 1<sup>st</sup> December on a short assured tenancy.

## "Pop In" Coffee Mornings

Mrs Winifred White is to run coffee mornings in the Parish Hall from **8.45am on Wednesdays during school term time**, starting 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Pop in for a coffee and a chat after you've dropped your children off at school - you're assured of a warm welcome!



## Parish Register

### Baptisms

09/08/09 Alastair Neil MacFadyen, at Inchturre  
 25/10/09 Morna Harriet Marion Kennedy, at Longforgan  
 01/11/09 Charley Gordon Oosenbrugh, at Inchturre

### Wedding

24/10/09 Moira Hird to Darren Donnelly, at Inchturre

### Funerals

23/10/09 Kathleen McLeish, Baledgarno  
 30/10/09 David Cruickshank, Longforgan  
 04/11/09 Cynthia Hyacinthe Clare Grant, Inchturre



## Kirk Session Meetings

Longforgan  
 Inchturre & Kinnaird  
 Abernyste

Tuesday 12th January, 7pm in Hall of Friendship  
 Tuesday 19th January, 7pm in Inchturre Vestry  
 Thursday 21st January, 7pm  
 (Congregational Board also meets at 7pm)

## Monthly Luncheon Club

The Daily Telegraph has revealed that a report, written by The Luncheon Club Management Team, was printed in the December 2009 Inchturre Newsletter claiming that annual targets had been achieved by "ticking the right boxes".

However an Independent Report highlights several serious issues:

1. Helpers on tea and coffee duty should learn that "A Watched Pot Never Boils" (unless the urn is switched on).
2. Members can be noisy and subversive.
3. Management is exclusive, autocratic and bossy ....and ignored by rank and file members.

The Luncheon Club will be inspected in 6 months time in accordance with EC Regulation 457698/ LC/2008/ PH14 when it is hoped these points will have been addressed!!



The Club would like to thank Inchturre Playgroup for their generous donation of a Christmas Hamper—Dorothy and George Dixon were the lucky winners of the draw which took place at our November lunch.

The next lunch meeting is on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010** – names to Mamie (686691), Anne (686656) or Jennifer at Inchturre PO by Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> please. [Anne D]

The Church News can now be downloaded (or viewed) on [www.carsechurches.com](http://www.carsechurches.com) and [www.abernyste.org](http://www.abernyste.org)

# CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

Thanks again to everyone for making the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal such a success. Over 130 shoeboxes "Bursting with Joy" were gathered from the joint congregations and across the parishes to be delivered by Samaritan's Purse in time for Christmas.



Blythswood have also been given shoeboxes, numerous cardboard boxes full of school stationery, toiletries, children's and babies' cosy and colourful knitwear and children's new clothing. (Thank you to the 'Inchtire knitters'.)

Everyone has been generous in their support and we should give praise in the knowledge that we have all managed to make Christmas time brighter for those with otherwise nothing.

For more information you can log onto [www.samaritanspurse.org.uk](http://www.samaritanspurse.org.uk)

Although the shoebox collection is finished for this year, Blythswood will have a truck in Tesco Car Park (Riverside Dundee) on December 16<sup>th</sup> 1330 – 1630 and Asda Car Park (Perth) on December 17<sup>th</sup> 0830 - 1130 and will take donations of

## Church Website - [www.carsechurches.com](http://www.carsechurches.com)

The site is updated regularly with news about events and activities, snippets from Kirk Session discussions, and the latest information about our vacancy. There's also the opportunity to post your views (on anything!) on our forum.

We hope you're following the adventures of Rudi (Liz's dog) as he tours around the Carse – make sure you read up on where he has been; these pages contain lots of interesting local information.



New Teen Pages have been added, which include book and film reviews plus 'Teen Guide' - the young people's views on a topical news item. This page features a User Poll to gather views on the topic covered. For instance, in October 85% of those who voted agreed that it was right to free Abdelbaset Ali Al Megrahi; in November 85% agreed that Nick Griffin should have appeared on Question Time. There will be a new poll in December – log on and make your vote count!

**Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2010  
to all readers of Church News**

and grateful thanks for the support I've received over the past year, especially to Trish Thomson for all her time and effort in photocopying the newsletter.

[Moira]

## Inchtire & Kinnaird News continued

### Cynthia Clare Grant : 1938 – 2009

Cynthia was born on her parents' farm in Jamaica in 1938 and from an early age she worshipped in the village Church of England a mile and a half from the farm. At the age of eleven she gave her life to Christ whilst she was at a service in the Brethren Church with her maternal grandmother. The text that moved her to commit her life to Christ was Revelation 3: 20: "Listen! I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them and they will eat with me." She never went back on that commitment throughout her life. Through her teens she worked through Bible Study Groups, Youth Fellowships, Scripture Union, Prayer Groups, and Christian radio broadcasts to Haiti.

In her working life, she trained as a librarian in Jamaica and completed her studies at the University of Strathclyde and, in 1969, graduated as an Associate of the Library Association of the United Kingdom. She held posts with various local authorities in Scotland and finally retired in 1998 as Senior Assistant Librarian with Perth & Kinross Council. Her own education did not stop with retirement: she went on to graduate with a BA Degree in 1988 and a BSc (Hons) in 1997.

Throughout her working life she worked and witnessed to the Lord to whom she had given her life. She was an evangelical counsellor with several crusades in Jamaica and in Scotland. In Inchtire Church she was active in the choir and church. She served as Prayer Promoter and Elder in the Kirk Session .

All of us who knew Cynthia will have our own abiding memories of her. During this year she had to make that long and demanding journey when it was discovered she had cancer. She accepted it as part of her journey of faith and fought on that final journey with fortitude and faith. One of my last abiding memories is of visiting her late one Saturday afternoon near the end of her journey. Cynthia was asleep, her Bible lay on the top of her bed and her left hand was out of the covers and was resting on her Bible. It was a perfect picture. I don't know whether Cynthia had reached out her hand or an understanding member of staff had done this for her. It doesn't matter how it had come about; that picture summed up perfectly Cynthia's life and commitment to Christ. [Robbie Donald]

## SOUPER SUNDAY—10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010

Endorsed by the 2009 General Assembly, Churches all over Scotland will be holding "Souper Sunday" events on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2010 as a way of increasing awareness of issues surrounding HIV/AIDS and raising much-needed funds for a wide range of HIV initiatives at home and overseas.



At Inchtire, we will be holding a special Service on **10.01.10**, which will include a presentation about the HIV/AIDS project, and will be followed by a simple 'souper and bread' lunch in Inchtire Village Hall.

It is hoped that this event will be well supported by the congregation and the wider community. Alongside raising HIV awareness, we will have the added bonus of a social get-together!

## Christmas Carol Service

Hazel Smith is organising a Christmas Carol Service in Inchture Church on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.00pm in order to raise funds for Menzieshill High School, Mission International, Uganda Project.



Hazel will be travelling to Uganda in October 2010 as part of a team of 10 students and 2 teachers, along with the Dundee based charity, Mission International, spending three weeks carrying out a range of projects. The collection taken at the Carol Service will be used to fund projects, such as building a well in the rural village of Namutamba, and helping in the local orphanages and schools. The money will also be used to buy educational supplies, such as textbooks, computers and microscopes, to take out to Gabba High School.

## Inchture & Kinnaird Session News

The following items were included on the agenda of Inchture & Kinnaird's Kirk Session meeting in November:

- A donation of £50 was given to the Church by Dr & Mrs Hoggar of Glasgow in memory of the late Miss Cynthia Clare-Grant.
- The Guides have requested to plant a tree in the Memorial Garden in this, their centenary year. This is a lovely idea, and we remind people that apart from the grass cutting carried out by the council, the Memorial Garden is tended by volunteers and we welcome community participation in its upkeep.
- A newly formed Development Committee is preparing a questionnaire which will shortly go out to each household in Inchture & Kinnaird. This questionnaire and subsequent analysis will hopefully give us more information on people's views regarding the role of the Church within the community, and how our buildings can be better utilised.
- A proposal by Longforgan Kirk Session was put before Session, to reduce the number of Kirk Session meetings per year and hold at least two Joint Session meetings. Any form of Joint Session was generally welcomed as a vehicle for liaison within the Linkage, however due to current legislation these could not be decision-making meetings. It was agreed that the series of Joint meetings we are presently conducting, suited the Linked Charge in its vacancy, although there was a recognition that this could change in the future.
- Finally, a special 'Souper Sunday' service will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2010 in aid of the Church of Scotland AIDS Project. This promises to be a service with a difference, and hopefully it will make a difference to those with AIDS.  
[Menna Jefferies, Session Clerk]

## Abernyte News

### Church Flowers

December 6	Mrs S Stobbs
December 13	}
December 20	} Christmas
December 27	} Tree
January 3	}
January 10	Miss Henderson
January 17	Mrs M Hole
January 24	Mrs A Rice
January 31	Mrs J Bethell
February 7	Mrs E Havranek



**We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December.**

"Work" will start at 10am. Coffee and biscuits will be available for volunteers, visitors and anyone who would like to pop in for a chat.

If you have any special CDs you wish to play as we decorate, please bring them along (everyone who so rude about last year's selection!)

### Abernyte Women's Group

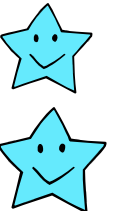
On **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December**, the group will be attending the Hospitals Carol Concert in the Caird Hall, and at our meeting on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2pm at Kirkfield**, Rona Archibald will give a talk about Perth Street Pastors. New members are always welcome and more information about the Group can be obtained from Gill Irvine, 01828 686509.

### Duty Office-Bearers

December	Mr T Sands Mrs J Smith
January	Mr H Carr Mrs G Irvine
February	Mr D Ramsay Mrs R Havranek

### Abernyte Sunday School

This term we're practising really hard for our Christmas play, "The star who was afraid to shine", which we will be performing during the service on **December 13<sup>th</sup>** at 11am. If you have any little stars in your family who would like to join in the "dance of the little stars" please get in touch - they would be most welcome.



We also went to the Fischy music concert in Broughty Ferry back in October. We learned some great songs (which we hope to share with the congregation next year) and finished off the day with some delicious ice cream!

Sunday school will start back after the Christmas break on January 10<sup>th</sup> at the usual time of 10am. Our other dates for the Spring term are January 24<sup>th</sup>, February 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> and March 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. If you would like to know more about what we do, please phone Esther (686311) or Natasha (686090).

### Charity Christmas Fair @ Infield, Abernyte Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 10am – 2pm

Locally made crafts and produce      Tea/Coffee, mince pie/shortbread £1  
In aid of "Dreamz 4 U"

## Abernyte News continued

### Bird Table Building

The Bird Table Building Workshop was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The tables looked great when they were completed, apart from two which were slightly crooked!!



A big Thank You to Hamish Carr who prepared all the kits, Andie Corkhill who lent a hand wherever it was needed, Sue and Alan Vardy who set out the work benches and let us use their garage and a huge THANK YOU to all the children who joined in the fun!

*PS Check the church website to see a photo of the Abernyte Church Bird Table Building Crew*

### PRESENT AID GIFTS THAT KEEP GIVING

#### Christian Aid Virtual Gift Shop

You can show your friends and family you are thinking of them while making a difference to others' lives around the world by purchasing a gift from Present Aid. Your donation will be used to fund work that Christian Aid carries out in overseas communities and the 'gift' is delivered as a greetings card. Gifts vary from a wormery to a sewing machine.

To order gifts call 0845 3300 500 or log on to [www.presentaid.org.uk](http://www.presentaid.org.uk)

### Buy a Caring Christmas Tree!

Log on to [www.caringchristmastrees.com](http://www.caringchristmastrees.com) or phone 0845 111 8733 to order your tree – freshly cut, grade 1 standard Fraser Firs, grown in Scotland in managed, sustainable tree farms.

All profits from sales in Perth and Dundee are donated to Gowrie Care, which supports people with learning disabilities, mental health issues, autism and people who are or have been homeless.

Last date for ordering is 14<sup>th</sup> December.



### STARTER PACKS DUNDEE

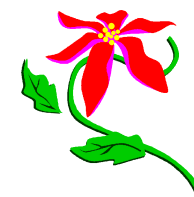
The Coffee Morning on 14<sup>th</sup> November for the benefit of STARTER PACKS DUNDEE, sponsored by Longforgan Guild for the four churches, was a great success. The volunteers at STARTER PACKS are delighted with the high quality of the vanload of goods donated. £317 was raised for the funds from donations and the proceeds of the cake and candy and bric-a-brac stalls.

On behalf of STARTER PACKS, thank you to all who helped to make the Coffee Morning such a happy and profitable occasion. [Isabel Taylor]

## Inchtire & Kinnaird News

### Church Flowers

	Inchtire	Kinnaird
December 6	Mrs J Ramsay	Mrs C Bryden
December 13	Miss L Kay	}
December 20	Mrs S Lamond	} Christmas
December 27	Mrs B Jackson	} Decorations
January 3	Mrs D Petrie	}
January 10	Mrs M Mellor	Mrs E Harrison
January 17	Mrs R Hird	Mrs J Latham-Warde
January 24	Mrs S Marnoch	Mrs J Latham-Warde
January 31	Mrs A Scott	Mrs E Harrison
February 7	Mrs K Anderson	Mrs E Harrison



A big "thank you" from June Ramsay to all the Inchtire Flower Conveners for their help and support throughout the year.



**A cleaner is required**  
for 2 hours  
per week  
for Inchtire Church

Rate of pay is £6.25 per hour

Anyone interested should contact Menna Jefferies on 686447.

### Inchtire & Kinnaird Ladies' Group

There will be a Christmas Games Party on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December** and at our meeting on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January**, Liz Kay will be sharing anecdotes and photographs from her recent holiday in India and Nepal.

Meetings are held in Inchtire Vestry at 7.30pm and new members are most welcome to come along and join our friendly group. For more information, please contact Liz Wiseman on 01738-860272.

### Inchtire Sunday School

There will be a **Family Christmas Service** on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**, when the Sunday School children will be performing "A Very Opinionated Tree." Once again, we will be having a Chrismon Tree, which will be decorated during the Family Service and members of the congregation are invited to make a decoration. As last year, decorations should be either white (to represent Christ's purity) or gold (for Christ's majesty) – Sheena has patterns and templates to suit all abilities!

This year's **Christmas Party** will be held in the Village Hall on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December from 4-6pm**, with lots of fun and games for all the family. Let Sheena know if you will be attending – 01828 628135, sheenalamond@aol.com

*PS We hope you are all working through the challenges on your Advent Calendar!*

