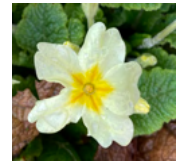




# FOSSOWAY CHURCH NEWSLETTER



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**Fossoway Sunday Worship 9.45am**  
**Cleish Sunday Worship 11.15am**  
**All welcome**

Interim Moderator: Rev Beverley Stevenson  
Email: [BStevenson@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:BStevenson@churchofscotland.org.uk)  
Tel: 07584 902508

Fossoway Church, situated in the Crook of Devon, and Cleish Church in Cleish, are very warm and welcoming places. Come and join us, we would love to meet you. All are welcome at any of our meetings and services.

If you would like any more information, please contact:

Session Clerk: Anne McKay  
Email: [annemckay90@gmail.com](mailto:annemckay90@gmail.com)  
Tel: 07766 418016



## A Word From The Minister

29th February 2024

To the congregations of Cleish & Fossoway.

I wanted to introduce myself to you especially as I haven't been able to meet many of you, for I'm sure various reasons.

You will know that I have been deployed by Presbytery to be your Interim Moderator during your time of vacancy and I am with you also as your Locum minister during this time too....what this means for you is I act as your stand-in minister on a part time and temporary basis until the time you unite together as one congregation rather than separated...this should trigger things to start moving forward and allow a call for a full time parish minister to lead you.

A wee bit of background about me: I live in Tullibody with my husband David and we have 3 grown up children and 4 grandchildren. We moved here last May and are settling in well... My ministry is a peripatetic one and I am deployed by Presbytery into different roles as well as places.

I have enjoyed meeting and getting to know some of the folks who come to worship on a Sunday and I hope to meet you too when you feel ready to come.

It has been strange time for everybody over these last few years and the Church locally and country wide has a few changes still to make... with support from each other and God's support and guidance we will I no doubt succeed.

Jeremiah 29

V<sup>11</sup> For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. <sup>12</sup> Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. <sup>13</sup> You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

I write this during the 3rd week of lent as we travel together towards Easter.

Look out for the Easter week services, places and times and the many other things that are going on in your Church building.

My contact details are below... if you would like to get in touch please do.

With every blessing

Bev

Rev. Beverley Stevenson

Tel no 07584 902508

Email [bstevenson@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:bstevenson@churchofscotland.org.uk)

## News from the Session Clerk

6th March 2024

Dear readers,

It has been a busy start to the year. We welcomed Beverley as our locum minister from the beginning of January in addition to her role as Interim Moderator. I, personally, am very grateful for the support she has already provided and look forward to working with her throughout this period of change.

We have restarted tea and coffee after every Sunday service, and it has been lovely to see everyone coming together for a chat. This year has also seen the return of the crèche on a Sunday morning. We have a team of ladies on hand to look after any young children whose parents wish to attend the service. For those who wish to come along but stay with their children, the AV team will also be live streaming the service to the hall.

We are continuing to develop closer links with Cleish. At the end of January, eight members from Fossoway attended the congregational lunch after the service at Cleish. A repast of soup and pudding was enjoyed by all, with donations totalling £250 going to Crossreach. More details about this very worthwhile cause can be found at [www.crossreach.org.uk](http://www.crossreach.org.uk). I would encourage you all to add the date of the next congregational lunch at Cleish to your diary. This will take place on Sunday 28th April. Cleish would like to know numbers in advance, so please let me know if you wish to attend.

The Mission and Outreach Group met recently and are looking to take forward some exciting new ideas to serve our local community, so watch out for more details of these in the very near future.

The monthly Sunday Youth Club restarted on Sunday 11th February. We are very grateful for KYTHE and their support running this group. In addition to this, a term-time weekly Youth Drop-In started on Thursday evenings. KYTHE are looking for volunteers to help run these groups, so if you are interested, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We are also very grateful to KYTHE for the fundraising that they have done to purchase equipment for the group. A new pool table and foosball table along with some donated seating has turned the Junior Church room into a comfortable and welcoming social space.

Finally, a last date for your diary. The Stated Annual Meeting of the Congregation is also due to take place after the service on Sunday 28th April. This is a very important meeting, and I would encourage all church members to attend.

For us as a united congregation with Cleish, new and exciting times lie ahead. If you have any ideas for the future or if you would like to help with any of our ongoing activities, such as the choir, Sunday teas, Refresh, the Film Nights, then please don't hesitate to contact either the group directly or find me on a Sunday morning. If I'm not around, then feel free to drop me an email at [annemckay90@gmail.com](mailto:annemckay90@gmail.com).

Yours in fellowship,

Anne McKay

Fossoway Session Clerk

## Upcoming Events



**Fossoway Film Evening**

**Living** 12

Mr Williams played by Bill Nighy, is a veteran civil servant. After a shattering health diagnosis it dawns on him that he has not been living his life to the full. He is encouraged in his search to find fulfilment by two younger colleagues before it is too late! 'Living' is a heart rending reminder to value what it is to live.

**Friday 5th April 7.30pm**

**Fossoway Church Hall**

Donations of £5 appreciated which includes tea/coffee and biscuits.  
Other refreshments available

### Cleish Fete and Classic Car Show



**SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024**  
1.00pm - 3.30pm



**Hog Roast by Rootin & Roamin**  
Teas & Cakes in the Village Hall, Ice Cream,  
Produce, Cakes & Jams, Tombola, Plant Stall, Other stalls,  
Cards & Books, Classic Car Show

All pre-2004 cars welcome – Please be in field by 12.00pm  
Entry to Classic Car Show free – Prizes for selected best cars  
(donations to Cleish Church/Cleish Village Hall Association please)  
CONTACT – DAVID LESLIE on 07778 772349 or [cleishcarshow@cleish.org](mailto:cleishcarshow@cleish.org) to  
confirm car details and entry.

All proceeds to Cleish Church (Charity No SCO03168)  
and the Cleish Village Hall association (Charity No SC007793)

**£££ PLEASE BRING CASH ON THE DAY £££**

**Fossoway Youth Drop-In**  
ages 11 - 16

- Music
- Games
- Snacks

**Free!**

**Fossoway Church**  
**Thursdays, 6pm - 8pm**

## Church News

We have welcomed a new locum minister, Beverley Stevenson, to our churches in Fossoway and Cleish. It is a pleasure to have such a wonderful person leading our worship and helping us through these times of change.

The Bible Study Group continues to meet as and when they can on Thursday evenings. The members of the group are lucky to receive a daily reading and a song or hymn via WhatsApp. Debbie is a wonder at producing something different day after day! The group look at the Bible, or texts about the Bible, or perhaps commentaries from figures in various churches. It is a pleasure to meet with like-minded folk and to talk and pray about Christian matters. All are welcome to this group and there are regular notices in church about when and where it is happening. We even have tea or coffee and biscuits!

Many children enjoyed a Christmas Eve service which was well attended. The theme was 'Light' and everyone was good at participating in activities throughout the service.

Special services are lined up for Easter and the one on Easter Day will have activities for children (in the Elizabeth Wilkie Hall) running concurrently with the service in the church. All are welcome and we are really looking forward to welcoming the Toddler Group for some Easter activities!

Refresh meets on Thursday afternoons...here is a chance for a cuppa, cake and a blether. It is a friendly space filled with delicious baking and chat! Do come along between 2pm and 4pm. Below are photographs of the Christmas party. There are also teas and coffees available after every Sunday service so do join us for some social chat after the service.

If anyone would like more information about any of the activities, please contact an elder at church or look in the newsletter for timings.



Contributed by Gini Currie

## ***Come and Join The Choir!***



We are a friendly group of people and would love to welcome new members to our church choir.

We meet every Sunday morning in the Elizabeth Wilkie Hall before morning worship and our wonderful organists run through the hymns that we will be singing during the service. There is no need to be able to read music as the organists help us to learn what we need to know. We also meet from time to time to practice for special projects such as Easter and Christmas.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact an elder at church or message through the Facebook page.



## **Communication Information**

### ***Newsletter Deadlines 2024***

Summer	25th August 2024
Advent	8th November 2024
Easter	8th March 2025

The newsletter is available on line at [cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk](http://cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk) and by email. If you no longer wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter please let us know by emailing [fossowaynewslettereditor@cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk](mailto:fossowaynewslettereditor@cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk)

### Hall Bookings

If you wish to book our hall or meeting rooms please contact Mrs Eileen Black on 01259 742046.

All are welcome at any of our meetings and services. If you would like any more information please contact Anne McKay [annemckay90@gmail.com](mailto:annemckay90@gmail.com)

### Fossoway House Group

Our House Group is now meeting every Thursday evening at 7.30pm. For more details please contact Debbie Hill, 01577 842268.

## Contact Information

Contact	Email or Web Address	Telephone Number
Interim Moderator Rev Beverley Stevenson	<a href="mailto:bstevenson@churchofscotland.org.uk">bstevenson@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	07584 902508
Session Clerk Anne McKay	<a href="mailto:annemckay90@gmail.com">annemckay90@gmail.com</a>	07766 418016
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Website	<a href="http://cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk">cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk</a>	
Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064524469286">https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064524469286</a>	



The church also has a Facebook page where you can find more information about the church, including links to the Sunday services available on YouTube.

## Elizabeth Wilkie Hall Groups & Events

ORGANISATION/EVENT	TIME	CONTACT
<b>Fossoway Creative Crafters</b>	Mondays 6.30pm - 8.30pm	<a href="mailto:fossowaycreativecrafters@gmail.com">fossowaycreativecrafters@gmail.com</a> Fossoway Creative Crafters on Facebook
<b>Fossoway Film Evening</b>	1st Friday of the month, 7.30pm	See website or Facebook for film details
<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	Our next meeting will be on Saturday 16th March at 8.30am in the church hall with a with speaker from Capability Scotland. Full cooked breakfast provided!	Further information available from Alan Harper (07762 709316)
<b>The Fossoway Board Games Night</b>	Fortnightly on Thursdays 6.30 - 7.30pm	See website or Facebook for details
<b>Fossoway Babies &amp; Toddlers Group</b>	Fridays 9.30 - 11.30am Join us for snacks, play and a blether.	Janet Harper Fossoway Toddler Group on Facebook
<b>Refresh with tea, coffee, cakes &amp; company</b>	Thursdays 2.00 - 4.00pm	Delicious home baking, tea and coffee. All are welcome.
<b>Fossoway Youth Group</b>	New Term-Time Weekly Drop In: Every Thursday 6 - 8pm.  Monthly: 2nd Sunday of each month starting Sunday 10th March 7 - 8:30pm.  Come along; it's a space for playing games, with pool and foosball tables, snacks and good chat!  For all young people aged 11-16 years old. Completely free! £0!	



## Dates for the Diary

Updates and changes to the dates below can be found on our church website  
<https://cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk>

24th March, Palm Sunday – 11.15am Sunday Morning Worship	Joint service with Cleish Parish Church at Cleish Parish Church. There will be no service at Fossoway on this day.
Thursday 28th March – 6.30pm Communion Service at Fossoway Parish Church	“The Last Supper with the disciples”. Joint service with Cleish Parish Church
Friday 29th March – 6.30pm at Cleish Parish Church	Joint service at Cleish Parish Church. A reflective service to mark Good Friday
31st March, Easter Sunday – 9.45am Family Worship at Fossoway Parish Church	Joint service with Cleish Parish Church. Come along and join in the Easter celebrations. Craft activities, easter egg rolling and egg hunts for children of all ages! Refreshments will be available after the service.
Sunday 28th April - Congregational Lunch at Cleish after the 11.15am service.	Come along for delicious soups and puddings in Cleish hall. Numbers in advance to Anne McKay.
Sunday 28th April - SAM during the 9.45am Service at Fossoway	The Stated Annual Meeting of the Congregation