



# 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.

See Communication Information for contact details.

Cleish Session Clerk: Christine Maclure

Fossoway Session Clerk: Anne McKay



## A Word From The Minister

Hello friends,

As I sit here at home looking out of my home office window looking at the white, yellow and the deep pink roses climbing up the wall trying to reach over to the neighbours. I am sure they don't mind the splash of colour that they can see and the fragrance that the wind carries from the flowers.

I am reminded of how important it is to appreciate our world, our beautiful world... We can get bogged down with many things that flatten our mood. May you take time to see this wonderful gift that we have been given as the seasons come and go and come again.

Summer this year has given us such mixed weather and I hope you have been able to enjoy it.

We, as a linked Church family, have taken advantage of these green and growing weeks in the church calendar; we have shared a few services and vestry bible chats with our Sister Church members and we have a few more planned for the next few months.

As most people will be aware by now I am sure, both of our church member communities Cleish and Fossoway will unite with Kinross, Portmoak and Orwell, and the Cleish and Portmoak buildings will no longer be main places of worship. We will be one united congregation with 3 main worship buildings Fossoway, Kinross and Orwell.

The planned date for the union is 1st January 2025. According to Presbytery's forward plan the ministry allowance is for 2 full time Ministers to serve the whole area of Kinross-shire. At the moment there is only 1 in post. When the union takes place then that starts the process to call the other full time Minister who will be based in Crook of Devon.

There will be several meetings taking place over the next few months with Presbytery representatives to allow members to agree the basis of the union and the plan for a team ministry to serve the Kinross-shire area. These dates are not set as yet.

We can get bogged down with many things that flatten our mood, we must always keep in mind that God has always a plan and a purpose for us all, we should lift our heads and acknowledge that he is a few steps ahead and our role is to follow. "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 a hope and a future.' — Jeremiah 29:11.

I believe that this is an opportunity for you all to embrace as each congregation unites and pulls together sharing, caring and growing.

Please don't hesitate to call me if you want to chat or me to visit.. I am always happy to drink tea and chat.

May God bless you!

And don't forget to smell the roses.

Beverley X

Rev. Beverley Stevenson

Tel no 07584 902508

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

## News from the Fossoway Session Clerk

23rd August 2024

Dear friends,

As I sit here pondering over arrangements for the Gathering, I'm praying for good weather. The whole community puts so much effort into the day and to have it dry would be the icing on the cake. Please note the use of "dry" here! Warm and dry weather would be fantastic, but I must be realistic, given the summer so far. No matter the weather, please come along and join us in the tea tent and take advantage of the delicious home baking that will be waiting for you there.

As I look back on the services and events that have taken place since our last newsletter, I know we all feel much better connected with our neighbours at Cleish. We have shared important moments in the Christian year, met and chatted over a cuppa and lunch, shared our thoughts in the vestry and discussed the way forward for both congregations. I'm sure that these relationships will only continue to grow and flourish in the years ahead.

You will be aware that the way forward which we envisaged at the start of the year has changed. After much reflection and discussion with Beverley, the Kirk Session believe that rather than uniting with Cleish alone, we should move to a Kinross-shire wide union.

This has not been an easy decision to make, and I know many of you will have some concerns about what this will mean for the church at Fossoway.

Having been privileged to be part of this community for over twenty years and having worked at Kinross High School for more than ten of those years, I appreciate what it means to be part of our rural community and the identity that we would wish to preserve. I can assure you that this will not be lost as part of a union of all the Kinross-shire churches.

This four-way union will enable us to centralise the administrative tasks that all churches are required to do, thus freeing up time and energy for outreach and developing our church. There are so many projects that we would like to take up, but we constantly find ourselves burdened and drained by paperwork. That same paperwork is done in each of the four congregations. I am confident that this union will release us to move forward in a positive way and we will all feel the better for it. Many meetings will be taking place between now and the end of the year. Rest assured I will keep you fully informed along the way.

Yours in faith

Anne McKay

Fossoway Session Clerk

## Events

### Cleish Church and Village Fete 2024

Once again, the Cleish Fete was held on the second Saturday in May in the now revised format of a classic car show, teas and stalls. The choice of date has been fixed for some time and thankfully the weather was spectacular and certainly not representative of the summer we have had!

This year the funds of just over £3000 raised were split between Cleish Church and the Cleish Village Hall Association, as members of the Cleish community joined Christine Maclure and her loyal team of helpers from the Church in providing teas, cakes, baking and jam in the village hall over a busy afternoon.

The Buchanan family added to the sustenance available for a large crowd of car owners, motorcyclists, supporters and visitors through the usual hog roast, ice cream and other refreshments.

A huge array of plants were on sale through the kind support of Pentland Plants, with the Men's Shed, Fairtrade stall and a couple of other craft offerings making up the interest for visitors.

The stars of the show were the cars and other vehicles, with over 105 vehicles in the Cleish House field (through the kindness of the Chadwick family) and another 10 or so in the Glebe field car park that found the show in passing.

It was wonderful to see the event so well supported and to see such a range of amazing cars and motorbikes of ages between 20 and 100+ years old.

We hope that the date of the second Saturday in May (10th May 2025) will continue to allow the sun to shine on us and for this highly successful event to continue well into the future.

David S Leslie

Cleish Fete Convenor



## Fossoway Primary School Fete



Thank you to everyone who helped prepare and serve the refreshments at the Fossoway School Fete. As you can see from the photograph there was a wonderful spread of baking, and the sum of £572 was raised.

## Church News

### Pentecost at Fossoway Church

Thank you to everyone who prepared the church for Pentecost. It looked wonderful. Unfortunately those involved were a bit camera shy and would not pose for a photograph.



### Congregational Lunch

On Sunday 4th August the two congregations of Fossoway and Cleish came to Cleish Church to celebrate Holy Communion.

Following the Service over 40 members of the joint congregation sat down to enjoy lunch and fellowship in the village hall. Various soups were on offer, including, Cullen Skink and Minestrone. These were followed up by a tasty array of deserts – Trifle, Lemon Mousse, Cheesecake and Pavlova.

We were also joined by Karina from Fairtrade who set her stall up for those special culinary purchases that support such a worthy cause.

These events provide a wonderful opportunity for the two congregations to get to know each other and share fellowship as we move forward to a new era for our two churches.



An added benefit was raising £250 to go to KYTHE.

We look forward to future joint events and growing our fellowship.

Suzanne Wilkie

### **Thank You from Janet Harper**

Dear Friends,

I was very surprised, yet honoured and humbled to receive an amazing gift of £500 from our congregation on my retiral from the roles of Session Elder and Session Clerk, with all the extra tasks that accompany Session Clerk.

Much of what I did was made possible by the support of some amazing people within our wonderful Church Family, as well as within our community. My sincere thanks go to you all.

It did not take me long to decide what I would use the money for. Not too long after you read this there should be a 'new bench' on the church path for use by all. This eco friendly bench was bought from TDP Products and is made from recycled materials; thousands of bottle tops I believe!! It has a lifetime guarantee and is maintenance free.

I really hope that many folk, both church and community, will enjoy a quiet sit by the side of the church, for many years to come.

My sincere thanks.

Your friend in Christ

Janet X

### Swift Boxes

Did you know that Crook of Devon is part of the Tayside Biodiversity Partnership for villages, towns and neighbourhoods in Perth and Kinross?

In May of this year Perth and Kinross Biodiversity Co-ordinator, Catherine Lloyd, visited our village to officially open the Fossoway Community Orchard and to unveil a new interpretation board designed by Luke Wilson. Included in the Action Plan is a core project called "Save our Swifts" with the aim of ensuring swifts still have places to breed. During a conversation over tea and cake in the Elizabeth Wilkie Hall, Catherine offered to leave two swift boxes to be installed high up on the north side of the church wall.

Thanks to Willie Black the two boxes are now in place and we hope that some local swifts will use the boxes in the future to raise their young.



Neil Hill

### Notices

#### Creche available every Sunday @ Fossoway

Please bring your baby/toddler along to the service. After the hymn following the All Age Talk, our creche volunteers will be happy to take them out to play in the hall.

#### Not getting the weekly notices by email?

Drop an email to Anne at [annemckay90@gmail.com](mailto:annemckay90@gmail.com) to be added to the distribution list.

#### YOUTH DROP IN @ FOSSOWAY

With KYTHE

#### Every Thursday during Term

Come along it's a space to be, play games, pool table, football table, snacks and good chats!

For all young people aged 11-19yrs old.

Completely free! £

**6pm - 8pm**

Please check the KYTHE Facebook page and Instagram account for more details and up to date information.

#### Join us for a cuppa after the Cleish or Fossoway services

Feel free to stay awhile to catch up with folks over tea/coffee and a biscuit in the hall.




**Thursday 2pm - 4pm Fossoway Church Hall**

Come along to the Church Hall on a Thursday afternoon for a tea or coffee and some delicious home baked cakes. Donations welcome.

It's a great chance to have a chat and a laugh, catch up with old friends, or meet some new ones.

**Open to all** - you don't have to be a church member to attend.

Scottish Charity Number SC013157





## Upcoming Events

**SUNDAY 15th September 2024.**  
 Joint Service @ Fossoway Church  
 9:45 am. Family Service all ages  
 welcome  
 Activities for the young and ice cream  
 for everyone.

**BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH**

**4 weeks of vestry Bible Chat at Fossoway**  
 ....dates and times.

**Tuesday's 10th ,17th, 24th September & 1st Oct @ 10:30am till Noon.**

Then 

**Thursday's 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th November @ 10:30am till Noon,**

**Why not come and join us...**

**BIBLE CHAT**

**Get closer to God.**  
**Deepen your faith.**



**Fossoway 27th October 9:45am  
 Harvest Festival Service**



**Cleish 17th November  
 11:15am  
 Worship & Praise.**

## Communication Information

### Newsletter Deadlines 2024

Advent	8th November 2024
Easter	8th March 2025
Summer	24th August 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)



Fossoway 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 Bookings (Fossoway Church)

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.

## 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
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Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064524469286">https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064524469286</a>	

## Dates for the Diary

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

Sundae Sunday Joint Service. Bring a friend and enjoy a sundae!	9.45am on 15th September at Fossoway Church
Harvest Festival Service	9.45am on 27th October at Fossoway Church
Worship & Praise	11.15am on 17th November at Cleish Church
Film Night	1st Friday of the month at 7.30pm in Elizabeth Wilkie Hall, Fossoway Church
Christmas Bazaar	1pm on 23rd November in Elizabeth Wilkie Hall, Fossoway Church
Community Carols	3pm on 7th December at Fossoway Church

## 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>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 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 11-19 years old. Completely free! £0!	