

Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

September 2018: No. 742

Interim Moderator: Rev Duncan MacPherson



SUNDAY SERVICES

All people, of any age, are warmly invited to participate at all of our services
We have “Treasure Seekers”, age-related fun and learning activity for children every Sunday at 11.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1)

- Sunday 2nd September 9.30 am The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Rev Morven Archer
11am The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Rev Doug McRoberts
3 pm The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Rev Doug McRoberts
6.30 pm Thanksgiving Worship Stewart Robertson Special Prayers
- Sunday 9th September 9.30am Morning Worship with Rev Morven Archer
11 am Rev Doug McRoberts
- Sunday 16th September 9.30am Morning Worship Struan McRoberts
11 am Rev Duncan MacPherson (interim Moderator)
- Sunday 23rd September 9.30am Morning Worship Struan McRoberts
11 am Rev Doug McRoberts
- Sunday 30th September 9.30am Rev Morven Archer
11 am Rev Doug McRoberts
- Sunday 7th October 9.30am Rev Morven Archer
11am Harvest Thanksgiving Service Stewart Robertson Special Prayers

Also, every Friday at 12 noon, prayers – at which people may be remembered by name. Please make requests known

The King will reply, "truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 26, verse 40



Vacancy News - Work of the Nominating Committee

The Committee has met a number of times over the summer and you can see the fruits of their labours: have a look at the new vacancy website which can be accessed from the Crown Church website. Also, watch for the Crown Church advert which will appear in the October edition of Life and work.

The Nominating Committee comprises thirteen people. In alphabetical order these are Gordon Cameron, Charles Forbes, Lynn Forbes, Gary McAra, Judith Macleod, Struan McRoberts, Jude Madeleine, Evelyn Reid, Chrisanne Robertson, Jane Smith, Jean Smith, Douglas Wilson and Jane Wilson.

Keep praying for the new minister God is preparing for Crown and for the Nominating Committee.

Brian Macgill

(Session Clerk & Clerk to the Nominating Committee)



The latest news from the Outreach group is that Claudius England who visited Inverness and Crown Church in September 2016 is to make a return visit this month. Details will appear in weekly notices and on the Crown Church web site as events are fixed, but it is our hope to run a concert similar to the 2016 event with Claudius in the Upper Hall on Saturday 22nd September.

Claudius will also be reaching out to schools, youth groups and prison as he follows up on the contacts he made in his previous visit. A committed Christian, he is a gifted musician with a strong personal calling to reach out to the most disadvantaged. We hope, in faith, to be able to find as many opportunities as possible for his remarkable outreach during his week in Inverness. Claudius is likely to be accompanied by one other musician and we are seeking accommodation for both from Sunday 16th until Monday 24th September. Given the time involved we would prefer to divide this into two four night stays. If you could accommodate either one or two musicians, please contact: **Mairi Main - 01667 451838.**

You are invited to a
LAUNCH EVENING
on
Thursday 27th September
in
our church's Sanctuary
at 7.30 pm

Imagine! Dream! Visualise!
How to extend our buildings?
How to meet community needs?
How to equip for the future?
We will begin with raising finance
for conservation of the MacGilp window

Everyone is invited



MacGilp Memorial Window Restoration Project

At its June meeting, our Congregational Board reviewed the quotes it has received for restoration of the MacGilp Window. We were expertly guided through the details of the quotes by Mr Glyn Young, whom we have appointed as consultant to advise us on this major project. His company specialises in the management of the care and repair of traditional and historic properties.

After discussion, the Board decided which quote from the stained glass artists should be our preferred quote. This will now allow Glyn to further explore details of the work planned to be undertaken and this will eventually lead to agreeing a contract for the restoration work. The Board expects to apply for grants to cover the majority of the costs of the project, which are estimated to be above £70,000. The immediate need is to raise an initial sum within our own church and locality. We will now prepare fundraising activities and hope that you will be ready to engage in them.

Rev John MacGilp provided outstanding service to Crown Church from 1908 to 1918, serving also as Depute Food Controller for Northern Scotland during the war. He continued this for a few years after he left Crown but was killed in a tragic road accident in 1924. It seems appropriate, 100 years later, to seek conservation of the window.

Bill Mein, Chairman of Congregational Board



Summer's coming!

Young
CROWN

We've got just the thing for children  and young people

ENERGIZE

Summertime for P4 - P7
Thursdays 6:30-8:00pm



YC club for N - P3
Fridays 6:00 - 7:15pm



Kick for P7 - S3
Fridays 7:30 - 9:15pm



Youth Alpha for S1+
Sundays 6:30 - 7:45pm

www.young-crown.co.uk



Young Crown – on a 2018 approach to relational youth ministry...

Summer time is an invariably busy one for us. We exhale heartily when the school term comes to an end and think of all the paperwork that'll get done over the *holidays*. The summer arrives, however, and brings with it a barrage of clubs to run; some time to take a break ourselves; toy cleaning / preparatory work for new clubs launching; one or two unexpected extra responsibilities; and before you know it we're right back into the new school term.

One of the things I didn't get to do as much as I'd like to have done over the summer was reading. It somehow feels to me a luxury just beyond reach to do some reading and keep up to speed with trends and thinking within youth work. I'm not writing this for sympathy, by the way, just a wee lament as I consider how we love and serve young people this year and beyond!

I did manage to read a bit of stuff. One article from Psychology Today in the USA did catch my eye. I don't mind quoting from US based research because I tend to think both that our cultures are relatively mirrored and that trends there and here seem to be broadly linked. The article was talking about stress / anxiety and the preamble was describing factors contributing to a sense of overwhelming stress in our lives. What drives stress in the USA, it seems, tends to drive stress here too. The quote which really struck me was this: "The average high school kid today has the same level of anxiety as the average psychiatric patient in the early 1950's."

Re-read that last sentence.

“The average high school kid today has the same level of anxiety as the average psychiatric patient in the early 1950’s.”

There’s a world of information in those few words. And a load of questions we might ask in response. What is making the lives of young people so stressed / anxiety-ridden? What has changed since the 1950s? Are we meeting the needs of the young people? Does what we do in youth ministry reflect a 2018 approach, or is it outdated and from a bygone era where it wasn’t the norm to be incredibly anxious? What can we do to show God’s love to these young people?

One of the things the article says is that a fragmenting of society (or ‘lack of *social connectedness*’) is a driver for this stress, and that the lack of belonging / participation within religious community perpetuates this fragmentation.

In other words, we have part of the cure. We *could be* part of the cure. We have a community built around a gospel of love and aspiring to the heights of God’s Kingdom – in which (says Jesus) the burden is light. From the last couple of years of groundwork, we are in a phase of life as a church where our ministry to teens is just beginning to flourish again. I am so thankful for that! We’re in a privileged, even blessed, position to be able to minister to young people in a time when life is undoubtedly hard. Which gives me renewed passion to go out and love and serve as Jesus commanded.

How does all of that go about shaping our ministry? Well, I think it’s a timely reminder of Jesus’ reply to blind Bartimaeus’ begging: [filled with love and compassion] “how can I serve you?”

Struan

Highland Foodbank



On behalf of all those who have benefited from your kindness I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported the Foodbank with kind donations of food. In the first six months of this year Crown Church has donated 125kg of food which roughly is about 20 stone. An amazing effort.

Thank you all for your continued support as Foodbank is always short of certain items.

Required for September are tins of custard, tins of peas/carrots, tins of potatoes, jars of pasta sauce and cartons of long life juice. **Liz Gray**

Inverness 18-30s' Group

In October last year I found out about a new Christian group that was being formed in Inverness – the Inverness 18-30's group. Being in that age-band I was really interested to see what they had planned.... Almost a year later and I have found myself not only attending the events that the group arrange, but also helping to organise and run the group alongside two other members.

The aim of the group is to provide a safe forum for Christians & non-Christians in the 18-30s age-range to meet together for Bible studies, discussions, and social events. This age-range is often described as one of the 'missing generations' in many churches, and it can be a bit lonely for the few who remain, so the group was set-up to bring people together in fellowship. We are a diverse group with people coming from different backgrounds and churches. At Inverness 18-30's we have two aims:

- 1.) To love God - This is done through bible studies and discussions and growing our faith in a likeminded community
- 2.) To love others - This done by running regular social events where we can build long lasting and meaningful friendships. **(cont on next page)**



(cont from previous page) *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."* Mark 12:30-31

Over the summer we ran a series of discussion house groups based on the book series 'Questions Christians Ask' looking at topics ranging from grace to suffering. We also organised several events including a visit to Dunrobin Castle, and a trip to Loch Morlich where we went on a short canoe excursion.

As part of our autumn programme we are planning to run a Bible series, working our



way through the whole Bible over the next 8 months. We will also have regular social events happening, including our one year birthday bash in October (where we are hoping to reveal a slightly more imaginative name for the group) – have a look at our Facebook page for updates: www.facebook.com/inverness1830s. If you are in the 18-30s age-band we would really like to invite you to join in with any of our activities. And for those who are younger or older, please share this invite to anyone you know who might be interested.

Gordon Cameron

Mrs Edna Simpson

We are very grateful to Alan Simpson for providing this photograph of his mother, Mrs Edna Simpson taken recently on the occasion of her 100th birthday party.

No doubt everyone will want to offer their congratulations for this



remarkable milestone. Edna has been a loyal member of Crown Church for many years. She was also a pillar of Crown Church Choir.

Edna now lives close to Alan and family in a retirement home in Newtonmore.

(This lovely colour picture can be seen to its best advantage via the church website.)

28-30 September 2018 has been designated National Prayer Weekend. The National Prayer Weekend is about your community, bringing prayer and God back to the centre of it. It is all about giving your local community the opportunity to be prayed for and to show God's love to those around you. Why not use the opportunity to show people how much fun prayer can be!

More information can be found at; <https://www.national-prayer-weekend.com/>



Prayer Diary September – October 2018

This prayer diary has been prepared by the Discipleship Team. We hope that you will find it useful. You may like to detach it from the newsletter and use it to pray for our church and community. If you have particular prayer requests for the next two months (November – December 2018) please do send them to the **church secretary** who will pass them on, or e-mail Jude Madeleine; judedmond@yahoo.co.uk

September 1 – 9

Pray for the success of the Community Fete being held on the 1st of September, that many people will join in, participate and share the love and joy in a community spirit. Pray for all the children in our local schools as they settle in a new school year and give thanks that the chaplaincy team is there to support them if needed. Pray for the toddlers who come along to the newly formed Little Crowns, and give thanks for all who devote time and work hard for the success of the group. Thank and praise God for all the children and young people in our churches, communities, country and the world. Ask that God will walk alongside them and grant them courage, strength and wisdom as they face the challenges of life.

September 10 – 16



Give thanks for the Friendship Club and their enthusiastic support for everyone who come to the group. Pray for Launchpad and blessings for all those using the service. Give thanks for everyone who helped raise vital funds and provide support for the ongoing work for those who need it. Pray for those who live alone and are lonely. Pray for those people who are living with dementia, give thanks for their carers and pray that these

(cont from previous page) that these carers will receive the support they need. Pray for all who are in care or nursing homes and for their families, friends and relatives. Give thanks for the staff who work hard together to ensure the well-being of all people in those homes.

September 17 – 23

Give thanks for our church choir and the organists, that they continue to bring joy in our praise and worship. Pray for a dedicated Organist and Choir Leader to take on this role which is currently vacant.

Pray for those who are grieving, those whose lives have changed through loss, that they will know the peace of God that passes all understanding. May they know that they are helped in the palm of God's hand.

Give thanks for the Sewing group and Knitting Club, for the friendship and time shared and enjoyed during such activities.

Give thanks for this day; help us to use it wisely and as well as we can. Help us to be loyal and caring to those who need us.

September 24-30

Give thanks for all the flowers donated every Sunday for decorating and lightening up the Sanctuary. Pray for everyone who makes donations for the flowers, those helping with the flower arrangements, those helping with distribution of the flowers and pray for those who receive these flowers.

Pray for the ongoing work of the Nominating Committee, that God will lead, guide and direct in all they are doing in seeking to do the work in Christ's name. Pray also for the minister who may be considering a move to Crown Church.

Pray for the Ministry Team, that they be blessed with increasing strength and energy as they continue leading the worship during the vacancy period.

On the occasion of the National Prayer Weekend, 28-30 September, give thanks for the opportunity as Christians to show God's love to those around us in a real and tangible way, as churches and communities unite in prayer for local areas and beyond.

October 1 – 7

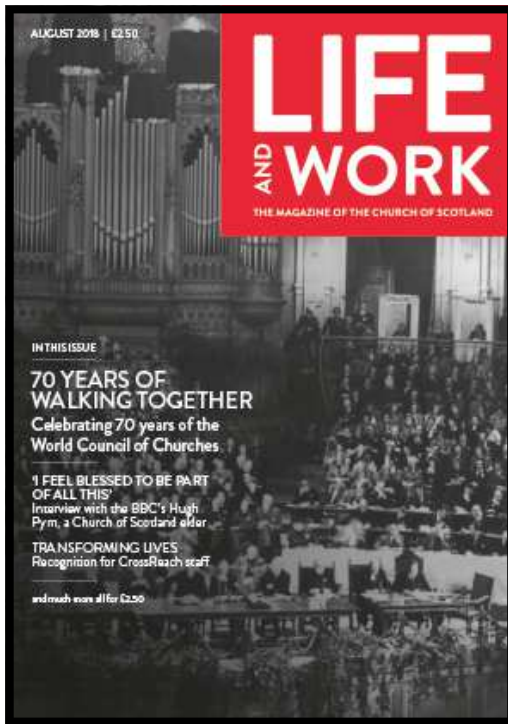
Pray for the Harvest Thanksgiving Service and remember those who are in need for food. Give thanks for all donations to the Foodbank.

Pray for all who are homeless and cut off from their families.

Give thanks for Young Crown and all the children who participate in the different group activities. Ask God's blessings for our Youth Worker, Struan McRoberts, for all the work and devotions he has for children and families.

As we travel through this Year of Young People and beyond, help us to come alongside children and young people to draw closer to God, to answer His call to follow, to serve, to welcome and to share together, through the Holy Spirit.

Jude Madeleine Convenor of the Discipleship Team



LIFE AND WORK AUGUST 2018

70 Years of Walking Together

Celebrating the 70th anniversary of the World Council of Churches

'I Feel Blessed to be Part of All This'

Interview with the BBC's Hugh Pym, a Church of Scotland elder

Transforming Lives

Recognition for CrossReach staff at their annual awards

The Churches and the Festival

How Edinburgh's churches are contributing to this year's festival season

A Circle of Men

The background to the Regnal League, an association of Christian men

Make Our Steps Count

In her first column, the Rt Rev Susan Brown urges readers to walk with her during the year

A Truly Revolutionary Event

Ron Ferguson pays tribute to the National Health Service

The Road Home

The Very Rev Albert Bogle highlights the importance of a safe home – and the deeper impact of providing a home for others

Plus news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords

Online visit us at www.lifeandwork.org for regular news and exclusive features, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @cofslifeandwork

Crown Church Breakfasts

The recent innovation of having breakfast together in the Lower Hall between the Sunday services is proving very popular as the attached picture taken very recently shows. The breakfasts are run on the last Sunday of every month (the next breakfast will be Sunday 30th September).



No booking is required. Just come along and enjoy a bit of breakfast over a cup of tea or coffee in a very relaxed and convivial atmosphere.



The Guild

Over the summer the Guild ladies have been keeping in touch. In June there was a very successful summer outing to Coul House Hotel in Contin for afternoon tea and a walk round their lovely gardens. We have also held three very successful coffee mornings, one in each of the three summer months. At each there was a good attendance, enjoying some lovely home baking.

Our syllabus is ready for another year and we hope that it will interest everyone. We begin with our first meeting on 25th September when Alison Marr will represent the RNLI. There is a cookery demonstration in October. In November, a talk by Douglas Willis, an elder from Fortrose, who has spent much time in Nepal and who has been very involved with the project "Let us build a house". We will welcome a speaker from the Leprosy Mission, hold a craft evening, welcome Jimmy Gray to tell us about his time on the council and as Provost, just to mention a few of our planned meetings.

This year our Guild celebrates 90 years since its inception and to honour this we are holding a lunch in the Craigmonie Hotel in November when the guest speaker will be Ian Whyte, National Guild Secretary.

The Guild is not for women only, men will be made most welcome. In fact there is an open invitation to anyone to come along if they see a meeting which is of interest. There will be a warm welcome.

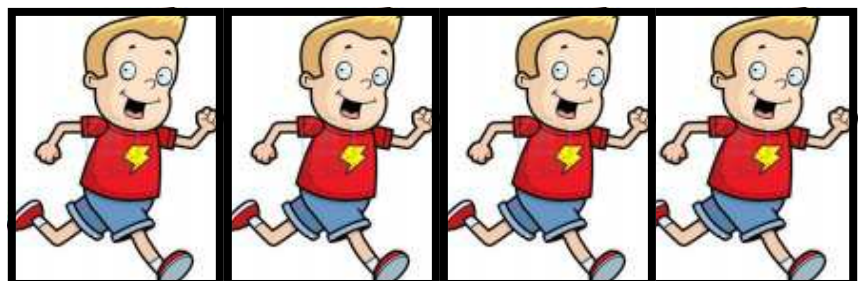
Dorothy Mein Guild Correspondent

Does anyone fancy getting fitter in a sociable environment? I'm proposing to start a group of mixed abilities to walk, jog, run together for 30 mins to an hour one evening weekly and finishing with a cup of tea at either the Olive Grove or the Church.

The main goal of starting this is to provide a fun opportunity of getting fitter together.

Couch to 5k is a great way to start and it doesn't matter what age you are 18 to 80 or above but not any younger!! If you want to have a chat just ring me or see me at Church.

Liz Gray



Daily Bible Readings for September

September 2, 2018 Luke 12:13-34

Monday, Micah 6:1-8, *God's Plea for Justice*

Tuesday, Romans 2:1-16, *God's Principles of Judgment*

Wednesday, Ecclesiastes 11:9-10, *A Wasted Youth Brings Retribution*

Thursday, Jeremiah 17:9-11, *Hope in the Lord*

Friday, Psalm 39:4-6, *Prayer for Deliverance*

Saturday, Job 27:7-12, *Detestation of the Wicked*

September 9, 2018 Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17

Monday, Genesis 9:18-28, *Noah and His Sons*

Tuesday, Genesis 10:1-14, *Nations from Noah*

Wednesday, Genesis 10:15-32, *Nations Descended from Noah*

Thursday, Genesis 11:1-9, *The Tower of Babel*

Friday, Genesis 11:10-26, *Descendants of Shem*

Saturday, Genesis 11:27-32, *Descendants of Terah*

September 16, 2018 Genesis 12:1-9

Monday, Genesis 15:1-6, *God's Covenant with Abram*

Tuesday, Genesis 21:1-7, *The Birth of Isaac*

Wednesday, Genesis 25:19-28, *The Birth of Esau and Jacob*

Thursday, Genesis 35:16-26, *The Birth of Benjamin and Death of Rachel*

Friday, Genesis 37:1-11, *Joseph Dreams of Greatness*

Saturday, Genesis 37:12-36, *Joseph is Sold*

September 23, 2018 Genesis 39:1-23

Monday, Genesis 50:15-21, *Joseph Forgives His Brothers*

Tuesday, Genesis 50:22-26, *Joseph's Death*

Wednesday, Exodus 1:1-22, *Oppression of the Israelites*

Thursday, Exodus 3:1-12, *Moses at the Burning Bush*

Friday, Exodus 12:29-32, *The Tenth Plague: Death of the Firstborn*

Saturday, Exodus 13:17-22, *The Pillars of Cloud, Fire*

September 30, 2018 Exodus 14:10-14, 21-29

Monday, Exodus 15:1-21, *Songs of Moses and Miriam*

Tuesday, Exodus 15:22-27, *Bitter Water Made Sweet*

Wednesday, Exodus 16:1-21, *Bread from Heaven*

Thursday, Exodus 17:1-7, *Water from the Rock*

Friday, Exodus 17:8-16, *Amalek Attacks Israel and Is Defeated*

Saturday, Exodus 18:13-27, *Jethro's Advice*

October 7, 2018 Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17

Monday, Deuteronomy 34:1-12, *Moses Dies*

Tuesday, Joshua 1:1-9, *God's Commission to Joshua*

Wednesday, Joshua 2:1-21, *Spies Sent to Jericho*

Thursday, Joshua 3:1-17, *Israel Crosses the Jordan*

Friday, Joshua 6:1-14, *Jericho Taken and Destroyed*

Saturday, Joshua 6:15-27, *Jericho Destroyed and Rahab Spared*

CONTACTS

INTERIM MODERATOR	Rev Duncan MacPherson
OLM ASSISTANT	Rev Morven Archer
YOUTH WORKER	Struan McRoberts
SESSION CLERK	Brian Macgill,
ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER	
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPT	Patricia MS Crippin
BOARD CHAIRMAN	Bill Mein
CLERK TO BOARD	Judith Macleod
TREASURER	Donald MacKenzie
FREEWILL OFFERINGS	Robert Shanks
GIFT AID TREASURER	Robert Hendry
CHURCH SECRETARY	Gloria Mackintosh
SAFEGUARDING	Lynn Forbes
FACILITIES -CONVENER	Gordon Cameron David MacLellan
HALLS BOOKINGS	Irene Whyte
CARETAKER	Eilidh Ross
GUILD SECRETARY	Adrienne Adie
LADY VISITORS	Jane Wilson
FLOWERS CONVENER	Ruby Coe
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Sep	Readers	Creche	Coffee
2	Communion	Marjory MacKenzie & Chrisanne Robertson	Fiona Carter, Isabelle MacKenzie, Alison Caird
9	Alastair Campbell	Jane Smith and Kay Macdonald	M Barbour, Seonaid MacLellan, Mary Ann Buchanan
16	Lena Clarke		Kimm Currie, Eileen Ardern, Kay MacDonald
23	Ian Fraser		Eleanor Ross, Janet MacPherson, Mairi Main
30	Janet MacPherson		TBA
Oct 7	Alasdair MacLeod		TBA

<p>September Count Team Alastair MacPherson Richard Ardern, Robert Shanks</p> <p>October Count Team Sheena Ferguson Heather Beck, Robert & Aileen Laing, Helen Boynton</p>

<p>September Welcome Team <i>North Door</i> Chrisanne & Stewart Robertson <i>South Door</i> Evelyn Reid & Paul Davidson <i>Midmills North</i> Robert & Aileen Laing <i>Midmills South</i> Elspeth Gibson</p> <p>October Welcome Team <i>North Door</i> Marjory MacKenzie & Ann Johnston <i>South Door</i> Bob & Tricia Hanna <i>Midmills North</i> Lucy & David Livingston <i>Midmills South</i> Seonaid MacLellan</p>
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NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

BAPTISMS

Callie Aurora Sutton, Maryland, USA on 19 August
Callum James Heggie, Singapore on 19 August

DEATHS

Mrs Margaret (Peggy) Murchison on 29 June
Mrs Georgina Quinney on 8 July

Cameron House

Friends of Cameron House, the Church of Scotland Home for people living with dementia and Alzheimers, are holding their annual Afternoon Tea/ Coffee with various stalls in the Scout Hall, Green Drive (off Culduthel Road behind the Academy), on Saturday 22nd September 2 - 4pm. Tickets are £3 and children with adults are free. Any donations to the stalls will be very much appreciated. We are very grateful for the continued support we receive from Church congregations and Guilds. Any enquiries to **Kay MacDonald**.



“Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep” (Romans 12.15)

Just so that you know that your ministerial team is taking seriously their planning of the forthcoming Christmas season:

“Goats of Christmas Past” recalling ‘buy a goat’ schemes at past Gift Services for Christian Aid

“Breakfast at Epiphany” an early January between services breakfast.

The deadline for the October newsletter will be Sunday 7th October

Contributions should be sent to the Forrests at:

marionandbobnewsletter@gmail.com or left in the ‘F’ pigeonhole.

Please note that the newsletter can also be accessed via the church website where you will be able to see the photographs in colour.

Published by Crown Church, Inverness (Church of Scotland)

Registered charity SC 018159

The Church website is to be found at www.crown-church.co.uk