



# St Andrew's Parish Church

(Church of Scotland),  
**Inverurie**

**THE**

**JUNE 2020**

**S  
A  
L  
T  
I  
R  
E**



**Email: [inveruriestandrews@outlook.com](mailto:inveruriestandrews@outlook.com)**

*(To hear our services or to download them—go to  
“Listen Again” on our website)*

**Website: <http://standrewsinverurie.co.uk>**

**Scottish Charity Number: SC008791**

**St Andrew's is an open and inclusive Church**

**The Rev. Carl Irvine, may be contacted  
for pastoral care by contacting him on 01467 628740**



# Our Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

One of my very early memories was, very nearly, also my last. When I was three years old, my second eldest sister, and my elder brother, who were eight and nine, took me for a walk to the beach, near our house, where they became engrossed playing in the sand. I wandered off, taking a long walk on a short pier. When I close my eyes and think about this event, I still clearly see the green of the water

all around me contrasting with the green of my little, double-breasted, wool coat with its brown buttons which, little did I realise, was pulling me down. I am only able to relate this story now because, at the crucial moment, my eldest sister happened along and saw me go off the end of the pier. She immediately jumped in, rescued me and carried me home, where mum gave us both a warm bath and hot cocoa. Why have I told you this? Well, even though this happened fifty-five years ago, I can still remember certain details, especially the colour of the water around me, as if it happened only yesterday – that's the funny thing about time! We can remember certain events from many years ago but struggle to remember what we did last week. The beginning of lockdown has receded into the depths of my memory, it's almost as if my watery excursion as a three year old happened during my permitted exercise time out of the house: two-and-a-half months ago is less clear in my mind than fifty-five years ago!

Similarly, at times an hour can seem to last forever while, at other times, it passes in a flash! Last night we had a family quiz, using the wonders of modern technology to bring us all together. The quiz, and associated chat, lasted about ninety minutes and seemed to go by in a flash, but the twenty minutes I spent queueing to get into the supermarket the day before seemed to go on for hours!

Time is, indeed, a funny thing, psychologists have all sorts of complex explanations to explain why we experience these differences in our perception of time which, in a nutshell, boil down to:

**Time seems to pass more quickly when you are busy.**

**Significant memories tend to be clearer, even many years later.**

Turning to Scripture, in his second letter, the Apostle Peter wrote, “with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day” (2 Peter:3:8b). Although Peter was specifically writing here to those who wondered why the Second Coming was not happening, the point he made about time is pertinent. God is outside time, He created it, it has no hold on Him. We, on the other hand are subject to time and, during lockdown, we become all too aware of time passing. But that does not mean that we should let time go by aimlessly. As the old saying goes, ‘Every cloud has a silver lining.’

In the cloud of lockdown, what silver lining can you find? For me, I have, among other things, had time to try out new recipes (cooking is one of my hobbies), read more and, through the Church Website and Facebook Page, I have reached a wider audience with God's Word than normally come to church on a Sunday morning. Paul also wrote, “We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28) So, what's your silver lining?

**Many blessings, Carl**

Creator God,

When we look around at the world You created for us to wander on, and the universe for us to wonder about, we are astounded by the enormous variety of its components, both living and non-living, and by the subtleties of how they all work together in an infinite variety of dependence and inter-dependence.



But we tend to concentrate our wonder on what we can see, with or without the benefit of technology. Yet something we cannot see, only experience, is equally as astounding: Time!

Lord, we know that, because You created time, You are not subject to it. As Your Apostle Paul wrote, to You “one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day”. But we also know that, in Jesus, You became one of us, experiencing time as we do. In Him, You allowed Yourself to grow from the Babe of Bethlehem, becoming the Boy in the Temple, then the Teacher on the Mount and the Worker of Miracles, before submitting Yourself to become the Sacrificial Lamb Who saves the whole world. Lord, we thank You.

Father God, as we have become more aware of the passing of time in lockdown, as we have noticed its speed seeming to vary, depending on what we do, as we remember events from our early days much more clearly than those of a month or two in the past, help us to appreciate that You are with us for all time. You are with us in our times of joy and our times of sorrow. You are with us in our successes and our failures. You were with us when we were born and will be with us when we die. Help us also to use the time You have given us wisely, learning more about You, being more obedient to You and serving You more faithfully.

Thank You, Father, for Your constant presence, Your unceasing guidance and Your eternal love. Amen

## Don't count the years (by John E Robinson Sr. Kansas)

Don't count the years ...they go by so fast;  
Just count the real friendships made ...the ones that  
last.  
Then count your memories of the past.

Don't count the years, just think of the days..  
That you have tried your best always.  
That's how your youthful spirit stays.

Don't count the years, just count the good things  
That you have done, that each day brings.  
When you've helped someone else and your heart just  
sings.

Don't count the years now gone before..  
Just look ahead, through life's door  
And count the blessings still in store.



## Micawber Here !!

“Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen pounds and six pence, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result misery.”

As many of you recall we entered 2020 in a financially strong position (“result happiness”) and I was looking forward to our Annual Stated meeting usually held in March. Unfortunately, COVID-19 arrived and with it lockdown of everything including our Church, mass cancellation of hall lettings (a major income stream) and reduction in receipt of Givings until collection becomes possible. Our grateful thanks to everyone who has found a way to keep their financial contributions coming in.

We still have significant expenditures despite the circumstances, not least of which are Mission and Ministry £5,588.19 (this includes, for example, minister's stipend; contribution for upkeep of central office and staff; costs of Mission outreach and World Mission); £333.27 for council tax and £437.96 for insurances; above this we have heating and lighting, running costs (even though we have the buildings in hibernation mode). The impact has been a reduction on our Reserves Fund from £40,000 to £22,000 (end April) and which is likely to reduce further the longer the lockdown exists. I took the opportunity, on your behalf, to express our concerns to the General Trustees that whilst we can “pay our way” in 2020 by careful management of our funds, 2021 onwards will be a challenge (a view shared by the Trustees at their meeting on 4 May 2020).

So what have we been able to do to mitigate/avoid “result misery”:-

- Linsey is working from home with short duration visits to the Church to collect correspondence and invoices, banking or monies received;
- Agnes remains on furlough in respect of which our HMRC claim for 80% of her salary was promptly dealt with. We will continue to make further claims through the furlough period (now extended to October 2020 as of 12 May 2020) or until we can open our Church, whichever comes first;
- On 4 May 2020 we applied for a Grant under the Government Third Sector Resilience Fund. Unfortunately, our application was rejected as other applicants demonstrated a more urgent need for financial assistance. This does not preclude St Andrew's reapplying later;
- On 4 May 2020 we applied for a Grant under the Government Third Sector Resilience Fund. This takes up to 10 days for processing

//..



- With digging and input from Alastair Smith, Vera Binnie and Elaine Roebuck (our very own Miss Marple) we have been able to identify areas of Gift Aided donations for which tax recovery has not previously been claimed. Thanks to everyone as it will help increase our income by about £950 in the June 2020 tax claim.

Like Micawber, St. Andrew's remains "result happiness" albeit a daily challenge managing our funds and keeping abreast of developments. It is appropriate to give thanks to those good folks in "121" who, even though working from home, provide us with regular updates which can be found at <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/resources/covid-19-coronavirus-advice> (my morning reading) and the email "chats" and guidance I receive from them in particular David Stilher (Legal), Allan Simpson (Data Protection), IT Department and all the backroom staff who always have time for St. Andrew's and go out of their way to help and guide us.

Of personal interest to you all, online criminality is rife and recommend you take a few minutes to read the latest updates to ensure you remain as safe as possible <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/resources/covid-19-coronavirus-advice/phishing-emails-and-scams>.

Whilst we continue to work from home, if you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Linsey, if we don't have an answer, we probably know someone who does.

On a personal note and after consultation with the Moderator (also known as The Rev/Her Indoors) I offered to stay as Treasurer until 31 December 2021 given the prevailing disruption and desire to avoid more hiatus in St. Andrew's. That offer was accepted however when we do return to normality, we still need to develop a succession strategy and plan.

Take good care, stay safe and keep well.

To quote a phrase first used in 1860 in the coat of arms of New Westminster, Canada, "In God We Trust" - "result happiness".

**Tom and Linsey J**

***P.S.** from the Moderator/The Rev/Her Indoors-love and best wishes to all our good friends in St. Andrew's Family. Looking forward to meeting up again and renewing friendship and fellowship with you all.*



## A Cup & a Chat

Many of you have begun to share our resource, ***Pastoral Conversation: A Cuppa and a Chat series***, with your congregations. Thank you for taking part in this ministry and sharing these resources! I have received some good feedback and am implementing these ideas into future chats. I will continue to make these videos as long as I am able, there is a need, and people are willing to have a chat with me! If you want to join me for a chat or have an idea for a topic, please be in touch.

You can find our new video each Wednesday by following the (1) Gordon Presbytery's Facebook page, (2) Youtube channel, or (3) webpage.

### **Our third Pastoral Conversation: A Cuppa and a Chat on Sabbath is now live!**

You can find it by going to

[www.presbyteryofgordon.org.uk/conversations.html](http://www.presbyteryofgordon.org.uk/conversations.html)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGom-6YvuGM&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGom-6YvuGM&feature=youtu.be)

Description: Have you felt as though all of your days in lockdown begin to look the same or that you cannot separate work from rest? Perhaps practicing a sabbath day could be the answer. For our third online Pastoral Conversation, Heather Mikelson is joined by Rev. Joshua Mikelson of Kemnay Parish Church. With coffee and tea in hand, they share stories and experiences on sabbath keeping. During the conversation they address questions such as, "Is keeping a sabbath still relevant today?" Or "How is sabbath different than a day off?" Please grab a cuppa and join us for this conversation on sabbath. All are welcome!

If you want to catch up and send out links to our first two chats on *Prayer* and *Uncertainty* you can find them here:

[www.presbyteryofgordon.org.uk/conversations.html](http://www.presbyteryofgordon.org.uk/conversations.html)

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCwoHUk2qjQd\\_nYYCkNRPRReg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwoHUk2qjQd_nYYCkNRPRReg)

Thank you for sharing these resources in your emails, on your webpages, or social media pages. I appreciate your partnership! We are in this together. If I can be of help to you during this time, please be in touch.

Together in ministry,

Heather

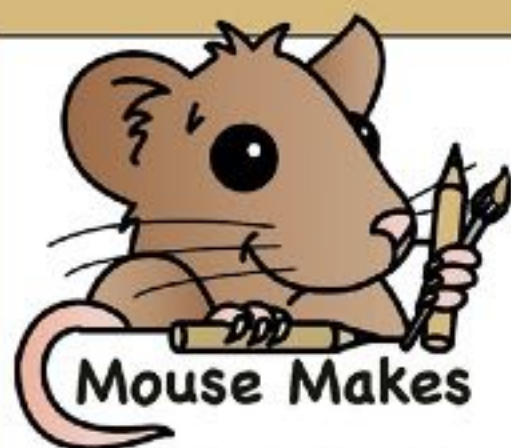
Rev. Heather R. Mikelson

Mission and Discipleship Development Worker

Presbytery of Gordon

Work Mobile: 07908 022601

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



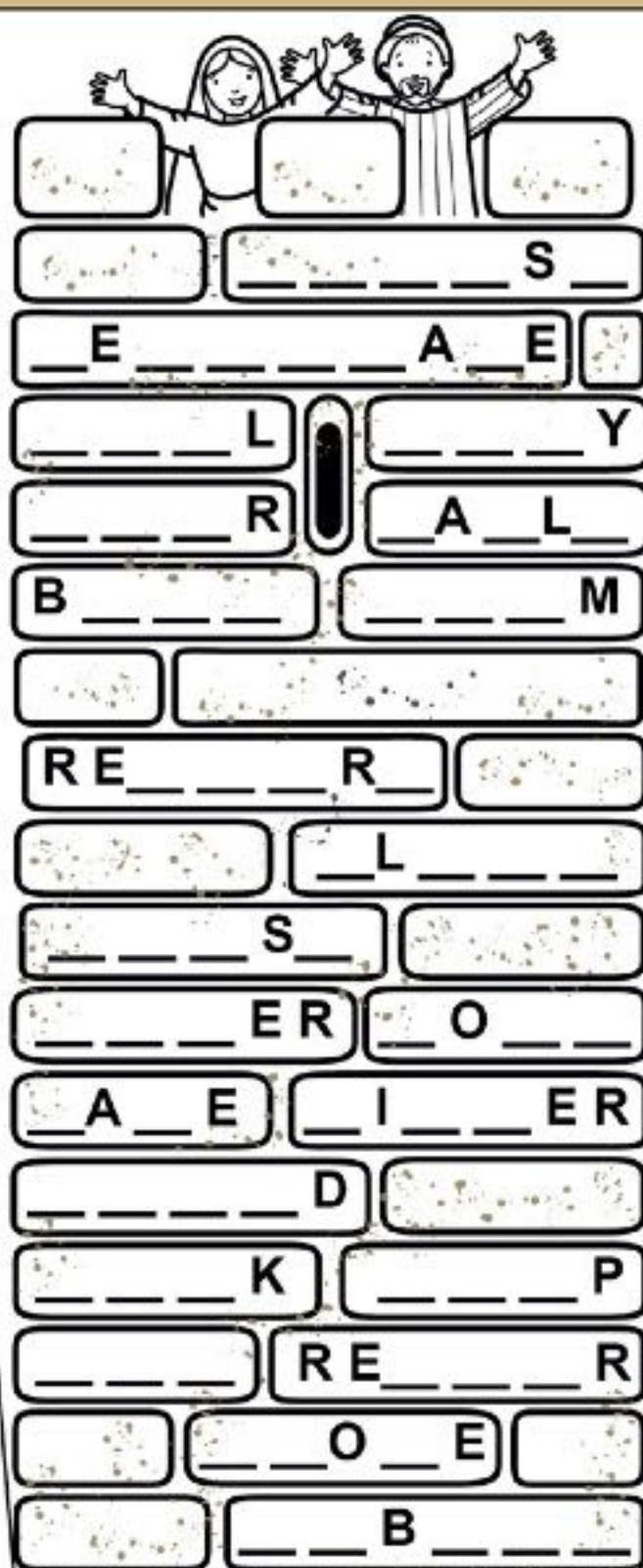
When Nehemiah heard that the walls of Jerusalem were in ruins he sat down and wept. For days he fasted and prayed before God.

Finally the opportunity came for him to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls, but it was not going to be easy...

**READ** Nehemiah's story in the *Old Testament* book of **Nehemiah**, chapters 1-7

Here is Nehemiah's list of all the things that needed to be done to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Fill in the missing gaps on the tower to help rebuild the wall.

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| ○ PRAY      | ○ GATE     |
| ○ RUBBLE    | ○ BEAM     |
| ○ REPAIR    | ○ BOLT     |
| ○ RESTORE   | ○ BAR      |
| ○ BUILD     | ○ STEP     |
| ○ WORK      | ○ TOWER    |
| ○ STONE     | ○ HOUSE    |
| ○ TIMBER    | ○ POOL     |
| ○ WALLS     | ○ FINISH   |
| ○ FLOOR     | ○ DEDICATE |
| ○ ROOF      | ○ DOOR     |
| ○ CELEBRATE |            |



How many gates were repaired?  
Who re-built them?

How long did it take to finish the walls?



# The Big Scottish Place Name Quiz

- 1 🕯️
- 2 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🧔
- 3 🧐 🖐️ 🦘 🦘
- 4 🔔 🔔 🏛️
- 5 🚤 🚤 🚤 🚤 🤯 🔔 🤯
- 6 🏠 🏠
- 7 🍷
- 8 💪 🐻 🤯
- 9 🍷 🚚 100
- 10 🧥 🏠
- 11 ♻️ 🗺️ 🏠
- 12 p 🌐
- 13 ❤️ 🏛️
- 14 🗡️ 🦴 🧔
- 15 🧴 🧥 🧥 🧥
- 16 🧠
- 17 ⬤ 🏠 🦶
- 18 🔥 🌴

- 19 ❄️ 🌊
- 20 👁️ 👄
- 21 🖼️ 🖼️ 📊
- 22 ☔ 🧔 🧔 🧔
- 23 🚿 #
- 24 🏠 🍷
- 25 📅 17
- 26 🦄 🍷
- 27 🧔 🏠
- 27 🍷
- 28 🍷 🏠
- 29 🧴 🦶 🐝
- 30 🦶 🦶
- 31 4
- 32 🏠 🏠
- 33 🗡️ 🏠
- 34 🏠 🧔
- 35 🗡️ 💣 💣 💣

- 36 🍷
- 37 🏠 🍷
- 38 🍷 🍷
- 39 🕒 🧴 🧔
- 40 🍷 🍷
- 41 🍷
- 42 🍷 🍷
- 43 🔍 🍷
- 44 🍷 ✖️
- 45 🍷 🧴
- 46 🍷 👁️
- 47 🍷 🏠
- 48 ✅ D
- 49 🍷 🍷
- 50 🏠 🏠
- 51 🍷 🍷
- 52 🍷 🍷



**The Trussell Trust**  
**Aberdeenshire North Foodbank**  
**Registered Charity No. SC045884**



In these particularly challenging and uncertain times, the Aberdeenshire North Foodbank is continuing to provide an important service to individuals and families facing food poverty within the communities of north east Scotland.

At the present moment, the Trustees of the Aberdeenshire North Foodbank are looking for expressions of interest from people who may wish to support the work of the foodbank by joining the Board of Trustees. Trustees are drawn from a variety of backgrounds and offer the foodbank a wide-range of skills and experience.

Similarly, the Trustees are keen to develop the existing administrative support within the foodbank and would welcome very much short or long-term voluntary help in this important area.

Informal enquiries are very welcome.

With thanks,  
 Rev Sheila Mitchell

Trustee  
 Aberdeenshire North Foodbank  
 T: 01330 860 004  
 E: [SMitchell@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:SMitchell@churchofscotland.org.uk)

## **Footnote:**

### **Our Inverurie Branch is short of the following items:**

Long Life Fruit Juice (1 litre)  
 Cereal bars/snack bars  
 Jam  
 Tinned custard  
 Bars of soap

**Your help will be appreciated.**



## Nature out and about

The lockdown this Spring at least gave Nature a brief respite. Wild goats, herds of deer, sparrowhawks, stoats, snakes, badgers, spawning toads and songbirds all seemed to have enjoyed the peace and quiet.

We, in turn, have enjoyed watching them from our windows. As Mark Thompson, a presenter on *Stargazing Live*, said, "This lockdown is giving people a chance not just to connect with our families, but also to connect with Nature around us. It has given us the change to recalibrate."



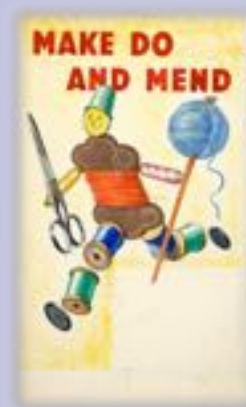
Hello from Inverurie Boys' Brigade we hope everybody is well and keeping safe. As we are still in "lockdown" we have the pleasure in sharing our excitement regarding the BB at Home tasks where the BB share and supply us with home tasks which are passed to the boys in all three sections. We are overwhelmed at the response from the boys, and are now going to introduce the medal awards and certificate for the tasks completed.

April tasks included mystery snapshot, Clap for NHS video, Making a emergency shelter, the Last Supper, Easter celebrations, making a thankful jar, having bucket challenge, cooking outdoors, writing a message for a care home, and many more. Most of the activities have been recorded on video and photographs which can be viewed on the Facebook Page.

It is heart-warming to see the boys engrossed in the activities. We have a full programme going forward and hope to keep you posted next month. Stay safe and take care.

**The BB Team**

## Make do and Mend



According to handi-craft expert

Kirstie Allsopp, a missing button was the number one reason why 350,000 tonnes of wearable clothing may end up in UK landfill this year.

But that was before lockdown. Now you have time to make do – and mend! Rescue and reuse your clothes. After all, it saves money and the planet.

# Congregational Roll

## ST ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH CHANGES IN ROLL 28th April - 27th May 2020

### Recently Deceased

### Service conducted by

Ms C Bremner,  
Badenscoth Care Home

9/5/2020

Mrs A Smith Anderson,  
1 Morningside Rd

9/5/2020

Rev. C Irvine

Mr D McDonald,  
35 Allan Place

11/5/2020

Rev. C Irvine

Mrs M J Moffat,  
8 Ritchie Row, PE

12/5/2020

Rev. C Irvine



**NATIONAL  
TRUST for  
SCOTLAND**

**No**

**plastic**

**please, we're the**

**National Trust**

... The National Trust is going to get rid of its plastic membership cards. Replacing the five million membership cards with a paper alternative will save 12.5 tons of plastic each year. The new cards will be made from a strong and durable paper, with a water-based coating. The cards will be recyclable and compostable.

The National Trust also has plans to almost completely remove single-use plastics from its sites by 2022. It has already replaced all disposable food packaging with compostable products. Next, it wants to remove plastic drinks bottles and eliminate plastic packaging from its shops.

## Keep an eye out for the elderly ...

**When did you last see your elderly neighbour? Seriously: are they okay?**

**During this time of social distancing, it is all too easy to assume that the elderly person you never see is simply safe indoors. But are they?**

**Isolation can be dangerous: it is too easy for them to have had an accident and be unable to call for help.**

**Why not arrange a system with them whereby you agree that you will give them a quick ring once a day, or even stand outside their house and wave? It only takes a few seconds to make sure they are still on their feet, and that all is well.**

**If you have several elderly neighbours, why not ask a few of your local friends to help you keep in brief touch with them each day?**



# Who's Who at 'St Andrew's'

**Church Office**  
**St Andrew's Parish**  
**Church**  
**High Street,**  
**Inverurie AB51 3QJ**

**Phone:01467-628740**

**Email:**

**inverurie standrews@**

**outlook.com**

**http://.standrews**

**inverurie.co.uk**



## **LISTEN** **"Online"**

All our Church  
 Services are on the  
 internet and  
 are available for  
 downloading or by  
 listening directly.  
[www.standrewschurcheinverurie.org.uk](http://www.standrewschurcheinverurie.org.uk)  
 Click on  
 "listen again".

<b>MINISTER</b> The REV CARL IRVINE	(01467 629163)
<b>SESSION CLERK</b> KEN TUACH	(01467 620896)
<b>CLERK TO THE BOARD</b> JOYCE LAWSON	(01467 620903)
<b>CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR</b> LINSEY STEWART	(01467 681223)
<b>CHURCH TREASURER</b> - TOM CRAGGS	(01358 723055)
<b>WFO TREASURER</b> ALASTAIR SMITH	(01467 623148)
<b>GIFT AID CONVENER</b> ALLAN DUFF	(01467 621040)
<b>MONTHLY COLLECTION CONVENERS</b> VERA BINNIE & DIANE STUART	(01467 622275 & (01467 620931)
<b>FABRIC CONVENER</b> PETER DONALDSON	(01467 620828)
<b>ROLL KEEPER</b> TOM CRAGGS	(01358 723055)
<b>ORGANIST</b> IAN MILNE	(01467 620606)
<b>"TIME OUT" LEADER</b> MO VERNAL	(01467 628778)
<b>PRESBYTERY ELDER</b> VERA BINNIE	(01467 622275)
<b>SOCIAL COMMITTEE CONVENER</b> MOLLY CONN	(01467 620612)
<b>FLOWER CONVENER</b> EILEEN ROBERTSON	(01467 625895)
<b>TRANSPORT TO CHURCH CONTACT</b> DIANE STUART	(01467 620931)
<b>HALL CLEANER</b> AGNIESZKA MYSZKOWSKA -	
<b>SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR</b> ALISON YOUNG	(01467 625646)
<b>SAFEGUARDING OFFICER</b> FRASER HORN	-
<b>SALTIRE EDITORS</b> DIANE STUART KIT PAWSON	(01467 620931) (01467 372389)
<b>LETTINGS CONVENER</b> - KIT PAWSON	(01467 628740)

**JULY 2020 SALTIRE ... Will be online on 1st July.**  
**Please email material for the June Saltire to**  
**The Church Office by 20th June 2020.**

### **St Andrew's Safeguarding Statement**

*(Relating to the Protection of Children and Young People in the Church.  
 Adopted by the General Assembly, May 1997.)*

The Church of Scotland has a deep concern for the wholeness and well-being of each individual. It seeks to safeguard the welfare of all people, regardless of age, who come into contact with the church and its organisations. It is the responsibility of each individual within the fellowship of the church to prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse of children and young people and the vulnerable. St Andrew's Parish Church has a Zero Tolerance Policy to any form of abuse.