SPRING 2025

STANDREW'S IN THE GRANGE



FROM THE MANSE

In the midst of winter's chill, when the days are short, and the nights seem never-ending, a quiet promise begins to emerge from the cold earth. The daffodils—bright, golden messengers of spring—remind us that new life is just around the corner.

Growing up in South Africa, I never had to endure the long, dark months of a British winter. But since moving to the UK, I have always found November to February particularly difficult. The grey days can feel endless. And yet, every year, when I see those first daffodils pushing their way through the frost, my heart lifts. They whisper of warmth, of renewal, of the certainty that light will return.

Easter carries the same promise. Out of the darkness of Good Friday comes the radiant joy of resurrection. Life, where there once was loss. Hope, where there once was despair. This is the rhythm of our faith—the assurance that even in our hardest seasons, God is always at work, bringing forth new life.

And how alive our church is! As I reflect on 2024, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for all we have accomplished together. From outreach projects to deepening our worship life, from moments of quiet pastoral care to joyful community gatherings, we have seen God move in extraordinary ways.

And now, 2025 begins with renewed energy as we take the next step in making our church more accessible to all. This work is about more than just physical changes—it is a declaration of our commitment to being a place where everyone belongs. Just as the daffodils push through the frost, so too does the spirit of welcome and inclusion continue to grow among us.

I am so proud of this community—of the way we show up for one another, of the faith we nurture, of the love we share. May we step into this year with open hearts, ready to embrace all that God has in store.

With love and blessings,



LETTER FROM SALLY

Whether you've been part of our church family for many years or have only recently joined us, I thought it might be helpful to share a little about how our church is led and how decisions are made.

At the heart of our leadership is the Kirk Session, a group of elders who, alongside the minister, are responsible for guiding the life, worship, and mission of our church. The elders work together to ensure everything runs smoothly, from pastoral care and worship to practical matters like finances and maintaining the church building. They also serve as trustees, ensuring that our church is cared for now and for future generations.

Our minister, as a teaching elder, leads worship and provides spiritual guidance, but church leadership is a shared effort. To help manage different aspects of church life, our elders work within committees, each with its own area of focus. These committees include:

- Worship Supporting the minister in planning and shaping worship services.
- Mission Helping the church engage with the wider community and share the gospel.
- Fellowship Encouraging connections and relationships within the congregation.
- Fabric Overseeing the care and maintenance of our church buildings.
- Pastoral Care Ensuring that members of our church family receive the support they need.
- Charities Managing our church's support for charitable causes and outreach.

These committees are not just for elders—anyone in the congregation can be involved. If there's an area you feel passionate about or a way you'd like to contribute, we'd love to hear from you. Your gifts and involvement help make our church a stronger, more welcoming place for all.

If you have any questions about how things work or would like to get more involved, please do reach out. Whether you've been here for decades or are just beginning to find your place, you are a valued part of our church community.

Sally

MUSINGS FROM PAUL

I was having a coffee in the main square of this remote Caribbean island when I felt something tickling my calf. "Oh no, a huge centipede was racing up my leg." Fortunately after one swipe it fell to the ground and dashed off down a drain.

"Alors" said my neighbours, "Un Scolopendre!"

Scolopendra Gigantea is the world's largest centipede, growing up to 30cm in length. It is found in many tropical countries and it is notoriously bad-tempered. In Japan it hunts mice, often in pairs. It's bite is venomous but rarely fatal to humans (Oh that's alright then)

The coffee was excellent.



DISABLED ACCESS UPDATE

You will recall that, for a project of this value, size and complexity, Church of Scotland regulations require that prices be sought from a number of contractors ... at least three. Tender documents needed to be and were drawn up, distributed, priced and returned. A complete tender analysis was undertaken to ensure that we were looking at like for like prices. After that conclusions and recommendations were presented to Session. After discussion and modification of the proposal Session granted permission to proceed.

Late in 2024 relevant papers were sent to Presbytery for their "sign off". The General Trustees also need to be advised.

The preferred contractor is J. W. Rihoy. Pre-contract meetings have been held between ourselves and the team from Rihoy's. At these meetings a number of items of mutual concern were identified. These items require to be resolved prior to the formal awarding of the contract and the signing of the paperwork.

It is expected that we will resolve these issues this week, the last week of February 2025, that we will agree the contract paperwork and get everything signed off early the following week.

Stuart Hardie



FUNDRAISING

Building for the Future: Support Our Church Fundraising

Our church is raising £80,000 for essential building work. Thanks to your generosity, we've already raised £21 000 —but we still need your help!

Ways to Give

Smarty Boxes

Pick up a Smarty Box at church, fill it with 20p coins, and return it when full. Small change makes a big impact!

Loose Change Donation Box

Drop your spare coins, notes, or foreign currency (notes only) into our collection box beside the offering chest.

The Big Bottle Lucky Dip

Donate any screw-top bottle and bottle bags (even used ones) for our fun lucky dip fundraiser.

Every Contribution Counts! Whether you donate change, fill a Smarty Box, or contribute a bottle, your support helps secure our church's future. Thank you!



UPCOMING SERVICES & DATES

Sunday, 23rd March:

Annual Stated Meeting 10:30 - Service is 1.5 hours

Sunday, 30th March: Mothering Sunday

• Mothering Sunday 10:30

Sunday, 6th April:

No Communion 10:30

Sunday, 13th April: Palm Sunday

- Early Communion 9:00
- Worship 10:30

Thursday, 17th April: Maundy Thursday

St Andrew's in the Grange 19:00

Friday, 18th April: Good Friday

• at Bordeaux Methodist 10:30

Sunday, 20th April: Easter Sunday

- Family Egg Rolling 09:00 followed by Hot Cross Buns
- Worship and Communion 10:30

Friday, 9th May (Liberation Day)

TBC

Sunday, 11th May

- Early Communion 9:00
- Worship 10:30

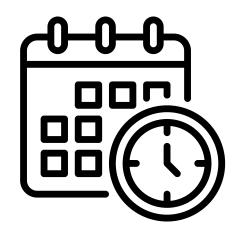


Deaths:

• 26 September 2024 Bill Harcus

Marriages:

- 5 October 2024 Morgan Johnson and Stephen Reynolds
- 26 October 2024 Andrew Oxburgh and Isa Branco

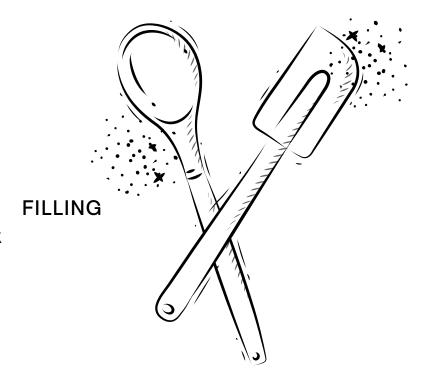


BUNTY'S RECIPE

COFFEE STRUSEL SLICE

INGREDIENTS:

- 55grms caster sugar
- 2 teasp cinnamon.
- 150 grms plain flour
- 65 grms brown sugar
- 35grms self raising flour
- 125grms butter chopped.
- 400 gms tin condensed milk
- 30 grms butter
- 2 tblsp syrup
- 3 teasp instant coffee
- 35 grms chopped walnuts.



METHOD:

Preheat oven to 180°C

Prepare the base: Beat butter and Sugar until smooth, then stir in sifted flour. Mix and press the mixture over the base of a greased 26 cm x 32 cm Swiss roll tin.

Bake in a moderate oven for 20 minutes.

Preparing the filling: While the base is baking, Combine condensed milk, butter syrup, and coffee in a heavy-based pan. Stir over heat until the mixture boils. Simmer, stirring constantly, for about 3 minutes or until the mixture thickens. Stir in walnuts.

Spread the filling over the base and cool for 10 minutes.

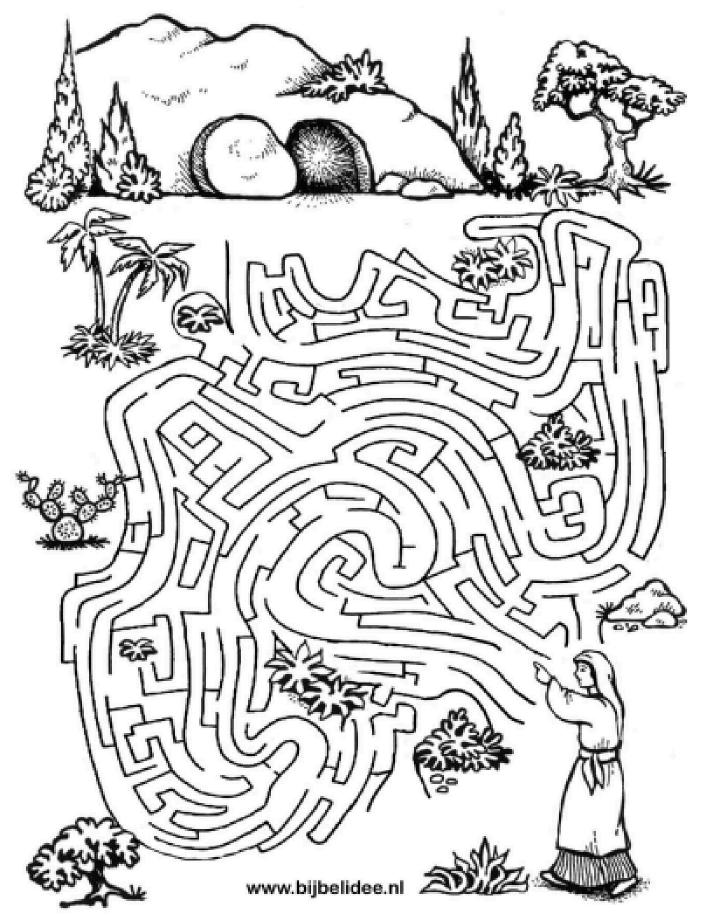
Preparing the Topping: Sift flour and cinnamon into a small bowl, stir in sugar, rub in butter and mix to a soft dough; wrap in cling and freeze for about 15 minutes.

Grate topping over filling and bake in a moderate oven for 20 minutes until lightly browned. Cool in the tin.

ROTAS

						চ্ছা ক					Deadheading	
Sunday	Service	Time	Opening Underlined	Meet & Greet	Readers	Lord's Prayer	Communion Set-Up	Communion - serving L H (font) to R (organ)	L Help to take out Communion elements Teas	eas	& Sweeping (Fri/Sat prior)Notes	otes
			person to open the door to the hall for					Underlined person to hand				
			the elements to be taken out					out elements from the table to be carried out				
2025												
March												
	:										Λ	with coffee and
2	Morning Worship with Communion - Café style10.30amSally & Stuart	10.30amSa	lly & Stuart	Edith & Steve W	Ethel	Stuart	Ethel	Justin, Sally, Ethel, Alan	Elizabeth		p Edith	pancakes
6	Reflective Communion	9.00am										
6			10.30amAmanda & Steven	Grace & Linda	Robert	Hilary				Katherine	Edith	
16	Wors		10.30amAlan & Hilary	Liz B & Rose		Sally					Gay	
23	Morning Worshin	10 30am	10 30am(arolyn & Alison	Andrea & Robert	Victor	Paul				Liz & Andrea	S	Stated Annual
30	Morning Worship	10.30am	10.30am lizabeth & Ethel			Gay						0
April												
6 13	Morning Worship	10.30am/	10.30amA <u>manda &</u> Steven	Morna& Peter	Amanda	Ethel					Paul	
13	Reflective Communion 9.00am	9.00am										
	Morning Worship	10.30ams	10.30amsally & Stuart	Beth & Emily	Peter H	Stuart				Liz & Andrea	Beth	
	Maundy Thursday											
17	service with	7 00nm	Sally & Stuart		Flizahath		Elizabeth &					
i	Good Friday service at											
	Bordeaux Methodist											
18	Church	10.30am										
	Morning Worship for											
	Easter Sunday with						Elizabeth &	Steven, Justin, Amanda,				
20	Communion	10.30am	10.30am lizabeth & Ethel	Liz B & Rose		Paul	Hilary	lain	Sally		Leila	
27	Morning Worship	10.30am	10.30amPaul & Iain	Grace & Linda	Linda	Hilary					Gay	
May												

KIDS PAGE



WORD SEARCH

EASTER, BUNNY, EGG, SPRING, FLOWER, CHICK, BLOOM, SUNSHINE, BUTTERFLY, RAINBOW, TULIP, DAFFODIL, GRASS, BASKET, LAMB, JESUS, CROSS, NEST, HATCH, CANDY

Υ	В	В	U	Т	Т	Е	R	F	L	Υ	М
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Treasurer: Mr Steven Jones - Tel 720547