

**WELCOME TO KIRK OF KEITH:  
ST RUFUS, BOTRIPHNE AND GRANGE**

**Minister: Rev Wiekus van Straaten**

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**Session Clerk: Nicola Smith**

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**TODAY, SUNDAY, 6 February**

10.15 am – St Rufus (Sunday Club)

11.45 am – Grange

**REMINDER FROM THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

The regulation which makes it a legal requirement to wear a face covering in churches and other indoor public spaces has not changed and we urge every congregation to abide by the law and make it clear to all attendees that they must wear a face covering with the exception of those who are under the age of 12 or who have a genuine medical exemption. We also remind congregations of the requests from the Scottish government that we should invite individuals to keep a distance from other households and that we also keep a list of those who attend services for the use of Test & Protect in the event of a positive Covid case linked to the building.

**Wiekus's Weekly Words**

If you would like Wiekus to send messages to your phone you can send him your mobile number (which he will not share with anyone else and it will not be visible to anyone else) and he will send short messages on WhatsApp to you on a regular basis. This will all be done confidentially. His dedicated mobile number is **07341 370133**.

***FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS:-***

**(a)** The Fly & Friendship Club will meet on Thursday, 10 February at 2 pm in the Scout Hall. Face coverings should be worn except during tea time (price £1.50) which will be served at your seat. Please remember to bring a cup.

**(b) SUNDAY, 13 February**

10.15 am – St Rufus (Sunday Club)

Duty elders – Ian Barbour, Isabel Russell and Esther Green

11.45 am – Botriphnie

**(c)** The Finance Committee will meet on Monday, 14 February at 7 pm in the hall.

(d) There will be a meeting of the Welcome Committee on Tuesday, 15 February at 7 pm in the hall.

(e) The Fly & Friendship Club will meet on Thursday, 17 February at 2 pm in the Scout Hall. Face coverings should be worn except during tea time (price £1.50) which will be served at your seat. Please remember to bring a cup.

**(f) SUNDAY, 20 February**

10.15 am – St Rufus (Sunday Club)

Duty elders – Que Henderson and Fiona Simpson

11.45 am – Grange

**ANNOUNCEMENTS...**

**1) FAITHFUL WITNESS COURSE**

God wants you! He uses people like yourself to become part of the church's mission of reaching out to your neighbour with conviction and integrity.

In prayerful dependence, we are inviting you to join the Faithful Witnesses Course where you'll be equipped to be a faithful witness to Jesus Christ while probing deep into your own faith experiences to discover what you believe and why you believe it.

The course is designed to make possible the deepening of personal faith along with the development of practical skills. Among the goals to be pursued are:

- Developing communications skills
- Identifying barriers to faith sharing
- Probing the meaning of your faith
- Exploring the gospel meaning
- Practicing and acquiring witnessing skills

This course will be presented from 4 April 2022 every Monday (excluding 11 April 2022) at 7 pm at the St. Rufus Church Hall. It consists of twelve weekly class sessions of maximum two hours each. Participants will receive a workbook with easy homework assignments after each session.

Please think and pray about this, and if you are convinced that you can commit yourself to attend each session faithfully, pick up a leaflet at the door and return it to the church or scan the QR code by 27 March 2022.

For more information, feel free to contact Wiekus on 01542 882799, 07845 423506 or [WvanStraaten@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:WvanStraaten@churchofscotland.org.uk)



2) We have received a letter of thanks from Aberdeen and Moray SANDS for the donation of £291.11 raised by the congregation at the Christmas Services. This will allow them to continue to support bereaved families in the area.

3) Norma is looking for some help with the flowers in church. Would anyone be willing to take a turn at doing the weekly arrangements? You don't have to be a flower arranger or able to use oasis. There are vases which can be used. Please contact Norma, if you can help, on 882019.

4) Thank you to everyone who has offered to help the Property Committee with their much valued work in maintaining our buildings.

**5) The Longmore Community Hall is your hall and it needs your help!**

The Longmore Community Hall AGM is on Wednesday, 16 February at 7.30 pm in the hall. They would like a good turn out from user groups. This is also an opportunity to see the changes which have been made and to give your opinion on what might be done in the future.

6) The Drummuir 21 AGM will be held on Saturday, 19 February at 10.30 am in Botriphnie Church and will be followed at 11 am with an opportunity to view and contribute to material relating to Kirk history, the burial ground and St Fumac's Well. The D21 Storyboard Sub group has been researching the history of the Kirk over the winter months, with the intention of creating a second Storyboard to be placed near the Kirk. (The first Storyboard can be viewed at Drummuir Station). Purchase of a second board is dependent on obtaining grant funding. Members and non-members of Drummuir 21 are welcome to attend.

7) Christian Aid Scotland's flagship supporter event takes place on Tuesday 22 February (10am-12pm). For the second year in a row 'The Gathering' will be an online event open to supporters across the length and breadth of Scotland.

Guest speakers this year include two members of Christian Aid's South Sudan team: Yitna Tekaligne and Mbaraka Fazal.

South Sudan is a country hit hard by climate change, conflict and Covid-19.

Extreme flooding has resulted in crops and livestock being destroyed.

Seven million people do not have enough to eat.

The Gathering will look ahead to Christian Aid Week 2022 (15-21 May) which focuses on our partners' work in Zimbabwe. You'll hear plenty of inspiring fundraising ideas and have a chance to ask questions. We'll also bring you an update on the work we're doing in Afghanistan.

To register to take part in The Gathering please email:

**edinburgh@christian-aid.org.**

**8) REHIS Introduction to Food Hygiene level 1 by e-Learning**

This course will take approximately 2 hours to complete, is interactive and participants will be encouraged to reflect on their food safety knowledge and skills. There are no tests or exams during or after this course.

This course is delivered through a third party training partner and is entirely online so you will need access to a computer or tablet with a suitable internet connection. At the end of the course you will receive an approved REHIS Introduction to Food Hygiene certificate.

If you wish to register for the course there is an on line form  
<https://forms.office.com/r/SQncvKdWus>

**9)** Flowers for February donated by:

6/2/22 – Agnes Paterson

13/2/22 – Rachael Davidson

20/2/22 – Smith family

27/2/22 – Fiona Simpson

Flower Fund – a few spaces have become available in the flower calendar. If anyone wishes to donate flowers, give money on an annual basis or take turns to arrange flowers please contact Norma on 882019.

**10)** Could any elders who know of someone who should receive church flowers please put their details in the book in the counting room or let Nicola know.

**11)** June Cairns co-ordinates the rota for church transport and her contact number is 01542 882336.



**Check out the Kirk webpage which can be found at [www.strufus.org](http://www.strufus.org)**

### **Moray Fresh Start**

MFS aims to assist the resettlement of homeless in Moray by providing a pack of basic household items that help them to make a new beginning.

Please see our website - <http://www.morayfreshstart.org.uk/> for the type of items we needed.

For more information, and/or to arrange a donation, please contact us on 01343 550566 or email [contact@morayfreshstart.org.uk](mailto:contact@morayfreshstart.org.uk)

### **Moray Food Plus+**

Please help those in need of emergency food by donating any long-life foods. There is an increased need now due to the effects of Covid-19.

The items must be non-perishable (dried or tinned), in date, and not high in salt, sugar, or saturated fat. The blue box inside the main door at St. Rufus has been supplied for donated items.

Intimation sheets are edited by

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