

September 2026

Strathmore Parish Church Newsletter. You are receiving this email because you have passed on your email address to the church. If you do not want us to have your email address, or if you don't want to receive these emails, please let us know right away at admin@strathmoreparish.org Please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you think might be interested, or to send us the email address of anyone who would like to be added to the mailing list.

Hello, everyone - summer is over, then! Whether you loved the glorious sunny days or hated the heat, when it gets to the end of August it's 'goodbye, summer!' And goodbye, too, to some of our summer visitors, who

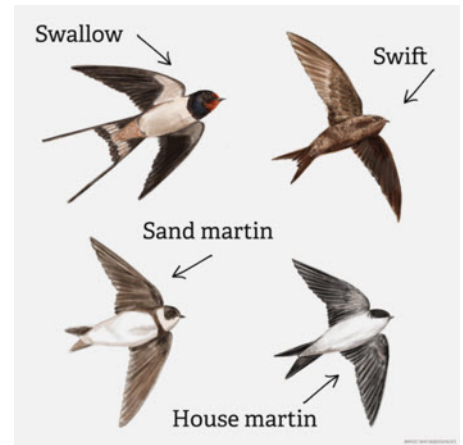


have been preparing for their departure for a week or so now, gathering in groups in high places (like the kirk roof) and swooping around eating as many insects as possible to get their strength up before their epic flight to West Africa. It's mostly house martins that we see in the villages of our parish, but of course there are sand martins too, as well as swifts and swallows.

They are all amazing birds - the house martins come back to the same place every summer to build their nests and raise their young, then fly **over 3,000 miles** back to the west coast of Africa, where they stay from September till April.

House martins are now on the RSPB's red list (birds whose numbers in the UK are in serious decline) and since all Christian churches, including the Church of Scotland, have official statements emphasising their commitment to protecting nature, it's up to us to do what we can to help these beautiful and valiant wee birds.

Those of us who worship at Glamis, though, have had a lot of cleaning up to do this summer in the church porch, where there are perfect corners for nest-building! At one wedding, a house martin flew into the church and swooped around during the service - the bride and groom were unperturbed, however, and in fact thought that, since martins and swallows mate for life, this was a good omen for their marriage!



The bairns are all back at the school now, and no doubt many of those lovely new pairs of shoes are scuffed and worn down already! In the next week or two, older youngsters from our parish will be leaving home to continue their education at universities and colleges across the UK. Spare a thought for them and for their parents, who will be worried about how their 'babies' will get on away from home. Remember them all in your prayers at this new, exciting (but scary) stage in their family life!



Please don't forget . . . there's still one Sunday left in August, and as it's the fifth Sunday of the month we'll all be meeting together for worship in the kirk at Meigle. That's this Sunday, 30th August, at 10.00am.

(No service at Glamis, Kettins or Newtyle this week.)

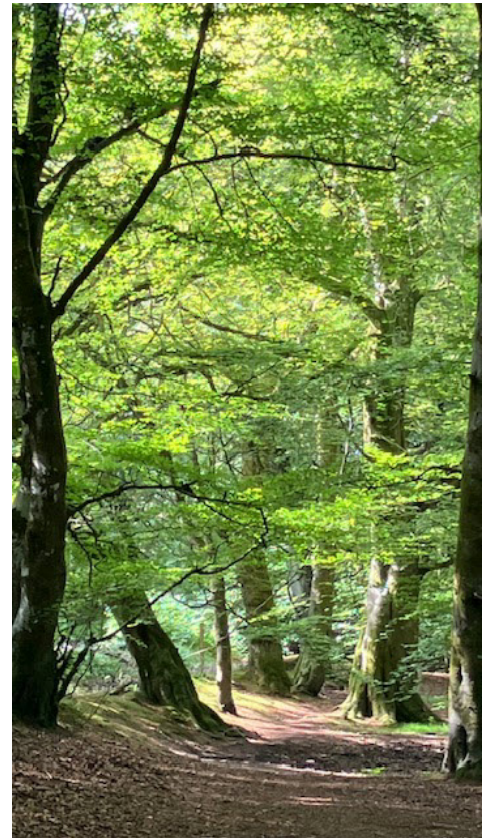
There will be a retiring collection for the Disasters Emergency Committee after the service - ***please give generously.***

A typical scene in Strathmore Parish over the last couple of weeks!



Services in September:

Sunday 6th Sept.	Services at	Kettins 10.00am Newtyle 10.00am (Communion) Glamis 11.30am
Sunday 13th Sept.	Services at	Meigle 10.00am Newtyle 10.00am Glamis 11.30am
Sunday 20th Sept.	Whole-parish service at Kettins at 10.00am to include dedication of all our Guilds. No services at Glamis, Meigle or Newtyle.	
Please note: This change to the usual pattern of services has still to be confirmed by the Kirk Session. We will all get confirmation by email or by pulpit intimation.		
Sunday 27th Sept.	Services at	Meigle 10.00am Newtyle 10.00am Glamis 11.30am



A reminder from Kettins Community Hub that everyone is invited to enjoy a simple lunch with other local folk once a month in the Community Hub building. In September, that's on Wednesday 16th, at 12 o'clock. No need to book, just turn up and be assured of a warm welcome, a nice lunch and a blether with friends old and new.

The next 'slow folk' music session will be on Sunday 4th October - details and music in advance from Heike heikegleser@yahoo.co.uk

And those of you with a good crop of apples should keep in mind that Sunday 11th October will be apple-pressing day at the Hub!

Attached to this e-mailed newsletter, you should find 2 posters, one advertising the **Strathmore Parish Harvest Family Gathering**, the other looking for volunteers for our pop-up parish choir. It's very important, in our search for a new minister, that we are seen to be continuing and expanding our church life, not just sitting back and waiting for a minister to come and organise everything! So please come along to the Harvest Gathering, bring your family and friends and help to make it a happy evening - it's open to everyone, not just church members, and it will be lot of fun!

And it's free! But numbers are limited by fire regulations, so make sure that you book a place soon, by speaking to one of the organisers named on the poster. Let them know, too, if you can bring something for the pot-luck finger buffet. If you can sing at all, please join the choir - you don't need to be a great singer, we will only be singing a couple of items and you'll know the tunes already! Come to the practice (only one!) at Liz and George McLaren's house on Wednesday 16th September, 7.00pm. You'll love it!





Another poster attached to this month's newsletter is the one shown on the left here. The Methodist Church in Scotland is holding its biennial gathering in Dundee on the second weekend of September; in conjunction with this event, there will be an exhibition of works from the Methodist Modern Art Collection in Dundee Art Society's Roseangle Gallery (at 17 Roseangle, off the Perth Road).

The Methodist Art Collection was founded in 1960; its aim is to stimulate conversation about faith. Works from the collection have been exhibited all over the UK and abroad. The exhibition in Dundee contains works by Graham Sutherland, Peter Howson and others, and a Dundee artist, Joe McIntyre, has also been invited to submit work. This free exhibition is a unique opportunity to see works by renowned modern artists.

Open Monday 7th September till Sunday 27th September,
11.00am to 5.00pm, Sundays 1.00pm to 5.00pm.

Just a couple of months ago, our parish donated a very large number of much-needed blankets, throws, etc., to the Guide Dogs Training Centre in Forfar. More recently, the Centre contacted Alison (our parish admin assistant) to ask if we could assist them in another way. The centre needs people in our area to help with the raising of puppies - yes, with full-time puppy-raising until the puppies are old enough to begin their training, but also with shorter-term commitments, eg having puppies or dogs in training to stay in your home for the weekend, or, for working dogs, to have them stay with you in an emergency or when the owner travels



abroad. You can find out more about all of this (and other volunteering opportunities) at guidedogs.org.uk or you can email information@guidedogs.org.uk

Please consider whether this is something that you might be able to do.



If you are out walking a dog, or just enjoy walking on one of the many footpaths in the Strathmore parish area, it's sometimes nice to have a walk that's not too strenuous - one that the kiddies can manage on their wee bikes, or that you can push a pram on. It's specially good if there's a cafe nearby, so that you can have a cuppie to round off the outing. This month, I'm recommending a stroll round what's known in Glamis as 'the field', wide mown paths in a field of grass and wild flowers, easily accessed from the public car park in the village, but well away from traffic.

The cafe in the Glamis corner shop is just the place for tea and cake, and the floral displays in the village are still looking lovely, thanks to the Glamis gardening group volunteers!



Wherever your way takes you this coming month, take care, look out for all the lovely things in our parish and don't forget to pray for all your fellow parishioners!

Best wishes,
Mary Reid

