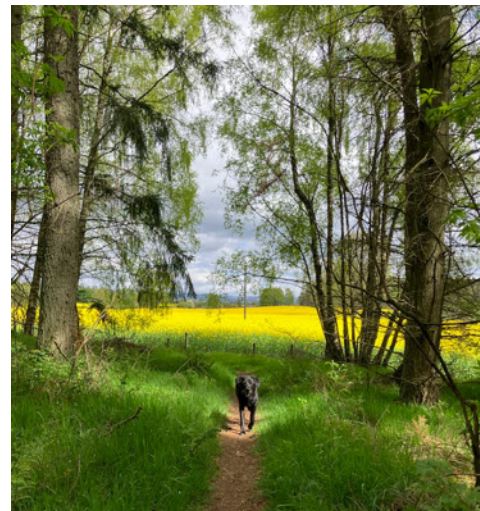


June
2026

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 - almost into the month of June, now, and the evenings are fair stretching out. Was it Olivia Newton John in the film version of 'Grease' who sang, 'Oooh, those summer nights!?' It is magical, though, to go outside at ten o'clock or later and just enjoy the peace and quiet and the light, don't you think?

But here's a wee puzzle about the fields at this time of year - how is it that, at the eastern end of Strathmore Parish, about a third of the fields are showing the brilliant yellow of oilseed rape, whereas, as you move westwards through the parish, the oilseed rape gradually disappears, and by the time you get to Kettins and Coupar Angus, there is hardly any yellow to be seen at all? There must be an explanation, but what is it? Does anyone know?



A lot of folk get hay fever from the pollen of the oilseed rape (or 'Brassica napus' to give it its proper name) but it certainly makes a bright splash of colour in May and June, and it must be a profitable crop or nobody would grow it!

Here's another puzzle - I think we used to refer to it as 'skellies', but I can't find any reference to that, even in the Scots language dictionaries. Was 'skellies' something else?



Many thanks to everyone who baked cakes for 'Cake at the Gate', Newtyle's very popular fund-raiser for Christian Aid! Thanks, too, to those who manned the stalls and made tea and coffee on the day - and, of course, **thanks to all of you** who came along to buy the scrumptious home baking and help fundraise to support the work of Christian Aid.

Anne Steel, at whose gate it all happens, says:-

'Cake at the gate was again a successful event - blessed with warm sun and no wind which was very special indeed. Generous donations and support for the raffle, 'choose a house', tea and coffee trolley as well as the fantastic cake stall all added to the wonderful total of £1092.75 being raised to date. There is a Fun Quiz still on the go, also for Christian Aid, and, at the end of May, Diane, our church treasurer, will be totalling all the Christian Aid envelopes handed in - our congregation should have a good total to give to this worthy cause.'

And it is a worthy cause - see the panel on the right for Christian Aid's statement of why the charity exists.

Everyone is equal in the sight of God

For 80 years, this truth has inspired us to stand together in solidarity with our most marginalised global neighbours, of all faiths and none.

Poverty is an outrage against humanity.

It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive.

We seek to eradicate extreme poverty by tackling its root causes. Together with people living in poverty, we amplify our voices to speak truth to power and create lasting change.



This coming **Sunday, 31st May, is the fifth Sunday of the month**, so we have one of our 'fifth-Sunday' services in Strathmore Parish, when we gather as a whole congregation to worship together. This time we will be at Newtyle Church and the service will begin at 10.00 o'clock.

The Rev John Duncan, our Interim Moderator, will lead our worship and, on behalf of the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, will present a long-service certificate to one of our most senior elders, **Sandy Ingram**, who has served the Kirk faithfully for over 60 years since he was first ordained as an elder in 1966, in Cupar in Fife. That's an inspiring record, isn't it?

The whole-parish service this Sunday will be the only service in our parish. On Sunday, June 7th, though, we will be back to our usual pattern of worship - please note that there will be Communion at Newtyle on 7th June. Full list of services in June below, and also on our website <https://www.strathmoreparish.org/>

So, as we start looking ahead to more summery days, here's advance notice of something that looks like being a lot of fun, as well as a lovely way to spend a Sunday afternoon - it's the **Strathmore Parish 'Praise, Picnic and Play' event!** Some of our elders and Sunday School teachers have been planning this event for some time - here's what they have to say:-

*'This is the first outdoor event (weather permitting) of this sort for our United Parish. **Anybody** and **Everybody** is invited and welcome to a fun praise afternoon with a newly formed choir and games for the children. Strawberry sundaes and fruit drinks, tea and coffee will be served but please bring your own picnic. Tables and chairs will be set around but you may want to bring a picnic rug. Hopefully the sun will shine but if not, we will move into the Hall or the Church depending on numbers.'*



Date: Sunday 5th July

Time: 2.30pm - 4pm

Place: Kettins Common, right beside the church!

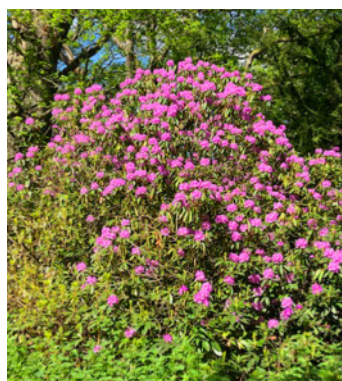
Attached to this email newsletter is a poster (like the one above) advertising the picnic afternoon - please feel free to print it out and display it anywhere in our parish area. As part of the event, there's going to be a sing-song led by a pop-up parish choir - if you can sing at all, please volunteer for the choir; there's only one rehearsal, at 7.00pm on Thursday 25th June in the kirk at Kettins. If you, or anyone in your family, can play a musical instrument and would like to join in the fun, please contact Kate Harris at kategordie@aol.com or phone 07951882913. Kate would also like to hear from any young (or young-at-heart?) folk who might help with a football kickabout from 2pm to 2.30.

So, keep 5th July free if you can and let's all get along to Kettins and enjoy a strawberry sundae, a singsong, a blether with friends and neighbours, some fun and games and (we hope!) a bit of sunshine!

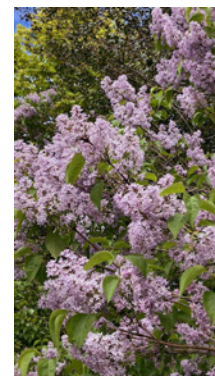
What a Spring this has been for blossom on the trees - every week there's something new to delight you!



Hawthorn hedge
by the public car park in Glamis



Rhododendron -
now considered an
'invasive species'
and
Lilac - people used
to believe it was
unlucky to bring lilac
indoors, but it
smells amazing!



The lovely countryside around us here in Strathmore makes us glad to be alive, does it not? Let's remember in our prayers all the folk who can't enjoy the beauty of the Spring and Summer - folk who are unable to leave their bedrooms or their hospital wards; victims of war and aggression whose surrounding landscape is made up of rubble and battered buildings; people who are too troubled or sad to notice what's right in front of their eyes. And let's continue to be generous when opportunities come our way to help!

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 31st May	10.00 am	whole parish service at Newtyle (no other services in the parish)
Sunday 7th June	10.00am	services at Kettins and at Newtyle (Communion)
	11.30am	service at Glamis
Sunday 14th June	10.00am	services at Meigle and Newtyle
	11.30am	service at Glamis
Sunday 21st June	10.00 am	services at Kettins (Sunday School end-of-year) and Newtyle
	11.30am	service at Glamis
Sunday 28th June	10.00am	services at Meigle and Glamis
	11.30am	service at Glamis
Sunday 5th July	10.00am	services at Kettins and Newtyle
	11.30am	service at Glamis
	2.30pm	Parish picnic at Kettins

Enjoy the summer, everyone, and please remember to send any photos (of our parish or beyond) to me at mmreid@btinternet.com The pic below, sent in a week or two ago, was taken in early May in Knoydart. Doesn't it make you wish you were there?

With best wishes,
Mary Reid

