

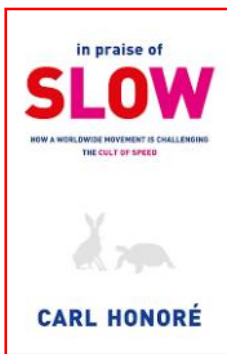
# Auchterarder Parish Church Newsletter

Saturday 26th July 2025

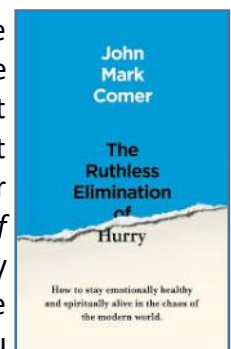
## Musings from the Manse

July 2025

A lot less happens in church during the summer months. Regular meetings like our seven teams and the Kirk Session meet only if really needed. We don't schedule discipleship courses or worship evenings in July and August. School stops, and so does school pastoring and assemblies and weekly groups and youth club. Younger people go on holiday - sensible older people wait until after the school holidays! So I come to July's *Musings* and ask: what do I write about? Of course we have the holiday club and that's a big deal, but what else? Surely we should be busy, with 7 pages of newsletter to fill with activities.



Maybe not. Sometime in the past, I read a book by Carl Honoré called *In Praise of Slow*. I probably read it quickly and I'm not sure I had time to finish it, but I vaguely remember the message that the manic pace of modern life is killing us and we need to fight against that. I'm sure he's right, and I've just ordered another book, by John Mark Comer called *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*. Comer quotes Dallas Willard (whom I like): 'Ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life. Hurry is the great enemy of the spiritual life.' I've vowed to take my time to read it and I'll let you



know how I get on.

Yet in the summer break from the routines of "work", there are things that still happen, every week. Sunday worship is a fundamental part of our rhythm of life as Christians. So is prayer, and our two



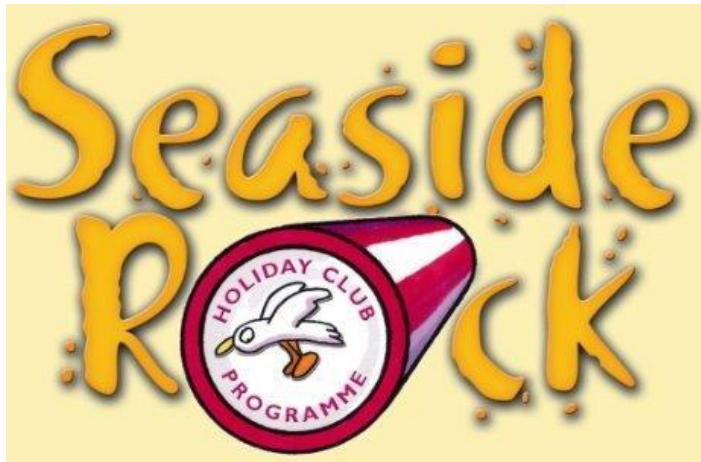
weekly prayer groups (ask if you don't know) continue right through the year. And ongoing pastoral encounters offer the opportunity for us to walk with each other, whether in crisis or just in life. We don't take a break from these things because they aren't "work". They're the trellis on which we grow the rest of our lives, and without them we fall down. That's why I was annoyed a few years ago by a movement to designate a Sunday in September as

"Back to Church Sunday". I think it was meant for Sunday School children, but it still sends the wrong message that going to church is a winter sport!

So, enjoy more rest and take a slow summer as part of the rhythm of life – along with God, who rested on the seventh day and calls us to rest with him. And enjoy the newsletter!

God bless you all

Lynn



Seaside Rock is from 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> August for any child or young person that has finished p1 – s2. It's 10am – 12.30pm.

**Please invite any children you may know to come and have some fun.** Application forms available on the website or from Michelle or Sandra.

Can you help???

Can you help us prepare for Seaside Rock by helping us with all the props and design for the sanctuary. Bring your painting clothes, a pair of scissors or just some enthusiasm and join us in the church hall on:

**Tuesday 29th July: 10am – 1pm and 7pm – 9pm.**

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July: 10am – 1pm**

**Thursday 31st July: 10am – 1pm**

Children must be accompanied by an adult if they want to help.



### **FAMILY CEILIDH with LIVE BAND!**

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

Auchterarder Parish Church Centre

5pm – 8pm

Everyone welcome.

£3 per person donation

Bring your own drinks and snacks.

Look forward to seeing you for a wee boogie on the dance floor. Tickets will be available from Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July from church office or Michelle. We do hope you can join us.

### **!!!! MEETING !!!!**

For all those helping during the holiday club week or who would like to help with Seaside Rock, please come along to the Lounge in the Church centre on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm** for an hour.

Do you have:

**VERY LARGE cardboard boxes**...bicycle or furniture boxes that we can paint into beach huts please?

We are still looking for some props...a small **boat**, canoe, oars, fishing nets, bucket and spades, wind break...

**JUNK** – plastic or card junk but it's got to be clean. Please collect what you can and bring to church on Sundays leading up to 11<sup>th</sup> August. We'll have boxes at the back of church for you to put it in.

(NO MILK BOTTLES PLEASE)



### **FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August**

**Auchterarder Parish**

**Church Centre**

**7pm – 8pm**

It's an advantage to have as wide an age range as you can. Join us for a fun night of music, picture, taste and general knowledge fun for all the family.  
£5 per team, up to 6 in a team!

## Busy getting ready for Seaside Rock



**'Kirk Café':** The Café is open on Tuesdays 10am - 3pm and Wednesdays 11am - 3pm. Please pop in for coffee and home baking, or better still, a great plate of home-made soup for lunch! Carry-outs are also available. We are short of helpers, so if you would like to volunteer as a member of the café staff, please speak to Michelle or Alan or speak to Gillian,

our Café Manager, when you are in! Training will be given. PS Check out our new Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61571459891333>

## Prayer Groups in APC

Praying together is a core part of our identity as a Christian church. In APC we have three opportunities for prayer each week:

1. We have a online **Zoom** meeting on **Saturday mornings from 9:00-9:30am**.
2. An in-person meeting on **Sunday in the Lounge at 9:30 before worship**.
3. There are always opportunities for more private prayer after Sunday worship in the side aisle.

If you would like the Zoom link for Saturday, please contact Lynn, our Minister, by email on: [LMcChlery@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:LMcChlery@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Anybody can come at any time – you don't have to pray out loud and you don't have to come every week. There are no experts! We pray for problems in the world and for issues arising for our friends and neighbours. If there's something or someone you would like prayer for (with their permission), please just mention it to Lynn.

Or why not join us sometime, you'd be most welcome.



## Advent in Austria

Iain and Marjorie are once again leading a McCabe Group to Advent in Austria from 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> December flying from Edinburgh. We would be delighted if you would like to join us. Experience all the different Austrian Advent customs, visit the beautiful town of Salzburg where we enjoy an organ recital in Salzburg Cathedral, join in services in local churches, visit some fascinating Christmas markets, sing "Silent Night" in the little church it was first sung in, look on as The Krampus/ two horned devil parade passes our hotel, take a sleigh ride to a remote Hofalm and above all enjoy a very welcoming and comfortable hotel. Speak to Iain or Marjorie for a brochure and more details.

Iain and Marjorie Paton





## APC Community Garden – July Update – Peak Season Growing

**Communal Garden** July is the month that the garden really starts to produce



**Tomatoes**

and our brassicas, potatoes, onions and peas have come on stream to fill our baskets. Our berries, rasps and blackcurrants, have also had a good harvest and we have had the first of our new gooseberries. Our bush style tomatoes are looking good and we also had a good crop of strawberries but they disappeared before we could get to them. 😞

Must have been the church mouse! Our Veg' share at the library has steadily increased and we now regularly take two baskets of varied produce there which are gratefully taken up by the community. That cooperation with the library has really worked for us and we are so glad that the library will stay open and provide a great distribution point. We took a big step forward on our potager garden with the beds installed by Coventry Fencing, kindly funded by the Community Trust Fund. Soil has been delivered to fill the beds along with bark to mulch the paths and that



**Soil & Bark**

is next on our task list. Fingers crossed it will be complete by the next Newsletter.

Our wild flower strip, planted by Messy Church alongside the path, is starting to mature, although it's difficult to decide which 'weeds' are supposed to be there and which are not!

**Mini-allotments** Our 'minis' are all doing well, full of great produce, in fact so much, our holders can find it difficult to consume all they produce. It just goes to show how much produce you can grow in small spaces like these. The demonstration bed, Bed A, is full, still providing new potatoes, lettuce and chard with broad beans ready to harvest. The peas and beans are not doing so good and are really suffering from pigeon predation, more protection required. With beetroot already sown, leeks, kale and turnips will be planted soon to produce an autumn/winter crop. The best bed competition continues with the next round of judging on 1 Aug, good luck to all.



**Veg Share**



**Companion Planting**

It's becoming clear that our vegetable growing enterprise could do with some more ground, more space means more veg' to share. If you have a space in your garden, no matter how big or small, please get in touch if you would be willing to allow us to grow some vegetables there. No need to worry, we will do all the work! Or if you or friends or family would like to learn any aspects of fruit and vegetable growing then please get in touch and we can arrange some sessions to suit your programme.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Derek Johnston

[communitygarden@auchterarderparish.org](mailto:communitygarden@auchterarderparish.org)

**Eat Local - Save Food Miles, Eat Organic - Stay Healthy**

**Fresh Produce Fridays**



**TEARFUND AMBASSADOR:** We are looking for someone to be a **TEARFUND REP** to serve as an Ambassador for Tearfund in our church family. The role may include helping lead prayer for people's release from material and spiritual poverty; putting faith into action by using Tearfund campaign resources; collecting donations from fundraising. TEARFUND will support the rep by keeping them apprised of global issues and giving them up-to-date resources and information. If you would like to consider this role, please get in touch with Lynn.

**Join us in transforming lives!**

Every church can play a part in ending extreme poverty. Become a **Tearfund Church Rep** and serve as an ambassador for Tearfund in your church community:

The role could include:	Tearfund will:
- <b>Pray</b> – for release from material and spiritual poverty	- <b>Support you</b> – dedicated Tearfund contact person
- <b>Act</b> – putting faith into action, using campaign resources	- <b>Equip you</b> – up-to-date info and resources
- <b>Give</b> – collect donations, fundraising events	- <b>Alert you</b> – to pray for global emergencies

**tearfund**

...act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with the Lord your God." Micah 6:8



### Wednesday Worship @ Auchterarder Parish Church

Each week we have a mid-week worship service on Wednesdays from 2-2.30pm. These will be in the comfort of the Church Centre and there will be a chance to have a time of fellowship afterwards over a cup of tea.

There will be singing, a time for prayer, Bible reading and a short reflection.

There is no need to let anyone know you are coming. Just come along and you will be made most welcome..



### APC Cycling group

The next cycle that is planned is for Saturday 23rd August and is a cycle around Loch Katrine of about 30 miles. We will leave the car park behind the church at 9.30am and head for Aberfoyle. The plan is then to cycle via Lochard on a gentle meandering road which is relatively flat. We will have lunch at the far end of Loch Katrine (Stronachlochar) where there is an excellent coffee shop/restaurant. After this we have a choice to either head around Loch Katrine which is lightly hillier or return the same route we came (we might even form two groups). Remember ebikes welcome. The attached website shows you the route:

<https://www.scotlandcyclerroutes.org/routes/trossachs-loop-from-aberfoyle>

Can I suggest that if you wish to come on the cycle you either use the WhatsApp group to tell us (please send on your phone number to my email address) or email me at [s.mcchlery@outlook.com](mailto:s.mcchlery@outlook.com) Stuart

### STAMPS

Thank you so much for a great response to collecting used stamps. BUT please keep on bringing them in. The horrific killing in Gaza keeps going on and the Al Ahli Hospital, that the collection of stamps supports, suffered the loss of one of their surgeons about a week ago as he walked home from his work at the hospital. Your collection of stamps does make a difference.

Marjorie - on behalf of The Mission team



Our last Messy Church for the summer holidays was in June. We will be back on Sunday 7th September. Don't panic though....there's still plenty of fun to be had so come along and join us for Seaside Rock - this year's Holiday Club - which will take place in the church between 11-15th August. All the family can join in on the 13th with our family quiz night and we will celebrate the end of Holiday Club with a BBQ after Sunday worship. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Launch of National Meadows Day

The Churches Together Craft Group did the tabletop display and the cyanoprinting of the fabric used on the mannequins, as well as some of the creatures sewn onto it. The event was in the Library on Saturday 5th July. Great display, ladies!



### Craft group

Did you manage to visit the exhibition in the library that the craft group helped with? If not please enjoy the pictures.

The craft group resumes on the first Tuesday in September when our next project/projects will be decided.



## Walking Group - Save the Date(s) - Saturday 27th September 2025



The other 2025 walk programme dates for your diary are on Saturday 27th September, led by Sylvia Elsmere / Allan Nisbet, and Saturday 29th November led by Derek Johnston. Venues for these walks have still to be decided but look out for details nearer the time on social media and notices in the church. No need to be a Church member to part-take. We hope to see you on a walk soon.

Please feel free to contact [admin@auchterarderparish.org](mailto:admin@auchterarderparish.org) if you wish to be added to the mailing list

### APC Walk Saturday 26th July

On Saturday 26th July the previously planned walk up Auchnafree hill was finally accomplished following cancellation in May due to very poor weather. 8 members took part in the walk which was ultimately completed in fair weather.

Although the day started overcast, drizzly and cloudy, by the time we reached

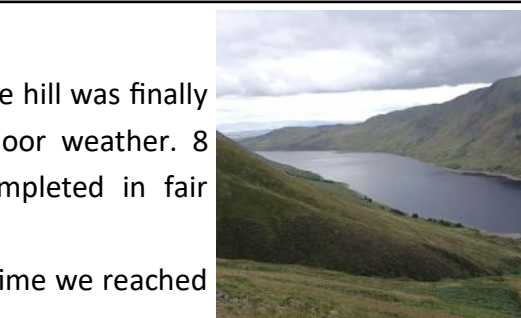


the shoulder of the hill and the first coffee stop, the weather cleared and views opened up to the South over Strathearn.

The Summit cairn at 2564ft was attained at around 1 o'clock with views

North to a cloudy Ben Lawers.

An enjoyable day out was finished off with a visit to 'Delivinos' in Crieff for coffee and cakes."





**APPEALS FOR HELP: THE FINANCE COMMITTEE** is looking to recruit new members and in particular would love to talk to anyone with Book-keeping or Finance experience. Anyone interested should contact Kenny MacKay on: [kennyauchterarder@gmail.com](mailto:kennyauchterarder@gmail.com)

The Sound & Vision (SAV) Team is also looking for new volunteers. This includes operating the sound system or driving the visuals during worship services, weddings, etc. This is a very important part of our outreach. Training is given and help is always on hand on a Sunday. Contact Peter at the SAV desks after a service or via email: [pmstokoe@gmail.com](mailto:pmstokoe@gmail.com) to discuss.



### Church Minibus service

Our minibus is available on Sunday mornings for transport to church. If you would like to use this service, please contact us on 01764 660152, leaving your name and contact details.

We would also benefit from a few extra drivers for the bus rota. If you have a driving license with a D1 on it we would welcome you to the team.



Many thanks with kindest regards

Daryl and Mandy

### From the editor ...

I do hope you enjoy the newsletters which are currently being produced on the last Saturday of the month. The next edition of the newsletter will be Saturday 30th August 2025.



If you have any interesting stories, celebrations, photos, up and coming events etc you would like me to publish then please send to me, whenever you have them, and I will keep for the next edition.

**If you are reading this newsletter as a paper copy and would like to help save the planet and keep the costs down in printing the newsletter then please send me your email address to [sylvia.elsmere@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sylvia.elsmere@hotmail.co.uk) and the next edition will be emailed to you.**

### Auchterarder Parish Church

The easy way to make a donation

If you scan the QR code with your mobile phone it will take you to the following page where you can make a donation



### Blue Door Foodbank

Opening Hours

Tuesday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm

Friday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm

Auchterarder Parish Church

24 High Street, Auchterarder



For any further information, please contact us on: [info@bluedoorfoodbank.org](mailto:info@bluedoorfoodbank.org) or 01764 660965

**Blue Door Foodbank** is always very grateful for food donations which can be dropped off at the local Co-op.

### Auchterarder Parish Church

E: [admin@auchterarderparish.org](mailto:admin@auchterarderparish.org)

Website - [www.auchterarderparish.org](http://www.auchterarderparish.org)

Tel: 07467 793061 or 01764 660152

To speak to a Minister telephone:

Rev Dr Lynn McChlery: 01764 662399

Alan McKay - [alan.mckay@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:alan.mckay@churchofscotland.org.uk)

### Social Media Reminders

Remember, you can always keep in touch online with APC and all its goings on in a variety of ways!



The website address is: [auchterarderparish.org](http://auchterarderparish.org)



APC twitter link is: @apcchat

Messy Church twitter link is: @ApcMessy



Our Facebook pages is: @auchterarderparish