

The Kirk Window

**Knockando, Elchies and Archiestown
Linked with Rothes**



Summer 2023

Knockando Elchies & Archiestown Parish Church of Scotland. Scottish Charity No: SC014428

Rothes Parish Church of Scotland. Scottish Charity No: SC016116

Church Website: <https://rothesandknockandokirks.org>

The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothies

Dear Friends,



the holiday season is getting nearer and, if forecasts are to be believed, this summer should be hot and sunny.

One of the best holidays Jan and I had was the year our car broke down. It still ran but not very well. Which could have been a disaster, but what actually happened was that we began to have a better holiday. We stopped rushing about all over the countryside and began to relax and enjoy just where we were. We sat at the side of the loch and listened to the birds and watched the changing cloud patterns over

the beautiful purple mountains. We began to see things around us and to enjoy the peace and quiet.

We learned a valuable lesson on that holiday because we discovered that getting the best from a holiday needs time to refresh body, mind and spirit. Since then, we have learned that 'wasting' time is what holidays are about.

The Psalmist wrote, *'Be still and know that I am God'*, and part of being still is taking the time to let the beauties, the contrasts and the wonder of nature 'speak' to us; taking the time to let our family and friends talk to us about the things that matter. Equally importantly 'being still' means allowing God to 'speak' to us and remind us of his presence with us always. Someone once said that prayer was about 'wasting time' with God. How right he was.

So, whether you are going on holiday or are staying at home I hope that you can all find space to 'waste time'. Time to look and really see the world and people around you, and time to be still and know that God is with you. To allow him to touch you and remind you of his love and his gifts. So that your holidays and your times of re-creation aren't simply a blur of people and places but a time of peaceful, refreshing, holy days.

Blessed holy days to you all,

Morris & Jan.

The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothes

17th Century Nun's Prayer

Lord Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will one day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing, and a love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for growing humility and a lessing cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a Saint - some of them are so hard to live with - but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

*Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so. **Amen.***

I wonder how many things in this prayer you can identify in yourself. I found a few in me. It must be my age.

Morris

The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothies

Dear Friends

As I contemplated what I should write for the Kirk Window, I recalled a story that the Rev Bob Shorten of Burlington Ontario who was on pulpit exchange at Bellie and Speymouth wrote in our church magazine. I think it's a touching story worth sharing.

THE BRICK

A young and successful executive was travelling down a neighbourhood street going a bit too fast in his new Jaguar. He was watching for youngsters darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something.

As his car passed no children appeared. Instead, a brick smashed into the Jag's side door. He slammed on the brakes and reversed back to the spot where the brick had been thrown. The angry driver jumped out of his car, grabbed the nearest child and pushed him up against a parked car shouting "What was all that about, and who are you? Just what the heck are you doing . That's a new car and that brick you threw is going to cost me a lot of money. Why did you do it?"

The young boy was very apologetic. "Please, mister...please, I'm sorry but I didn't know what else to do." He pleaded, "I threw the brick because no one else would stop."

With tears dripping down his face and off his chin, the youngster pointed to a spot just around a parked car. "It's my brother, he rolled off the pavement and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up."

Now sobbing, the boy asked the stunned executive , "Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair. He's hurt and he's too heavy for me." Moved beyond words, the driver tried to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat. He hurriedly lifted the handicapped boy

The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothes

back into the wheelchair and then took out a linen handkerchief and dabbed at the fresh cuts and scrapes. A quick look told him everything was going to be okay.

“Thank you and may God bless you,” the grateful child told the stranger.

Too shook up for words, the man simply watched the boy push his wheelchair-bound brother down the sidewalk toward their home. It was a long slow walk back to the Jaguar. The damage was very noticeable, but the driver never bothered to repair the badly dented side door. He kept the dent there to remind him of this message. “Don’t go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick to get your attention!”

God whispers in our souls and speaks to our hearts. Sometimes when we don’t have time to listen, He has to throw a brick at us. It’s our choice to listen or not.

We do not know what the future holds but we can be certain that God will be there to guide us every step of the way.

Wishing you many blessings

Ann

PARISH REGISTER

KNOCKANDO, ELCHIES AND ARCHIESTOWN AND ROTHES

BAPTISM

(The promise is for you...and for your children...)

NEW MEMBER BY PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH

(And you shall receive a rich welcome...)

NEW MEMBERS BY CERTIFICATE AND BY RESOLUTION OF KIRK SESSION

(And you shall receive a rich welcome...)

DISJUNCTIONS

(May God's blessing surround you each day...)

MARRIAGE

(Jesus and the disciples were invited to the wedding...)

DEATHS

(Do not grieve like the rest of mankind who have no hope...)

Alan Brown died 22/01/23. Funeral Service on 02/02/23 in Rothes, conducted by Rev.M. Smith

Donald Richard died 01/02/23. Funeral Service on 13/02/23 in Knockando, conducted by Rev.M. Smith

Anne (Nan) Fraser died 03/02/23. Funeral Service on 14/02/23 in Rothes, conducted by Rev. M. Smith.

Florence (Marie) Laing died 08/02/23. Funeral Service on 16/02/23 in Rothes, conducted by Rev.M. Smith.

Mary Anderson died 04/02/23. Funeral Service on 17/02/23 in Rothes, conducted by Rev. M. Smith.

William Black died 18/03/23. Funeral Service on 28/03/23 in Rothes, conducted by Rev. R. Anderson.

William McKenzie died 30/03/23. Funeral Service on 12/04/23 in Rothes, conducted by Rev. M. Smith.

Faith Edward died 31/03/23. Funeral Service on 14/04/23 in Aberlour, conducted by Rev. M. Smith.

Maureen Humphreys died 24/05/23. Funeral Service on 07/06/23 in Rothes, conducted by Rev. M. Smith.

Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown

Church News

Sunday Services 10am

It has been a cold Spring this year so far, and it is hard to know if the frosts have really passed yet. Despite this the lengthening days have brought that lovely fresh green to the trees, and the weeds have decided to start growing again. Today seemed a bit warmer, but didn't start well. I decided to plant out some young plants from the cold frame. I couldn't quite reach, so I thought I would step into a little space in the middle of the frame, but tripped over a watering can, tipping water over me, and putting the rose on the can beyond restoration. I could almost hear the Good Lord having a chuckle, and asking what I thought He gave me common sense for if I wasn't going to use it. Things move on.

Things don't seem to have moved on with the presbytery planning process, in as much as we have no definite picture of the future arrangements for our church. At least we are blessed in that our church is not being closed. We are also very well catered for in the meantime with both our locum minister and our interim moderator.

A letter is making its way out to all our members, to update, or confirm the details we hold. This is necessary under the data protection regulations, but it is also a means of making sure that we can keep our roll up to date. Please don't ignore the form sent out with the letter, as we need your return to

KNOCKANDO KIRK NEWS.....

allow us to keep your details as a member.

A small group of elders has been meeting to plan social events in the church. It is early days yet, but we hope to have the first event before too long. This is likely to be at a time that working people are able to attend, as we are very conscious of the fact that many people cannot attend 'Heavenly Pieces', or 'Winter Warmers' which run during normal working hours.

Suzanne is standing down as treasurer after many years of excellent service, which means that we are now looking for a treasurer, so if you feel you could help, or if you know of someone who may be able to, please do let me know.

Heavenly pieces is now in full swing with numbers gradually increasing again. The fellowship and teas are once again being enjoyed, along with the chance to purchase second hand books and jigsaws at bargain prices.

Pat North

Session Clerk



Heavenly Pieces - Knockando Church

Every Wednesday from 2.00 pm—4.00 pm

The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothies

FLOWER QUIZ

1. Animal handwarmers
2. Oriental illuminations
3. Old form of punishment
4. Receptacle for fat?
5. Large groups of sheep
6. Yankee greets Cynthia
7. Joining with precious metal
8. Part of the eye
9. Exhortation to memory
10. A thickening agent
11. Winter precipitation
12. A stringed instrument
13. Vegetable for afters?
14. Respect for the capital
15. “_____ Potter”, the strong man’s daughter
16. “Give me your cry do”
17. Cathedral city clanger?
18. Danceless girl
19. “Pudding Bill”
20. Pretend fruit

Answers on page 12

The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothies



OUR MISSION PARTNER

For those who don't know, our mission partner is Fiona Kendall. She visited both Knockando and Rothies churches back in 2017 prior to her starting mission work in Italy. Fiona works in Rome with Mediterranean Hope, a refugee project created by the Federation of Protestant Churches in Italy (FCEI). Her background in European law and voluntary work with asylum seekers has helped to equip for her role as Mediterranean Hope's European & Legal Affairs Advisor.

Fiona has strong links with the Church of Scotland where she grew up, and the Methodist Church, where she played an active part during a decade spent in Yorkshire. Hers is an ecumenical appointment with the Methodist Church.

TOAST AND MARMALADE SUNDAY

This simple resource for Fairtrade Fortnight or beyond is to support Fiona Kendall and her work with Mediterranean Hope's Migrant Programme in Calabria. It offers material for a Sunday service, discussion groups and after church refreshments based on why we should support the purchase of Fairtrade oranges. I hope to hear from Carol Finlay at 121 George Street about December or January regarding orders for oranges to arrive in time for Fairtrade fortnight. This year Calabria was unable to fulfil orders due to a Covid outbreak!

The resources mentioned above can be found on the Church of Scotland website.

Knockando, Elchies and Archiestown Kirk News

HEAVENLY PIECES



Again the heavenly pieces year has got off to a great start and after the first six weeks the average attendance is in excess of 50. The Heavenly Pieces event in the Knockando Church each Wednesday from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm continues to be well supported.

That is an excellent number attending and the blathering levels were enthusiastic to say the least. Though not many were '*saying the least*'. It is always amazing that the pieces themselves keep being produced and to a wonderfully high standard. All at the church would warmly thank those volunteers who put aside their time for the baking, as well as those present in the church, serving and welcoming as well as clearing up afterwards. But it is the Bletherers attending week after week that we heartily thank for their support of the event. The pieces continue to be mouth-watering, but it is the blether that captures most folk's attention. Always room for more, you will be most welcome.

BUS SERVICES

After a long period of endeavour by groups and organisations covering the communities from Aberlour to Marypark and from Blacksboat to Rothes, and having secured funding for the next few



years, a revised bus service, Route 366, has been established for Mondays to Fridays inclusive and will provide for three buses each way to and from Elgin. Check Moray Council for the timetable. Thanks are extended to all those who have tenaciously kept this project alive and brought it to fruition. Please take every opportunity to use the service, for this is the only way to ensure its future.

ROTHES KIRK NEWS

COFFEE MORNINGS – ROTHES KIRK HALL—2023

Proceeds to Church Funds—Unless otherwise indicated

Monday Morning Coffee 10.00—12.00

Saturday Coffee Mornings at Rothes Kirk Hall were booked well in advance prior to Covid. Since starting again numbers attending are smaller than we have been used to, however the number of coffee mornings being booked, plus groups starting to make bookings for next year is increasing.

This year there are practically no coffee mornings in June or July apart from the church one on the last Saturday of each month. This has disappointed a few regulars, some of whom come to do their shopping in the High Street, then pop in for a coffee.

If you would like to book a date, please contact Sheila at the Church Office (email; RothesKirk@gmail.com or tel:01340 831497).

If there are no dates available, your organisation can be placed on the 'Waiting List', and if we have a cancellation you will be contacted to be offered the date.

Ethel Duncan

Flower Quiz Answers

1. Foxgloves 2. Chinese lanterns 3. Stocks 4. Buttercup 5. Phlox
6. Hyacinth 7. Marigold 8. Iris 9. Forget-me-not 10. Cornflower
11. Snowdrop 12. Viola 13. Sweet pea 14. London pride 15. Pansy
16. Daisy 17. Canterbury clanger 18. Wallflower 19. Sweet William
20. Mock Orange

The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothes

A NEW WEBSITE

The old website www.moraykirk.co.uk has now been discontinued, but out of the ashes rises a new site called <https://rothesandknockandokirks.org> so give it a go and see what is there. From this site there are links to take you to the more detailed site for either Rothes or Knockando.



It is hoped that these new sites will be more interactive with the communities that are served by the Rothes and Knockando Churches, so please don't hesitate to send any information through the contact pages of the sites.

<https://rothesandknockandokirks.org>

Both churches are very grateful to Stuart Foster for the time and effort he has put in to creating the website. It is really well set out and I would recommend having a look at it. There are still things to be added such as photographs and upcoming events.

Thank you, Stuart.

ROTHES KIRK NEWS

CRAFT GROUP



Having asked one or two people, who were into crafts, if they would be interested in a craft group and getting a positive response, I advertised the first meeting of the craft group to be held in Rothes Kirk Hall on Monday 17th April in the afternoon from 2pm—4pm.

We meet every second Monday afternoon and the numbers vary between five and eight people. People can choose to do their own craft, so we have some knitting, some crocheting, some sewing and one painting. It is nice for people to get out, have a blether whilst doing something they enjoy, and of course we finish the afternoon with a cup of tea or coffee.

At the first meeting people also brought along items they had already made, so after only three meetings we were able to post a selection of blankets, jackets, hats and bonding squares to the neo-natal unit at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee.

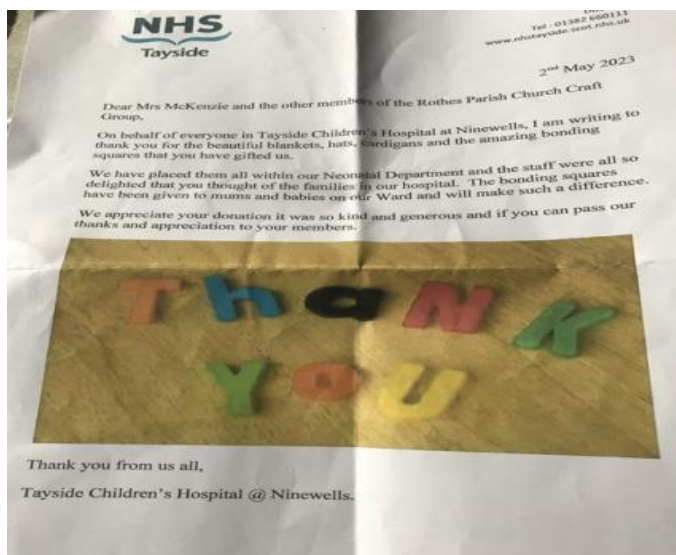
‘What is a bonding square?’ I hear you ask. They are crocheted or knitted squares. One is put on the premature baby and the mum wears the other next to her skin. The squares have to be identical in size, colour and type of wool. After a day the squares are swapped so that the baby gets the smell of the mother and so the bonding process begins.

The church craft group is open to anyone with an interest in crafts. It costs £2 a session and this is to cover the cost of postage of items, for example.

ROTHES KIRK NEWS



Below are pictures of some of the items we sent to the neo-natal unit, plus a letter of thanks from the hospital.



The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothes

Church Development

In September 2022, the Presbytery Plan for Moray was decided in Moray Presbytery. This Plan was submitted to the Church of Scotland's governance group where it was rejected. Moray Presbytery then re-viewed the Plan on 29th November 2022. After some amendments they re-submitted the revised Plan.

For Rothes Kirk the Plan included for the dissolving of the linkage with Knockando Kirk and establishing a new linkage with Mortlach and Cabrach Kirk. Whilst for Knockando Kirk, the dissolving of the linkage with Rothes Kirk and the establishment of a linkage with Aberlour Kirk.



It is understood that the responsible committee in the Presbytery is continuing in dialogue with the Church of Scotland but to date no revision to the Presbytery's Proposed Plan has been formulated.

Stuart Foster

The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothes

CHRISTIAN AID SPONSORED WALK



Walkers from the four Speyside churches of Knockando, Rothes, Aberlour and Mortlach took part in the annual sponsored walk in aid of Christian Aid on Saturday 13th June. The complete walk was from Knockando to Craigellachie, but participants could do Knockando to Aberlour or Aberlour to Craigellachie if they preferred.

As usual thanks must go to Ann and Sheila who had a welcome hearty bowl of soup ready for us at Aberlour and to Morag for the tea and biscuits at Craigellachie. Their efforts were very much appreciated and the 'icing on the cake' was the beautiful sunny weather. This all made for a really enjoyable day.

The final total raised was £2246.65 so a huge thank you to everyone who donated.

HOW WILL YOUR DONATIONS HELP?

Pigeon peas are a food that can be farmed in the harshest conditions. In a land stricken by merciless droughts, they are a ray of hope. By producing and selling baked goods made from the peas, farmer Jen Bishop of Malawi can transform her family's future. With Christian Aid's help and training, she's formed a co-operative with other farmers, enabling them to earn a fair price at market. Jen now hopes she can afford to send her younger son to school to continue his studies.

Sheila Brumby



WORLD MISSION

STAMP APPEAL

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

Firmly Planted: Agroforestry for Sustainability

Firmly Planted is a community-based agroforestry initiative with the ambition of making a sustainable impact across Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is spear-headed by our partners in the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP), and built around the church's community structures. The initiative will resource individual groups to respond to the various challenges affecting Malawi today.

Agroforestry presents an opportunity to address challenges of food insecurity, deforestation, climate change and youth unemployment. Tree nurseries create employment opportunities, fruit trees improve nutrition and wider tree planting helps mitigate the impact of the climate crisis, in turn improving agricultural productivity.

Firmly Planted will provide community-based training tailored to the community's needs, ensuring woodlots are well maintained to have the greatest chance to thrive. The programme, through effective distribution, looks to attain large-scale tree planting of locally relevant woodlots – these could be linked to schools, churches, clinics and community groups. Having already established a pilot tree nursery, CCAP is looking to replicate this across the Synods by implementing Central Tree Nursery Hubs allowing each nursery to grow tree seedlings based on the needs of their communities.

Our mission partner, Gary Brough, is one of the project coordinators and is looking for opportunities to grow the project. You can keep up to date with Gary's work on the [Mission Partner page of the website](#). The Guild is also involved in supporting this programme.

This year stamp appeal proceeds will go towards establishing the tree nurseries. Your stamps can be handed into Rothes Kirk Hall or to Sheila Brumby, 22 New Street, Rothes.

This article is taken from the Church of Scotland website.

WHAT'S ON THIS SUMMER?

KNOCKANDO is hosting:

THE GREAT GLEN GREEN WELLY HOLIDAY CLUB!

The holiday club is open to all primary school children starting on Monday 3rd July until Friday 7th July. It will start each morning at 10am and finish at 1pm and will take place at Knockando Kirk. To register go on to Facebook, Knockando Kirk Holiday Club or contact Meg on 07780 684407.

ROTHES is hosting:

ITS ANNUAL SUMMER CLUB

There will be a summer club in Rothes Kirk hall, but date and times have not yet been finalised. When they are finalised notices will go on the church noticeboard and in shops.

Karen and
Sandra are
busy putting
together an
action-
packed pro-
gramme.



Sandra are
together an
packed pro-

A page for you to colour in.



The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothes

JUNIOR QUIZ

Write your answers to the questions below on the next page, along with your name, age, address and Sunday Club if you attend one. Post your answers through the church hall post box or 22 New Street, Rothes. Correct entries will be put into a hat for Rothes and a hat for Knockando. The winner will be drawn out of each hat and will receive a prize.

1. What is the name of the first book of the Bible?
2. Who built the ark?
3. How many of each animal came on to the ark?
4. Who was the young boy who beat the giant, Goliath?
5. In what city was Jesus born?
6. Where did he grow up?
7. How many disciples did he have?
8. Who baptised Jesus?
9. Which 4 books tell us about Jesus' life? They start with the following letters: M, M, L and J.
10. People look at the outward appearance of other people, but God looks on our H _ _ _ T. Fill in the missing letters to complete the word.

Answers must be handed in by Wednesday 12 July at the latest.

Good luck!

The Churches of Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown with Rothes

JUNIOR QUIZ ANSWERS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

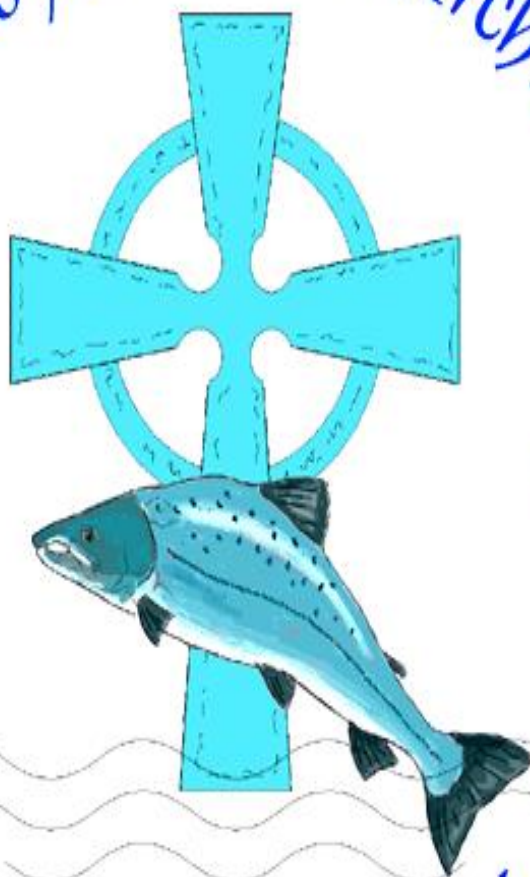
SUNFDAY CLUB _____

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Treasurer/Gift Aid/ Freewill Offering Convenor	Suzanne Foster	01807 500341
Safeguarding Officer	Jim Lowe	01340 810830
Property Convenor	Rick Phillips	
Children and Youth Co-ordinator	Meg Lowe	01340 810830
Lay Visitors Co-ordinator	Vacancy	
World Church Representative	Vacancy	
Flowers Convenor	Elizabeth Brown	
Roll Keeper	Sean Jones	Email: sjones9638@gmail.com
Cradle Roll, First Aider	Lorna Millsopp	
Organist	Nicola Moss	01807 500270 Email: nico-la@pennines.org
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Deputy Session Clerk	Celine McDuff-Jones	01340 831956
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Safeguarding Officer	Sandra Bruce	01340 831317
Property Convenor	Dennis Malcolm	01340 831319
Sunday School Leader	Karen Murray	
Lay Visitors Co-ordinator	Edith Holmes	01340 521069
World Church Representative	Celine McDuff-Jones	01340 831956
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Boys Brigade	Julie Christie	01340 831322
Organist	Helen Nicoll	01340 820565
Hall Bookings	Sheila Brumby	01340 831497 Email: rotheskirk@gmail.com

Knockando, Elchies & Archiestown

linked

with



Rothies Parish Church