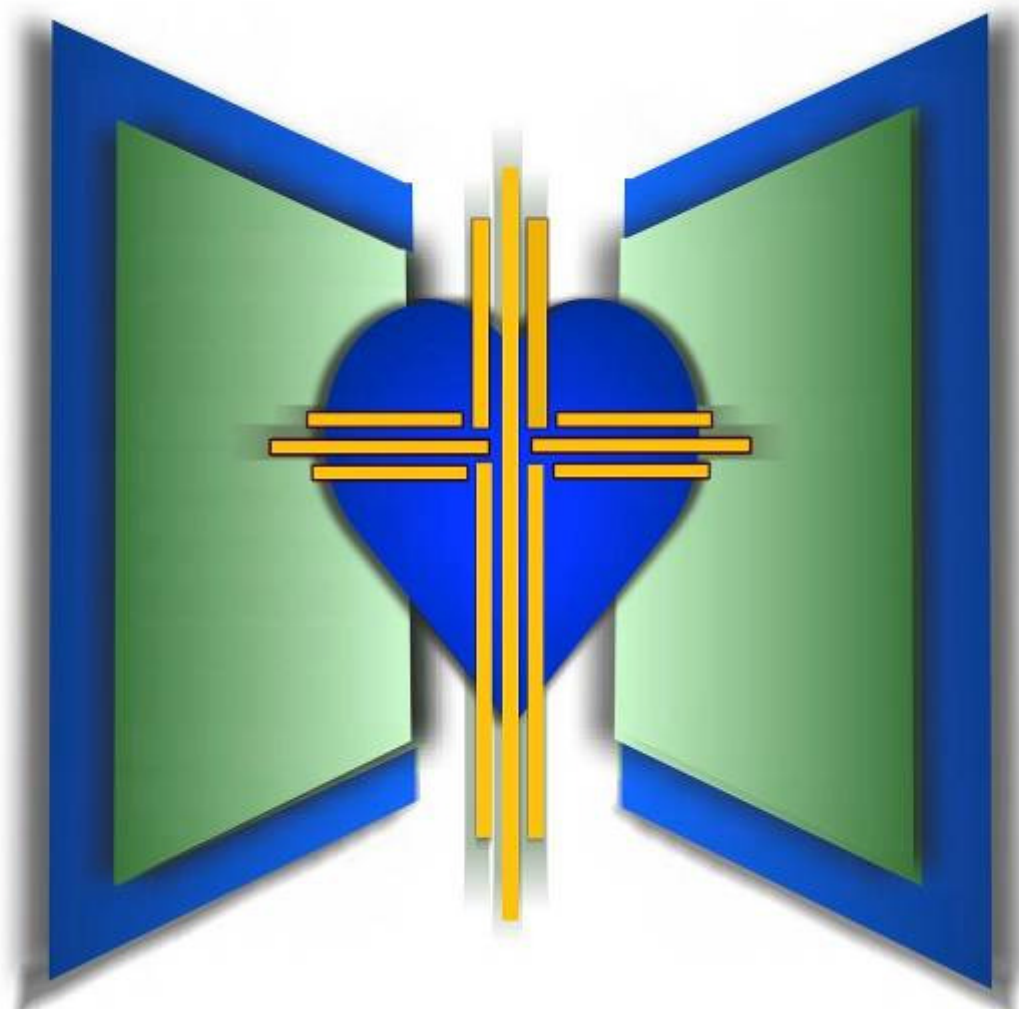




*New Machar Church
Parish Profile*



New Machar Parish Church



**“At the heart of the Community
with a heart for the Community”**

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The Call

The parish of Newmachar falls vacant due to the recent move of the Rev. Manson Merchant. Manson had been with us for seven years, which was a time of change and development for the Parish, both in terms of building and congregational life.

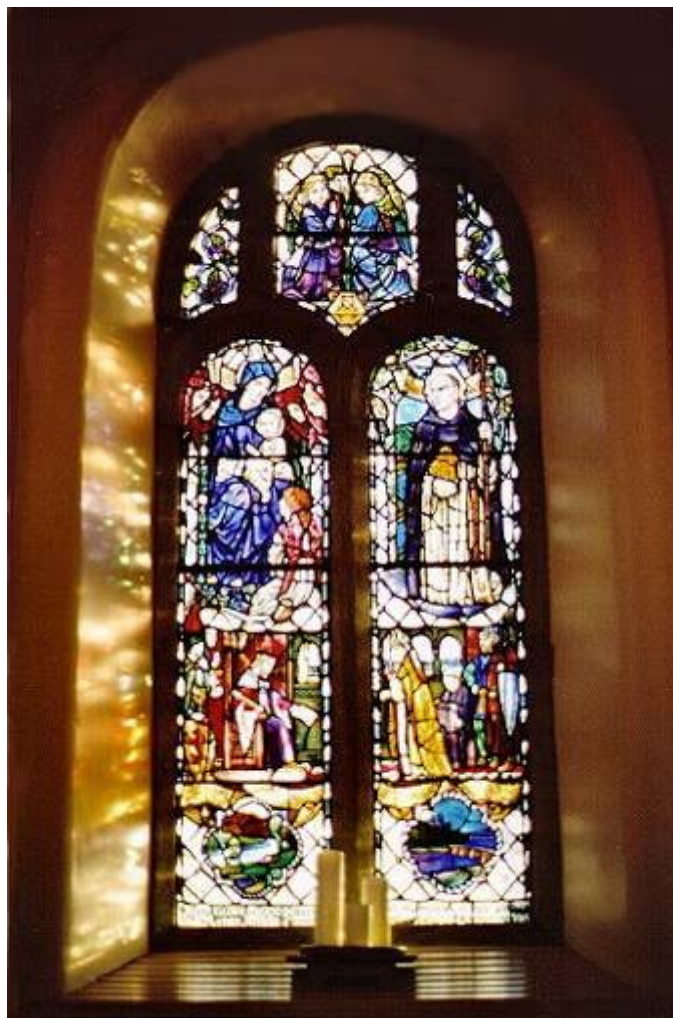
We are pleased to be able to offer an unrestricted call to the Parish at this time.



Our Purpose

This congregation through our worship and our concern for others at home and abroad bears witness to the love of God in Christ.

We recognise that effective witness is dependent on spiritual vitality. We aim to be welcoming and encouraging of others to join the fellowship - particularly young people for they are our future. We commit ourselves to planned action in this respect. In all we do acknowledge our dependence on God and His Holy Spirit.



Saint Machar

Visions & Aims

To have the Church at the heart of the Community through

- **Worship** - using the means of *Grace*, the Word, Praise and Prayer
- **Ministry** - through example and leadership of the Congregation and by the Congregation

To supply the needs of the community in terms of

- **Fellowship** - welcome and support
- **Outreach** - within the Parish, the country and worldwide concern and activity.
- **Discipleship** - through study and action



Traidcraft



Alexander Brothers in concert



Holiday Club



Fellowship lunch



Brian Houston in concert



Worship

Sunday Worship takes place at 10.30 a.m. each week, with a monthly Sunday Evening service at Summerhill House the sheltered housing complex.



The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month, with an invitation to all members to attend Communion in April and September.



There is regular participation by the congregation in the services in the form of bible reading, prayers, musical contributions and visiting speakers. The Worship Team lead some services when the minister is unavailable.



Special Services include:

Harvest, Remembrance Service, Christmas, Easter.

Sunday School Service at Christmas, with a Book Presentation service at the end of the summer term.

School services - mostly end of term.



There are plans in progress for a monthly, mid-week evening service on a Thursday.

Church leadership

Kirk Session: Newmachar Church has a Kirk Session, which is also the Congregational Board, and is comprised of 23 Elders and currently meets once a month.

In 2005, Session decided to follow the church organisation model described by Rick Warren in the "Purpose Driven Church". From this five teams were formed - Worship, Ministry, Fellowship, Outreach and Discipleship, with the addition of Fabric and Finance Teams. These teams consist of both Elders and members of the congregation.

Teams

Worship: The purpose of the Worship Team is to enable the people of God to express their love and devotion to the Father through song, music, drama, dance and the preaching of the word. New expressions of worship have been achieved by involving more people, using new forms of technology, such as Power Point presentations during services, organising 'special' worship occasions and introducing a praise band.

Ministry: The purpose of the Ministry Team is to share the love of God with people in the parish and beyond through practical Christian service. Support is offered to those going through a time of crisis in a variety of ways. This includes hospital visiting, support for the bereaved and the sending of flowers and cards, as appropriate. In addition, a group of people undertake more general visits to households. There is a Christian aid representative and annual door to door collection for this cause.

Fellowship: The purpose of the Fellowship Team is to build up the church as a body through a systematic series of events which encompass all.

In addition to tea and coffee after Sunday worship, there are church lunches and regular social and spiritual gatherings, There are prayer breakfasts organised in conjunction with the discipleship team. There has been a church retreat which we would like to become an annual event.

Outreach: The purpose of the Outreach Team is to extend the good news of the Gospel beyond the congregation.

To achieve this aim homes in the Parish are visited with information about the church. Welcome packs are distributed. In addition special outreach events are organised. There are Alpha course and children's Holiday club.

Discipleship: The purpose of the Discipleship Team is to enable the people of God to become more like Jesus through the study of The Word, prayer and service.

In order to provide study material, a church Resource Centre and a book stall have been established. External opportunities for learning are provided and House Groups have been established.

Finance: Our Church finances are healthy with Income regularly exceeding Expenditure.

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
<u>Income</u>	£48362	£54373	£50081
<u>Expenditure</u>	£40712	£47166	£46644

On Easter Sunday 2007 we opened a new extension at a cost of around £200,000. The bulk of the funds had been raised through the hard work of our congregation. During early 2008 we completed the sale of an area of Glebe ground for housing, which has given us a sound financial base for the future.

Throughout the year we regularly make Special Collections in support of various charities.

Other Ministries

- Guild:** Focusing on fundraising for local or foreign projects, the Guild provides motivation and inspiration through its invited speakers' programme. The Guild meets on the second Wednesday of each month from September to June.
- Prayer Circle:** Every member of the prayer circle is convinced of the power of prayer and undertakes to pray for those who submit requests. These originate from cards on the pews, from the minister or from other sources and are circulated by telephone within the prayer circle. Maintaining the confidentiality of prayer requests is seen as important by members, who quietly assist those who ask for this kind of help.
- Prayer Group:** This recently formed group, which began in September 2008 with two members, has an increasing membership. The group holds a weekly hour-long prayer meeting open to all using ideas from the Holy Trinity Brompton corporate prayer method. The group's vision is to maintain the rising confidence among the congregation.
- Sunday School:** Newmachar Sunday School, known as the "Cool Club", meets at 10.30 in the Upper Room of the church and joins the last 15 minutes of the service. The current roll is approximately 25 children ranging from 4 to 13 years of age. There are four regular leaders, who have all completed Enhanced Disclosure Scotland checks. They are assisted by a team of volunteers from the congregation. During Cool Club meetings a range of activities such as acting plays, craft work, singing and bible stories are used to illustrate messages from Scripture Union literature.
- Grapevine:** This is our Parish newsletter for communicating church news and events. It is published monthly with an extended edition distributed to the whole parish 3 times a year.



Church pre 2007



Present Church

Church building at the heart of participative worship



Sanctuary

The present church was built in 1791. The interior has been refurbished over the years to provide a warm and welcoming sanctuary.



Foyer

The most recent additions to the building, which comply with disabled access legislation, have also provided three separate meeting areas for the Crèche, Sunday School and the Session. The extension took ten years to complete and caused some controversy for a number of reasons, but has proved useful to the wider community.



Vestry/Office

There is a vestry with office facilities included in the new build, with a part-time secretary.



Crèche



The Manse



Entrance

The manse, set in a mature, well-kept garden, on a quiet road, was built in 1986.

There are four bedrooms, a sitting room, dining room, large fitted kitchen with breakfast area, attractive study, utility room, bathroom and separate shower room, attic and double garage, central heating and double glazing.



Kitchen

The kitchen and laundry have been completely remodelled and the shower room and main bathroom are being refitted.

The Study is the perfect place for silence, reflection and repose. It offers a commanding view of the gardens and surrounding meadows with vistas in three directions.



Study

The Living Room features a solid fuel fireplace, access to a large patio and lovely views of the garden, meadow and hillsides.

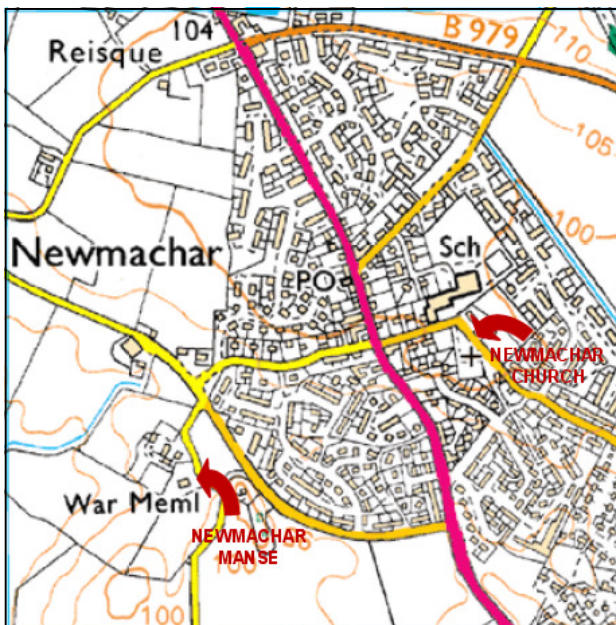
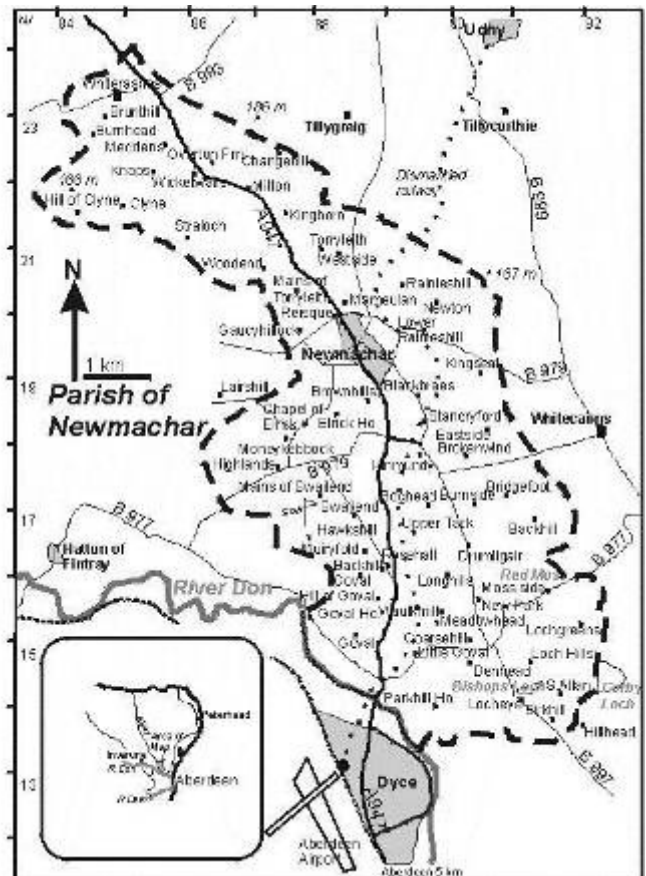
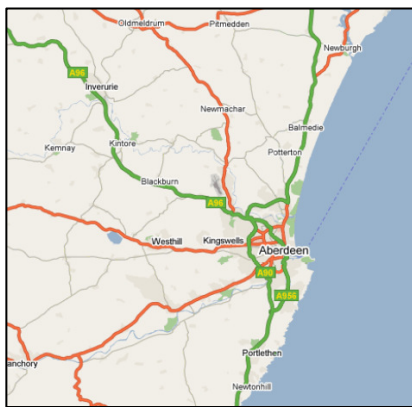


Living Room

Newmachar Parish



The village of Newmachar and surrounding area.



The Parish extends from the north of the River Don to Whiterashes on the A947

Newmachar village has steadily expanded over the last thirty years with a major new development having been completed in the last decade. There is a further mixed housing development in progress at the site of the former Kingseat Hospital, which was a major source of employment for residents in the Newmachar area.

Newmachar Parish is connected to Meldrum & Bourtie, Barthol Chapel, Tarves, Methlick and Udney & Pitmedden, in Gordon Presbytery's recently formed Parish Groupings and is looking forward to developing links with these neighbouring parishes.

The Church became an Eco-congregation in 2007

POPULATION	2001	2006	2008
Newmachar Village	2319	2348	Est 2011 2285
Congregation	581	489	474

Parish Statistics	Children Under 17	18 + not on roll	Elders - male	Elders - female	Baptisms	Weddings	Funerals
2005	85	18	12	15	10	7	36
2006	43	3	12	15	10	8	28
2007	60	12	10	15	11	9	21
2008	25	0	8	15	6	10	19

Although the overall numbers for the congregation show a decline, attendances at services has risen with approximately 100 people attending each week.

Nowadays most residents work outside the Parish, leading to the danger of becoming a dormitory area without a centre of activity.

**One of our aims is to place the Church at the heart of
a loving, vibrant, caring Community.**

Parish & Village Life

The Parish extends from the north of the river Don to Whiterashes on the A947. Newmachar itself maintains a village atmosphere, yet it is less than 10 miles away from the Aberdeen City centre, with its comparatively buoyant economy.

Transport and Travel

A bus service to Aberdeen and to the north runs through Newmachar. The village is only 4 miles from the train station at Dyce and within easy reach of Aberdeen and Inverurie Stations. Dyce Airport provides both national and international flights.

The main road through the village often supports heavy traffic, which causes delays at peak times in travelling to Aberdeen.

Communication

Newmachar has a Community Council, which acts within its remit on issues of local concern. The Newmachar News, supplying information on activities, services and businesses, is delivered to homes in the village on a quarterly basis. The Community Council also keeps a notice board at the general store.

Education

The village has a toddlers group and Playgroup. Newmachar Primary School has a nursery attached for 3 years upwards. There is also an After School Club based in the school. At Secondary stage transport is provided to Dyce Academy, which incorporates Aberdeen Music School. Aberdeen has two universities - Aberdeen University and Robert Gordon's University - and a Further Education College. The village has a small library open on a part-time basis, where materials can be accessed from central Aberdeenshire libraries. Residents may also join the Central Library in Aberdeen

Health

There are GP practices based in Dyce, Oldmeldrum, Udny and Bridge of Don and a pharmacy in both Newmachar and Dyce, and a podiatrist. Summerhill House provides care for the elderly. There are good health care facilities in Aberdeen, where Aberdeen Royal Infirmary is one of Scotland's teaching hospitals. The village has a First Responder Group.

Business and Employment

The area surrounding Newmachar is good farming land. This traditional industry influences the community, as does the oil industry in Aberdeen.

Newmachar itself has a small general store incorporating a post office and a number of other shops and businesses situated centrally. Dyce and Aberdeen provide a range of employment and shopping facilities including national chain stores.

Leisure

Newmachar has a village hall, bowling green and football ground. Newmachar Golf Club has two 18-hole golf courses with a driving range. There is also an equestrian centre within a few miles. Dyce Academy has a swimming pool for pupil use and there are pools in Inverurie and Bucksburn for public use.

There are a wide range of classes and clubs in the village, e.g. Scout and Guide groups and their younger preparatory classes in a purpose built hall, dancing classes, over 50's club, WRI and Gardening Club.



Newmachar Village



Newmachar Golf Course



Wimpey Development



Kingseat