

A Little Bit of Heaven



North East Scotland

Aberdour St Drostans Church, New Aberdour
linked with Pitsligo Church, Rosehearty.

PARISH PROFILE



Introduction

Following Buchan Presbytery's restructuring in its Presbytery plan, a new linkage of two churches was formed, allowing an unrestricted call to seek a minister.

We are two parishes encompassing the three villages of Rosehearty, New Aberdour and Pennan. Both churches have a combined congregation of around 300.

We wish to build on our strengths through the leadership of a like-minded person.

Location

The parishes of Aberdour and Pitsligo cover part of the coastline and rural areas of northern Buchan.

We are within 10 miles of Fraserburgh, 20 from Peterhead. Aberdeen, with railway station, international airport and ferry terminal is some 40 miles away.

A wide range of employment opportunities exist in oil, fishing, farming and engineering and the area is seeing an influx of housing development.

Primary and nursery children are well catered for in a state of the art new school at Rosehearty with children going on to Fraserburgh Academy, NESCOL, or colleges and universities in Aberdeen.

Nearby Fraserburgh has all the amenities you would expect of a town of that size.

Our aims are to:

- Expand our congregations.
- Reach out to the youth in our communities.
- Provide pastoral care to the sick and elderly.



Rosehearty School



Fraserburgh Academy.



Pitsligo Manse

Buildings

Both churches are well maintained. Pitsligo Church has a hall attached and the recently built manse provides a modern and comfortable family home.

St Drostan's Aberdour



Property

The present Aberdour church was built in 1818. It is a well maintained building with a modern sound system, and was recently rewired and redecorated throughout.

Praise and Worship

- Regular Sunday Worship – 10.00am every Sunday.
- The Bible of choice is Good News and praise is taken from CH3, Junior Praise and Mission Praise.
- A well-established singing group led by our enthusiastic organist provides

additional praise items to enhance our worship.

- The worship group takes part in elder-led services, providing readings, prayers, humorous sketches and talks to enrich the message of the Word of God.

Board and Session

There are 15 members, comprising 8 elders and 7 board members who take care of church business.

Mission and Outreach

- Banana Box Appeal (Ekwendeni)
- Earl Haig collection
- World Mission (Stamp Appeal)

Community Involvement

- March – Soup and Sweet.
- May – Sponsored Walk, BBQ, Fun Day.
- August – Buttery Morning and Sale of Work.
- Christmas Torchlight Procession.
- Praise Evenings at Fraserburgh Hospital.



St Drostan's Church Interior



Looking towards Pennan from the west.

Typical Calendar of Events

- March – Soup and Sweet.
- Easter Service.
- April – Communion.
- May – Sponsored Walk, BBQ and Fun Day.
- June – Family Service.
- August – Buttery Morning and Sale of Work
- September – Back to Church Day.
- October – Dedication of Guild and Harvest Thanksgiving.
- November – Remembrance Sunday and Communion.
- December – Christmas Family Service, Christmas Eve Service with torchlight procession.

Local Amenities

Modern **Community Room** in New Aberdour, used by the Guild, Brownies, Mother and Toddler Group, WRI, Pensioners, Community Council.

Village Halls :

New Aberdour - used by the Carpet Bowling Club, Youth Club and a variety of social events.

Pennan - Craft Fairs, Art Festivals, Burns Suppers etc.

Village Shop and Post Office (New Aberdour) which also provides Bed & Breakfast facilities.

The historic **Pennan Inn** provides accommodation, meals and refreshments and the village provides holiday cottage lets and Bed & Breakfast facilities.

New Aberdour has a modern children's play area.

The parish enjoys the contrasts of dramatic sea cliffs, unspoilt beaches and quiet country walks.

History

Our church has, in fact, got a very significant history in that it was established by St Drostane when he landed at Aberdour shore in the 6th century A.D. St. Drostane had parted from St. Columba with a view to bringing the gospel to the north east of Scotland. Aberdour is therefore, a fountainhead for Christianity in Scotland and this above all, drives us on to proclaim God's word in this parish.

Communication

- Board members visit congregational members quarterly with a newsletter and special collection envelope. This is in addition to elders' visits.
- We have an easy to use website which includes much more detailed information about our church life

<http://www.aberdourstdrostans.org.uk>



St Drostane's Singing Group



Family Fun Day at St Drostane's

Pitsligo Church, Rosehearty

The parish of Pitsligo covers part of the coastline and rural areas of northern Buchan.



Pitsligo Church

The Congregation

The congregation of Pitsligo currently comprises around 100 members, mostly residing within or in the vicinity of the coastal village of Rosehearty. We have a reputation for generosity of spirit, friendliness, community involvement and the ability to integrate with neighbouring parishes.

The mix of ages and interests in the church has reflected national trends in recent times.

Worship

Sunday services are held at 11.30 a.m. in Pitsligo. Communion is celebrated twice yearly. CH3 and Mission Praise hymn books are used, with the use of a digital hymnal which is programmed by a small group of elders.

There is openness towards other forms of praise, including an 'in-house' worship group.



Pitsligo Manse

Chaplaincy

Our Parish has enjoyed a good working relationship with Rosehearty Primary School over many years. This includes end-of-term services which are held in the Church with the school choir always participating in our Christmas Carol service.

Organisations and Office-Bearers

Our Kirk Session meets every second month between September and May, as does the Congregational Board. Board members undertake Church Officer duties on a rota basis. The Church premises are regularly in use, with a number of organisations operating:-

- Parents and Toddlers meet twice-weekly.
- Boys Brigade – Anchor Boys
- Brownies and Rainbow Guides packs.
- A Fund-raising Committee, which arranges activities and other social events.
- Pastoral Care Team. This team arranges home and hospital visits.
- Community Use – e.g. “Digital Britain”
- We are open to the possibilities of further community uses for the buildings.

Church Buildings

Full details of Pitsligo Church and manse are to be found in the following link:

<http://www.roseheartychurch.org.uk/>



Pitsligo Church Interior

Finance and Stewardship

- The congregation’s financial state is healthy, and members maintain a good level of regular giving.
- People respond generously to special appeals and fund-raising events, so that we have been able to afford a new manse..
- The congregation continues to meet its full commitment to the National Church, and donates regularly, including up to a dozen retiring offerings annually, to local and external charitable causes covering the needs of all ages (e.g. Christian Aid, UNICEF, homeless groups, and we are thoroughly committed to supporting a local charity called the Starfish Project which supports an orphanage and school in Kenya).

Rosehearty

The village of Rosehearty reflects a mix of old and new, with connections to the fishing industry, as well as a range of modern employment opportunities in Fraserburgh and surrounding area.

Amenities

There are 4 halls in the village of Rosehearty which the church can have use of – the church hall, the village hall, the Masonic hall and the school.

The village has a convenience store, butchers, hairdresser and Post Office. There is a Library, a challenging 9 hole golf course, bowling green and also indoor bowls, a small museum which at present is located in the school, a boating and sailing club and various playparks.

The walks around Rosehearty, especially to the west, are spectacular with cliff scenery and the opportunity to see lots of wildlife including dolphins.

Rosehearty is a mecca both for divers and rock climbers with participants coming from across Britain to partake in these sports.



Coastline Near Rosehearty.

There is a wide range of clubs in the village ranging from mothers and toddlers to traditional boatbuilding.

History

A brief history of the churches within our parish can be found here:

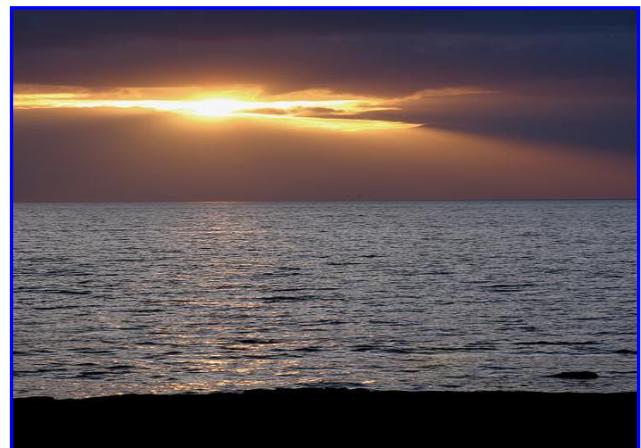
<http://www.roseheartychurch.org.uk/Rosehearty%20Church%204/historyofchurchesin%20rosehearty.html>

History of Rosehearty found here:

<http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/rosehearty/rosehearty/index.html>



Dawn Over Rosehearty



Dusk Over Rosehearty

- We are looking for a minister to serve our communities.
- We have excellent inter-church relationships and community involvement.
- We look forward to the challenges ahead.
- We are looking for someone to build on our strengths and to take us forward.

**ARE YOU THE PERSON
TO TAKE UP THIS
CHALLENGE?**

Informal enquiries can be made to the Interim Moderator, Miss Ruth Mackenzie, Tel: 01779 480680 email: ursular@tiscali.co.uk

More details from the Clerk to the Nominating Committee, Mr Bob Watt, 11, Loch Street, Rosehearty, Aberdeenshire, AB43 7JT. ☎ Tel. No. 01346-571751 bobmwatt@btinternet.com to whom applications may be sent in the form of a CV, with names and contact details of 2 referees. Registered Charity No SC005498

