

Cairnlea Parish Church

'COMMITTED to CHRIST – CARING for OUR COMMUNITY'

MARCH 2026

Airdrie Cairnlea Parish Church of Scotland is a registered charity, ref no: SC014555

www.cairleaparishchurch.co.uk





FROM THE MINISTER

Dear friends,

Many thoughts circle around the season of Lent – literally, this season of the lengthening of days and the coming of Spring and, for Christians, taking 40 days which might recall how Jesus spent 40 days in the desert being tested or tempted. For at the end of Lent comes the week when we will recall his crucifixion – his

ultimate testing.

Many thoughts circle. Since the 4th century people have adopted patterns of self-denial, giving up foods or drinks which ordinarily we give ourselves. The heart of that is to do it for the sake of renewal. By abstaining from the things we want, we are to be pointed to our deepest desires for the fullness of life. The issue is not merely to discipline the body. It is to take stock of how we live our days as children of God. And I offer that to you, though at the same time I do note, as our Protestant tradition has always done, that there is a danger lurking too. Whatever we do needs to be about more than going through the motions. It is not a matter of amassing credit in God's sight; rather it is about being serious about what truly anchors us – what we get up for in the morning.

In Jesus' 40 days experience, you may remember that the first bit of Scripture he quoted to hold on through the testing he was undergoing was from Deuteronomy. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). Therefore I am encouraging you, especially if you are not regularly in the habit of doing so, to take each and every day time to read a bit of the Bible. You will find the reading plan in the magazine. The plan takes its shape from the Lord's Prayer. For Jesus' word teaches us how important it is to come before our Father in heaven, and to worship His holy name, and to crave and trust that He is sovereign and that His will is what ultimately matters. Jesus' word underwrites how God is the supreme giver for life today and life tomorrow; and He also wonderfully forgives and looks for that forgiving spirit in us. And then the last thought in Jesus' prayer is that you and I are to face the struggles and the crises and the evil in this world through prayer, prayer from the beginning of the day to the end. All glory and praise be to God!

Feed on God's Word. "I am the Bread of Life", said Jesus. "Whoever comes to me will not hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst" (John 6:35).

Yours, *Peter*



A few extra to note besides our regular Sunday gathering at 11 am.

On **Friday 6th March at 2.30 pm** in the Salvation Army Citadel, the World Day of Prayer

On **Wednesday 18th March at 7 pm**, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

On **Sunday 22nd March at 2:30 pm**, BB Battalion Spring Service

On **Wednesday 25th March at 7 pm**, Guilds Together lead a time with Gary Brough, newly returned from his missionary posting in Malawi

Sunday 29th March is Palm Sunday, with the Morning Service at 11 am and also an **Evening service at 7 pm**

Tuesday 31st March at 7.30 pm, a short film with time for discussion around the meaning of the cross (an open session of "Christianity Explored")

And then on **Wednesday 1st April, Thursday 2nd April and Friday 3rd April, services each evening at 7.30 pm** – with the Lord's Supper on the Thursday.

On **Easter Day, 5th April, at 8 am** we gather at the front of the church and worship before sharing breakfast together. Also our **Morning Service at 11 am** as usual.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

Baptism

Sophia Tracy Duffy, daughter of Danni and William, on Sunday 8th February

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

"Christianity Explored" has run for some years now all around the country, and we are offering it on four Tuesday evenings through the month of March, beginning on Tuesday 10th March. Come for 7.30 pm. There will be refreshments at the outset, followed by a short film presentation and time

for discussion. The evening ends before 9 pm. We shall hope after an Easter break to continue it in April.

This is something perhaps for yourself, perhaps also for friends or family who might be interested to do on a weekday evening what it says on the tin! We shall read Mark's Gospel to find out more about the life of the person at the heart of the Christian faith – Jesus Christ.

ELAINE WOOD'S ORDINATION

Elaine Scott (Wood as we knew her when she was with us!) has now completed her years of training to become a Deacon in the Church of Scotland and has been offered a post. Her ordination will take place at Corstorphine Old Parish Church in Edinburgh on Tuesday 10th March at 7 pm. Please remember her in your prayers. Anyone is welcome to attend the ordination.



An update
from
Growing
Young
Cairnlea.

Winter 2026

To develop effective ministries amongst young people in Airdrie and to offer them ways of exploring the Bible and appreciating the significance of Jesus Christ.

We would greatly appreciate your (continuing) support for the vision and work of Growing Young Cairnlea.

Jacob having left us in the summer, we had hoped to recruit by now but as yet we are still seeking. We did advertise and had several applications but were unable to appoint. We shall be advertising again shortly.

Meantime amongst the Trustees, Graham Henry has stepped down and Lesley Aitken has joined us.

And so we would offer

Prayers of thanksgiving for...

- The Lord's plans and purposes, and our patience and faith under His leading

- The vision of the Trust and specifically, the Lord's guidance over the last 12-18 months.
- The team of committed Trustees who have given their time.
- The amount of wider church interest and commitment, both financially and practically.
- The strengths and learning points found through our engagement with children and young people

Prayers of Requests for....

- continuing good relationships with the various schools we interact with and how they might be further developed
- clarity of vision around the purpose and provision of GYC.
- the wisdom and courage to follow the Lord's guidance so that the pathway forward would be clear.
- inspiration as to what might truly make a difference in the lives of children, young people and their families
- the successful appointment of a new Youth worker and all that that entails (including all the practicalities!)
- the person whom God will call, that they may have both a heart for evangelism and the skills and experience required

A final prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for this opportunity to serve you in our community. We seek your blessings upon those who responded to the latest job advert that they may find their avenue of Christian service. In Jesus' precious name and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

The Trustees are most grateful to Lis and Ian Johnstone for their lead in sending out this prayer letter.



This is just to say a big **thank you** for the lovely bouquet of flowers I received from Cairnlea when I came out of hospital. The gesture was much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Irene Kirkealdy

FORTY DAYS

How will we deepen our love for God?
How will we worship?
How did Jesus teach us on prayer?



Many today learn the Kingdom prayer by heart as children, but then don't move on into understanding as adults. In the early Church, Christians would be taught this prayer for the first time just after baptism as something to hold on to. Come to the Lord's Prayer in this season with fresh eyes and open hearts.

"Our Father in heaven"

Wednesday 18 th	Acts 1. 1-3	<i>it's about His kingdom</i>
Thursday 19 th	Matthew 6. 7-15	<i>"our Father in heaven"</i>
Friday 20 th	Psalms 131	<i>and motherly</i>
Saturday 21 st	Ephesians 3: 14-20	<i>"our" Father</i>
Sunday 22 nd	Matthew 11: 25-30	<i>the Father and the Son</i>

"Hallowed be your name"

Monday 23 rd	Genesis 32: 22-31	<i>names matter</i>
Tuesday 24 th	Exodus 3: 1-15	<i>God is the One who IS</i>
Wednesday 25 th	Isaiah 6: 1-8	<i>Holy is the LORD</i>
Thursday 26 th	Acts 3: 1-10	<i>in the name of Jesus</i>
Friday 27 th	Philippians 2: 5-11	<i>the name above all names</i>

"Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven"

Saturday 28 th	Luke 11. 1-4	<i>a prayer of confident hope</i>
Sunday 1 st	Isaiah 65. 17-25	<i>a vision of the Kingdom</i>
Monday 2 nd	Isaiah 42. 1-9	<i>the one on whom the Spirit rests</i>
Tuesday 3 rd	Romans 8: 18-28	<i>the Spirit also for us</i>
Wednesday 4 th	Matthew 24: 29-44	<i>he will come again</i>

"Give us today our daily bread"

Thursday 5 th	Matthew 6: 25-34	<i>enough for today</i>
Friday 6 th	Exodus 16: 1-8	<i>food for the journey</i>
Saturday 7 th	John 6: 25-40	<i>the bread of life</i>
Sunday 8 th	Luke 22: 14-23	<i>and he took bread</i>

Monday 9th Luke 24: 28-35 *in the breaking of the bread*

“Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors”

Tuesday 10th Matthew 7: 1-12 *you are not perfect*
Wednesday 11th Romans 3: 21-31 *on how we all fall short,*
but... !!!
Thursday 12th Psalm 51 *honest confession*
Friday 13th Luke 7: 36-50 *forgiveness and love*
Saturday 14th Luke 6: 27-38 *forgive and you will be forgiven*

“Lead us not into temptation”

Sunday 15th Acts 14: 21-28 *trials and temptations*
Monday 16th Luke 8: 4-15 *good soil*
Tuesday 17th Hebrews 4: 14-16 *help is at hand*
Wednesday 18th 2 Corinthians 4 *treasure in clay jars*
Thursday 19th Psalm 139 *search me, O God*

“but deliver us from evil”

Friday 20th Luke 22: 39-46 *love and resilience*
Saturday 21st Ephesians 6: 10-20 *the battle that there is*
Sunday 22nd Mark 5: 1-20 *so as to be clothed and in right mind*
Monday 23rd Revelation 2: 1-7 *patient endurance, and still a battle*
Tuesday 24th I Corinthians 15: 20-26 *the last enemy*

“for the Kingdom, the power and the glory are yours forever. Amen!”

Wednesday 25th Psalm 99 *the King*
Thursday 26th Psalm 96 *a song of praise*
Friday 27th Psalm 115 *to your name be the glory*
Saturday 28th Psalm 24 *the LORD Almighty*
Sunday 29th Psalm 23 *forever*

This then is how we pray through our pilgrim journey. We are to know our Father in heaven through His Son Jesus Christ. We are to trust that the One who is holy holds great authority and tenders to us extraordinary kindness. We are to know that He provides for us; that His mercy and forgiveness are to be sought; and that we depend on His protection and

victory over sin and death. May we indeed grow in our love, and live to worship Him and Him alone. May we be sure that we know how to pray!

And so for 2026, in that week up to Easter on 5th April, join with others in awe and thanksgiving at what was accomplished by Jesus as he died on the cross.

CAIRNLEA 2020 REPORT

It has been a slow start to the year for us, as we wait patiently for the go ahead to commence work on the Wellbeing Centre. Here is a quick update of a few items of work we're currently undertaking, as ever questions are always welcome, please ask.

1. THE CAIRNLEA CENTRE – A WELLBEING HUB FOR AIRDRIE.

The Stage 2 Application for the 2026/2027 RCGF funding decision is pending. We have been told that the Scottish Government analysis and decision-making process will take until the end of February or early March 2026. The design and plans are being revised and updated for an immediate start when the funding arrives. The Architect has included the cost of installation of Solar Panels and Electricity Battery storage within the scope of the new building.

2. Electricity Supply.

The Electricity meter complaint is still unresolved by Scottish Power (SPEN), we are going through the complaint's procedure, and it has now been passed to the next level.

3. Cash Flow

Bank Balance as at 17.02.2026 is £124,857.19

There are no unpaid Invoices.

4. Funding Raising

Our discussions with Historic Environment Scotland (HES) continue. We are applying to the small grants scheme for the roof project. This work will not commence until the funding is available.

We have contacted CARES to arrange a meeting with them for the Wellbeing Hub funding. They will assist with the design for the Carbon Net Zero elements of the new air source heating plant and the main insulation of the new Building.

5. Roof Project.

All the necessary approvals are in place and the work is awaiting the outcome of our funding grants. £8,000 in grants has been pledged by external funders. Revised tenders shall be required. NO CHANGE

6. Marketing.

The building utilisation and rental usage continue to be very positive, and the projection for 2026 indicates an increase in revenue over 2025, we owe grateful thanks to Angela Wagstaff for all her hard work in controlling the bookings and managing this work.

At present bookings are stable. This is a major income stream for the church.

Please continue to promote our facilities to your Family and friends to encourage more bookings for their celebrations, birthday parties, musical events, etc. We have several social needs groups as well as a growing number of routine community events contained in our lets.

Please encourage people to come and share opportunities to grow faith, friendships, and fellowship as we offer an exciting programme of learning about the Good News of the Gospel.

7. Alarms

The Alarm Fobs are being issued to all key holders. The Fob operation is working satisfactorily.

8. Building Signage & Direction Boards

Several groups using our buildings have commented that our premises are not clearly Signed and are difficult to locate. We continue to investigate and cost the best way of achieving improved signage. We are looking to instal a noticeboard in Cairnlea House entrance hallway to direct clients to their allotted rooms. New maps and updated directions are being posted on the Church web site. STILL IN PROGRESS NOTHING NEW TO REPORT. We give grateful thanks to our Lord, for His great Faithfulness and Grace to our group. Thank you all for your prayers, financial generosity, patience and for your encouragement to our group.

**'Let us run with patience the race
that is set before us.'
Hebrews 12: 1 KJV**

Malcolm

17 February 2026

From Finance Committee

By the time you read this we will be at the beginning of Spring. It seems like our winters are getting longer, maybe just an age thing with me! In any case I am sure we will all be happy to see the end of this winter season. The Finance group did not meet during February we were waiting until the first draft of our Annual Accounts were ready. Shanly has produced the usual Income & Expenditure accounts for January and these have been circulated around the Group. Meanwhile the Annual Audit of the Organisations accounts is taking place. It is a Kirk Session requirement that this is carried out at the end of each financial year.

Regretfully our Treasurer recently received some bad news from our Bankers. They are now going to charge us for paying in Cash (Notes & coin) and cheques. From what we can gather, levying charges on Charity/Community Bank accounts is now common amongst all Banks. This is a matter of concern to the Finance Group and one which we will undoubtedly discuss at our next meeting. Rest assured we will be taking all possible steps to mitigate the effect of these charges on our Church Accounts.

As we all know from our own personal experience, Banks are moving away from Cash and encouraging us to use such things as Card and Electronic payments. Home and SmartPhone Banking is now the norm! Although we might not agree with the changes that are happening, we need to recognise this "new world" and adapt accordingly.

A quick calculation is that these charges will cost us around £400 + per annum. I would add that the Bank is **not** going to pay any interest on the money that is held on our main account. The Treasurer can do something about this by moving any surplus funds into an Easy Access Account which will pay us some interest!

What can the congregation do to help? After all I am sure you would rather the Church benefited instead of the Bank!

Those who are able, please consider changing from giving by means of Free Will Offering envelopes on to a regular Standing order (monthly or quarterly) the Bank will not charge you or us for this type of payment. Most of us already have Standing Order/Direct Debit payments on our Bank Account for such things as Gas, Electricity, Rent, subscriptions etc. Fully recognise that this change is not for everyone! Please give it some thought.

Any member of the Finance Group will be more than happy to help you with the changeover process. I would also mention that any "one off" donations etc can be paid direct into the Church`s main Bank Account. Just contact the Treasurer or a member of the Finance group and we will be happy to supply you with account details etc.

Over the past months the Finance Group have been looking to introduce the facility to let members of the Congregation give to the Church via a Card payment. Other Churches have done this quite successfully so why not here in Cairnlea! I would add that the Boys Brigade Battalion (Airdrie & Coatbridge) have been using this method to take the collection at their parades. We are fortunate to have their Treasurer (Lesley) as a member of our congregation and Finance group. She has been leading us through this change. As I write, we are hoping to have this up and running by the end of February, beginning of March.

Watch this space! We will let you know when this facility is available for you to use.

George Martin On behalf of the Finance Committee

Myself:- 01236 767206 email georgemarelle@btopenworld.com

Treasurer:- Shanly Watson – email jsbwatson5@yahoo.com

Free Will Offering:- Lynn Turnbull - 07960 344375

Gift Aid:- Margaret McCombe - 01236 763977

For your Diaries

Flower Calendar	
March 2026	
1	Alison Chambers
8	-
15	Robert Lauriston
22	Christine Duncan & Irene Cameron
29	Angela Wagstaff

Duty Teams	
Dates	Team Leader
1 March	Alison Chambers
8 & 15 March	Gordon Barry
22 & 29 March	Graham Henry

N.B. If you are unable to do your duty, please arrange a substitute.



CHRISTIAN AID 2025 REPORT

Here are the details from the annual report issued by the Airdrie & District Christian Aid Committee.

The Committee send their **grateful thanks** to all our members for their contribution to the events held to support Christian Aid in our area, during 2025.

Some Financials for you: -

Summary of Fundraising 2025

High Church	£423.20
Calderbank	£102.00
Coatdyke	£363.75
Jackson	£424.00
Cairnlea	£364.00
New Wellwynd	£775.00 (Bread and Cheese lunch)
Quiz night	£548.00
Songs of Praise	£325.00

Total Transferred to Christian Aid Account Edinburgh = £ 3324.95

This money will help alleviate pain and suffering in many areas both in this country and around the world. The events were well supported by the local churches and great fellowship shared by those attending.

We shall announce the dates of our 2026 events soon, please remember Christian Aid week this year is MAY 10th -16th

Thank you all so much,

Airdrie Christian Aid Committee

Remembering the Dunblane Massacre

Thirty years ago, on 13th March 1996, the Dunblane Massacre took place. Thomas Hamilton, a former Scout leader, entered Dunblane Primary School, shot dead 16 children and a teacher, wounded 15 more, and then committed suicide. As a result, the private ownership of handguns was banned in the UK.

There was no obvious reason for the massacre, though Hamilton's behaviour had previously made the police raise questions about his fitness to own firearms. He was said to have had a grudge against some prominent members of the community for being labelled a "pervert" – and this "persecution" was said to have affected his business, which was fitting kitchens.

The allegations arose after he was ejected as a Boy Scout assistant leader and had to give up as organiser of several boys' clubs after he had behaved strangely towards young boys – though nothing illegal was ever proved against him. Future tennis star Andy Murray had been a member of some of the clubs.

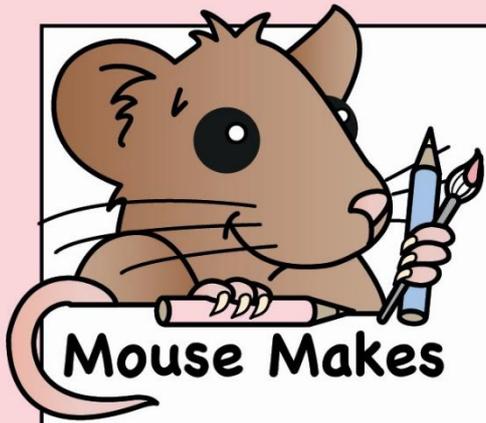
The teacher who died, 43-year-old mother Gwen Mayor, was killed while trying to protect her pupils, who were in the youngest class. Another teacher and an assistant teacher were wounded while similarly attempting to keep the children safe.

After the massacre, residents of Dunblane, which is a few miles north of Stirling in central Scotland, started the Snowdrop Campaign and gathered about 750,000 signatures for a petition against the private ownership of handguns. This resulted in a law being passed the following year and a subsequent fall in the number of gun killings in the UK.

A service in Dunblane Cathedral the following Sunday – Mothering Sunday – saw locals united in a determination to find "peace, hope, calm and joy". Tears naturally flowed – except for a minute when the crying unaccountably stopped and everyone was silent.

Tim Lenton

It's hard to believe this was thirty years ago and for those of us that are old enough, we will all remember where we were and what we were doing when this tragedy occurred. Please remember Dunblane and all those affected in your prayers.



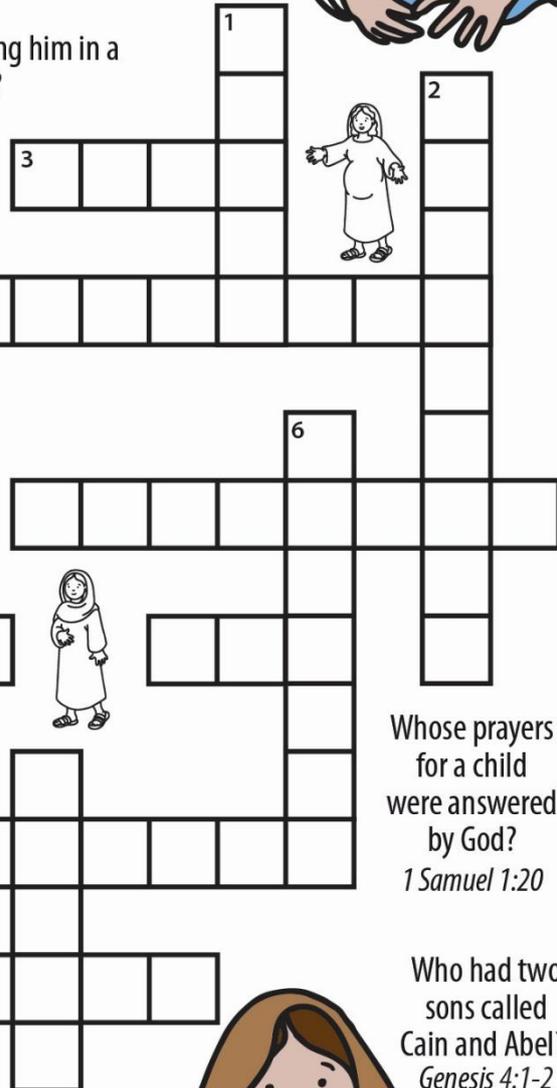
Mouse Makes

The Bible has many stories of mothers who had great faith in God. With their love, care, encouragement and prayers their children grew up to be great people of God.

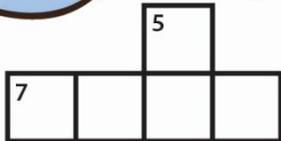


Who saved her baby by putting him in a basket in the river?

Exodus 2:1-3 and 6:20



Who was 90 years old when she had her son Isaac?
Genesis 17:19



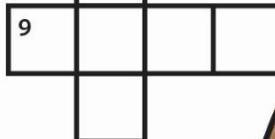
Whose prayers for a child were answered by God?
1 Samuel 1:20

Across

- 3. **Obed's** mother
Matthew 1:5
- 4. **John's** mother
Luke 1:57-60
- 7. **Reuben's** mother
Genesis 29:32
- 8. **Joseph's** mother
Genesis 30:22-24
- 9. **Jesus'** mother
Acts 1:14

Down

- 1. **Boaz's** mother
Matthew 1:5
- 2. **Solomon's** mother
1 Kings 1:11
- 4. **Timothy's** mother
2 Timothy 1:5
- 5. **Ishmael's** mother
Genesis 16:15
- 6. **Jacob and Esau's** mother
Genesis 25:21-26



Who had two sons called Cain and Abel?
Genesis 4:1-2



Answer the questions then put them into the crossword

Mar26 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Minister	Rev. Dr Peter Donald	01236 753159 07453 359531
Session Clerk	David Calvert	01236 752692
Roll Keeper	-	-
Presbytery Elder	Aileen Barrie	01236 760655
Church Treasurer	Shanly Watson	01236 372571
Finance Convener	George Martin	01236 767206
Freewill Offering	Lynn Turnbull	07960 344375
Gift Aid	Margaret McCombe	01236 763977
Property Convener	Angela Wagstaff	07718 432581
Community Convener	Esther Watson	01236 372571
Pastoral Care Convener	-	-
Communications Convener	Les Turnbull	07854 164380
Cairnlea 2020 Convener	Malcolm Ross	07734 684667
Spiritual Growth	Rev. Dr Peter Donald	01236 753159
Church Cleaner	Rachel Black	01236 609919
Church Flowers	Elizabeth Reekie	01236 762948
Music Director	Marjory MacDonald	01236 762669
The Guild	Anne Gray	01236 765047
Funday Club	Pamela Spence	01236 769146
Girls' Brigade Captain	Lesley Curran	01236 628625
Saturday Tea & Coffee Morning	Shanly Watson	01236 372571
Toy Library	Margaret McCombe	01236 763977
Parents & Toddlers	Katey Brolly	07747 122527
Senior Citizen's Club	Morag Stewart	01236 766439
Probus Club	George Lindsay	07709 078028
Safeguarding	Irvine Wright	01236 595351
DVD Recording of Services	Robert Cunningham	01236 761337
Health & Safety Co-ordinator	-	-
Cairnlea 2020 Treasurer	Gordon Barrie Calum MacInnes	01236 760655 01698 860588
Sunday Car Rota	Shanly Watson	01236 372571

Contributions for the April magazine to be in the hands of the editor by Monday 23 March, 2026.

MINISTER

Rev. Dr Peter Donald, Cairnlea Manse, Victoria Place, Airdrie.
Tel: 01236 753159 Mob: 07453 359531
Email: phdonald@outlook.com

EDITOR

Mr Les Turnbull, 21 Macleod Crescent, Airdrie.
Mob: 07854 164380
Email: les.turnbull@btinternet.com

