

The Smith's Are Coming

Hello readers,

Let me introduce myself - I am Mark Smith and I have been chosen by the congregations to be the new Minister for Dunscore with Glencairn and Moniaive. It will be a privilege to serve alongside you and I look forward to meeting many of you face-to-face and trying to remember your names! I am married to Debbie and we have an adult (she claims to be grown up) daughter, Natasha, who is in turn married to Nick. She is a proud mum to Isaac (who is 10 going on 40) and a Junior Doctor due to start training as a GP soon. Nick also works for the NHS near their home in Billingham in the North-East of England. I currently work three days a week for Tesco, delivering groceries for Tesco.com customers – I have even delivered to some of you reading this magazine! Debbie works as manager for School Nurses across the region for the NHS and has been a nurse for over 20 years! Before we moved up here I was a minister in the Church of England and since joining Lochend and New Abbey Church I have been helping churches across the area through pulpit supply and locum work. The Church of Scotland has now certified me to become a full-time Minister and here I am. We have lived in Beeswing since 2005 and have repaired and extended our cottage over the past decade or so. The site of the house used to be the village smithy so it was fitting that we bought it and brought it back to life! We have been quite involved in life in the community through the village hall and playing field as well as the community council. We're looking forward to getting to know the communities around Moniaive and Dunscore – watch out for strange faces at local activities over the next few months. As the time of writing we're not sure when the Induction will take place and I formally begin, but I hope that you will all be able to join with us on that occasion to celebrate us joining you on the journey of faith.

Rev Mark Smith