## Knitted angels bring joy this Christmas

The Knit and Natter group at Northesk Church are placing handmade crocheted angels on the railings outside the church every Sunday and are inviting people to take one to decorate their homes this festive season.



A sign on the railings says: "Hark! We are angels knit by

members of Northesk Church and friends for you to take home and make part of your Christmas.

"Pop us on a tree, place us on a shelf, hang us on your banister, and let us remind you of the light and life that Jesus brings to us all."

Parish minister Rev Hayley Cohen said: "The response has really been amazing.

"As a group of the knitters and I were taking photos of the angels for our Instagram and Facebook page, a few folk came along and took them and then handed me money for the church out of gratitude.

"When I told them the angels were free and a gift from us to the community, they still insisted we take the money, which was incredibly generous and deeply appreciated.

"I have to say a huge thank you to the talented folk who have spent months knitting these angels.

"Each one was knitted with prayer and is a symbol of the light and life that Jesus brings to the world at Christmas."

Reverend Cohen said the church has a very active group of knitters, crocheters and crafters who meet every other Wednesday for the Knit and Natter group.

"It's a wonderful initiative that started from within the congregation and helps people connect over their shared passion for wool," she explained.

"In addition to their own personal projects, they work together to knit for various charities such as SiMBA (Simpson's Memory Box Appeal) and CHAS (Children's Hospices Across Scotland) amongst others.

"At one of their meetings earlier in the autumn, one of the members was knitting angels for her daughter's church in Edinburgh, as they were planning to festoon their railings with angels for Christmas and we thought, what a great way to connect with people walking by on the street and bring a bit of joy to people in our community who are maybe feeling a bit isolated or blue this Christmas."

"Included with the angels is a little note wishing whoever takes them a Merry Christmas and inviting them to join us for our Christmas Eve service on 24 December at 4.30pm and our Christmas Day service at 10.30am," she added.

The last of the angels will be attached to the church railings this Sunday – 22 December.