

**St. Stephens and West
PARISH CHURCH**
Broughty Ferry

THE SPIRE

Autumn Magazine 2020



Grange
Health Centre

Broughty Ferry
Historic Georgian Villas

Welcome

to the Autumn issue of

St. Stephen's & West Kirk Magazine
Autumn 2020

THE SPIRE

Sunday 2nd. August 2020

After 19 weeks of no services at St. Stephens and West as a result of the Governments lockdown restrictions the church reopened its doors again on the 2nd. August 2020.

At a well attended service considering the circumstances our minister welcomed those attending 'a 100,000 thousand welcomes back to our beloved kirk' were his words. Thanks were expressed to Ron our Session Clerk and Toni our Clerk to the Board for their efforts in getting us back to the kirk and making the necessary arrangements to meet the guidelines set down by the Government.

Arrangements included registering those attending at each service, hand sanitisation stations, maintaining social distancing at all times, no printed order of service and no singing of hymns. All very strange but necessary to meet the requirements.

Although no hymns were sung our organist Alex Perry played 3 verses of each hymn chosen for the service. Since the 2nd. August some members are bringing their own hymn books to read while a hymn is being played. Hopefully soon we will be back in the hall afterwards for coffees/teas and some fantastic home baking.

Hymns for the service on the 2nd. August were:

- 1 *All people that on earth do dwell*
- 366 *Sing to the Lord a joyful song*
- 115 *Come down, O Love Divine*
- 354 *Glory be to God the Father*

The theme for the service was 'The Beauty of Touch' and the readings were:

1 Samuel 10;20-26 & St. Mark 5:24-34



It was a shorter service than normal but held in a very safe environment. Since the service on the 2nd August a new requirement is the wearing of face masks in the church.

For those who have not been at church I list below the topic and readings for the services held since the 2nd August. Our minister has researched and included readings which are relevant to the present situation we are experiencing. I hope you find them of interest.

August 9, 2020

Evidence.....Isaiah 40:28-31, II Corinthians 4:8-5:1, St. John 20:19-25

August 16, 2020

Musings on Lockdown.....Psalm 73, Romans 8:31-39, St. John 14:1-6 & 27

August 23, 2020

Hobson's Choice!1 Corinthians 13 & St. Matthew 13:44-51

George Anderson



The Parish Register - In Memoriam

In Memoriam
Jesus says, "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give thee rest."

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| July 9, 2020 : | Nellie Stephenson Elder
Lea Manor Care Home, Camphill Road, Broughty Ferry |
| August 2, 2020 : | Helen Brauer
Flat 3, 7 Brook Street, Broughty Ferry |
| August 10, 2020: | Shelia Knight
4d Queen Street, Broughty Ferry |

MUSINGS

from the Minister



Dear Friends,

It has never ceased to amaze me how quickly a life can be turned upside down by the utterance of a word: LOCKDOWN!

Or, the declaration, "Guilty or Not Guilty!"

Or, the surge of sheer delight felt on hearing the words, "I love you!"

Or, the devastation wreaked by a diagnosis, "You have an inoperable tumour!"

Words possess power and some there are who carve a career wielding words to best effect. Allow me, please, to share with you some of the words of others which have fuelled my imagination during the darkest days of Lockdown. I hope they help ease your hurt.

"Every time of turmoil has its virtues."

"We will emerge from this strange season a little bruised perhaps but unbowed, cheered by Chalice of Light: people who have opened vernal tapers for the common good. Relish the good in others, thereby strength is afforded us to endure."

"The life of every man is a diary in which he means to write one story but writes another. Our humblest hour is when we compare the volume as it is with what we vowed to make it."

"Hanker not too much after worldly prosperity but rather seek to add a stone to the greatness of any worthy enterprise. How terrible it would be to be one of those who have taken a stone away!"

"If you could choose an hour from all your wanderings, how would you spend it and with whom would you share it?"

And now a favourite Celtic Collect.

Afford us, good Lord
Paths to discover, possibilities to choose,
people to encounter.
Afford us, good Lord
Perplexities to ponder, pardon to accept,
a Presence to proclaim.
Amen.

Ever sincerely yours,
Keith F. Hall.



The Pilot and the Priest *(Contributed by The Minister)*

A priest dies and is waiting in line at the Pearly Gates. Ahead of him is a guy who is dressed in sunglasses, a loud shirt, leather jacket, and jeans.

Saint Peter addresses this cool guy, 'Who are you, so that I may know whether or not to admit you to the Kingdom of Heaven?'

The guy replies, 'I'm Jack, retired airline pilot from Sydney.'

Saint Peter consults his list. He smiles and says to the pilot, 'Take this silken robe and golden staff and enter the Kingdom.' The pilot goes into Heaven with his robe and staff.

Next, it's the priest's turn. He stands erect and booms out, 'I am Father Bob, pastor of Saint Mary's for the last 43 years.'

Saint Peter consults his list. He says to the priest, 'Take this cotton robe and wooden staff and enter the Kingdom.'

'Just a minute,' says the good father. 'That man was a pilot and he gets a silken robe and golden staff and I get only cotton and wood. How can this be?'

'Up here - we go by results,' says Saint Peter.

When you preached - people slept.

When he flew, people prayed.



CHARITABLE INITIATIVES

MERU Update



To find out more or to donate to the Meru /Dundee partnership, please contact: scemcluckie@btinternet.com

Schools and kindergartens in Kenya are closed until January of next year. On top of covid 19 our friends in Meru have also been afflicted by locusts attacking their crops.

Rev Elijah sends our congregation his regards and tells us that churches in Meru are open for 14-58 years old.

As I'm unable to have my annual Meru munch, I have been painting stones with my grandchildren and selling them on the garden wall raising almost £130 for Meru. If you are walking on Camphill Rd please choose one and donate.

As well as this I have 'swam' 100 breaststrokes daily raising £245 for the Sigbi charity Empowering girls in Nepal and have delivered 5 collections of toiletries for Women's Aid and Salvation Army. Happy to accept and deliver all donations.

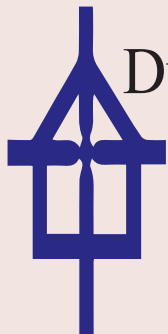
I can be contacted at scemcluckie@btinternet.com should you wish to find out more about the Meru/Dundee partnership.

Meru County
In Kenya



Sheila McLuckie





Dundee Starter Packs SCIO

.....Supported by Churches

Liz is still looking for donations of kitchen ware, childrens furnishings (not clothes) and if you have any items please give Liz a phone on 01382 779923 or on email emussen@hotmail.co.uk



**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.**
CANCER SUPPORT

We will hold our usual Sunday collection in the Meru Bowl for this great cause once we are able to meet for our coffee after church. The charity wants to be able to continue their great work and therefore needs to raise funds. We will let you know when this will take place. Thank you. Jill Oakley.



Flowers in the church

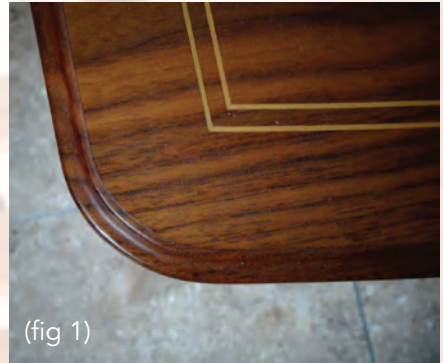
Every Sunday flowers are placed on the communion table and this work is carried out by a small group of ladies. It helps brighten up the sanctuary and also after the service the flowers are given to members who may be ill, grieving a death or maybe just as a reminder that the church is thinking about them.

Could you help boost the numbers of those arranging the flowers? Flowers are supplied therefore there is no cost for assisting. No restrictions on age or gender and if interested phone Helen Symington on 01382 778981 or Shirley Grinyer on 01382 775743.

Fun with Furniture

I have been making things from wood since I was about 7 years of age. In fact I still possess (and occasionally use) chisels and a plane that I was given for my 14th Birthday. Fast-forward to the early 1980s when I was appointed to a senior academic post in the University of Dundee. My work had always occupied an important part of my life but from then it progressively took over my life – a situation that I loved but, of course, it was at the cost of other interests. My workshop gradually fell into disuse; many of my tools deteriorated.

On retirement, therefore, I was determined that I would take up wood work again but now, it would be high quality furniture-making done to professional standards. To that end, I refurbished the workshop, re-equipped it with a wide range of hand tools as well as machinery – a turning lathe and other cutting machines that would allow me incorporate professional touches such as moulded edges and inlaying with contrasting colours of timber (fig 1)



(fig 1)



(fig 2)



(fig 3)

Early efforts were two occasional mahogany tables (figs 2 and 3) which involved turning as well as conventional carpentry.

The lamp table in fig.4 is made from English walnut with inlaid boxwood stringing.

The hall table in fig 5 is of American black walnut and features a curved front panel. Several of my pieces have ended up in the homes of our daughters. One such is a small hall table of contemporary design in oak and ash. (Fig 6)

As we never seem to throw out books, there is a continual need for book storage. The open

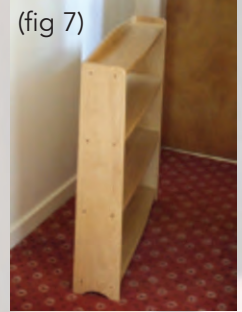


(fig 4)



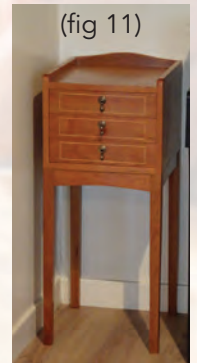
(fig 5)

bookcase in fig. 7 is constructed in oak and. The joints between the shelves and ends are reinforced with oak dowels, which form an attractive feature. A wall-mounted bookcase in mahogany (Fig 8) saves floor space! The doors of the small chest in American black walnut (fig 9)



have a central panel surrounded by boxwood inlaid stringing. The panels are made from hand cut veneers mounted in so-called "book-matched" form. This gives an attractive symmetry to the natural figuring of the timber.

One of the many advantages of making one's own furniture is that it can be constructed to fit into a specific place as, for example (fig 10) with this nest of tables or the music cabinet in fig.11



Quite my most ambitious project has been the chest of drawers in Brazilian mahogany (fig 12). As with all the drawers that I make, they feature hand-cut dovetails (fig13) - considered by some to be a hall-mark of quality furniture.



I have now been retired for over 20 years but I still spend a lot of time in the workshop. My plans are less ambitious and my output slower but the pleasure and sense of satisfaction from working with wood remains undiminished.

Professor Andy Grieve

Hobbies

I am sure there will be a number of you out there who have hobbies that would be of interest to others and as a starter the previous article was submitted by Professor Andy Grieve. The article is headed 'Fun with furniture' which I am sure you will find very interesting. Do you have a hobby that you would like to share then please contact me at: george.anderson12@btopenworld.com



Christmas greetings

Christmas is still a number of weeks away although I am aware of at least one person who has already started to buy gifts.

With regards to the sending of Christmas cards I would like to provide an alternative especially during these uncertain times.

If you would like to send Christmas wishes to your fellow members of the church as an alternative to sending a card then this will be available in the December issue of the magazine. An example of what I propose is shown below but the words used can be your own.

**Christmas wishes to all my fellow members at
St. Stephens and West. May you have a joyous
Christmas and prosperous New Year.**

John and Jill Smith.

All I need from you now is your name/email address or telephone number so that I can contact you during November to agree the wording etc. Please contact me before the end of September to register your interest. My contact details are on the back of the magazine.

There is no charge for this.

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AND LASTLY.....

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

For our first trip down Memory Lane, who better to start with than Bill Plonk?

This charismatic American minister from Bow Creek Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach, USA exchanged pulpits with our Rev. Gilbert Stuart Cameron for the entire summer of 1972, and their families went too. While the Camerons were basking under the American sunshine Bill, his wife, daughter and son made themselves at home in the Camperdown Street manse.

The Plonks soon won many friends in the Ferry on a social as well as the religious side, and both congregations enjoyed the novelty of a different slant from across the pond.

Whilst here Mr Plonk was able to pursue his interests in sports, chiefly golf (what American could resist playing on the famous Scottish links?) and singing. Bill has an excellent voice and it was not unusual for him to burst into song from the pulpit!

Shown here is a facsimile of the Church magazine welcoming the Plonks to our Kirk in 1972 and also the magazine welcoming Bill back in 1984.

Out of interest I also show another entry in the same 1972 magazine. The appointment of our present organist Alexander M. Perry. How time has flown by!



st stephens west parish church
MEMORIAL
MAY 1972

WELCOME MR PLONK

Flashback...

BILL PLONK — 12 YEARS ON

On June 10 we will have the opportunity of hearing Bill preach once again in St Stephen's & West. With his family, he spent the summer of 1972 in Broughty Ferry on a church exchange. A southerner from the Carolinas, he has spent most of his professional career in Virginia. He was a much loved figure during his time with us and we look forward to his return.

indictment of the congregation and office-bearers who have a responsibility towards the training of the young. More help is needed for the new session. Contact the minister or phone Graham Symington on 739923.

21st DUNDEE GIRL GUIDE COMPANY

It seems no time at all since I was reporting on our Christmas activities and here we are busily preparing for an early weekend camp, under canvas, at Ladenford Den near Forfar from June 8 to 10.

First reports are that our newer guides can wield a mallet very effectively, so we should have NO trouble getting our tents up quickly when the time comes. The tents are being erected with increasing speed and efficiency during our weekly training sessions!

However, going back to February I thought "our readers" might be interested in seeing a few of my more successful photographs taken during our "Thinking Day" evening when each patrol prepared and ate a meal

ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER

Since Easter Sunday, the above post has been admirably filled by our new organist Alexander M. Perry, LRAM, ARCM, LTCL.

Mr Perry, who is principal teacher of music at Kirkton High School, came to us from Strathmartine Church, where he had been organist for 3½ years.

He studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and has had 20 years experience. We hope he will be happy at St Stephen's and West

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ST. STEPHENS & WEST PARISH CHURCH

BROUGHTY FERRY

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Door Duty

(One duty elder with transport should offer to distribute flowers.
Please arrange a substitute if any date is unsuitable for you.)

2020 St Stephen's & West Parish Church

Elders Duty List

Date	Time	Door Duty		Beadle
Sun 4 Oct	10:00	C S Smith	Mrs A McNicoll	R Stewart
Sun 11 Oct	10:00	Mrs S McMillan	Mrs S Grinyer	K Matheson
Sun 18 Oct	10:00	Mrs E Mussen	Mrs M Masson	Mrs Fiona Watt
Sun 25 Oct	10:00 - BST ends	Mrs L Parry-Richards	A Justice	P Wakefield
Sun 1 Nov	10:00	C S Smith	Mrs S Thomson	A L MacKenzie
Sun 8 Nov	10:50 - Remembrance	R Stewart	Mrs S Grinyer	A Justice
Sun 15 Nov	10:00	K Matheson	Mrs S Rough	Mrs L Parry-Richards
Sun 22 Nov	10:00	Mrs A McNicoll	Mrs M Knight	R S McPherson
Sun 29 Nov	10:00	Mrs E Mussen	Mrs M Masson	Mrs S Thomson
Sun 6 Dec	10:00	P Wakefield	Mrs S Rough	Mrs S McMillan
Sun 13 Dec	10:00	R S McPherson	Mrs A McNicoll	C S Smith
Sun 20 Dec	10:00	A L MacKenzie	Mrs S Grinyer	R Stewart
Sun 27 Dec	11:00 - United service in New Kirk			
Sun 3 Jan	10:00 - United service in St Stephens	Mrs S McMillan	Mrs M Knight	K Matheson