



THE SPIRE

Winter 2022 / 2023

St. Stephens and West
PARISH CHURCH,
Broughty Ferry



Lifeboats

BROUGHTY FERRY FUNDRAISING BRANCH

RNLI CAROL CONCERT

St. James Church, Broughty Ferry

**Monday
12th December
2022**

Starting at 7pm



Blaver

↑ COSY SPACES ↓
ACROSS BROUGHTY FERRY

**CHURCH HALLS
OPEN
in response to
the energy crisis**

Come in to our warm spots and enjoy a warm welcome



Monday St Luke's & Queen Street, West Queen Street
from 1.30 – 3.30 every fortnight from 24th October

Tuesday BF Presbyterian Church

@ The Brook, 343 Brook Street from 2- 4pm

Wednesday BF St Mary's Scottish Episcopal Church

90-92 Queen St, from 11am Now open weekly

Thursday St James, Fort Street (opposite the Lifeboat)

from 10-2pm Open weekly from 27th October

Thursday Barnhill Community Centre @Barnhill Blethers

from 2-3.15pm every fortnight from 20th October

Friday Barnhill St Margaret's, Guthrie Terrace

from 10-2pm Open weekly from 28th October

Co-ordinated by Broughty Ferry Churches Group

Welcome

to the Winter issue of

THE SPIRE

St. Stephen's & West Kirk
Magazine
Winter 2022 / 2023

It is hard to believe what has happened in the world since our last magazine in August.

The magazine includes the tribute to the Queen given at the service the Sunday after her death. It is hard to believe that we just celebrated the Queens jubilee and now not long after mourned her passing.

The magazine includes a number of articles about events recently held at the church and also some events planned before Christmas.

There are always spare magazines in the vestibule of the church and please use them for passing onto friends or neighbours who might be interested in joining us here at St. Stephens and West.

I hope you enjoy the magazine and would take this opportunity to wish all a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2023.

George Anderson



A WELCOME from the minister Rev. Keith Hall

Welcome to St. Stephen's & West Parish Church, founded 1875.

We trust that you will feel comfortable among us and benefit from the way we Worship.

At the close of the Service refreshments are served in the Hall. If you can spare the time, please join us and perhaps forge new friendships.



Parish Register: St. Stephen's & West

MARRIAGES

"Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it. If a man offered for love all the wealth of his house, it would be utterly scorned."

August 27 , 2022

Lianne Thomson to Craig Milne, 26 West Path, Carnoustie.
(Lianne is a granddaughter of Jean Symington.)

September 10 , 2022

Katie Dianne Polson to Richard Michael Coates, Balmerino Road, Douglas.
(Richard is a brother-in-law to Juliet Wakefield.)

IN MEMORIAM

"The Eternal God is thy refuge and strength, a very present help in every time of need."

August 29 , 2022

Moyra Allison, St. Vincent Court, Broughty Ferry

I have just returned from Malta and during a walk I came across a plaque with these words.

**"The fruit of silence is prayer.
The fruit of prayer is faith.
The fruit of faith is love.
The fruit of Love is service.
The fruit of service is peace."**

Saint Mother Teresa

A Tribute To The Queen Given By Our Minister On Sunday 11th September 2022

THE QUEEN

We gather for Worship this morning pained by the sad news of the passing of our Queen.

Torrents of tributes have cascaded into our midst indicative, surely, of the enormous respect and warm regard in which Her Majesty was held and will continue to be held: gone from sight but not from hearts full of affection.

With every member of the Royal Family and all those most closely associated with them, we grieve but hand in hand with our grief goes the awareness of great gain and a profound sense of gratitude because The Queen embodied all that was noble, all that was conducive to the welfare of the world. Her charm, her diplomacy, her devotion to duty, her composure in good times and bad, and of course, her keen sense of fun, enriched her long reign beyond measure.

That sketch with Paddington Bear epitomised her entire persona: producing a marmalade sandwich from her handbag with a bear in Buckingham Palace and then playing a little tune with her spoon against the best of bone china, brings laughter in our tears.

In saluting the life of that most remarkable lady, we also hail our King, Charles III.

It is written of Abraham, "Thou shalt go to thy Fathers in peace. Thou shalt be buried in a good old age, full of years, greatly honoured."

Of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, we can justly say, that she too died in a good old age, full of years, greatly honoured and is gathered to her Fathers in peace.

KFH



A Block of Wood

There once lived a carpenter who had a very special piece of wood that he wanted to preserve for posterity. He valued it above all the other blocks of timber in his workshop. He decided to build a box in which to keep his unique piece of wood. It was far too precious to be left lying around. It might get chipped or dented, stained or stood on.

The carpenter looked around his yard for a block of wood which he might carve to encase his precious piece. After all, he didn't want a casket made of any old scraps!

"All these pieces are not worthy, he said to himself. They are gnarled and ugly and knotted and old."

At length, the carpenter decided to use the only piece of wood he had worthy of housing his prize possession: the precious block itself!

He sawed and he planed, he hammered and he sanded until the case was completed. It was an object of real beauty, a specimen of perfection, why even the grain beneath the polished varnish was captivating.

The carpenter was so proud of his handiwork that he couldn't help but stand back and admire what he had accomplished. And yet, beautiful as it was, he reflected with a stab of pain in his chest, the case was empty, perfect but hollow, a thing of real beauty but void of purpose, a museum piece without utilitarian value!

KFH

Social Events in the hall

Since our last magazine there has been two very successful social events.

The cream tea held on the 17th. September and the Remembrance Day lunch on the 13th. November.

Both of these events were organised by the members of the Social Committee which comprises of Shirley Grinyer, Hazel Allen, Sybil Rough and May Masson.

The cream tea raised in excess of £500 and as well as the social committee a number of members from the church mucked in to help and make it such a success.

On Sunday 13th. November a Remembrance Day lunch was organised with a great selection of soup and sandwiches on offer. Order of the day for most was second helpings as the food supplied was so good.

I am told that some events are in the process of being planned for 2023 and these will be advertised nearer the time.

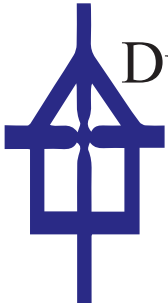
Thank you again to our wonderful social committee.

GA



COMMUNITY NEWS

Dundee starter packs SCIO



Dundee Starter Packs SCIO

.....Supported by Churches

Shirley is still looking for donations of kitchen ware, childrens furnishings (not clothes) and if you have any items please give Shirley a phone on:

01382 776776

or on email:

thomson.s10@sky.com

Items can also be left in the vestibule at the church door.

Christmas gifts for children

On Sunday 11th. December there will be a collection of gifts for children. The gifts should be placed in front of the communion table and please do not wrap the items. After the service they will be delivered to a charity for distribution.

The gifts are for all ages of children and not restricted.



DONATE

The Poppy



I am not a badge of honour,
I am not a racist smear,
I am not a fashion statement,
To be worn but once a year,
I am not glorification
Of conflict or of war.
I am not a paper ornament
A token,
I am more.

I am a loving memory,
Of a father or a son,
A permanent reminder
Of each and every one.

I'm paper or enamel
I'm old or shining new,
I'm a way of saying thank you,
To every one of you.

I am a simple poppy
A Reminder to you all,
That courage faith and honour,
Will stand where heroes fall.

Paul Hunter 2014



Meru update



The good news is that the rains have finally arrived after a prolonged period of drought which has resulted in famine in East Africa as I'm sure you're aware.

Limbine Primary school pupils therefore felt that Christmas had come early when they received the 7 computers funded by folk in Broughty ferry who supported my sponsored swim , craft and car park day etc etc Having I T skills will improve the employment prospects of the children and take them out of rural poverty .

But we need more. If you would like to support me I would welcome raffle prizes delivered to the church or 47 Camphill Road by December 4th. to hold an online raffle on the 9th.December. I feel that a lunch at home is still too risky due to covid. Raffle tickets will be £1 for a strip and I'm happy to send you the Meru account details or any monies in any form.

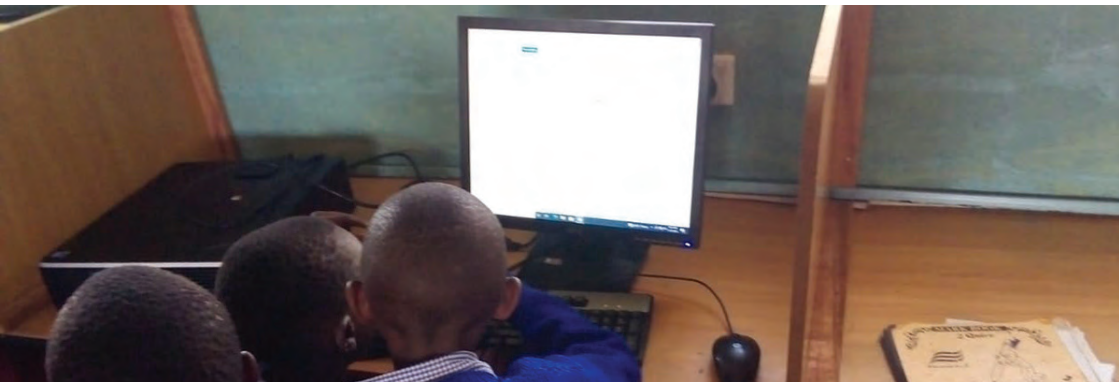
The St Stephens kindergarten in Meru has become a victim to the cost of living crisis and has settled its financial affairs and closed meantime. Parents grew unable to pay the meagre fees which covered their own children and the 'needy' pupils

Rev Elijah is doing his level best to support the extremely poor pupils who have been placed elsewhere in spite of his own health being monitored every three months in Nairobi hospital.

The Meru plate and your support not just financially but in our prayers is appreciated.

Elijah and Mercy and all the staff and pupils at Limbine feel blessed by your support from so many miles away.

*Christmas blessings
Sheila McLuckie*



Christmas Waiting

God will come like the last leaf's fall.
One night when the November wind
Has flayed the trees to bone and earth
Wakes choking on the mould
The soft shroud's folding.

God will come like frost.
One morning when the shrinking earth
Opens on mist, to find itself
Arrested in a net of alien
Sword set beauty.

God will come like dark.
One evening when the bursting red
December sun draws up the sheet
And penny-masks its eye to yield
The star-snowed fields of sky.

God will come, like crying in the night.
Like blood seeping, like flesh tearing
As the earth writhes to toss Him free.
God will come like a child.

An Advent Prayer

Newly born King of Morn,
noon and night time,
dark and light time:
Be our Light, day and night.
Saviour small, light us all, light our
blindness, of thy great kindness.

KFH

Christmas Greetings

Christmas blessings to all at
St. Stephens and West
from Sheila and Joe McLuckie and
Rev Elijah, Priscilla and our friends
at St Stephens in Meru. Good
health and happiness in 2023.

Margaret Knight
and family would like
to send choir and
congregational friends
Warmest Greetings of the
Season and Every Good
Wish for the Coming Year"

To all of the members of
St. Stephens and West
a very Merry Christmas and
a happy new year"
Sybil Rough

A very happy Christmas
to all at
St. Stephens and West.
Love Frances, Alan and
Kelvin Justice.

A very Merry Christmas
and all good wishes for
2023
to all at
St. Stephen's and West
from Jill and Ron Oakley

To all of the members of
St. Stephens and West
and their families a very
Merry Christmas
and happy safe New Year
from George and
Rhona Anderson.

Wishing everyone at
St. Stephen's and West
Church including the
groups who use our
facilities and also the
wider community of
Broughty Ferry a very
lovely Christmas and a
peaceful New Year.
Toni and Euan McNicoll.

"I would like to wish
everyone and their
loved ones, in
St. Stephen's and West,
a Merry Christmas and a
Happy, Healthy 2023.
StaySafe, May Masson"

Wishing you all a very
happy Christmas and all
good wishes for 2023.
From Helen and Peter
Wakefield; Juliet and
Bobby; Christopher, Vår,
Joseph and Lydia.

Wishing you a very Merry
Christmas and a Happy
New Year.
From Malcolm and
Moira Davidson

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.)

2023 St Stephen's & West Parish Church

Elders Duty List

Date	Time	Door Duty	Door Duty	Beadle
Sun 1 Jan				
Sun 8 Jan	10:00	Margaret Knight	May Masson	Kenny Matheson
Sun 15 Jan	10:00	Ron McPherson	Sybil Rough	Shirley Thomson
Sun 22 Jan	10:00	Syd Smith	Shirley Grinyer	Linda Parry-Richards
Sun 29 Jan	10:00	Simon Davidson	Sandra McMillan	Peter Wakefield
Sun 5 Feb	10:00	Fiona Watt	Margaret Knight	Alan Justice
Sun 12 Feb	10:00	Sybil Rough	Toni McNicoll	Syd Smith
Sun 19 Feb	10:00	Peter Wakefield	Shirley Grinyer	Kenny Matheson
Sun 26 Feb	10:00	Linda Parry-Richards	Shirley Thomson	Ron McPherson
Sun 5 Mar	10:00	Toni McNicoll	Alan Justice	Sandra McMillan
Sun 12 Mar	10:00	May Masson	Syd Smith	Fiona Watt
Sun 19 Mar	10:00	Sybil Rough	Kenny Matheson	Shirley Thomson
Sun 26 Mar	10:00	Shirley Grinyer	Simon Davidson	Linda Parry-Richards