

KIRKLISTON PARISH CHURCH

MINISTER

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KIRKLISTON PARISH CHURCH



NEWSLETTER: WINTER 2004

Number 123



From the Minister

Friends, as I am writing this it seems winter has well and truly arrived! This means of course that Christmas is fast approaching. My grandchildren have made out their lists for Santa and of course made sure that Granny and Granddad knew exactly what was on them! Kirkliston Parish Church has a wish list also! The church has very serious problems with the tower. Problems that are going to need addressing very soon and are going to need an awful lot of money. As you are all aware, the cost of living rises all the time and it is no different within the church. Utilities, ministry costs, fabric costs have all risen over the years. It is with in mind that I appeal to you all to think about your weekly offerings to the church. When was the last time you raised the amount in your envelopes? Brian Hepburn (gift aid convenor) would love to hear from you. Your offerings can now be classed as gift aid if you are a taxpayer. This means that the tax **you have already paid** can be claimed back by the church, at no extra cost to you. It is also **vital** that you continue to give week by week, even if on holiday or not able to attend. We have a beautiful church with a rich heritage. Please help us to continue into the next century and beyond.

As we get into the hustle and bustle of Christmas we all need to remember its true meaning. That 'Jesus is the Reason for the Season'. As we do our shopping, cooking, visiting family and friends, try to fit in some time to worship. Our offerings at Christmas will go to the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society who are building a hospital in Malawi. We will have our 'family service' on Sunday 19th December with the young folk's nativity tableau. On Christmas Eve, worship begins at 11.30pm and on Christmas Day at 10am. All are welcome to any or all of these services. I look forward to seeing you and may God bless each and every one of you at this special time.

CHURCH REGISTER

BAPTISMS: "They brought young children to Jesus"

1/8/04: William Clark 89 Maitland Hog Lane Kirkliston

5/9/04: Cameron Riddle, 18 Glendinning Way Kirkliston

5/9/04: Lauren Rimmer, 41 Riverside Newbridge

3/10/04: Thierry Walton, 12 Tippetknowes Court Winburgh

FUNERALS: Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life"

1/9/04: John Drysdale, 9 Almondside Kirkliston

22/9/04: John Davidson, 7 Queensferry Road Kirkliston

13/10/04: Robert Brown, Broxburn Nursing Home

29/10/04: James McCormack, 58 Riverside Newbridge

3/11/04: Robert Shanks, 4 Hillwood Rise Ratho Station

Memorial Service

20/11/04: Kenny Young (Australia) late of Kirkliston

KEEPER OF THE ROLLS REPORT (21st November 2004)

The Roll currently stands at 362, of whom 263 attended Communion at least once last year, with 36 movements having so far taken place in 2004:-

15 additions - 4 by Profession, 5 by certificate and 6 by restoration

21 removals - 5 by death, 6 by certificate, 3 gone away, and

7 to the Supplementary Roll which now stands at 60.

Joe Henderson
Keeper of The Roll

GUILD OF ST. LUKE

The Guild of St. Luke continues to meet in the Church Centre at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of the month, to review our prayer list, to pray for the sick, and to give thanks for the many miracles of healing we have been privileged to witness.

If you would like to join in this ministry of prayer, please feel free to come along. We are committed to praying each day for those on our list, and if you would like prayer for someone, please use the prayer cards which you will find on the Church pews and place them in the boxes at either door of the Church. Only the first name of the person need be given, but it would be helpful to us if we could have an update from time to time on the condition of the person.

“Is there anyone who is ill? He should send for the church elders, who will pray for him and rub olive-oil on him in the name of the Lord. This prayer made in faith will heal the sick person; the Lord will restore him to health, and the sins he has committed will be forgiven.”

James Ch. 5 v14

1st Kirkliston Boy's Brigade Company

Here we are yet again approaching Christmas, and the summer a distant memory, maybe just as well, it wasn't one of our best! We started the new session on 30th August and with a few new recruits we now have 25 boys on the roll.

Sir William Smith, our founder was born 150 years ago on the 27th October in Thurso, and we celebrated this anniversary by taking all the boys to a special service in Bathgate High Church on the 3rd October, for all the local companies.

Our Company section boys under Duncan Hepburn's and Colin Simpson's supervision, spent one of the wettest nights this year under canvas in October, they were muddy, wet and tired after their expedition, but had a wonderful time and can't wait to go again. Junior section boys have a Biblical quiz, figure marching and football competitions to compete in next session and at the moment are working towards their first badges to be presented before the Christmas break.

We had almost a full turn out of boys for the Remembrance service this year, two of our anchor boys were sick and couldn't make it and sports commitments prevented two of our older boys attending. I must thank the under 9's KSQ football coach for yet again moving the kick off time to allow the boys to attend the service and parade, and still play their match.

I thought the boys looked very smart and did very well both in church and on the parade which was dry but very windy and cold, I had to hold on to my hat several times!

We finish up on 13th December with our Christmas outing, and return for the new session on Monday 10th January 2005.

A “Very Happy Christmas” from us all at the 1st Kirkliston

Valerie Edwards (OIC Anchor/ Junior Sections)



FLOWER CALENDAR JANUARY TO MARCH 2005



JANUARY	2	MRS WATSON, MAITLAND HOG LANE
	9	MRS MAC CONNACHIE, MAITLAND ROAD
	16	MRS DOIG, STONEY FLATS, SOUTH QUEENSFERRY
	23	MISS BOWMAKER, QUEENSFERRY ROAD
	30	MRS BRECHIN, THE SQUARE
FEBRUARY	6	MRS BROOKS, STEWART PLACE
	13	MS WHITE, DUNDAS PLACE
	20	MRS HAYES, THE GLEBE
	27	MRS FAIRBAIRN, NEW LISTON
MARCH	6	MRS BROWN, ALAN PARK
	13	MRS EDMONT, LOANHEAD COTTAGES
	20	MRS KING, THE GLEBE
	27	VACANT

FLOWER DELIVERY

JANUARY	MRS BROWN, MRS BIRD, MRS KING
FEBRUARY	MRS BUCHANAN, MRS GLEN
MARCH	MRS MAC CONNACHIE, MRS WRIGHT, MRS ROBERTSON

HELP NEEDED

I am still looking for people to help with flower deliveries. It only takes a short time after Church on Sunday morning and is a very rewarding task. Please phone me if you can help. There is a vacancy at the end of March and if anyone would be prepared to provide the flowers on that day please phone me. If you know of anyone who needs cheering up please tell me, or the ladies who are on the flower deliveries and we will organise for some flowers to be taken to them. Thank you to all who have made donations to the flower fund and provided flowers in the past year. Your assistance is much appreciated.

JOYCE BROOKS

Flower Convenor Tel: 0131 333 3710

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

This year we are using the new material from Scripture Union which both the teachers and the children are enjoying. The lessons are presented in an interesting way and the take-home sheets are bright and colourful. As this material is geared for all age groups, it means that the whole Sunday School, including the Beginners, are all doing the same lesson each week.

On Harvest Sunday, the older children enjoyed helping with a bring and buy sale after Sunday School, which raised the sum of £158. This money went towards the Aqua Boxes for the Sudan. The children had heard about this appeal and were keen to be involved. Thank you to everyone who came and supported us.

The children continue to collect their "brown pennies" each week, which we send to a children's charity.

For the past few weeks, we have been learning about God's wonderful creation and now we are on to the Christmas story. We are also busy preparing for our Nativity Tableau in Church on 19th December and of course, we are all looking forward to our party that afternoon.

On behalf of the Sunday School staff, I would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas.

Linda Moss,
Sunday School Superintendent.

DRIVER'S ROTA –DECEMBER 04 to MARCH 05



Thank you very much to all the people that are in the Gift Aid system as this year the tax claimed back will be £6145.43p, which makes up a significant portion of the overall giving.

But..... (aye there is always a but!)

We are facing a shortfall of money if things continue as they are. This is due to the following reasons:

- General giving is either static or reduced.
- Therefore.....Tax reclaimed is reduced.
- Members forget to make up their envelopes for the weeks missed at the Church.

The actions required to avoid any financial trouble are simple:

- If you pay tax sign up for Gift Aid.
- Give regularly by FWO envelopes or standing order through your bank.
- Increase giving if you can.

Remember, by signing a Gift Aid Declaration you instantly increase your giving by 22% without any more cost to you.

Gift Aid forms, Standing Order forms and all other information available from:
Brian Hepburn on 0131 333 1656

Gift Aid is free money!

TRANSPORT TO CHURCH

DECEMBER	5	ANN DENHOLM
	12	KATHERINE BRADSHAW
	19	ELAINE ROBINSON
	26	ROB KEATING
JANUARY	2	ANN DENHOLM
	9	GORDON/MAGGIE McCONNACHIE
	16	PETER MELVILLE
	23	LYN BASTOW
	30	BASIL BAIRD
FEBRUARY	6	WILSON MARSHALL
	13	ANN REILLY
	20	COLIN/JENNY RIDDELL
	27	BILL PATERSON
MARCH	6	KATHERINE BRADSHAW
	13	ELAINE ROBINSON
	20	ROB KEATING
	27	GORDON/MAGGIE McCONNACHIE

Drivers please advise Mrs. Lindsay (0131 333 4934) of any changes.

If you would like to help with the transport or require any more information contact Ann Denholm (0131 333 1834).





DORCAS LUNCH CLUB

The Dorcas Ladies continue to serve snack lunches in the Church Centre every Tuesday between 12 noon and 2pm. Four new ladies have joined the team and we are delighted to have their help and commitment to the Lunch Club.

The last Lunch date for 2004 is Tuesday 14th December, when we shall be serving a special 2 course Christmas Lunch, with coffee and mints for £5. All the proceeds from the lunch will be split between the Rock Trust and the Bethany Christian Trust for their work with the homeless in Edinburgh. Please support this fundraising event and help those less fortunate than ourselves to enjoy some Christmas fare.

With every blessing at Christmas and the New Year. The Lunch Club will resume on Tuesday 11th January 2005.

Margaret Brechin : Co-ordinator

A big thank you to everyone who supported our Shoe Box Appeal. 81 well filled shoe boxes were delivered to the Blyhswood Care Perth Support Group in November. The Group thanks the Church members for all their help which will bring a smile to the faces of many boys, girls, teenagers, men and women in Romania this Christmas.



BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Bible study groups are a central part of our church life. Two groups meet fortnightly on Wednesdays-one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The Thursday evening group will resume its weekly meeting in the Church Centre on Thursday evenings in the New Year. Anyone wishing to find out more about a group please contact Margaret Brechin (333 3252), Linda Moss (333 3779) or Katie Marshall (333 3209)

NEWS FROM BURMA

The newsletter entitled “The Flight of the Jungle Chicken” is on the notice board in the Church Centre. This newsletter gives us an insight into the terrible plight of the internally displaced people of Burma, who are constantly under attack from the Burmese Army. As the Army burns down their villages, these people are constantly on the move and live in fear of torture, rape and death. Please remember them in your prayers, and also the team of Christian volunteers who minister to them in very dangerous situations.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Wish all your friends in the Church a Happy Christmas and help others at the same time by writing your name on a label and sticking it on the Christmas Tree Poster in the Church Centre. Give the money you have saved on cards to this year's appeal for the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society who are building an Aids Hospital in Malawi. Your donation can be put in an envelope and placed in the Church offering bag, or given to the Minister or any Elder.

EARL HAIG POPPY APPEAL

A big thank you to all the collectors who carried out the door to door collections in Kirkliston and Newbridge and those who placed cans in the many business premises. As this newsletter goes to print we are completing the final count of all the generous donations and the final total will be announced in Church and displayed on the notice boards.

Margaret Wood
Kirkliston / Newbridge Poppy Convenor.

THE GUILD

This year's theme is “Dare to Care With Compassion” and we have welcomed Paula Roots who spoke about her visit to Romania, and Jen Whyte who is involved with Riding for the Disabled. Future talks based on our theme include

Rwanda, Africa Hope and Erskine Hospital. On a lighter note we have already had a visit from Wendy Kelly who spoke about the use of Herbal Medicine and by the time you read this Bruce Jamieson will have given us an insight into the history of Linlithgow Marches. Santa is also due to make an appearance at our Christmas party on the 8th of December.

On the 20th November we held a Cream Tea to celebrate the first ever "Guild Week" and a display was set up to show past Guild highlights.

A warm welcome is extended to anyone who would like to come along and join us on the 12th January when we will be having a discussion evening and a lucky dip in aid of the project.

M Glen and J McConnachie



PRAYER BREAKFAST

We meet once again on Sunday 12th December 2004 - the 3rd Sunday of advent - at 9am and then on Sunday February 6th 2005 at the same time.

We do not need reminded that we live in troubling and troubled times. We have many concerns about our world, community and church. What does God ask us to do? The letter to the Philippians tells us, 'in everything, by prayer and petition, present your requests to God'. (Philippians 4:6)

We begin with praise and then a prayer time followed by a good breakfast. All are welcome and if you cannot make it so early please pick up a prayer sheet so that you can join in our prayers.

The following is an extract from the latest letter from Jane and Mike in Thailand.

"Travel has been a major feature recently. Thank you to those who pray regularly for our safety on the roads - much appreciated. Thank you too for those who have been aware of, and prayed for us, during various health problems. It has not been an easy time health wise and we are not yet completely out of the woods. Please pray for renewed energy and better health. Dodo and Jane had an amazing time at the International Aids Conference. It was a privilege to hear Nelson Mandela and Kofi Annan speak. Since returning from the conference, the Aids project has grown and developed. The committee has met for the first time and several new patients have been added to our books. Sadly we recently lost a two-year-old child - please pray for his parents as they grieve.

In March 2005 we will be due to go back to Scotland for our normal two yearly, four month home leave. However, the Church of Scotland is in dire financial straits and will not be renewing our contract. Obviously this has enormous ramifications for our future lives and work. Please pray for us as we try to continue with our busy jobs but also look at possibilities for our future. The children, particularly Rachel, find the uncertainty about the future particularly unsettling - please pray that we would all have peace about it. The next few months are going to be very busy as we try to make sure that all the projects with which we are involved are handed over."

Thanks to all who purchased Lapel Badges- we raised £110 for 100 Badges!
Thanks too to those of you who hand me little bags of copper coins from time to time. I was able to hand over £70 from this source.

Muriel Naylor



RECITAL: A TRIBUTE TO KATHLEEN FERRIER

As a tribute to one of the greatest singers that Britain has ever produced. Elizabeth Woolven and Alan Graham will perform a recital of songs (from opera to folk song) which will always be associated with Kathleen Ferrier. Included are 'Blow the wind southerly', 'Che faro senza Euridice' (What is life without thee) and 'Ombra mai fu' (the famous Handel's Largo). The recital is in aid of Robyn House, the new hospice being built on Loch Lomondside by the Children's Hospice Association of Scotland (CHAS). Tickets will go on sale in the New Year.

The Sunday School teacher was observing her class while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no-one knows what God looks like." Without hesitating or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

Youth Fellowship

Our YF is still going strong and youngsters enjoy our Sunday evenings. The leaders feel that we are blessed to have such a happy group of young people every Sunday evening.

We have been to the school's assembly and invited new members from P7 to come along and join us.

Together we have a pleasant evening in the church centre starting with music of your choice and finishing with the even more popular foods and drinks.

Our Christmas activity this year is bowling at Fountain Park and we are planning an overnight youth camp in the spring.

We would love to see more young people so please come along and join us in Chalmers Centre at 7:30.

Christina Pearson

ATHEIST HOLIDAY

An atheist complained to a Christian friend, "You Christians have your special holidays, such as Christmas and Easter. Jews celebrate their national holidays, such as Passover and Yom Kippur. But we atheists have no recognized national holidays. It's unfair discrimination."

His friend replied, "Why don't you celebrate April first?"

Traidcraft

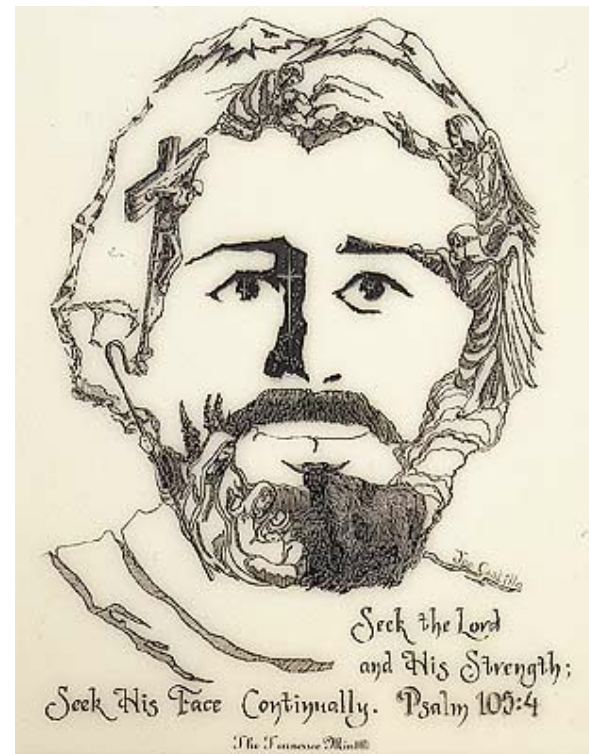
We continue to run a popular Fair Trade stall on the second Sunday of each month at 12 noon, after the morning service, in the Church Centre. We stock a wide range of products, from tea and coffee and breakfast goods, dried fruit and chocolate to pasta, tomatoes and lentils and honey. If you have not already tried Fair Trade, it is the way that Christian Aid and Oxfam are encouraging us to support farmers in developing countries, by ensuring that they get fair prices for their hard work. The profits they make are then used in their own communities to provide education and health care, in very stark contrast to those lands where the multi-national companies pay below subsistence prices for the coffee, tea and sugar that is sold under well-known labels. The Co-op has now made many of its lines Fair Trade products, including bananas, wine and chocolate - do give them a try - we recommend them! The church stall provides over £2,500 worth of support annually, through the Just World Shop in Portobello, where we get our supplies. Well done to those of you who regularly shop with us! May and Paula would also like to thank all our helpers, especially the hard-working drivers on May's rota and people like Christine who have stepped in to help on the stall. We will be announcing the annual meeting (and party) for the Just World Shop soon: all welcome.

May Scott and Paula Roots 0131 334 1819

Child Protection

This has been a busy last few weeks, getting Disclosure Scotland (police) checks on new members of staff in the creche, Sunday School and in the Boy's Brigade. The new requirements, since Soham, are that I see photographic identification and an up to date verification of your address, when you fill in the Disclosure form. I would also remind folk either volunteering to help, or seeking new staff, that a Disclosure check from another job is not enough for the Church, we still need to do one, but the reference number of your last check will speed up the process. There will probably be more Presbytery training course after the New year, and we could ask them to come out here if we had 15 staff in total needing to attend one. So please let me know if you, or volunteers in charge of children in any job in the church, still need to attend training.

Paula Roots 0131 334 1819



Look closely –the more you look the more you see!

ALPHA COURSE

Alpha is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian Faith in a relaxed, non- threatening setting over 10 thought- provoking weekly sessions (held in the evenings) and in addition an 'away day ' held on a Saturday. The 2004 Course is currently being run in Kirkliston Bowling Club. Over 20 attend each course (Christians and non Christians) and our next course will be held in the Autumn, starting September 2005. Look out for the Alpha posters in the village and come along to the Alpha Supper!
Jesus said ' I am the way, the truth and the life ' (John 14 verse 6)

For more information contact Paula Roots 0131 334 1819 or Katie Marshall 0131 333 3209



CHURCH FABRIC.

Each year we spend in the order of £12,000 in maintaining the Church properties and replacing items such as furniture and carpets.

In addition we require to embark on major projects every few years to tackle larger and more serious work and we start one of these projects in the next few weeks.

The stonework on the South Elevation of the Church (excluding the Norman Arch) and the West Elevation of the Crypt will be repaired. The work of indenting (taking out stones which have deteriorated badly and replacing them with sound stones) and repointing will take about two months and the cost will be around £30,000. This will be funded by a Grant from the Baird Trust, a further Grant from the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland and in addition a loan from the General Trustees.

The external door on this side of the Church is likely to be out of use during this project.

Wilson Marshall
Fabric Convenor.

Church Without Walls

This is the name for the Church of Scotland's programme for extending the relevance of the church into the community in the 21st Century. So far a group of around 12 people, drawn from across the congregation, have been looking at what might be useful in Kirkliston and its parish.

Meetings have been set for the winter months, at which we would welcome anyone from the village/ parish, to draw up a plan of action for the next few years.

We have one simple rule - don't suggest it if you won't contribute to it yourself! We are not here to get up a list of things that 'someone else' should do - but we are open to ideas of how the church can be of meaning to modern life, to people with commitments on Sunday mornings and who want to know more about God.

If you have ideas, thoughts or comments please come along to the Church Centre, the Square, Kirkliston on the following dates at 7.30 - a warm welcome and coffee await you.

- Monday 6th December
- Tuesday 11th January
- Friday 25th February (please note the change to accommodate the Church ceilidh)
- Wednesday 16th March

Minutes from, or notes summarising, the last meetings will be available for anyone wishing to catch up on any part of the discussion so far.

Paula Roots 0131 334 1819