

Friends of Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

## Easter Greetings from Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

Newsletter 40

March 2018

### Calling Early Birds to May Morning!



Greet **May Morning** in the tradition of Kirkcaldy Old Kirk by climbing to the top of the 15th century tower at 6am on Tuesday May 1st and singing to welcome Spring to the sea and the

land, before descending to a well-earned breakfast in the café area. Let us know how you like your egg! (Tel. No. 01592 265499)

This tradition was started in the early 20th century by a choirmaster from Cambridge and continues to take the seagulls by surprise!

We would welcome you to come along with us.

### Reflections on the Journey to Easter Day - Holy Week 2018

This year the Old Kirk will be open during Holy Week from 2pm to 3.30pm on Tuesday 27th March, Thursday 29th March and on Good Friday - Friday 30th March - as we prepare for the joy of Easter Day with opportunities for reflection.

Norman Milne will play on the Old Kirk organ at these times and you are welcome to come in for personal reflection, or to join in the Spiritual Tour of the church at 2.30pm. On Friday we focus at 2pm on "Why Good Friday is good?" in a short 20 minute consideration of the significance of the day.

On Easter Sunday we invite you to join our sister church St. Peter's Episcopal in a celebratory service at 10.30am.

*Easter is the celebration of  
Light that never dims, Life  
that never dies and Love  
that never fails.*

#### HELP REQUIRED!

Every year in the summer we open the Old Kirk to the public with an exhibition for visitors. This year we are planning one on the **Suffragettes and Suffragists in Kirkcaldy** (look no further than the Manse!) as we celebrate the centenary of the first women gaining the right to vote in Britain.

Would you like to join us in researching and preparing this exhibition over the next 6-8 weeks?

Please let us know if you can, and when you are available in the week.

We are also looking for volunteers to assist with stewarding and a young enthusiast of social media would be welcome!



## Organ News...

### for beginners and established players!

We are very grateful to our volunteer organists, principally Norman Milne, who keep our fine Gern organ in good working order, by regularly putting it through its paces.

Now with the sponsorship of Edinburgh Society of Organists we have two fledgling organ scholars to learn the skills of the instrument in a shared venture with St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

If you are interested or know someone proficient in playing the piano who would



also like to learn the organ in future, please let us know.

On **Saturday 28th April** the Scottish Churches' Organist Training Scheme (SCOTS) will be holding a local workshop in the Old Kirk and St. Peter's under the tutelage of Douglas Galbraith, Matthew Beetschen and Richard Michael. SCOTS exists to encourage emerging organists as well as to assist those already in posts who wish to develop their skills.

The focus is not so much on achieving technical brilliance as on developing the gifts, skills and understanding to contribute to a more satisfying experience of worship for the whole congregation.

All interested church organists of whatever level are welcome to attend and should register for the day (10am - 3pm) with Ruth Irons (email [ruthirons@icloud.com](mailto:ruthirons@icloud.com)) to receive further details. The cost is £25 (£15 concession)

There is also a leaflet with additional information on the SCOTS Training Scheme to be found at :

<http://www.scotsorgan.org.uk/files/SCOTS%20Jan%202018%20Leaflet.pdf>

We are also happy to welcome a visit in June from members of the Scottish Historic Organs Trust (SHOT) who wish to visit the organ as one of historic note. It makes us appreciate even more what a fine instrument it is!

## Come and Sing - The Armed Man - A Mass for Peace, by Karl Jenkins

Kirkcaldy Choral Union invite you to come and sing this special piece of music with them, led by a guest conductor, Neil Metcalfe. The day will consist of a rehearsal from 2pm to approximately 5pm, with the performance starting at 7pm.

Interested in attending? Please e-mail: [secretary@kirkcaldychoral.org.uk](mailto:secretary@kirkcaldychoral.org.uk). as numbers will be limited to 90 singers. The event is free for singers, with only a small donation for the hire of the music. If you have your own copy, please bring it along.

Tickets for the performance will be available at the door. This is the Choral Union's 3rd performance of "The Armed Man" in Kirkcaldy Old Kirk - previously in 2004 and 2013!

**Kirkcaldy Choral Union : Sunday 29th April 2018 : 2pm and 7pm**



# Spring Concerts in Kirkcaldy Old Kirk



**LOOK OUT!**  
Coming this  
summer:

**Wed. 18th April**

**Kirkcaldy Music Society** : AGM followed by a Recital by the Kirkcaldy-based Colla Voce singers.

Wine/soft drink & nibbles afterwards.



7.30pm      *Tickets (£12, concessions £5) available at door*

**Tuesday 5th June**  
7.30pm

**Kirkcaldy  
Orchestral Society**

Open Rehearsal -  
try it!

**Fri. 20th April and Sat. 21st April**

**East Fife Male Voice Choir** 6th Annual Concert with Conductor Marilyn Boulton and Accompanist Robin Bell. This year, the 100-year anniversary of WW1, the choir will be singing songs from that era, together with one written in memory of WW1 hero Robert Dunsire, born in Buckhaven in 1891 and awarded the prestigious Victoria Cross for bravery in action in France.



Guest Artist: John Wallace, O.B.E. highly acclaimed virtuoso trumpet player from Methilhill and still the only Scot to hold the position of Principal of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Kirkcaldy Old Kirk has another close connection : Alex Wallace, John's cousin, was an elder in Kirkcaldy Old Kirk for many years so this is a family visit!



7.30pm      *Tickets (£12) available at door*

*For more info: 01592 261947      or      [www.efmvc.org.uk](http://www.efmvc.org.uk)*

**Friday 8th June**  
7.30pm

**Kirkcaldy Gilbert  
& Sullivan Society**

Summer Concert

**Saturday 23rd June**  
7.30pm

**Fife Ladies' Brass  
Band**

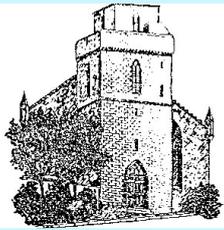
Charity Concert

**July/August**

**Fraser Morrison &  
Friends**

Charity Concert





## KIRKCALDY OLD KIRK TRUST

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okheritage@blueyonder.co.uk

### The music continues...

Tues. 1st May 7.30pm

#### Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society

Variation 6: The Extra Bits

Concert of classical & contemporary music

Tickets £8 at the door.

Friday 11th May 7.30pm

#### East Fife Ladies' Choir

Conductor Douglas Guild leads the ladies in a burst of musical sunshine for their Spring Concert.

Tickets at the door.

Fri. 25th May 7.30pm

#### Music in May

**The Langtoun Singers** with Conductor Ella Wilson bring some bright Spring song to the Old Kirk in their annual concert.

Tickets at the door.

### Repair and Restoration

Over the winter we have been without a significant feature in the Old Kirk: the right-hand Burne-Jones window, which was badly vandalised before we took over the Old Kirk, was removed last year and transported to Glasgow for repair and restoration. Its absence was even more noticeable when the "Beast from the East" blew directly against the temporary boarding!

We are now invited to see the progress of the work in the conservator's studio in Glasgow. The glass itself is repaired and cleaned and it is being framed in brass to refit it in the window space along with the protective glazing outside.

If you are interested in this trip to Glasgow in the next 3 weeks, please let us know by phone or email as above.



The damage was obvious with holes in the figure above

#### The Auld Kirk Players: an evening of One Act plays Thursday May 31 and Friday June 1 in the Old Kirk.



The bad news was that snowy weather at the beginning of March disrupted the One Act Festival of the SCDA and made members of the cast unavailable to take part.

The good news is that as a result the AKPs have decided to put on for you the two plays from that date and another one as well!

All three plays have been written by members of the group - Isabel Coventry, Fraser Anderson and Graeme Ferguson and they will feature well-known folk like Margaret Horne, Helen McIntyre, David Potter, Elaine MacGlone and Lynsay Duff as well as a few new faces. Tickets will be on sale soon - look out for them!

Saturday 21 April 2018  
10:00 - 16:30  
The Rothes Halls,  
Glenrothes

The 29th Scottish Association of Family History Societies **Conference and Family History Fair** will be hosted by Fife Family History Society on the theme of "Was Your Ancestor a Fife Convict?"

The Fair is an annual event open to the public. Entrance is £2 at the door. Accompanied children under 12 will be admitted FREE. Entry to the 4 talks on the day is in addition.

Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust will have a stall at the Fair. Visit us there!

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