



New KOS Season : Fact and Fiction

With Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society now based in Kirkcaldy Old Kirk, our opening concert of the Autumn season on Tuesday 2nd October at 7.30pm is the first of our "family" concerts.

'FACT and FICTION' is the orchestra's chosen theme for 2018/9. All of the music over the year has its roots on stage, screen, radio, theatre and in the written word, and so the Orchestra's theme music for the year is Leroy Anderson's *The Typewriter*.

The Autumn concert will feature a tribute to the memory of all those involved in and

affected by World War 1 in *Tunes from the Trenches*, as well as a performance of WW1 soldier composer George Butterworth's evocative *Banks of Green Willow*.

The KOS Ensemble will treat the audience to four film themes, before the first movement of Borodin's second symphony. The programme is completed by John Gourlay's *Now fades the glimmering landscape* and the three dance scenes from Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*.

The orchestra has grown in strength lately with the arrival of some new

members and now almost 70 musicians from all over Fife and even some from across the Forth, will be performing. Some wonderful music-making to look forward to and to inspire our young people!

**KIRKCALDY
ORCHESTRAL
SOCIETY
CONCERT
TUESDAY 2nd OCT.
7.30pm**



Minerva Scientifica

Watching in the audience while the orchestra show what their instruments can do, will be several young people from Viewforth School on Windmill Campus in East Kirkcaldy.

These young people will be composing a piece as part of their Higher and Advanced Higher Music course, and can see and hear at the concert the range and versatility of some orchestral instruments which

may be previously unfamiliar to them.

This year they are also participating in a project to bring out the attractions of science, technology, engineering and maths as enjoyable subjects and prospective jobs, particularly for girls who may not have considered them before.

Using music as a means to tell the stories of famous local women scientists e.g. Mary Somerville from

Burntisland, or our own Campbell sisters from Kirkcaldy Old Kirk manse, Frances Lynch of Minerva Scientifica will be presenting a concert in February which will include some of the music created in working with these young people as well as her own programme of songs.

Look out for the February concert with Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society playing some of the pieces.

Rosyth Concert Band in Concert for Old Kirk!

Rosyth Concert Band is the latest Big Band to come to the Old Kirk. A community Wind Band composed of all ages, led by Bill McCance, it has a wide repertoire for your enjoyment : as Bill put it, "old classics, new classics, and everything in between! That takes in songs from shows and much, much more!

It also has a special connection to Kirkcaldy Old Kirk for some of its players are Friends of the Old Kirk! Indeed Old Kirk folk may remember Renia's mother, Mrs. Janas, whose skills were well-valued in the Ladies' Workparty, contributing to many a church fundraising Sale of Work.

Rosyth Concert Band just love to



play music - and they have offered to play this concert for us as part of our fundraising effort for Kirkcaldy Old Kirk's tower repairs.

We are waiting to hear in November the results of our latest grant application but we already know there will be stiff competition for a financial award as organisations everywhere are feeling squeezed just now.

So we welcome your support for this event - and we would like to have a really good turnout as we intend to give half the proceeds to a cancer charity as well. Tickets cost £10 for adults, and £4 for children and are available from the Old Kirk office (contact details above) or at the door on the night.

So here's your chance to enjoy a night of good tunes and fine music- and help the community as well!

SATURDAY 3RD
NOVEMBER 7.30pm
Come and enjoy
old classics, new classics
and everything in
between....

Bereavement Services

Over the next month Kirkcaldy Old Kirk will host two services for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one.

The first is on **Sunday 7th October**, when NHS Fife Renal Medical Service will hold their Annual Memorial service at 2pm.

On **Sunday 4th November** the NHS Spiritual Care Team will

lead a service of remembrance for those who have experienced the loss of a pregnancy, young baby or loved one of any age.



Coming in November:

AULD KIRK PLAYERS present:

Secondary Cause of Death

A comedy

THURSDAY 15th Nov, and

FRIDAY 16th Nov, at 7.30pm and
SATURDAY 17th Nov at 2.30pm.

Tickets from 01592 265499

Do you remember Anthony's Hotel?

Anthony's Hotel was a well-known venue in Kirkcaldy for weddings, celebratory dinners, dance classes, and more. Now of course it has been replaced by Gowrie House Care Home .

However, this was all news to the American couple who a fortnight ago visited Kirkcaldy as the town of Andy West's ancestors, John and Mary Anthony, proprietors of not just

one but four incarnations of Anthony's Hotel!

At the Downie Lounge they received such a warm welcome, followed by a comprehensive historic tour of the High Street area and the hotel sites, and a trip up the tower for a bird's-eye view, that they abandoned thoughts of going on to St. Andrews in favour of Kirkcaldy's history!

Those 4 sites for Anthony's Hotel? Firstly, Anthony's West End Temperance Hotel at the corner of 1 Charlotte Street, then the house where the dental practice now is, thirdly the Whyte House itself and only in 1924, just before Mary Anthony's death, the Albert Road site. It was then called Gowrie House, the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. Landale, from whom the Anthonys bought it, later adding on the former St. Peter's Manse next to it.

Re-dedication of Burne-Jones Window

At last - it's back!

The Burne-Jones window depicting Miriam and Ruth is back in its place in the Old Kirk and is shining brighter than ever.

Mark Bambrough, who with his team completed the task of restoration, explained all the work of cleaning and making new pieces to fill in the holes made by vandals was done by hand. The window itself has a sheet of protective glazing and it is specially ventilated to avoid damaging condensation,

while a grille outside stops a repeat of the vandalism effects.

Now comes the time for a celebratory re-dedication of the window and we plan to hold this on Sunday 21st October at 2pm in the Old Kirk.

There will be music from one of our new Organ scholars and a contribution from Mark about the artist's approach to the work of restoration, and it is hoped to have an art historian telling us something of why Burne-Jones was held in such high esteem for his work. We will of course finish off the proceedings with some refreshments for the occasion.

*You are warmly invited
to join the Friends of
Kirkcaldy Old Kirk at
the celebratory service
of re-dedication of the
Burne-Jones window on
Sunday 21st October at
2pm*

Kirkcaldy Music Society

The first concert of Kirkcaldy Music Society's season will take place in the Kirk on **Wednesday 10th October at 7.30pm.**

The programme will be a selection of piano solos and duets played by Murray-McLachlan, his wife,

Kathryn Page, and three members of their family. The recital is entitled "The Pianist as Hero".

Tickets are available at the door on the night : adults £14, concessions £5, or season tickets for all 7 concerts this season, £60.



Old Kirk "Family" News

Congratulations to **Dave and Daisy Nicholson**, who celebrated their **Diamond Wedding** in September. They were married in the Old Kirk on September 6th 1958, after meeting in the town's Burma Dance Hall.

Good wishes to **Karen** and her family, as they await the arrival of a new baby this month. Karen's sister, Jennifer McLean, and parents Anne and John Anderson, held a Baby Shower in the Downie Lounge recently for her.

Sad news too : **John Beveridge**, who lived with Esther Macleod for 18 years and had reached the age of 70, died last week in hospital. Latterly he had been cared for in Adam House and had dementia but in happier days enjoyed Esther's garden, going on holidays and the special service he got at the Victoria Hotel! He will be remembered as a character, larger than simply life with Down's Syndrome.



Jo Woolf on Shackleton in Scotland

On **October 18th** Jo Woolf, author and journalist, will talk in Kirkcaldy Old Kirk at 7.30pm

on her research about Shackleton the explorer, who was once President of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society.

All interested are welcome

KIRKCALDY CIVIC SOCIETY

SPOOKY GRAVEYARD GOINGS-ON!

Kirkcaldy Civic Society Hallowe'en Ghost Walk 2018



In heavy rain the guides would lead us over to shelter in the Old Kirk itself when I expect ghosts would flit in out of the rain too...

Go carefully down Kirk Wynd on Hallowe'en this year for on this one night there will be ghosts about in Kirkcaldy Old Kirkyard and down the town, rising from their graves to tell their stories to those who dare to listen!

Those fearless individuals willing to go on Kirkcaldy Civic Society's Ghost Walk should meet at the Hunter Hall in Kirk Wynd on Wednesday 31st October between 6pm and 6.15pm. Intrepid guides from Kirkcaldy Civic Society will lead you through the darkened graveyard and down the town, in small groups at 5 minute intervals for safety, to meet some of Kirkcaldy's past characters (and a few surprises!) We will make our way to sanctuary for spooky refreshments to revive any flagging spirits(!) A small donation is requested for this - suggested £2/£3 for adults

Families are welcome and there will be a small prize for the best fancy dress costume worn on the Ghost Walk. Who will appear this year? Come and see!



7th Fife Gravestones Conference: Saturday October 27th



'We spend our years as a tale that is told'

So runs Mr. Russell's epitaph in Kirkcaldy Old Kirk graveyard., and on Saturday October 27th Fife Gravestones Conference 2018 will be considering some of the tales about our forebears, their lives and their society that are revealed by their commemoration in death.

How did our ancestors cope when the disaster of the Black Death struck their communities in the 14th century? And plague in 1584 again? Is it true that a Kirkcaldy woman took the plague to Leith and 1400 died in Edinburgh as a result? Dr. Beth Thomas from St. Andrews University will address this interesting topic for us.

Eleanor Young of Logie Old Graveyard Group will chart the history of an ancient kirk and kirkyard in the Ochil Hills which have been restored to their former splendour, allowing visitors to see beautiful carved

mortality symbols and trade emblems on the gravestones, while Daniel Farrell will talk on Fife Kirkyards and their epitaphs.

How do you read these interesting and sometimes curious epithets? Professor George Thomson will talk on lettering and calligraphy : his expertise unlocked the identity behind a broken memorial stone in our manse garden and solved a mystery from the 17th century!

Gravestones and graveyards offer fascinating insights into past lives and the ways in which different societies have dealt with death and burial over the years. Christopher Dingwall will share his expertise on the Garden Cemetery Movement when Victorians designed graveyards as pleasure grounds to walk in.

Today, there are plans to create an Eco-cemetery and columbarium near Kinghorn Loch. I leave Richard Brewster from the Community Land Association there to explain to the mystified what a columbarium is and how this project has come about!

As we look forward, is it important to preserve historic graveyards? Can we justify that

financially when local authorities are looking for savings everywhere? Susan Buckham, former Carved Stone Adviser, will bring some insights from her recent projects with Edinburgh's World Heritage graveyards to engage our interest in this question.

This seventh Fife Grave Stones Conference hosted by Kirkcaldy Civic Society in Kirkcaldy's Old Kirk between 10am and 4pm on 27th October brings together these seven experts whose insights are guaranteed to be informative, thought provoking and entertaining.

In addition to the talks, there will be an exhibition where a dozen stallholders will be offering books, CDs and other relevant products for sale.

Tickets through Eventbrite at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fife-gravestones-conference-2018-tickets-45347323064 are £12.12 (including small booking fee). This includes your conference pack, coffee and light lunch. Walk up and non-Eventbrite ticket price is £12, and can be booked on 01592 265499.