

Friends of Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

Easter Greetings from Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

Newsletter 49

April 2019

Lunchtime Reflections on the Journey to Easter Day - Holy Week 2019

This year we are looking back at the year when our Old Kirk, then the Church of St. Patrick and St. Brisse (Bryce), was consecrated on 21st March 1244.

March was a significant month then, because in those days 25th March (not 1st January) brought in the new year of 1245. Not only that but Easter Sunday that year was March 26th.

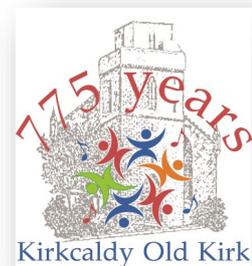
✝ The Old Kirk was consecrated on the Tuesday of Holy Week, the week when the Church follows the spiritual journey of Jesus in His last week of earthly life ending with the Crucifixion on Good Friday and the Resurrection of Easter Day.

✝ 775 years later we are still making that same spiritual journey during Holy Week from the excitement of Palm Sunday through the rigours of suffering and death in human experience to the expectation and hope of Love's triumph at Easter in the Resurrection.

✝ On **Monday 15th, Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th** of Holy Week we will hold **Lunchtime Reflections at 12 noon**. The Old Kirk will be open then for reflection and prayer with organ music played by Nancy Crook and Brian Adamson, and a spoken meditation at 12.30pm. **Between 1pm and 2pm there will be children's activities** also. All are welcome.

✝ In the Old Kirk we have a tradition of sharing with different Christian traditions on the Holy Week road. This year we invite you to join in the **Good Friday service at St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 12 noon and on Easter Sunday at 10.30am**. On **Easter Sunday 2-3pm** there will be **Easter Activities in the Old Kirk** for adults and children.

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



Organ Recital : Robin Bell

Saturday 20th April at 12 noon

To launch our 775 celebrations we are delighted to welcome Robin Bell, accomplished organist, dedicated teacher of Music in St. Andrews, well-known accompanist of the East Fife Male Voice Choir and fan of our wonderful Gern pipe organ in the Old Kirk, to play for us a recital on Easter weekend. Robin has chosen music from Oswald, Macmillan, Bach and Alain for our delight and his recital at 12 noon will be followed by light lunch refreshments.

Entry by donation.



The Story of Our 775 Logo...

In 1994 Kirkcaldy Old Kirk, then a Church of Scotland charge led by Rev. John Ferguson, celebrated the consecration of the Kirk in 1244, just as we are now doing in 2019.

For the series of celebratory events that took place then, a new logo was designed by a young member of the congregation, Alison Ritchie, daughter of Douglas and Ella Ritchie, elders of the congregation.

We are delighted that Alison, now living and working in Australia, has taken pleasure in designing the new logo for this year's 775 events.

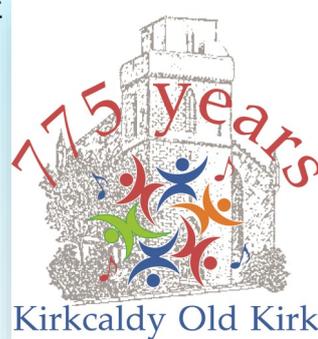
Like the previous design,

this one features the Old Kirk in the background but now with a vibrant motif of colourful dancing figures and musical notes. Alison wrote, "This is my favourite ... because to me it represents community, people getting together, movement and transformation."

"It's so lovely to have a continued connection with the Old Kirk ...and wonderful there is so much life and bustle in it."

The Old Kirk Trustees agreed with Alison's choice and now you can look out for the logo on all our year's 775 events!

Inspired by the design and remembering the tapestry made in 1994 by



ladies of the congregation to commemorate 750 years of the life and history of Kirkcaldy and its Kirk, Betty Hutchison, an Old Kirk volunteer, has made a suggestion.

She has offered to make a tapestry square, as she did in 1994 of the ancient bell, but this time of the new logo. She invites anyone else who is interested in contributing a square panel on a part of the Kirk's history to contact her at the Trust to discuss possibilities and avoid duplication.

The Old Kirk is still making history here in Kirkcaldy—and even has a recent outpost in Melbourne, Australia, where Douglas & Ella Ritchie are enjoying retirement amongst the Scots Kirk there, and their family!

Rosyth & District Concert Band Makes a Welcome Return

In November last year Renia Janas, a Friend of the Old Kirk, had arranged for this band, in which she played the tuba, to perform a charity concert in the Old Kirk in aid of our Tower Restoration Fund and a cancer charity, as she knew my little grandson had died of this. The band duly came and performed—but without Renia or her partner Eunice, as Renia had herself been diagnosed with cancer a few weeks before the concert.

On 28th January this year, Renia passed away. An enthusiastic member of the Old Kirk's Youth Fellowship in her young days, Renia had introduced me to the Old Kirk in 1972, both of us little thinking of this day. But we promised Rosyth Band they could come back with less hastily improvised arrangements—and I'm delighted Grace Black has made that happen. Please support them, enjoy their wide range of good music and make them warmly welcome!

Kirkcaldy Old Kirk : Saturday 11th May 2019 : 2pm to 4.15pm



Spring Concerts in Kirkcaldy Old Kirk



LOOK OUT!
Coming soon:

Wed. 17th April 7.30pm Tickets available at door

Kirkcaldy Music Society : AGM followed by a Recital by local Baroque musicians Cromlit's Lilt.

Wine/soft drink & nibbles afterwards



Fri. 3rd May 7.30pm
Harry Potter- Themed Quiz run by Fife College students

Tues. 30th April 7.30pm Tickets £5 at the door.

Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society : Fact & Fiction: Music From Two Eras

Concert of classical & contemporary music



Fri. 17th May 7.30pm
Doorways in Drumordy

Witty Scots play about a gossipy wee village in Aberdeenshire.

Fri. 10th May
7.30pm

East Fife Ladies Choir

Annual Spring Concert



East Fife Ladies Choir is looking forward to returning to the Old Kirk to perform a wide variety of music in its Annual Spring Concert, including Bob Dylan, and songs from the Musicals.

The audience is in for a treat with guests Gordon Cree and Scott Mitchell. Gordon is one of Scotland's premier musical talents whose career has taken him around the globe. He is a singer, actor, pianist, organist, orchestral arranger and conductor. Scott is an outstanding pianist and accompanist. At present, he is a Senior Staff Accompanist and lecturer in Piano Accompaniment at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland where he was recently made a Fellow. Unfortunately, the concert will not be long enough to allow them to display their many talents.

Tickets are available now via the website, www.eastfifeladieschoir.org.uk, choir members and at the door of the venue on the night.

Fri. 24th May 7.30pm

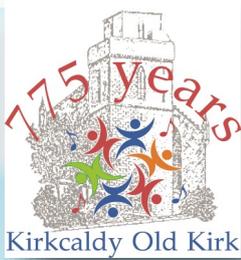
Music in May
The Langtoun Singers with Conductor Ella Wilson bring some bright Spring song to the Old Kirk in their annual concert with the Langtoun Salon Orchestra

Tuesday 4th June
6.45pm

Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society

Open Rehearsal - try it for just £3!





KIRKCALDY OLD KIRK TRUST

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775 ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

*The music continues...
at 12 noon*

Saturday 18th May

Nancy Crook

Former Organist of Kirkcaldy Old Kirk, now at St. Leonard's, Dunfermline, well-respected organist, accompanist and tutor.

Saturday 22nd June

John Kitchen M.B.E.

Eminent organist and musician, Director of Music at Old St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Edinburgh, City of Edinburgh organist, University of Edinburgh organist and friend of the Old Kirk.

Saturday 20th July

Krystian Sokolowski

Organist at St. Serf's, Burntisland

Repair and Restoration

Last autumn we celebrated the return of one of our Burne-Jones windows, which had been badly vandalised before we took over the Old Kirk and had been beautifully restored by Mark Bambrough, conservator in Glasgow's Stained Glass Centre.

Over the past few weeks we have been without the left-hand Burne-Jones window, as it too has been removed and transported to Glasgow for repair and restoration. 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. We hope to have it back in the next few weeks and to rededicate it as part of our 775th Anniversary Service in September.



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



Wednesday May 1st and singing Easter songs 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 James Gray, a choirmaster from Cambridge and continues to take the seagulls by surprise!

We would welcome you to come along with us as we celebrate 775 years of Easter here.

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