

Friends of Kirkcaldy Old Kirk



Newsletter No.10

September 2013

Autumn Opens with Historic Flourish!

Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

open to visitors

DOORS OPEN DAY

Sunday September 15th

1pm – 4.30pm

View the magnificent
stained glass windows

Climb the tower (at your
own risk) for fine views
over town and river

Teas/coffee available

SPECIAL FOR 2013

EXHIBITION :

REV. GEORGE GILLESPIE

1613-1648

**Thursday 19th
September at 7.30pm**

sees the start of our Autumn series of talks on Rev. George Gillespie's life and times, to commemorate his quadricentenary year after our successful summer exhibition.

**Dr. Kirsteen Mackenzie
from Aberdeen University**

will tell us why this important Kirkcaldy man is visited at his grave in the Old Kirk by American descendants and held in honour far afield though somewhat of a mystery to his town-folk. Her talk is entitled:

**“George Gillespie:
Historian, Theologian and
Defender of the
Presbyterian Faith.
Why was this Langtonian
important for Scotland?”**

*Come along and learn
about our town's man of
vision.*

Admission with refreshments afterwards is £2 but if you also buy a ticket for our second fundraising concert on Saturday 21st September, entry is free.

ENSEMBLE

*The Genius of Jerome
Kern*



Get your tickets now!

...and with a Swing!

The swing in our Autumn opening week is provided by Kirkcaldy group Ensemble, fresh from Edinburgh Festival Fringe success with their concert "The Genius of Jerome Kern" at 7.30pm on Saturday 21st September. This is a programme of light music with songs from "Showboat", "Smoke Gets

in Your Eyes", Ol' Man River, and we expect it to be an enjoyable and worthy successor to our first amazing packed concert of Spring 2012. All proceeds will go towards the Old Kirk's funds to maintain and enhance the Old Kirk facilities for the community. Tickets priced

£10 (adults), £8 (concessions) and £5 (school children) are available from the Old Kirk or 01592 596904

7.30pm

**Saturday 21st September
Kirkcaldy Old Kirk**

Children's Challenge!

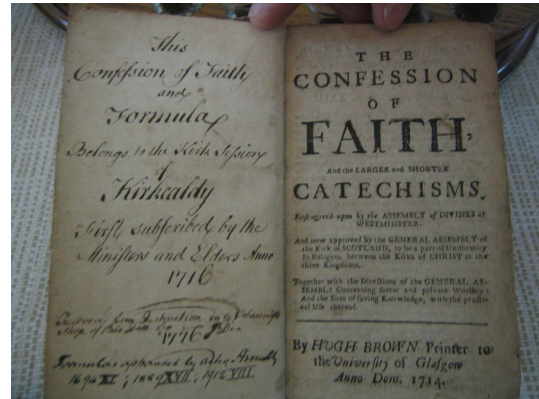
As part of our Summer Exhibition on the life and legacy of Rev. George Gillespie, we have on display the 1716 Old Kirk copy of the Westminster Confession of Faith, the declaration of faith and practice part-written for the Presbyterian Church by George Gillespie. So important to Scottish Presbyterians was their form of church worship and government in troubled Covenanting times when they had fought and in many cases died for it, that in the Old Kirk, elders at their ordination were asked to sign their names in this book as agreement to adhere to its formulae. This practice was followed from 1716 until the last

elders of Kirkcaldy Old Parish Church were ordained in 1996.

On the flyleaf is recorded the information that the book was "Rescued from Destruction in a Tobacconist's shop of this Date 1776 by J.D. Where had it been? How did it get there? Who was J. D. who found and returned it? We don't know!

So, children, there is the challenge: there will be a prize for the best tale of its adventures! Come & see the book, then send your entry with name,

Displayed by kind permission of the Congregation and Kirk Session of St. Bryce Kirk, Church of Scotland, Kirkcaldy.



"Recovered from Destruction in a Tobacconist's Shop of this date 1776 by J. D. "

Good News : £31,500 for Old Kirk facilities

The good news arrived last week from Creative Scotland that we have been successful in our application for a Small Capital Grant to improve the facilities in the Old Kirk for performers and audiences at concerts, drama and events.

This is Phase 1 of our refurbishment plans, which were reported on by architect Stephen Newsom earlier this year.

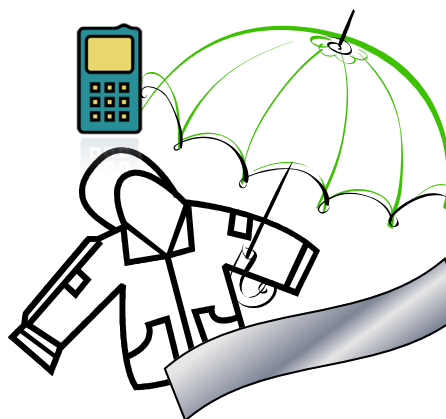
Included in Phase 1 are the re-installation of an audio-visual system and induction loop, removed before sale of the Kirk to us ; the provision of more toilets ; a mobile kitchen; additional stage lighting and other facilities for choirs and drama groups; and bringing the beautiful pipe organ into view at the front of the auditorium. Just wait to see how!

We are delighted to be able with this funding to improve the facilities in the historic Old Kirk for the whole community, including audiences, performers and the public engaging with their heritage.

Now we await news of other grant applications for the rest of the money needed - which will be helped by our concert money. So do buy a ticket and come along!

Lost Property – is it yours?

We have gathered a little collection of lost property from concert-goers and users of the Old Kirk. Before colder weather is upon us, check if you have lost a jacket, umbrella, black lacy stole or Nintendo case! All items are in the cloakroom area to be claimed.



Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust is a company limited by guarantee, no. 38720, registered charity SC042128

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