



## FRIENDS OF KIRKCALDY OLD KIRK

Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust SC042128

Newsletter No. 23

December 2015

### Happy Christmas - from Sir Edward Burne-Jones!

This year Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust sends you warmest greetings for Christmas in the form of Sir Edward Burne-Jones' stained glass window in the Old Kirk.

Now the oldest ones in the Kirk, these four windows on the East side contain a representation of the Nativity, with an angel watching over both Mary, the mother, and the focus of her attention, the infant Jesus. Joseph, watching over Him too, points to the Book, the Scriptures that foretell Him.

The Burne-Jones windows were executed at the works of William Morris, Merton Abbey, Surrey and were dedicated on 19th September 1886 by the Rev. Professor Milligan D.D. of Aberdeen. They have been described by an art expert as perhaps the finest Burne-Jones windows still in situ.

The famous association of Burne-Jones with William Morris, Rossetti and other pre-Raphaelites produced the distinctive artistic emphasis evident in these windows. The tinted glasses give a delicate and well-balanced scheme of colour and the natural leaf designs around them are typical of this style.

This summer we had a visit from Architectural Photographer Alastair Carew-Cox, who came from Worcestershire to photograph these windows for a beautifully illustrated book about Burne-Jones and the pre-Raphaelites. This image above is his copyrighted photo and we extend sincere thanks to him for permission to use it here.

Alastair left with us a copy of the first volume of his work, "Angels



and Icons", a beautiful work of art in itself, which you can view at the Old Kirk. Now he and his colleague, William Waters, who writes the text, are seeking funding to publish the second volume "Damozels and Deities" with our windows in it. This is no easy task and without financial help this important work may never be published.

The authors are now appealing to crowd-funding to raise £15,000 towards publication. You can follow their progress (almost the first

- The message of Christmas proclaimed in the Old Kirk for more than 800 years:
- "Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given... You shall call His name Jesus... Emmanuel, meaning God with us.
- "Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love Divine, Love was born at Christmas, Star and angels gave the sign." *C. Rossetti, 1830-94*

£1,000 already!) at [www.gofundme.com/DamozelsDeities](http://www.gofundme.com/DamozelsDeities). We wait in eager anticipation of their success!

Meantime we are consulting with Fife Council and other partners over ways to fund the repair of these windows, vandalized prior to our ownership, as part of an exciting conservation project at the Kirk. Watch this space for more news in future!



**Join us for our Old Kirk Christmas Carol Service**

**Sunday 20th December at 2pm**  
**Details on back page.**



## First of Three Concerts to Evoke the Spirit of Christmas

For a few years now Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society have brought their joyful Christmas music to enthusiastic audiences in the Old Kirk in mid-December.

This year we join the orchestra with the Langtoun Singers in their Winter Wanderings - through Cold Places

and with Winter Warmers, on Sunday 13 December 2015 in the Old Kirk.

There will be 2 performances on the day, one at 2.00pm & one at 3.45pm.

As you will see from the pieces below, children (and bears) are welcome, at the reduced rate of £4, with adults



only £8. Tickets are available at the door.

Join this special Bear in experiencing *Paddington Bear's First Concert*, with *Overture On French Carols*, *Christmas Festival*, and *Christmas Dance* and *Sleigh Rides* by Anderson and Delius, to follow.

An event to brighten up the winter afternoon and send you home singing!

## Fife Opera Christmas Concert

Another regular local amateur music group in the Old Kirk at Christmas time is Fife Opera, who rehearse in our own Hunter Halls.

Fresh from their successful run of "Faust" at the Adam Smith Theatre, Fife

**Saturday 19th  
December at  
7:30pm**

Opera's Christmas concert programme is a closely guarded secret but we believe it will contain a wide ranging mixture of opera, Christmas music and popular pieces. Hint: children's voices have been heard singing snatches of the Snowman's song : Walking

in the Air!  
Always a popular event, get your tickets early! Costing £10, they include a glass of wine.



## A Night at the Musicals - Christmas Special!

Our third Christmas concert is "A Night at the Musicals - Christmas Special" with some of Fife's best young musical talent performing a selection of well-loved songs from the shows, in aid of Fife Young Carers. Think of Les Misérables, Miss Saigon, Whistle Down the Wind, Disney classics, and many, many more, all fund-raising for a

good cause.

Fraser Morrison is the Artistic Director not only of this musical evening but also of Creative Flame, a new young company with a "passion for education and creative learning". They aim to use creative approaches, like interactive drama, to



**Sunday 20th December  
7.30pm**

address challenging issues, especially for young people, like internet safety. He is also a Young Arts Leader for Youth Theatre Arts Scotland.

This evening should be fun and fund-raising and full of fine music! Tickets cost £10 (conc. £8) and can be obtained from <http://creativeflame.nutickets.com/ANightAtTheMusicals> or at the door on the night.



## Civic Society Talk: 60 Years of Kirkcaldy in Film

Some rare glimpses of Kirkcaldy's past are the subject of Kirkcaldy Civic Society's talk by Bill Gourlay on **Thursday 10th December at 7.30pm in the Old Kirk**. Produced by local Talisman Films Limited, the film - 'Kirkcaldy Past and Present' - shows the ever changing face of the Lang Toun, featuring many unseen photographs and movie clips collected through the years.

Talisman Films' secretary Bill Gourlay will talk about the origins of the film with some illustrations.

"I was one of the founding members of Kirkcaldy Cine Club, despite the fact I didn't have a cine camera at the time!" he said. "I

bought a cine camera in 1963 and decided I would film the various changes that were happening in Kirkcaldy, such as the demolition of Goodsirs Brae to make way for Ravensraig Flats and changes in Mid Street, Nether Street and straightening the notorious Path.

"Over the years I filmed wholesale changes over the town, Barry's Factories, the last day of operation of Dysart and Sinclairtown stations, and the demolition of the Overton prefabs, to mention a few."



This fascinating talk is open to all, with non-members asked for a donation to the mulled wine and mince pies served afterwards. Bill will have some copies of his DVD for sale at £10—just the thing for a unique Christmas present!

## The Prince's Trust Scotland: Christmas Market

THE PRINCE'S TRUST SCOTLAND

### Christmas Market

Wednesday 9th December 2015  
From 1.00pm to 4.00pm  
The Old Kirk, Kirk Wynd, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1EH

Join us to discover lots of Christmas gifts and ideas whilst supporting over 20 young Fife entrepreneurs selling their products.

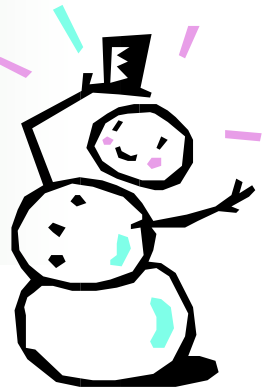
- Homemade condiments
- Jewellery
- Luxury chocolates & cakes
- Fabrics and cushions
- Pictures
- Glass/crockery ware
- Scottish textiles
- Sweets/confectionery
- Knitwear
- Dog Accessories
- Car Accessories
- Organic grains
- Organic herbs and teas
- + more stalls and products to be confirmed

also supported by

Enterprise programme

business gateway

Join us to discover lots of Christmas gifts and ideas whilst supporting over 20 young Fife entrepreneurs selling their products. **THE PRINCE'S TRUST SCOTLAND**



## Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust AGM

Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust will hold its Annual General Meeting on **Friday December 18th in Kirkcaldy Old Kirk at 2pm**.

The Agenda will include the presentation of Accounts, the Annual Report and Election of Trustees for the coming year.

Members wishing to appoint a proxy should contact the Secretary with their nomination.

*Lo. Rosemary Potter*

**Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust**  
**SC042128**

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*maintaining Kirkcaldy's heritage for  
 the community*



**The service will be followed by tea, coffee and  
 seasonal refreshments**

## Songs of Christmas Praise

with

**The Salvation Army**  
**Kirkcaldy Band**  
 and  
**Songsters**

Bandmaster: Stuart Watson

Songster Leader:  
 Marjory Watson

**Sunday 20 December**  
**2015**

**2:00pm**

**The Old Kirk**

Kirk Wynd  
 Kirkcaldy  
 KY1 1EH

Offering in aid of the work of The Salvation Army in Kirkcaldy  
 and Christian Aid.



### Christmas Dates for Your Diary

Prince's Trust Christmas Market in the Old Kirk	Wednesday 9th December	1pm – 4pm
Civic Society Talk by Bill Gourlay on Making Kirkcaldy History Film	Thursday 10th December	7.30pm
Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society Christmas Concert with Langtoun Singers-	Sunday 13th December	2pm and 3.45pm
Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust AGM	Friday 18th December	2pm
Fife Opera Christmas Concert	Saturday 19th December	7.30pm
Songs of Christmas Praise with Salvation Army Band & Songsters	Sunday 20th December	2pm
A Night at the Musicals - Christmas Special	Sunday 20th December	7.30pm
Civic Society New Year Walkabout and Quiz	Saturday 2nd January	2pm