

Easter Greetings from Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

Newsletter 34

April 2017

Calling Early Birds to May Morning!



Greet **May Morning** in the tradition of Kirkcaldy Old Kirk by climbing to the top of the15th century tower at 6am on 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. 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.

Journey to Easter Day - Holy Week 2017

This year the Old Kirk was open during Holy Week from 12 noon to 2pm on Wednesday 12th April and from 2pm—3.30pm on Good

Friday - Friday 14th April - as we prepared for the joyful celebration of Easter Day with opportunities for reflection.

On Wednesday 12th April Norman Milne played the Old Kirk organ between 12 noon and 1pm while there was a chance for personal reflection, or to join in the Spiritual Tour of

the church. On Friday we focused at 2pm on "Why Good Friday is good?" in a short 20-30 minute consideration of the significance of the day. Activities for children followed from 2.30pm - some results are

pictured here!



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

Friends of Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

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 history of the tower as we prepare for its further conservation.

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 with admin tasks, and a young enthusiast of social media would be welcome!

Organ Scholar

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 are investing in the next generation of players by engaging an organ scholar to learn the skills of the instrument.

This is a shared venture with St.Peter's Episcopal Church, who have a small organ specially designed as the exhibition organ for the International Organ Festival, St. Albans in 1976. Phil Kear, their organist and friend of the Old Kirk organ too, has moved on to Roslin Chapel as organist, and we are planning to share this new organ scholar in training.

If you are interested or know someone proficient in playing the piano who would like to learn the organ, please let us know.

Spring Concerts in Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

Wed. 19th April

Kirkcaldy Music Society : AGM followed by concert by soprano Erin Spence, accompanied by Mairi Rolland. Wine/ soft drink & nibbles afterwards.

7.30pm

Tickets available at door

Fri. 21st April and Sat. 22nd April

East Fife Male Voice Choir 59th Annual Concert with Conductor Marilyn Boulton and Accompanist Robin Bell. Guest Artists: The Earlshall Trio



7.3opm		
For more info: 01592 26194;	7 or	www.efmvc.org.uk

Fri. 26th May

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

7.30pm

Tickets available at door

LOOK OUT AHEAD! for

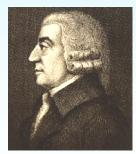
Opera Bohemia in the Old Kirk on Wed. 16th August





The Invisible Hand

A play opening the lid on Adam Smith's life and thought by Kirkcaldy play-



wright and actor John Yule

25-31st August 2017

The music continues...

East Fife Ladies' Choir will be singing in the Old Kirk for The Salvation Army funds in Kirkcaldy on Friday 22nd September 2017



An eclectic mix of music for a summer evening

The Old Kirk, Kirkcaldy Friday 2nd June, 2017

at 7.30pm Conductor: Robert Gardner Accompanist: Douglas Clark



Tickets: £12 / Students & Children £6 Society Box Office: 01592 - 566353 Online at www.kirkgandss.co.uk

Prana: The Life of Breath and How to Live it Fully

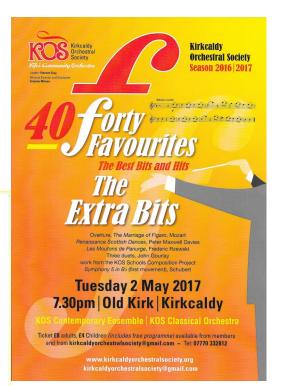


With Philip O'Donohoe and Neil

Douglas-Klotz Dr. Neil Douglas-Klotz is an internationally known scholar in the fields connecting religious studies and psychology as well as a poet, musician and author.

May 13-14, 2017 Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

- Sat. 10 am 5pm, Sun. 10 am 1 pm
- More info and registration details from http:// myemail.constantcontact.com/Prana--The-Life-of-Breath---13-14-May.html?soid=1102191413811&aid=8zIgICWQSwl



A fantastic 21st Birthday Celebration you are all invited to!put it in your diary now and get your tickets quickly before they sell out...

FRASER MORRISON's 21st Birthday Concert in aid of Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity

Sunday 2nd July 2017 at 7.30pm

A Highland dancing class will commence in the Hunter Hall on Mondays from 21st August with



various age groups. You might have seen a taster at our Environmental celebration evening!



KIRKCALDY OLD KIRK TRUST

SC042128 01592 265499 www.kirkcaldyoldkirktrust.org.uk okheritage@blueyonder.co.uk

Repair and Restoration



The damage is obvious with holes in the figure below.



Those with a keen eye will have spotted the blind spot in the Old Kirk's walls this past week: the right-hand Burne-Jones window, which was badly vandalised before we took over the Old Kirk, has been removed and transported to Glasgow for repair and restoration.

This is a skilled conservator's job and will take some time, but we are assured that when it is returned, the window will be brighter and more glorious than ever!

The broken protective glazing, which was in dangerous shards behind the wire grilles, has been carefully removed and will be replaced with new isothermal protective glazing, which should also benefit the heat retention in the Kirk. We are grateful for the contribution made by the Climate Challenge Fund to this work, making it possible to proceed, with other funds secured from Scotland's Churches Trust and the Dalrymple Donaldson Fund.

Sir Edward Burne-Jones was a famous Victorian artist, and worked often in partnership with William Morris and Co. who installed these windows, much admired by the art historians.

Also made possible by our Climate Challenge Fund grant have been much-appreciated works to insulate the Session-house with a new insulated roof, secondary glazing on the windows and insulated walls with a new covering of render. This has made a big improvement to the look of the annexe but more importantly conserved the heat inside, reducing the bills and saving carbon in the fight against climate change.

Along with other local recipients of a Climate Challenge Fund grant last year, we held a showcase event of our achievements on 28th March, followed by a celebratory evening of multicultural song and dance, which was much enjoyed by members of FRAE Fife, the Old Kirk Trust, Greener Kirkcaldy and Hayfield Community Centre.

With the end of the Project, we have to say goodbye to Carol Sidey, our Eco-Volunteer Coordinator for the year, and thank her for her work. Or maybe au revoir if we develop other projects in future?!

Easter Greetings from Kirkcaldy Old Kirk