

Friends of Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Newsletter



January 2020

Newsletter No. 58

Welcome to 2020!

However you saw the New Year begin, here at Kirkcaldy Old Kirk we wish you every blessing through the highs and lows of 2020—and may there be more highs than lows!

Our January began on the 2nd with over 20 people on Kirkcaldy Civic Society's Wee Walk - in the pouring rain! - followed by a warm drink of mulled wine, cake and Anne McIntyre's famous New Year Picture Quiz in the Old Kirk.

First time for the Auld Kirk bell to ring in 2020 came soon after, by a young

man from New Zealand called Tod tracing his ancestors back here to the 1600s. Same bell here then too!

Of course 2019 saw the start of our 775th Anniversary Year and that continues to its finale on 21st March this year, when Hannah Gibson, the accomplished young organist from Newport-on-Tay will give us her Organ Recital, followed on Sunday 22nd March in the afternoon by Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society's Spring Concert.

The 775th Organ Recital series has proven so popular



that we have decided to extend it to the end of 2020, with organists Chris Bragg, Andrew Forbes, Kamil Mika and Nancy Crook among those playing monthly till Christmas.

There will be much more to lift the spirit in the course of 2020 here at the Old Kirk. You can read of this month's events overleaf, but start with Saturday's Organ Recital by Howard Duthie below:

A CELTIC BLESSING FOR 2020

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
The rains fall soft upon your fields
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.



Organ Recital Saturday 11th January at 12 noon

This month's master organist playing for us on 11th January is Howard Duthie from Perth.

After a successful career in music education (at The Royal High School and at George Heriot's School in Edinburgh,

and latterly at Morrison's Academy in Crieff), Howard retired from full-time teaching in 2010 and is now involved in a wide range of professional musical activities in Perthshire and beyond. He was conductor of

the Perth-based chamber choir Chansons from 2002 to 2019, and first came to the Old Kirk with them in 2012. In 2011 he was appointed Director of Music and Organist at St John's Kirk, Perth. Howard will play some

Bach, Sullivan, Humperdinck and Vierne as well as "Five Dances for Organ" by John Gardner.

Entry is by donation (minimum £5 suggested) and the recital is followed by a snack lunch.



Kirkcaldy Music Society : James Gilchrist and Anna Tilbrook

Wednesday 15th

January at 7.30pm sees the first of Kirkcaldy Music Society's 2020 concerts with **James Gilchrist** (Tenor) singing Six Songs from "A Shropshire Lad" by Butterworth, "Songs of Travel" by Vaughan Williams and "Dichterliebe" by Schumann.

James trained as a doctor as well as a singer but chose the "medicine of the soul" as a career. He is accompanied by Anna

Tilbrook on the piano.

Anna has been described as "one of Britain's most exciting pianists, with a considerable reputation in song recitals and chamber music." She is an excellent accompanist and she and James have collaborated on many concerts.

Tickets cost £14 (£5 for ES40 holder/disabled/child/student) and can be obtained at the door.



Calling all railway enthusiasts to find "Some Lost Railways of Fife"!

Some Lost Railways of Fife : Thursday 16th January

Sandy Thomson is a Committee member of Kirkcaldy Civic Society with a passion for railways.

This is the latest of a number of talks for the Civic Society he has given over the past few

years, focusing on railways in Fife.

However this talk is different - because these railways are no more! Only traces of where they were remain, as Sandy will explain on Thursday

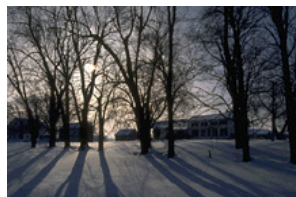
16th January at 7.30pm.

All are welcome to this open meeting. Non-members are requested to make a small donation for the light refreshments served after the talk.

S.A.D. Party in the Old Kirk!

Do you suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder?

A persistent low mood and feelings of worthlessness can be deepened by the dark wintry weather.



The low daylight in winter can affect people with low mood

To combat this, Jamie Lindsay has enlisted the help of friends to hold a series of 3

S.A.D. parties in the Old Kirk on Sunday afternoons in January (16th), February (9th) and

March (8th). Creative art workshops, performance sessions, board games and music making will be available with light refreshments.

Entry is £3 but free if you bring a S.A.D. lamp, whose light creates good effects on the brain.



Out with the Old, In with the New!

A busy December month of events concluded another calendar year full of events and activities in Kirkcaldy Old Kirk.

There is not space to publish a photo gallery of every event or aspect of 2019 in the Old Kirk but here's a few items to bring back memories...were you there?!



In September we celebrated our 775th Anniversary with a Service of Thanksgiving and the Re-Dedication of the second restored Burne-Jones window....and the flowerbed!



May Morning 2019

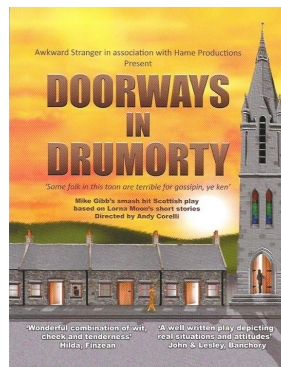


Fife College



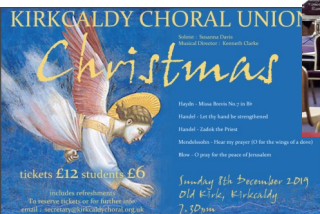
Some dressing-up prizewinners on the Hallowe'en Ghost Walk

Concerts, Drama



students gave the WW1 soldiers from the War Memorial names, faces and uniforms.

Christmas 2019



KANGUS held a busy, busy Christmas Fair! ▶



Jazz, Choirs, KOS



MUSIC IN MAY



FRASER MORRISON & FRIENDS



NYCOS BOYS' CHOIR—a great concert!



Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

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maintaining Kirkcaldy's
heritage for the
community

Some new and exciting talented organists added to our Organ Recital series for 2020!

Browse the list here and put the dates in your diary!



Kirkcaldy Old Kirk

775th Anniversary Organ
Recital Series

12pm

Sat. 20 th April 2019	Robin Bell
Sat. 18 th May 2019	Nancy Crook
Sat. 22 nd June 2019	John Kitchen
Sat. 20 th July 2019	<u>Krystian Sokolowski</u>
Sat. 17 th August 2019	Marion Lees McPherson
Sat. 21 st September 2019	<u>Dr. John Willmott</u>
Sat. 26 th October 2019	Richard Michael
Sat. 23 rd November 2019	Norrie Milne
Sat. 11 th January 2020	<u>Howard Duthie</u>
Sat. 21 st March 2020	Hannah Gibson
Sat. 16 th May 2020	Christopher Bragg
Sat. 13 th June 2020	<u>Kamil Mika</u>
Sat. 4 th July 2020	Andrew Forbes
Richard Bower (<u>tba</u>), Nancy Crook (Dec.)	

Celebrating 775 years of the Old Kirk

Entry by donation (min. £5)

Snack lunch refreshments afterwards

*Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust is a company limited by guarantee,
incorporated in Scotland with registered no. 38720, registered charity SC042128
E-mail: okheritage@blueyonder.co.uk Website: www.kirkcaldyoldkirktrust.org.uk*

BURNS SOIREE—Friday 24th January at 7.30pm

Following last year's successful Burns Soiree to celebrate the Scottish Bard's birthday, David Potter, the Auld Kirk Players and Friends are organizing another informal gathering this year to do the same in the Auld Kirk.

However, the celebration in 2020 will be on FRIDAY 24TH JANUARY because of other commitments.

Come along and enjoy the entertainment, with songs, poems and drama—and don't forget the haggis, of course!

There is opportunity to join in with an offering of appropriate song or verse - just please contact David Potter (tel. 01592 265499) first to avoid duplication.

Entry is only £5 but donations will also be welcome.



Up in the morning's no for me,
Up in the morning early;
When a' the hills are cover'd wi' snaw,
I'm sure its winter fairly.

The birds sit chittering in the thorn,
A' day they fare but sparely;
And lang's the night frae e'en to
morn,
I'm sure it's winter fairly.

Robert Burns

