

CHURCH OF THE HOLY RUDE

STIRLING

(Church of Scotland)



NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2016

FROM THE MANSE

Dear Friends

In the warm May sunshine I write as we find ourselves between the days of Ascension and Pentecost, having celebrated the ascension of Jesus but still, in terms of the Church year, waiting to celebrate the great festival of the Holy Spirit.

For the first disciples, this was a time of waiting, a time to reflect, a time for patience and prayer. Jesus had left them behind on earth with the command to preach the gospel to every nation, but the promised helper had not yet come upon them to inspire them and fill them with a renewed sense of purpose.

There are moments in everyone's life, when the demands of work or family or friends mean that we can feel overwhelmed by a continuous series of events, without time to stop and think, or time to relax and restore ourselves physically, emotionally and spiritually. All the wonders of modern technology, which do so much to improve our lives, can also become sources of stress, adding to the feeling that modern life is conducted at an ever-faster pace as we try to keep all the plates spinning.

Usually, when things run away with us, some at least of those spinning plates come crashing down. There is a lesson here for all of us, that if we want to follow the example of Jesus, we will find in the gospels that he regularly took time off to be alone or with a small number of his disciples, far from the demands of the crowds that followed him, far from the daily demands of the ministry he pursued among the people.

The Church is often called to be counter-cultural, and so we should be in this as in other things, learning to walk at a different pace from that of the world around us, making time and space for ourselves and for God. Times of retreat, times of prayer, times for reflection and recreation as we, like the first disciples, wait patiently to see what God will do next, and prepare ourselves, heart and soul, to respond.

With all my best wishes for a happy and fulfilling summer,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Alec' or similar, written in a cursive style.

From the Session Clerk

At the Kirk Session meeting on Wednesday, 11th May, I informed the members that due to health reasons, our Church Officer, Mr Robert Wyllie, has decided to stand down from his Post. Robert was appointed Church Office in January 1978 and over the years he has carried out his duties assiduously and with great diligence and we recognise the sterling service he has given as a faithful servant of the Holy Rude. It would be impossible to count the number of hours Robert has devoted to carrying out these duties and over the years he has ensured that all arrangements have been in place for Services, concerts, events and meetings. We are indeed indebted to Robert for the dedication he brought to the post of Church Officer and also to his wife, Elma, who has been covering some of his duties over the past few years. The Session was pleased to appoint Elma to the Post of Church Officer as from the 1st June and of course Robert will still be around to lend a hand or give a word of advice should it be required.

Over the summer months, there are a number of special events being held in the church, the main one being the dedication of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Memorial Window on Friday, 1st July at 11.30 am. The window will be dedicated by the Rt. Revd. Dr Russell Barr, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and I am sure this will be a most memorable occasion. As you know at the Morning Service on Sunday 22nd May, the Standard of the No. 43 Fighter Squadron RAF was laid up in the Church and a Memorial Plaque was dedicated. The Plaque is situated on the South Wall of the South East Aisle and the Standard will hang from the pillar opposite. I have included a photograph of the plaque on the next page.

The Ministry of Welcome Team is busy welcoming many visitors to the Church from all parts of the world and we have also had numerous enquiries from overseas groups regarding visiting times, possible guided tours and opportunities to perform short concerts for visitors. I am sure that the two splendid banners displayed on the railings outside the church are helping to attract the many visitors.

I take this opportunity to remind you that the King James VI Coronation Lecture will take place on Friday evening, 29th July at 7.30 pm and on Sunday, 10th July the renowned Australian organist, Thomas Heywood will give a recital in the church at 7.00 pm. Further details on both these events appear within the pages of this Newsletter.

I hope you all have an enjoyable summer and hopefully it will be an improvement on last year.

A laugh is just like sunshine, it freshens all the day,
It tips the peak of life with light, and drives the clouds away.
The soul grows glad that hears it and feels its courage strong,
A laugh is just like sunshine for cheering folks along.

A laugh is just like music, it lingers in the heart,
And where its melody is heard the ills of life depart;
And happy thoughts come crowding its joyful notes to greet:
A laugh is just like music for making living sweet.

Iain M White
Session Clerk

No 43 FIGHTER SQUADRON ROYAL AIR FORCE



**IN 1916 A GROUP OF EARLY AVIATORS IN THE
ROYAL FLYING CORPS GATHERED AT STIRLING
IN THE FIELDS BELOW THE CASTLE AT
FALLENINCH TO FORM WHAT WAS TO BECOME
ONE OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE'S MOST
DISTINGUISHED FIGHTER SQUADRONS.**

**ITS DISTINCTIVE EMBLEM OF THE FIGHTING COCK
EMBODIES THE SPIRIT AND RESILIENCE OF
A SQUADRON THAT WAS IN THE VANGUARD OF
RAF OPERATIONS FOR ALMOST A CENTURY,
GAINING BATTLE HONOURS IN BOTH WORLD WARS
AND LATER IN THE GULF AND IRAQ WARS.**

**THE SQUADRON WAS AWARDED
THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF STIRLING IN 2005
PRIOR TO ITS DISBANDMENT IN 2009.**

**ERECTED TO COMMEMORATE THE CENTENARY
OF THE FORMATION OF 43 FIGHTER SQUADRON
ON THE OCCASION OF THE LAYING UP OF
ITS STANDARD ON 22 MAY 2016.**

GLORIA FINIS

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



Easter was a busy time at the Holy Rude with concerts by both the University Choir and the City Choir. The concerts were on consecutive nights, which meant a hectic time for the duty Elders and Church Officer. I would like to thank members of the congregation who helped organise and move chairs from the Tolbooth and Cowane's to the church because the new chairs the Friend's had ordered had not arrived. The chairs were needed for both concerts. Both concerts went well and both choirs, once again, thanked the church for the warm welcome they always receive.

The church choir sang a very complicated Anthem in the lead up to Easter. Crucifixus by Antonio Lotti is written in 8 voice parts with 2 soprano, 2 alto, 2 tenor and 2 bass parts. Having only two tenors meant that each tenor was singing a part on their own. It is a piece that I had wanted to do for several years and we finally got round to singing it this year. It was greatly appreciated by the congregation who were in church that day.

Some of you might wonder why the Amen that the choir sings at the end of the service changes every two months. For April and May the Amen is called "Picken" The next Amen for June & July is called "White" we've also sung others called Gibson, Blewitt, Wood and many others. The eagle-eyed amongst you will have realised that they are all named after members of the church choir. So far I have written 31 Amens. In that total there are some for people who have occasionally helped out in the choir over many years, everyone enjoys hearing "Their" Amen sung.

In the last Newsletter I mentioned that we had a new choir member in Hongwen Picken, since then we have gained another member in the bass section. William Picken, who is the son of Hongwen and Rev. Dr. Stuart Picken has also joined the choir.

We are always looking for new members for the choir, please contact me, or any member of the choir for information.

Ian Boulter

DIARY OF SERVICES

JUNE

Sunday 5th <i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i>	11.30 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 12th	11.30 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 19th <i>followed by Service for Healing and Wholeness</i>	11.30 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 26th	11.30 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller

JULY

Friday 1 st July <i>Dedication of The Argyll Window</i>	11.30 a.m.	Rt. Rev. Dr. Russell Barr <i>Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland</i>
Sunday 3rd <i>Short Communion Service</i>	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 10th	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 17th <i>followed by short Service for Healing and Wholeness</i>	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 24th	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Dr. Iain Whyte
Sunday 31 st	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Prof. Stuart Picken

AUGUST

Sunday 7th <i>Short Communion Service</i>	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Prof. Stuart Picken
Sunday 14th	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Dr. Iain Whyte
Sunday 21st <i>followed by short Service for Healing and Wholeness</i>	10.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
<i>Sunday 28th</i>	<i>10.00 a.m.</i>	<i>Rev. Alan F. Miller</i>

DIARY OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2016

DATE	EVENT	TIME
Wednesday 1 st June	Presbytery Lecture Theme: The Challenge to Care - Dementia (More detailed information within this Newsletter)	7.00 p.m.
Friday 1 st July	<i>Dedication of the Argyll Window</i> Rt. Rev. Dr. Russell Barr Moderator of the General Assembly Of the Church of Scotland	11.30 p.m.
Tuesday 7 th July	Stirling Bridge International Youth Festival Opening Event	7.00 p.m.
Friday 17 th June	Shallowford Presbyterian Church Choir from Atlanta, USA	2.30 p.m.
Sunday 26 th June	Uranienborg Recorder Ensemble from Norway	2.00 p.m.
Saturday 18 th July	Haydn Jeugd Strijk Orkest (Haydn Youth String Orchestra) from Holland	To be advised
Friday 29 th July	King James VI Coronation Anniversary Lecture Given by Emeritus Professor Richard Fawcett OBE PhD FRSE FSA Formerly of Historic Scotland and then of the University of St Andrews “Stirling Holy Rude: Its state by the reign of James VI” Chair: Rev. Ian Paterson (More detailed information within this Newsletter)	7.30 p.m.

Pastoral



Saturday 23rd April

Donna Martin and Graham John Adam

Friday 27th May

Emma Jean Hutton and Saul Morgan Milne.

Baptisms



Let the children come

Sunday 17th April

Valla James Farrelly

Son of Kirstin and Martin Farrelly

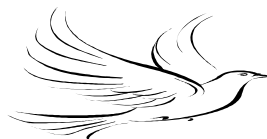
Welcome to New Member



By Certificate of Transferrence

Elizabeth Buchanan, 82 Springwood Avenue, Stirling

Deaths



Sunday 10th April

Mrs. Jean Duthie, 8c Cameronian Street, Stirling, FK8 2DX

PRESBYTERY LECTURE CONFERENCE EVENT

on

Wednesday 1 June 2016

in Holy Rude

at 7pm

THEME

The Challenge to Care - Dementia

Many people today wish to be more aware of the many issues faced by those who have Dementia and their families and friends. This event is to challenge and inform us that we might be better equipped to support and encourage those in our communities whose lives are touched by Dementia.

CHAIR

The Very Rev David Lunan , has kindly agreed to be in the Chair , a former Clerk of the Presbytery of Glasgow . He served as Moderator of the General Assembly in 2008.

SPEAKERS

Rev Tom Gordon, Chaplain to the Marie Curie Centre

Andy Lowndes, Playlist for Life (Sally Magnusson's charity)

Professor Mary Marshall, Stirling University

There will then be a Question and Answer/panel discussion.

MODEST REFRESHMENTS

There will be from 6.30pm some modest refreshments, and again after the speakers and discussion have ended.

CAR PARKING

Historic Environment Scotland have given permission for the use of the Castle Esplanade for car parking without charge.

Bollards will not be put in place until 10.30pm

The church drive will be used for those with Blue Badges or mobility problems.

ENTRY to the PRESBYTERY EVENT

Entry is free , costs being met from Presbytery funds .

HOLY RUDE contact person

Mike Makower (Presbytery Elder) 01259 761462

Organ Appeal

Update - May 2016

I am pleased to pass on the information that we have now raised just over £53,000 so far for the Organ Appeal. We are looking for various trusts to apply for funding, one of which will be the Heritage Lottery Fund.

On July 10th Thomas Heywood will be giving a recital at 7.00pm. Last summer Thomas, who is an Australian virtuoso performer, came to the Holy Rude to record a DVD / CD and was so impressed with our organ that he wanted to come back. If all the editing and mastering of the recording is completed in time it will also be the official launch of this recording. His playing is absolutely fantastic, and now that we have the big screen you can also see the organist playing at the console. I will also be organising some more recitals over the summer period, please keep an eye on the Stirling Observer and the Order of Service sheets on Sundays for details. Both Lorna Paterson and Janet McNair are great at putting the information in these publications for me.

We are continuing to get "sponsor a pipe" forms back, but need to keep up the momentum of fundraising over the coming months so as to keep the fund growing all the time. If you have any ideas for fundraising towards the organ fund, please let me know. I would like to say a big thank you to all the people who have donated money to the appeal so far, your generous donations will help us reach our target.

There is a display of photos and information at the back of the church, please have a look at this to see some of the "insides" of the organ.

Ian Boulter,
Director of Music.



SOS - Save old Stamps for World Mission



Last year's Mission Project in support of the Church of Scotland HIV Programme raised £3511. The 2016 Appeal which started in March is raising money for the Othara Eco-spirituality Centre run by our partner the Church of South India. The Church of South India recently opened the Othara Eco-spirituality Centre where people can learn about climate change and the importance of conserving the earth God has given us.

The Church of South India is a Protestant church in India and a member of the World Council of Churches. It was established in September 1947 as a result of the union of churches of varying traditions including Presbyterian, Anglican, Methodist, Congregational and Reformed and is the largest Protestant Church in India.

This year the Stamp Project will support some of their ecological innovations including the harvesting and re-use of rain water, the establishment of a biogas plant to power the kitchens and the development of a small dairy and chicken farm for native breeds. Through retreats and conferences the Church of South India hopes that the knowledge people gain at the centre will inspire them to live sustainably and encourage others in their community to do the same because "caring for the earth" is not only a calling, but a lifestyle.

Please continue your generous and much appreciated support of the Church's World Mission Stamp Appeal. The collection box for both British and Foreign stamps is on the desk at the back of the church or you can give them to me or one of the welcoming elders at the Sunday morning Service of Worship.

How the World Mission Stamp Appeal works

Used stamps are gathered in, sorted and sold to collectors. Administration costs are minimal as the skilled work of preparing and selling of the stamps is undertaken by home workers. The success of the scheme depends on the support given to it by congregations, organisations and individuals throughout Scotland who regularly send in packets of used stamps. If you cut the stamps from the envelope **please leave at least a quarter of an inch (just under one centimetre) all around the stamp, and do not attempt to remove the paper from the back of the stamp.** I am very happy to trim any excess paper round the stamps when getting them ready for posting.

Myra Gibson



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

Visit our Traidcraft stall which is now available in the South East aisle on Sunday mornings, following morning service. It offers a variety of foodstuffs, including biscuits, sweets and chocolate. Also, ecological cleaning products and attractive craft goods.

Traidcraft brochures are also available for wider variety of goods.



449th Anniversary of the Coronation of King James VI

on

29th July 1567 in the Church of the Holy Rude

Lecture by

**Emeritus Professor Richard Fawcett OBE PhD FRSE FSA
Formerly of Historic Scotland and then of the University of St Andrews**

“Stirling Holy Rude: Its state by the reign of James VI”

The Revd. Ian Paterson, Extra Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen,
has kindly agreed to be in the Chair

Admission by Donation Programme

This anniversary is on

FRIDAY 29th July 2016

at 7.30pm

Celebrated within the Church of the Holy Rude , Stirling

CAR PARKING by kind permission of Historic Environment Scotland on Castle Esplanade

Barrier closes at 10.30pm

Please **NOTE** the above details
Invite friends, to take some time to join us and relax

N.B. NEXT year, 2017, will be the 450th Anniversary



FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY RUDE

This Society was registered as a Charity (No. SC042326) in May 2011 with the main purpose of raising funds for the care and maintenance of Holy Rude. Other principal objectives are a) the adornment and furnishing of the Church and providing facilities for the benefit of the Congregation and visitors, b) supporting the performance of music in Holy Rude, and c) the encouragement of research into the history of the Church.

Annual Report and Accounts

The 2015/16 Financial Year for the Friends ended on 31st. March, and the Annual Report and Accounts have now been prepared, and were presented to the Friends Council at the 4th. May meeting. These were approved and have subsequently been audited, and will now be presented to the AGM on 11th. September for adoption by the members.

Notices of membership renewal have been issued to the Annual Members, and it would be appreciated if any outstanding renewal forms could now be returned.

Activities

The Friends had another successful year in organising the Ministry of Welcome and other fund raising activities, and have given financial assistance to Holy Rude in various projects. Examples include the buffing and re-lacquering of the wooden flooring in the Nave; the purchase of stackable chairs; and the survey of the north transept roof. Details of the financial support given will be given at the Friends AGM.

Medieval Stone Masons' Marks Survey

The survey of the Medieval Stone Masons' Marks, described in the Winter edition of the Newsletter, has now been completed. Initial results show that over 2,000 marks were recorded, made by approx. 90 different skilled Stone Masons, and the final report on the survey will be available by late May. Special thanks go to the volunteers who assisted the Archaeologist in this interesting survey.

Join the Friends

By being a member of the Friends you will be supporting the work of the Society in the preservation of the historic Church of the Holy Rude - one of the most outstanding medieval churches in Scotland.

Membership Fees for the year 1st. April 2016 to 31st. March 2017 are as follows:-

Annual Adult Single Membership	£12
Annual Adult Joint Membership	£24
Life Membership - Single	£120
Life Membership - Joint	£180
Concessionary (OAP, Student, Under 21)	
Annual single	£10
Annual Joint	£20

Anyone wishing to join the Friends can obtain Application Forms from the Reception Desk at Holy Rude, or from the Secretary, Brian Morrison (e-mail brian.morrison4@btinternet.com)

Brian Morrison

Secretary, Friends of the Church of the Holy Rude

MODERATOR'S TRIBUTE TO QUEEN



The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland has paid tribute to the Queen on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

The Rt Rev Dr Angus Morrison said that the Church gave thanks for the Queen's 'years of devoted service rendered to the country and Commonwealth'.

Dr Morrison and his predecessors also commented on the Queen's concern and knowledge of the Church of Scotland.

The Moderator said: "As Moderator, and on behalf of the Church of Scotland, it gives me great joy to offer our united and affectionate congratulations to Her Majesty the Queen on the happy occasion of her 90th birthday.

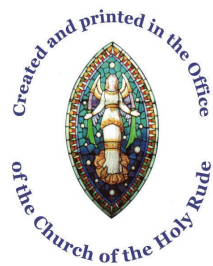
"Throughout these 90 years Her Majesty has been a regular visitor to Scotland and Her Majesty's love for and appreciation of Scotland is widely known.

"Similarly, Her Majesty's interest in and commitment to the Church of Scotland has been demonstrated in countless ways. A happy relationship has long existed between Church and Monarchy. Her Majesty has attended, on more than one occasion, the Church's annual General Assembly. And when not there in person Her Majesty has been represented by Lord High Commissioners of the highest calibre which Her Majesty personally appoints.

"In the Church of Scotland we are greatly heartened and we rejoice in Her Majesty's unwavering commitment and witness to the Christian faith, as well as affirming the secure place of other faiths in Britain today. Her Majesty's regular and engaged attendance and easy relationship with the Kirk in Scotland is a great source of encouragement and joy.

"At this significant milestone in the life of our Queen, we give the God of steadfast love and faithfulness thanks for Her Majesty and for all the years of devoted service rendered to the country and Commonwealth. For the future, we pray God's continuing blessing on Her Majesty, granting her, together with His Royal Highness Prince Philip, continuing health, strength and grace, as they continue to serve us all."

(Extract from April edition of Life and Work)



www.holyrude.org

Scottish Charity Number SC 011473