

Bennochty Parish Church of Scotland

# Newsletter

October 2018



We hope all our readers have had a happy summer break  
and are now energised for the coming  
season.



Minister: 643518  
Session Clerk: 200179  
Church Office: 201723

Website: [www.bennochtyparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.bennochtyparishchurch.org.uk)

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***'From the 'Manse',***

A few thoughts about time...

God lives outside our time. To him a thousand years are as a day and a day a thousand years.

When you wait for something that you are really looking forward to, time seems to move very slowly, yet, once you are on holiday, it just flies by.

It is difficult to stay in the moment. We are always thinking ahead. If life is just about getting to the destination we will miss the journey we are on. We need to look around and see who is journeying with us. Jesus said, live in the here and now, tomorrow will have enough worries of its own.

In the midst of a busy period, all you can see is the next task! There is no time to reflect on what you have done or plan for the future. You take each task as it comes, and hope there are enough hours in the day. We need to take time out to get a fresh perspective. To lift our eyes from the 'ordinary', to see the 'extraordinary' God wishes to offer.

From moments to millennia. From youth to older age. God is there on the journey. He knows the old stories, the present chapter and the pages yet unwritten.

We cannot step into God's time, yet he offers us a glimpse of his present and future kingdom. We are the 'in-betweeners'. With patience we wait. With faith we journey each and every day, and with hope we anticipate God's new future.

With all God's blessing

***Robin***

## Mission Partner up-date

Tough times for Jenny Featherstone, as Principal at Chodort College, Zambia.

Last week the Vice-Principal was buried after a short illness - imagine the grief and the gap in administration .....

TEVETA, a body that sponsors and funds training for vulnerable people twice a year, is not going to do so for Chodort College for the next session. People have been holding back on enrolment, hoping for free training so, now there is a shortage of students - imagine the fragility of the tutors' jobs .....

The government of Zambia has just increased the minimum wage, (normally a good thing) and this means that for employers in a charitable foundation, this presents an almost impossible burden each month - imagine the effect of this good/bad news ..... Further details later.

## Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Our **Harvest service** this year is on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October, when we hope to have our Missionary partner, Jenny Featherstone, live on screen from Zambia. An offering will be taken during the service to support her work. The Sunday School will also be participating in the service.



## Blythswood Shoebox Appeal - Love in a box.

It is now 25 years since Blythswood started their shoebox appeal and last year 115,932 boxes were sent to eight countries in Eastern Europe and Pakistan - countries such as Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and the Ukraine. It's easy to choose gifts for people who have so little. Shampoo, soap, toothpaste and toothbrush, a hat, gloves and scarf, socks, a notebook, a small toy, sweets - things we take for granted will seem like luxuries to people living in poverty. By filling a shoebox you can bring some happiness to someone in need this Christmas. Covered shoeboxes are available in the church vestibule and in the Methven hall. Date for uplift of the boxes has still to be arranged but will probably be the beginning of November. Please support this Appeal.



## **Development Worker – Louisa Turner**

The work in the community garden has paid off with a beautiful display in the raised planters which were kindly made and donated by a member of Growing Kirkcaldy. Members of the community helped to water over the dry weeks we had, and others kindly dead headed the flowers as they walked past. Our weeding party was a big hit and everyone enjoyed their al fresco fish suppers at the end. Everyone doing a little bit meant a great deal to the judges of Beautiful Scotland and they praised everyone's efforts at their judging in July.

It was a great delight to hear that working with our partners – Growing Kirkcaldy in Bennoch Community Garden, we contributed to Kirkcaldy gaining impressive awards. The awards included Beautiful Fife Gold Award and the Best Large Town in Fife category.

Beautiful Scotland Award, Gold award and the best Small City in Scotland.

By working together we can continue to grow Kirkcaldy into a wonderful place to live.

In the community garden, there are some herbs growing in the planter at the front of the church. Please help yourself if you need to add that special something to your meals – they are free and for everyone in the community to use.

The community garden team could not do all the work in the garden on their own, and would like to thank individuals in the congregation who quietly tend the garden when no one is looking.

Recently, a rubbish/dog bin was installed on the railings in Elgin Street, following a direct request from someone in the community. The bin is being well used and emptied weekly. If, for some reason, you feel that it has not been emptied, please can you phone Fife Council and they will endeavour to empty it on the day of your phone call.

Our next Messy Church takes place at Bennoch on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October from 2-4 p.m. following the theme of Harvest. Everyone is welcome to come along and join in with the fun.

The summer was lovely this year and we are now feeling the effects of autumn around us, as the heating starts to get switched back on. If you feel that the days are longer indoors and you need something to occupy yourself then perhaps you could help with an upcoming project.

Part of my remit is to network and work in partnership with other agencies. Recently, I was chatting with Gingerbread Fife about a specific joint project which we hope to deliver soon and I was asked if any member of the congregation or community could help by knitting or crocheting some trauma teddies. A trauma teddy is given to a child for comfort. This is a national campaign run by many of the frontline staff for children who are experiencing or witnessing some things which no child should.

Our specific project is looking for approximately twenty teddies. Patterns are available either in the office or from myself or members of the Open Door team. If you would like to help with the project and can knit/crochet but don't have any wool or stuffing, please speak to me direct as I can supply the materials.

May I draw your attention to some posters which have been on the internal and external noticeboards – Ballet Lorent. In conjunction with a professional ballet company and the poet Lorent an intergenerational community production of Rumpelstiltskin, will take place on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October** in the Adam Smith theatre. Can I encourage you to purchase a ticket and have an afternoon or evening, enjoying the labours of pupils from Kirkcaldy North Primary and some members of the congregation, who bravely are going out-with their comfort zone to perform on stage. This is a first for Fife and, excitingly, we were approached to partake in the community venture. Please show your support.

Another intergenerational venture took place recently - The Big Lunch. This was a lunch held in Bennoch Church, and those who attended were given a free lunch courtesy of Stephens Bakery as a thank you for their participation with the various intergenerational projects with Kirkcaldy North Primary. There were people who attend the Board Game Club, Book Bug Sessions, Get Together group, Messy Church and some residents from Abbeyfield Care home. It was a great lunch, with a lot of conversations between the generations, a couple of activities and music from across the years compiled by pupils from the school.

If you would like to be involved in any future intergenerational projects, please speak to me.

Kirkcaldy North school, have asked if the congregation and community could help them with some resources. The school encourages the children to use their imaginations and get back to basics through play. The school have indoor and outdoor loose play items for the children to explore. This play

has been very popular and the school are asking if we could help them replenish their stocks on a regular basis. The lists of items are endless - basically anything which is safe and with which a child can empower their creativity would be good. Boxes for donations will be placed in the Olive Branch Café on Thursdays – have a rake and clear out those things from your cupboards/sheds and garages.

Suggestions are as follows:-

### **Nature**

- Acorns, bamboo, feathers, pinecones, pebbles, shell, stones, tree stumps,

### **Creative and Messy Play**

- Beads, bottle tops, cardboard boxes, cotton wool, corks, glass stones, glue, googly eyes, glitter, greeting cards, paint and brushes, pipe cleaners, pom poms sponges, wrapping paper,

### **Metal**

- Baking trays, bottle tops, CDs, cooking utensils, muffin tins, spoons

### **Household Items**

- Basin, basket, blankets, buckets, cardboard, clothes pegs, foam sponges, ice cube trays, lampshades, Lego, magnets. potato masher, pillows, sheets, sieve, shoe polish tin, trays, vinyl records, washing up brush and empty bottles

### **Wood**

- Building blocks, curtain rings, crates, dolly pegs, drift wood, pastry brush, rolling pin, spoons,

### **Building Materials**

- Cable ties, guttering, gravel, hammer and nails, hose, milk crates.



Trauma Teddies - pattern available

## **A name from one of our War Memorials...**

**Alexander Henry McIntosh** was born in London on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1893; the eldest of seven children. He was the grandson of A.H. McIntosh, Cabinetmaker, who was the founder of what became one of Kirkcaldy's longest surviving industries.

Henry was educated at Dollar Academy. He joined the Officer Training Corps. When he left school he worked at McIntosh's in Kirkcaldy before moving to London.

Henry joined the London Scottish in 1912, aged 19. They were a territorial unit made up of Scots living in London. The 14<sup>th</sup> London Scottish Battalion were mobilised on 4<sup>th</sup> August 1914. Henry served as a Private..

Henry sailed from Southampton to France on 15<sup>th</sup> September. He was 21 and spent most of October guarding and unloading ammunition trains. At the end of October his unit saw action in the First Battle of Ypres.

This extract from his diary covers two weeks in November 1914.

### **Nov 7<sup>th</sup>**

Cleaned rifles for Sgt. Major in the morning. Stand too afternoon

Left Balliene 4:30 PM, marched all night to Ypres, all flames, still further to an old church, slept there until 4:30 AM

### **Nov 8<sup>th</sup>**

Left billet went into wood adjoining & got into holes in the ground. Grand cover from aeroplanes.

### **Nov 9<sup>th</sup>**

Marched all night, arrived at wood where 3<sup>rd</sup> Division were entrenched, took up our positions

### **Nov 10<sup>th</sup>**

Heavy fighting all night & day, farm in front shelled by our artillery  
Attacked at night, retired from road to wood, now entrenched on the front right.

**Nov 11<sup>th</sup>**

Grand day. Went for water to farm, returned. Alaister & I fell asleep & got shelled by J. J.\* smashed both our legs. 6 boys did their best to carry me to dressing station. I don't know what became of Alaister

\* Jack Johnson: A German shell which explodes with black smoke.

**Nov 13<sup>th</sup>**

Both legs dressed, carried to village on [?] intended for officers Motored to Ypres, stayed at Poperinghe for night, been dressed again

**Nov 14<sup>th</sup>**

Left Poperinghe for the train for Bologne. Arrived at Bologne, taken to Casino Hospital, now having a very comfortable time

**Nov 15<sup>th</sup>**

Dr Martin dressed my legs, a very nice man. Getting on grand, we had a little service this evening

**Then his father wrote:**

Rev. George Thomson officiating read the first 13 verses of 11<sup>th</sup> chapter of St Luke

On **Nov 21<sup>st</sup>** his father wrote:

Read for me the first eleven verses of the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of Hebrews (this at Henry's request)

**Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Died at 1:30 in the morning

**Nov 24<sup>th</sup>**

Remains left Boulogne

**Nov 26<sup>th</sup>**

Arrived at Kirkcaldy

**Nov 28<sup>th</sup>**

Buried in Kirkcaldy Cemetery

**And so finished this gentle young life.**

*Nancy Gilmartin*





### ***Footnote from Editor***

Nancy Gilmartin's Article gives a very personal insight into the experience of a private in the First World War, as we approach the centenary of the end of that war. Members of the former St Andrew's Church will be particularly interested as it was the McIntosh company who were responsible for the wonderful woodwork in that building. It was also a William McIntosh who was the Treasurer of the congregation at that time, as well as a director of the company. We suspect he would have been an uncle of Alexander McIntosh.

Two centenaries will be coming to our attention over the coming weeks, and perhaps offering us some perspective on our current political woes. Families back then were relieved that the war was ending, but having to come to terms with the loss of their loved ones. They were also having to cope with the devastating "Spanish Flu", and Kirkcaldy was apparently one of the worst affected towns in Scotland.

### **Poster found in Church in France**

When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear "the call of God" However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile.



Thank you for turning off your phones.

If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him.

*If you want to see Him, send Him a text ..... while driving*

### **Deaths**

08.07.18 Mrs Joan Caldwell, Benarty View Care Home, 7 Rowan Lea, Kelty,  
23.07.18 Mrs Aileen Bruce, 17 Grampian Gardens, KY2 5RJ  
08.18 Mrs Elma Gardner, 1 Liberton Road, KY2 6LZ

### **Bell Ringers**

Challenging - the swinging tune of 'Highland Cathedral' sounds easy, but is a tricky one for counting the beat!

Delightful - 'Connemara Cradle Song', a gentle piece to send the little one to sleep!

Old Friends - Hymns of old, with a solid rhythm!

Such is our start to the season.



## **Bennochty Women's Group**

Our 2018/2019 session began on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August with a treasure hunt and supper.

We had a large dose of nostalgia on 11<sup>th</sup> September, when David Galloway gave a talk with photographs and poetry about Kirkcaldy's old High Street shops. Autism was the subject of a talk on 25<sup>th</sup> September and members are holding a silent auction on 9<sup>th</sup> October

A fundraising evening, our Family Quiz Night, is on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30 p.m. in the Methven Hall. This is a light hearted competition that all the family can enjoy, with prizes, raffle and a delicious dessert supper. Tickets, adults £5, children £2, are available from Group members, with all monies raised going towards Church funds. Teams of four please.

Another important fundraising event is on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November - our Bennochty Christmas Afternoon Teas from 2 till 4 p.m. Tickets available soon. Ladies of the Group are running the teas, but we welcome other groups and individuals to get involved in this fundraising afternoon.



The Group meet in the Elgin Room, usually every fortnight, at 7.30 p.m. We have a very varied programme this session and new members will be made most welcome. Please speak to a Group member or contact Irene Wood (tel. Kdy 267995).

## **Bennochty Church Carpet Bowlers**

We had a break from indoor bowling and enjoyed the lovely summer weather this year. Bowling resumed on 13 August and we are still bowling along. On Monday 9 September we had a visit from Ron Steedman and Brian Winton, Session Representatives. They joined in the game on the men's carpet and gave a very good account of themselves. We hope that we managed to give all the right answers to the questions they asked!

Once again, anyone who would like to give bowls a try would be welcome. Ken Campbell is the man to contact if you need more information. The Church website also has more details. There's always room for a few more on Mondays, 2-4pm, at the Gunner Club. We have a short break at 3pm for tea, biscuits and chat.

## The General Data Protection Regulation

The new General Protection Data Regulation (GDPR) superseded the existing Data Protection Act on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Bennochy Parish Church is committed to making sure that your personal information will be accurate and up-to-date and will be securely deleted when no longer required. Churches are allowed to hold your information if there is a legitimate reason to hold it or if you have given permission to do so and provided that the information is used only for church purposes. Please note that “church purposes” does not include the various organisations which use the premises—each will have its own list of members.

Your personal information will be:

- Collected only for specific, explicit and legitimate purposes.
- Relevant and limited to what is necessary.
- Processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner that ensures appropriate security.

The church gathers the following information about you:

- Name and address; also phone number and email (if given).
- Date when you join the congregation and method of joining.
- Date when leaving the congregation and the reason.
- Bank details if you have signed up to the “gift aid” scheme.

In addition, every person is given a roll number and every address is given a district number which is used to organise the elders’ visits.

For those who use the FWO envelopes an envelope number is assigned to the member (no financial information is listed). If you are part of the Gift Aid scheme, a reference number is given (no financial information is listed).

We use this information to enable us to keep in contact with our members and adherents, to organise the elders’ districts, for any other

pastoral purpose which may arise and to maintain our accounts and records. We use the envelope numbers for distributing the FWO envelopes to those who wish to use them and the Gift Aid reference number permits us to claim tax payments from HMRC. Other than for this specific exception, your personal information is never passed to any other person or organisation.

The church is required to keep a paper copy of the current roll which, along with all other church records is required to be shown to Presbytery each year. The paper copy contains only your name and address, roll number, date when you joined the congregation and the method of joining.

Please help us to comply with the new regulations by letting us know of any changes in your details, such as your address, phone number, or email address. If you are the holder of any lists of members for any organisation, ensure that you keep the list secure and never pass any of the information to anyone without obtaining permission from the person concerned.



The GDPR provides the following rights for individuals:

- To obtain a copy of the personal information held by us.
- To have their personal information corrected if it is inaccurate or incomplete.
- To have their personal data deleted (but this is not an absolute right).
- To request that we stop processing their personal information.

Full copies of the Privacy Notice can be found on our website and also on a noticeboard in the church.

If you would like to talk to us about your personal information, or would like to exercise any of your rights as laid out above please contact the Session Clerk.

## Autumn Calendar

October 6	Ballet Lorent	
October 7	Harvest Thanksgiving Service	
	Messy Church	
October 20	Family Quiz Night	
October 21	Communion Service	
November 11	Remembrance Day Service	
24	Christmas Teas	



### HELP!

### OUR COMMUNITY CAFÉ NEEDS YOU!

Can you or a friend (or both!) spare a few hours on a Thursday once or twice a month?

We need volunteers in the kitchen, serving customers and to help with tidying away tables and chairs etc.

If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact Alison Hamilton (alisonrhamilton52@gmail.com)

Better still, come along and check out the food and the friendship any Thursday from 11am until 2pm and speak to any of our enthusiastic volunteers!



### The Olive Branch Café

Open every Thursday in the Methven Hall from 1100 am – 2.00 pm for teas, coffees & home baking. Lunches served from 12 noon.

Our internet café is also open from 11.00–2.00.

**Free Wi Fi.**

Next Newsletter: End of November 2018