



Chrystal Chronicle  
Autumn Newsletter  
October/November 2019



**At last! Our Fairtrade sign is up for all to see as they pass by our church. It has generated positive comments from the Dumfries Fairtrade group with several enquiries as to its creation. It is also featured on their Facebook page.**

**St Mary's-Greyfriars' Parish Church  
Locum Minister: Rev Douglas Irving**

**Tel 01556 610156**

**[www.stmarysgreyfriars.org.uk](http://www.stmarysgreyfriars.org.uk)**

**Scottish charity no. SC009432**

## From the Interim Moderator

Dear Friends,

My name is Val Ott and I have been appointed by the Presbytery as your Interim Moderator as you enter this period of vacancy due to the very sad event of David's passing.

For those of you who don't know me, I am the minister of Gatehouse of Fleet and Borgue linked with Tarff and Twynholm. The job of an interim moderator is to ensure that the church continues to run smoothly and that worship continues in the absence of a minister. As I also have my own congregations to look after, I am pleased to say that we are in the process of appointing a locum, Rev Douglas Irving, who is well-known to most of you. Douglas will be responsible for taking the Sunday services and doing the pastoral work. My job as Interim Moderator is more on the business side of the church's work so I am the person who chairs the Kirk Session meetings, deals with problems and supports Douglas in his work with you.

When a church loses a minister through death, it is like a family bereavement. And in the same way that a family needs to draw closer together at a time of bereavement, so too does the family of the church. We all need to provide support for one another. It was a privilege to be able to spend time with some of you on September 6<sup>th</sup> when the church was open during the time of David's funeral up in Dundee. There was the opportunity for people to chat and have a tea or coffee if they wanted to, or spend some time sitting quietly, thinking about David and praying. I felt that there was a lovely supportive atmosphere in the church and that is so necessary for us all at this sad time.

I look forward to getting to know you better in the weeks ahead and assure you of my continuing prayers.

With best wishes,

Val

## Rev David Logan Obituary

The joint congregations of St Mary's-Greyfriars' and Caerlaverock held a memorial service in St Mary's-Greyfriars' Church on September 30 to commemorate the life of the Rev David Logan. David died on August 21 in Roxburgh House, a Dundee hospice, after losing his battle with cancer.

He was appointed minister of the two churches in April 2016 and proved to be an enthusiastic, popular and community-minded leader. He turned to the cloth after a career in the police force.

David joined Tayside Police in 1974 and retired as Inspector 31 years later after completing a wide variety of tasks from beat constable to community officer, force training officer, crime manager, with special responsibility for community safety, part time director of studies at the Scottish Police College and officer in charge of the Tayside Special Constabulary.

He joined the ministry in 2005 and was ordained as minister for St Margaret's Parish Church in Forfar in 2009 after graduating with a Bachelor of Divinity with honours at St Andrew's University.

Before answering the call to Dumfries David undertook quite a few extra appointments. These included being a parish minister in the Channel Islands, an army chaplain with a rank of captain, officiating chaplain to RAF Leuchars in Fife, schools' chaplain in primary, secondary and special schools, workplace chaplain with ASDA in Forfar and hospital chaplain in Jersey General Hospitals. He was an active member of the community, organising the knitting of Trauma Teddies for the police, weekly food bank collections, Easter Bonnet parades, Christmas Card shop or manning the annual barbecue at Caerlaverock. He was also a member of both Rotary and The Order of St. John.

David, who was 62, is survived by his wife Catriona, a Parish Nurse.

## **Church Register**

### **Death – “I am the resurrection and the life”**

May 26: Mr James Dalrymple

August 27: Mrs Nessie Watson

September 8: Mrs Kay Nicholson

Please let me know of any changes of address: **Marion Bennett**,  
2 Wolfgill Drive Dumfries DG1 4XY. Tel: 263106

### **The Presbytery Moderator's Dementia Awareness Initiative**

Each congregation in our Presbytery is being asked by the current Moderator to donate, if they so wish, loose change to Alzheimer Scotland. We have been encouraged to take part in this Initiative and there is a collecting can on the coffee table at the back of the church on Sunday mornings. The Initiative will run until the end of May next year.

### **Taste of Country Concert**

The Social & Fund Raising Committee are holding a Concert in St Mary's-Greyfriars' Church on Friday October 18 at 7.30pm. Music by "Taste of Country Singing Group". Tickets cost £7, which includes a light supper, and are available from Bette Archibald 07899 916565 and Janette Kirkpatrick 07544 368000 or any Committee Member. Please come along and support this event in aid of church funds.

### **Christian Aid**

The Christian Aid Coffee morning was held in The Usual Place on Saturday September 21. The sum of £1,021.73 after expenses was raised (a little more is expected). The focus this time was to help women and families in India. Thanks to all who contributed in any way.

## **What's on .....**

### **October**

Tuesday 8: Arts and Crafts in the church hall 2-4pm

Wednesday 9: Garden Club – Graham Finch “Secret Garden”

Monday 14: Buzz – Graham Barbour and friends

Tuesday 15: Guild – Trussell Trust, Fiona Dalgleish

Friday 18: “Taste of Country” concert in the church 7.30pm

Tuesday 22: Arts and Crafts in the church hall 2-4pm

Wednesday 23: Garden Club – Louis Wall “Dumfries Station Garden”

Sunday 27: Communion Services

Monday 28: Communion Service and soup in church hall

Monday 28: Buzz – Trevor Muir talking about the Dock Park

### **November**

Saturday 2: Coffee Morning in the church hall

Wednesday 6: Garden Club – Cruck Cottage Torthorwald, Bill Lawson

Monday 11 Buzz – Memories of World War 2

Tuesday 12: Arts and Crafts in the church hall 2-4pm

Tuesday 19: Guild – Lily Stevenson, World Mission Project “Journeying Together”

Wednesday 20: Garden Club – Bill Holland, Orkney Visit

Monday 25: Service and soup in church hall

Monday 25: Buzz – Sugar Craft, Margaret Thomson

Tuesday 26: Arts and Crafts in the church hall 2-4pm

### **December**

Wednesday 4: Garden Club – Rolf Buwert “Wood”

Saturday 7: Church Bazaar in the church hall 12 noon to 2pm

## **From the Buzz**

On August 5 we welcomed Sylvia Bertram, who demonstrated flower arranging, from a small arrangement with leaves and anemones to large, all with colourful flowers from her garden.

On August 19 we welcomed John Caskie who told us about his life and entertained us with some songs. Scottish music and dance have always been an interest of his and he runs a popular dance class in Kirkton. After various jobs in catering, he retired from DGRI. He continues the fund-raising started by his parents and was awarded an MBE 2 years ago.

On September 2 we had Elaine Ross talking about infection control at DGRI where she nursed for 20 years before she left to train in her current job. She gave an interesting talk, covering subjects such as infections, antibiotics and sepsis.

On September 16 Ann Booth gave us a talk and demonstration on scarf tying, an art she learned while on holiday in Japan. She had dozens of scarves of all shapes and sizes and made of different materials. We enjoyed trying the many and varied ways of tying the scarves.

## **Flower rota**

October 13: J McSherry

October 20: I Evans

October 27: N Francis

November 3: H Gray

November 10: Remembrance Sunday

November 17: B Archibald

November 24: B Jardine

December 1: A Miller

December 8: Vacant

Flower team contacts: Norna Francis (250199), Moira Cannon (720394), Betty Jardine (257691), Margaret Thomson (253484) or Maureen Wilson (255008).

**Thanks for flowers** have been received from:

Janet Thomson, Mary Wallace, Anne McWhan, Mr & Mrs Moir, Ian & Valerie Crichton, Mr & Mrs A Howat, Anne Twiname and Les Charters.

## **Guild Report**

The Guild held its opening meeting on September 3. This was an informal meeting when we listened to a CD of Maggie Bisset reciting a monologue of a Guild meeting (a real blast from the past) and members took part in a lively quiz.

During the following weeks members were out and about attending the annual Gathering in Dundee, the Nithsdale Guilds Together meeting in The Usual Place and St Michael's Opening Meeting.

On September 15, as part of Guild week, Guild members led our Sunday worship which seems to have been well received. Anne Mackie in her reflection thought there should be an additional Beatitude applicable to the Guild 'Blessed are the Teamakers of the Guild'. This could well have been revised after the very successful soup and sweet lunch which followed the Service 'Blessed are the Dessert makers of the Guild'!

Our next meeting is on October 15 when we welcome Fiona Dalglish from the Trussell Trust, and on November 19 Lilly Stevenson will be telling us about the Guild's World Mission Project 'Journeying Together'.

## **2019 Blythwood Shoe Box Appeal**

Leaflets are available in the church and filled boxes are required to be in by Sunday November 3 (collected November 4) to ensure delivery for Christmas to needy people in Eastern Europe. *'Bring a smile this Christmas'*

# Congratulations!

...to Dick Geddes who celebrated his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday recently with friends and family. And to Ian and Janette Kirkpatrick on the birth of their grandson, Alistair

## For reflection

Dear Lord and Father

**H** Harvest time is here again

**A** Apples, pears, plums and brambles abound in our gardens and hedgerows

**R** Ripening corn is seen in the fields

**V** Visually we wonder at the striking colours of autumn all around us.

**E** Evenings are becoming longer as the days shorten.

**S** Special smells are associated with this time of year, bonfires and misty damp mornings.

**T** Thanks and praise we give to you Lord for all your bounteous gifts of the harvest and for your ever loving presence with us each and every day.

<p><b>Next issue</b> The deadline for our December/January issue is Sunday November 17 for items through the church – and 3pm that day for those sent direct.</p> <p>Editor: David Bennett Write: 2 Wolfgill Drive, Dumfries DG1 4XY Call: 263106 Email: magazine@stmarysgreyfriars.org.uk</p>	<p><b>Useful contacts</b> <b>Locum Minister</b> Rev Douglas Irving 01556 610156</p> <p><b>Session Clerk</b> Anne Mackie 266186</p> <p><b>Treasurer, Gift Aid and WFO envelopes</b> Rod Williamson 251876</p>
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