



# St. Matthew's Church Perth

## e- Newsletter No. 52

### Fri 26<sup>th</sup> November

Dear All

Wow! What a couple of weeks it has been at St Matthew's. First of all we had our Remembrance Service which was attended by all the uniformed organisations, whose representatives read our Lesson.



This Service was followed by the planting of a tree in our church garden as part of the Queen's Garden Canopy Celebration of her platinum Jubilee. (see later article)

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH PERTH



1871-2021

Service of Celebration  
with  
The Rt Hon. Lord Wallace of Tankerness QC  
21st November 2021

Then last Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November we held our special morning service commemorating 150 years of our church building. This was conducted by Rev Barbara Quigley and Rev Anne Brennan and was well attended with invited guests including the Provost, local politicians, former ministers and members of the church and

representatives of Trusts which had given grants for our refurbishment in 2016. The guest preacher was the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt. Hon. Lord Wallace of Tankerness.

During the service, a new lectern Bible was dedicated in memory of Dr Patricia Lowry and long-service certificates were given to 15 elders and our Organist, whose combined service totalled 596 years!

The uniformed organisations had also prepared a time capsule which we hope will be opened by

future generations in 50 years time..

The service was followed by a congregational lunch for over 130, provided by the local social enterprise company, Giraffe and a presentation was made to our long-serving Caretaker, Mr Paul Moran.



We were delighted to have everyone there to celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and to share in our memories, dreams and visions as we look forward to the coming years with our new Minister, Rev Fiona Bullock.



Forward in faith!

Fiona Bruce, Session Clerk

### Andrew's Prayer

Dear God  
Wow an 150 is a big age to be  
also it can mean lots of things can't  
it.  
A celebration of life, hope, family and  
friends even the help us to remember what  
we have lost in the war our families  
and friends but we still remember them  
and keep them in our hearts but it  
is a time to be sad and it's also a happy  
time too. Amen

Dear God

Wow an 150 is a big age to be also it can mean lots of things can't it.

A celebration of life, hope, family and friends even to help us to remember what we have lost in the war our families and friends but we still remember them and keep them in our hearts but it is a time to be sad and it's also a happy time too. Amen



## DIARY

**Sunday: Live streamed Worship** from 10.45

ID 953 7532 1288 Pass code 058724

**Wednesday Meditation at 9am**

ID: 818 8897 1376 Passcode: 905980

The above can be accessed using the telephone by dialling : 0131 460 1196 And enter ID, and Pass Code where required, above when requested.

To Unmute yourself press \*6

Quick link for Sunday Worship

<https://zoom.us/j/95375321288?pwd=Z0ZQckF2dEVpcmNUTWtPdmZxeUhGQT09>

Quick link for Meditations

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81888971376?pwd=UkYxcHo5SVV2Ky9JN0swc3JleitLZz09>

## Calling all craft workers.

A gift for the young folk who come around the church.

Can we this year make a star for each one to tell them we still care about them and send the light of the Christmas star to their homes?

A pattern is attached for a knitted star, but some may wish to crochet or sew a star. Please bring to the church by Sunday 5th December so that they can be sorted out.

If anyone requires wool there is plenty in the Tower Room for use – Please ask Jean Young.

### star

#### KNITTED CHRISTMAS STAR

**Finished Size:** about 4 inches wide

**Needles:** 3.25mm needles or size needed to get gauge

**Gauge:** 6.5 sts = 1"

**Abbreviations:** k: knit; k2tog: knit 2 together; kfb: knit in the front and back of stitch; p: purl; p2tog: purl 2 together; rep: repeat; skp: slip 1 st, knit 1 st, pass slipped st over the knit st; st(s): stitch(es)

**Directions:** Cast on 5 sts

Rnd 1: [Kfb] around. 10 sts

Rnd 2: Purl

Rnd 3: [Kfb] around. 20 sts

Rnd 4: Purl

Rnd 5: \*Kfb, k2, kfb; rep from \*. 30 sts

Rnd 6: Purl

Rnd 7: \*Kfb, k4, kfb; rep from \*. 40 sts

Rnd 8: Purl

Rnd 9: \*Kfb, k6, kfb; rep from \*. 50 sts

Rnd 10: Purl

Row 11: K10, turn.

Row 12: P10, turn.

Row 13: Skp, k6, k2tog, turn.

Row 14: P8, turn.

Row 15: Skp, k4, k2tog, turn.

Row 16: P6, turn.

Row 17: Skp, k2, k2tog, turn.

Row 18: P4, turn.

Row 19: Skp, k2tog

Row 20: P2tog, cut yarn and fasten off, leaving a 6" tail.

Leaving a 6" tail, reattach yarn where you left off on the main portion of the star.

Repeat Rows 11-20 for each point.

Make 2 star shapes and sew together, secure the ends and bury them inside the star. The ends give it some stuffing.

Jean Young



## DECEMBER EVENTS at St. Matthew's



**Christmas Concert**  
**Saturday 4th. 2pm / 7pm**  
Tickets £8pp available at Sunday cafe



**AFTERNOON  
AT THE MOVIES**

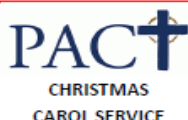
**Christmas Movie & lunch**  
**Thursday 9th. 12noon**  
Tickets £6pp available at Sunday



**Christmas coffee morning**  
**Saturday 11th. 10 am**  
Tickets £3pp available at Sunday cafe



**Concert & interval refreshments**  
**Sunday 12th. 3pm**  
Tickets (awaiting confirmation)



**Christmas Carol Service**  
**Friday 17th.**  
Details to follow

**Tickets for all events will be available from the office, (Tuesday 10 – 12) or book by phoning 636757 OR, on a Sunday at the ticket sales table before or after the service.**



# NOTICES

## ADVENT MEDITATIONS

This year's Advent Meditations will take place from **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December** in St Matthew's Church, starting at 9am and followed by breakfast.

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> will be led by Jean Young and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> by Maureen Pearson with Rev Ewen Gilchrist leading the remainder.

All are welcome- and it would be good to see some new faces this year!

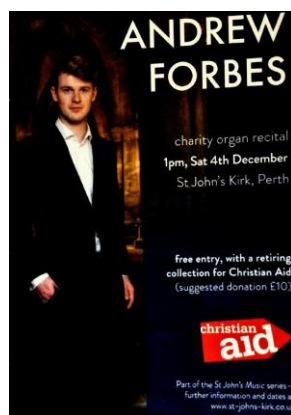
## GIRAFFE CALENDARS



A local social enterprise, Giraffe, have produced calendars of well-known Perth scenes (including 2 featuring St Matthew's Church) which I will have on sale on a Sunday and at our St Matthew's coffee morning on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December at a cost of £9.99 each. Fiona Bruce

## ORGAN RECITAL

Andrew Forbes, a talented young organist will be performing in St John's Kirk on **Saturday 4th December** at 1pm in aid of Christian Aid. There are no tickets but donations can be made at the church. Many of you will remember that Andrew has played the organ in St Matthew's on occasion and he is now Director of Music at Glasgow Cathedral.



## POPPY SCOTLAND

I am delighted to say that the retiral collection after our Remembrance Day service for Poppy Scotland raised the sum of £340.60.

All at St Matthew's send a **WAVE** to:

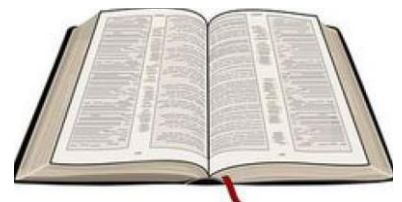
Doris Robertson  
Margaret Wright  
Alice McGregor

Belated Birthday  
Congratulations to  
**Rev Barbara  
Quigley** for 19<sup>th</sup>  
November



## DEATH

It is with sadness that we note the recent death of our member, **Alastair Oag**, latterly of Ochil Nursing Home. We send our prayers and thoughts to his family.



## Guild News

We have enjoyed a few Guild meetings now in the comfort of the Sanctuary here at St Matthews, and the next one will be on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm when the Perth Film-Makers Club will show us some of their films. This should be entertaining and informative.

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December we are booked to enjoy a Christmas Lunch in the Salutation Hotel, booking for this is essential, the cost of the meal is £16 and a deposit of £5 will be collected by Jean McIntyre. We have formed an informal link with Kinnoull Guild, and also had visits from members of North Church Guild, and hope this will continue in the New Year. Meetings will begin again in January and will be detailed in a newsletter at the beginning of the year. The Guild is open to all members of the Congregation. Lorna Morrison, Convenor



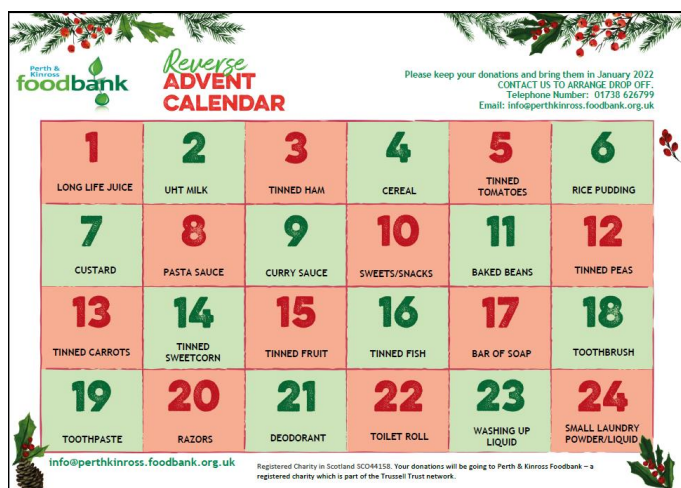
## Charity Stamp Collection

With the Christmas season approaching this is a reminder that we are still collecting your used stamps for charity.

We love interesting overseas stamps as they are worth more than our boring 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps in the UK. If you can separate your UK stamps from the foreign stamps that would be helpful. Please remember to trim your stamps to around 1 cm of paper but do not soak them off the envelopes and postcards. The collection box for stamps is in the café area of the church.

Thank you for your help.

**Perth and Kinross Foodbank** has designed a 'reverse Advent calendar', inviting supporters to donate an item a day from 1 – 24<sup>th</sup> December. (Collect them at home, and hand in to the church or Foodbank in January.) If you would like a copy, please e-mail [Marjorie.clark@btinternet.com](mailto:Marjorie.clark@btinternet.com), or pick one up at church on Sunday.



## Traidcraft – an ethical way to celebrate Christmas

Suggestions for Christmas gifts, cards, food, etc. can all be found by visiting Traidcraft's website [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk), or by picking up a Christmas catalogue at church. If your order is less than £50 and you want to avoid paying postage and packing, get in touch with me at [Marjorie.clark@btinternet.com](mailto:Marjorie.clark@btinternet.com), or phone 01738 637017 – with the details of what you want to buy, and we can put in a combined order.

Let's make this an ethical Christmas – please do consider supporting Traidcraft.

## Bohemians' Christmas concert Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December @3pm in St Matthew's Church

Those of you who attended the Bo's Christmas concert in St Matthew's two years ago will remember what a joyful occasion it was. Well, we're delighted to welcome them back and look forward to another memorable and cheerful afternoon of music, readings (often with a humorous touch) and congregational carols guaranteed to put you in a real Christmas spirit.

For those of you who don't know, the Bohemians are a talented Lyric Opera company who produce musicals, Christmas concerts, and shows, mainly in Edinburgh (King's Theatre) and at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. The Musical Director is our own Finlay Turnbull and the company is really looking forward to coming to Perth and sharing Christmas joy with you.

St Matthew's is a busy place with hall bookings on December 12<sup>th</sup> so no soup lunch this time, but please come back to Church on Sunday afternoon for a 3pm start for this Christmas contribution to St Matthew's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. To help those without transport, Andy Turnbull will organise a (free!) taxi service to get you there and take you home after

Mulled Punch, Tea and Coffee will be available in the Intermission

Tickets will be available on Sunday Mornings from **the ticket sales table** or From the Church Office.

Tickets:- £7 per Adult    £4 (under 16)

**Perth Action of Churches Together** are joining with the Council once again to mark the beginning of Advent with a **lantern procession**, lighting up nativity scenes at St Ninian's Cathedral and St John's Kirk. **On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November** (tomorrow!) people are invited to gather at St Ninian's in Methven Street about 4.45p.m. for the lighting up of the tableau there. We will then process behind Perth Pipe Band to St John's Kirk, where there will be carols (accompanied by Perthshire Brass) after the Provost has inaugurated the town's Nativity scene. Sadly, Covid means there will be no refreshments served, but you are warmly invited to join in this welcome to the season of Advent. (But wrap up warm – it's going to be cold!)



## ANNIVERSARY WALK- PILGRIM'S WAY

### DAY 1 CULROSS - CROSSFORD

St. Matthew's Church



The first of  
our  
Anniversary  
Walks takes  
place on  
**Saturday**  
**4<sup>th</sup> December.**



The plan is to meet at **Broxden** (up by the electric charging points) at **9am (Please note earlier time)** and sort out cars, then travel to the car park on the sea front at Culross, then walk up to Culross Abbey for the start of the walk. (If anyone needs to be dropped off at the Abbey please let your driver know as it stands at the top of a steep hill).

The walk to Crossford is approximately 6 miles and we will get the bus back to Culross so please bring your bus pass if you have one!

Please also bring a snack and packed lunch with you.

The aim is to return to Perth by 4pm at the latest.

Please contact **Jean Young** on

[jy2@btinternet.com](mailto:jy2@btinternet.com) or 07801 889820 by

Thursday 2 December to let her know if you are intending to go on this walk.

All are welcome!

Fiona Bruce

## QUEEN'S GARDEN CANOPY



Following our Remembrance Day Service, Isobel Sinclair, a key member of our Garden Team, and her granddaughter, Maisie, planted a weeping white- flowered cherry called "**Prunus Snow Showers**" on behalf of the church. This tree was chosen by our professional gardener, Nicola McNee and has beautiful early blossom, a weeping habit to keep it small and fabulous deep Autumn colour and will be an asset to our garden. Many of you will have heard of the Queen's initiative for her platinum Jubilee-which is called the Queen's Garden Canopy and our planting of this tree in our church garden is our contribution to this and to the environment.



### Pact Carol Service

Later in the month, PACT will be hosting their annual **Carol Service in St Matthew's**, on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7p.m. Put the date in your diary now – more details of booking arrangements will be intimated soon.



## 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

Join us for the launch of the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence** which aims to raise public awareness to end violence against women and girls worldwide.

Let's kick off the **#16Days of Activism** with **@unwomen** and **#orangetheworld!**



## FROM OUR ARTIST- NOT-IN - RESIDENCE :

Hi there folks, I have begun crafting for the Blue Christmas theme (which is on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December). It will be a time of reflection and cherished memories of loved ones. If you fancy a few minutes of quiet and want to mark a moment please take your time at the back of the church and put a blue bauble on the twigs. There will be pens there if you want to leave

I've not been about for a while but I am still very covid aware and groups and large gatherings worry me a bit.

Those of you aware of your surroundings would have noticed Sunday past (21.11.21) that all things lent/Easter 2020 have gone! Now Winter is upon us and those wee bunnies are now off finding cosy places to hide within the church. If you see leaves or pine cones about they may be there. A few in the big table too- but please leave them 'sleeping' and just have a wee peek!

a mark, a name, a drawing or initials on the bauble. Just take your time of reflection- you can do this throughout the season of Advent x

I have missed seeing all your lovely faces. Hopefully my anxiety will calm soon and I can appear again.

Hugs and love

Viv x (Artist at home)



The next edition of the Newsletter, No. 53 will be on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021**. All contributions to [FMBruce6@googlemail.com](mailto:FMBruce6@googlemail.com) by Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021

