



**St. Matthew's Church**

**Perth**

**e- Newsletter No. 54**

**Fri 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

Dear All

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Something to ponder at the start of 2022 :

What name would you like your new year to have?  
What gifts do you bring with you into the year ahead?  
Do you find any resistance within you?  
Of what are you most afraid as you enter the new year?  
How is your relationship with God at this time?  
What is at the heart of your new year prayer?  
What do you need in order to follow Jesus faithfully in the months that lie ahead?  
What do you hope to contribute to the world around you in this coming year?

Wishing everyone good health and happiness this coming year

Fiona Bruce Session Clerk

**PRAYER**

Lord

You are the Creator of all things,  
snow and hail and frost, the ice of winter as well  
as the warmth of summer,  
and we marvel at the mysteries of Your  
providence in the shaping of our world.  
You have Your own ways of working things out,  
of bringing peace within our borders,  
of bringing down the tyrants, of lifting the  
humble and meek.

We bless You for Your justice, which is better  
than ours.

We bless You for Your good purposes, which are  
wiser than ours.

We bless You for the future which is Your gift to  
us in this year of 2022.

Help us to live in hope, not fear, in love not  
cynicism, in resolution not despair,  
for Jesus Christ our Saviour's sake.

Amen

**PILGRIM'S WAY WALK**



**2<sup>nd</sup> section Torryburn -  
Dunfermline**

The next stage of our walk is from Torryburn to  
Dunfermline. However, as the Abbey is hosting a  
wedding in the afternoon, we intend to visit  
Dunfermline Abbey at 10am and then walk back to  
Torryburn-which is about 6 miles.

Please meet at Broxden carpark (up near the electric  
chargers) at 9a.m.

Thanks to all who said  
that they have HES  
cards we are being  
admitted to the  
Abbey free of charge.



Please remember to bring your cards with you.

As before there are a couple of stops where we can  
buy snacks/lunch.

Please let Jean Young know on [jy2@btinternet.com](mailto: jy2@btinternet.com) if  
you intend to join us.

All welcome!



**FIFE COAST &  
COUNTRYSIDE TRUST**

**PILGRIM'S PRAYER**

O God,

Be for us our companion on the walk,  
Our guide at the crossroads,  
our breath in our weariness,  
our protection in danger,  
our refuge on the Way  
our shade in the heat  
our light in the darkness  
our consolation in our discouragements  
and our strength in our intentions  
so that with your guidance  
we may arrive safe and sound  
at the end of the road  
enriched with grace and virtue  
may we return to our homes filled with joy  
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

## COVID omicron

The latest guidance from the **Church of Scotland** suggests that all the present precautions should be kept in place with the addition of recommending that those attending should take a **Lateral Flow Test**.

However, should you decide not to attend church please note that our **Zoom Services** have continued to be available. See ZOOM Diary.

# NOTICES

**Morag Montgomery** on  
8<sup>th</sup> January

**Mabel Rogers** on 17<sup>th</sup>  
January



## RETIRAL COLLECTION after CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

I am pleased to let you know that this raised £280 which has been pledged to the crowdfunding appeal which PKAVS started to support local asylum seekers and refugees and will be used to buy them warm clothing and other essentials.

## SUNDAY SERVICE on 16<sup>th</sup> January

This will be conducted jointly by Rev Barbara Quigley and Rev Anne Brennan and will be their last service before the Induction of Rev Fiona Bullock.

We are indebted to Barbara and Anne for launching themselves wholeheartedly into the ministry of St Matthew's and serving us not only in a time of Vacancy but also of pandemic!

We thank them for their wise counsel and thoughtful and reflective services throughout.

## INDUCTION SERVICE for the Rev. Fiona C Bullock on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January @ 7pm

This service will be conducted by Presbytery. The Congregation are welcome to attend and should be in church by 6.45pm. Track and Trace will be in place and you should have a negative Lateral Flow Test taken in the preceding 12 hours.

**Please register your intention to attend the Induction at church on the 9<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> January.**

The Service will be live streamed on You Tube  
<https://youtu.be/C5LeAaJJw-c>

## KIRK SESSION in St Matthew's on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm

Could all Elders please note the above date and let me have any Reports by 19<sup>th</sup> January? Thanks

*Fiona Bruce* Session Clerk



## DIARY

**Sunday: Live streamed Worship** from 10.45

ID 953 7532 1288 Pass code 058724

**Wednesday Meditation at 9am (Restarting on 5<sup>th</sup> Jan.)**

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>

## GUILD NEWS

We have been directed by Guild Office that due to COVID restrictions we should not meet as a Guild until at least the 17<sup>th</sup> January, so unfortunately we are postponing the meeting which should have been on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January, and asking David Sawyer to give us his talk on the 24<sup>th</sup> January.

The Treasurer is holding the money for the Christmas lunch which had to be cancelled, and we are now provisionally planning to have a Winter Lunch on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February in the Salutation Hotel. Jean will be asking you to confirm your place at this lunch within the next few weeks.

Stay safe. Lorna Morrison, Convener.



## FLOWER DELIVERY ROTA

Jan. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Freda Stewart
16 <sup>th</sup>	Nicola Macnee
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Lesley Williamson
30 <sup>th</sup>	Evelyn McLaren
Feb. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Janette Miller
13 <sup>th</sup>	Freda Stewart
20 <sup>th</sup>	Alison Sweeney
27 <sup>th</sup>	Tom and Lorna Morrison
March. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Fiona Bruce
13 <sup>th</sup>	John and Helen Dewar
20 <sup>th</sup>	Alastair and Carolyn Byers
27 <sup>th</sup>	Janet Martin

### BURNS SUPPER Sat 29<sup>th</sup> January

6.30 for 7PM

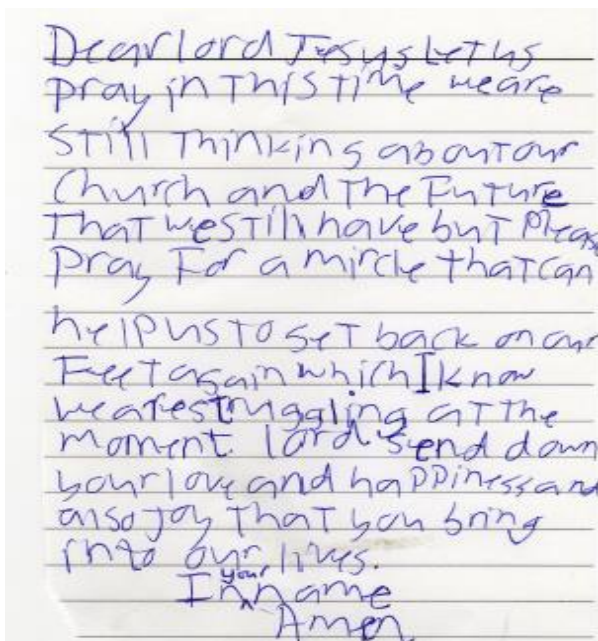
Tickets priced £10 each are now available from Tom Morrison / Wendy Burnett for this evening of Burns poetry, music and fun.

## FOODBANK REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Many thanks to those of you who supported the Foodbank's Reverse Advent Calendar during December. The donations can be brought to the church any Sunday in January, and we will get them up to the Foodbank in due course. Or you can hand them in yourselves to the Foodbank in Cutlog Vennel when it is open for donations: Monday, Wednesday or Thursday from 9 - 11a.m.

Marjorie Clark

### Andrew's Prayer.



Dear Lord Jesus let us  
pray in this time we are  
still thinking about our  
Church and the future  
that we still have but please  
Pray for a miracle that can  
help us to set back our  
Feet again which I know  
we are struggling at the  
moment. Lord send down  
your love and happiness and  
also joy that you bring  
into our lives.  
In your  
Amen

## The Great Tapestry of Scotland

The Unexpected, Lorna Morrison tells us how she came to be a Stitcher of the Great Tapestry of Scotland

I suppose it all goes back to about 1997 when someone suggested I should go to Cardonald College to see the end of term exhibition of the Textile Students. I was fascinated by the beautiful stitched panels, books, pictures, and all sorts of other stitchings and embroidery. So much so that I was talked into signing up for an evening class the next winter. I thoroughly enjoyed the classes all winter, learning about colour, art, stitching, dyeing, and many other fascinating techniques, and at the end of the session I was presented with a Certificate. This was much better than art classes at school. Then I was encouraged to join the City & Guilds one day a week course. Lots to learn, and lots to enjoy, along with making a whole new group of friends, some of who introduced me to the Embroiderers' Guild.



Moving on, Tom and I came to Perth in 2004 and the first group I joined was the Perth branch of Embroiderers' Guild. In due course I became a committee member, programme secretary, and eventually Chairman.

In 2011 I received an email telling me that Dorie Wilkie was looking for stitchers all over Scotland to stitch the History of Scotland. I said I thought our



Embroiderers' Guild would like to take part, and then we waited. Eventually a parcel arrived, I think it was summer of 2012. I took it all along to an EG meeting and they looked in horror, there was a 1 metre square linen cloth with the design outline drawn on, a smaller version of the panel as a colour picture, a bundle of Appletons wools, and a leaflet with some advice about stitches etc. "Our panel" was the Battle of Stirling Bridge, with the central figures William Wallace and Andrew Moray.

This all looked quite daunting. Where were we to begin? The only guidance we were given was that we couldn't change the colours or design, there was to be no applique, and we had to use the wools supplied. Heather Moir stepped in and took charge of us – thank goodness! The wools were sorted into shades, we considered where to start, I think Heather began stitching one of the central figures, and then suggested I stitch the other one. That got us going. Then someone took it away to stitch lots of the heavy outlining, A heavy chain stitch had been ordered. Then there was lots of other outlining, and gradually it took shape. The hills were stitched, the river, the little soldiers,

Around the New Year it was taken off to Blairgowrie for Margaret Young's group to tackle the bridge, I remember it took much longer than I had expected, and a bit of chivvy was going on. We must get this done, there is a deadline set for June.

In May, Andrew Crummy and Dorie Wilkie paid us a visit, he agreed some extra details along the top edge, with the outline of Stirling Castle, the red squirrel and the capercaillie. These were beautifully stitched by Dorothy Lewin and Heather.

We finished the other corners with the Perth EG logo on the left and a spiral of the stitchers' initials on the right corner. Finished at last, June 2013, Heather and I delivered the panel to Edinburgh.

The complete Tapestry was unveiled in the Scottish Parliament building in September 2013, and the stitchers were all invited to view it. It has subsequently travelled to Stirling Castle, New Lanark, Verdant Works in Dundee, Kirkcaldy Museum where the Roslynn Chapel panel was stolen. This has subsequently been replaced with a new version, the stolen one was never recovered. .

The background to the Great Tapestry of Scotland begins when a series of tapestries were stitched in 2010 depicting the Battle of Prestonpans. This had been commissioned by Prestoungrange Arts Festival, inspired by the Bayeux Tapestry in France which tells the history of the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

Alexander McColl Smith decided that a tapestry along the same style should be made to tell all of Scotland's history. These panels were designed and drawn by Andrew Crummy. There are in all 165 panels, stitched

by 1,000 people in 50,000 hours, using 300 miles of yarn. Of course it is not in fact a tapestry because it is not woven, it is embroidery, mainly crewel work.

**The second half of the story .....**In August 2021 a new specially designed building was opened, with the Great Tapestry suitably displayed for the public to enjoy. It is in the centre of Galashiels. A Stitchers' day was organised on 20<sup>th</sup> August, I was delighted to be able to go and enjoy seeing our work displayed, the building is superb, the lighting is just right, the panels can be viewed easily, they are not behind glass, there is information with each one, including the names of all the stitchers. The ground floor of the building has café and conference facilities, and a small exhibition area which will have visiting exhibitions. As you go up the stairs to the main exhibition there is a figure of a lady with a needle and flowing from it is coloured ribbons with the names of all the stitchers. It is fun to try to pick out the ones you want to see, but there was a guide with a list to help.

In the entrance area at the top of the stairs there is visitor information to help you get the most from the exhibition,



there is an interactive screen, you put in the name of a stitcher and up comes the panel he or she stitched on, put in the event in history you want to find and the computer will find it for you. There are magnifying glasses so that you can look closely at the stitches and details. And there are guides to help you find your way around, or just to chat to.

The panels are displayed in 7 zones, going clockwise from the beginning with the ice age, right through to the establishing of the Scottish Parliament in 1999, and panels with the names of well known Scots of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. In the zones there are extra displays, little sample panels of stitching, which can be handled, and places where you can sit and look around you.

Lorna Morrison

Issue No. 55 on **Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2022** All contributions to [FMBruce6@googlemail.com](mailto:FMBruce6@googlemail.com) by Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022