



St. Matthew's Church Perth

e- Newsletter No. 61

Fri 1st July 2022

is made to feel worthless. Lord, in destroying the homes of innocent people – through war or through causing climate chaos – we destroy the common home you gifted us. Give us wisdom to repair the damage, and the generosity of spirit to welcome and care for our sisters and brothers driven in desperation to step into a lorry, board a boat, set out on foot. May the Holy Spirit journey with them. Amen

Dear All

Unfortunately our Minister, Rev Fiona Bullock, is unwell at the moment so there are no opening words from her today. Instead I'd like to focus on the Meditation which Jean Young gave on Wednesday and which concerned a mural commissioned by George Mackay Brown entitled "Christ feeding the people" and painted by Glasgow School of Art graduate Fyffe Christie in 1951. The mural comprises scenes of ordinary Glasgow family life but, after gracing a busy public canteen at the IC base in Clyde Street, had been missing for decades. It has now been found and purchased by Govan Heritage Trust for display at the former Govan Old Church where the plan is to transform the A-listed building into a tourist attraction. As one of our MSPs said: "Our task is not to politely highlight the crushing inequalities of the world. It is to rail against them and overthrow them. At the cost of his life Jesus stood unconditionally with and for the poor, the marginalised, the oppressed and the excluded. Christians must ask ourselves today if we are following his lead in a way he would recognise. How we answer that question is up to us."

Fiona Bruce
Session Clerk

A prayer for migrants and refugees

We pray for the migrant, the refugee, the prisoner of war, the victim of hunger, disease, disaster and injustice throughout the world. No farmer leaves her land through choice. No mother wants to pack a bag and pick up her children to leave all she knows. No father wants to risk the lives of his family. No grandmother wants to walk hundreds of miles to spend the remains of her life in a camp or a country where she understands nothing and

WIMBLEDON
Ladies final
SATURDAY 9th JULY
Join us to watch the match on the BIG Screen.
Tickets for Buffet Lunch, glass of bubbly & strawberries - £10 available on a Sunday or from Beverly
St. Matthew's Church, Tay St, Perth.
doors open 1.15pm
Everyone Welcome
All proceeds to Church Funds



St. Matthew's Church
Perth, Scotland



JULY	9th July	WIMBLEDON AFTERNOON TEA	150th
	2nd July - 3rd Sept.	SUMMER EXHIBITION	150th
AUGUST		SUMMER EXHIBITION (cont.)	
SEPTEMBER	4th–11th	LOCKDOWN EXHIBITION	
	10th	GERDA STEVENSON film "The Stormcatchers"	
	11th	WALKING TREASURE HUNT	150th
OCTOBER		ABBA CONCERT to be confirmed	
	8th	CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT	
NOVEMBER	19th	CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON	
	20th	END OF 150th YEAR SERVICE	150th
	26th	PITLOCHRY THEATRE	
DECEMBER	3rd	CHRISTMAS FAIR	150th
	tbc	ROCK CHOIR CONCERT	150th

TICKETS FOR ALL EVENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON A SUNDAY OR FROM BEVERLY AT HER OFFICE.

Finances

Following on from the appeal made last month by the Stewardship Convener the Treasurer writes this month to explain the situation in detail

CHURCH FINANCIAL POSITION

As at the end of May this year the church's regular income from congregational offerings and the uniformed organisations was £5900 and our regular monthly expenditure was £12200 resulting in a shortfall each month of £6300.

A major part of our monthly expenditure is £6700 which we are obliged to pay to the Church of Scotland. This pays for parish ministries, the work of the Church committees and forums, support given to congregations, Presbyteries and the national and international work of the Church.

The shortfall has been covered in the past by a combination of flat income, special events income and latterly by the Fabric Reserve Fund. As a result of Covid our lets and special events income is down at the moment and we have used up our Reserve Fund so other measures are required.

I would therefore urge all members of the congregation who are able to consider increasing their standing order or, if you do not currently have a standing order, consider taking one out. It is all too easy to let Standing Orders continue at the same rate for years!

You can speak to me or Evelyn McLaren, our Gift Aid Convenor, at any time.

A combined gift aid and standing order form is attached to this newsletter. The gift aid part should be returned to me or to Evelyn McLaren.

The bank standing order part can be given direct to your bank or also returned to me if you so wish.

If you are not a taxpayer but wish to commence a standing order with the bank then complete only the bank standing order part and give it direct to your bank or to me to forward.

If you give to the church by other means such as WFO please also consider increasing your offering if you are at all able to do so.

If anyone wishes to make an online donation to the church please see the details that follow.

If you require any further information please speak to me at the Church or contact me on 01738 631359 or 07774438647 or email me at dewar34@hotmail.com.

JOHN H. DEWAR, TREASURER

STEWARDSHIP

It has previously been intimated that I am to stand down as Stewardship Convenor.

However, due to the seriousness of the financial situation I have agreed to lead a Stewardship Initiative as a project in an effort to get our givings up to a level which reflects the current situation we are having to live in. i.e. increased gas and electricity bills etc. whilst at the same time providing a comfortable place of sanctuary and peace.

To that end with immediate effect the Session have agreed that we have a Month of Giving for July.

The Yellow envelopes will be available as before. However, the treasurer is keen that BACS transfer is used to the full. This avoids bank charges.

Offerings can be made at any time by BACS transfer, standing order, cheque or cash to the following Account:

Account Name: St. Matthew's Church
Sort Code: 83-47-00
Account Number: 00760133

It is also possible to make a donation at any time using the following QR Code:



In the early Autumn there will be a Stewardship Initiative. It is over 3 years since the last Initiative and we would like to bring everyone's giving up to date.

Please give this serious thought as it is your church, we are working hard to help it flourish.

The following article is one of the ways of improving our income without any cost to yourself. Please have a look and give it some thought especially when you are doing internet shopping.

EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK

Perth: St. Matthew's Church is now registered on this website. This means that we can generate additional income from purchases made online by anyone from certain retailers who have signed up to this scheme. Each individual also has to sign up to this website and nominate St. Matthew's as their chosen charity in order for us to benefit. You also must advise the retailer that you are making the purchase under this scheme when you place an order. The easiest way is to set up the donation reminder which is available on mobile phones, PCs, laptops and tablets. If you intend to use this facility to benefit St. Matthew's when making purchases online the easiest way is to log on to this website and then select the retailer from whom you wish to make a purchase.

If you are using Amazon this operates differently. You must make purchases using **Smile Amazon** and selecting **Perth: St. Matthew's Church of Scotland** as your chosen charity to receive any donations.

If you require any further information about this facility please speak to me and I will do my best to assist you.

JOHN H DEWAR,

TREASURER

Zoom worship has been going on now for almost 2 years and as we are now fully back to worshipping in the Sanctuary it has been suggested that Zoom Worship will stop. However, there will still be live broadcast of our service on You Tube. It is hoped that there will be an opportunity to continue the conversation part of a Sunday with a ZOOM session before or after worship. Those who have regularly used the zoom service will be contacted in the next few weeks to have a chat about how to make it work in the future.

Holidays and Church

Further to Tom's article, Alan, Andrew and I visited **Bowden & Melrose Church of Scotland** when we were holidaying in Melrose recently.

This is a united congregation formed in 2007 which retains a place of worship both in Bowden and Melrose.

The church building at Bowden was founded in 1128AD by the monks at Kelso so for nearly 900 years has been the centre of religious life in the area.

We enjoyed the short 9.30am service conducted by Rev Sara Embleton with hymns familiar to us at St Matthew's and played on a pipe organ installed in 1892. Unfortunately there were no teas or coffees after the service so there was not much opportunity to speak to anyone then.



Please send me your short article describing your "holiday church" experience for our September Newsletter. The more the merrier!

Fiona Bruce



DIARY

Sunday: Live streamed Worship from 10.45

ID 953 7532 1288 Pass code 058724

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 July 2022

The Guild programme is completed for this season. However, we are having **Knit and Natter sessions** on Wednesday afternoons 2-4pm, in the cafe. Any ladies are welcome to join for a chat even if you don't knit!

Progress is being made on having a live link to the Guild Annual Gathering in Edinburgh on Saturday 10th September .



Lorna Morrison

WILLS AND POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Alan Davies of McCash & Hunter, Solicitors, has offered his services to draft Wills and Powers of Attorney for members of St Matthew's Church.

This will be on the basis that, up to end December 2022, a donation would be made to St Matthew's of a sum equivalent to the standard fee for the work carried out- £150 for a Will of normal complexity and length and £200 for a Power of Attorney.

Please make payment online using the bank account details shown elsewhere in the Newsletter with the reference "Will".

Please also note that there is a fee of £83 charged by the Public Guardian for registering a Power of Attorney to be paid by the member.

If you are interested in the above, please contact Alan Davies on 01738 620451 or alandavies@mccash.co.uk

As you will see from these photos, the weather on our last walk was not exactly "summer suns" though Andrew took the opportunity to model his new St Matthew's sweatshirt



CLATTO RESERVOIR TO KENNOWAY

Our next walk will take place on **Saturday 2 July** and is approximately 4.5 miles.

Please meet at Broxden carpark (up near the electric chargers) at **10am**. (Please note LATER time)

Please bring a snack/ packed lunch with you if you wish

Please let Joyce Thom know on Joycethom1@gmail.com if you intend to join us.

All are welcome!

Fiona Bruce

PS Please note that the next walk will take place on **Saturday 13th August**
Clatto Reservoir to Pitscottie

PILGRIM'S WAY WALK



Our walk last month was from Markinch to Kennoway, a distance of approximately 4.5 miles. We started off in Markinch, just in front of

Markinch Parish Church which we were kindly shown around on our previous walk. There are suggestions that Markinch was once the capital of the Pictish



kingdom of Fife and certainly the presence of the Pictish Stob Cross close to where the Pilgrim's Way enters Markinch could be taken as evidence of this.

The earliest written reference to the church is in 1050 and, although nothing now remains of this, a Norman building succeeded it and the tower still dominates the skyline. In fact, some of our more enterprising walkers climbed it on our last visit!

ANNUAL STATED MEETING

Our Annual Stated Meeting has had to be postponed yet again. As soon as arrangements have been made you will be notified in Church and by Newsletter Extra



Myrna happy in the Philippines with Family

VISITORS

Thanks to all who volunteered to open the church during the week in April, May and June.

I think it has been very worthwhile and we welcomed a total of 124 visitors all from a wide variety of places, including a family of Ukrainian refugees today who have settled in Perth.

I thought it might be interesting to see where our visitors have come from:

Perth- 17 elsewhere in Scotland- 16
England – 36 Spain – 9 Holland – 10
Germany -6 France -10
Sweden -2 Ukraine – 6 Czech Republic- 2
Italy -2 Wales-2
Angola-1 Australia -1 Israel-1
Malaysia – 1 Hungary- 1 India-1
Fiona Bruce



RETIREMENT

We wish our AV man John Paton a happy retirement after almost 50 years with BT. Well done.

BIRTHDAY

We send belated birthday congratulations to **Jenny Fraser** who was 95 years young on

27th June. Happy Birthday!



DEATH

It is with sadness that we note the death on 5th June of **Guy Willoughby** aged 94.

We send our prayers and condolences to his family.

Christian Aid Retiral Collection in May

I am delighted to report that this raised £404.50 which is an excellent amount!

SUMMER GALLERY

Our first exhibition opens to the public immediately after worship this Sunday 3rd July when local artist Allan Perrera -Liyanage will be displaying his work until next Friday 8th July.

I have had a very good response from those who are going to look after the exhibition and serve tea and coffee but others are required to double up with volunteers and to fill slots later in August.

The exhibition programme is as follows:

St. Matthew's Summer Gallery
Tay Street, Perth, PH1 5LQ
Sun 3rd July to Sat 10th September 2022
Changing exhibition programme throughout the summer.

3 rd – 8 th July	Paintings by Allan Perera-Liyanage
10 th – 22 nd July	Textiles by Kalamkari
24 th - 29 th July	Paintings by June Graney
31 st July – 5 th Aug	St. Matthew's members annual exhibition
7 th – 13 th Aug	Paintings by Ruth and Ian Dunsire with Sheila Garden and Sheila Martin
15 th - 19 th Aug	Textiles by Stitch-Colour-Cloth
21 st Aug – 2 nd Sept	Photography by Tom Ryan and Ewelina Labuda
4 th – 10 th Sept	Lockdown Exhibition

Monday – Friday 10am – 4 pm, Sunday after church till 4pm
Free entry and café available within this 150 year old church building
Please visit to support St. Matthew's in the Community

Wanted

Do you have a coffee cafetiere that you no longer use. If so can you consider passing it on to me to use in the café during the Summer Gallery.



LOCKDOWN “ EXHIBITION

Janet Martin and I are organising an exhibition to run from **Monday 5th to Saturday 10th**

September to include all the various activities and projects you have worked on over the last 2 years during the period of Covid restrictions. What did you do? What did you achieve? What have you made?

We would love to hear from you with any ideas and objects you have- or photos of anything too big to exhibit!

Please contact me on FMBruce6@googlemail.com or 07767 103531 asap.

The culmination of the week will be on the evening of **Saturday 10th September** when we are honoured to have actress, singer, poet and author, Gerda Stevenson talk to us about her film “ The Stormwatchers” which she made as part of the Orkney Festival during lockdown and we will then have a private showing of the film. Please put this date in your diary now!

Fiona Bruce



A selection of images from the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations



Perth: St. Matthew's Church

Sunday worship at 11.am

Address: Tay Street, Perth, PH1 5LQ
Church Tel: 01738 636757
Minister: Rev. Fiona C Bullock
Contact : 01738 570241(Manse)
07587 281344 (Mobile)
FBullock@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Fiona Bruce
FMBruce6@googlemail.com
<mailto:Clerk@perthstmatthews.org.uk>

Church Office: Beverly Skene
Office@perthstmatthews.org.uk

Newsletter Ed: Fiona Bruce
FMBruce6@googlemail.com

Treasurer: John Dewar
Dewar34@hotmail.co.uk

Registered Scottish Charity NO. SCO16829

CHURCH ROTAS

Door Duty For July / August

3rd Gannochy Team (Jean McIntyre)
10th Muirton Team (Janet Martin)
17th Perth City (John Dewar)
24th Perth South (Malcolm Thom)
31st Oakbank (Donald Stewart)
7th Burghmuir (Isobel Sinclair)
14th Bridgend (Alastair Byers)
21st Gannochy (Jean McIntyre)
28th

Readers for July / August

3rd Ann Attridge
10th Raymond Young
17th Gillian Heath
24th Janet Martin
31st Lorna Grey
7th Joan Lackie
14th Marjorie Clark
21st John Dewar
28th Nicola Macnee

Flowers for July / August

3rd Marjorie Clark
10th Eileen Montgomery
17th Alex McDonald
24th Norma Wright
31st
7th Jean Young

14th John Spence
21st Marie & Roy Nicoll
28th

Flower delivery for July / August

3rd Frances Turnbull
10th Janette Miller
17th Lesley Mackie
24th Evelyn McLaren
31st John & Helen Dewar
7th Carolyn & Alastair Byers
14th Tom & Lorna Morrison
21st Freda Stewart
28th Nicola Macnee

Beadle for July / August

3rd Malcolm Thom
10th Andy Turnbull
17th Tom Morrison
24th Malcolm Thom
31st Andy Turnbull
7th Tom Morrison
14th Malcolm Thom
21st Andy Turnbull
28th Tom Morrisosn

Sound Desk Rota for July / August

3rd Maisie / Raymond
10th John / Gillian
17th Peter / Ruaridh
24th Alastair / John
31st Maisie / Gillian
7th Alastair / Ruaridh
14th Peter / Archie
21st Raymond / John
28th Gillian / Maisie

Should you wish to be part of any of the above Rotas please have a word with any of the above names who will put you in touch with the appropriate rota organiser

Vacancy for a Beadle

We are looking for a volunteer (male or female) to be part of the Beadle Rota. 1 week in 4 commitments. Speak to Tom, Malcolm or Andy for information if you think you may be interested

Next Issue No. 62 on Friday 2nd September 2022.
All contributions to FMBruce6@googlemail.com
by Tuesday 30th August 2022

Gift Aid Declaration

Church of Scotland: Perth St. Matthew's
Scottish Charity Number SC016829

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the congregation from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

In order to Gift Aid your donations you must tick the box below. I wish the congregation to treat all donations I make from the date of this declaration or have made in the past 4 years as Gift Aid donations.

Tick here

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Full name

Address

.....

Postcode

Signature

Date of signing

Banker's Standing Order

To the Manager
Name of Bank

Address of Bank

..... Postcode.....

Please pay to Royal Bank of Scotland plc, 12 Dunkeld Road, Perth,
Sort Code 83-47-00, for the credit of St. Matthew's Church
Account Number 00760133

the sum of £..... (in words.....)

on theday of 20.... and a like sum

*a) monthly on the day of each subsequent month

OR

*b) quarterly on the day of each subsequent third month

OR

*c) annually on the day of in each year

until further notice.

*Please delete and initial the lines which do NOT apply.

Signed

Date

Title

Bank Account No