

CHURCH OF THE HOLY RUDE

STIRLING

(Church of Scotland)



NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2019

FROM THE MANSE

Dear Friends,

In June it was my privilege to attend the bi-annual *Evangelisches Kirchentag* in Dortmund as a guest of the Protestant Church of Westphalia. The Kirchentag is a gathering of Christians from all over Germany, and from different Protestant traditions to worship, learn. Sing and celebrate together.

Held for the first time in 1947, as Germany still lay in ruins after the war, the Kirchentag was to be a sign of unity and peace in the war's aftermath, a sign for the country and the world of a determination never to return to the evils and catastrophe of the Nazi past, and instead to place the German churches at the heart of the process of building a new country in friendship and solidarity.

The Dortmund Kirchentag was the 47th to be held, and even in today's secular climate, it was quite astonishing to see the numbers of people who travel from far and wide, from within Germany and from many other countries, to come together in Christian fellowship. The opening worship closed a major city-centre cross-road on a busy Thursday, and drew a crowd of about a hundred thousand people who filled the surrounding streets. The closing worship was held in the stadium of Borussia Dortmund (Germany's largest football ground).

Particularly remarkable were the comparatively large numbers of young people, church youth groups and other youth organisations, many of them members of the brass bands that are a major feature of the music at the Kirchentag. Also present were many influential politicians and other celebrities – the President of Germany addressed the opening worship, and the Chancellor, Angela Merkl, addressed a large crowd of thirty thousand on the Saturday morning: evidence if required that the German churches are still seen as a key part of modern German society.

It was, all in all, an inspiring experience: lively, creative, inspirational and thought-provoking. Wouldn't it be great if we could draw the same kind of crowds, and offer the same kind of engagement with society, here in Scotland, in partnership with all the Churches? Yes, it would, but I think we would need to rediscover at least some of the confidence that so clearly underpins the life of many in the German churches; a confidence in the message of the gospel, confidence in the goodness and love of God; confidence in our place in our country, but above all, confidence in ourselves as a people called by God to live, serve, and celebrate the life of faith that enlivens the whole world.

With every blessing



FROM THE SESSION CLERK

What a busy summer we've enjoyed in the Church! Visitor numbers have increased and there is a real buzz of excitement abounding. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our Ministry of Welcome volunteers who have worked tirelessly over the summer ensuring that all our visitors enjoy their visit to Holy Rude.

There have been a number of concerts which were well supported and much enjoyed by both participants and audiences. It is always a pleasure to welcome performers who appreciate the marvellous acoustic in the church as well the magnificent architecture.

Our Director of Music, Ian Boulter, gave 3 afternoon organ recitals over the summer holidays playing a varied selection of music. The audiences were large, made up of local music lovers and fans of Ian as well as many visitors. It was good to see many of our visitors taking time to sit and enjoy the music. A particularly popular feature was Ian's 'And now for something completely different' where Ian played something not normally associated with a large church organ – songs from a show or film. Great fun!

The Annual James VI lecture given by Charles J Burnett on the Honours of Scotland was thoroughly enjoyed by a large appreciative audience. Thanks are due to Mike Makower who once again has sought out an impressive speaker as well as promoting the lecture to a wide range of interested parties. Many thanks, Mike.

The reading aloud of the Bible over the summer has been well received by visitors and thanks are due to our readers.

Work continues at Cowane's Hospital and not unexpectedly, this has uncovered issues which has delayed the expected completion date. It is now hoped that work will be finished at the end of October.

The cafe, which previously was sited in Cowane's, has provided a welcome facility within the church. Marion, who runs the cafe, has also sourced new cleaners for us following the retiral of Susan who was with us for many years. Thanks Marion!

The horrendous rainfall in July caused a few leaks which have now been attended to by our trusty roofer Ian Young. Unfortunately, we have just discovered the ingress of water has done damage to the blower of the organ. It is hoped this can be addressed soon – a temporary fix has been done.

Here's hoping the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness about to come will not bring too much rain!

Best wishes

Pat Middleton

From the Director of Music



We have had a very busy time musically at the Holy Rude since the last Newsletter a few months ago. We have had two lunchtime concerts given by touring choirs from the U.S.A. The two concerts were enjoyed by audiences that were made up of locals and visiting tourists. Choirs always enjoy singing in the wonderful acoustics of the Holy Rude, and it can quite often be the highlight of their tour.

At the time of going to press I have given two out of three midweek afternoon organ recitals, which continue to be popular and now have a growing audience. There has also been another in the 'Music on a Summer Evening' concerts with organ music and a guest instrumental soloist. This time it was an extremely talented 15 year old pianist from Bonnybridge. Ethan Loch has been blind from birth, which makes his talent even more remarkable. The audience was astonished at his virtuosity and musicality. You can see videos of his performances at the Holy Rude on YouTube (search Ethan Loch blind pianist).

Even though we have been in the middle of the holiday period, the choir has continued to sing at least two items every service. Now we are getting towards the end of the holiday season we should be getting back to also singing an Offertory Anthem as well. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated choir at the Holy Rude, and I would like to express my gratitude for their hard work throughout the year.

We are always looking for new members for the choir, please contact me, or any member of the choir for information.

Ian Boulter

DIARY OF SERVICES

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 1st	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 8th <i>Quarterly Communion Viewfield</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 15th <i>followed by short Service for Healing and Wholeness</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 22nd <i>Viewfield</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 29 th <i>Viewfield</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Scott Dennis

OCTOBER

Sunday 6th <i>Harvest Thanksgiving Short Communion Service Followed by Hunger Lunch</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 13th <i>Viewfield</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Maggie Roderick
Sunday 20th <i>followed by short Service for Healing and Wholeness</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Maggie Roderick

Please note that British Summertime Ends

Sunday 27th <i>Viewfield Guild Dedication Service</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
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NOVEMBER

Sunday 3rd <i>Short Communion Service</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 10th <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	10.40 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 17th <i>followed by short Service for Healing and Wholeness</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller
Sunday 24th <i>Viewfield</i>	11.00 a.m.	Rev. Alan F. Miller

FLOWER ROTA



SEPTEMBER

Sunday 1st Wedding

Sunday 15th Una Evitt



OCTOBER

Sunday 6th Harvest

Sunday 20th Alison Dale



NOVEMBER

Sunday 3rd Church Flowers

Sunday 10th Remembrance

Sunday 17th Ann Crawford

Pastoral

WEDDINGS



Saturday 6th July

Georgie McLachlan and Dean Sharp

Saturday 10th August

Shannon Richardson and Scott Richards

DEATHS



“I am the resurrection and the life.....”

Friday 28th June

*Mrs. Sophia (Fay) Roy,
Flat 11, Allan Park House, Stirling*

*God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing*

Organ Appeal

Update - August 2019

Fundraising for the organ Appeal has been ongoing throughout the year. We have now raised just short of £96,000, a fantastic achievement considering the vast amount of money the congregation also has to raise to keep the fabric of the church in good condition.

We continue to have faults occurring at various times, which I have managed to work around. However, we have had some damage to the organ caused by the flash flooding that Stirling saw at the end of June. There has been some water ingress into the blowing chamber underneath the crossing floor, just in front of the organ case. Fortunately the electric motor and Discus blowing unit appear to be OK. The 6 monthly service visit for the blower takes place in a few weeks time, which hopefully will confirm that. The damage has been done to some bellows in the chamber that regulate the wind supply from the blower to the organ. The leatherwork on the bellows has begun to leak air as the animal glue used to stick the leather to the frame has degraded with contact with the water. This has had a temporary 'fix' so the organ can still be in use, but we are waiting for the quote from the organ builders for re-leathering of these bellows.



This picture shows the electric motor and the two blowing units. The bellows are the white bits in the background.

Further updates on the restoration appeal will appear in future Newsletters.

Ian Boulter
Director of Music

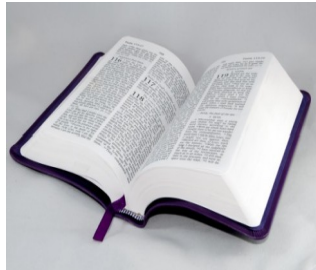
DIARY OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS



2019

DATE	EVENT	TIME
Friday 20th September	Bloody Scotland International Crime Writing Festival Opening Reception Tickets (£15.00) can be booked online, by telephone, or at the Albert Hall and Tolbooth Box Offices. Details on the Festival website https://bloodyscotland.com	6.30 – 8.00 p.m.
Sunday 6 th October	Hunger Lunch In aid of Christian Aid Following morning Service	12.15 p.m.
Saturday 2 nd November	Masterworks Chorale “A Glimpse of Heaven” <i>Atmospheric collection of International Choral Music</i> Entry free (Free places can be booked at www.trybooking.co.uk or by contacting 07776241683.) <i>Retiring Collection for Strathcarron Hospice</i>	3.00 p.m.
Saturday 30 th November	Stirling University Choir St. Andrew’s Day Concert	7.00 p.m.

COMPLETE READING OF THE HOLY BIBLE INTERIM REPORT



We started the reading on 17th June, and so far have completed 14 books of the Old Testament.

In all 28 Readers have taken part and my thanks go out to each one. Personally I have found great blessing and renewed peace as I realise once more that "my trust is in the Lord" !

There is no way that I expected so many people to participate as we started the reading, but as the notice by the table says_ _ _ "God will always BLESS the Public Reading of His Holy Scriptures".

As at the time of writing we have 7 weeks till end of September when we hope to finish, can I encourage all those who have already participated to continue their much appreciated support, and for those who may have thought about helping but never quite got round to it, can I urge you to set aside just a half hour on any day of the week that is convenient to you, as that would help greatly and avoid it being a burden on the present helpers.

It is a wonderful witness to our Christian Faith both locally and to those from all over the world who visit our historic church.

"So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God "

Romans 10: 17

Findlay Macintosh

THE CORONATION ANNIVERSARY LECTURE



Those who attended the Coronation Anniversary Lecture on July 29th enjoyed a fascinating illustrated talk on The Honours of Scotland, delivered by Mr. Charles Burnett, a Scottish Antiquarian and former Officer of Arms. The Honours of Scotland consist of the Scottish Crown, Sceptre and Sword and were used at the coronation of King James VI in the Church of the Holy Rude on 29th July, 1567.

Mr. Burnett treated the audience to an erudite and engrossing account of the Honours, explaining the story of their origins and the various events in their history. The Honours date back to the 15th and 16th centuries and are the oldest surviving set of crown jewels in the British Isles. They were first used together at the coronation of Mary Queen of Scots in 1543. The Crown was made in Scotland. The Sceptre and the Sword were both made in Italy and were presented as gifts to king James IV, by Pope Alexander VI in 1491 and by Pope Julius II in 1507. They have had an adventurous history and have required repairs and embellishment on various occasions. In the 17th century Cromwell's troops attempted to seize them and melt them down, as they had done to the English crown jewels, but they were saved by being hidden under the floor of Kinneff Parish Church. They were later locked away in a chest in Edinburgh Castle and remained forgotten for more than a century until Sir Walter Scott rediscovered them in 1818. They are now on display to the public in a secure room in Edinburgh Castle.

We are greatly indebted to Charles Burnett for his excellent presentation and his account of the role of The Church of the Holy Rude in the history of The Honours of Scotland.

Douglas Murray

Holy Rude Benefactor - Colonel Andrew Ramsay Bain M.C. D.L. (1892 - 1976)

In the summer Newsletter information was given on John Risk, who was a major benefactor to Holy Rude, and who was a member of the Holy Rude Restoration Committee formed in 1936. Another member of this committee was Colonel Andrew Ramsay Bain, and who in his will left a substantial bequest of £132,000 for the repair and maintenance of Holy Rude, and which led to the establishing in 2011 of the registered charity *Friends of the Church of the Holy Rude*.

In 2012, local nurses also benefited from a £60,000 legacy from him when the money was used to buy 3,000 Fob Watches for distribution to every registered and unregistered nurse in the NHS Forth Valley area, and to pay for travel scholarships and training.

Andrew Bain was born in 1893 near Slamannan, where his father was a Colliery Manager. In 1910 after the family had moved to The Whins, 34 Park Terrace, Stirling, (this was to be his home for the rest of his life), Andrew went to Glasgow University to study Engineering, where he proved to be a top student and graduated as BSc in 1913.

In 1914 on the outbreak of war, he enlisted with the 7th. Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and then served in France and Flanders. He was mentioned three times in Despatches, before as a Lieutenant he was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry in December 1917. He remained in the Army, and rose to be Colonel and Commanding Officer of the Battalion, retiring in 1929 at the age of 37.

He continued his active support for the Army through membership of the Territorial Army Association, but returned to civilian life to pursue a successful career as a Company Director and a notable public figure in Stirling.

Among Andrew Bain's community commitments was the management of The William Simpson Home in Plean, founded in 1832 for the social care of ex-servicemen. He was also a Provincial Grand Master of Stirlingshire, a Past Master of Lodge Ancient Stirling No. 30, and President of the Stirling District and County Savings Bank. To these he added in 1957 the title of Honorary Sheriff Substitute.

Andrew Ramsay Bain never married, and died in Stirling at the age of 83, after a long and active career in military and public service. His grave is in the New Monkland Cemetery, situated in the village of Glenmavis, near Airdrie.



FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY RUDE

This Society was registered as a Charity (No. SC042326) in May 2011 with the main purpose of raising funds for the care and maintenance of Holy Rude. Other principal objectives are a) the adornment and furnishing of the Church and providing facilities for the benefit of the Congregation and visitors, b) supporting the performance of music in Holy Rude, and c) the encouragement of research into the history of the Church.

Membership

The current Financial Year of the Friends runs from 1st. April 2019 to 31st. March 2020.

Anyone wishing to join the Friends Society can obtain a Membership Pack from the Reception Desk in Holy Rude, or by e-mailing the Secretary at morrib42@gmail.com

Membership Fees

The Annual Adult Single Membership is £12, with the Annual Adult Joint Membership £24.

Concessionary (OAP, Student, under 21) is £10 Annual Single, and £20 Annual Joint.

Life Membership is £120 Single, and £180 Joint.

It is worth noting that since being established in 2011, the Friends Society has now provided just over £250,000 of assistance for the care and maintenance of the historic Church of the Holy Rude. Full details will be given in the 2018/19 Annual Report and Accounts.

Annual General Meeting

Please note that the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Holy Rude will be held on Sunday 15th. September at 4.00 pm. in Holy Rude, and all members are invited.

Copies of the Agenda and Annual Report and Accounts will be distributed shortly.

2019 Ministry of Welcome Season

The 2019 Ministry of Welcome Season began on Good Friday 19th. April, and up until 10th. August a total of 44,531 visitors had been welcomed into Holy Rude, and this is up by some 2,304 (5.2%) over last year at this time. All indications are that we are likely to exceed 70,000 visitors for the full season, and this would be an all time record number for Holy Rude.

Again, visitors have been attracted from all parts of the world and amongst the Guided Tours given there have been groups from New Mexico, Alabama and California in the USA, as well as Finland and Thailand. Assistance has also been given to a number of visitors seeking to find ancestors' graves in the Old Town Cemeteries.

Bookkeeper Required

We are still looking for a Bookkeeper to take care of the financial affairs of the Friends after the AGM in September, so if you know of anyone who could carry out these duties, please get in touch.

Volunteers Required

As always, additional volunteers are required to assist in the Ministry of Welcome, which is crucial to the ongoing maintenance and repair of our ancient and historic church, so if you, or anyone you know of, can spare two and a half hours each week and would be interested in being involved, then please let me know.

Brian Morrison
Secretary, Friends of Holy Rude
E-mail morrib42@gmail.com

STIRLING KIRKS TOGETHER

Autumn Friendship Lunches

**All- Age Friendship Lunch for
September will be raising funds
for CrossReach**

Monday 9th September



**Celebrating 150 Years
all
(Proceeds to Crossreach)**

Monday 14th October

Monday 11th November

**Monday 9th December
(Christmas Lunch)**

From 12 noon – 1.30 p.m.

St. Columba's Church Hall, Park Terrace, Stirling

CONVERSATION, SOUP AND SANDWICH

Remember to put these dates in your diary

Come along, you are assured of a very warm welcome!

DON'T FORGET



CLOCKS GO BACK

Sunday 27th October

MATERIAL FOR AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

The next Newsletter will be our Winter covering the months of

December, January and February

Please ensure all articles are available no later than **Sunday 10th November.**

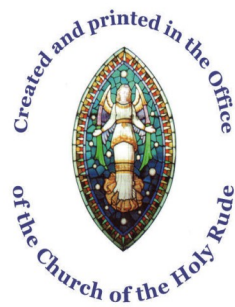
Please let me know of forthcoming events and any additional material that may be of interest.

Special thanks, as ever, to all members who have provided articles for this edition.

Your support, as ever, is very much appreciated.

Hilary Blewitt

e-mail:- hiblewitt@aol.com



www.holyrude.org

Scottish Charity Number SC 011473