

ST. NINIANS OLD PARISH CHURCH

PARISHIONER

AUTUMN 2024



Helpful Contacts

Minister

The Rev Gary J McIntyre
The Manse
7 Randolph Road
Stirling
FK8 2AJ

Tel 01786 474421
GMcIntyre@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk

Mr Leslie W Asher
17B Rollock Street
Stirling
FK8 2PP

Tel 01786 449721
sessionclerk@stniniansold.org.uk

Depute Session Clerk

Mrs Sally P Andrews
8 Cedar Avenue
Stirling
FK8 2PF

Tel 01786 471878
deputysessionclerk@stniniansold.org.uk

Treasurer

Mr Edward A Morton
72 Johnstone Street
Alva
FK12 5AE

Tel 01259 760861
treasurer@stniniansold.org.uk

Church Officer

Mr Aaron H Colthart
60 Carrick Court
Stirling
FK7 7QY

Tel 07960763013
a.colthart@talktalk.net

Organist

Mr Antony Baldwin
19 West Burnside
Dollar
FK14 7DP

Tel 01259 742254
antonybaldwin19@gmail.com

Gift Aid Convener

Mrs Heather Scougall
87 Polmaise Avenue
Stirling
FK7 0DP

Tel 07845 530362
hscougall1509@gmail.com

Roll Keeper/FWO Convener

Mrs Alison Newman
32 Wishart Drive
Stirling
FK7 7TS

Tel 07512 574267
rollkeeper@stniniansold.org.uk

Halls Booking Convener

Mrs Lorraine Reid
26 McGrigor Road
Stirling
FK7 9BN

Tel 07300 332256
hallsbookingmanager@stniniansold.org.uk

From the Manse

Dear Friends,

I find it hard to believe that we are at the beginning of a new session in the life of the Church.

It is a time when organisations start up again and activities commence.

I am very grateful to the leaders in all our groups and organisations for their commitment, and I encourage you to remember them and the Church in your prayers.

In June I was discharged as Interim Moderator of Cowie and Plean Church. The congregation is now linked with Fallin and the Rev Alison Grainger is minister of the linked charge.

I continue to be Interim Moderator of Bannockburn Allan Church which is now in a deferred linkage with Bannockburn Ladywell, and will soon begin the task of finding a minister who will initially be minister of the Allan, and then, following the translation or retirement of the Rev Elizabeth Robertson, will become minister of Ladywell too.

These developments are signs that after a great deal of discussion and planning, the Church is beginning to move forward, but what of St Ninians Old?

For some years we have actively engaged in joint ventures with Park Church and Holy Rude Viewfield, and it is envisaged that in due course we will enter a more formal partnership with these congregations. In its present form, the Presbytery Mission Plan anticipates that the number of full-time ministers within our partnership will go down from three to two.

I believe that working together and combining our resources is the correct thing to do as we endeavour to continue the work of Jesus Christ in an increasingly secular society, but it is also important that we continue to support our own congregation as we seek to serve those who live within our large and diverse parish. This means being faithful in our attendance at worship, in person or online, supporting the work of the Church by regularly reviewing what we give



financially, and by giving freely of our time and talents to further the mission of the Church.

Though the challenges confronting us as a Church are considerable, I continue to remain positive, and this is due in no small part to your faithfulness and generosity as a congregation. It is also a consequence of the promise made by Jesus – *“I will be with you always.”* This promise has encouraged and strengthened God’s people in every generation, and it continues to do so today.

Let us truly believe it and look to the future believing that the best is yet to be!
Every blessing,

Your friend and minister,
Gary J McIntyre

Services

Services are held at 10:30am on a Sunday and everyone is welcome. The service is live-streamed and can be watched on the Church YouTube channel.

During term time the Sunday Club meets. This is for children of primary school age. They meet in the Church at 10:30am and then go to the Parish Halls for a programme of lessons, crafts and activities.

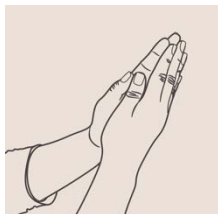
The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated on the second Sunday of March, June and September and the first Sunday in December.

There is a further opportunity for fellowship on the third Sunday of the month in the Parish Halls with tea, coffee and biscuits (occasionally home baking!) being served.

There is a service on the fourth Wednesday of the month in Eccles Court and Westerlands Care Home. The residents in Roselea Court Care Home join us via the live stream on a Sunday morning.

Psalm 130

When studying Psalm 130 which I preached on in July, I came across these words which resonated with me. I share them with you praying they will be a help and encouragement to you.



“However dark the night, however deep the fear, however hopeless the situation, we rely on the steadfast love of God and give ourselves over to the ONE who is always the source of our HOPE.” GJM

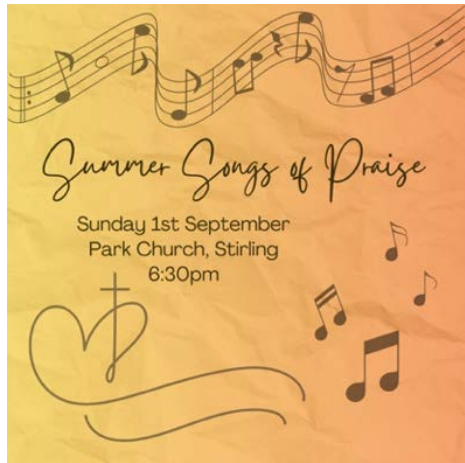
Summer Song of Praise

There will be a Songs of Praise service in Park Church, Stirling on Sunday 1st September at 6:30pm.

We will sing favourite hymns and learn something about the story behind them.

The praise will be accompanied by Clackmannan and District Brass Band.

There will be a further time of fellowship following the service.



Harvest Thanksgiving

Our Harvest Thanksgiving service will be held on Sunday 6th October and will be a Family Service. Once again, the congregation will support WaterAid. Envelopes are being distributed with this edition of The Parishioner and can be returned between now and the end of October. You can also donate online. Taxpayers are encouraged to tick the Gift Aid box as this will increase the amount of money that WaterAid will receive.

Advance notice –

Service of Lessons and Carols

A Service of Lessons and Carols will be held in St Ninians Old Parish Church on Sunday 15th December at 6:30pm and there will be tea, coffee and baking in the hall afterwards.



Bible Study

A Bible study will be held in Park Church at 7pm on Thursdays 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th September. These will be led by the Rev Attie van Wyk, the Rev Alan F Miller and the Rev Gary J McIntyre. There is plenty discussion and a fair degree of humour! All will be welcome. Further studies will be held in Advent.

Kirk O' Muir

The open-air service at Kirk O' Muir was held on Sunday 4th August. Despite a wee rain shower at the beginning, the rain cleared, and a wonderful time of fellowship was enjoyed by those gathered.



The Rev Hamish Norman McKenzie McIntosh

The Rev Hamish McIntosh died peacefully in the early hours of Sunday 7th July. He was one month short of his 102nd birthday and was “Father of the Church” being the longest ordained minister in the Church of Scotland at the time of his death.

Hamish was born in Glasgow and studied at the University of Glasgow where he gained an MA. Following his graduation, he went to Trinity College and trained for the ministry. He was ordained on the 16th of February 1949 and inducted to his first charge, Craigneuk, in the Presbytery of Hamilton. Five years later he received a call to be minister of Lamlash Church on the Island of Arran.

In 1958 Hamish was inducted to Old Cumnock St Ninian’s where experience as a Territorial Army Chaplain led to him becoming a Chaplain in the Royal Air Force in 1961. He served as a Chaplain for over twenty years and he recalled these years with affection and gratitude.

His final charge was Fintry in the Presbytery of Stirling where he served from 1982 until he retired in 1987.

Hamish’s retirement was an active one. He served as locum in many congregations and conducted worship regularly until he was in his 80’s. Prior to Mr McIntyre’s induction in 1998, Hamish conducted the services in St Ninians Old and is remembered with great affection by the congregation.

Hamish was a gifted singer, an avid reader, and one who enjoyed the company of others.

Some years ago, Hamish became a member of St Ninians Old and latterly he worshipped online. Despite his declining physical health, he remained mentally alert and his delightful sense of humour was in evidence until the end.

Hamish’s wife, Ena, died in 2012. He is survived by his brother, Iain and his family.

A private funeral was held on Friday 19th July.

We give thanks to God for Hamish’s life and ministry and convey our sympathy to his family and friends.

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.” 1st Corinthians Ch 2 vs 9.

Open Day

As mentioned in the last edition of The Parishioner, we will have an Open Day on Saturday 21st September from 11am – 3pm.

The Church building will be open and people will be able to walk round it and visit the Session House, McMichael Chapel and Vestry. There will be some items of interest on display.

Tony Baldwin, our gifted organist, has kindly offered to do two organ recitals. The first will be from 11:30am until 12 noon and the second will be from 1:30pm until 2pm.

The Parish Halls will also be open with tea, coffee and home baking available. We plan to share information about the life and work of our congregation and to let people know about the charities we support.

It is our hope that as many people as possible will come along to the Open Day. It will be a good opportunity to enjoy one another's company and to strengthen the link between our congregation and the community.

Please join us and bring a friend!



St Ninians Old Parish Church



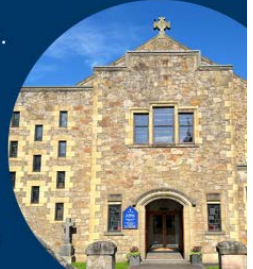
Open Day

Saturday 21st September 2024

11am -3pm

We would love to welcome you on our Open Day.

- Come inside for a look around the Church and Parish Halls.
- Learn about the charities we support.
- Discover what groups meet in our buildings.
- Take part in the craft activities for young people.
- Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and some homebaking.



The 8th Stirling (St Ninians) Company of the Boys' Brigade

JACK UNSWORTH

THE BOYS'
BRIGADE
>the adventure begins here



Our Company had a very successful session, last year, with healthy numbers of boys and a varied programme being maintained. This included Halloween and Christmas Parties, Kidzworld soft play and a Lego Event for the wee boys, and Tubing at Firpark Ski Centre, ten pin bowling, cross country, visit to an Ice Hockey match and our annual Camp at Tighnabruaich.

The Company attended the Remembrance Day Service and Rev Gary's 25th Anniversary Service at our Church. We also attended Stirling and District Battalion's Christmas Carol Service at St Blane's Church in Dunblane and the Battalion Parade to Ludgate Parish Church in Alloa. The Parade was led by the Pipes and Drums of 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Band augmented by two side drummers from 8th Stirling!

Three boys received the Queen's Badge (the King's Badge will be awarded this coming session) with three boys gaining the President's Badge, the second highest badge in the Boys' Brigade.

Our Company is very proud of its attachment to St Ninians Old since the Company was founded as 1st St Ninians in 1893 and appreciates the interest and support it gets from our Chaplain, Rev Gary McIntyre, and the Congregation.

A special thanks to our retiring Treasurer, Mr Clyde Leggat, who gave us sterling service for over twenty years, assisted by Mrs Elma Leggat.



New members for all sections are always welcome. If you know of any boy who might be interested, please email the Company at

davidchristopherross@gmail.com

We meet in St Ninians Old Parish Halls, Kirk Wynd, Stirling FK9 9AJ
Enrolment Night is Friday 30th August 2024 between 7pm and 8pm
Cost: £10 Enrolment fee per boy and £1 per week per boy. Additional costs for uniform and events may be incurred. Rest assured that they are subsidised whenever possible.

Company Meeting Nights are as follows: -

- **Anchor Boys** attending P1 to P3 meet each Wednesday 6.15-7.30pm starting 4th September 2024
- **Junior Section** P4 to P6 meet each Friday 6.45pm – 8.00pm starting 6th September 2024
- **Company Section** P7 to S6 meet each Friday 8 –10pm starting 6th September 2024

Social and Fundraising Committee

ALISON NEWMAN



Soup and Sandwich lunches will resume on Saturday 5 October at 12 noon until 1.30pm.

The committee looks forward to catching up with familiar faces and welcome new ones to come and enjoy a time of fellowship.

See you then.

Christian Aid

ELAINE WALKER

Thank you so much for your generous donations during Christian Aid Week in May. You helped us to raise £377.76 for this wonderful charity.

There will be another chance to support Christian Aid on October 26th as St.Ninians Old hosts a coffee morning in the Parish Halls.



Anyone who would like to help on the day or would be able to donate baking can speak to me at church.

Pastoral Care Group

GRACE McINTOSH

If you know of anyone who would benefit from telephone contact or a visit from a Pastoral Care Group member, please let me or the Minister know.

Sunday Club

We enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship at our end of session family service. It was lovely to have the Sunday Club children and their families in the Church for the entire service. The service also included the Sunday Club prize giving.



We are very much looking forward to the new session and lots of learning, activities and crafts. Some of the topics we will be covering are The Lord's Prayer, Noah and his Ark, the story of David.

Sunday Club is for Nursery class children through to Primary 7 and we would love new children to join our Sunday Club family.

Tuesday Group

MIRANDA MILLER

I hope you have enjoyed the summer break and are looking forward to the new session.

The new session of the Tuesday Group will commence on the 24th of September at 2.00pm, when the annual afternoon tea will be served. The cost will be £5 which includes the annual subscription fee.

Since the last quiz afternoon was so successful, the committee has decided to hold another one on the 29th October.

As many members are reluctant to come out in the evening, the Scots' night will now be celebrated on the afternoon of Tuesday 26th November.

Christmas lunch will be on the 10th December, more details to follow.

The committee look forward to welcoming all our members back to the new session and hope to welcome new members and friends too.

Presbytery of Perth – Presbytery Mission News



St Matthew's Church in Perth has become the 'home of Presbytery', with our in- person Presbytery meetings being held there. It seems appropriate, therefore, that St Matthew's should share the first of the Mission Committee's 'monthly mission' stories.

St Matthew's is known for opening its doors during weekdays, where volunteers open the doors and visitors can have a cuppa and a chat. More than that, though, the same visitors can spend time in the sanctuary, either just looking around or having a guided tour. There is a guidebook available, leaflets available about some of the church features in a variety of different languages, and importantly, prayer cards that anyone can take away.

Throughout the summer though, mission at St Matthew's takes on a different feel. There is a Summer Gallery and Festival bringing in thousands of people: visitors, churchgoers, those who've never been in a church, as well as those who say, "I used to come to church, but it's so hard to walk back in the door". The Summer Gallery and Festival makes it easy.

St Matthew's Summer Gallery and Festival is mission with a difference. Throughout July and August, the sanctuary hosts a variety of artwork from local artists, who can sell their work. The artwork changes each Friday after the gallery closes. Saturdays bring a new amazing amount of talent. Doors are open Mon-Sat 10.30-4.00 pm and Sunday 1.00 – 4.00 pm. Entry is free. But it doesn't stop there.



Music for a Wednesday night brings in a different genre of music each week, provided by local musicians. It's a great way to relax midweek and enjoy something different, along with tea and coffee. Music starts at 7.30 pm and lasts for approximately an hour. Of course, the buzz within the chancel continues after that.

The Session Room has been turned into a prayer room, with a variety of ways to encourage visitors to come and have some quiet time and pray as well as to leave prayer requests. This new development grew out of the pastoral and prayer encounters the volunteers and minister have had with visitors during previous Summer Galleries. People are seeking a place of sanctuary, and they find it at St Matthew's.



Not only does all of this bring people into the church, but it also brings in income. As well as paying a fee to exhibit each week, the artists give the church a commission on their sales. Entry to the exhibition is free and there is a suggested donation of £5 for the evening music. It's not essential to pay though. All are welcome at St Matthew's.

The Summer Gallery and Festival took vision, teamwork, volunteers and yes, a lot of organisation. So why do it?

There are three reasons why it takes place.

1. To bring people into the church, to give them an opportunity to walk back through church doors, or to come in for the first time.
2. To work with the community, through sponsorship, local artists and musicians.
3. To bring income to the church.

Money usually follows mission, even when it's not requested. It has also given many of the volunteers in the church something to do over the summer. So many church organisations finish for the summer. One gentleman said that when he and his wife were new to the area, they didn't know what to do over the summer as everything they used to do had finished until September. St Matthew's is somewhere they can go.

The brochure was sponsored and includes local advertisements. It can be found in pdf format on St Matthew's Church of Scotland Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Matthews-Church/127714973946352> or you can follow this link <https://publuu.com/flip-book/77653/1163806> More detailed photos are also available on the Facebook page.

New Members

There was real joy on Sunday 9th June as we welcomed two new members to St.Ninians Old when, Linda Sprowl and Gordon Beattie, declared their faith in Jesus Christ.



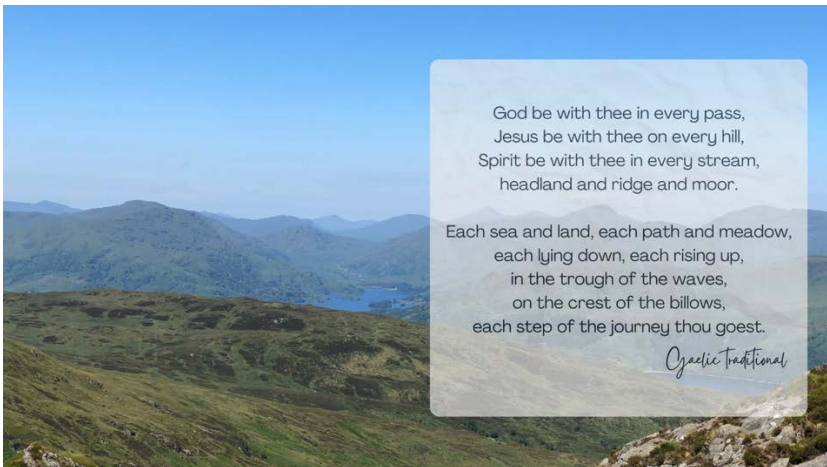
Reflecting on the joy of the occasion, Rev Gary J McIntyre said:

“It is a great joy and a very real privilege and pleasure to welcome you into the family of St.Ninians Old and the Church of Jesus Christ. And in so doing I would also like to take the opportunity to welcome those others who have joined us from other churches and other places and who are part of our Church family here at St.Ninians Old.

I hope that all of you will know God’s blessing upon your life and as part of this fellowship you will not only feel welcome but very much at home in this community of faith.”

Gaelic Traditional Blessing

Taken from *Touch the Earth Lightly* by Peter Millar



Perseverance in Prayer

Our prayer brings great joy and gladness to our Lord. He wants it and awaits it.

By his grace he can make us as like him in condition as we are by creation. This is his blessed will.

So he says this, 'Pray inwardly, even though you find no joy in it. For it does good, though you feel nothing, see nothing, yes, even though you think you cannot pray. For when you are dry and empty, sick and weak, your prayers please me, though there be little enough to please you. All believing prayer is precious to me.'

God accepts the good-will and work of his servants, no matter how we feel.

Julian of Norwich

Photo Gallery

The Royal Highland Show 2024

A happy day out at The Royal Highland Show on 21st June. Rev Gary J McIntyre Chaplain to the Show, with the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Right Rev Shaw Paterson and his wife Christine.



Photo Gallery
Manse BBQ 2024





Eric Liddell

JIM MACLEOD

At time of writing, the world is gearing up for thirty-third Olympiad; the Olympic Games in Paris, 2024. Those of us of a certain age will be reminded of the wonderful film of 1981, 'Chariots of Fire' which told the story of the eighth Olympiad, the Paris Olympics of 1924; and in particular of the two top British sprinters of the time: England's Harold Abrahams and Scotland's Eric Liddell - now 'rivals under the same flag'. As admirable as Abrahams was and as interesting as his life was, for us Scots, Eric Liddell is the hero of that story and beyond.



Born in Tianjin in China in 1902, to Scottish missionary parents, Eric spent as much time as he could in Edinburgh and studied at the University of Edinburgh. He played rugby as a wing three-quarter for his country before deciding to concentrate on athletics as a sprinter in 100 and 200 metres.

Eric was chosen for the British athletics team for the Olympics, but on discovering that the heats for the 100 metres would be held on a Sunday, he

withdrew from the event and started to train for the 400m event instead. Eric won a bronze medal in the 200m a few days before taking his place for the 400m final. A competitor handed him a message referencing 1 Samuel 2:30 – in the Old Book it says ‘He that honours me I will honour’. He won a gold medal that day, possibly spurred on by those words.

On graduating from university, Eric himself became a missionary, still competing when possible. He taught Maths and Science at the Anglo-Chinese college where he promoted Christian values as well as teaching Sunday school and sport. Eric married and had three daughters, but by 1941 life in China had become so dangerous because of aggression from Japan that Eric sent his family to Canada for safety. Eric joined a rural medical mission in Xiaozhang, which was taken over by the Japanese. In 1943 Eric was interned at Weihsien camp, becoming a leader and organiser of people and resources, earning the fond nickname ‘Uncle Eric’. He was very well loved and respected, sacrificing all his time and energy for the benefit of the other internees.

Unfortunately, Eric suffered a nervous breakdown, but what nobody realised was he also had a brain tumour. He died on 21st February 1945, only five months before the camp was liberated. His last words were ‘It’s complete surrender’ alluding to his life of service to God. A life very truly well lived.

Photo Gallery

The Sunday Club
Planters have provided
some lovely colour over
the summer.



The Gospels

ARTHUR S WALLS

St. Mathew's Gospel

For The Spring Edition of The Parishioner, my article was about St. Luke's Gospel. My article for The Summer Edition was about Mark's Gospel. My article for The Autumn Edition of The Parishioner is about Matthew's Gospel.

Each of the four Gospels has its own special emphasis. Although Matthew comes first, it is the one that many readers today find most difficult.

But for the first Christians it was most important to show that the new faith was rooted in Judaism, and this is what Matthew, with all its quotations from the Jewish Bible, does. The Gospel is a "bridge", connecting Jesus with what has gone before.

The author, a Jewish Christian writing for a church mainly composed of Jewish Christians, concentrates his skills on presenting Jesus the long-awaited Messiah—the Christ predicted in The Old Testament. He carefully records what Jesus said about his kingdom, a radically different concept from the idea of Messiah current in his day, when most Jews expected a political leader who would free them from Roman domination.

The Gospel does not name its author, but from earliest times it has been attributed to Matthew, the apostle and one-time tax collector for the Romans. Little is known of him and beyond the fact that the Gospel belongs to the period AD50 and AD100 no one knows for certain when or where it was written. Most scholars today believe that Matthew drew on Mark (not vice - versa) and date the Gospel sometime after AD 80.

Main themes

- (1) The Old Testament points forward to Jesus, in whom all God's purposes are fulfilled.
- (2) Jesus is the Messiah, 'son of God' and 'son of man', God's promised King.
- (3) Jesus both fulfils and transforms the law God gave to Israel through Moses.
- (4) The people of God, now, are those who respond to the message of Jesus.

The Sermon on The Mount is the first and longest of five sections in which Matthew gathers together the teaching of Jesus and includes the Beatitudes for which Matthew is very famous.

Sitting on the hillside with his followers all around him Jesus tells them how his disciples are meant to live.

There is no simple set of rules. Their whole attitude and outlook is to be transformed: from the inside out. Their goal is a goodness like God's, which knows no bounds.

The Beatitudes:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”

In Luke's version of The Beatitudes, he begins with, “Happy are you who are hungry because you will be fulfilled, Happy are you who weep now because you will laugh.”

There are differences between the versions of Matthew and Luke, but one thing is clear- they are a series of bombshells. It may well be that we have read them so often that we have forgotten how revolutionary they are.

Just imagine anyone saying, “Happy are the poor, and woe to the rich!

Photo Gallery

REV GARY J MCINTYRE

North elevation of the Church with the windows, gutters and downpipes newly painted.

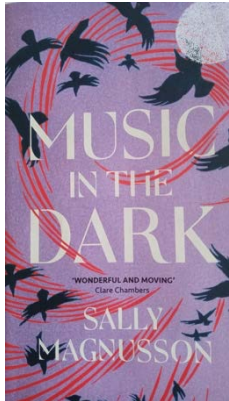


Book Review

MARION JACKSON

Music in the Dark – Sally Magnusson

Although fiction, this book is based on historical fact and a story from Sally Magnusson's family history.



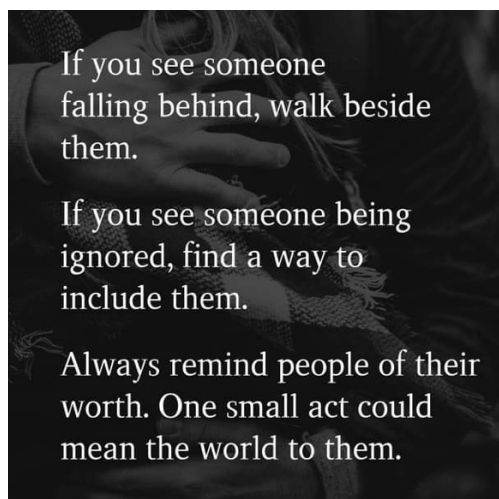
It is told at the time of the tragic and brutal Highland Clearances and is set in the area of Croick Parish and Glencalvie, west of Ardgay up Strathcarron around 1842/45 with the eviction of some 90 people from 18 families who had lived there for generations. It tells of their shelter in Croick Kirkyard and even now their desperate messages can be seen scratched on the glass of Croick Church's east window.

It is partly a tender and unusual love story and partly a lament for a people and a way of life brushed aside for profit and attests to a heartfelt faith in the power of poetry and song to heal wounds and keep memories alive.

The book has been longlisted for the Walter Scott Prize, shortlisted for the Winston Graham Prize and I loved reading it.

Reflection Moment

Submitted by MARGARET CURRIE LAMONT



If you see someone
falling behind, walk beside
them.

If you see someone being
ignored, find a way to
include them.

Always remind people of their
worth. One small act could
mean the world to them.



Stirling Kirks Together



All Age Friendship Lunches
2nd Wednesday of the month
11th September
9th October
13th November

Park Church Hall, Park Terrace, 12noon - 1:30pm



St.Ninians Old Parish



Soup & Sandwich Lunches
1st Saturday of the month
5th October
2nd November
7th December

St.Ninians Old Parish Halls, Kirk
Wynd, 12noon - 1:30pm



Photo Gallery

CHRIS MACKAY

Niagara Falls (Horseshoe Falls)
from the Skylon Tower.



Dawes Glacier
Alaska

The Parish Register

Baptism “In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit”

13th July 2024

Aaron Bond Copland and Archie Douglas Wilson
Children of Graham and Amy

21st July 2024

Jessica Lucia Elaine Brown
Daughter of Callum and Caitlin

Marriage “The Lord bless you and keep you”

28th June 2024

Alan Conley and Fiona Oman

29th June 2024

Scott Morrison and Elspeth Adamson

Deaths “I go to prepare a place for you”

17th May 2024

Mr John Duff
22 Cask Crescent,
Riverside, Stirling (District 2)

30th June 2024

Mr Alex Wilson
72 Gillies Hill,
Cambusbarron

7th July 2024

The Rev Hamish N M McIntosh
Westerlands Care Home,
Stirling

“God loved us before he made us and his love has never diminished and never shall.” Julian of Norwich



RECIPES



Sesame, Date and Ginger Biscuits

LORRAINE REID

This is a Dan Lepard recipe cut out from *The Guardian Magazine* in February 2008!



INGREDIENTS

50g dark soft brown sugar

50g treacle

125g unsalted butter, softened

1 egg yolk

175g plain flour

½ tsp bicarbonate of soda

¾ tsp baking powder

2 tsp each ground ginger & mixed spice

175g chopped dates

About 100g sesame seeds

METHOD

Put the brown sugar, treacle and butter in a bowl, and beat until creamy. Add the egg yolk, mix until fluffy, then spoon in the flour, bicarb, baking powder and spices, and stir until smooth. Add the dates, beat to combine, then cover and transfer to the fridge for 30 minutes to firm.

Preheat the oven to 180C (160C fan-assisted)/350F/gas mark 4. Divide the mixture into walnut-sized blobs, sprinkle the sesame seeds on to a dinner plate, then flatten the dough balls on it - they should end up less than 1cm thick and 4-5cm wide, coated evenly in seeds. Lay on a parchment-lined tray and bake for 15-20 minutes, until a rich, golden brown and firm at the edges. Remove from the oven, leave to cool on the tray, then store in an airtight tin.

You can exchange the ingredients for any you love more: figs or cranberries for the dates, poppy seeds or oats for the sesame, cinnamon for the ginger. The unbaked mixture keeps well for a week or so, covered, in the fridge, ready to be baked when it suits.

Autumn Quiz

CHRIS MACKAY

Autumn Quiz

- 1. Judeans were taken into exile where?**
Egypt, Sumerian, Babylon, Into the hills, Into the desert
- 2. How did the Israelites declare David their new king?**
Having a great feast, Singing a traditional hymn, Casting stones, Anointing with oil over his head, Making a sacrifice to God
- 3. What army did David become part of in 1 Chronicles 12?**
Saul's army, Jonathan's, Egyptian army, The Babylonian army, Philistine army
- 4. In 1 Sam. 4, what did the Israelites bring to aid them against the Philistines?**
Moses' staff, The ark of the Covenant, The Ten Commandments, The Shroud of Turin
- 5. When Christ returns, those who are saved will meet him where?**
Mount Zion, Jerusalem, Heaven, Air, Purgatory
- 6. What did God use Nebuchadnezzar to do to Jerusalem and Judah?**
Deliver them, Destroy them, Exile the people, Defend them from Egypt, Kill three fifths of the people
- 7. What special task did the descendants of Aaron perform?**
Constructing the temple, Being the King's personal guard, Being royal Scribes, Leading the king's armies, Making offerings to God
- 8. What does Paul, as a spiritual father of the Corinthians, beseech them to do?**
Be followers of him, Send Paul money, Pray, Eat
- 9. Elijah ran from Jezebel to which mountain?**
Mount Hermon, Mount Moriah, Mount Sinai, Mount Horeb
- 10. Who did Elijah beat in a foot race?**
Elisha, Samuel, David, A chariot

ST.NINIANS OLD PARISH CHURCH

PARISHIONER

WINTER 2024



**The Winter Edition of the Parishioner
will be out early December.**

**Submission Date for Articles is:
Sunday 10th November**

Thank you

St Ninians Old Parish Church
Kirk Wynd
Stirling
FK7 9AY

website: stniniansold.org.uk
parishioner@stniniansold.org.uk
Scottish Charity Number SCO16320