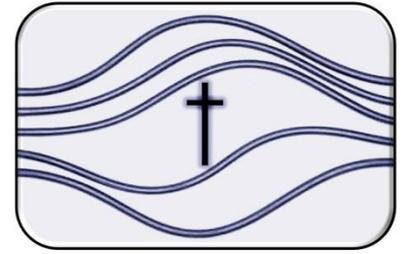




Wick St Fergus Church of Scotland



October 2018

Hello everyone and welcome to October 2018. It's that time of the year again. You can tell that we are drawing near to Christmas when Tesco have their Christmas stuff displayed in September. Here at Wick St Fergus we have taken account of this, and to avoid the Christmas rush you might want to consider visiting our next thrift which is coming up soon.

As winter proceeds on its inevitable course we are also approaching the New Year. What many of you may not realise is that October represents the move towards the end of the Church Year. Going back almost two thousand years the Christian Church has followed a calendar, the final part begins on Hallowe'en/All Saints Day and runs until the final Sunday before Advent, a day known as the Feast of Christ the King. This was considered to be a time of reflection, particularly reflection upon the lives of those who have gone before us. At this time of year, I think of people who have made a big impression on my own life. I'd like to tell you about some of them.

Firstly, I think a lot about my late Mum, who passed away just over four years ago. She wasn't perfect, and she realised this. But she was a great encourager and a naturally gifted counselor; if anyone in her neighbourhood was in trouble, she was the person they turned to, and she never turned anyone away. She taught us all tolerance, kindness and how to care for others without patronizing them. She was a defender of the marginalized and had a heart as big as the sky over the Firth of Clyde.

The next person I think of at this time of year is my late Granny who would have been 104 years old had she lived. My Gran grew up in Greenock during the Great Depression and although her father was relatively well off (being a butcher), she spent her youth taking parcels of meat to families where there was TB or families where the husband had been blacklisted by shipyard bosses. She made sure that my brother and I went to Sunday School and my abiding memory of her is of her singing choruses and hymns to us when we went to bed and she was babysitting. I wish that my Mam and Gran were here today.

Then there is my Dad (who is still with us and enjoying his car with automatic transmission). He is quite possibly the most decent man I have ever known. He grew up in poverty and he has never forgotten that. He was also one of my volunteers (as was my late Mam) with the homeless charity in Glasgow, Loaves and Fishes, for whom I used to work as a member of the committee. Our homeless friends loved my Mam and Dad.

Then there is my brother, Craig, and my sister, Glenda. I don't know what I would ever do without them (although don't tell them I said that). They opened my eyes to a lot of things and are more open-minded than I have ever been. But the other person I have to mention is my old School janitor from Boglestone Primary School, Sandy Ewing. He was a genuinely humble man. A strict disciplinarian but the bairns loved him anyway. A lay preacher in the old Brethren tradition, he was the person that the bairns in the school went to when they were hurt or sad. He always had a kind word or a song or a story for us. The point of all this is that we simply did not spontaneously arrive complete. We are the result of the influence of many, many people.

So please, during this time between now and Advent spend some time thinking about the people who have helped or otherwise influenced you. And if you want to tell someone about your own stories then you know where we are.

Revd John Nugent BD (honours)

Church Register

We are sorry to announce the passing of the following people:

30th August: Ronna Macleod (nee Bruce), beloved wife of the late Hamish Macleod and mother to Gilda, Elaine and Linda.

30th August: Isobel Mathieson, dear daughter of the late Sandy and Kate Mathieson.

6th September: John "Jocky" Sutherland, husband of Cathie, father of Paul, Sarah, George, Robert, Caitlin and Thomas; and respected businessman.

BAPTISMS:

16th September: Thomas Ronald Sinclair: Son of Chirs and Sam Sinclair of Boddom, brother of Sophie and grandson of Alan and Adelaine.

Flowers for Sunday



DATE	KINDLY DONATED BY	ARRANGER
7 th Oct	Mrs J Cormack	Donor
14 th Oct	The family of the late Mrs Gates	Mrs Harper
21 st Oct	Family of the Late Mrs Barrett	Mrs Harper
28 th Oct	Mrs P Weir, Huddart St	Donor
4 th Nov	The family of the late Mrs Banks	Donor



If you would like to fill an empty date on the rota please contact Mrs Harper on 602612

THE LARGE HALL IS IN USE EVERY SATURDAY From 7.30am UNTIL 11.30

FLOWERS CANNOT BE ARRANGED THEN - thank you for your co-operation with this.

Church Duty Rota

Date	BUS	STAIRS	DOOR	DOOR	USHER
7 th Oct	J Cormack	H Gray	I Banks	R Mappin	M Duffy
14 th Oct	A Duffy	J Coghill	E Henderson	*****	J Mclennan
21 st Oct	M Foubister	M Thomson	B Campbell	*****	J Mackay
28 th Oct	G Ramsay	G Watt	W Campbell	*****	A Sinclair
4 th Nov	I Banks	J Cormack	M Duffy	R Mappin	H Gray



REQUEST FOR HELP

We are struggling to find people to help us with the duty rota. Duties occur once a month and the rota is issued in January. We are all getting older, and the bus duty in particular, is difficult to cover. If you think you could help with this – please contact Michelle on 602416 or chellefoubister@sky.com

Sermon Information from the Minister

DATE	READING 1	READING 2	SUBJECT	DAY OF CHURCH CALENDAR
7 th Oct	Genesis 28:11-18	1 Peter 2:1-10	Communion	19 th after Trinity
14 th Oct	Job 23	Hebrews 4:15-16	Where can I go when I am hurting?	20 th after Trinity
21 st Oct	Isaiah 53:4-12	Mark 10:35-45	Servanthood	21 st after Trinity
28 th Oct	Psalms 34:1-8	Mark 10:46-52	Christ Notices	Last after Trinity
7 th Oct	Genesis 28:11-18	1 Peter 2:1-10	Communion	19 th after Trinity



GUILD

It was full house at the 10th September meeting of the Guild and more chairs were needed for several guests. Why? Harry Gray was the speaker - need one say more? It was a husband and wife event, because Phyllis was in the chair to conduct the opening devotions and business before handing over to Harry, who had stepped in at the last minute when the speaker couldn't come. His subject was "Lower Pulteney" from its inception 200 years ago to the 1940s. It was the very first planned and built village in the world. A comment from one of the planners, who had attended a service in the then Old Parish Church was that the sermon had lasted for 1 hour 37 minutes. Some years ago, Harry had met with the late Mrs Jessie Gordon, whose memories of growing up in Lower Pulteney in the 1920s and 30s included being a message girl for Mrs Mackenzie's Pie Shop for 1/- (5p) a week. On going to High School, she became message girl for A.J. Manson's Hat Emporium, earning 2/6 (twelve and a half pence) per week plus tips. Harry then took us on an in depth tour of all the many shops and businesses, including "Lobby" shops and the lady whose expertise was making rag rugs, with the Prince of Wales feathers design - all interspersed with anecdotes and nicknames, including "Teet-a-boo" and "Pull-up." Apart from banking services, the residents of Lower Pulteney had everything they needed without having to leave the area. Following the bombing in 1940, which shattered the heart of Lower Pulteney, the Council decided to rebuild three of the houses and had to borrow the £190 needed for this. After Phyllis had closed the meeting many memories continued to be shared over a welcome cup of tea.

October dates.

October 8th. 7.30pm Guild Night. Distribution of funds and BRING AND BUY SALE

October 22nd. 6.30pm. High Tea in Nethercliffe Hotel.



17th – 19th October: Autumn Thrift

10.30 am – 3.30pm Tues 16th & Wed 17th

10.30 – 12 noon on Thurs 18th, October

The thrift is almost upon us; there will be the usual stalls of home baking, jams and chutney, and all donations of these will be gratefully received. If you are unable to deliver, please contact Mrs Harper for collection on 602612. Thank you in advance for your generous donations.

The hall will be open for the hang up and to receive goods between 2pm and 4pm on Friday 12th.

ADVANCE NOTICES:

Annual St Andrew's Quiz – Thursday 29th November

Christmas Tree Festival – Saturday 8th December

.....more information next month

Befrienders Highland

Befrienders Highland are looking for volunteer Befrienders. We have a local coordinator, Catherine Patterson, based in Telford House Wick, Tel; 07738274437

Befrienders Highland should not be confused with Caithness Befriending as this is a different charity offering a different service - www.befriendershighland.org.uk

For 25 years Befrienders Highland has offered distance support to people [over the age of 18] with mental ill health. As a volunteer you could offer to be a face-to face befriender or communicate via email, letter or telephone. Many people are not able to leave the house so distance befriending and a listening ear is very beneficial.

There are NO home visits - rather the friends meet in a neutral place, go for a walk, coffee or go to an activity together, it is social interaction and friendship for vulnerable people needing a little support. Mental ill health does not discriminate, it can affect anyone and impacts not only on the individual but family life. Full training and support is offered to volunteers locally.

If you would like more information or if you think you know someone who might benefit from this service, please get in touch. Email: catherinepatterson@befriendershighland.org.uk

Church Parking

Most people have been aware of the parking rules at the church gate for a long time but with so many outside organisations using our building now we are putting up signs. These signs will say NO PARKING, LOADING AND UNLOADING ONLY. The space at the gates must be kept clear for emergency access but it is OK to drop off and pick up people who find it too far to walk from a distance.

Read and pray

Several 'Scottish Bible Society' bible study leaflets have been obtained for October – December 2018. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, please contact Kathleen Robertson on 605953. These will be distributed at the church door on Sunday 30th September 2018 – *with thanks, KG Robertson.*

Website: Find us at www.wickstferguschurch.org.uk or find us on facebook.

Please can all items for November's newsletter be with Michelle by Friday 19th Oct – Thank you.

CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS			
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Congregational No.41229.

Scottish Charity No.SC013840