

The Chronicles

of St John's Kirk of Perth

July 2026



Old Church of Perth.



St John's Kirk of Perth : Charity Number SC017132

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Minister

Dear Friends



It was over 60 years ago that Bob Dylan sang it! Then there was optimism that the problems of the world would be solved by technological advances, and that freedom and wealth would spread across the globe.



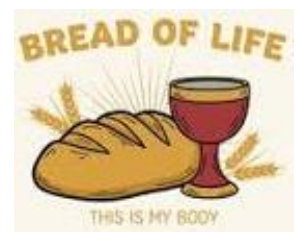
The times are indeed a-changing, and following the social turmoil of Covid, the speed of change is accelerating as are the uncertainties of AI, Fake News, and dire predictions regarding ecology and technology.

Many younger folks are restless, frustrated, bewildered and searching for security, identity and purpose deeper than what many see as the empty materialism of their predecessors. Digging beneath the veneer of society to find the root of western civilisation, many discover what secularists have been air-brushing out of public life - the good news of the cross of Christ. It transformed society, as did its re-emphasis by John Knox in St John's Kirk.

As St John's Kirk goes into its 10th century is it important that we fulfil our God-given privilege and responsibility of sharing the good news of Jesus. Young folk are far more open to discuss spiritual questions about identity and a living relationship with God than other age groups some of whom have been put off by mere religion.

Therefore, let us not be reticent but show by our lifestyle and share by our lips the difference that Jesus can make, and - as advised by the General Assembly - use the name of Jesus rather than just speaking about church!

If there is anything about which you wish to ask, or I can help in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I would be particularly glad to have a short simple communion service in the home of anyone who is housebound and wishes to have a home communion service in obedience to **our Lord's invitation and command "This do in remembrance of Me"**.



Similarly, I would be delighted if anyone would like to make a profession of faith or to become a member of the congregation. Just let me know!

Prayerful good wishes

Rev Sandy Gunn

sandygunn@btinternet.com

01738443216

“The Visitors’ journey to HMP Perth”

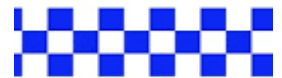
Great video about the brilliant work going on there by CrossReach. Huge thanks to Elaine Waugh and her team for everything they do.

<https://vimeo.com/1176238226/55028fadfe>



Do you know someone who might have the onset of dementia?

Then google “Herbert Protocol”, download and complete the form today! It is a tool which greatly helps Police Scotland if the person goes missing.



<https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/missing-persons/the-herbert-protocol/>

Making arrangements?



Some people make arrangements with funeral directors. If you have not already done so, it can be helpful to think through matters about power of attorney and funeral plans. While not giving any formal legal or financial advice, there are steers which can be very helpful: email Sandy for a chat.

‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all the nations’ - Jesus.

While St John’s Kirk has a fascinating history and so many interesting features, **it is not a religious museum!** In addition to services of living worship it provides opportunity for people of all nations to reflect, meditate and pray. Following what Jesus said there will be an additional opportunity to pray in the John Knox chapel at **11.00am after the service on the 2nd Sunday of a month starting on 10 July.** This will include opportunity to have short video clips of situations needing prayer in this country and various parts of the world. Anyone willing to have some input should contact Lucy Pringle or Sandy.

New Presbytery YouTube Channel for shared stories.

<https://www.youtube.com/@thepresbyteryofperth>



Songs of Praise 16 August 6.30pm
led again by Rachel Steele and Friends.
The one in April was greatly appreciated.
Come and invite your friends!



Waves of Hope – Logos Hope UK Tour 2026

Operation Mobilisation’s ship “Logos Hope” will be in Edinburgh 10-19 July and

Aberdeen 28 July-4 August.

Worth a visit!

<https://www.uk.om.org/logos-hope-uk-tour-2026>



FAQ!

As Jesus encouraged people to ask questions, we welcome any questions. One which has been asked is

“What is the difference between an altar and a communion table?”

An altar is a place where a priest offers a sacrifice to God.

A communion table is where people share a meal remembering the once-and-for-all sacrifice of Jesus.

Any more questions?

Street Pastors

All are welcome at a commissioning service for new Street Pastors for Perth & Kinross in St John's at 6.30pm on **Sunday 23 August**. It will include one from St John's.



Street Pastors are needed not just late at night, but also for lunchtime patrols at two schools, daytime and early evening patrols. <https://streetpastors.org/locations/perth/about-us/>

If you are interested see contact sandygunn@btinternet.com 01738443216.

Happy Birthday in 2026!

As well as St John's celebrating 900 years of Christian worship on this site, it is the **500th anniversary of Tyndale's translation** of the New Testament into English (setting pattern of the English language far more than Shakespeare, although studied much less in many schools!) and the **60th anniversary of Blythwood** which runs the annual Shoebox Appeal.

Session Clerk

Dear Friends,

As we move into the summer months, our final Kirk Session meeting before the summer recess was held on **24 June**. It was a productive and positive meeting, with one of the most significant decisions being the formation of four new committees to help the Core Group oversee and manage the many aspects of church life and ministry.



The committees are:

Worship and Pastoral Care Committee

Anne Chatt, David Morrice (Data Protection), Deidre Yellowlees, Jennifer Archibald (Safeguarding), Kay Morrison, Lucy Pringle, Marjory Howat, Marlyn Gannon, Mary Knox and Vivien Pringle.

Mission, Outreach and Communications Committee

Jennifer Archibald, Anne Chatt, David Morrice (IT Manager), Gordon Hynd, Kay Morrison, Lorna Ferguson, Marjory Wylie, Marlyn Gannon, Mary Knox, Sue Hendry and Wilma Malcolm.

Finance and Stewardship Committee

Gordon Hynd, Hamish Steele, Jo Young, Lorna Ferguson, Lucy Pringle, Margaret Steele and Wilma Malcolm.

Property and Resources Committee

Gordon Hynd, David Morrice, Douglas Pringle, Kenny Macaskill and Bill Wilson.

These committees are only the beginning. We are now looking to expand them by inviting members of the congregation and friends of St John's to become involved. There are many gifts and talents within our church family, and we would love to see more people sharing them. If you feel you could contribute, even in a small way, to any of these committees, please speak to one of the elders. Everyone is welcome. Being part of a committee is rewarding, offers an opportunity to use your skills in God's service, and helps strengthen the family spirit that makes St John's such a special place. Please have a think and consider whether this might be something you could become involved in. We will let you know who the Committee Conveners and Deputy Conveners are once these appointments have been made.

Many of you will have noticed an exciting improvement to our worship services. Our livestream now includes subtitles, and members of the congregation can scan a QR code to receive live captions on their own mobile phone or tablet. This has been made possible through our new CaptionKit AI subscription, which also allows the service to be translated into up to four languages. This means that overseas visitors and those whose first language is not English can follow the service in their own language, helping us to become an even more welcoming and inclusive church. My sincere thanks go to David Morrice for all the work he has undertaken in getting this system operational.

St John's was delighted once again to host many events during the Perth Festival of the Arts. Following the Festival, I received a lovely letter from the Festival Administrator thanking everyone who helped make the events such a success. I would like to add my own thanks to Wilma Malcolm and her wonderful team of volunteers, together with our Church Officers, Charlie and Doug, who were outstanding ambassadors for St John's throughout what was a particularly busy and demanding period.

Sadly, during recent weeks we have learned of the deaths of two members of our choir, one current and one former member. Margaret Graham passed away following a long illness. It was always a pleasure to welcome Margaret whenever she was well enough to be with us. Joan Tennant, who sang in the choir for many years, died peacefully at the age of 96. I had the privilege of attending Joan's funeral in Ireland and was able to convey the love and sympathy of everyone at St John's to her family.

As summer is now upon us, many of you may be looking forward to holidays and spending time with family and friends. We wish everyone travelling safe journeys, a restful break and happy times together. For those staying at home, I hope the weather is kind and that you are able to enjoy all that the season brings.

Finally, I would like to thank every member of the Kirk Session for their dedication, commitment and hard work throughout the autumn, winter and spring. I also extend my sincere thanks to our Interim Moderator and Locum, Sandy Gunn, for the encouragement, wisdom and support he continues to give to us all.

Have a wonderful summer. Stay safe, stay well, and we look forward to welcoming you back to St John's in the weeks ahead.

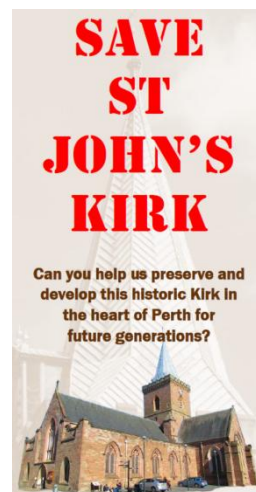
Margaret Steele
Session Clerk

Fund Raising

Fabric and Restoration Planning Progress

Lighting

In May we were able to bring in a cherry picker to give us access to replace the faulty bulbs. Unfortunately, they are not all working as some of the fittings are faulty, so were not given a new bulb, as these fittings are no longer available. But it is wonderful that now that we have had so many bulbs replaced, the Kirk is very much brighter, and just in time for the Festival of the Arts musicians to be able to see their music clearly. Now we can move onto stage 2 which will involve getting specifications developed to replace the old system totally, seeking permission from Presbytery and then fundraising for what will be a much more energy efficient system



Faith in Our Future, Protecting Our Past

As I explained in March The National Heritage Lottery Fund has supported the **Development Phase** of our Project, enabling us to employ specialists to help us. A great deal of detailed work has been carried out by our Conservation Architects, who have been looking at what the spire in particular will need to make it watertight and to enable safe public access once more. These plans, and the detailed surveys that have informed them, have been submitted as draft documents, along with an important series of other Plans (including the Conservation Management Plan, Business Plan and Activity Plan) to The National Lottery Heritage Fund for comment and feedback.



The feedback we have received has been detailed and very constructive and will help to maximise the likelihood that we will be successful when we apply to The Lottery for the **Delivery Phase** of our work. However it will involve more work that will take more time, so it is likely to be next year before we are able to go out to tender for the contractors to carry out the work, assuming all the funding is finally in place. As well as improving the quality of our submission, we will have more time to progress our fundraising, which still has a gap to fill beyond the impressive £2.18M secured so far from various Trusts, the Church of Scotland and of course from our own diminishing resources.

We always knew this would be a very intense and demanding stage of the Project, and so it has proved, but we hope to be able to bring you more good news of progress in the coming months.

Bill Wilson,
Fabric Convener

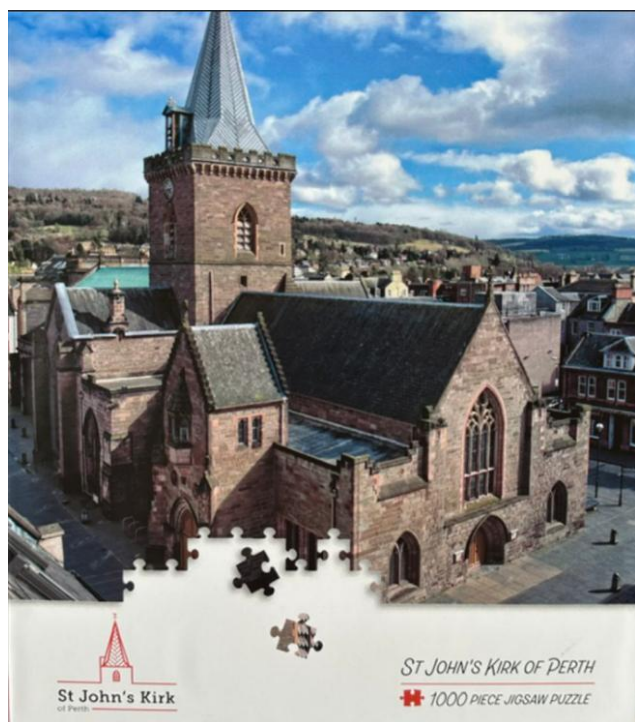
To make a donation, please visit the appeal website
<https://www.st-johns-kirk.co.uk/appeal>

Celebrating 900 Years

To celebrate 900 years of St John's Kirk of Perth we have produced a special commemorative jigsaw.

Featuring a great image of the historic Kirk, this puzzle lets you piece together an important part of Perth's history. Share with family, or as a thoughtful gift. A lovely keepsake to remember this special anniversary.

Bring St John's Kirk of Perth into your home



Available in Church on a Sunday after the service at 11am or during the week when open for visitors, cash or card only.

500
piece
£20

1000
piece
£25



If you would like to buy one but are unable to pop in to the Church, please email us at rollkeeper.stjohns@gmail.com with your details and we may be able to deliver it to you.

Stewardship

Gifts in wills transform the lives of our local churches and communities. Leaving a legacy can be a way of thanking God for all the blessings you have received in your lifetime and are a wonderful expression of support for the ongoing life of the church community for future generations. If we look around St John's Kirk, we can see that through countless gifts in wills, donors have built and maintained our beautiful church building and also sustained the ongoing mission of God through the church in our local community. Christian stewardship is a way of living in which we recognise that everything belongs to God. It is the way we look at the world when we become a disciple of Jesus Christ. At its heart is the recognition that all that we have and all that we are is a gift from God. Stewardship is a recurring item on the Kirk Session Agenda and we have now agreed the St John's Kirk Legacy Policy which you will find below:

St John's Kirk Legacy Policy

At St John's Kirk, we welcome all gifts in Wills, however large or small, and we promise to use your gift to make a difference. Our legacy policy is to use gifts to help fund significant development projects, whether mission, staff, equipment or buildings.

Since needs change over the years, we encourage you to leave a gift in your Will for the general purposes of the congregation rather than for a restricted purpose. We will discuss possible uses of your gift with your executors when the time comes, bearing in mind your known areas of interest in the church and the church's priorities at the time.

You can be confident that your gift will be used to make a real difference to our future mission and ministry.

We will acknowledge gifts in whatever way the donor and/or his/her executors feel most appropriate. If preferred, we can make sure that gifts remain anonymous.

If you would like to talk to someone in confidence about the sorts of purposes your gift might fund, and how you would like your gift to be acknowledged, please contact: Jo Young at info.stjohns.kirk@gmail.com

If you would like to make a gift to our church in memoriam, please discuss this with us too. It can be a wonderful and appropriate way to remember a loved one.

Next Step

Your Will is a legal document, so it is vital to have it drafted or updated by someone who is legally qualified. Should you wish to make a gift to St John's Kirk the details which you will need such as charity number can be found on the bottom of every page in this Chronicle.

Stewardship - Offerings



Support St John's Kirk
of Perth

Although we will be continuing to have the collection plate during our services, there are other ways of making your offering. This can be done by regular standing order payments, and importantly the value of regular giving like this can be increased by 25% at no cost to you, please contact Wilma Malcolm for a Gift Aid form.

The Goodbox donation point in the Kirk is very easy to use by tapping with a bank card and helps with occasional donations, the amount of which can be amended on the screen. It is a very easy way for your friends and family to show their appreciation of the beautiful place where you worship.

The support of individuals and groups is vital in enabling us to keep this historic building and its life and work open to the public, and serving its community.

Donate Online

We offer the facility to receive your donation online, using [JustGiving](https://www.justgiving.com/page/stjohnskirk-1695666491286?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fstjohnskirk-1695666491286&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share). Please click the link below to make a one-off payment or a regular monthly donation.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/stjohnskirk-1695666491286?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fstjohnskirk-1695666491286&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

Church Family

Death of Members

Margaret Graham
Patricia Watt

April 2026
April 2026



Church Roll - Members

If you have moved house or changed your email address then please inform us as soon as possible. email the Roll Keeper at rollkeeper.stjohns@gmail.com

If at any time and for any reason you require an Elder or the Minister to contact you, then please email the Roll Keeper at rollkeeper.stjohns@gmail.com and this will be arranged for you.

If you would like to make arrangements for a wedding or special anniversary, receive Communion at home (if you are housebound) or discuss funeral plans in advance please contact the Rev. Sandy Gunn - 01738 443216 - sandygunn@btinternet.com

Opening Times

Kirk Sitting 2026

Another busy time for visitors and we are delighted to welcome everyone to the Kirk. At present, our opening hours are **11.00am to 4.00pm**, allowing visitors the opportunity to explore this historic building and enjoy its peaceful atmosphere.

We would very much like to extend these opening hours, particularly during the busiest visitor season. However, this can only be achieved with the help of additional volunteer Kirk sitters. Their invaluable support enables us to keep the Kirk open safely and provide a warm welcome to all who visit.



**VOLUNTEERS
WANTED**

**Become a Kirk Sitter
of St John's Kirk of Perth**

Do you enjoy meeting people, sharing local history, or simply spending time in a beautiful, peaceful space?

St John's Kirk of Perth is looking for friendly volunteers to help welcome visitors as Kirk Sitters.

What does a Kirk Sitter do?

- Welcome visitors to the Kirk
- Answer basic questions about the building and its history
- Help create a warm and welcoming atmosphere
- Enjoy time in one of Perth's most historic places

What's involved?

- Flexible time slots
- No previous experience needed
- Full support and guidance provided

Why volunteer?

- Meet people from near and far
- Learn more about the Kirk and its story
- Be part of a friendly, supportive team
- Help keep this historic space open to all

Interested? We'd love to hear from you!

Please contact: **Kay Morrison** at;
kay.morrison@btinternet.com

Scottish Charity Number SC017132



Should anyone wish to join us please contact Kay Morrison by email, kay.morrison@btinternet.com, or phone 01738447123

St John's is an old building but each time I go in there is something new to find out about or some question that I have never thought of. If you enjoy meeting people, have an interest in history and have a couple of free hours, please do get in touch.

May we now all look forward to a very busy and interesting next few months of providing a welcome to everyone who comes into St John's



Guided Tours

If anyone would like to be involved in helping with **guided tours of the Kirk for pre-booked groups**, please get in touch with Jennifer Archibald at jjarchibald@sky.com

Your help in sharing the history and heritage of our Kirk would be greatly appreciated!

History

A Conder Half-Penny Token Depicting a Representation of the North Elevation of St John's Kirk, 1797

'Conder tokens' were privately-issued copper tradesman's tokens that proliferated across Britain in the 1790s due to a chronic shortage of official small change. There were several Perth Conder tokens in circulation in 1797. This particular half-penny Conder token was issued by James Wright (1768 – 1798).



A Conder half-penny token, 1797



An AI rendering of St John's Kirk from 1797

The image of St John's Kirk shows a representation of the north elevation of the church, with Mercer burial vault and the pre-1820 Halkerston Tower and turnpike stairway. The vault and the tower were significantly altered in 1825.

The Mercer Vault is a two-storey building. At ground level, a round-headed doorway with chamfered or moulded archivolts provides the entrance to the vault proper. Above the doorway, a rectangular window lights the upper storey with a plain chamfered surround.

The Halkerston tower and conical stair tower rise two or three storeys. The turnpike stair has small, deeply-splayed slit openings and is capped by a steeply-pitched Scottish vernacular conical roof of grey-lead or slate, springing directly from the octagonal drum.

At the base of the Halkerston tower, a round-arched entrance bay with heavy chamfered voussoirs forms what appears to be a porch or vestibule, its arch deeply recessed within the thick wall. There is a tall arched window to a room that was used as a prison.

On the reverse of the token is a depiction of a mill building, beneath which is 'WRIGHT DES.' This refers to James Wright Junior (1768–1798), the foremost Scottish designer

of 18th century provincial coins. James Wright was a wealthy linen manufacturer, a designer of Dundee trade tokens, and a political radical who corresponded with Adam Smith and was sympathetic to the American patriots and French republicans, including Lafayette and Thomas Paine. He was based in Dundee and was a correspondent with James Conder himself, being as keen a proponent and collector of tokens as Conder was.

Wright's daughter — Frances Wright (1795 – 1852) — became a celebrated Scottish-born lecturer, writer, feminist, utopian socialist and abolitionist. She became a US citizen in 1825. James Wright died in 1798 when Frances was not yet three years old.

Friends of St John's Kirk

Can You Help the Friends of St John's Kirk of Perth?

The Friends of St John's Kirk of Perth are seeking someone with a little time, experience, and goodwill to help us bring our financial records up to date ahead of our Annual General Meeting in August.

We are a small charitable organisation dedicated to supporting and promoting the historic St John's Kirk. Our finances are straightforward, and the sums involved are modest. However, as a registered charity, we have a responsibility to ensure that our accounts are properly maintained and accurately reported to OSCR.



At present, we are looking for someone who could spare a few hours to review our books, help organise the accounts, and provide reassurance that everything is in order before our annual reporting deadline.

This is not a large or complex task, but it would be an enormous comfort to our trustees and members to know that the charity's finances are in safe hands and that our reporting obligations are being met correctly.

If you have bookkeeping, accounting, or charity finance experience—or know someone who does—we would be delighted to hear from you. Your assistance would make a real difference to the continued work of the Friends of St John's Kirk of Perth.

For further information, please get in touch. We would be very grateful for your help.
info@friendsofstjohnskirkperth.org.uk

<https://www.st-johns-kirk.co.uk/friends>

Andrew Mitchell
Chairperson

Foodbank

Perth Foodbank continues to support local individuals and families facing financial hardship. With many struggling to meet the rising cost of everyday essentials, the need for food parcels remains high. As Christians, we are called to care for those in need through acts of kindness.

The time given by volunteers all make a real difference.

We are currently in need of the following;

Jars of Jam
Tinned Fruit
Puddings i.e. Custard
Tinned Vegetables
Cooking Sauces
Coffee
Shower Gel
Shampoo
Toothpaste
Toilet Roll

You can donate any of these items in the Kirk or at supermarkets. Any donations of these items are gratefully received. Thanks again for any help given perthkinross.foodbank.org.uk/

Anne Chatt
Foodbank Representative



Thank you for your continued generosity as we work together to care for our neighbours in need. <https://perthkinross.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>

Recent Events in St John's Kirk

St John's Award

As part of its 900th anniversary St John's ran a competition for pupils in S4-S6 in schools throughout Perth & Kinross for an essay on "The Relevance of Jesus".

The entries were fascinating in the many and varied ways in which the young folk saw the relevance of Jesus, with the judging panel of teachers commenting on the high standard.

The judging panel of teachers was very impressed by the high standard of entries, and the variety of vivid ways in which the young folk perceived Jesus to be very relevant today - personally, socially and globally. Against the background of the 21st century artwork "The Rising Son".



Winner Robert Rust of Glenalmond

Runners up Chloe MacKay, Lois MacKay and Luke Mackay of Perth Academy
Miriam Balan and Rosa Mann of Perth High
Kilua McBride of Glenalmond

Kirking of the Council

The Kirking of the Council service, held at St John's Kirk of Perth, was well attended by members of Perth and Kinross Council, representatives from its twinned cities, and the Perth High Constables.

During the service, a message of goodwill from **His Majesty The King** was read out by Stephen Leckie, Lord Lieutenant.



If you were unable to attend the service you can watch it on YouTube where all our weekly services are held.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/j1isi0HLpYg?si=LyLiBqdBIhncBdAA>

Royal Garden Party - Holyrood

King Charles III and Queen Camilla, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and the Princess Royal, hosted approximately 8,000 guests. Attendees—comprising Scottish community volunteers, charity workers, and public service personnel were treated to tea, sandwiches, and the famous Palace cake on the grounds. The event featured music from the Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland and the Royal Scottish Pipers Society.

Our very own Depute Session Clerk (Kay Morrison), Property Convenor (Bill Wilson) and retired Elder (Michael Thomson) were among the invited guests.



Service Dates in St John's Kirk

Sunday Services	Every	Sunday	10.00am
Morning Service is held on every Sunday throughout the year at 10:00am with Holy Communion being celebrated on the first Sunday of each month.			
<i>Please be aware that live streaming will be taking place during most services which means you may appear in the broadcast. If you do not wish to be recorded or appear in the stream, please speak to one of the welcoming Elders who will advise on the best place to sit.</i>			
<i>If English is not your first language, please let the Minister or the duty Elder know. We can display the words on the screen and your phone in your preferred language.</i>			
Wednesday Service	Every	Wednesday	1.00pm
Bible Study (in the vestry)	First Thursday of the Month	2-3.00pm	
	February to June and September to December		
This season our themes will be: <i>Who is God? How do we respond? How are we transformed? How do we endure in faith?</i>			
New members are very welcome. If you would like to come along or find out more, please speak to Lucy Pringle or email lucy.pringle@yahoo.co.uk			
Orthodox Services	Saturday	18 July 2026	11.00am
	Saturday	15 August 2026	11.00am
	Saturday	12 September 2026	11.00am
	Saturday	17 October 2026	11.00am
	Saturday	21 November 2026	11.00am
Monthly Prayer Time	Second Sunday of the Month	11.00am	
	after morning service September onwards		
The main focus of this time together will be to pray for the requests on our Church Prayer Tree, bringing the needs of our church family and community before God.			
Everyone is warmly invited to join. The prayer time will last no more than 20 minutes , making it an opportunity for anyone who is able to stay after the service.			
We hope you will join us as we come together in prayer and support.			

More information regarding services is available on the website st-johns-kirk.co.uk/

Readers

If any member of the Congregation would like to join the rota to read the lessons on Sunday mornings in the Kirk, please get in touch with Gordon Hynd, either in the choir or via email; ghynd13@yahoo.co.uk. You would be scheduled to read approximately once every four months. He looks forward to hearing from anyone interested.

Upcoming Events in St John's Kirk

History Talks Charterhouse Priory & Altars	Wed	5 August 2026	2.00pm	
	https://www.eventbrite.com/o/121120598536			
Songs of Praise with Rachel Steele and friends	Sunday	16 August 2026	6.30pm	
Ukrainian Folk Music for Ukrainian Independence Day	Sunday	23 August 2026	3.00pm	F
History Talks Clergy Through the Ages	Wed	2 September 2026	2.00pm	
	https://www.eventbrite.com/o/121120598536			
Astmar Olafsson - Piano Recital	Saturday	12 September 2026	5.00pm	
Scottish Ensemble Bach & Blood	Thursday	17 September 2026	7.00pm	H
	https://www.perththeatreandconcert hall.com/whats-on/scottish-ensemble-presents-bach-blood			
Doors Open Day	Saturday	19 September 2026	10.30am	
	Sunday	20 September 2026	12.00noon	
NYX Electronic Drone Choir	Friday	2 October 2026	TBC	H
	https://www.perththeatreandconcert hall.com/whats-on/nyx-live			
St John's Music - "Song of Stars" Cantata by Savourna Stevenson (World Premiere)	TBC 2026			
Aaron Hawthorne – Organ Silent Film Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde	Friday	23 October 2026	7.30pm	
	www.hawthorgan.com			
Perth Chamber Music Edinburgh Quartet	Sunday	25 October 2026	3.00pm	P
	https://perthchambermusic.org.uk/current_season/			
St John's Music - Sopranaria	Saturday	7 November 2026	1.00pm	F

F = Free	P = Perth Box Office	T = Tickets at the Door	H = Horsecross	R = Retiring Collection
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Check out our [website](https://www.st-johns-kirk.co.uk/events-and-calendar) for further upcoming events in the Church, some are even free! <https://www.st-johns-kirk.co.uk/events-and-calendar>

St John's Kirk of Perth hosts many concerts – Choral Works, Orchestras and Chamber Ensembles. Within the St John's Kirk of Perth Music Series, Organ recitals are held monthly throughout the winter.



Upcoming Events in St Matthew's

Music for a Summer Evening – St Matthew's Church

Doors open 6.45pm - Entry by donation - (suggested £5.00)

David Sawyer and Michael Ellacott



Wed 15 July 2026 7.30pm

David says "Flanders and Swann came to prominence post war when they were writing light opera and musical theatre material.

They switched to comic songs in the early 1940s and wrote more than 100 of them. Michael Ellacott and I discovered a shared love of their songs by accident and we came to the conclusion that their wit and humour should be rediscovered. This will be our third to do so and we hope to gain lots more converts!

Tayside Jazz Quintet



Wed 22 July 2026 7.30pm

A welcome return to St Matthew's for Neil Gibbons with the Tayside Jazz Quintet after their recent appearance at the Perth Festival of the Arts; The "anchor" on bass, Graham Robb, rhythm king Andrew Fraser on drums, rock star Gordon Baillie on guitar, Neil on Sax and Vocals and Gordon Murch on keys to set the scene. They are all members of the Tayside Big Band but wanted to do something different and perform some of the great jazz classics from across the genres. Look forward to a rich mixture of songs and instrumental numbers from Fats Waller in the 1939's to Amy Winehouse, Nina Simone and Paul Simon, taken in John Coltrane and Miles Davis along the way – a musical celebration that will surely get your feet tapping!

Highland Notes Singers



Wed 29 July 2026 7.30pm

We welcome back The Highland Notes! They are a Perth-based vocal group formed by singers and friends who first met through local choirs and discovered a shared love of singing together. Coming together as an ensemble they create and share music beyond the choir setting. Their repertoire includes traditional Scottish songs, musical theatre, choral pieces, folk, and more! Known for their warm harmonies and engaging performances, The Highland Notes bring a genuine love of music to every audience.

<https://www.perthstmatthews.org.uk/> - <https://www.perthstmatthews.org.uk/events/>
<https://www.perthstmatthews.org.uk/newsletter-3/> - Newsletter

Email: office@perthstmatthews.org.uk

Steve Newell and Jennifer Bell
(Idler's Dream)



Wed 5 August 2026 7.30pm

"We are Idler's Dream, an acoustic duet. Jennifer comes from Dunfermline and Steve from Bridge of Earn. We play a wide selection of nice acoustic covers by artists such as The Beatles, The Kinks, Simon and Garfunkel, Noel Gallacher, Bob Dylan, The Eagles and many more from the Sixties, Seventies and on."
Sit back and enjoy some great songs from across the years in style from Steve and Jennifer.

Camerata Chamber Orchestra



Wed 12 August 2026 7.30pm

We have another chance to see and hear this chamber orchestra of skilled local musicians under the direction of conductor Tim Barrett playing a selection of chamber music, some of which may be lesser known, but all chosen because they are both enjoyable for the orchestra to play - and of course for the audience to enjoy! This is a classic way to end this programme of Music for a Summer Evening!

Mission



<https://www.wateraid.org/uk/>



A global movement which ensures fair prices and working conditions for producers in developing countries.

<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>



Christian Aid exists to create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>



perthkinross.foodbank.org.uk/



CrossReach's work is wide ranging and enhances lives, changes lives and saves lives. -

<https://www.crossreach.org.uk/>

The services cover:

- 1 Older People's Services-Care Homes, Dementia/Care Homes and Respite care.
- 2 Adult services-Counselling, Substance Abuse, Prisons.
- 3 Children & Family Services-Residential Care, Family Therapy, Perinatal Counselling



PACT has run 'Starter Packs' for 20 years. In this age of reusing and recycling, Starter Packs accepts donations of crockery, pots, towels and bed linen for new Tenants. Our box for donations will be beside the Foodbank box at the West Door

Visit the website for more information - <https://www.pact-perth.org.uk/>

Communication

Visit the Website	st-johns-kirk.co.uk/
Online Services	youtube.com/results?search_query=st+johns+kirk+perth
Follow us on Facebook	facebook.com/stjohnskirkperth/
Music and Concerts:	st-johns-kirk.co.uk/concerts-and-music
3D Inside St John's	st-johns-kirk.co.uk/flythrough
Services on YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/@stjohnskirkofperth6605

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Treasurer	Lorna Ferguson	01738 632206
Gift Aid Convenor	Wilma Malcolm	01738 622807 st-johns-kirk.co.uk/support-donations cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/donate/
Director of Music	Howard Duthie	
Church Officer	Charlie Mutch Douglas Pringle	01738 633192
Church Elders x 14	If you need an Elder to contact you, please email or phone	01738 633192 rollkeeper.stjohns@gmail.com
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Flower Convenor	Eleanor Crichton	
Roll Keeper	Aileen Morrice	rollkeeper.stjohns@gmail.com
Web Administrator	Margaret Steele	thekirkwebsite@gmail.com
Friends of St John's	Andrew Mitchell	info@friendsofstjohnskirkperth.org.uk https://www.st-johns-kirk.co.uk/friends/
Church of Scotland	https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/	0131 2255722
Perth Presbytery	https://www.perthpresbytery.org.uk/ https://www.perthpresbytery.org.uk/useful-links	07596 868064

Final Thought

Whatever this summer holds for you, may you find moments of peace, joy, and renewal. May the warmth of the season remind you of the warmth of God's love, and may you return refreshed in body, mind, and spirit, ready to continue walking together in faith.

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you." — Numbers 6:24–25

Wishing you every blessing for the summer.



Some Interesting podcasts

The Outspoken Bible Podcast from The Scottish Bible Society
<https://www.scottishbiblesociety.org/resources/the-outspoken-bible>

The Bible Project has incredible videos and podcasts.

<https://bibleproject.com/>



In order to enable as many people as possible to share in worship, there is a ramp at the south door for wheelchair and pedestrian access; an audio induction loop system is in operation and large print hymn books are available at the door.



If you have any articles that would be of interest to our congregation then please email them to rollkeeper.stjohns@gmail.com. The next edition of the Chronicles will be due out in November 2026.