

The Chronicles

of St John's Kirk of Perth

November 2025



St John's Kirk of Perth : Charity Number SC017132

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Minister

Dear Friends



Christmas carol music is very much part of the cultural Christmas, even if it is just background music for those finding joy in the mall.

**“Good Christians all rejoice with heart and soul and voice
... News! News! Jesus Christ is born today”**

But do Christians feel muted by cultural pressures

- “Don’t bring religion into it, that’s a private thing” -
and so don’t share the news?



The Christian faith is the God Who started the universe opted into the mess of this world “Lo within a manger lies He Who built the starry skies”, and then defeated death and evil in the cross and resurrection, enabling us to have a living relationship with God.

This good news is personal, but it is not private! Christianity is a worldview received by faith, as is Islam. So too is secular humanism! By trying to restrict Christianity to the private life, militant secular humanists seek to impose their world view on others. It is militant secular humanism, not Christianity, which is intolerant !

The meaning of tolerance has changed over the years. “It is no longer a refusal to allow contrary opinions to say their piece in public, but any questioning or contradicting the view that all opinions are equal in value, that all worldviews are of equal worth. To question such postmodern axioms is by definition intolerant. Anything claiming to be Truth is therefore wrong.” (based on D.A.Carson “The Intolerance of Tolerance”)



The cultural Christmas raises the question as to why Christmas is more popular in society than Good Friday and Easter.

I’m not sure.... anyone any thoughts?

Perhaps it is that a baby doesn’t challenge anyone, but a crucified and risen Jesus makes us face up to the mess we make of the world, and challenges us to live in a new dimension with our lives available to the transforming power of God to work in and through us!

I hope that you will have a meaningful Christmas ... and logically Good Friday and Easter!

And here is an Idea -

email info.stjohns.kirk@gmail.com with a Christmas message.

Devotional journey leading up to Christmas

delivered free by email by signing in at licc.org.uk/smallwonder

Bible reading notes for 2026

www.brfonline.org.uk or www.scriptureunion.org.uk



Three events on St Andrew's Day, 30 November 2025

10.00am What can we learn from Andrew? First Sunday in Advent

Christmas can be a difficult time...

Have you had a bereavement in the last few years, or still hurting through the loss of someone? Many find that Christmas - with all its memories - can be a difficult time.

2.30pm There will be a short reflective service with time for reflection in the John Knox chapel, with entry by the South Door. All are welcome Whether connected with St John's or not, whether as individuals or as families.

7.00pm Perth Prays

Non-denominational meeting for praise and prayer lasting just over one hour. All welcome.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve: 1.00pm and 11.30pm "Bringing in Christmas" carols from 11.00pm

Christmas Day: 10.30am "O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant"

The offering on Christmas Day is being divided between;

CATH - The Churches' Action for the Homeless in Perth and

MAF - Mission Aviation Fellowship: world's largest humanitarian air operator, flying medical supplies, doctors, and nurses to places otherwise unreachable because of war or natural disaster. Started by Christian pilots who had survived WW2 it is now celebrating 80 years.



Did you know?

Some plaques are being gifted to St John's by Robin Rodger. One commemorates John Knox's sermon in 1559 as is well known. The other commemorates the first person in Scotland to be martyred for his faith, John Resby. It was in Perth that he was burned alive at the stake. A follower of Wycliffe, Resby emphasised that worship should be in the language of the people, and, emphasising the importance of truth, questioned doctrines like the papacy and transubstantiation.



900th anniversary of St John's

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and for ever"

Prayerful good wishes

Rev Sandy Gunn - sandygunn@btinternet.com - 01738443216

Session Clerk

Dear Friends,

As we welcome this **November edition of *The Chronicle***, I am reminded of how important it is to draw close to one another as the darker, colder months approach. The wind may chill, but within **our church family** and the **walls of St John's Kirk**, we find warmth, friendship, and faith that keep us safe and strong.



900 Years of St John's Kirk – A Celebration of Faith and Heritage



Next year marks an extraordinary milestone — the **900th anniversary of St John's Kirk of Perth in 2026!**

What a remarkable opportunity to give thanks for all who have worshipped, served, and found faith within these historic walls. We will be inviting the entire community to join us in a year filled with **special events, reflections, and celebrations** to honour our rich heritage and the enduring spirit of our congregation.

Of course, this wonderful celebration **will not happen by magic!** Our Minister, **Rev. Sandy Gunn**, along with **Andrew Mitchell** and **Craig Cross**, have already put in significant time and effort into planning. We are now seeking **at least one member from St John's** to join their committee and help bring these plans to life.

If you feel you could help, **please do speak to me** — your contribution will truly make a difference as we prepare for this once-in-a-lifetime year.

Finances in the Kirk

We are currently working to **digitalise our finances**, ensuring we keep up with the 21st century and make **budget planning for the future** more efficient — especially as we look ahead to our exciting projects.

My sincere thanks go to **Jo Young** and **Lorna Ferguson** for their dedication and the many meetings they have attended to get this important project underway.

Blythswood Shoebox Appeal

Our annual **Blythswood Shoebox Appeal** is now well underway, and it is heartwarming to see so many shoeboxes already gathered in the Kirk. For anyone

unfamiliar, this wonderful project provides boxes filled with small gifts, toiletries, and warm items for those in need across Eastern Europe. If you are able, please consider filling a box — a small gesture that brings **great joy and comfort** to others this Christmas season.

St John's Fellowship Club

It was with some sadness that the Session received the news that the **St John's Fellowship Club** will be closing, primarily due to reduced membership and the lack of meetings since COVID.

The club began in **1964**, and in **September 2014** it joyfully celebrated **50 years** of fellowship and service. At their meeting on **9 September 2025**, the committee kindly agreed to donate their remaining funds of **£508.75** to the Kirk, which — along with private donations — will go toward the cost of a **new water heater**.

This will be installed **at no cost to the Church**, and will bless us all during our monthly coffee gatherings and fellowship events. Our sincere thanks to the Fellowship Club for this thoughtful gift and for their many years of friendship and service.

Windows of St John's – A Beautiful Publication

A wonderful new book by **Andrew Mitchell** titled *Windows of St John's Kirk* is now available. It offers a fascinating insight into the beauty and symbolism of our church windows.

Copies are priced at **£7.50 each or two for £10**, and are available in the Kirk. They make excellent gifts and are a lovely way to support the church.



In Closing

I would like to thank the **Core Group** for their invaluable help with decision-making, and **Rev. Sandy Gunn** for his advice, eagerness, and gentle diplomacy in guiding me to do what is right.

To all our **elders**, thank you for your steadfast support. And to the whole **Kirk family**, thank you for being the warm, faithful, and loving community that makes St John's such a blessing to us all.

With every blessing for the weeks ahead.

Margaret Steele
Session Clerk



St John's Kirk Christmas Cards

Christmas Wishes

This Christmas, share a little extra love and faith with our **Christmas card!** Each card features the beautiful Robert Milne stained glass window, perfect for sending joy to family and friends. When you buy a pack, you're not just sending good wishes you're also supporting the Church.

Cards are now on sale in the AK Bell Library where a member of the Kirk will be there on a Tuesday morning.

Pack of 10 cards for **£5.00**



Fabric and Fundraising Progress

To make life easier for anyone going up to read the lesson or to the Communion Table it has been agreed that a small handrail, like the ones at the west door but smaller, will be installed at the steps up to the Lectern. It will be fitted in November, but to keep flexibility for concerts and events, it will be removable.



Our fundraising efforts continue to make progress, albeit a little more slowly than we would like. We had a very positive site meeting with The Heritage Lottery Fund at the end of October, and they were very appreciative of the heritage value and visitor potential of the Kirk, especially of the spire and its stunning views across the city. The Heritage Lottery are now supporting the Development Phase of the project by making the first half of the £625,000 grant award available to us. This will enable us to appoint a Conservation Architect to prepare detailed plans for the work, and to appoint both an External and an Internal Project Manager to meet Heritage Lottery requirements. We hope to have these appointments made by the end of the year. This will allow business planning and RIBA Stage 3 plans to be assessed by the National Lottery in summer 2026, with a view to being on-site by the end of the year if we have achieved our funding target.

Our application to Historic Environment Scotland, also for £625,000 is currently being assessed, and a number of other applications for funding have been made or are planned, but our target of £2.8M remains very challenging, in what is proving to be a very difficult and competitive funding environment. Once we can see if there is a gap, the Appeals Committee of the Trust for St John's, led still by Sir Mel Jameson, will consider how best to involve the Congregation and the Community further. As I have said previously, much remains to be done but we have made it across some major hurdles and remain optimistic.

Bill Wilson,
Fabric Convener

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

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



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=pf-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=pf-share

Church Family

Retiring Elder – Ian Dutch

Ian has been a member of St Johns for quite a number of years. He was first ordained as an Elder back in 1969-1993, he then returned to the Kirk in 2012-2025. He has been a valued member of the Kirk Session and we wish him well in his retirement.

New Elders

In our last edition, I mentioned that Session numbers had reduced and it was becoming harder to manage the business of the Kirk. Well, I am delighted to share that **God has already answered our prayers!**

At the end of October, we **ordained two new and very talented members** into the **Eldership of the Church of Scotland — Lucy Pringle and Deidre Yellowlees**. We warmly welcome them both to Session and thank them for their faith, commitment, and willingness to serve.

Death of Members

I am pleased to report that there have been no recent bereavements



Opening Times

Kirk Sitting 2025

As many of you already know we try to keep the doors of St Johns open to the public from Holy Week until the beginning of October. After that time the number of visitors gets fewer and the weather gets colder. However, a few of us will open on an ad hoc basis, possibly on a Saturday.



This year 22 of us managed to keep those old doors open for 29 weeks for 5 hours per day between 11am and 4 pm. Monday to Saturday. The number of visitors welcomed came to 16500 and the number of volunteer hours reached 900.

I think that is quite remarkable, and of course we get the usual remarks such as 'You are never open', (if you pass at 5 pm it might look like that) 'my car is in for service', 'it's raining', 'it's too hot', 'I have not been here since school days', 'is that the pulpit where John Knox preached?', 'I'm just in for a nosey', 'what happened to the pews?', 'I just want a quiet moment to light a candle'.

It does not matter what the reason is, everyone is welcome. Just as St John's has welcomed all comers for the past 900 years. Only a mere 700 in the case of the building we all know and love, but there has been a church on this site for many years before the 1500s.

I think it is a privilege to be able to spend so much time in this beautiful building where John Knox preached his inflammatory sermon on idolatry in 1559, thus beginning the Reformation in Scotland which lasted for more than 100 years. Charles 1st attended a service as did Charles 2nd having been made to sit through an 'interminable sermon. Bonny Prince Charlie, our own Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, so many people of greater and lesser importance, all however are of equal importance in the sight of God.

How long will St John's survive in this nuclear age? Who can tell, but for as long as we are able, this church will live in the heart of our community as it has always done.

We are always on the lookout for volunteers to join us as Kirk Stewards. Would you like to take part by giving us a couple of hours of your time per week? If so, please do not hesitate to get in contact with the Roll Keeper at rollkeeper.stjohns@gmail.com

Kay Morrison

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:

Marjory Howat
marjoryhowat@gmail.com

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

Foodbank

Thank you all for continuing to support the Foodbank and for your extra effort for the Harvest Thanksgiving service. Our stockroom is looking healthier now as we get lots of donations during Harvest Festival time. We are still very busy - we give out 80-100 parcels a week. Our thoughts are now turning to Christmas. As we have done in the past few years, we will be handing out an extra 'Christmas' parcel to clients with goodies not on our normal list.

We are suggesting this year people consider doing a Reverse Advent calendar.

Instead of opening a window a day on an advent calendar, you put something away each day for the foodbank and hand the goods in after Christmas.



Download our Reverse Advent Calendar guide here:

<https://bit.ly/PKFBReverseAdvent25>

Please like, share and tag your school, workplace or community group — and help us spread the word! Together we can make sure no one in Perth and Kinross goes hungry this winter. ❤️

https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1144512851114626&id=100066677647933&rdid=DligPHjCSx69mGQc#

Also collect your items as normal through November and drop them off to us in early December.

We are currently in need of the following;

Jars of jam
Tinned main meals
Tinned puddings
Tinned fruit
UHT milk or Long life
Diluting juice
Small jars of coffee
Nappies size 6 & 7
Shaving foam
Dog food
Cat food

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



Please continue to support us, all donations are much appreciated.

<https://perthkinross.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>

Life and Work

Life and Work has Ceased Publication

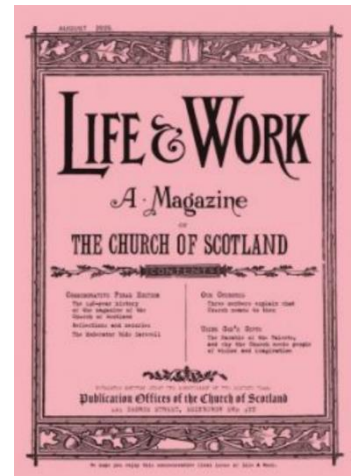
You can read the final issue free here

<https://digital.lifeandwork.org/magazine/reader/281729?pageNumber=1>

At the General Assembly in May 2025, it was with great sadness that the Church took the very hard decision to cease production of Life and Work in its current format.

Our final edition celebrates the history and impact of Life and Work as the Church of Scotland's magazine over many years. We owe a debt of gratitude to the Editor, Lynne McNeil, and all of the magazine's dedicated staff for their contributions.

Thank you for being part of our community, for supporting the magazine, for sharing our stories and walking with us.



Starting in September 2025 our regular compilation of news regarding Ministries and Eldership will be found on [the Life and Work page of the Church of Scotland website](#) and will be updated every two months.

If you would like to speak with someone about the ending of the magazine, please do contact faithaction@churchofscotland.org.uk

Subscriptions

For our readers on an annual or quarterly subscription, please note that the July issue was the final chargeable issue. You will be refunded pro-rata according to how many issues remain in your subscription after July.

Please be patient as we work through repayments, which will be made as quickly as possible. Repayments will be made directly to your bank account where you have previously provided details. Everyone who has not provided bank details will be contacted in due course.

You can contact us at admin@lifeandwork.org or write to 121 George St, Edinburgh EH2 4YN, marking the envelope 'Life and Work refund'.

[Life and Work](#) is the magazine of the Church of Scotland. In a history spanning over 140 years, it has established itself as the voice of the Church of Scotland. There is also a **free monthly newsletter** available on the website

<https://www.lifeandwork.org/features/features/view/755-life-and-work-newsletter>

Mission



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



Fairtrade works with farmers and workers so they can improve their living standards, invest in their communities and businesses, and

protect our shared environment.

<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/>

Church Roll - Members

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

Throughout the year, if 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 ask any questions about the Christian faith, wish to have communion at home if housebound, make arrangements about a wedding or special anniversary - 25, 40, 50, 60, or 75!, or to discuss arrangements in advance about funeral plans please contact;

Rev. Sandy Gunn - 01738 443216 - sandygunn@btinternet.com

Service Dates in St John's Kirk

Sunday Services	Every	Sunday	10.00am
<p>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.</p> <p><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></p>			
Wednesday Service	Every	Wednesday	1.00pm
Bible Study	First Thursday of the Month		2.00pm
	Starting 4 September 2025 for 1 hour		
Bereavement Service Refreshments available	Sunday	30 November 2025	2.30pm
Greek Orthodox Services (November to March)	Saturday	22 November 2025	11.00am
	Saturday	20 December 2025	11.00am
	Saturday	17 January 2026	11.00am
	Saturday	21 February 2026	11.00am
	Saturday	21 March 2026	11.00am
Carols for Busy People	Wednesday	17 December 2025	12.30pm
Evening Service with the Moderator of the General Assembly – presentation of long service certificates.	Sunday	29 March 2026	TBC

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. Numbers on the current rota are such that you would only read once every four months or so. He looks forward to hearing from anyone interested.



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.



Recent Events in St Johns Kirk

Annual Brass Cleaning

We've just wrapped up another brass cleaning session at the Kirk, what a wonderful day it was! With plenty of elbow grease, good company, and a hearty helping of Jim's soup and sandwiches to finish off, was a true team effort from start to finish.



A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who gave up their time to help. Whether you were polishing brass, setting up refreshments, or lending a hand in any other way, your contribution is deeply appreciated. It's this kind of commitment that helps preserve the beauty and warmth of our Kirk for all who visit. Keeping the Kirk looking its best is no small task, but with

such a dedicated group of volunteers, it becomes not just easier but enjoyable too.



Pilgrimage to St John's Kirk



A memorable encounter took place as the Roman Catholic Archbishop arrived just as the Orthodox priest Father Luke was leaving after the his monthly service.

With our own minister, Rev. Sandy Gunn, completing the picture.



Upcoming Events in St Johns Kirk

Concert of Sacred Music by Candlelight – Composed by Helen Band	Friday	14 November 2025	7.30pm	T
Perth Chamber Music Rosel Quartet	Sunday	16 November 2025	3.00pm	P
The Four Cellos - Rachel Steele, Ilse Macfarlane, Amy Smart and Susan Smart	Saturday	6 December 2025	1.00pm	R
Chansons Choral Concert	Saturday	6 December 2025	7.30pm	P
Scottish Ensemble Candlelit Concert	Thursday	11 December 2025	7.30pm	T
Perth Chamber Music Kathleen Spencer (Clarinet) and Sam Haywood (Piano)	Friday	12 December 2025	7.30pm	P
Perthshire Brass with Scottish Police Community Choir	Sunday	14 December 2025	3.00pm	T
				Entry Donation £10.00

Perth Chamber Music Liam Bonthron (Tenor) and Benjamin Mead (Piano)	Sunday	18 January 2026	3.00pm P
Organ Recital - Laurent Jochum	Saturday	7 February 2026	1.00pm R
Perth Chamber Music Dudok String Quartet	Sunday	8 February 2026	3.00pm P
Piano Recital - Ischico Veizel	Saturday	7 March 2026	1.00pm R
Perth Symphony Orchestra	Saturday	7 March 2026	7.30pm P
Perth Chamber Music Robin Michael (Cello) and Daniel Tong (Piano)	Friday	13 March 2026	7.30pm P
Songs of Praise - TBC	April / August 2026		
Jesus the Evidence" Aims to help Atheists and Agnostics on their journey to faith	Sunday	31 May 2026	7.00pm F
"Doubt less: Why Jesus makes sense." Explores the connections between faith and reason, and how Christianity makes sense of the world and answers life's big questions.	Sunday	14 June 2026	2.30pm 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. During Perth Festival of the Arts held in May each year, local schools give lunchtime concerts. Perth Youth Orchestra play at the Annual Festival Service.

Scots Radio at the Kirk – News Years Day 2026

Interviews Celebrating St John's Kirk

We are pleased to share a special feature highlighting the significance of St John's Kirk in Scotland's history, broadcast through Scots Radio's global platform.

- **John Kinloch** discusses the importance of St John's Kirk and its enduring place in Scotland's story.

- **Dr Lucy Dean** provides insights into the ongoing **Charterhouse Project**, exploring its historical and cultural value.
- **Craig Dennis** speaks about the **Order of the High Constables** and their continuing role in the life of the Kirk and community.

Together, these interviews celebrate the rich heritage and vibrant future of St John's Kirk.



Upcoming Events in St Matthews



St. Matthew's Church
Perth, Scotland

Sunday 7 December at 3pm.

The Edinburgh Bohemians make a welcome return to St Matthew's for their CRIMBOH Concert, a delightful mix of carols, Christmas songs and stories for all the family



Tickets for this Crimboh Concert are available from the office or from Andy Turnbull.



Email: office@perthstmatthews.org.uk

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

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

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

Contacts

Locum Minister and Interim Moderator	Revd. Sandy Gunn	01738 443216 sandygunn@btinternet.com
Session Clerk	Margaret Steele	sessionclerk.stjohns@gmail.com
Depute Session Clerk	Kay Morrison	01738 447123
Church Secretary	Marion Lornie	
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
Events Coordinator	Wilma Malcolm	01738 622807 st-johns-kirk.co.uk/venue-hire
Flower Convenor	Eleanor Crichton	
Roll Keeper	Aileen Morrice	rollkeeper.stjohns@gmail.com
Web Administrator	Margaret Steele	thekirkwebsite@gmail.com
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Final Thoughts

Joy of Leaves



The air turns crisp, the daylight thin,
As gold and amber settle in.
Each leaf a spark, a fleeting flame,
That whispers softly winter's name.



They twirl like laughter through the air,
Bright confetti everywhere.
The trees let go, the sky turns wide,
And all the world feels light inside.



Babies born in Scotland in 2025?

Google [Bibles for Bairns](#) and register them so that they get a free gift each birthday until they are 5 when they receive a children's bible.

Artificial Intelligence

Wondering what to think about AI and its future in society?

Worth reading www.cambridgepapers.org/living-virtuously-with-ai-chatbots/



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 March 2026.