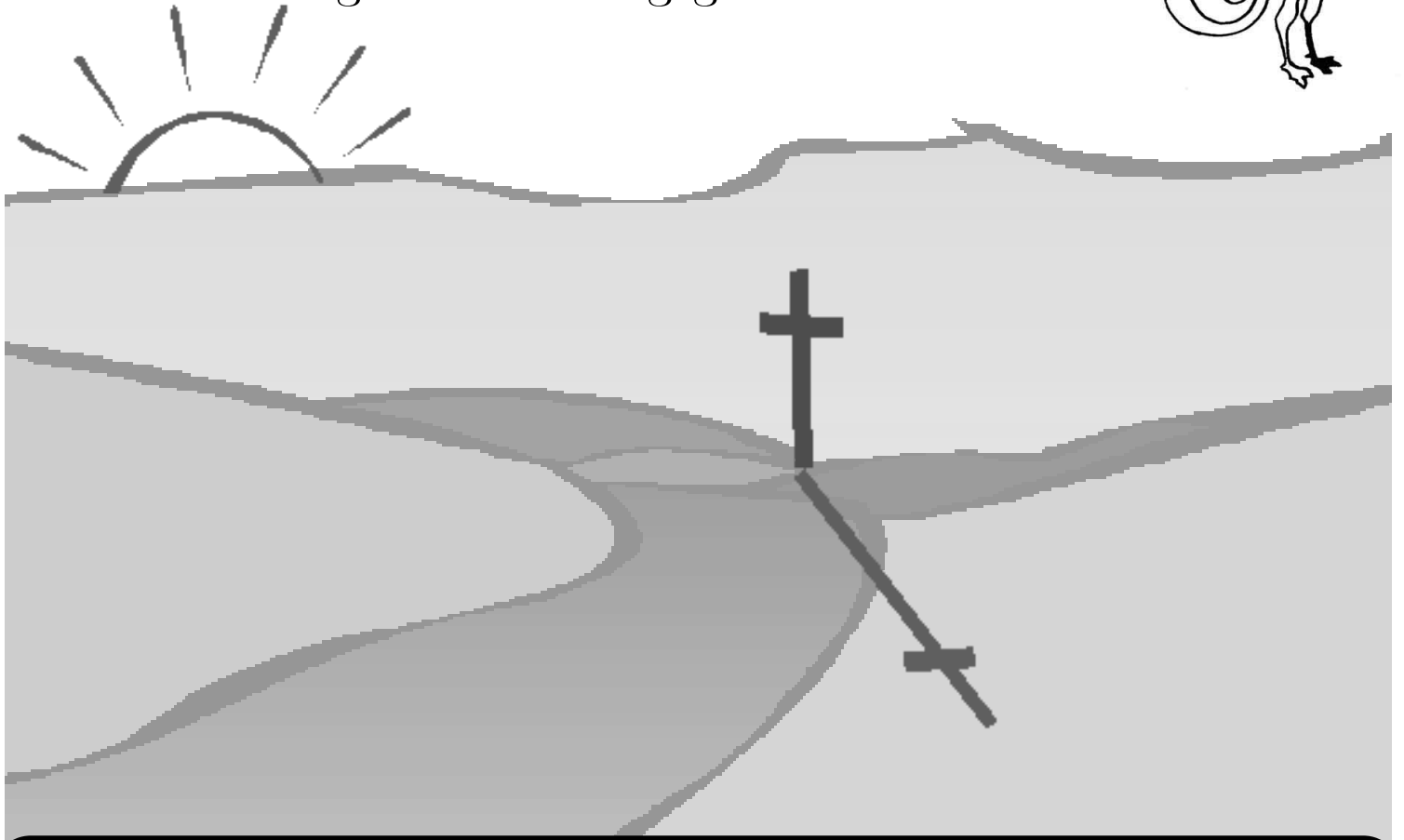


The Wyvern

The Magazine of Kingsgait Kirk Dundee



May 2025

Issue 715



Who's Who

Minister

Rev Anita D C Kerr

Session Clerk

Margaret Adamson

Treasurer

Morag Stalker

Fabric Co-ordinator & Rollkeeper

Mr Ron Chimiak

rollkeeper@outlook.com

Church Officer

Mr Garry Collins

Presbytery Elder

Tim Xenophontos-Hellen

Director of Music

Ruth Irons

Hall Letting Convenor

Garry Collins

Halls.kingsgaitkirk@outlook.com

Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Pam Chimiak

Reader Co-Ordinator

Merelyn Baxter

Mission Partner

JustBee Productions

www.justbeeproductions.co.uk



Session Meeting TBC

Cong Ref No - 291743

Scottish Charity No - SC011775

**Sunday worship is
conducted by Rev Anita
Kerr, every week at 11am .**

What's On?

Girls' Brigade

Monday Evenings 18:30—20.00

Carpet Bowling Group

Thursday Evenings—19:00—21:00

Something else happening?

If you have anything you'd like
intimated in the pre-service slides,
please contact Stewart Kerr
by a Friday at the latest:

st_kerr@btopenworld.com

The Wyvern Next Edition July/August

**Contributions for the next edition are
welcome**

***anytime during the coming weeks,
but at the very latest by:***

Sunday 29th June

email to

thechurchmagazine@outlook.com

The July/August edition of the *Wyvern* will be
available for collection by distributors
on Sunday 13th July

Greetings from Anita

Easter Reflection



"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." Luke 2:29-32

Easter Monday 21st April 2025, saw the departure of God's humble servant His Holiness Pope Francis from the bustle and turmoil of this mortal life. Luke 2:29-32 sees Simeon ready to depart in peace and his words have become the canticle the Nunc Dimittis. Perhaps, not unlike Simeon, Pope Francis was also ready to depart in peace. If so, it is wonderfully fitting that it should be once his most sacred duty had been fulfilled, overlooking St Peter's Square, blessing the 35,000 people gathered to celebrate Easter at the Vatican. It gives all believers great spiritual encouragement to see our world united to mourn the loss of such a good and godly man, and in doing so witness to the power of the love of Christ to unite us, brothers and sisters across the globe with the God of our Easter faith. Recalling his contribution to Christian witness, Rt Rev Dr Shaw Paterson, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland renewed the call made by His Holiness in *Laudato si'* to care for the earth as our common home and in *Fratelli tutti* to discover the presence of Christ in each human being. The Moderator encouraged all of us within our Christian family to join in the prayer of Pope Francis:

*Grant that we Christians may live the Gospel,
discovering Christ in each human being,
recognizing him crucified
in the sufferings of the abandoned
and forgotten of our world
and risen in each brother or sister
who makes a new start.
Amen.*

It is with great affection we bid farewell to Pope Francis, who amongst his many other commitments and achievements, found time, every day throughout the Israel-Hamas war, to video call the children of the Church of the Holy Family in Gaza. Lord, in thy mercy, grant him a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last.

¹ A canticle, from the Latin *canticulum*, a diminutive of canticum, meaning a sonnet or a little song, is a hymn (strictly excluding the Psalms) taken from the Bible.

² The Nunc Dimittis or Song of Simeon is the last of three evangelical canticles of the New Testament, the other two being the Magnificat, the Song of Mary, *Luke 1: 46-55* and the Benedictus the Song of Zechariah *Luke 1: 68-79*.

Did You Attend Church That Day....?

The question is simple. Did you attend church on May the 8th 2005. That was twenty years ago so perhaps you cannot actually remember that very day. . . . but let me jog your memory.

Twenty years ago on the 8th May 2005 the church held a special service called the 1000 service.

The whole idea of the service was to fill the church with as many people as possible so the congregation would be around 1000 people.

A special committee was formed to organise the service and the minister, the Rev Ian Petrie, and the Session Clerk, Ian Clarke, gave their full support.

Invitations were sent to the Nine and the Three Trades as well as all of the hall lets and all of the bowling clubs from other churches who visited our church for bowling evenings.

Members of the church were encouraged to bring relations and friends, all with the intention of filling the church. Elders were stationed upstairs and downstairs and all round the church to guide people to their seats and others were on duty on the terrace to make sure that everyone was made very welcome.

A special hymn sheet was produced with popular hymns and an outside caterer was hired so that everyone could enjoy a coffee or tea at the close of the service.

The open plate was, for this special service, to be donated to Christian Aid. Unfortunately the magic figure of 1000 was not quite reached but around 750 to 800 happy people, all singing their hearts out, enjoyed themselves.

Perhaps you were one of the lucky people who attended that service when the church was nearly full and the singing was something so very special with the atmosphere being electric.

J.D. Pirie

Guild News



Our session finished with a Daffodil Tea which, although not well-attended, raised over £240 for Guild funds. Every year our Guild donates to various groups, as well as supporting the Guild projects and our church. The proceeds from the Daffodil Tea will go towards next session's donations.

On 30th April, we hosted a Mini-Gathering for Guilds throughout Dundee and Angus. As well as meeting fellow Guild members, we heard about the work of two of the Guild Projects, Crossreach and Operation Hope. Although these are two of the projects we had heard about during the session, different speakers from the organisations gave a slightly different insight into their work. We also had an update on the work of the Guild nationally from Karen Gillon, the General Secretary. Karen also shared some resources to help with conducting devotions and ideas for future programme planning.

Girls' Brigade News



In March and April, food and craft featured greatly. Pancakes were made for Shrove Tuesday. A 'Red and Green Night' was held to mark St Patrick's Day and Comic Relief. Sun catchers were made in the shape of shamrocks and faces with red noses were iced on fairy cakes.

Easter cards were made, hard boiled eggs decorated, cockerels made with disposable plastic gloves and rabbits out of socks. An Easter egg hunt had to be cut short because rain started to fall.

We now look towards the end of our session which will be held on 2nd June. More details will be on the screens nearer the time.

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Lent Poems

Shared by Rev Anita

Lent I

The Bright Field

I have seen the sun break through
to illuminate a small field
for a while, and gone my way
and forgotten it. But that was the pearl
of great price, the one field that had
the treasure in it. I realise now
that I must give all I have
to possess it. Life is not hurrying
on to a receding future, nor hankering after
an imagined past. It is the turning
aside like Moses to the miracle
of the lit bush, to a brightness
that seemed as transitory as your youth
once, but is the eternity that awaits you.
R.S. Thomas

Lent III

The Trees

The trees are coming into leaf
Like something almost being said;
The recent buds relax and spread,
Their greenness is a kind of grief.

Is it that they are born again
And we grow old? No, they die too.
Their yearly trick of looking new
Is written down in rings of grain.

Yet still the unresting castles thresh
In full grown thickness every May.
Last year is dead, they seem to say,
Begin afresh, afresh, afresh.

Philip Larkin

Lent II

A Poison Tree

I was angry with my friend:
I told my wrath, my wrath
did end.
I was angry with my foe:
I told it not, my wrath did
grow.

And I water'd it in fears,
Night and morning with
my tears;
And I sunned it with smiles,
And with soft deceitful
wiles.

And it grew both day and
night,
Till it bore an apple bright;
And my foe beheld it shine,
And he knew that it was
mine,

And into my garden stole
When the night had veil'd
the pole:
In the morning glad I see
My foe outstretch'd beneath
the tree.

William Blake



Lent IV

Epitaph

Even such is Time,
which takes which
takes in trust
Our youth, our
joys, and all we
have,
And pays us but
with age and dust;
Who in the dark
and silent grave,
When we have
wandered all our
ways,
Shuts up the story
of our days:
And from which
earth, and grave
and dust,
The Lord shall
raise me up, I trust.
Sir Walter Raleigh



Lent V

"Pax"

All that matters is to be at one with
the living God
to be a creature in the house of the
God of Life.

Like a cat asleep on a chair
at peace,
in peace
and at one with the master of the
house, with the mistress,
at home,
at home in the house of the living,
sleeping on the hearth, and yawning
before the fire.

Sleeping on the hearth of the living
world
yawning at home before the fire of
life
feeling the presence of the living God
like a great reassurance
a deep calm in the heart
a presence
as of the master sitting at the board
in his own and greater being,
in the house of life.

D H Lawrence



Lent VI Palm Sunday

The Donkey

When fishes flew and forests
walked

And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the
moon was blood
Then surely, I was born.

With monstrous head and
sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
On all four-footed things.

The tattered outlaw of the
earth,
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me: I
am dumb,
I keep my secret still.

Fools! For I also had my hour;
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my
ears,
And palms before my feet.
G. K. Chesterton



Easter

i thank You
God for most
this amazing
day: for the
leaping greenly
spirits of trees
and a blue true
dream of sky; and for everything
which is natural which is infinite
which is yes



(i who have died am alive again
today,

and this is the sun's birthday; this
is the birth

day of life and love and wings:
and of the gay

great happening illimitably
earth)

how should tasting touching
hearing seeing

breathing any-lifted from the no

of all nothing-human merely
being

doubt unimaginable You?

(now the ears of my ears awake
and now the eyes of my eyes are
opened)

E E Cummings

Reflections of Activities of the St Andrew's Parish Church Boys' Brigade and Former Members' Association

A Follow-up to the BB and the Drummond Hall Days

Friday night at the end of the week's camping there was always the pie and peas supper - the buster - with pies supplied by our officer - Jack Telfer - who was a Master Baker with Goodfellows. Then followed a "Dundee's Got Talent" with entertainers from the officers and ranks on stage to either sing, play an instrument, or tell a few jokes. Gordon Law on the fiddle - violin - was one of the star turns along with Willie Doctor on the accordion and Willie Edwards supplying an endless joke book. The finale to the evening was an A to Z summing up the week's camp and all the characters who warranted a mention in a hilarious poem all compiled during the week by the officers and NCO's or non-commissioned officers. At the end of each verse we all joined in the chorus:

Tra La La, Tra La Lee, what a wonderful crowd is St Andrew's BB.

How many hundreds of "laddies" passed through the BB Company over the years from 1891 to 2010 or thereabouts as the last entry in the FMA Record Book was a tribute to Gordon Davidson, a regular Church Member, a "Braw Piper" in the BB Pipeband, and who carried for years the pain and discomfort of an accident at sea. Sadly, like the number of ex-BB members, the memories begin to fade but not before I mention just a few of the Officers who gave us so much of their time to "Quit Ye Like Men. Be Strong".

To Chaplain T.R.S. Campbell, Captain John Fridge, Church Officer George Ormond, Officers Bob Adams, Dave Pont, Mac Mackenzie, Jack Telfer, Chic Smith, Aubrey Evans, Harry Watson, and many more over the years. These men carried on a great tradition and the "boys" thank you for comradeship and true friendship, and remember the BB Camp
Chorus: Tra La La, Tra La Lee, What A Wonderful Crowd WAS St Andrew's BB.

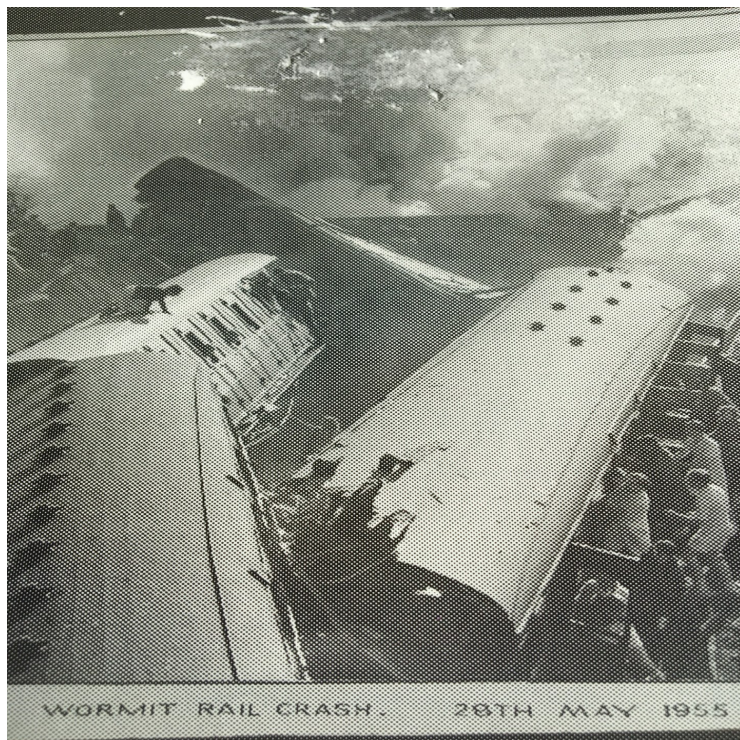
On sending this article in, Frank mentioned that this was the last addition to the series of reflections of the BB days and I just wanted to say a special thank you on behalf of all who have had the pleasure to read them for taking the time to share these reflections and stories.

Frank Galloway

Reflections of the Wormit Rail Crash - 28th May 1995

On the 28th May 1955 St Andrews Church Sunday school along with 2 other Sunday schools were returning from a picnic at Tayport when we were involved in a terrible train crash at Wormit Station, which sadly three lives were lost. My mother Marion Adams and my brother Bobby and I were in the first carriage in the tunnel which was still upright. We managed to climb down and walked towards the platform which we were helped up onto.

It was total carnage with carriages all piled up. People were clambering up the embankment on the opposite side to reach the road. Tennis players from nearby courts scrambled over fences to help with the injured. People were trapped as the seating came away from the walls of the carriage and many had bad leg injuries. We started walking with many others who were able and headed towards the Fifie to take us back to Dundee. 70 years on that image has never left me.



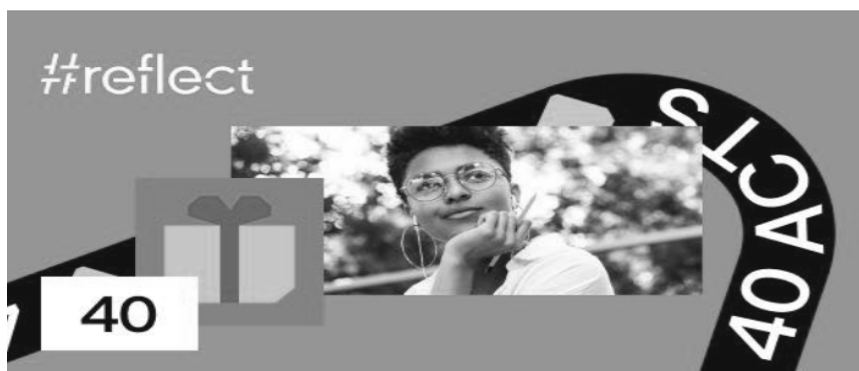
Sheila Mclauchlan

In the last edition of the Wyvern we shared the first two 'Kindness Act of the Day posts' as part of the 40 acts of kindness for Lent campaign from our Facebook page. It felt only right that we share the final posts from the series, sharing the important act and message of reflection.

Act 40: The end is just the beginning

Reflect: "As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead." James 2:26 (NIV)

Pray: "Lord, we pray for the journey of generosity to continue beyond these 40 days, becoming a natural part of our daily life. We ask you to open our eyes to opportunities to share your love in simple and meaningful ways, bringing joy and connection to those around us. We pray for the courage to step out in acts of kindness, even when it feels uncomfortable; and for the wisdom to see how these small gestures can lead to deeper conversations about faith. Amen"



Flowers

<u>Flower Donor</u>		<u>Flower Committee</u>
<i>May 2025</i>		
4th	Mrs. W. Petrie	Mrs. M. McKenzie
11th	Mrs. A. Black	Mrs. A. Sanderson
18th	Mr. J. Baxter	Miss. M. Graham
25th	Flower Fund	Mrs. M. McKenzie
<i>June 2025</i>		
1st	Flower Fund	Mrs. A. Sanderson
8th	Mrs. A. Forbes Mrs. A. Thom	Miss. M. Graham
15th	Mrs. B. Young	Mrs. M. McKenzie
22nd	Miss. I. Birse	Mrs. A. Sanderson
29th	Flower Fund	Miss. M. Graham
<i>July 2025</i>		
6th	Mrs. D. Grant Mr. J. Spain	Mrs. M. McKenzie
13th	Flower Fund	Mrs. A. Sanderson
20th	Mrs. S. Baird Mrs. P. Wood	Miss. M. Graham
27th	Mrs. J. Smith Mrs. A. Black	Mrs. M. McKenzie

The Flower committee would like to thank all who assisted with posy making and fruit tray assembling for the Easter gift Service on Palm Sunday.

Our thanks also to those who helped with the gift deliveries after the service, it's always very much appreciated.



Useful Contacts

Christian Aid Co-Ordinator

Reverend Caroline Taylor

Flower Committee

Avril Sanderson

Muriel McKenzie

Girls' Brigade

Sheila Valentine

Guild President

Sheila Valentine

Kingsgait Kirk Charity Knitters

Stella Xenophontos-Hellen -

Life and Work

Ron Coull

Fair Trade

Sally Romilly

Margaret Chisholm

Church Eco-Congregation contact

Sally Romilly

Wyvern Distribution Co-ordinator

Alison Collins

Wyvern Editor

Aimee Brown

Minister's Details

If you have any pastoral needs or if you know of anybody at home, or in hospital who requires a visit please contact our Minister

Rev Anita Kerr

Email: Anita.Kerr@churchofscotland.org.uk

Telephone: 01382 456659

Or

Church Office

Kingsgait Kirk

2 King Street, Dundee, DD1 2JB

Tel: 01382 224860

Email: standrewsdundee@outlook.com

***Please note that Rev Anita Kerr is
uncontactable on a Friday.***



[Kingsgait Kirk, Dundee](#)



[Meadowside St Paul's l/w St Andrew's](#)

a prayer for a season of change

Dear Heavenly Father,
Just when we settle into a pattern,
things change far too quickly.
One door opens; another closes.
We rise, we eat, we sleep.
We smile, we laugh, we cry.
Even change itself is ever changing and
Lord, if I'm truthful, I don't like change.
Because I desire the control.
Will you forgive my lack of understanding
that Your creation of seasons is exquisite?
Would you remind me that the ebb and flow of life
is rippled by the gifts of love and laughter?
And that life is measured by memories, not minutes?
May the season of change fuel me forward
towards another beautiful season of
the blessing of Your Almighty hand.
In Jesus' name,
Amen.

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