

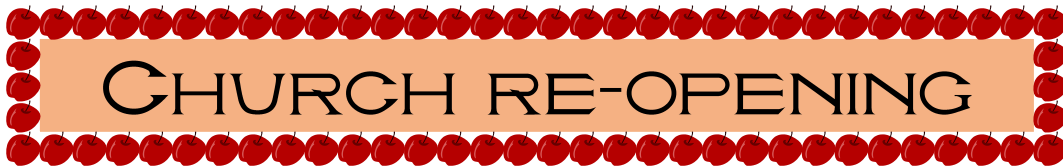


EKO

*The Magazine for
East Kilbride
Old Parish Church*

OCTOBER 2020

EDITION 588



CHURCH RE-OPENING

Our trial service on 30th August worked quite well, albeit with a very small congregation all socially distanced and wearing face coverings....a very surreal experience !! We all enjoyed the opportunity to see and hear Anne in person and to be back in the church after an enforced gap of some five months. Church members watching the service at home also seemed to appreciate viewing a service conducted by Anne from our own church building.

The new facility to live stream services worked well and the door duty team did an excellent job of ensuring that everything was within the current government restrictions. The limitations though really affected the atmosphere and the feeling of worshipping as a congregation - particularly the limit of 50 on numbers attending, having to wear wearing a face covering throughout, 2 metre physical distancing at all times, not being allowed to sing Hymns, and the lack of opportunity to chat to friends. These were all really quite restrictive.

While the trial has shown that we are now able to open safely for public worship and to broadcast live services, there does not seem to be any great interest in returning to weekly services at the present time.

The Kirk Session has decided instead to open for public worship on a once-a-month basis with the current, popular, arrangements for a recorded service continuing on the other Sundays.

We will of course, still have to observe the limit of 50 members in the church so we plan to make use of our live streaming capability and use our church halls as "over-spill" where the number of members wishing to attend a

monthly morning service exceeds the 50 limit. While this would clearly not be the same experience as being in the church, it might be an acceptable substitute in the circumstances.

The first of our monthly services will be on Sunday 11 October when we will celebrate Communion. There will be overspill capacity in both our halls and communion will be celebrated there in addition to being within the church. Arrangements have been devised to enable the sacrament to be observed in compliance with guidelines. Members watching the service at home may wish to make their own preparations to join in celebrating Communion.

Further monthly services will be held in November and December.

As with the trial service we will be obliged to record details of members attending so if you intend to come to the service on the 11th please give advance notice to Louise on 01355 279004 or by email at ekopc.office@btconnect.com If you have any mobility issues please let us know and we will endeavour to provide appropriate seating arrangements.

Alistair Walker

Session Clerk



PASTORAL LETTER



It is reckoned that in Britain the average person spends six years of their life talking about the weather and even in these last six months, probably some of the strangest of our lives, the topic of the weather has not been far away. At the beginning of lockdown we marvelled at the longer hours of daylight, the unusually warm spring, then there were the days of sunshine during the summer months. We had that beautiful warm spell just last week, and now autumn is surely settling in. Bob Hope once described the British Climate as “eight months of winter and then four months of bad weather.” He wasn’t right about that in 2020, and for all that we’ve been through we’re thankful for that.

I wonder if the reason we talk about the weather so much is because it affects how we feel about ourselves. A sunny day gives us a spring in our step, a dark grey rainy afternoon, not so. Robert Louis Stevenson suffered most of his life from poor health. He was once asked what the secret of his cheerfulness was. He replied, “I have a maxim, make your own inside weather.”

Perhaps as Christians and perhaps as the season moves into the darker and colder months we should develop the capacity to make our own inside weather. Knowing that we are the beloved children of our Father in heaven, and knowing that through Jesus he will never leave us nor forsake us, we surely can weather the storms which are overtaking us at this time. There is no denying that life isn’t easy for all of us right now, and while we tried to remain so positive during the warmer months, it’s going to be more difficult in the next few months.

So maybe when you open your bedroom curtains some morning and see the rain pouring down the window in front of a dark sky, remember that you are a child of God, and you can make your own inside weather.

Yours in love, *Anne Paton*

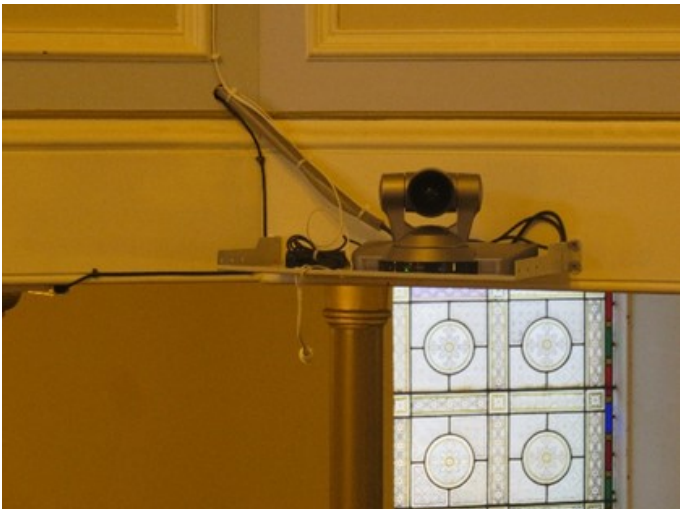


CHURCH 'AV' SYSTEM - OVERVIEW

There are three cameras in the church. Two on the balcony front, to the left and right above the organ console and a third on the balcony front to the left-hand side facing the main door.



The two cameras on the balcony front are fully controllable for pan, tilt and zoom (PTZ in the trade !) The third camera to the left is smaller, fixed focus, with a reasonably wide view covering the area in front of the communion table and extending to the doorway.



Camera Controls

The camera control system looks quite complex....it is !! The beauty is though that most of the complexity is managed by clever software and that operator management of a typical Sunday service follows a “running order” with a step-by-step process.

The control desk looks like –



This does look pretty complicated but for the purposes of controlling the cameras we can ignore the two larger control panels with little knobs and sliders – these are both related to the sound system.

The kit related to the camera system is 2 monitors, one keyboard, one mini-computer with coloured buttons and a small keypad.

The monitor to the left is for oversight of all the cameras with indication as to which one is “live”; the one on the right is used to pull in background photos from PowerPoint - for use during hymns or at the beginning and end of a service.



The keyboard controls the monitor on the left and both are connected to a small computer underneath the desk.

This next bit of kit is the “brains” of the system –



This allows the operator to switch between cameras, set up the “next” camera, broadcast to YouTube and loads of other stuff which we are unlikely to use, at least in the beginning.

This bit of kit takes away lot of the thinking about camera positions and makes it simple to pick the correct “next” camera for the live output –



Each of the PTZ cameras has 6 pre-set positions and each position has a dedicated button. There is no requirement for the operator to manually swing a camera round or to adjust focus – that is all taken care of by the pre-prepared position. Selecting a button automatically moves the camera to the perfect position.

Running Order

It is vitally important that there’s a “running order” for each service. This allows the operator to set up the next camera in the correct position while one of the other cameras is “live”.

For a typical Sunday service it’s fairly easy to plan the sequence of the service and where and when the Minister will be in the pulpit or someone

will be at the lectern. The Minister should be discouraged from going “walkabout” !! If there is a departure from the running order then Camera 3 will come to the rescue with a wide, general shot of the area towards the front of the church where any unplanned action is likely to be taking place.

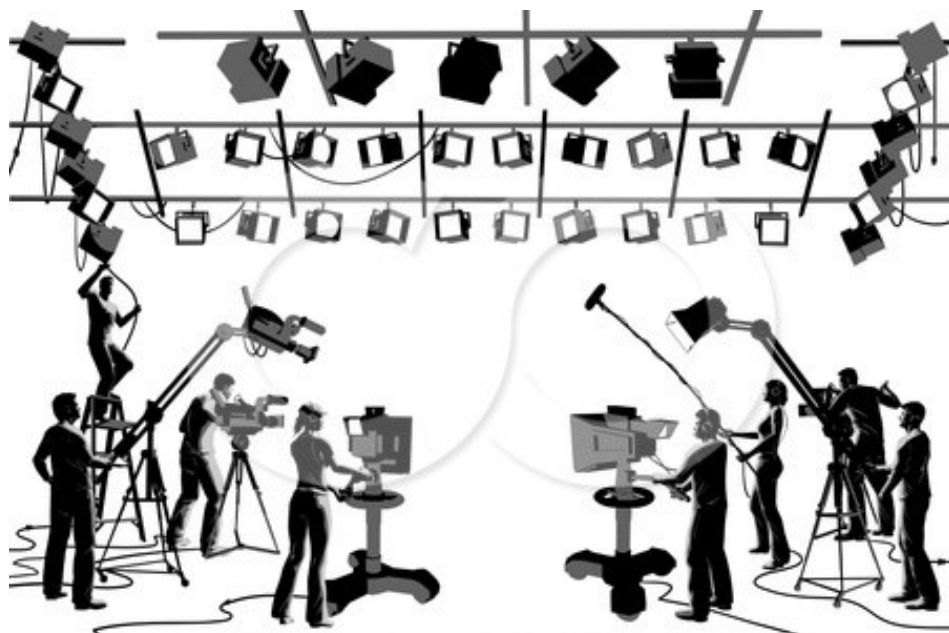
That gives time to get the next camera set up until normal service is resumed !

Audio, Video and Photo Clips

While services are still subject to restrictions on numbers, social distancing etc the live services will include audio clips of recorded hymns, background photos and video clips e.g. readings, as we’re used to with the weekly recorded services.

These will be pulled in from a PowerPoint presentation previously prepared or audio clips from the CD player. This is best explained on site with the actual equipment.

If we’re doing live services at a much later stage after all the current restrictions are lifted then its much less likely that we will be pulling in the same extent of additional material.



CHRISTMAS CARD - REMINDER

The closing date for adding names to the card is **16 October**. If you want to be included on this year's card please send your names to Louise at the church office at ekopc.office@btconnect.com or by phone on 01355 279004.

Donations can be made by either bank transfer or by cheque. For bank transfer Des Lavery (01698 422638) will give you the account details. Cheques should be made payable to East Kilbride Old Parish Church and forwarded to Des at 36 Bourtree Road, Hamilton ML3 8PT. Please make sure that your donation is identified as being for the Christmas card.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION !

We are looking for someone to work with our audio-visual maestro, Austin, to pick up some of the technical skills needed to help prepare our weekly video services. These have gone on quite a bit longer than anyone of us thought at the outset, and Austin has now prepared over 25 excellent half-hour services during the past six months. He deserves a wee bit of help !

When you consider the quality of Austin's work, it probably seems a bit daunting to get involved, but Austin has developed a "template" for the service and has a stock of recorded hymns and background photos to help build up each weekly service. With training and "hands-on" experience, someone with a bit of enthusiasm and an interest in acquiring additional skills would soon be a valuable help. The opportunity might also be of interest to someone studying for a qualification in the creative industries.

If you, or anyone in your family, is interested in knowing more, please get in touch with Austin Hepburn via the church office using the church office email address at: ekopc.office@btconnect.com



OUR HARVEST THANKSGIVING....

The month of October brings us to our Harvest Thanksgiving. This year, it will be very different in style, but not in content. Despite all the restrictions we will still want to give thanks and on October 18th that will be a focus for the church service.

And there is so much to be grateful for! All through these difficult months we have still been able to find food, the water supply has not failed, and that has been so because of the work of countless people, from farmers and growers in this country and around the world, to those who work in the supply chains by land, sea and air, to those who serve in shops and supermarkets and the numberless people who are keeping the circuits of our common life going in ways too many to count.

And because we know by faith that “all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above”, we give thanks to God. More than likely, the service on the 18th will feature some familiar harvest hymns, and we will gladly praise God’s Name, recognising our absolute dependence on the grace of God, the Giver.

...OUR HARVEST OFFERING

In last month’s EKO, there was an article about our Harvest Offering. As in past years, the hope is that we can send our gifts to two areas of service – to “Loaves and Fishes” and their Foodbank in East Kilbride and to Christian Aid in its world-wide work.

You can find out more about both these organisations on the internet, if you have access to a computer. Loaves and Fishes is at www.loavesandfishesek.com, and Christian Aid is at www.christianaid.org.uk.



In St Mark’s Gospel, the story of the feeding of the five thousand is at chapter 6: 30-44. You know the story. When the disciples ask Jesus how this great crowd is to be fed, he answers “Give them something to eat yourselves”. Especially at Harvest time, this word of Jesus invites us to do as he commands. So we can respond through making an offering.

You can send a cheque to **Des Lavery, our Finance and Gift Aid Convener,** at **36 Bourtree Road, Hamilton ML3 8PT.** Make the cheque out to East Kilbride Old Parish Church and mark it on the back "Harvest Offering". Donations can be sent to Des any time through the month of October. The total will then be divided between the two charities – the local and the global – and we can report on our Harvest gift in a later issue of EKO.

...And a Prayer from Christian Aid

Loving God, come now and make us into a global neighbourhood, looking out for each other, through struggle and crisis, reaching out to strangers who become sisters and brothers. Shape us into a caring community, strengthening each other through every challenge, standing together until justice comes for all. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen

Stewart Smith

READING THE WINDOW

At the start of a recent service, Anne began in front of the stained-glass window at the back of the Church. It was good to see it, since normally (!), on a Sunday morning, many members of the congregation don't see it at all. But what's in it? Here are some pointers, to help us "read" the message in the glass.

Our one stained-glass window in the Church has as its theme the Resurrection. The basic texts in the New Testament are St Matthew 28: 1-10, St Mark 16:1-12, St Luke 24:1-12, St John 20:1-10.

On the left of the window is a figure clearly meant to be an angel. St Mark refers to a young man, St Luke refers to 2 young men, St John mentions two



angels. Only St Matthew mentions one angel, so it seems the maker of the window has gone with the Matthew account. Another clue which confirms that is the fact the angel is sitting down. St Matthew writes: “..an angel of the Lord came down, rolled the stone away, and sat on it.”(28:2)

The stained-glass artist has, however, not portrayed a cave-like tomb, with a circular stone which could be “rolled” away. Instead, he has shown what is called a sarcophagus – a hollowed- out stone coffin, with a stone lid. In the window, you can see in the very centre the corner of the sarcophagus, with the white linen wrappings hanging over the edge. The angel is sitting on the lid, which projects down into the bottom left-hand corner of the window, and which has a cross carved on it. The angel’s left hand is raised in greeting, reassuring the women, telling them not to be afraid; his right hand is pointing into the empty grave, with the words “he is not here, he has been raised, just as he said”.(28:6)

On the right of the picture stand three women. The woman on the far right is carrying a jar, with the ointments for anointing the dead body of Jesus (as they expected). Interestingly, St Matthew doesn’t mention the ointment at all. The artist has borrowed that detail from St Mark (16:1). There are variations as to the names of the women who went first to the tomb on that first Easter morning. But all four Gospel writers include Mary Magdalene.

At the top of the window is another symbol – the depiction of Christ in Glory, a traditional position used by artists for the past 2,000 years (see Philippians 2: 6 – 11). In it, the Risen Christ sits enthroned – the earliest Christian creed was “Christ is Lord”. In his left hand, he carries a flag, which is the banner of victory and symbolizes Christ’s victory over sin and death. The right hand of Christ is raised in blessing. And behind is the sign of the Cross,

and the words “He is risen”. *Stewart Smith*

PRAYER GROUP AND PRAYER DIARY

The prayer group continue to take your prayer requests to our Heavenly Father.

Please text your requests to 07443503142 or e-mail marionleddie@gmail.com.

Not all angels have wings.

Marion Leddie



October Diary

- 1st. Give thanks for the work of the "Loaves and Fishes" Foodbank in EK and pray that it will continue to be well supported.
- 2nd. Praise God for his daily blessings.
- 3rd. We pray that all people would follow the guide-lines regarding the Coronavirus to prevent a lockdown.
- 4th. We pray for all who have been made redundant.
- 5th. Lord, please put a few angels in our path today.
- 6th. Give thanks for the season of harvest and pray for all who work and serve so that every day whatever the weather we have food to eat.
- 7th. We bring you Lord, the serious migrant situation 19500+ from many countries, some don't make it. Guide the governments dealing with this.
- 8th. Lord, have mercy on me for I am weak.
- 9th. Pray for our church and all faiths at this time and bring comfort to the community and help us to cope.
- 10th. May the blessing of light be with you, light without and light within.
- 11th. Lord, we thank all in the NHS and support them as they work hard for us during the past and into the future.
- 12th. We pray for new government incentives in future job and education prospects.
- 13th. Let us give best wishes to Fiona Anderson as she embarks on her new post.

- 14th. Father, guide the scientists in their research to find a vaccine against Covid 19.
- 15th. Pray for our global neighbours especially in places where people live with real hunger every day and pray for the work of Christian Aid across the world.
- 16th. Give thanks for the stories and teaching found in the Bible and pray that we might continue to be fed by God's Word in Jesus.
- 17th. Lord, be with those isolated from their loved ones and comfort them.
- 18th. Thanks for the work of all teams in the church in supporting members and wider community.
- 19th. Help us Father, to look after our planet and all the creatures who live on it.
- 20th. Thank you, Lord for this new day.
- 21st. Lord, let peace and love fill our hearts and our world.
- 22nd. Hold in our prayers our next door neighbours and ask God's blessing where there is distress of any kind.
- 23rd. Lord, bless your daughters who live in countries where they have no right to vote or lead or participate in decisions which affect them .
- 24th. Father, forgive us when we forget ourselves and speak out of turn, help us to listen twice as much as we speak.
- 25th. Lord, we pray for the homeless and realise how lucky we are to have a roof over our heads.
- 26th. We pray for vulnerable people living in fear or intimidation or terrible unhappiness in their homes,
- 27th. Give thanks for the colours of autumn and for eyes to see the loveliness of nature in gardens and parks, fields and woods, hills and mountains and praise God for the wonder of creation.
- 28th. Guide us, O Lord and help us to follow in your footsteps.
- 29th. Father please guide world leaders as they face the most immense challenges.
- 30th. Thank you Jesus for your love.



UPDATE FROM IAIN SHAW

It really seems no time at all since I was writing last month's article for the EKO magazine – although things are strange and difficult at the moment time still seems to be moving rather quickly and no, I am not going to mention how many days/weeks it is to Christmas!!

Unfortunately, nothing has changed since my last update with regards to being able to undertake any work, sessions or events with children, young people and families. I have been and will continue to keep reviewing both the Scottish Government's and Church of Scotland's guidance on such matters as well as also taking the views and considerations of our own Kirk Session into account as we discuss and consider both the re-opening of the Church and also being able to re-start working with our young people.

We have been keeping in touch with all the young people in our congregation by sending cards, making phone calls and virtually meeting those who attend our weekly Zoom Sunday School / Messy Church sessions. We are now in week 26 of these virtual sessions. They are still being well-supported and popular with those able to attend. During the last few weeks, we have focused on the Creation Story and the children have produced some wonderful art work to complement our sessions which I hope to be able to show to the congregation very soon. Please find elsewhere in this edition of the magazine a crossword and wordsearch on the story of Creation which we used in our Virtual Sunday School / Messy Church sessions for your enjoyment. Our next mini-series will focus on 'Biblical Superheroes' with our first session focusing on David and in particular his battle with Goliath and his army.

I am constantly reviewing and trying to keep our sessions fresh and interesting by adding in some new initiatives. One such new idea which I found to be very worthwhile, enlightening and encouraging, was when we asked one of the young people to prepare and record a 2 minute video entitled "All about me" in which we got to see, hear and find out a little more about each of them – these short videos were then shown the following Sunday to the whole group on our virtual session – every single video was quite simply outstanding – well thought out, prepared and delivered – I must say a huge thank you to all the parents for their help and assistance in making these videos possible. Again, I would love to share these with the whole congregation at an appropriate point.

The only new event in the offing is another walking Treasure Hunt around the Village area, on a very similar route as to the last one but this time on a historical theme. People who participate will be looking for sculptures, artwork, plaques, monuments and memorials rather than love hearts – this is scheduled to take place during the half term school holiday in October running from Saturday 10th October – Sunday 18th October (Inclusive) – more details on this event and how to get involved or what to do are available on the Church Facebook page and on the Church website. I hope as many of you as possible will find the time to support this event and if nothing else have an enjoyable walk around the village area. It should take around an hour (two at the very most unless you get lost!) to complete this trail.

Thank you all for your continued support and encouragement.

In closing I pray that you will all stay safe and healthy and continue to look

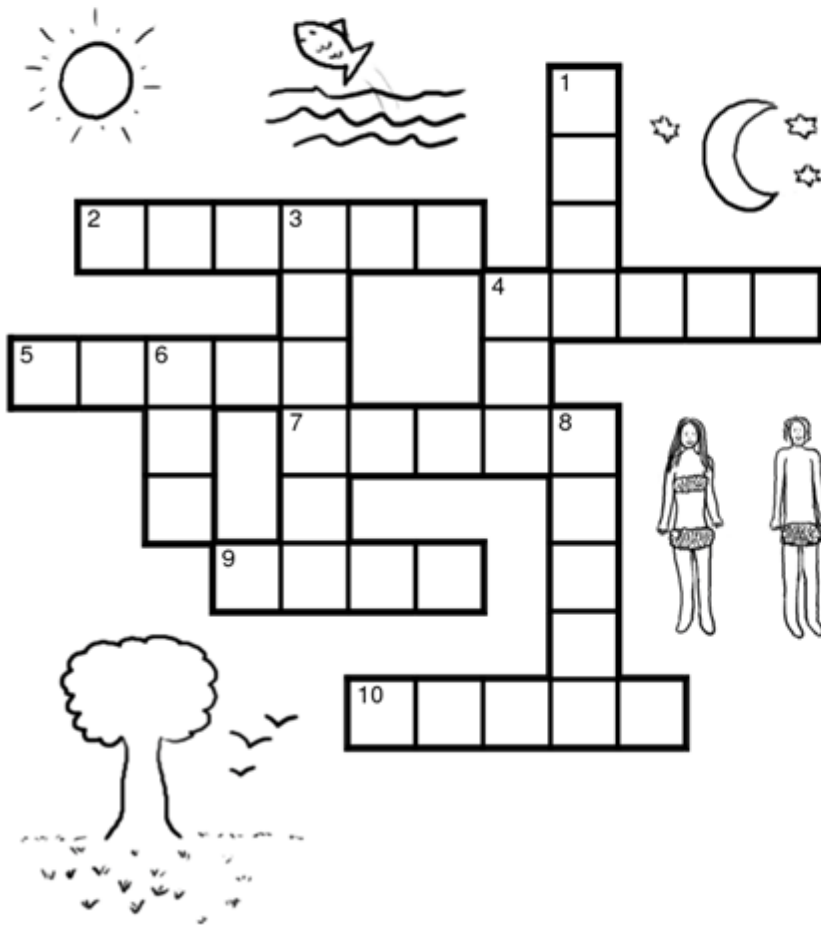
after one another. *Iain* (Youth & Families Worker) mobile

07912 295943 / email iainshaw18@gmail.com



Creation Activity Worksheet

by SundaySchoolResources.co.uk



Across

- 2 God created the moon on this day (6)
- 4 The earth was this before the creation (5)
- 5 God created these on the 5th day (5)
- 7 God created these on the 3rd day (5)
- 9 The name of the Garden the man and woman lived in (4)
- 10 God created this on the 1st day (5)

Down

- 1 The name of the man that God created (4)
- 3 God did this on the 7th day (6)
- 4 The name of the woman that God created (3)
- 6 God created the woman by taking this from the man (3)
- 8 God created land creatures on this day (5)

ANIMALS
 BEGINNING
 CREATION
 EARTH
 GARDEN
 GOD
 HEAVENS
 LIGHT
 MAN
 PLANTS
 SEA
 STARS
 WOMAN



The Fallen of East Kilbride Parish in the Great War 1914 – 1918

This book is about the 118 servicemen with a connection to East Kilbride parish who are known to have lost their lives in World War I.

Our research details the military, family and civic aspects of each serviceman, and information regarding his employment and workplace.

Where possible, the story is told of how and where they fell and what battle or engagement they were in along with where they are interred and or commemorated.

There are also brief histories and photographs of - Jackton, Auldhouse, Kittochside, Maxwellton, Nerston, Thorntonhall, Busby and East Kilbride itself, as they were around 1915.

The histories of the Old Parish church, the West Kirk and Greenbank, Clarkston churches together with the Masonic Lodge St Andrew 524 who all lost members in the war are recorded.

Articles about the start and finish of the WW1, together with summaries of the major battles in France and Flanders, i.e. Arras, Loos, Somme and Ypres. The major campaigns in Gallipoli, Mesopotamia, Salonika, and Sinai & Palestine are not forgotten and neither is the war at sea and in the air.

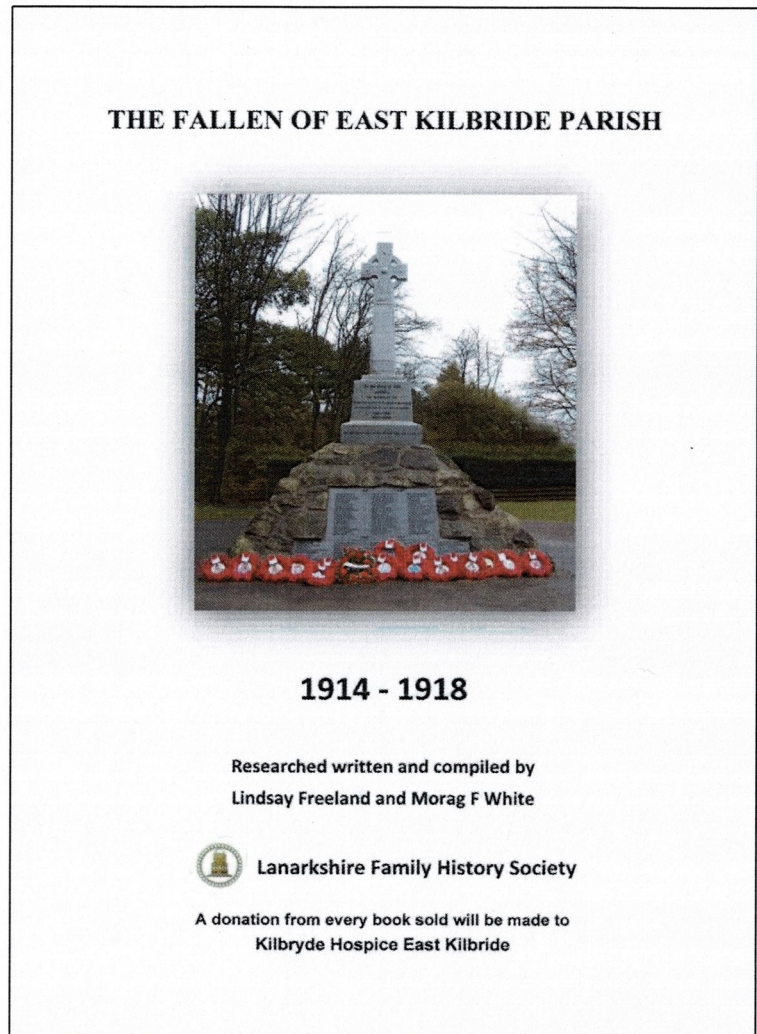
The 170 (A4) page book contains a foreword by Lorraine Kelly OBE and an introduction by the authors Lindsay Freeland and Morag F White, both members of the military forum of Lanarkshire Family History Society.

For each book sold, a donation will be gifted to the Kilbryde Hospice.

Book will be launched on 29th October

The book can be purchased from the Kilbryde Hospice shops at: -
300 Cornwall Street, East Kilbride Shopping Centre.
Kingsgate Retail outlet at 7a Glasgow Road, Kingsgate shopping park.
and the New Cross Centre, Hamilton.

The book is priced at £5 and can also be purchased from the Lanarkshire Family History Society. For further information and postage cost e-mail:- publications-lanarkshirefhs@hotmail.co.uk or from Lindsay Freeland



See the article on the next page.

THE FALLEN OF EAST KILBRIDE & DISTRICT

THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918

Researched and compiled by Lindsay Freeland and Morag F. White

Lanarkshire Family History Society

This book is now at the printers and due for release sometime in October 2020. Each book costs £5.00. The Family History Society will make a donation to the East Kilbride Hospice for each book sold.

Under normal circumstances the book would be made available through the church groups, however, as this time is not normal, I will have the books delivered to me at home.

Should you wish to purchase a copy, please contact me at my home by telephone on:

01355 228595

to order your copy OR write to me at:

29 Dundas Court, EK, G74 4AN

and I will make arrangements for you to receive and pay for your copy.

This book is a part of our local and church history of the people who have gone before us. It puts into print, in order to bring to mind, the sacrifices made by others for our freedom and ability to follow our faith without fear.

Jean Craig

THE GREENOCK BLITZ

6th and 7th May 1941

'Twas a moonlight night on the sixth of May.
As our way to the shelters we hurried,
Not a word was spoke, as we rushed down the
slope,
And into the tunnel we scurried.

When we got inside we looked for a place,
But hundreds had been there before us,
So we sat on the ground, with our backs to the
wall ;
While we tried to join in a chorus.

Some people were there, in a state of despair,
And the Press had said " we could take it,"
But to tell you the truth, which always stands best;
We all went there to escape it.

Just the night before, the blitz took its toll,
So plenty in there were in sorrow,
But we all sat tight, for the rest of the night,
Though we anxiously thought of the morrow.

Then just about midnight the firing began,
And the look-out man shouted, " They're over! "
When the first bomb fell' down, we lay on the
ground ;
Because we were told to take cover.

As we all lay there, not a word was heard,
Still I felt some were prompted to pray,
Protect us, O God, in this tunnel to-night,
Keep us safe till the dawn of the day.

When we rose to our feet and looked towards the
West,
With our eyes we could plainly descry,
The. bomb got its target, the Distillery hit,
And the flames had lit up the sky.

This gave them a light, for the rest of the night,
Then incendiaries fell in galore,
And when bombs whistled down, and exploded all
round,
We thought, we'd see Greenock no more.

About six in the morning we left our retreat,
But I felt each had something in mind,
Because we all thought on the fate of our town;
And the loved ones whom some left behind.

So when we came down, in view of our town,
We were met, with a sorry procession,
For hundreds of people, were walking about;
Who had lost, all their worldly possessions.

Enough has been said, still we think of the dead
And the loved ones they all left behind.
May God, in his mercy, protect them from harm,
And banish cruel war for all time.

And remember all those who are doing their bit,
In the air, on the land, and on sea,
And to those who come home, when the fighting is
done;
May this country be grateful to Thee.

THOMAS MURRAY

Late, 34 Crescent Street. Greenock

Submitted by: Myra Crawford

Parable of the Weeds

(Matthew 13:24-30)

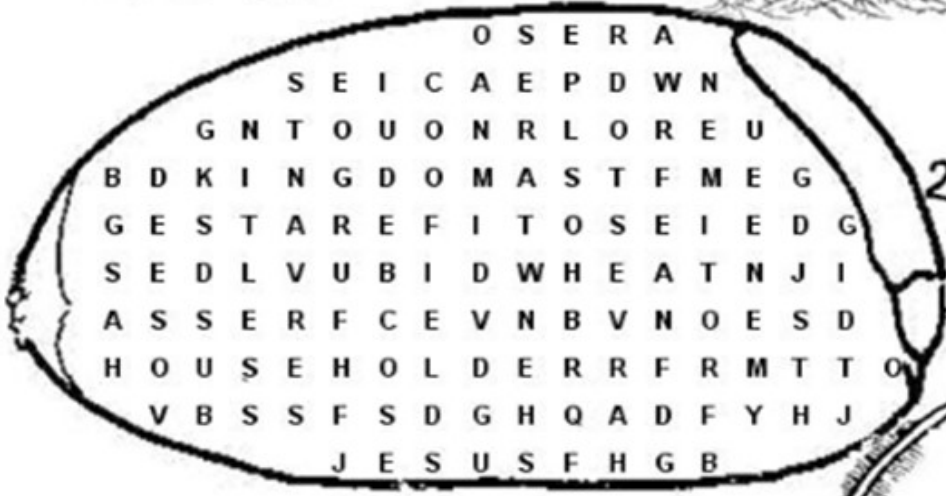


The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field.



- Jesus
- Seed
- kingdom
- Field
- Enemy
- Wheat
- Tares
- Servants
- Weed
- Householder
- Harvest

Find the hidden words



O	S	E	R	A													
S	E	I	C	A	E	P	D	W	N								
G	N	T	O	U	O	N	R	L	O	R	E	U					
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V	B	S	S	F	S	D	G	H	Q	A	D	F	Y	H	J		
J	E	S	U	S	F	H	G	B									

PASTORAL REGISTER

Deaths: "I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Daniel Dowds



EKO SUBMISSION DATE

If you would normally hand write/type material and give it to the editor would you please phone me and dictate it. My numbers are below.

The deadline for submitting all material for the November edition of the EKO is:

Wednesday 21st October

Thank you. *David Kent* - Editor

01355 237275, 07890 262267 or, davidkent28@virginmedia.com



EAST KILBRIDE OLD PARISH CHURCH

In case of illness and bereavement, would the family please contact the minister immediately and directly.

Rev. Anne Paton will be available for consultation in the vestry after Sunday morning worship. Please arrange such consultation with the door duty team.

East Kilbride Old Parish Church, Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity—SC000609

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 40 Maxwell Drive. G74 4HJ Mobile 07912295940
 E-mail address: apaton@churchofscotland.org.uk

Pastoral Assistants: Rev. Stewart Smith MA BD
 and Miss Sheena Bell

**Youth &
Families Worker** Iain Shaw
 E-mail: iainshaw18@gmail.com

Session Clerk Mr Alistair Walker

Treasurer Mr Ronnie Niven

Roll Keeper Mr Robert Cossar

Gift Aid Mr Des Laverty

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ekopcmagazine@gmail.com

Visit the East Kilbride Old Parish Church Website at: www.ekopc.org.uk

OR Facebook page: www.facebook.com/EKOLDPC