

LOGIE KIRK NEWS
SPRING EDITION 2018



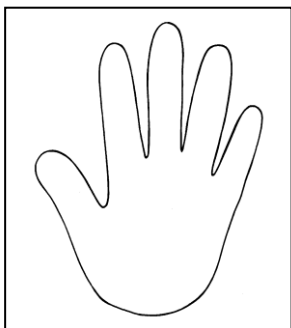
Keep up to date with all the news at Logie

LOGIE KIRK STIRLING
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Charity No. SC001298

Dear friends,

During Sunday morning worship recently, we heard one of the stories of Jesus as told in the gospel of Mark. Jesus has been preaching in the Synagogue at Capernaum and he comes to the house of his disciples Andrew and Simon. Andrew and Simon tell Jesus about Simon's mother-in-law who is sick in bed with a fever. Jesus goes to the woman and takes her by the hand and lifts her up. Then she is better. The woman responds to this healing by serving Jesus and the other disciples with him. She looks after others and that is a good example for us.

As part of our response to that story the congregation was invited to reflect upon the question: How do you want to use your hands to look after others?



Everyone then took a few minutes to write or draw something onto the image of a hand and the resulting 'offering to God' was brought forward and dedicated in prayer and in the singing of a much-loved hymn, "Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all."

Here is a picture what the congregation wrote on the hands, this time shown as a word cloud:



The 'offering to God' which you made that morning was truly wonderful. It is an offering which the people of Logie make every day, often quietly in the background, and it was very moving to read what you had written. What you are doing in service to Jesus Christ and in love of your neighbour is amazing! I thank God for all you are and do in the church in so many different ways.

With love and blessings,

Rev Ruth Halley

Rev Ruth Halley (Minister)

Stirling University - The Mace - Celebrating 50 years

In 1965 a new minister arrived at Logie Kirk, Rev David Smith. Prior to his arrival it had been announced that Scotland was to have a new University and it was to be sited in Stirling at the Airthrey Estate - which lay within the parish of Logie. The importance of this was realised by the young David Smith and his Kirk Session. They felt it had to be marked in a significant way but how?

It was decided that some gift should be presented by the congregation at Logie Kirk to the University but what was it to be? David Smith felt that the gift had to meet 3 tests:-

- 1) it must inspire the whole community with a sense of responsibility
- 2) it must be so costly that the congregation will realise they have made a real effort and the University will know they have received something of moment, and
- 3) it must have lasting significance.

In deciding on the gift of the mace they achieved all 3 aims. The first two were clearly achieved at the time but the last 50 years have shown that the gift has certainly had lasting significance.

Why a mace? While in medieval times a mace was the weapon carried into battle by a bishop rather than a sword (on the rather dubious pretext that a bishop shouldn't shed blood but could smash armour!), ceremonial maces have become symbols of authority. Probably the most famous Mace is that of the House of Commons where proceedings are not valid unless the mace is in its place.

For the University the Mace is the physical embodiment of the University's power and authority and of its independence. - what greater gift could we, the congregation at Logie Kirk, have given them?

This mace here today was first used at the installation of the first Chancellor

of the University, Lord Robbins and has been used on all ceremonial occasions since then including installations of subsequent chancellors, all



University graduations, formal university events and the like. Only last month when the Earl of Wessex opened a new international student facility at the University he was shown the mace.

Each time it is used it reminds us of the close links between the University and Logie Kirk which take many different forms - from students and staff worshipping with us, to the work at the Chaplaincy Centre - and now there is a Pioneer Minister at the

University with Logie Kirk the supporting congregation. Also, through Friends of Logie Kirk we have had several prominent University personnel including a number of past Principals as Trustees and at present have Professor Malcolm MacLeod, the senior deputy principal as a Trustee. Friends of Logie Kirk in conjunction with the University have established a series of biennial debates, the next one being planned for Autumn 2018, and at the Friends annual awards ceremony we present the Jim Meldrum Memorial Prize to the student at the University with the best dissertation on a Christian topic - and there is a link here with the mace as Jim Meldrum was not only the director of education for Stirling but also an elder at a Logie Kirk and a member (in fact the treasurer) of the small committee who commissioned the mace.

It is wonderful to see the mace back here in the Church where it started its

journey almost 50 years ago when it was presented to the University by Rev David Smith in front of a full congregation and beamed live on both BBC and STV. I'm afraid we don't have the same media here today, but the words David Smith said then remain true today -

“ The gift is a sign of the warm welcome which this congregation extends to the new institution and a symbol of the close ties which there have always been between scholars and churchmen. It is our earnest wish that the University of Stirling will prosper and through the work of teaching and research not only add lustre to the whole life of Scotland but also nourish the spirit of understanding between nations.

We congratulate the University on its first 50 years. We hope the University continues to flourish and the mace remains not only a symbol of the University's power and authority but also of its close ties with Logie Kirk within whose parish it lies.

This is the text of an address given by Ian Lumsden, the Secretary of the Friends of Logie Kirk at the special service held in Logie Kirk on Sunday 10 December 2017 to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the University of Stirling.



Lorna Gammock reminisces ...

On December 10th Logie celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the giving of the Mace to the University. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend but having been at the original ceremony and having my husband's and my name tucked inside it, it set me off on a trip down memory lane. and I did not Realise what a huge impact the coming of the University has had in my life.

Having quite a big house at the time we were encouraged to open our doors to the students, and my first student who stayed with me for five years and is still like part of the family was a boy from Dundee called Gordon Stewart. Gordon (now 72!) was the first 1st Class honours student to graduate in Biology from Stirling. His speciality was herpetology – the study of snakes and he asked tentatively if I minded if he kept some in his room. Since his room was two flight of stairs up I said “- on one condition. If I meet a snake on the stairs it is out and so are you!”

All went well until one day when Alasdair who was quite small at the time was running his Dinky car along the floor of the playroom which was opposite Gordon's room. “Oh Mummy” he shouted, “see what I've found”. It was a little baby adder. I hollered “Gordon”. “OK Lorna” he said, “I'm on my way to Sherriffmuir”.

In 1969 Gordon was chosen to go with the Cambridge team to South America. From there he brought back an iguana lizard which was quite big and occupied a large glass tank in his room. He was called Iggy. Gordon often joined the rest of the family in the evenings and Iggy came too. Gordon kept him up his pullover with his head popping out the V-neck. One evening we were all sitting down in the lounge chatting. Doreen McNeil was visiting and without any warning Iggy took a sudden leap into the air and landed on the rug at Doreen's feet. I have never seen anyone move so fast in my life and she was out of the door into her car and off before you could cough, leaving us helpless with laughter. Gordon did his four years at Stirling and then went to Moray House to train as a teacher but continued to travel to and from

Edinburgh each day. Subsequently he taught at George Heriot in Edinburgh for many years.

Iggy finally outgrew his cage and Gordon donated him to Edinburgh Zoo where we visited him several times. He was easily recognisable because his tail had been caught in the bedroom door at one time and a bit had broken off. I never thought you could feel affection for a reptile, but I think I can!



Traidcraft relaunch in FairTrade Fortnight

It's a shocking fact that millions of poor farmers who produce the food we love still don't earn enough to feed their own families. It's time for this injustice to end.

Fairtrade Fortnight, 26 Feb – 11 March, aims to put a spotlight on trade.

When trade is fair it has the potential to improve the lives of the farmers and workers who grow our food.

When trade is fair, it can make the world a better place.

Together we have that power, we can get involved and be part of the difference.

Millions of poor farmers and workers are already working hard to close the door on exploitation and transform their communities, supported by Fairtrade.

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/world_mission/world_mission_news/WM_magazine_82.pdf has more information on Fair Trade

<https://fairtrade.org.uk/en/get-involved/current-campaigns/fairtrade-fortnight> has more information on Traidcraft

On 11th March, we'll have a Traidcraft stall outside the Kirk.

Our new Coordinator is Maggie Roderick. You can contact her for orders on revmaggieroderick@btinternet.com or 01786 478113

He is Risen. **He is Risen Indeed!**

On Easter Sunday 1 April Ruth hopes to join Club 1-2-6 and the many other pilgrims who will make their way up Dumyat to celebrate Son-rise at dawn.



Make this the year you join
the celebration and
proclaim **He is risen indeed!**

Christian Aid Week 13 – 19 May

This year the theme of Christian Aid Week is **Stronger than the Storms** which focuses on helping poor communities in areas such as Haiti to protect themselves from disasters.

If you are able to help with door to door collections, please contact Lynne Rennie on 01786 472786

What's Happening

March

Sun 11th	Mothering Sunday All Age Worship & Cradle Roll Service	11.00am	Church
Sat 24 th	Club 1-2-6 Car Wash	1.00 - 4.00pm	VW Garage
Sun 25 th	Palm Sunday Service (Procession Old Kirk	11.00am 10.45 am)	Kirk
Thu 29 th	Maundy Thursday Service	7.30pm	Hall
Fri 30 th	Good Friday Service	7.30pm	Kirk

April

Sun 1 st	Easter Sunday All Age Worship Holy Communion	11.00am 12.15 pm	Kirk
Wed 16 th	Friends of Logie High School Debating Competition	3.45pm	Wallace High School
Friday 27 th	1-2-6 Quiz Night	7.00pm	Hall

May

Sun 13 th	Communion Service	11.00am	Kirk
Sun 20 th	Pentecost All Age Service	11.00am	Kirk

Friends of Logie Kirk

- Senior pupils from Wallace High School undertook a 2-week expedition to Mexico with the conservation research organisation Operation Wallacea. Friends of Logie Kirk provided travel awards to 2 of the pupils to enable them to take part. In week one pupils were camping in the Calakmul Biosphere Reserve helping scientists gather important scientific data to help influence future conservation efforts in the area. Week 2 saw the young people learning to SCUBA dive and taking part in a Caribbean reef ecology course. Pupils had the chance to become qualified divers and help gather data on the impact that tourism is having on the local area.
- This Year's Annual Awards Ceremony will be on Wednesday 20th June at 7.00pm in the Kirk Halls.

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Funerals

16/11/17	Mary Campbell
30/11/17	Catriona MacKenzie
27/12/17	Archie Ferguson
12/02/18	Bob McIntosh
14/02/18	Chrissie Riach
19/02/18	Violet Bastible

.... *In my Father's house, there are many rooms* ...

Logie Old Graveyard Group

Now that Spring is almost here it is time for Logieegg members to come out of hibernation for a new year. The Old Kirkyard always looks best when the daffodils are out for Easter which is early this year and the **Palm Sunday Service will be in the Old Kirk at 10.45am on Sunday 25th March.** On our first



work day we will spring clean the site so that it is looking good for Easter, and anyone who would like to come along to do some small gardening jobs on site is very welcome to join us for an hour to tidy up the site for spring. The first work day will be on **Saturday 17th March,**

weather permitting between 10am and 12 noon. Should the weather not oblige this will allow us to try again on Saturday 24th March. There will also be work days on 5th May, 16th June and 15th September, again between 10am and 12 noon.

While things have been quiet on site over the winter we are pleased to announce that we are taking the lead in the new “Friends of Stirlingshire’s Historic Graveyards” group, which aims to secure funding to preserve 18 sites in Stirlingshire and has the support of Stirling Council and Historic Environment Scotland. While most of the work at Logie has been completed over £50,000 is still needed for repairs to the boundary wall. It is hoped that a large funding bid by a united group will allow all sites to be brought up to standard and work completed.

Eleanor A. Young

Rev. Anne Shearer

On Sunday 7th January we said “Goodbye” to the Rev. Anne Shearer who is taking up a secondment at Alva parish Church.

The J Club and Club 1-2-6 sang a specially composed song accompanied by Jim Millar on his accordion before the children gave Anne a collection of small decorated stones for her garden and a framed photograph of the 1-2-6 Club.

On behalf of the congregation Eleanor Young paid tribute to the work that Anne had done since her ordination at Logie 7 years ago. She stated that while the dictionary definition of an “auxiliary,” was “a helpful assistant”, Anne had been far more than that.

“When Stuart was ill she quickly stepped up to fill the pulpit Sunday by Sunday, conducting weddings, funerals and baptisms when needed. She undertook the groundwork for the Strasbourg twinning initiative, has spoken to groups, attended coffee mornings, sales, session meetings and other activities in the hall, has visited members at home and in hospital and most recently filled the pulpit during the vacancy.”

Anne’s work had been much more than that of a “helpful assistant”. “We have enjoyed sermons with their links to everyday experience and her children’s addresses kept each of us on touch with our inner child.”

While goodbyes are never easy Anne will not be forgotten at Logie. Our thoughts and prayers are with her as she moves on to work in Alva.

As a token of affection, a floral arrangement was then presented by Iona and Henry from the J Club.

In reply Anne thanked everybody and assured us that she would treasure the happy memories of fun shared on many occasions during her seven and a half years at Logie.

Club 1-2-6 Go to Strasbourg

As many of you will know, Logie has a twinning arrangement with l'Église Réformée du Bouclier in Strasbourg, France. In summer 2016 we welcomed a group of young people from the church when they came to visit Logie as part of a visit to Scotland. Since 2018 is the Church of Scotland's Year of Young People, it is appropriate that Club 1-2-6 has plans to visit Strasbourg in July this year when they will visit the church and enjoy some of the many attractions of the city.



Strasbourg is in the East of France, on the border with Germany and is the home of the European Parliament. The church we are twinned with is known by its shorter name of "Le Bouclier" which means "The Shield" and the church took this name from the street in Strasbourg where it is located. They have 1200 members and two pastors. On their website they describe themselves as '*heir to the first Reformed community founded by Jean Calvin*'

showing that they share historic and theological roots with the Church of Scotland.

The Club 1-2-6 trip to Strasbourg will be for 5 days, including Sunday worship at Le Bouclier. There are 5 young people going - Chloe, Lucy, Ailsa, Megan and Amy - accompanied by our Minister, Ruth and her husband, Kenny. They will be flying from Edinburgh to Basle and will stay in chalets on a campsite near the centre of Strasbourg. During the trip they plan to meet up with young people from Le Bouclier. They also hope to visit other attractions in Strasbourg including the European Parliament and to have some time to enjoy the swimming pool and sports facilities on the campsite.

Club 1-2-6 would like to thank the Kirk Session and everyone in the congregation for the support given to the fundraising towards the costs of the trip, especially all those who came to the Beetle Drive in January which raised £428.86 and to the coffee morning on Saturday 10 February which raised £595.50. Watch out for more events planned between now and July. Ruth, Kenny and the young people involved are very pleased that they will be able to represent Logie Kirk when they visit Le Bouclier.

Names and Contacts

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Beadle June Dunsmore 01786 822868

Hall Bookings

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Phone 01786 448251 and leave a message

Logie Kirk News

Please note the Summer edition will cover the months of

June, July and August

and will be published at the end of May

All material for this issue should be submitted by

Monday 7th May

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