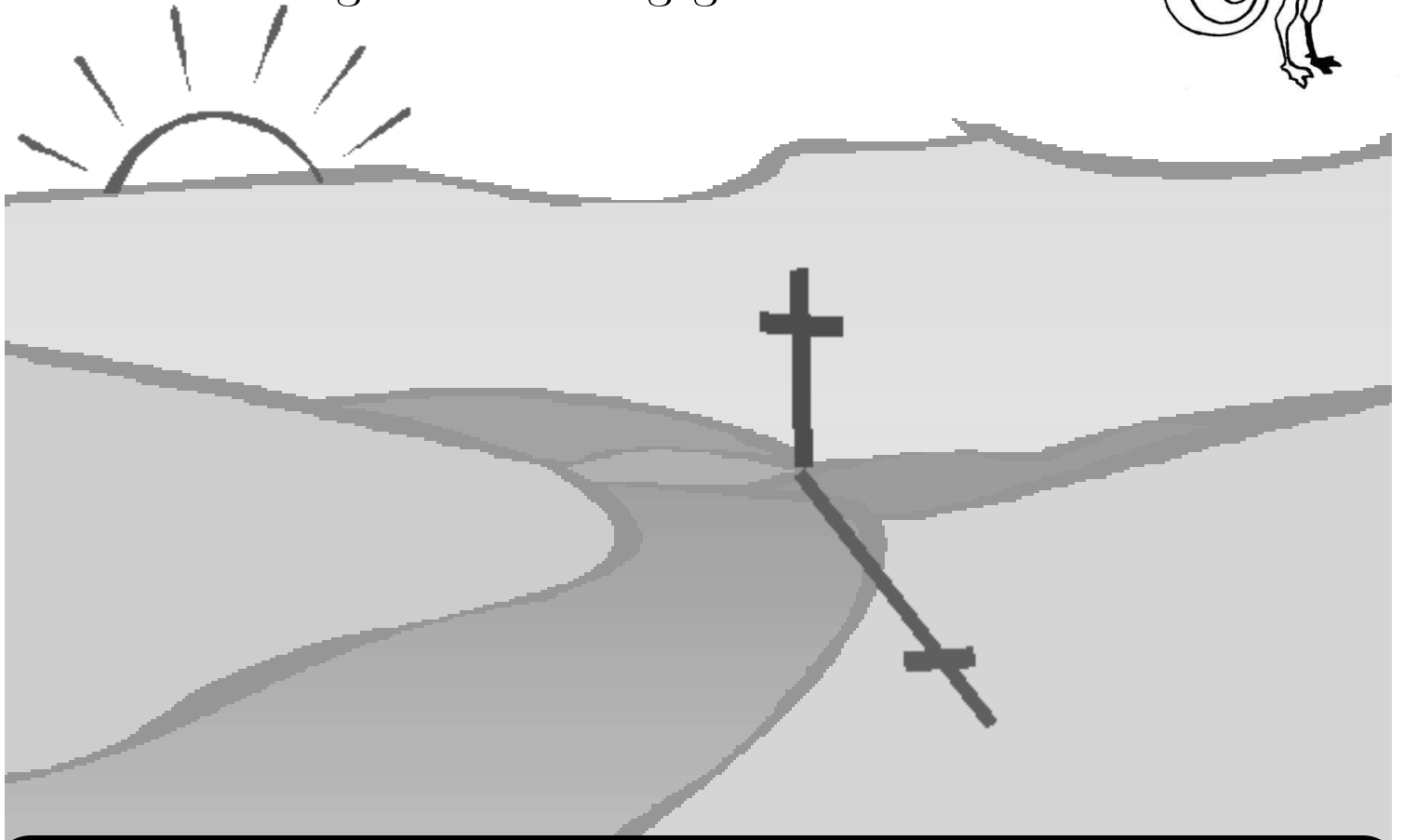


The Wyvern

The Magazine of Kingsgait Kirk Dundee



July/August 2026 Issue 722



Who's Who

Minister

Rev Anita D C Kerr

Session Clerk

Margaret Adamson

Treasurer

Morag Stalker

Fabric Co-ordinator & Rollkeeper

Ron Chimiak

Church Officer

Garry Collins

Presbytery Elder

James Burns

Director of Music

Ruth Irons

Hall Letting Convenor

Garry Collins

Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Pam Chimiak

Reader Co-Ordinator

Merelyn Baxter

Mission Partner

JustBee Productions

www.justbeeproductions.co.uk



Session Meeting
Wednesday 22nd July at 7pm

Cong Ref No - 291743

Scottish Charity No - SC011775

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

What's On?

Girls' Group

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 September/October

**Contributions for the next edition are
welcome**

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

Sunday 30th August

email to

thechurchmagazine@outlook.com

The next edition of the *Wyvern* will be
available for collection by distributors
on Sunday 13th September

Greetings from Anita



"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me, and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me, and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

Matthew 11:28-30 The Message Translation

Buongiorno!

We have just returned from our holiday in Italy. Tired and worn out, we managed to make it to the airport for 5 am on Monday morning. Grandparents, daughters, husbands, and grandsons, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, excited and half asleep! A team approach proved an effective strategy: the sons-in-law set out on a quest for coffee, while the daughters sought light entertainment in the form of magazines and toy cars for the flight. We sat by the glass overlooking the runway, watching flights arrive and depart, but the little ones, Ruairi, 2, and Lachlan, 16 months, were much more fascinated by the little buses that pulled the luggage to the aeroplanes, and a cry of 'bus! bus!' echoed around the terminal.

One of the great advantages of an early start is arriving with the whole day ahead of you. The warmth, the sunshine and the water bus to Venice were the perfect way to begin a journey of recovery. A rest, a real rest in a city where there are no cars, no bicycles, and the water is the only way to travel. The bustle is all on the river and centred around Saint Mark's Square. We had previously been to Venice on a day trip; having a week there was a world of difference. There is an unforced rhythm to life which only tourists who stay over can fully appreciate.

Necessity is the mother of invention, and the Venetians have been very inventive in providing many of the facilities we take for granted. Bins are emptied by specially designed, highly maneuverable, lightweight hand carts with stair-climbing caster systems to easily cross the arched bridges and tight corners. The streets are spotless and so quiet and calm, no cars or bicycles anywhere.

Living freely and lightly for a few days was wonderful, and I have returned home with that feeling of freedom and the benefit of living lightly. Resting in the Lord, allowing Christ to take the weight while I walk alongside, embracing the unforced rhythms of grace!

Che Dio vi benedica (God bless you)

Rev Anita

Summer Blessings and Prayers

**As the sun spirals its
longest dance,
Cleanse us.**

**As nature shows bounty
and fertility,
Bless us.**

**Let all things live with
loving intent and to fulfill
their truest destiny.**

**Be praised, my lord, for all
your creatures, and first
for brother sun, who
makes the day bright and
luminous.**

**He is beautiful and radiant
with great splendor. He is
the image of you, most
high.**

**Be praised, my lord, for
sister moon and the stars.
You placed them in the
sky, so bright and
twinkling.**

**For more light in the day, we thank you.
For gentle mornings, we thank you.
For nighttime conversations, we thank you.
For family and friends, we thank you
For gardens and all manner of creations, we thank you.**

**Help us love this earth.
Help us dwell wholeheartedly in our lives this day.
Help us pray as we walk, work, play, rest and create.**

'Sky Song'

A Poem by Jim Adams

For I am tired
And growing old
The autumn leaves
Have turned from
Red to gold
I see those diamonds
In the sky
With proud Orion
Riding by
They leave a
Message in the sky
That life is
Slowly passing by
By day those clouds
Are forming fast
Their shape and sizes
Never last
Continents and
Countries holding hands
A meeting of minds
And foreign lands
Those clouds as
Passions in the sky
Are but a moment
Floating by
For soon all
Is change
And patterns new
But life goes on
Like morning dew

Rev Ian Duncan Petrie

We were deeply saddened to hear of the recent death of our beloved ex-minister, Rev Ian Petrie. Ian joined us as minister of St Andrew's Parish Church in January 1986 with his wife, Marion, and family, and was with us until he retired at the end of 2008. His fresh approach, warm personality and strong sense of fun soon endeared him to the congregation.

Ian quickly but gently made changes to modernise practices at St Andrew's, which included abolishing pew rents and introducing female elders. He also encouraged the Boys' Brigade Company, the only independent one in Scotland, to join the Battalion, thus allowing the boys to participate in a wider range activities and meet up with other B.B. members. Another change was the introduction of PowerPoint to project the hymns and illustrate his children's addresses and sermons. A large knitted doll named Andrew Parish, made by a member of the congregation, and a carrier bag full of visual aids also helped to hold the children's attention. At the time, many of these innovations were seen as bold moves, and he had to overcome strong opposition from some members. By persisting, he showed his strength of character and determination to make the church more welcoming and family friendly. As a result, the church became very popular for weddings and baptisms. On one occasion, there were eight babies all being christened at the same Sunday service. In his typically modest way, Ian used to joke that the reason couples chose St Andrew's was because Sinatra's pub was directly across the road!

Ian took a real interest in people, and he was determined to get to know the entire congregation. Soon after he arrived, he set himself the extensive task of visiting the home of every member, which took over two years! It was a good way for him to start building a knowledge of people's personal stories and family connections. As one senior member of the congregation recently commented, Ian was a friend first and minister second. Many members will never forget Ian's kindness and support at times of bereavement.

Sally Romilly and Sheila Valentine

His sermons, often peppered with excruciating puns, were refreshing and challenged our thinking, with his instinctive support for the underdog. He had no time for dogma or piety, and he had the skill always to relate current events to Bible stories, highlighting the fallibility of various characters and showing the relevance of the Bible to our lives in the modern world. We learnt many a thing about football through Ian's sermons!

Ian died peacefully in Edinburgh Royal Infirmary on Wednesday 6th May after suffering a stroke. He is survived by his children Graeme, Fiona, Gordon and Ewan, sister Aileen, and grandsons, Rory, Duncan, Finlay and Ruaridh. As his son Ewan wrote, "Ian will be widely remembered as a compassionate and caring minister who touched many lives with his kindness and brought comfort in dark times."

We hold the family fondly in our thoughts and prayers at this very sad time.

Sally Romilly and Sheila Valentine

Canticle of the sun

Be praised, my lord,
For all your creatures,
And first for brother sun, Who makes the day
Bright and luminous.

He is beautiful and radiant
With great splendor
He is the image of You, Most high.
Be praised, my Lord,
For sister moon and the stars.
You placed them in the sky, so bright and twinkling.

Kingsgait Instrumental Group

We had a very enjoyable first session with our all-age instrumental group on 9th May, and our next meeting is planned for Sunday 23rd August from 2pm to 3pm in the Glasite Hall.

All are welcome, whatever your instrument and whether you are a beginner, an advanced player or somewhere in between! Once again our friends from the praise band at Broughty Ferry Parish Church will be joining us. If you'd prefer just to listen and maybe sing along, you'd also be very welcome.

Please let Ruth Irons (07592 374745 or ruthirons@icloud.com) know by Sunday 16th August if you are planning to come, as well as what instrument you play, whether you have your own instrument, and roughly what standard you are. This will help us to ensure that we have appropriate music (and instruments) for everyone. There is also a sign-up sheet on the notice board in the Glasite Hall.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Ruth. Don't be shy - do join us in making a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Ruth Irons

A prayer written by Stephen Grellert (1773—1855)

Dear Lord,
I expect to pass through this world but once:
and any good thing, therefore, that I can do
or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature,
let me do it now;
let me not defer or neglect it,
for I shall not pass this way again.

A message from Faye and Frank Galloway

We were saddened to read of the death of The Rev Ian Petrie on the 6th May 2026. Our association with Ian was strengthened following the death of our daughter Wendy in September 1991. His friendly and compassionate caring helped us tremendously in the dark days following the biggest tragedy in our lives. This gave us strength to survive the following months and years. We knew that Wendy would want us to be happy in our home as we were for all of her 20 years and still our same home after 62 years. An example of Ian's strength was when he read my eulogy - which I had intended to read at the service - but was told that I would not have the control needed to read of her short life and that he would be honoured to read it for me.

As the early years passed - and through our help from Cruse Bereavement - with the approval of the Minister Ian Petrie and leadership of Helen Holden, assisted by Dr. Jacqui Wood, Sharon Miller, Organist David Smith, Ron Chimiak, David Pirie, and myself, with Faye arranging an appropriate vase of flowers, we formed a Bereavement Group to give some comfort for anyone who had lost a loved one. The main purpose was to have an annual evening service in the Church when we would put together a service of remembrance with appropriate hymns, short talks, music and song from David to suit the theme of the service. PowerPoint pictures from Ron to accompany the music, and a poem written and read by David Pirie added greatly to the service.

These annual services were well-attended and at the "cuppa" afterwords we had very positive comments. After a number of years we reluctantly decided to title our final service "The Circle Of Life" as we felt at that time attitudes were changing around us and we had difficulty assembling all the participants who had been so supportive over all the years.

Faye and I attended the Service of Thanksgiving on Friday 22nd May in the Broughty Ferry Parish Church where Ian's Family were present and the service conducted by Rev Caroline Taylor. A fine farewell to a real friend who gave his time and comfort in our darkest hour.

Treasurers Update

Christian Aid Week

Many thanks to everyone who donated so generously during Christian Aid Week. The Soup Lunch raised £237, and a total of £396.30 was contributed through the donation envelopes, totalling £633.30. Gift Aid declarations covering £340 worth of donations were also submitted, allowing Christian Aid to reclaim a further £85. The total contribution from Kingsgait Kirk therefore amounted to £718.30. All monies have been forwarded to Christian Aid, who have thanked us for our support.

Thanks must go to the Kidz Club leaders for the soup and the Tea and Coffee ladies for the sweet treats which, as well as raising money, gave members an opportunity to share food and fellowship.

Annual Accounts

At its meeting on 3rd June, the Kirk Session approved the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025. These have now been submitted to the Presbytery of Perth for attestation (certification) and to the Church of Scotland Stewardship and Finance Department. Many thanks to the members of the Finance Team for their support in this process and to all who contributed the Annual Report.

Copies of the signed accounts are available to any member of the congregation – please contact the Treasurer for an electronic version or pick up a 'hard copy' from the table at the back of the Glasite Hall after morning services.

Morag Stalker—Treasurer

Guild News



The new session will begin on Tuesday 15th September at 2pm. Ann Black has been working hard contacting potential speakers and entertainers. Hopefully, we will have an interesting programme with something to suit everyone.

Before the opening day, several members will travel to Perth on 12th September for the Annual National Gathering.

Sheila Valentine

Flower Donor and Committee Information

	<u>Flower Donor</u>	<u>Flower Committee</u>
<i>July 2026</i>		
<i>5th</i>	Mrs. D. Grant Mr. J. Spain	Mrs. A. Galligan
<i>12th</i>	Mrs. A. Dewar	Mrs. A. Sanderson
<i>19th</i>	Mrs. S. Baird Mrs. P. Wood	Miss. M. Graham
<i>26th</i>	Mrs. J. Smith Mrs. A. Black	Mrs. M. McKenzie
<i>August 2026</i>		
<i>2nd</i>	Mr. R. Taylor Mrs. M. McKenzie	Mrs. A. Galligan
<i>9th</i>	Mrs. F. Scott Mrs. R. Irons	Mrs. A. Sanderson
<i>16th</i>	Mrs. F. Scott Mrs. P. Chimiak	Miss. M. Graham
<i>23rd</i>	Mrs. S. Robertson	Mrs. M. McKenzie
<i>30th</i>	Mrs. M. Baxter	Mrs. A. Galligan
<i>September 2026</i>		
<i>6th</i>	Mrs. S. Valentine	Mrs. A. Sanderson
<i>13th</i>	Mrs. R. Wilkie Mrs. R. Irons	Miss. M. Graham
<i>20th</i>	Mrs. M. Mudie Miss. M. Graham	Mrs. M. McKenzie
<i>27th</i>	Mrs. M. McKenzie	Mrs. A. Galligan

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Audrey Mackenzie as our Christian Aid Co-ordinator for Kingsgait Kirk.

We look forward to supporting Audrey and wish her every blessing in her new role.

A Prayer for Christian Aid Week

We are united by hope...

In a world of drought, may seeds of hope be drenched by waters of justice.

In a world of inequality, may our hunger for justice bring an end to the scandal of poverty.

In a world of danger, where peace is in pieces, may justice hold hands with love and create an unbreakable bond.

We are united by hope and we hold each other in this prayer.

Useful Contacts

Christian Aid Co-Ordinator

Audrey Mackenzie

Flower Committee

Avril Sanderson

Muriel McKenzie

Girls' Group

Jacqui Cox

Guild President

Sheila Valentine

Kingsgait Kirk Charity Knitters

Stella Xenophontos-Hellen

Prayer Team

Jenni Leigh

Transform 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 concerns or if you know of anyone at home or in the hospital who would like a visit, please contact our minister

Rev Anita Kerr

Email: anita.kerr@churchofscotland.org.uk

Tel: 01382 456659

Or

Church Office

Kingsgait Kirk

2 King Street, Dundee, DD1 2JB

Tel: 01382 224860

Email: kingsgaitkirk@outlook.com



Kingsgait Kirk, Dundee

Visit our new website—Launched November 2025

<http://www.kingsgaitkirk.org.uk>

