

THE NEW WELLWYNDER

NOVEMBER 2022

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From the Manse

Dear Friends

People often ask of a minister how he or she manages to deal with the more difficult areas of the job, the more difficult services where grief is raw. Although I count it a privilege to be involved in the lives of people at all sorts of times in their lives, there are moments when it is difficult to try and keep things together – I am human after all! In such circumstances it can be music, be it a piece played by David or a Hymn or Song sang by the congregation. Music and heartfelt singing seem to really heighten the emotions bringing a lump to the throat and making the hairs on the back of your neck stand on end.

At this time of year when we approach Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day there is no doubt that hearing both the Last Post and Reveille heightens emotions and brings a particular poignancy to any Act of Remembrance within a service or at a War Memorial. I find that especially the case at the Menin Gate when I've had the privilege of being part of the Last Post Ceremony. I still can remember vividly how I felt when I not only heard the sound of the bugles playing the Last Post and Reveille but also the sound of the pipes playing Highland Cathedral and Amazing Grace as Laments during the wreath laying.

What made it more poignant for us that night was that the Piper was one Jimmy Mitchell, a pupil of Airdrie Academy. I had asked if he could take part and the MC readily agreed. What an experience it was. It certainly moved everyone that night but particularly all of us from Airdrie Academy because we were so proud of his contribution which was not an easy one to make. And just as the personal connection with Jimmy that night made it all the more special, making personal connections with the war dead in Flanders is what makes Remembrance all that more poignant, special if you like, for the young folk of the Academy who go and pay tribute year in, year out.

It is easy to focus just on the numbers, trying to get our head round the volume of casualties and deaths, the magnitude of the devastation of war, particularly the First World War which is on our minds in this year of commemoration of its outbreak. But seeing the headstones with countless names, many with no names, seeing the same names as our own, seeing young men the same age as our young people brings it home that it was ordinary people who bore the brunt as ordinary people continue to bear the brunt of conflict. For some of the young men in particular they realise that, if they had been born at a different time, it could have been them which really takes them by surprise.

Forthcoming Services

Sunday Morning Services at 11am

13th November Morning Worship
Remembrance Sunday 10.45am
'Don't panic....'

20th November Morning Worship
'You are light for the world'

27th November Morning Worship
First Sunday in Advent
'Named and Promised'

4th December Morning Worship
Second Sunday in Advent
'Named and Protected'

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Tea and coffee will be served in the Church Hall after morning worship.

Wednesday Services at 12 noon Delve in at 12

Our midweek service on a Wednesday at 12 noon will continue during the autumn months.

The service is followed by tea and coffee.

Elevenes

This is a new venture that has been set up by the Discipleship Group on Wednesday mornings at 11.00am in the Session Room. There is an open invitation to encourage folk to explore and chat about discipleship in a relaxed atmosphere with tea/coffee. It is then hoped that anyone attending may then wish to join with other members at Delve in at 12. All welcome.

Ordination Service

The ordination of Mr Eckhardt Bosch will take place in New Wellwynd Parish Church on Thursday, 24th November at 7.00pm with refreshments in the hall afterwards. All are welcome to attend.

When the Last Post on Remembrance Sunday calls us to fall silent we will remember the outbreak of war, the call to arms and to battle. We will remember the numbers which are hard to even start to take in. Let us also remember the people who we have never met but have made the ultimate sacrifice who now pass the baton onto us.

When Reveille breaks the silence what will our response be? I hope and trust that in our own personal ways we might seek peace in our lives, in our relationships, in our community and beyond that the peace of God which is beyond our understanding will reign in our lives and in the life of the world.

Your friend and minister

Robbie



Scottish Poppy Appeal

The Scottish Poppy Appeal is Scotland's largest fundraising campaign and takes place annually in the lead up to Remembrance Sunday in November. Money raised during the Scottish Poppy Appeal is used to provide vital life-changing support to the Armed Forces community in Scotland. Your donations help provide vital support for service families, veterans and those currently serving. If you can please donate generously. Thank you for your support.

Richard's Story

Richard joined the Army at 17, initially based in Germany with exercises taking him across Europe and further afield in Canada. In 2003, he was deployed to Iraq. During his six-month tour, he witnessed some very distressing events and did his best to carry on as normal. After leaving Iraq, he began to experience disturbed sleep and nightmares. Soon after, he was medically discharged with depression and anxiety, and he was left feeling completely lost.

"I wasn't registered with a GP so I didn't know how to get medical support. I moved back with my mum and I didn't know anything about housing or support. I had jobs here and there but nothing regular."

With little support, or information on where to get it, Richard began drinking. His situation remained unchanged until 2010 when his then girlfriend became pregnant. Richard knew he needed to get help so he could be a good father to his child. Family members suggested a therapist who had worked with veterans in the past and soon Richard was put in touch with organisations specifically designed to help the Armed Forces community, we were among them.

Richard initially had a temporary role, working for us as a driver for the annual Scottish Poppy Appeal. This led to an offer of a permanent job as a driver for Lady Haig's Poppy Factory, where Scotland's poppies and wreaths are made. He views this as the period when things began to come together for him and feels he has gained a lot from working at Poppyscotland.

Welcome Teams

Sunday, 6th November

Team Leader: David Gillespie
Christine Cassells, Christine Gibb,
Anne Grainge, Jim Neilson,
Jim Nimmo, David Paterson.

Sunday, 13th November

Team Leader: Bobby Forrest
Fraser Gillespie, Mairi Mitchell,
Jim Thomson, William Watson.

Sunday, 20th November

Team Leader: Maggie Weir
Wilma Davidson, Anne Learmonth,
Lesley Aitken, Irene Bremner,
Carol Hamilton, Liz Riddell.

Sunday, 27th November

Team Leader: Moira Gartshore
Matt Fleming, Margaret Jarvie,
Jean Kinniburgh, George Randall,
Ronnie Wright, Elaine McGuire.

Sunday, 4th December

Team Leader: David Watt
Linda Francis, Margaret Jack,
Allister Jack, Alison Sefton,
David Walker, Andrew Paul.

Funerals

31st October Anna Callander.

Thank you

Isabell Gibson and family would like to thank Robbie and Eckhardt for their love and support during Alan's prolonged illness and Robbie for an uplifting tribute and service in June. Thanks also to our church family for the many cards, phone calls and flowers received. A very difficult time made bearable by knowledge of loving, prayerful support.

Isobel Irvine would like to say thanks to all her friends in the church for the lovely cards, good wishes and encouragement received following her recent accident. Also to the congregation for the beautiful flowers. Now back home and improving every day.

George Thomson would like to thank the congregation of New Wellwynd Church for the beautiful flowers received at Harvest.

"I feel I have more confidence now. I find it easier to talk to people whereas in the past I would have kept my feelings bottled up. At one point I thought it was going to be impossible to build trust and relationships with people but the staff and volunteers I met were very welcoming."

While working at the Poppy Factory, Richard gained his forklift licence and through our Employment Services, we arranged for him to undertake employee training for his Category C HGV Licence, which would qualify him to drive the large vehicles commonly known as LGVs. Richard successfully used these new qualifications to find a new job closer to home with excellent long-term prospects. We were delighted to help him to move forward.

Prayer of Remembrance

O God of truth and justice, we hold before you all those men and women who have died in active service.

As we honour their courage and cherish their memory may we put our faith in your future?

For you are the source of life and hope, now and forever.

Amen

Church Flowers

The new flower calendar for 2023 will be in the church on Sunday, 4th December. If you would like to choose a date to give flowers next year, please put your name there. We do appreciate being able to send flowers to those who are unwell, bereaved or celebrating a special event. Those who get the flowers are happy to be remembered and are always grateful to receive them. Please put your donation (Approx. £25) in an envelope marked 'Flower Fund' and hand it to either of the Flower Conveners or put it in the offering plate when you come to church. If you are not attending church 'in person' and would like to contribute, please contact one of the flower conveners who will be able to help you. Even if your name is not on the flower calendar, you can still donate to the Flower Fund. Thank you for helping to continue this worthwhile service.

Flower Conveners: Avril (769134) Margaret (767898)

Oberammergau Diaries!

This is a story of tales and adventure from the mountains of Austria and Germany as a group of pilgrims seek answers to the greatest story ever told! This is their story!

Wednesday, 20th July 2022.....

After a four year wait, including a two year delay because of Covid, we were off! Yes, we were leaving at last to embark on a pilgrimage to Imst in Austria and Oberammergau in Germany, to witness 'The Passion Play!' Picture the scene, its 8.30am on a nice sunny July morning on Airdrie's Wellwynd. Twenty five excited pilgrims getting ready to board a bus to Edinburgh airport. Everyone, double checking they had enough sooky sweeties to last the journey all the way to Austria. Imperial mints – tick! Werther's originals – tick! Jelly babies – tick! Big bag of Aldi chews – tick! Whatever happened to Spangles (Old English flavoured!) and Oddfellows? Talking of which, the yellow clove flavoured ones were my favourite! Anyway, with all sweetie supplies in order and suitcases loaded it was ding-ding! Time to go.

Anne Learmonth would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers received and Alison Sefton for delivering them.

Sincere thanks from **Jim and Lynn Dobbie** for the lovely flowers. This was very kind and was a complete surprise.

From the Shotts Manse

Thank you for all the love and support. Rozelle, Lorelei and I are very grateful and happy to have received so many gifts and cards. It is also now official that pink is the main colour at our home. Thanks once again.

Eckhardt, Rozelle and Lorelei

Prayer Points

- Pray for all those struggling at this time with heavy burdens.
- Pray for all those suffering from poor health and illness.
- Pray for all those supporting and caring for others.
- Pray for all leaders striving to achieve stability and peace throughout our world.
- Pray for the ongoing work of the Kirk both at home and abroad.



Women's Aid

The local WOMEN'S AID Charity has been in touch with CAMEO seeking the Congregations help over the next few weeks. They are currently short of the following toiletries: **Toothbrushes – Toothpaste – Roll on Deodorant and Sponges.** Any of these toiletries will be gratefully received. From the 13th to 27th November items being collected include: **Baby Wipes – Shower Gel – Hair brushes - 2 in 1 Shampoo and Conditioner.** There will be a donations box available at the Church Door for any of the above. Please be assured your help and support make a real difference in our town and nearby.

After a nice leisurely drive along the old A89 to avoid road works and congestion we arrived at the airport to be joined by five others. Our group was now complete, a party of thirty souls from aw' airts an pairts including Airdrie, Coatbridge, Glasgow, Wishaw, Motherwell, Galashiels, Elgin and Inverness.

Check-in at the airport was fairly straight forward and stress free! Then it was up the stairs to security! Despite reports of horrendous queues at other airports we flew through (pardon the pun). Everyone safely gathered 'on the other side' we had a bit of time to partake of some teas and coffees, a little refreshment and some duty free shopping. The clink of bottles seemed to haunt me for the rest of the day!

Unfortunately, we did not have a direct flight to Munich and had to pass through Frankfurt airport with a very quick turnaround! On our approach to Frankfurt, some wee alarm bells started to ring in my head when the pilot announced we were having to circle the airport because of an 'incident' on the ground! My immediate thought was not to admire the view of Frankfurt from above but had flashing images of Bruce Willis in one of the Die Hard movies! I said to myself, "Naw! It cannae be that! Can it?" After completing the second circuit we were cleared to land and all was well!

Nearly.....! You see, the issue now was we had to get from our arrival gate to the departure gate for our connecting flight. Were they near each other – NO! Was it a dash – YES! Did everybody stay together – NO! Why? Some people had stronger bladders than others and others had no sense of direction! Even with a good sense of direction the signage was rather confusing! Glad to report all were eventually safely gathered in! Because of the 'incident' all flights were now delayed which was just as well as the last of our group arrived at the departure gate a good 20 minutes after the scheduled take-off time! After a short flight and a wee bar of chocolate courtesy of Lufthansa we arrived in Munich.

After collecting bags and suitcases, we were met by our Tour Guide, Denise, who directed us to our coach for the three hour journey to Imst. After clearing the traffic around Munich we had a pleasant drive through southern Bavaria, serenaded by a choir of haunting snoring tones from certain quarters! As darkness descended, the mountains provided a ghostly backdrop in the fading light. Warmly welcomed by hotel staff at the Zum Hirschen we had a nice supper before retiring for the evening. In the still of the night, sitting having a night cap with two fellow pilgrims we heard a knocking sound. "Is that someone chapping a window? Sounds more like someone at a door! Listen, there it is again! Could this place be haunted? Is someone or something trying to contact us?" Mystery solved, someone, who shall remain nameless to protect the innocent had taking a wrong turn in the corridor went through a door and locked themselves in a cupboard! Time for bed – night night!

To be continued.....

George Randall

Traidcraft

We now have a small stock of tea, coffee, biscuits and chocolate. Please feel free to come and browse after Sunday morning services.

David Walker

Maggie's Cancer Care

Christmas Cards for the local branch of this charity are available after service in the hall for the next few Sundays. Just place your order on the sheet provided – payment is due when the cards are delivered the following week! Also on sale at Friday's Snack Bar.



A Movie! A Pie! And A Light Refreshment!

The Church Men Movie Night in the Blue Room here at the Church will be held on Friday, 11th November with curtain up at 7.00pm. The main feature will be an old classic! The cost of the evening is £3 and includes a half-time pie! Refreshments will also be served but feel free to BYOB. All will be made welcome – not just gentlemen of a certain vintage! Further information available from George Randall Tel: 01236763102 or 07738089762. Remember – popcorn is optional!

Remembrance

The tide recedes but leaves behind bright seashells on the sand.
The sun goes down, but gentle warmth still lingers on the land.
The music stops, and yet it echoes on in sweet refrains.....
For every joy that passes something beautiful remains.

Useful Contacts

Probationer Minister: Eckhardt Bosch 07871959996

Treasurer: David Watt 01698 853921

Organist: David Stewart 07774674345

Roll Keeper: Allister Jack 01236 767898

Hall Convener: Robert Forrest 01236 767210

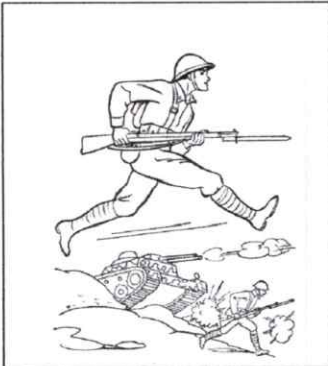
Magazine Editor: George Randall 01236 763102

Session Clerk: Fraser Gillespie 01236 604860

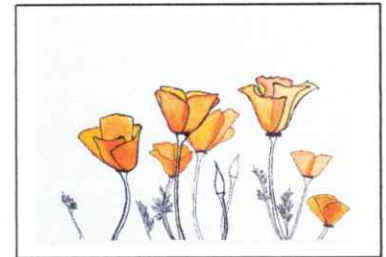


Kids' Corner

The Poppy Story!



The First World War or 'The Great War' started in 1914. Over 9 million people from all over the world joined the British Armed Forces and went to fight against Germany and the Ottoman Empire. The conditions were terrible and millions were killed or injured. In Scotland everyone knew someone who had died. Those that did return home would never be the same again.



One of the largest battles of the War took place around the town of Ypres, in the Flanders region of Belgium. Despite the war torn landscape wild bright red poppies grew all around. The poppy became the symbol to remember all those who had fought in the war.

**We wear
a poppy
to remember...**



When the war ended people started making paper poppies to sell. Poppies raised money to help the millions of sailors, soldiers and airmen who were coming home from the war. These people are called ex-servicemen and women or veterans. On Remembrance Day every year people wear a poppy to remember all the veterans who have served their country in any war or conflict.

All the poppies sold in Scotland are made in Lady Haig's Poppy factory in Edinburgh. When the factory first opened all the poppies were handmade by just two ex-servicemen with some red paper and a pair of scissors. Today, there are over 40 ex-servicemen and women with disabilities who work in the factory. They make five million poppies every year for the Scottish Poppy Appeal. All the poppies are still made by hand, although a machine now cuts out the poppy shape. When all the poppies have been made they are packaged up with collecting tins for the money and then sent to volunteers in villages, town and cities all over Scotland.

All the money raised from the Scottish Poppy Appeal is used by Poppyscotland to help ex-servicemen and women in need after serving in the Army, Navy or Air Force. Poppyscotland also helps veteran's families. Veterans can also receive help with training so they can find a new job after they leave the military. They can also get advice, information and support to deal with any other problems they might have, helping them to rebuild their lives.

..... **All this from a tiny poppy!**

