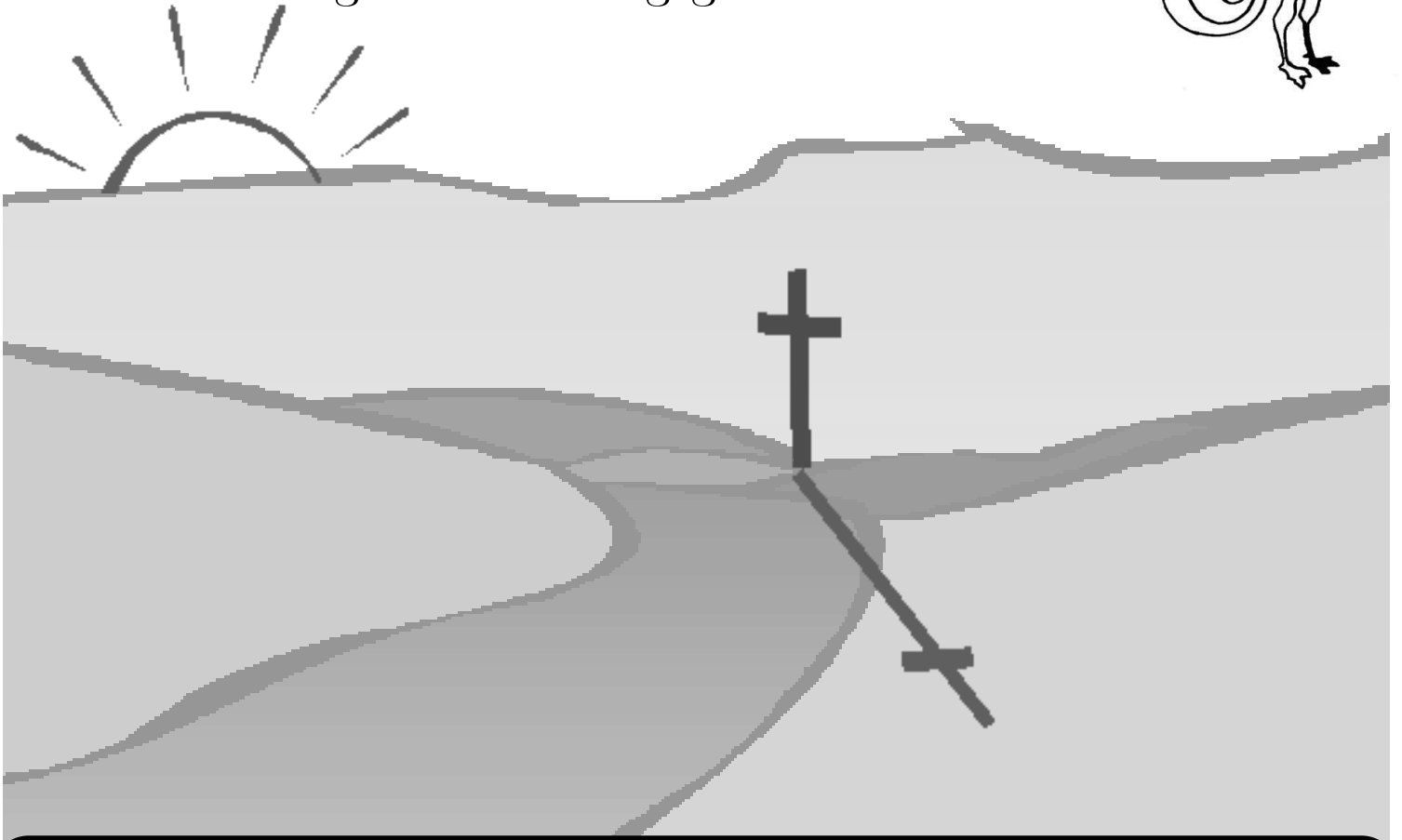


# The Wyvern

The Magazine of Kingsgait Kirk Dundee



## November 2023 Issue 705



### Worship Dates

#### **November**

Sunday 26th November - Kirkin' o' the Trades

#### **Advent and Christmas**

Advent Sunday 3rd December—11.00

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December—11.00

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December—11.00

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 11.00 and Carol Service at 7pm

Christmas Day Service in the Steeple Church—10.30 am

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December Sacrament of Holy Communion—11.00

# Who's Who

## Minister

Rev Anita D C Kerr—01382 456659

## Session Clerk

Margaret Adamson

## Treasurer

Morag Stalker

## Fabric Co-ordinator & Rollkeeper

Mr Ron Chimiak

## Church Officers

Mr Ron Chimiak

Mr Garry Collins

## Presbytery Elder

Tim Xenophontos-Hellen

## Organist

Ruth Irons

## Hall Letting Convenor

Garry Collins

[halls.kingsgaitkirk@outlook.com](mailto:halls.kingsgaitkirk@outlook.com)

## Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Pam Chimiak

## Reader Co-Ordinator

Merelyn Baxter

## Mission Partner

JustBee Productions

[www.justbeeproductions.co.uk](http://www.justbeeproductions.co.uk)



## Session Meeting 22nd November

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—19:45

Scouts - Thursday Evenings  
18:30—19:30 at Meadowside St Pauls

## Something else happening?

If you have anything you'd like intimated  
in the pre-service slides, please email  
Garry Collins by a Friday at the latest:

[alisongarry1@btinternet.com](mailto:alisongarry1@btinternet.com)

## The Wyvern Next Edition December 2023

Contributions for the next edition are welcome  
*anytime during the coming weeks,*  
but at the very latest by:  
**Friday 1st December**

email to

[thechurchmagazine@outlook.com](mailto:thechurchmagazine@outlook.com)

The November edition of the *Wyvern* will be  
available for collection by distributors  
on Sunday 10th December

# Greetings from Anita



*Prisoners Week - 19-25 November 2023*

*" Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Matt 25:36*

Last week I attended a meeting for all involved with ministry in St Matthew's in Perth.

I found myself seated beside a prison chaplain and during the morning I learned a lot about the challenges and blessings of prison chaplaincy. One of the biggest challenges is the lack of support for prisoners after their release, another is the lack of bereavement support in prisons. I explained that through JustBee in MSP our church provides somewhere to go, someone to talk to as well as practical support with food, access to social services and have recently started a 'Life after Loss' group.

A few days later I learned Claire, JustBee, has been invited to the launch service for Prisoners Week Scotland, 19<sup>th</sup> -25th November in Letham St Marks Church in Perth.

That evening I received an email from the prison chaplain asking if he could come and visit us in Dundee! He is coming next week when we have the Life after Loss Group and I have been invited to the launch service for Prisoners Week, in Letham St Marks Church in Perth.

I believe the Holy Spirit is leading us to pray and provide practical support, through our mission partners JustBee for our brothers and sisters after their release from prison.

*Continued...*

## ADVENT TREE CHRISTMAS GIVING 2023

This year our Advent Tree Christmas Giving will go towards providing practical support for men and women after their release from prison. In JustBee/MSP we provide, food, advice, a shower, and laundry facilities. The Laundry Project, which was launched in September, has highlighted another area of need. Often after their release from prison, people only have the clothes they are wearing. This year we hope to provide a 'change of clothes' for after release from prison. We are asking for donations to allow us to meet this need. A donation box will be available in the church from Advent Sunday until Christmas Eve. With each £10 raised we will place a card in one of the little Advent Stockings. It is our hope that by Christmas Eve we will have filled each stocking to allow us to provide clothes to meet this need.

We will also be buying selection boxes for our children and in JustBee for the Carol Service on Christmas Eve!

*Blessings, Anita*



**Christmas Concert**

**SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023 2-4pm**

A Fun Afternoon for Friends and Family with  
The Total Recall Memories Choir  
Festive Poetry, Stories & Quiz  
Refreshments.  
Donations welcome 🧑🏻🎅



**Soup and Pudding**

An event to raise funds for Just Bee Productions

**Raffle** **Craft stalls**



**£5 a ticket**

**Saturday 25th November**  
**11:30am - 1:30pm**

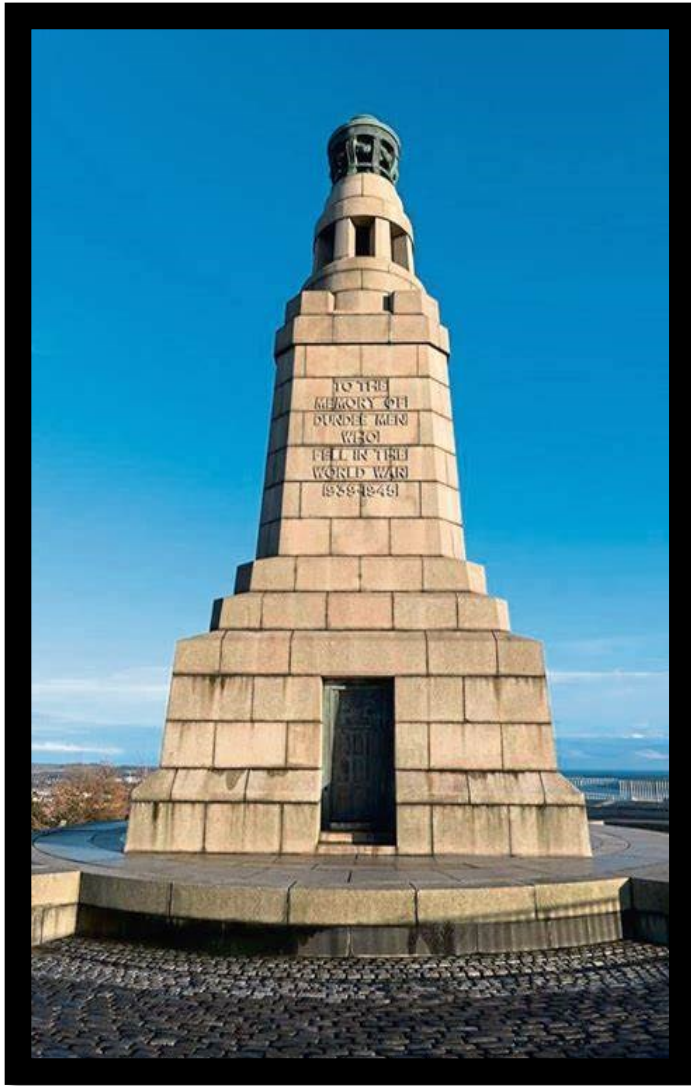
Meadowside St Paul's  
(side entrance)  
118 Nethergate  
DD1 4EH



**Autumn Garden Tidy**  
**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November**  
**10 -12noon**  
**Weather permitting!**

# War Memorial on Dundee Law

*A Poem written by James Adams*



Standing sentinel on the brow  
of the spinning top hill  
stone upon reverent stone,  
whose brooding gaze descends  
upon the grey-eyed town,  
ripples the pristine Tay  
before scanning shadowlands  
of ascending green

Blow silent bugle blow,  
for those from these fair parts  
who fought and died for freedom's gain  
and lie beneath a sunlit vale  
or the poppied fields of France

Blow silent bugle blow,  
for them who gave their lives  
over Europe's scarlet skies or  
sleep below a distant shining sea

Remember Passchendaele, Arras, Loos,  
Dunkirk, Tobruk and Mandalay,  
other battles lost and won,  
whose victims never saw  
the dawn of peace,  
or heard the breaking of the day

Blow silent bugle blow,  
for those generations new  
who never walked that bridge of fire  
nor stood in no man's land,  
that they be spared  
a future holocaust of hell

Blow silent bugle blow,  
last post the evening star,  
call back those brave  
and kindred spirits to this  
stone clad hill where  
summer's yellow gorse  
blooms gold, and bluebells  
dance in vales of ferns

Blow silent bugle blow.



# Girls' Brigade News



A Hallowe'en Fun Night, when a wide variety of costumes were worn by the girls and leaders, rounded off our October meetings. Ducking for apples, doughnuts dangling on string, pass the pumpkin and Hallowe'en Corners were some of the activities enjoyed. Thanks to the generosity of one of our mums, there was an abundance of food and well-filled goodie bags were taken home.

Due to school holidays, on our other meeting nights in October, we did not cover very much of our Heroes topic. Instead, the girls who were not away enjoyed a variety of games, planted their 'butterfly and bee' seeds and personalised their goodie bags ready for Hallowe'en.

We now look forward to starting work on our topic again and some of the girls are hoping to participate in a Netball Boot Camp organised by the Division.

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## Church Taxi's

The church holds an account with Teletaxis to provide taxis for any member who has difficulty in getting to services or other church activities (Guild, session meetings, etc.) by car or public transport. If you wish to make use of this facility, please contact Marion Mudie (01382 508047), who will make the booking. Do let Marion know at least the day before you require the taxi. The costs of this service are met by the James Arthur Fund, so you should not be charged by the driver - simply say that the fare should go on the Kingsgait Kirk account.

*Morag Stalker*

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## Kingsgait Kirk Charity Knitters

The Kingsgait Kirk Charity Knitters had 26 lap blankets presented for dedication during a church service on 5th November. The congregation enjoyed the opportunity to inspect the blankets, which are soon to be delivered to the Age UK centre in Dundee. Many thanks to everyone who was involved, in any way.



# Guild News



Our first speaker in October was Rosie Messeder from Signpost International which works out of the Roundhouse in Whitfield.

Signpost International recognises that poverty is a global phenomenon but also exists right here in Dundee. The Roundhouse is a place where the community can come together, learn more of the world they live in, eat good food, and support each other on the journey through life. Those attending learn how to be better stewards of what resources they have and are encouraged to chat and talk over any worries they might have.

The Kitchen and Café at the Roundhouse receives the surplus harvest produced by local farms, supermarkets and the produce from their own community garden. They then transform the surplus food destined for waste into freshly prepared, nutritious meals for distribution by foodbanks and larders across the city.

Signpost International is also currently working in Uganda and Kenya. In Uganda they train farmers in improved, sustainable farming methods and management of their natural resources. They have established school "gardens" for food production to provide pupils with lunch meals and improved farmers' access to key agricultural inputs such as drought-resistant seeds.

In Tunoyo, Kenya, they are working with a women-led community-based organisation on a pilot project with three income-generating enterprise groups for a total of 32 women. The women have been successful in producing vegetables in their community gardens, rearing improved chickens, and producing honey. These 32 women will then spread their knowledge to others in the community.

Unfortunately, our second speaker from the Deaf Hub had a puncture in Arbroath and was unable to get to our meeting. To fill the gap, we had a mini-beetle drive which appeared to be greatly enjoyed judging by the laughter and chat throughout the afternoon.

Our next speaker is Dr Erin Farley whose topic is The Wellgate Project and on 21<sup>st</sup> November we welcome back Marjorie Gillan and her Armchair Aerobics.

# March of Time



*This November issue of the Wyvern magazine will see the last contribution entitled 'March of Time'. It has been a feature for many years recounting the memories of life in the old St Andrews Kirk. It is now time to look forward in our new congregation of Kingsgait Kirk and create new stories.*

*Roddy Taylor*

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2013 – The minister's letter mentioned this year was the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle of Flodden where Scotland lost its King and so many of her government, bishops and men. She continued "Make November your Peace-building month. Build peace in your friendships, in your family, at church and at work and play.

2003 – In the course of conversation one Sunday one little girl was quite matter of fact about church attendance. She said: "I like going to church, Grandad, because when we come back to your house, we get a fried egg!"

1993 – Ailsa and Robin Hill wrote "In an average grocery basket you will find goods from all over the world". They continued by describing a sad story of exploitation of workers living in poverty by employers in developing lands. Low wages and poor condition in third world countries also help to keep our food prices low, but at what cost? They hoped that a small Traidcraft stall could be available on Sundays throughout November at the Church and if successful make it a regular feature.

1983 – Boys Brigade Officers, both past and present, attended the last service of Rev Routledge Bell in Caputh Church, Perthshire in recognition of his long association with the St Andrew's Company. Many BB laddie will remember the long march from summer camp to the Sunday morning service at the old Murthly Church.

1973 – The Girls' Brigade held a disco on 16<sup>th</sup> November with music provided by RocFloe disco band, tickets 25p. They went on to hold a Beetle-drive/Hostess Tea and sell Christmas cards for GB funds.

1963 – The Craftsman's Prayer was included ahead of Kirkin' o' the Trades Sunday. "O Christ, the Master Carpenter, Who, at the last, Through wood and nails, Purchased man's whole salvation, Wield well Thy tools in this Thy workshop That we who come rough-hewn May be fashioned To a truer beauty By the Hand. Amen

1953 – 72 year old Mr James Manson worked for Watson and Philip, food producers. He was married in our kirk by Harcourt Davidson and knew Preston Watson, the boss's son. Preston Watson was one of the early pioneers of flight and some argued he flew before the Wright Brothers at Kittywake, USA in December 1903. Mr Manson helped Preston Watson repair his first aeroplanes and in 1913 James built the third 'plane in the boiler shop of old Gourlay's foundry in Dock Street. As James was the lighter man, he often flew the experimental models at Errol.

*Continued....*



1943 – The last Sunday of October saw the ‘Kirkin’ o’ the Trades’. Rev T J Bunting welcomed office bearers and members of the Nine Incorporated Trades and Three United Trades.

1933 – The Woman’s Guild winter session started on 3<sup>rd</sup> October with talks on ‘How Scotland got the Bible’ ‘The Deaconess Hospital and ‘The Church on Rural Scotland’.

1923 – Communion was taken by 1206 on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October and 43 new members were admitted the preceding Sunday.

# Christian Aid News

I want to share a thank you letter that I recently received from Lauren at Christian Aid. We were lucky enough to have Lauren come and visit us at one of our services last October.



The Reverend C Taylor  
Kingsgait Church

1 Kingsgait  
Edinburgh  
EH1 1JL  
0131 225 3888

06 October 2023



Esther Saizi, 54,  
Malawi

Dear Caroline,

Thank you for your incredible support, prayers and generosity this Christian Aid Week. Together, Kingsgait Church has raised £1,001.18 to help families around the world transform their own lives. Please accept our apologies for the delay in this ‘thank you’ letter. We appreciate your patience and hope you are able to pass on our appreciation for all the effort and donations that contributed to another great Christian Aid Week.

Your generous gift will help women like Jen Bishop in Malawi plant better seeds and secure fair prices for her crops, away from the hands of dishonest middlemen.

You only need to look to Esther Saizi, another farmer in Malawi, to see the lasting impact gifts like yours can have. Like Jen, Esther struggled to obtain fair prices and couldn’t store her crops safely from storms and floods. But when Esther joined a pigeon pea programme run by a Christian Aid partner and started to sell as part of a cooperative, she was able to earn much more.

**‘I was able to sell the pigeon peas at a better price with a better market,’ she explains. ‘It provided financial stability.’**

Esther is doing amazing things for her family with her pigeon peas. She bought tools for her daughter Ziwone to use in her carpentry business and pays for her daughter Rashida’s school costs. She is able to keep her pigeon peas in a warehouse, safe from floods and storms.

It’s thanks to people like you that this transformation has been possible for Esther and her family. Thank you, Kingsgait Church for your life changing gift. It gives us hope that, together, we can help more families build brighter futures.

With heartfelt thanks,

Lauren Petherbridge  
Church Engagement and Fundraising Officer, Scotland

PS Thank you for letting us know how much money you raised by sending your Form A. We’ll be in touch to thank you for any further funds you raise online, for example through JustGiving.

PO Box 100, London SE1 7RT • Telephone: 020 7620 4444  
Email: [info@christian-aid.org](mailto:info@christian-aid.org) • [caid.org.uk](http://caid.org.uk)

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Photo: Christian Aid / Adam Haggerty

Rev Caroline Taylor  
Christian-aid Co-ordinator

# 'Our Son' - A Poem for Rememberence

*J.D. Pirie*

He was our son, our only son  
With his happy smile and his curly hair,  
Standing tall and smart in his uniform  
Something he said, he was proud to wear.

He had seen the poster on a down town wall  
The finger pointing, 'The army needs you,'  
He signed on the line but I wondered deep down  
Had he really, thought it all through.

When he marched away I felt a cold chill,  
But I hid the tears he wouldn't see me cry,  
And I prayed for him in that foreign land  
That hurt and pain would pass him by.

He was our son, our only son,  
But he never came home for a warm  
embrace,  
Lost deep in the mud of that far off land  
No more would we see his happy face.

So I cried my tears as mothers do  
Each tear containing a mother's love,  
Day after day and night after night  
And I wondered, was he watching from above.

Now who can explain the reason of war  
With all the young men that went to die  
While the world still hears the sound of guns  
But there's never an answer to the question WHY!



# Flowers

	<u>Flower Donor</u>	<u>Flower Committee</u>
<i>November 2023</i>		
5th	Mrs. D. Grant	Mrs. M. McKenzie
12th	Mrs. M. Coupar	Mrs. A. Sanderson
19th	Mrs. R. Findlay	Miss. M. Graham
26th	The Guild	Mrs. M. McKenzie
<i>December 2023</i>		
3rd	Mrs. M. Pert Miss. M. Stalker	Mrs. A. Sanderson
10th	Mrs. A. Sanderson	Miss. M. Graham
17th	Flower Fund	Mrs. M. McKenzie
24th	Mrs. M. McKenzie Mr. J. Baxter	Mrs. A. Sanderson
31st	Mrs. I. Irvine	Miss. M. Graham

The Flower Committee would like to thank all those who helped with the deliveries of fruit and posies after the Harvest Thanksgiving Service. Your help is greatly appreciated, thank you.

## ADVENT TREE CHRISTMAS GIVING 2023

I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' - *Matthew 25: 36*

A donation box will be in the Church from Advent Sunday until Christmas Eve. The money will go towards buying clothes for men and women released from prison who have only the clothes they are wearing.

This will be administrated through JUSTBEE/MSP. For every £10 donated a marker will be placed in one of the little stockings on the Advent Tree. For more details see the letter on the letter on the front page of the Wyvern.

## Christmas Powerpoint Greetings

As we have done in previous years, Christmas Greetings will be displayed on the screens during December services.

This year there will be a £5 minimum donation and the money raised will go towards the Advent Tree Christmas Giving Collection.

To have your Christmas Greeting displayed on the screens, please find Garry or Alison Collins at church on a Sunday and give them your message along with your donation. Alternatively, you can email in your greeting to [alisongarry1@btinternet.com](mailto:alisongarry1@btinternet.com) and arrange to send your donation via bank transfer or cheque.

# 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

## Traidcraft

Sally Romilly

Margaret Chisholm

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:standrewsdundee@outlook.com)

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



[Kingsgait Kirk, Dundee](#)



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

[www.standrewsparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.standrewsparishchurch.co.uk)

