

Paisley Abbey



Abbey Herald

May 2024

As I write these words television and the press are abuzz with news that Humza Yousaf has resigned as First Minister of Scotland. Such is the furore caused, it is almost impossible not to comment. For the past year, political life at Holyrood – as at Westminster – has been under particular scrutiny and not always for the best of reasons. Police Scotland have been investigating SNP finances and, just a week or so ago, the former Chief Executive has been charged with alleged embezzlement.

Humza Yousaf has been First Minister for just over one year. Sadly for him, it has proved a time of particular difficulty both for his political party and for his government. All the more so due to his party's collaboration with the Scottish Greens. A number of 'Green' policies have proved difficult to implement and unpopular with the electorate. Such has been the discontent experienced across the country, it was the breaking of this cross-party pact which triggered motions of no confidence in the Scottish parliament and has led to the First Minister's resignation.

What happens now we shall just have to wait and see. With the SNP suffering from poor public services, a very costly ferry-building disaster and uncertainty where the police investigation will finally lead and the Conservative government unpopular at Westminster, Labour seems to be on the rise and is predicted to form the next Government in both the UK and Scotland. With a General Election due to be held later this year and Holyrood elections due in 2026, it is a fascinating, if very uncertain, time for all our politicians. Meantime, we can give thanks that we live in an established democracy. We take it for granted that political elections can be held which allows people to have their say; and in such a way that peace and order is maintained.

In the struggle for a more just and humane society there is absolutely no substitute for political activity. However, there are issues that go way beyond what politics can achieve: the hunger for love, the search for peace, the need for neighbourliness. No party manifesto can promise these things. Nor can they be delivered solely by the great machinery of State. Such is the wisdom of democracy when it recognises this.

STATED ANNUAL MEETING – SUNDAY 12 MAY

In our society today, everything is in danger of being politicised. What we forget, at our peril, are what Edmund Burke once called, *'the little platoons of society'*: the work of local, small-scale institutions, community groups, charities, voluntary organisations and, of course, churches that exist up and down the land in every single hamlet, village, town and city. These are the *'carriers of value'* from one generation to another; and they support and strengthen the fundamental ethos of our shared democratic society.

Politics is vitally important. But, by itself, politics is never enough. The moral and the spiritual health of our communities, institutions and of our society as a whole, depends on the creation of a particular kind of culture or ethos.

It is recorded that Jesus said he came, not to be served, but to serve. Maybe that is worth our second thought. For once all the turmoil in Holyrood and at Westminster is over and elections have been held, it will be up to you and me to make a difference to the society we live in.

Jim Gibson

Minister at the Abbey.

Extra Chaplain to His Majesty The King in Scotland.

MINUTES OF KIRK SESSION MEETINGS

Furthering our policy of transparency, Minutes of recent meetings of the Abbey Kirk Session are made available to the public as soon as possible after each meeting of the Kirk Session. They can be found attached to the noticeboard in the cloister outside the entrance to the St Mirin Chapel. We are grateful if they can be returned to the noticeboard after they have been read, so that they may be available to others who may wish to read them.

All members of the Abbey Congregation are invited to attend the Stated Annual Meeting for a presentation of the 2023 Annual Accounts which have been approved by the Kirk Session. The meeting will take place in the nave follow the morning Services.

ELDER DUTY TEAMS

May - Marjory Noble's Team

June - John Kitson's Team

July - Michael McGill's Team

PARISH REGISTER APRIL

New Member Charles Maclean

Funeral Sheila Fulton

PAISLEY ABBEY FLOWER GUILD

My thanks to the members of the Paisley Abbey Flower Guild for their wonderful arrangements for Easter.

I have heard that a couple of visitors from Florida were at our Easter service and were so delighted with the floral displays that they returned on the Tuesday to photograph all of them.
Well done Ladies !!

Margaret Neil
(Convener)

NEW ELDERS

On Sunday 21st April, five new elders were inducted by the Revd. Jim Gibson. All five have been members of the Abbey congregation for many years and look forward to serving in the Kirk Session in the ministry and mission of the Abbey.



Left - Right

*Kenneth Good, Dr David Davidson, Linda Stamp,
Marion Sommerville (Session Clerk), Sue Donn & Dr Iain Morton.*

'BACK TO CHURCH' SUNDAY 2024

So much has happened within the Abbey this past year you really ought to know about it. Much has been printed in the monthly 'Herald' magazines and online, also in the Kirk Session Minutes which are made available for public use. Every effort is made to communicate to the congregation all that is taking place yet, still, a few people complain they are not told!

'Back to Church' Sunday this year will be held on June 16th. It is the ideal time for you to discover how our five-year transition plans are progressing. After worship, members of the congregation will be invited to gather together within the Abbey to hear the good news we have to share and, importantly, to ask questions. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

If you haven't been to worship for some time, this is a great opportunity for you to do so. No need to be embarrassed. Just come along and join with others in discovering about the innovative plans and exciting news we have to share with you. Hopes and dreams are being turned into reality. Come and hear about it. No obligation is placed upon anyone. I guarantee you might just be surprised at our good news.



MEETING OF ABBEY VOLUNTEERS

Last December the large band of Abbey Volunteers met together to discuss the experiences, share their knowledge and hear about plans for the Abbey's future. Volunteers were not slow to voice opinions and many good ideas and hopes were suggested. Having been collated and studied, we would like to invite all our Volunteers to come together once more in order to hear suggestions of how we can best use many of these ideas to progress the wellbeing of the Abbey's heritage and better improve visitor facilities and experience.

A meeting of all Volunteers will be held on Monday, June 3rd from 2.00pm until 4.00pm within the Abbey. Refreshments will be served on arrival.



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2024



Christian Aid Week this year is 12th - 18th May

There will be a lunch for Christian Aid on **Sunday 19 May** in the Place of Paisley at 12.30 pm.

This marks the end of Christian Aid week, envelopes will be available for donations on Sunday 12th and 19th

Tickets for the lunch are £5 and will be on sale in the cloisters and the shop each Sunday.
Please come along.

GARDEN PARTY- CANCELLATION

Very sadly the Garden Party planned for mid-May has had to be cancelled meantime. We know that many members were looking forward to this event and we apologise to them for their disappointment.

Our apologies too if you are one the few who are still to be reimbursed for the tickets you bought for the Garden Party. Could you call in to the Abbey Shop (open every week day except Mondays from 10.30am until 3.30pm and on Sundays before and after the Morning Service) and a refund will be given to you,

Again our apologies – both for any inconvenience caused and for the disappointment created by the cancellation of the event It is hoped that arrangements can be made for it to be held on a future date.. ... Watch this space!

FLYING THE FLAG FOR PAISLEY ABBEY

Somebody said recently that they had arrived in Paisley but didn't know where to find the Abbey. Wow! Right at the centre of the town, opposite the town hall, and a short walk from the train station - we thought that wasn't possible.

Happily, most folk do find Paisley Abbey and love coming.

“We welcome visitors from far and near, many from overseas, especially North America and Europe,” says the Abbey's Minister, Jim Gibson. “They are amazed by the history, art, and architecture. Often its one of our great musical events that attracts them. Or the shop and café. And you know, we are a church! Many come to worship at one of our services, or simply drop in for a few quiet minutes, safe from the madness of the world outside.”

“It's astonishing how many times we hear people say that they've lived in Paisley all their lives, but this is the first time they've been in the Abbey. Almost all say they'll come back, and many do. They can't believe what they've been missing right here on their doorstep!”

This is another big year at the Abbey. Behind the scenes, staff and volunteers have been busy developing a range of new ideas, all to make a visit even more enjoyable. The Cloister Café is having an upgrade with the installation of a new coffee machine and some redecoration making it an even better place to drop in for refreshments.

The Abbey has always participated in local events. *Sma' Shot Day* and *Doors Open Day* have been welcome opportunities to open the ever-popular attraction of the tower. Though not for the faint-hearted, the reward for tackling the 197 steps of the spiral staircase is a magnificent view all around the town of Paisley and to the countryside beyond. In addition, plans are afoot to have the tower open more frequently, and one opportunity will be a new annual festival of the Abbey's own history and heritage. *Founders Day* will become an exciting regular addition to the Abbey's already busy programme of celebrations, special events and attractions.

As well as welcoming banners outside, new signs and displays are being introduced to the church, and new exhibitions will be installed. One of these, taking the idea of “Paisley Abbey, the Cluny of the North” as its theme, will form a part of the European-wide programme of events entitled “Cluny Makes Europe” that will celebrate 2024 as the thirtieth anniversary of the creation of the Federation of European Cluniac Sites that includes Paisley Abbey.

Currently, the Federation is embarked on its greatest and most exciting project to date – an application to UNESCO for registration of the Cluniac network on the World Heritage List. This is a serial application made on behalf of as many sites as have signed up to be candidates for inclusion. At present, there are just over one hundred such sites of which Paisley Abbey is proud to be one. The process of developing the application is extremely complex, and it will be a few years before any decision regarding registration is reached by UNESCO. Nevertheless, the potential benefits for Paisley Abbey as a visitor attraction are immeasurable.

For anyone who wasn't sure where it is or didn't know that it's open for visitors to come inside, Paisley Abbey has put up new colourful banners at its entrance. Bright and welcoming, they will be a great reminder that the ancient building is still at the heart of Paisley – the town that grew up around the abbey over hundreds of years.

Paisley Abbey
1st May 2024



WHO FOUNDED PAISLEY ABBEY?

Ask that question of any of the Abbey's little band of tour guides, indeed, ask most of those who for any reason frequent the Abbey, and the confident response will be "Walter Fitz Alan!" But is it the correct answer?

That adopted Shropshire Lad had been gifted extensive holdings of land north of the Anglo-Scottish border by King David I of Scotland as reward for good service dating back to the 1130s. He gradually rose in rank to assume the stewardship of David's household from around 1150, that office to be held heritably in perpetuity. After David's death in 1153, Walter's position as King's Steward was confirmed successively by Malcolm IV and William the Lion of Scotland, and he served in that role until his death at Melrose Abbey in 1177. His body was taken for burial to the priory and monastery at Paisley, with whose foundation he had been associated.

Readers of an article published in last December's edition of the Abbey Herald will recall that we are celebrating the 900th Anniversary of the succession to the throne of Scotland of King David I. "He devoted such resources to religious works, founding monasteries and building churches with generous gifts of monies and land alienated from the crown, that his descendant James I characterised him as *ane sair sanct for the croune*."

It was undoubtedly through King David's influence, and in gratitude for the favours he had received, that Walter Fitz Alan resolved to follow David's example by building and endowing a monastery on the lands that had been gifted to him. His motivations were multiple. It was an act of piety in keeping with the spirit of an age when there was a tremendous proliferation of such conventual foundations. It was also a political act whereby monasteries were seen as an intrinsic element in the colonisation and "Normanisation" of the so-called Davidian Revolution in Scotland. It was a selfish act in an era of obsessional preoccupation with personal and ancestral salvation of the soul, whereby the fear of damnation could be mollified by the engagement of an entire religious community in the task of securing salvation through prayer.

Whatever his presiding motivation, around the year 1163 while visiting King Malcolm at Fotheringhay, Walter entered into an agreement with Humbald, the prior of the Cluniac House at Much Wenlock in Shropshire to which he felt devoted by family considerations. Humbald, for his part, was to send thirteen monks to establish a monastery at Paisley, and to secure the sanction of the parent order of Cluny in recognition of the new foundation that was to belong to the Cluniac order independently of the priory at Much Wenlock. The conditions were duly met when, later in the 1160s, the monks arrived from Shropshire and made their first habitation of the chosen site of what was to become Paisley Abbey.

From the outset, the Cluniac Monastery of Paisley was an anomaly. The religious order of Cluny had been founded in the south of the Burgundy region of France in the early tenth century, adopting Benedictine rule in a modified form. As the Oxford historian Lucy Margaret Smith put it, setting "the example of religious duty and discipline and of dignity of service, from its origin it was zealous for monastic reform." During the first two centuries of the Order's existence, the Abbey of Cluny established herself as the nucleus of both a great religious and a political network, encompassing perhaps as many as fifteen hundred monasteries across mainland Europe and a further thirty in England but only two of any consequence in Scotland: Paisley and her daughter priory, Crossraguel.

Initially, most houses under Cluny were gifted to the Order by emperors, kings, nobles, and bishops.

Many were old and in ruin, and it was not until later that new houses were built in any number with monks sent from Cluny to people them. From the outset, governance and discipline was attempted through a highly centralised administration that expected that every monk, however remote the monastery of his adoption, should go to Cluny to make his profession. As the number and geographical spread of Cluniac monasteries grew, such demands became increasingly untenable. Discipline faltered, and by the twelfth century newer, more ascetic, rival monastic orders – Cistercians and Tironensians – had become the favoured choice for any new endowments. Almost all the great Cluniac churches had been completed by the time of Paisley's foundation. Walter's new monastery was a latecomer, subject to a religious order that was losing its grip on authority. Geographical remoteness and, increasingly in subsequent centuries, the hostility of its southern neighbour rendering through-travel to France highly dangerous and at times impossible, served further to exacerbate the situation. Notwithstanding, John Durkan, the Scottish Church Historian writing in *The Innes Review* in 1976 noted of Paisley Abbey in the Sixteenth Century that "as a monastic institution it had always retained its Cluniac links, however tenuously towards the end."

How did those links manifest themselves and in what way did the Order of Cluny influence the Abbey and Monastery of Paisley up to the time of the Reformation, and even beyond?

This is a tricky question to answer. Joan Evans, herself one of the greatest Cluniac scholars of last century, quoted her aforementioned colleague L. M. Smith: "Great art, that has power to stamp an epoch and influence a cycle of centuries, would seem to concentrate to a definite nucleus of space as distinctly as it does to a point of time, and the one is as limited as the other." In her own words, Evans qualified the assertion: "Such a centre was Cluny, and to trace all the lines of influence that radiate from it would involve an investigation of almost impracticable complexity and size. But if the nucleus of this influence within the Order itself has been made precise and definite, something has been achieved which can form the basis of further specific investigation in the case of any church which seems to show Cluniac influence." Such a church is Paisley Abbey.

As the Order of Cluny began to decline, its influences became more general. Its greatest churches had been built in the style of Romanesque architecture, adapted to suit its own customs and practices. Latterly, that style presaged the extraordinarily rapid development of Gothic architecture that was to follow Cluny's zenith. In the century before building of the church at Paisley began, problems of plan and of vaulting had been progressively solved, blurring any line between Romanesque and Gothic, with even the latter's characteristic pointed arch having been in use in France for that hundred years' period. "Once the architectural needs of an age were comprehended, the constructional basis of a style found, and the human spirit at work upon its problems, miracles of artistic creation could be performed in a few decades." Churches of the Cluniac Order, Paisley Abbey not least, are filled with a religious spirit "irradiated by an entirely human love of beauty, dignity and splendour, in which we still share. In virtue of that community of feeling we may perchance still gain spiritual access to the life of cloisters that time has long since violated."

In keeping with Cluniac tradition, our church has a relatively plain exterior and its plan follows a standard cruciform footprint. In addition to the central tower above the crossing, the substantially greater girth of the two westernmost columns of the nave betrays the intention to build towers above. The flattened inner faces of these massive pillars suggest that they may have carried a medieval tribune beneath which, it might be surmised, would have been a narthex or galilee where lay folk and pilgrims would have gathered before entry to the church. The destruction of the abbey by the English in 1307 denies us the certainty of knowing that either intent was ever realised.

Reflecting its being the focus of Cluniac life, the choir would have seemed disproportionately long to the awe-struck visitor entering by the west door and confronted with the magnificent vista that culminated in the high altar. In the absence of records, we can only guess as to the detail of colour, ornament, painted sculpture, and festal decoration that was concentrated around the high altar, but we can be confident that it existed in abundance. Although the number of the brethren of the community at Paisley never approached the hundreds at Cluny, space had to be available in the choir to accommodate the chorus psallentium and to allow all the rich liturgical and musical necessities of a Cluniac church.

When the choir was reconstructed in the first quarter of last century, its dimensions were determined by the medieval footprint, but its design was in the imagination of the architects of the day. Latterly, following the death in 1922 of Peter MacGregor Chalmers, it was Robert Lorimer who assumed control. It is to Lorimer and the extraordinarily talented group of artists and craftsmen gathered around him, that we must pay tribute for the resulting magnificent tour de force albeit that, as the medieval architecture and art historian Richard Fawcett wrote, "its appearance would probably be a great surprise to its original builders!"

Although completed in this way less than a century ago, it is not difficult to recognise the inspiration of Cluniac art and history. The stained-glass windows alone contain several such allusions. The subject of Douglas Strachan's Great East Window above the holy table is Christ ascended and enthroned, the Lord of all, in which Christ is depicted thus as the central figure, his right hand raised in benediction. Above the high altar in the semi-domed apse of the choir of the church of Cluny, completed towards the end of the eleventh century, a great seated figure of Christ was painted, his right hand raised in blessing.

Strachan's window representing Christ as the Bestower of Peace on the south wall of the choir again has Christ as the central figure but here within a Mandorla, depicted as the Child with Mary his mother. Is this not a reference to the monk's original dedication of their church at Paisley to the Virgin Mary along with St James, St Milburga, and St Mirin? The monastery's Treasurer Accounts mention the chapel of "oure Lady of Paisley." This was probably a pilgrimage shrine in a chapel situated off the choir near the site of the modern-day Sacristy and therefore adjacent to this stained-glass window. Even today, as a member of the Federation of European Cluniac Sites, Paisley Abbey is referred to on the Federation's "Clunypedia.com" website as Abbaye Notre-Dame de Paisley, a title whose historical pre-Reformation significance we readily acknowledge while eschewing any implicit compulsion to revert to Mariolatry!

Finally, turning to the most recent of our stained-glass windows, the subject of John K. Clark's masterpiece is Light and Music, referring to the Abbey church's great musical heritage. Founded in the supreme accomplishment in the art of chanting Gregorian music achieved in the church of Cluny from the tenth century onwards, Paisley Abbey continues to maintain the highest standards of church choral music in the country. The stunning central feature of the window is a candelabra, surely inspired by the great seven-branched candlestick which stood before the high altar of the church at Cluny, more than eighteen feet in height, made of copper gilt and richly bejewelled. It was the gift of Henry I of England's daughter, the Empress Matilda, whose mother Queen Matilda was the older sister of King David I of Scotland.

It is appropriate in this year of celebrating the 900th Anniversary of the succession to the throne of Scotland of King David I that this essay should have ended as it began in reference to him. In considering who influenced the institution of the Monastery and Abbey of Paisley, he began a list including his High Steward, Prior Osbert and the twelve monks from Much Wenlock, the Abbots of Cluny, and the traditions and practices of the Order of Cluny. In modern times, Paisley Abbey Church has continued to be influenced by that history in many ways – its art, architecture, and music especially – and the process is unending. The ministers, members of the congregation, adherents and interested visitors, past and present, have all played their part in the foundation of Paisley Abbey and continue to do so.

In recognition of such an extraordinary heritage and the part that so many have played in the life of our church over nearly nine hundred years, the Abbey is planning to institute an annual celebration that will be known as “Founders’ Day.” The day will be central to a weekend of festivities and will include a special service of worship on the Sunday. Already we are looking forward to the first celebration of Founders’ Day which will be held in May or June 2025.

Should I again ask: “Who founded Paisley Abbey?”

David C. Davidson

RENFREWSHIRE FOODBANK

The congregation of Paisley Abbey generously supports the Foodbank set up to serve our local community in Paisley. By doing so we are trying to assist the most vulnerable people for whom life can prove the most difficult. The Foodbank distributes to those for whom the need is most urgent. If you would like to contribute, please bring along your donations to the Abbey on the last Sunday of the month. Anything you may be able to donate will be much appreciated.

This month shortages are pasta, beans, milk, female toiletries, jam, puddings, tinned fruit and vegetables. The next collection will be on **Sunday 26 May**. Cash donations are welcome

Thank you to all who faithfully donate each month and to those who now give support. Your donations show the community that the congregation of the Abbey care for others and actively contribute to the wellbeing of all.

PAISLEY ABBEY SHOP

A new range of silver jewellery by Castle Douglas based Glenna Studios is now in stock. As well as Sweetheart design pendants and earrings, we also have a range of birthstone silver heart earrings.



There not might be fairies are the bottom of your garden, but there are some in the Gift Shop, along with owl candle holders and vintage floral metal jugs, they just add an extra touch of spring.



CLOISTER COFFEE SHOP

We now have a new coffee machine in the Coffee Shop which offers Espresso, Flat White, Cappuccino, Latte, Americana & Mocha

Our menu is shown below

Teas

Pot of Tea £1.50
Earl Grey £1.50
Peppermint Tea £1.50

Hot Chocolate £2

Cakes

Selection of cakes and biscuits available

Coffee £2.50

Espresso
Flat White
Cappuccino
Latte
Americana
Mocha

Decaf also available

We also offer home baking on the Saturday's when the Lunch Hour Concerts take place.

The next concert is on Saturday 1 June at 12.30 pm with Douglas Lawrence (violin) & Maureen Rutherford (piano)

Admission is £5 payable at the door.

FOOD FESTIVAL 2024

Another annual Paisley Food Festival, and another Saturday where volunteers and staff were pulling out the stops out at this local event.

The Gift Shop and the Cloister Café did a very brisk trade all day, with the café serving a selection of coffees and home baking from mid-morning, and homemade soup from lunchtime, staying open longer to meet demand.

Stewards in the church saw a steady stream of visitors, both locals and those from further afield, who were fascinated by the Abbey and its history. The bric a brac tables in the Cloisters were full of bargains with quite a few visitors taking advantage.

Despite the spring weather it was certainly cool in the Cloisters, however our volunteers stayed by their post all day.

We would like to thank all the volunteers and staff who helped on the day.



Doreen, Margaret & Carine at the Bric a Brac table



David, Marion & Allan waiting to welcome visitors to the Abbey



Sandra & Jan working hard in the Coffee Shop !

SATURDAY LUNCH HOUR CONCERTS

*Saturdays at 12.30 pm
Admission is £5 payable at the door*

1 June

*Douglas Lawrence (Violin)
Maureen Rutherford (Piano)*

15 June

*Richard Craig (Flute)
Classical and contemporary chamber works for flute*

SUNDAY ORGAN RECITALS

**In celebration of the Cavallé Coll Organ
1874-2024**

Sundays at 3 pm

Admission is £10 payable at the door

19 May

*James Lancelot
Durham Cathedral (Emeritus)*

2 June

*Mark Browne
Paisley Abbey*

23 June

*Matthew Beetschen
Dunfermline Abbey*

30 June

*Kevin Duggan
Dunblane Cathedral*

SERVICES & MUSIC FOR MAY

5 May 11 am Benedictus Anthem	Sixth Sunday of Easter Morning Service In exitu Israel	<i>Stanford in C</i> <i>Samuel Wesley</i>
12 May 11 am Introit Te Deum Anthem	Sunday after the Ascension Morning Service Psallite Domino God is gone up	<i>William By</i> <i>Vaughan Williams</i> <i>Gerald Finzi</i>
4 pm Responses Canticles Anthem	Choral Evensong O clap your hands	<i>Smith of Durham</i> <i>Rubbra in Ab</i> <i>Orlando Gibbons</i>
19 May 11 am Te Deum Anthem	Pentecost Morning Service O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit	<i>Gibbons (Short Service)</i> <i>Thomas Tallis</i>
26 May 11 am Communion Setting Anthem	Trinity Sunday Holy Communion Lord, who has made us	<i>Palestrina (Missa Brevis)</i> <i>Owen Swindale</i>
2 June 11 am Jubilate Deo Anthem	Trinity 2 Morning Service Sing joyfully	<i>Boyce in C</i> <i>William Byrd</i>



EVENTS AT THE ABBEY

LONDON CONCERTANTE – A Night at the Opera by Candlelight

Sunday 5 May at 6 pm

Tickets £21-£46 available from ticketsource.co.uk/classical

LONDON FILM MUSIC ORCHESTRA - The Best of Hans Zimmer & Film Favourites Illuminated

Thursday 6 & Saturday 8 June - performances at 6.30 pm & 9 pm

Tickets from £38.22 available from Eventbrite

LONDON CONCERTANTE – Music from James Bond Movies by Candlelight

Sunday 16 June at 6 pm & 8 pm

Tickets from £19 available from candlelightconcerts.co.uk

J S Bach B Minor Mass

Saturday 25 May at 7.30 pm

Mhairi Lawson (Soprano)
Jessica Gillingwater (Alto)
David Lee (Tenor)
Colin Murray (Bass)
George McPhee (Conductor)

Tickets £5 - £35 available at
bminor2024.eventbrite.com

*This performance given in memory of
Professor Norman Sharp OBE*

ABBEY CONTACTS

Minister:	Revd. Jim Gibson
Director of Music:	Dr. George McPhee
Church Manager:	Linda Barrett
Church Secretary:	Karen Kerr
Session Clerk:	Marion Sommerville
Depute Session Clerk:	Dr David Davidson
Treasurer:	Stewart McDougall
Abbey Herald:	Karen Kerr

The Abbey office can be contacted on 0141 889 7654 or by email at -
info@paisleyabbey.org.uk

*The Abbey, shop & café are normally open
Tuesday to Saturday from 10.30 am - 3.30 pm
Tuesday & Thursday tours are at 2 pm.*

*Abbey website - www.paisleyabbey.org.uk
Facebook - @paisleyabbey
Instagram - @paisleyabbeyofficial
X (formerly Twitter) - @paisley_abbey*