

Paisley Abbey



Abbey Herald

June 2024

It's claimed '*a week in politics is a long time*'. Certainly this past month has witnessed many political announcements and action around the world that have consequences for us all. From Russia's continuing conflict in Ukraine and Israel's determination to eradicate Hamas from its doorstep in Gaza to Narendra Modi's third consecutive landslide re-election as Premier of India: the actions and ambitions of many of the world's leaders defy their people's desire to live at peace and instead raise the spectre of drawing other nations into unwanted conflict as a result. Uncertainty has been further heightened in our own country by the calling of a General Election and, of course, across the pond our former closest ally has been enduring the ignominy of a former President becoming the first in his country's history to be convicted of thirty-four criminal charges. Because of the unknown reaction of the American people should Donald Trump be imprisoned, the Western world awaits the sentence due to be passed on July 11th with baited breath.

It was a chance comment. Made at Sunday coffee. Conversation was being shared about all the above and the perilous state of the world generally. The comment was then made that '*only God is able to sort out the mess the world is in*'. It's the sort of comment one might reasonably expect to hear in any church situation. Afterwards, someone else opined that what was needed was a global campaign of the kind featuring Billy Graham the American evangelist.

Without doubt, Graham was blessed with a charisma which spell-bound many; attracting a staggering 389,000 men and women to come forward and profess Christian faith. Many may still remember him for no nation in the world received more visits from him than Great Britain. In the period 1954-1989, he led 18 crusades here, calling the UK his 'second home'. There is no doubting the dramatic effect his personality and preaching had on so many lives.

Its notable how simple his preaching was. He refrained from flowery language, complicated metaphors and the telling of too many jokes. In fact, his preaching changed little in content or style throughout the years.

Sadly, Graham's theology would not sit easily with us today. He believed Jesus would return to sort out the world's troubles and, so, he was not too interested in how the world's troubles could best be sorted out by human endeavour. This led him into conflict within the United States with the Civil Rights movement; and he was completely intolerant of any kind of conciliatory attitude to matters pertaining to human sexuality. All of which shows that our lives can sometimes be as complex as the legacies we leave behind.

Graham's biographer, David Poling writes that *'when the last conclusions about Graham are sifted it may be that his greatest gift for the last half of the 20th Cy was not that he packed them in, or that he was successful on TV and publishing. Rather it may be that he loved people greatly and by loving them led them to the gates of the kingdom of God. Perhaps his greatest legacy is that he loved the British people and teaches us to do the same, that we may lead them to the same place.'*

Which *sounds* all well and good. Until, that is, one realizes the kind of 'kingdom' those now in charge of Billy Graham's legacy would lead us into.

For some time, the Graham banner has been carried by Billy's son, the Rev Franklin Graham. Due to come to Glasgow later this month (June). It was he who was chosen by George Bush to deliver prayers at his presidential inauguration, calling Islam *"a very wicked and evil religion"*.

The author and broadcaster, the Revd Canon Giles Fraser, points to the story of the Good Samaritan as a ready put-down to the kind of theology pushed by Christian fundamentalists such as Graham Jnr.

Jesus is asked: *"Who is my neighbour?"* The moral of the story he tells in response is that it is the man who is beaten up and left for dead that Jesus points to as our neighbour. The conclusion being: we must help our neighbours.

But that's *not* the story at all.

A man is mugged and left, lying in the road, badly injured. Whereas the religious pass by and do nothing, it is the Samaritan who offers care. Those listening to the story would have despised Samaritans. The words 'good' and 'Samaritan' just didn't go together. Therefore, in casting the Samaritan as the only passer-by with compassion, Jesus is making an all-out assault on the prejudices of his listeners. Crucially, the hated Samaritan is held up by Jesus as the moral exemplar. Conclusion: we must overcome religious bigotry.

In the hands of Franklin Graham the story of the Good Samaritan would appear to be interpreted as propaganda for the superiority of Christian compassion against the indifference of other religions— almost the opposite of the purpose of the story, as told by Jesus.

What, to me, is astonishing is that Christian fundamentalists in both the USA and UK have successfully persuaded millions that their warped version of Christianity is the 'real thing' — and that mainstream Churches have bowed to the secular spirit of our society by allowing this to happen.

I believe the truth is quite the reverse and agree with Giles Fraser when he writes: *"American fundamentalists tend to use a biblical literalism which is selective in its interpretation to support a theology that systematically confuses the kingdom of God with the U.S's dominating power in the world"*.

Kelvin Holdsworth, Provost of St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Glasgow wrote this about Billy Graham at the time of his death in February 2018 at the age of 99 years: *'Following news of his death, I find myself thinking of those who were given purpose, energy and life in all its fullness by this extraordinary preacher, and I thank God for that. However, I also find myself thinking that the America in which Donald Trump can triumph is part of Graham's legacy too. White evangelicalism in the USA was undoubtedly bolstered by Billy Graham's life and work. The lack of condemnation by Graham of the antics used against black people is a stark reminder that his faith made him able to proclaim his gospel clearly, but see the all too real affairs of the world dimly. Whatever view we may hold, Billy Graham's was an extraordinary life. It was a life that brought benefit to countless numbers of people throughout the world and it was a life that give credence to ideas which can bring harm to many'*.

Such is, indeed, human complexity.

Like us all, may he be remembered for the good that he did.

Enjoy a wonderful summer wherever you may be.

Jim Gibson

*Chaplain to His Majesty The King in Scotland
Interim Minister at Paisley Abbey.*

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.

ELDER DUTY TEAMS

June - John Kitson's Team
July - Michael McGill's Team
August - Marion Sommerville's Team

PARISH REGISTER MAY

Funeral Elaine Erroch

‘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.



THANK YOU *for giving to the Abbey's 2024 Lent Appeal*

Over the years the Lent Appeal has become almost a permanent feature of the Abbey's fundraising activities and it is now seen as essential in helping to balance the books.

This year's total is just over £9,000 and with the tax recovery through the Gift Aid scheme will give a figure exceeding £11,000.

This was a magnificent effort by the congregation and others.....*Thank You.*

Once again, you have responded generously to the Appeal and this reflects the love that our congregation has for our wonderful church, taking in the services, ministry, pastoral care, music and the buildings. The money raised will go towards our commitment to the Church of Scotland and to running and maintaining our wonderful medieval church buildings. Therefore, it is essential that not only do we raise money through special appeals, but that regular weekly and monthly income is maintained and where possible increased.

Although Covid is a distant memory, income has not fully recovered to previous levels while expenditure continues to increase. And it only because of the hard work and dedication of the Abbey's volunteers and staff that visitor numbers are increasing and our wonderful suite of buildings continue to be a desirable place to hold concerts, recitals and meetings. These events are essential to augment the regular giving by Abbey members.

The Abbey has a great future, but it needs everyone to pull together to take us forward for future generations. Therefore, many thanks for you generous giving towards our Lent Appeal 2024.

Stewart McDougall
Treasurer

ALLOVUS

Allovus (All-of-us) is a new club for seniors starting in the Abbey come September 2024. It will be open to all who happen to think they are of a 'certain age' to enjoy its fun and activities. Details have yet to be confirmed. However, it is likely to be held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, September to December and late January to June from 1.00pm until 3.00pm. A whole range of different activities are currently being planned in the hope that the club programme will offer something for everyone to enjoy.

Further details will be posted on the Abbey website and in the Sunday Order of Service.

Make a note and keep yourself free to come along to enjoy good company and great fun.



PAISLEY ABBEY IN THE ~~LIME~~-LED-LIGHT!

*He reveals the deep things of darkness
and brings utter darkness into the light.*

The Book of Job, Chapter 12, verse 22

It is wonderful to see the Abbey floodlit again.

For a number of years, older light units had ceased to function, and the Abbey stood in darkness - seemingly alone amongst the important historic buildings of the town.

Happily, that has now been remedied. The Abbey Church is grateful to Renfrewshire Council for commissioning the installation and to the workmen who were engaged in the project.

Because LED units have been installed, the lighting will be very energy efficient, cost effective, and will require minimal maintenance in comparison to the old fittings.



ABBEY TOURS - 98 visitors in past 8 weeks!

The Abbey offers guided tours on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 pm. After purchasing tickets at the shop which are £5, visitors enter the Sanctuary, where they are met by those Stewarding and are introduced to the Volunteer Guide on duty. They are then given a tour of the building lasting approximately 1 hour.

During the past 8 weeks, 98 visitors in total have been given 2pm tours by Volunteer Abbey Guides. The size of the groups ranged from 1 to 16 and visitors came from near and far.

From the UK, there were people from the Shetland Isles, London, Buckinghamshire, Aberdeen, Bearsden, Govan, Renfrew and others more locally from Paisley.

Amongst our international visitors, there were people from Canberra (Australia), whose forebears had been married in the Abbey in 1824. Others came from Japan, Thailand and Pakistan.

North American visitors included a lady from Mexico, several from Canada and many from Ohio, Kentucky, Florida, Nebraska and California in the United States.

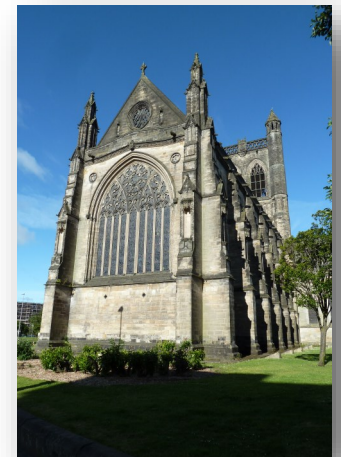
There was also a visitor from South Africa and from mainland Europe, there were visitors from Cologne in Germany and from Spain.

The feedback from these visitors has been invariably positive, expressing enjoyment of the tours and finding them interesting and informative.

It's heartwarming to discover that people are finding their way to the Abbey from all over the world!

*Tuesdays & Thursdays at 2 pm
Tickets are £5 available from the Abbey Shop
Groups can book in advance by contacting
the Abbey office - info@paisleyabbey.org.uk*

Jan Leeming



CHRISTIAN AID

The collection for Christian Aid including the lunch was £707.14.
Thank you to all who supported.



The poster features the Christian Aid logo at the top left, followed by the title 'CAW PAPER QUIZ ANSWERS' in large red letters. Below this is a yellow banner with the text 'HOW DID YOU DO?'. The main content area has a white background with a list of 30 animals, each preceded by a number. To the right of the list, there are several purple paw prints of varying sizes, and a vertical strip on the far right shows cartoon illustrations of the animals: a bear, a deer, a fox, a raccoon, and a rabbit. At the bottom, there is small text about Christian Aid's status as a charity and contact details.

christian aid **CAW PAPER QUIZ ANSWERS**

HOW DID YOU DO?

Let's see how many you got correct.

Each answer is an animal / creature:

1. Dog
2. Grouse
3. Monkey
4. Duck
5. Armadillo
6. Guinea pig
7. Dolphin
8. Wolf
9. Stork
10. Buffalo
11. Goat
12. Peacock
13. Polar bear
14. Antelope
15. Swan
16. Otter
17. Giant panda
18. Flamingo
19. Seal
20. Great white shark
21. Cheetah
22. Porcupine
23. Puffin
24. Bat
25. Mouse
26. Palamino
27. Python
28. Hyena
29. Goldfish
30. Reindeer

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Contact details: caid.org.uk

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 sauce (not pasta) tinned fruit, tinned meat/fish, jam & cat/dog food. The next collection will be on **Sunday 30 June**. 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.



THE PLACE OF PAISLEY

***“PAISLEY ABBEY – ALONE OF ALL THE SCOTTISH ABBEYS
POSSESSES ITS ANCIENT DOMESTIC BUILDINGS.”***

Articles published in the “Abbey Herald” by the present writer have predominantly focused on the history of Paisley Abbey Church. At a time when that church is facing an existential threat, thoughts have turned to the future and plans have been devised to secure the survival of the mother church of Paisley around which was born the community that was to grow into Scotland’s largest town. The Abbey of Paisley has been rightfully described as “one of the finest historical monuments in Scotland,” but it is more than that. It is a living memorial, testament to centuries of human devotion, the embodiment of the faith, hope, and love of countless generations, not just in the past and the present, but projecting long into the future.

Fundamental to fulfilling the mission of Paisley Abbey Church is the need to exploit the talents that we have available to us. Sometimes we look around and despair at the challenges of maintenance and repair that are implicit in so ancient an edifice. Yet its wealth of history, art, and architecture make our buildings a treasure that can and must attract visitors, and we can and must find ways to meet and exceed their expectations.

The Place of Paisley has a fascinating history of its own. Though manifestly connected to the church in structure, the Place evolved separately in its post-Reformation function only to return in the last century to be an integral part of our church. The reinvention of its neglected upper stories for domestic use within my lifetime began a new chapter, and it is exciting to think of what we will find in the pages ahead. What that future holds will be informed by its past, and it is the latter that I hope to bring to light in this and a subsequent article.

John Hamilton, the last Abbot of Paisley, was as much - perhaps more - a shrewd and wily politician as he was a man of religion. Though an illegitimate son of the 1st Earl of Arran, he was held in high favour by successive monarchs and acquired, through James V, the abbacy of Paisley at the age of just fourteen in 1525 despite probably never actually entering the order. The appointment of his half-brother James, 2nd Earl of Arran, as Regent, led to a meteoric promotion to high offices of state. He became Privy Seal and later High Treasurer of Scotland in parallel with ecclesiastical appointments as Bishop of Dunkeld and, following the assassination of Cardinal Beaton, Archbishop of St Andrews, emerging as the figurehead of opposition to the rise of Protestantism in Scotland.

Whether or not in anticipation of the overthrow of Roman Catholicism and the tumultuous times that were to ensue as the Reformation gradually took hold, John Hamilton had appointed his nephew, Claud Hamilton, though only seven years of age, Commendator of the Abbey of Paisley. Subsequent papal sanction confirmed Claud’s entitlement to the bulk of the Abbey’s considerable revenues. Though never in holy orders, Claud also drew the stipends of a number of clerical offices.

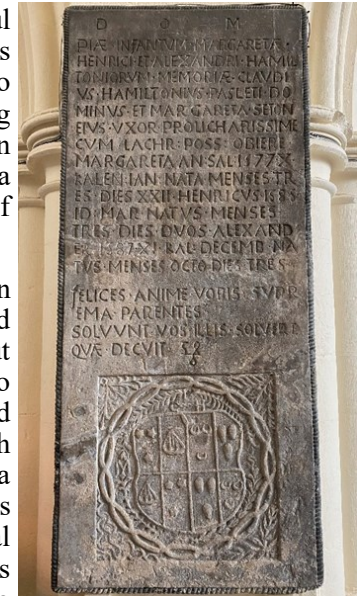
Claud was a staunch supporter of Mary, Queen of Scots and, following her defeat at the Battle of Langside and flight to England in 1568, continued to act on her behalf. He was even implicated as instigator of the assassination of the Regent of Scotland in 1570. It was no surprise therefore that he was declared a traitor and had his estates forfeited. More surprising was that the forfeiture was recalled within a year and Claud, newlywed, was able finally to take up residence at the “Place of Paisley” in 1574.

Evidently not yet reconciled to a life of peaceful domesticity, Claud resumed his intrigues on Mary’s behalf and was again forfeited in 1579. The rights to the temporalities of the Abbey, principally comprising the Place of Paisley, “passed,” as Metcalfe described in his History of Paisley, “from hand to hand with a rapidity characteristic of the disordered condition of the country.”

Now a fugitive, Claud fled to England and was given the protection of Queen Elizabeth. James VI allowed him to return to Scotland briefly at the end of 1584 but just a few months later ordered him to withdraw to France. The King’s ire softened, however. Soon Claud was “freended,” and in return became a staunch supporter of the King. Finally, in December 1585, a general Act was passed for the restitution of Scotland’s several banished lords and their adherents. A special Act of indemnity was passed for Claud, and he was admitted a Privy Councillor. At last, the following year, he made a permanent return to Scotland.

In 1587, just a few months following the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots, to whom he had always remained loyal, Claud’s rehabilitation was cemented when “he was invested with the temporalities of the Abbey of Paisley, united and erected into the Lordship and Barony of Paisley and was created a peer of Parliament with the title of Lord Paisley.” At the same time, an Act was passed in Parliament “whereby there were annexed to the Crown all lands and others then belonging to any ecclesiastical or beneficed person, with certain exceptions therein enumerated.” That such exceptions were few but that the temporality of Paisley was one of them, affirmed Claud’s restoration to high royal favour.

Although for a time suspected of further subversive activities, Lord Claud finally withdrew from politics and settled down in retirement at the Place of Paisley where, in 1597, he was visited by Anne of Denmark, the Queen Consort. An even greater honour would follow on 24th July 1617 when King James VI himself was received in the “great hall” of the Place of Paisley while on his home-coming progress to Scotland. Notwithstanding the presence of Protestant ministers casting their puritanical shadow over the proceedings, there was an endeavour to entertain the monarch, although the delivery of an excruciatingly bombastic and obsequious address could surely only have flattered the most narcissistic of recipients.



Claud, though present, was by then so old and infirm that his eldest son James, first Earl of Abercorn and Master of Paisley, had to act as the King's host. Ironically, Claud lived on until 1621, reaching the age of seventy-eight and surviving James, who had died in 1618. Both were buried in St Mirin's Chapel.

Claud's son James was much esteemed by James VI and had been made a Lord of his Privy Council and a gentleman of the bedchamber in 1598. He was favoured with several further titles from the King and in 1603 was created Lord Abercorn, advanced to the dignity of Earl of Abercorn, Baron of Paisley in 1606. As one of the "undertakers" for the Plantation of Ulster, he proved himself an energetic colonist, erecting "a very strong and fair castle," a schoolhouse, and a church, around which the town of Strabane was built.

James was survived by his widow, Marion Boyd, daughter of the sixth Lord Boyd, and succeeded by their son, also James, as Earl of Abercorn. The younger James also succeeded to the title of Lord Paisley on the death of his grandfather in 1621. Earlier, in 1617, King James VI, confident that the young man would follow in his father's footsteps as a staunch Protestant, had created him a peer of Ireland by the title of Lord Hamilton, Baron of Strabane. That confidence was however to prove misplaced.

During his youth, the new Earl seems to have resided principally in England and France, and it fell to his mother, Marion Boyd, the Dowager-Countess, "a woman of great determination and energy," to manage the family affairs in his absence. Although outwardly appearing to conform to Protestantism for fear of incurring the stern discipline exercised by the Kirk and falling foul of the penal laws against Roman Catholics, Marion and her son secretly cherished convictions belonging to the "old faith." Despite the dangers, she had taken steps to ensure that her children would be raised as Catholics.

In the mid-1620s, when Protestant infighting appeared to have distracted the Reformers from their earlier zeal and there was a lull in the persecution of the "Papists," many in the country were emboldened to declare their true beliefs. Marion Boyd, her household, and many besides in Paisley began openly to avow themselves followers of the old religion. They were soon to find to their cost that the persecuting spirit of Presbytery was as fierce and vigorous as it had ever been.

On 1st January 1626, Robert Boyd of Trochrig was inducted to be minister in the Abbey Church. He was a widely respected scholar and teacher but had lately fallen foul of King James VI having assumed a Presbyterian stance in opposition to the King's proposed Episcopalian model. It had been supposed that his appointment might be acceptable to the Abercorn family, as he was related to the Dowager-Countess, but on the contrary, some of her family locked the poor minister out of his manse having first trashed his library, and then incited the "rascally women" of the town to "cast dirt and stones at him, so that he was forced to leave the town.

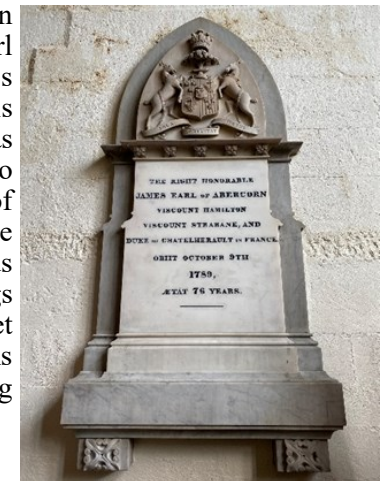
"Although the matter came to court and Trochrig was assured that he would be repossessed without further violence, he had understandably had enough of Paisley, and nothing would induce him to return. Sadly, he died of throat cancer the following year.

The Presbytery, in vengeful spirit, thereafter pursued Lady Abercorn and her household with relentless zeal. Eventually, following a period of ruthless persecution, she and almost her entire household were excommunicated in 1628. Her son, the Earl, managed to flee the country before his sentencing, but the countess was arrested and imprisoned over the winter in Edinburgh's notorious Tolbooth. Her health broken by her ordeals, she was released under virtual house-arrest to the family's West Lothian home in 1630 and, after a further year, was formally licensed to go "to Paisley for the outred of some weighty affairs" but died there in 1632 shortly after her arrival. She was buried beside her husband in the family vault of St Mirin's Chapel.



The Earl and his Countess, also excommunicated, were exiled by the Commission of the General Assembly in 1649, and in 1652 the Earl sold the Lordship, along with the related buildings to his friend the Earl of Angus who, in turn, sold it to William, Lord Cochrane of Dundonald. (The Cochranes will feature in a future article).

The Abercorn family recovered the Place of Paisley in 1764 when James Hamilton (1712-1789), the 8th Earl of Abercorn, re-acquired some of the family's ancestral lands in Scotland. He died unmarried and his titles then devolved to his nephew, who was created 1st Marquess of Abercorn in 1790, and then to his nephew's grandson who was created first Duke of Abercorn in 1868. This was an unhappy time for the ancient Abbey. Feud out indiscriminately, its grounds increasingly became a morass of squalid buildings that obscured the Abbey Church. The Place was let out only to be disfigured by inappropriate alterations while the former monastery kitchens, despite being connected to the church, housed a public bar!



Fortunately, a public committee was formed in 1870 and set about the worthy task of buying up this whole shoddy ghetto. By 1902 three whole streets had been cleared away by the Town Council. The Kirk Session of the Abbey bought the Place of Paisley in 1904 and set about its restoration after the last tenant removed in 1912. Finally, in 1909, the Duke of Abercorn, who still held St Mirin's Chapel in his possession, handed it over on condition that it should always form part of the Abbey. Any remaining questions of ownership of the Abbey policies were finally resolved in 1928 when all the buildings and precincts were designated as the Abbey Parish Church.

Writing in 1878, James Cameron Lees asserted that "with the death of the old Commendator, [Lord Claud Hamilton], the last link between us and the Monastery of Paisley is severed." He could not have anticipated subsequent events. In 1958, the publication associated with the appeal for the restoration of the Place of Paisley began: "Paisley Abbey – alone of all the Scottish Abbeys – possesses its ancient domestic buildings. That they have been preserved is due to the fact that they were handed over to the nephew of the last Abbot as Commendator, who turned them into a private mansion. This accounts for the name – Place (i.e., Palace) of Paisley.

David C Davidson

They were distant cousins. Marion Boyd (c1583-1632) was the daughter of Thomas Boyd, 6th Lord Boyd (c1547-1611). James Boyd of Trochrig (c.1530-1581), the father of Robert Boyd of Trochrig (1578-1627), was the nephew of Robert Boyd, 4th Lord Boyd (c. 1485 – 3 January 1558). When the Charter for the foundation of the monastery at Paisley was signed by Walter Fitzalan, First High Steward of Scotland, in 1163, one of the witnesses was Simon Fitzalan who is memorialised by a plaque in the Choir of Paisley Abbey. Simon is said to have been the brother of Walter and progenitor of the Lords Boyd, just as Walter was the progenitor of the Stewarts. That being so, the Boyds and Stewarts share a common ancestor in the parentage of Walter and Simon.

VOLUNTEERS 'THANK YOU' COFFEE MORNING

Here are some of our Abbey volunteers who attended the 'Thank you' Coffee Morning in the Place of Paisley on Friday 31 May.

This gave the volunteers a chance to catch up and meet others and to enjoy the lovely food and refreshments which were kindly provided by Margaret Craig who also gifted all the raffle prizes.



CLOISTER COFFEE SHOP

We now have a new coffee machine in the Coffee Shop
which offers Espresso, Flat White, Cappuccino, Latte, Americano & 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
Americano
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 15 June at 12.30 pm with
Richard Craig (flute)
Admission is £5 payable at the door.

SMA' SHOT DAY - SATURDAY 6 JULY

Sma' Shot Day Parade and celebrations will again take place this year around the Abbey. It is a busy and popular event for the local community when we plan to welcome visitors to the Abbey.

The shop and cloister café will be open throughout the day.

Tower tours will also be available as well as plants and bric a brac in the cloister.

To make a success of the day, your help is needed so keep the date free!



SERVICES & MUSIC FOR JUNE

2 June 11 am Jubilate Deo Anthem	Trinity 2 Morning Service Sing joyfully	<i>Boyce in C</i> <i>William Byrd</i>
9 June 11 am Te Deum Anthem	Trinity 3 (St Columba) Morning Service Hymn od St Columba	<i>Ireland in F</i> <i>Benjamin Britten</i>
4 pm Responses Psalm 37: 1-11 Canticles Anthem	Choral Evensong Cantique de Jean Racine	<i>Byrd</i> <i>Howells (Gloucester Service)</i> <i>Gabriel Fauré</i>
16 June 11 am Jubilate Deo Anthem	Trinity 4 Morning Service Data est mihi omnis potestas	<i>Britten in C</i> <i>James MacMillan</i>
23 June 11 am Te Deum Anthem	Trinity 5 Morning Service Let all the world ('Mystical Songs')	<i>Howells (Collegium Regale)</i> <i>R Vaughan Williams</i>
30 June 11 am Communion Setting Anthem	Trinity 6 Holy Communion Tantum ergo sacramentum	<i>Vierne (Messe Solennelle)</i> <i>Maurice Duruflé</i>



SATURDAY LUNCH HOUR CONCERTS

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

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

14 September
Trio Alma

26 October
'Rudsambee' (Choir from Edinburgh)

SUNDAY ORGAN RECITALS

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

Sundays at 3 pm
Admission is £10 payable at the door

23 June
Matthew Beetschen
Dunfermline Abbey

30 June
Kevin Duggan
Dunblane Cathedral

14 July
John Kitchen
*Organist to Edinburgh City, Edinburgh University &
Old St Paul's Church*

EVENTS AT THE ABBEY

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

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST OF SCOTLAND GRADUATIONS

Monday 1 - Friday 5 July
The Abbey will be closed to visitors during the Graduations

EDINBURGH YOUTH ORCHESTRA Brahms Academic Festival Overture

Thursday 1 August at 7.30 pm
Ticket details to follow

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA - Mozart & Beethoven

Thursday 12 September at 7.30 pm
Tickets from sco.org.uk or 0131 557 6800

ABBHEY CONTACTS

Minister:	Rev. 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.*

*The Abbey will be closed to visitors from
Monday 1 July - Friday 5 July due to University Graduations,
the shop & café will remain open.*

There will be no Abbey Herald in July and August.

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

Paisley Abbey (Church of Scotland) – Registered Charity No SC00763