



# KIRKWALL EAST LINKED WITH SHAPINSAY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



## November 2020

### Invitation to Communion

### On Sunday 22 November 2020

A Communion Service will be held online at our Facebook page 'Kirkwall East linked with Shapinsay' and our YouTube channel [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Yg\\_uFSQsU7UWDC2SSnyCA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Yg_uFSQsU7UWDC2SSnyCA)

Please join us to share in the Lord's Supper

Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome at this table.

If you have a friend or family member who would like to receive communion please extend this invitation to them. They do not have to be a member of Kirkwall East, Shapinsay or of any other church.

Receive communion in your home in bread and wine/juice which you had prepared)



*Then Jesus declared,*

*"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty". St John 6:35*

Dear all,

We are in November already! How time flies! This month will see Remembrance Sunday in a completely different format from normal. Why not hold a 2 minute silence on your doorstep this year? Remember and honour but stay safe and keep your community safe too.

My thoughts are going towards Advent and Christmas too. As it is highly unlikely we are going to be able to gather for our usual services, we are hoping to create a Facebook Advent calendar whereby each day (apart from Sundays which will have the joint Kirkwall Council of Churches services) a member of any of the three congregations worshipping together during the pandemic (Kirkwall East, Shapinsay and Stronsay) will share a video of a piece of music, a poem or a message on the theme of Advent or Christmas. If you would like to take part in that, please let me know and I will create a rota to make sure that every day sees something special prepared for it.

From other developments it is worth mentioning that the Kirkwall East Mission Group enrolled the East Church as a member of the Scottish Pilgrim Routes Forum, a network of organisations and individuals committed to developing routes for off-road pilgrimage travel across Scotland. Next August we will hold a pilgrimage event to mark the launch of the re-establishment of the medieval pilgrimage route between St Duthac's, Tain and St Magnus', Kirkwall. It is an ecumenical project: there will be an Episcopal service in Tain, a Roman Catholic one in Thurso and a Church of Scotland one in Kirkwall, albeit with members of other denominations contributing. There will be more information available nearer the time.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter. If you would like to contribute to the next one, please get in touch with me.

Every blessing,

Rev Julia Meason,

874789, [jmeason@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:jmeason@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Louise Hollinrake wrote this poem a few years ago at the time of year when we put shoeboxes together. She gave us permission to print it here.

### In My Box

In my box I will put  
Toothbrush and paste  
Soap and nailbrush  
Warm socks and hat  
A pair of thermal gloves  
Notebook and pencil  
Sewing kit and scissors  
A pair of cheap specs  
Handcream and body lotion  
Comb and mirror  
And a packet of boiled sweets.

Not the casual things  
For a weekend away,  
An adventure in the hills  
Or a visit to friends.  
No. I wrap the box  
In Christmas paper  
And deliver it to Blyde.  
It may be all some woman  
In Albania receives  
On Christmas Day.  
And she will be happy with it.

What else connects  
Her life and mine?

The Blythswood Shoebox Appeal has been extremely successful again this year, despite the ongoing coronavirus.



I would like to thank each and every one of you who have supported this very worthwhile charity. With your tremendous generosity we have completed **607 shoeboxes** which is an amazing result. These shoeboxes will help make Christmas a happier time for many people. On behalf of the Guild, I thank you very much for your continued support.

Keep well, stay safe.

Freda

On behalf of both churches—Kirkwall East and Shapinsay—who for the first time worked together to complete this tremendous number of boxes—we would like to express our appreciation of all that Freda has done with the Blythswood boxes this year. She's a tower of strength and an inspiration to all of us. Thank you!

### No Fayre Day Oot ... but Christmas Gift Bags with Great Foodie Goodies instead!

How different this year has been and how everyone must miss our Kirkwall East family. We hope you are all keeping safe and well.

We are unable to hold our usual fundraisers at the moment so are looking at different ways to raise church funds. Instead of the 'Fayre Day Oot', Kirkwall East are making and selling Christmas gift bags.

Foodie goodies will be provided in a Christmas gift bag and will contain:\* mincemeat pies, traybakes or a small Christmas cake, shortbread or gingerbread, bag of sweeties (such as fudge or truffles), small bottle of cordial and small jar of jam or chutney, Rudolph hot chocolate kit, handmade Christmas decoration and a blank Christmas card.

\*Please expect some variation in contents.

It is hoped to have these ready for collection/delivery early December and the cost will be £12.50 for collection or £15 including delivery (Kirkwall only). **Orders can be placed with Anne Moore on 872575.** We propose to limit the number of bags to 50 - so order early to avoid disappointment. We appreciate your support as ever.

## Shapinsay Kirk Gift Day 2020



Traditionally we hold our Gift Day in November and, while everything is very different this year, we have decided to continue this tradition. Our main income is from congregational giving and we're always amazed at the generosity of our peedie congregation. With no Kirk services and no plate to put donations in, many of you have been unable to give and we hope Gift Day may be a way round this.

While we've been unable to meet together for worship and fellowship since Covid-19 restrictions came into effect back in March, the work of the Kirk has continued. Much has been done to provide a weekly service to as many of the congregation as possible. We have recently been able to open the Kirk for private prayer and reflection and again this has taken a lot of work to ensure we meet all the guidelines and keep everyone as safe as possible. As well as meeting the costs of these new ways of working, the ongoing costs of ministry and the kirk building still have to be met too so it's a challenging time for us financially.

There are a number of ways you can give to our Gift Day 2020

A collection tub for donations will be available at the front door of the Kirk between 3 - 4pm on Sunday 15th November and again between 3 - 4pm on Sunday 29th November. Please put your donation in an envelope or you can use your weekly offering envelopes.

Donations can also be sent to the treasurer at Newlot, Shapinsay.

If you want to give by cheque, please make it payable to Shapinsay Church of Scotland.

If you would like to use online banking our bank details are

Account Name	Shapinsay Church of Scotland
Sore Code	83 24 07
Account no	00255731

If you need any further information please get in touch with our treasurer, Sheila Garson, Newlot, Shapinsay, telephone 711779.



### Become an Assembly Trustee

**Can you bring your professional expertise and passion for the Church to a rewarding role as an Assembly Trustee? Would you like to share your skills & knowledge to serve on a recently created body within the Church of Scotland?**

#### Overview

The first Assembly Trustees took up office on 1 June 2019 and we have been on a fast-moving journey ever since. Our virtual GA 2020 has given authority to the planning undertaken by Dave Kendall, our Chief Officer, and the Trustees look forward to supporting him in the delivery of the Faith Action Plan. We are required to fulfil the trustee responsibilities as defined by OSCR and also to carry out instructions provided for us by the General Assembly.

We have been entrusted with the unique opportunity of streamlining many of our ways of working while moving the focus from the centre to local congregations. As a member of your local church, you will be well placed to help us ensure that we are moving in the right direction. This is an exciting and challenging time for the church and as trustees we are looking for innovative ways to enthuse and support local churches in their mission programmes.

The Trustees must maintain a wide skills base and at this point we are particularly interested in the addition of someone with a background in theology. Our aim is that the make up of the Assembly Trustees reflects the membership of the Church and the interests of those we serve and so we seek to ensure we have appropriate diversity within the Assembly Trustees. More info: <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about-us/vacancies-and-volunteering/become-an-assembly-trustee>.



# TRAIDCRAFT

## Fighting poverty through trade

Recently the members of the Kirkwall East Mission Group decided to donate the £400.00 that had accumulated in the Traidcraft account to the work of the Thyolo Presbytery , and more specifically for a Borehole at Kasologodo Prayer House. The following was recently received by Iain Macdonald, Orkney Presbytery's World Mission Conven-  
er.

*Wish to inform that the Borehole at Kasologodo Prayer House, under Chitsime Parish, is now complete.  
The Driller took a bit of time to drill because the area is rocky.  
As you recall, this is the Borehole drilled using funds from June Freeth, Stromness Congregation, and the Fairtrade Group at Kirkwall East Congregation.  
Please relay our utmost gratitude for their consideration in keeping faith with our Borehole Drilling Ministry.*

Maybe not directly supporting fair trade but definitely in the spirit of fair trade in which a clean, reliable source of water plays a major part.

Given the rate at which the Traidcraft balance is currently growing we will not be in a position to support anything next year so please do think about placing an order. Christmas catalogues should be available at the end of the month and the hottest selling product of last year FUDGE is now back in stock.





Would you like to do some knitting for Christmas since we can't get to the shops so well these days?  
Please find this pattern shared by an Edinburgh friend.

## ***Lion Puppet Knitting Pattern***

**You will need:** Approx 20g double knitting wool in main colour. Contrasting oddments in 2 other colours for mane, small amount of black wool for features.

**Needles:** 1 pair size 8 or 7 (4 mm or 4.5mm) needles.

**Cast on** 36 stitches using main colour and work 6 rows in garter stitch.

Work 20 rows in stocking stitch.

### **Arms:**

**Next row:** Cast on 8 stitches. Knit back these 8 sts plus 18 sts from body. (26 sts altogether). Turn leaving remaining 18 stitches on a spare needle.  
Cast on 8 sts. K3, P28, K3



Continue for a further 6 rows on these 34 sts remembering to knit the first and last 3 stitches on purl rows.

Cast off 10 sts. Knit to end of row.

Cast off 10 sts. Purl to end of row. 14 sts remain.

Slip these stitches onto spare needle, and break off wool.

Rejoin wool to 18 sts on first spare needle, and work the arms again to match.

Slip all the sts from front and back onto one needle (28 sts).

### **Head:**

Work 12 rows in stocking stitch on these 28 sts. Next row: [s1 k1 pssso, k10, k2tog] twice. (24 sts). Purl 1 row.

Next row: [s1 k1 pssso, k8, k2tog] twice. (20 sts). Purl 1 row.

Cast off.

### **Ears:** make 2.

Using main colour cast on 6 sts. Work 5 rows in stocking stitch starting with a purl row. Decrease 1 st at each end of next row. Cast off.

### **Tail:**

Cast on 3 sts in main colour.

Work in i-cord for 20 cm (8 in). Cast off.

(To knit an i-cord: \*Knit 1 row, slide stitches to the other end of needle, do not turn, repeat from \*. If you don't have double pointed needles, you can still achieve this by slipping all the sts from the right hand needle back onto the left-hand needle. Then just knit another row, and repeat. )



### Mane:

Using 3 strands of different coloured wool together, cast on 3 sts.

Work in garter stitch for approx 25 cm (10 in) or until work is long enough to form a circle around the head. Work an even number of rows.

Cast off 1 stitch, then slip the needle out of the remaining stitches. Now carefully unravel the work to form loops as shown. (For more info on this technique look [here](#) at the 'knitted fringe' option.

Sew up the side seam of body, arms and head. Bend the mane round into a circle and sew around the edge of the head. Attach the ears to the head and tail to the back. Make a small pom-pom using the three colours used for the mane and attach to the end of the tail. Sew on a happy face using black yarn.

## Christmas Gift Bags: Looking for volunteers

Thank you to all those who have already volunteered to help. If you have not already let us know, please get in touch as soon as you can to help us plan.

We would be most grateful for offers of help making goods and produce and help in delivering the bags. We are also looking for some small baked bean cans (for baking the mini Christmas cakes). If you aren't able to help but would like to donate towards costs of goods, that is also most welcome.

**If you are able to help in any way please contact Rona Harcus 870632, Helen Stevenson 874439, Anne Moore 872575 or Andrea Massey 861426.**

**Vital Talk** is a small local charity that has the support of several local church organisations. It is now well established as a local provider of **general counselling** that is of a high standard. A unique aspect of the service is that **Christian Counselling** is also available for anyone who wishes it. The charity is now enrolled on AmazonSmile. Here is the link: <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/SC042360> When you shop through the it, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price of eligible purchases to Vital Talk.