



ELGIN
ST GILES' &
ST COLUMBA'S SOUTH
CHURCH MAGAZINE

November 2022



Lest we Forget

PEOPLE IN OUR CHURCH – WHO'S WHO

Minister	Deon Oelofse Sonia Palmer	01343 208786 01343 341008	
Session Clerk	Audrey Gill	01343 542566	
Assistant Session Clerk	Kathleen Thomson	01343 545414	
Treasurer(pro term)	Graeme Archibald	07850205370	
St Giles' – Caretaker	John Ralph	01343 545302	
St Columba's South – Caretaker	Ian Thomson	01343545414	
Hall Caretaker	Ian Thomson	01343545414	
Beadle – St Giles'	John Ralph	01343 545302	
St Columba's South	Ian Thomson	01343545414	
Flower Convenors	Muriel Gerrard (St Columba's) Kathy Dale (St Giles')	01343 550257 01343 541437	
Organists – St Giles'	Deborah Nealon	01343 549027	
St Columba's South	Angus Lawson		
Finance Convenor	Ian Chambers	01343 544792	
Tuesday Lunch Club	Kathleen Thomson	01343 545414	
Social Convenor	Brian Hamilton	01343 543993	
Safeguarder	Marjorie Duthie	01343 548482	
Christian Aid Co-ordinator	Bertha Ritchie	01343545285	
Property Convenor	Jim Manson	01343 547850	
Magazine Distribution Organiser	James S Macpherson	01343546639	
Church Office Secretary	Ann Forteach Office Hours – Wednesday, and Friday 9:30am – 12:30 Email – stgileselgin@gmail.com	Duff Avenue, Elgin 01343 551501	

CHURCH ORGANISATION CONTACTS

Monday Guild	Doreen Johnston	01343 547511	
Wednesday Guild	Lorna McCook	01343 549035	
Men's Association	Ken Wood	01343 543068	
Women's Group	Marjorie Duthie Kathy Dale	01343 548482 01343 541437	
Bowling	George Robb	07708028555	
Badminton	Margaret Paterson	01343 547924	6.30 – 8pm
Theatre Group	Lindsay Knight	01343 543393	07802438460
St Giles' Development Group	James S Macpherson	01343 546639	

Minister's Letter

Church of St Giles' and St Columba's South

Dear all,

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of another turbulent year. The past two years have been so difficult on so many levels that I think most of us were hoping for a quiet year. However, I am reminded of a recent Facebook entry that stated the following fact:

My son has lived through four chancellors, four home secretaries, three prime ministers and two monarchs.
He's four months old...

For most of us the stable years before 2020 have evaporated in the whirlpool of uncertainty that has coloured life for the past few years. As we enter into an uncertain winter with higher utility bills and even more uncertainty regarding power supply it is possible to get overwhelmed by everything happening around us. We are also feeling the change in the life of the church. Presbytery planning is challenging us on so many levels. The closure of buildings, the change in ministry patterns across the church is really putting a lot of pressure on the current pattern of church life.

I am pleased to say that the Sessions of the Elgin charges have been very fortunate that a lot of planning was done before hand. We are excited about the way our mission is starting to take shape and how people are getting involved. One of these projects is ACORN, an easy way of allowing ourselves to be encouraged to ask God: Where is He sending us today? By being there for a family member or neighbour in need, we are sharing the comfort, love and the story of God. The first of many mentoring sessions will be on the 2nd of November at 19:00 in the Elgin High Hall. We are also excited by the outreach from St Giles' to understand and offer help to teenagers on the Plainstones. This is done in partnership with our ecumenical partners. We have Breakfast Church and so many other exciting new projects. Kicks is also restarting again in November and we are excited by all the new families we would be able to serve.

It is during times of turbulence that we start to look and seek the solace of God. The Psalm writer in Psalm 84 reminds us in verse 5-7 that:

And how blessed all those in whom you live, whose lives become roads you travel;

They wind through lonesome valleys, come upon brooks, discover cool springs and pools brimming with rain!

God-travelled, these roads curve up the mountain, and
at the last turn—Zion! God in full view! (From The Message)

As we pilgrim through life with all its troubles and joys, we travel in the presence of God. The same God whose Son travelled these roads on our behalf during his earthly ministry. This travelled road leads us to the solace and comfort of God. Better still whilst we are on this journey we travel in the comfort and love of God. How wonderful to know that in this life we will never be alone and abandoned by God!

So as this turbulent year comes to an end, we will be entering, at the end of November into the season of Advent. A season where we are reminded of God's journey from heaven to earth to show us the way to then see Him in full view, as the Psalm writer yearned.

May November be a month where every day is a moment to remember the journey and presence of God in difficult times. We may be heading for a forth Prime Minister, we may be even heading for difficult decisions in the Church, but we always have the opportunity to be invited into the unfailing presence of God's love and comfort each and every day.

Every blessing from all at the Manse.

FLOWER LIST



St Columba's South	
<u>December</u>	
4th	The Church will be enhanced by Christmas decoration's
11 th	
18th	
25th	
St Giles'	
<u>January</u>	
4th	Details will be in the Christmas Magazine
11 th	
18th	
25th	

WELCOME DUTIES

		<u>BEADLE</u>	<u>READING</u>
St Giles' November			
6 th	Bill and Hilda Robertson Gill Mason Angela Ralph	John Ralph	Gill Mason
13 th	Iain Morrison Ann Forteath Kathleen Thomson Margaret Paterson	John Ralph	
20 th	Davie Small John Henderson Kathy Dale Bertha Ritchie	John Ralph	Kathy Dale
27 th	Carola Smith Margaret Hamilton Ron and Marion Hay	John Ralph	Ron Hay
St Columba's South December			
4 th	Kathleen Thomson Ian Chambers Mary Dawson Carola Smith	Ian Thomson	Jim Manson
11 th	Kathleen Thomson Hugh Carter Ann Mitchell Nancy Brodie	Ian Thomson	Ann Mitchell
18 th	Kathleen Thomson Elizabeth Macrae Eliana Cowie Iain Morrison	Ian Thomson	Eliana Cowie
25 th	Duncan Alexander Ann Forteath Kathleen Thomson	Ian Thomson	Ann Forteath
St Giles' January			
1 st	George and Marjorie Duthie Mary Dawson Graeme Archibald	John Ralph	Sarah Backx

The clock of life is wound but once and no man has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop, at late or early hour.
Now is the only time you own, so live, love, toil with a will.
Place no faith in time, for the clock may soon be still.

Anon



Dear Friends

Where has the year gone as we venture into November, with the temptation to bring back Guy Fawkes to sort our Parliament out! and the journey has begun with a new King. November always seems to be a month of anticipation as we journey towards Lent the first Sunday in Lent being the last Sunday of November. Hopefully we will be able to celebrate Christmas fully this year, but I am fully aware of those whose Christmas will not be the same, through life changing illness or loss of a loved one - loss of a loved one being close to my own heart. With our faith we are comforted that we know God, our strength and comforter, is always there for us. Recently conducting a bereavement service at St Laurence, I used the Love chapter from the Bible 1 Corinthian 13, this passage usually used at weddings, about the emotion of love in the context of the love of two people for each other, but love can be used in other contexts, love of family, animals. Creation. With Jesus re-enforcing that Love is the most important gift that God has given us, Love thy neighbour as thyself.

So, as we move into the winter months and the uncertainty of how we keep warm with rising fuel prices, perhaps not eating as well as food prices rise. I feel it's even more important this year to love thy neighbour as thyself and perhaps make more of an effort filling an Advent box for the food bank. If you have never done this before, starting the week before Advent begins so the box can be handed to someone before Christmas and each day. That's 7 items a week you put in the box, from non-perishable goods to toiletries and a Christmas card to tell someone they are thought about. So, get your box ready perhaps decorated with Christmas paper and start the 20th November.

As usual my life is kept busy, especially planning new types of worship to encourage the non-Christians around us to find faith, but I always find time for my 3 joys Lacey, Holly and Milly, God sends us blessings in so many ways and these little girls are always able to make me smile, from Milly's first steps to Holly absolutely refusing to use the dreaded Potty! "Holly, will you use your potty?", "NO!" She will in in her own time. Family can mean so much to us and when we lose one family member, the comfort and love for each other becomes so much stronger, so let's also bear in mind those who perhaps do not have anyone and welcome them into your family circle, or just visit with a Christmas card and maybe a wee gift.

So, as we prepare for our Advent celebrations, preparing the advent wreaths with fork handles, sorry 4 candles, preparations for Nativities, Christingle and celebrating the birth of our Saviour, remember those who are not so happy about Christmas and give them some cheer.

Enjoy your lives as the Lord has blessed us with life, family friends, church family and animals to give us love. God Bless.

Love Sonia (Nutty Nanny)



DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER		
1	8.00am	Prayer Reflection - ONLINE
	10.00am-12noon	Coffee & Chat - Williamson Hall
	2.00pm-4.00pm	Bowling - Williamson Hall
2	10.15am	Men's Association - Williamson Hall
	2.00pm	Wednesday Guild - Williamson Hall
	6.30pm	Bible Study - Williamson Hall
	6.30pm-8.00pm	Badminton - Williamson Hall
	7.30pm	Women's Group - Williamson Hall
3	1.00pm	Midweek Worship - St Giles'
6	9.00am-9.45am	Breakfast Church - Williamson Hall
	10.30am	Sunday Worship - St Giles'
7	1.00pm-3.30pm	Monday Club - Williamson Hall
	7.30pm	Monday Guild - Williamson Hall
8	8.00am	Prayer Reflection - ONLINE
	10.00am-12noon	Coffee & Chat - Williamson Hall
	2.00pm-4.00pm	Bowling - Williamson Hall
	10.00am-12.30pm	TASS - Williamson Hall
9	2.00-4.00pm	Craft Group - West Room, Williamson Hall
	6.30pm	Bible Study - Williamson Hall
	6.30pm-8.00pm	Badminton - Williamson Hall
10	1.00pm	Midweek Worship - St Giles'
13	10.45am	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE - Plainstones
	11.15am	Worship - St Giles'
14	1.00pm-3.30pm	Monday Club - Williamson Hall
15	8.00am	Prayer Reflection - ONLINE
	10.00am-12noon	Coffee & Chat - Williamson Hall
	2.00pm-4.00pm	Bowling - Williamson Hall
16	10.15am	Men's Association - Williamson Hall
	6.30pm	Bible Study - Williamson Hall
	6.30pm-8.00pm	Badminton - Williamson Hall
17	1.00pm	Midweek Worship - St Giles'
20	10.30am	Sunday Worship - St Giles'
21	1.00pm-3.30pm	Monday Club - Williamson Hall
22	8.00am	Prayer Reflection - ONLINE
	10.00am-12noon	Coffee & Chat - Williamson Hall
	2.00pm-4.00pm	Bowling - Williamson Hall
23	6.30pm-8.00pm	Badminton - Williamson Hall
24	1.00pm	Midweek Worship - St Giles'
27	10.30am	Sunday Worship - St Giles'
	6.00pm	Healing Service - Williamson Hall
28	1.00pm-3.30pm	Monday Club - Williamson Hall
29	8.00am	Prayer Reflection - ONLINE
	10.00am-12noon	Coffee & Chat - Williamson Hall
	2.00pm-4.00pm	Bowling - Williamson Hall
30	10.15am	Men's Association - Williamson Hall
	6.30pm	Bible Study - Williamson Hall
	6.30pm-8.00pm	Badminton - Williamson Hall

Eco-Congregation Scotland

Over the last wee while Eco-Congregation and Net Zero Scotland have been encouraging us to talk to friends and family about home heating, transport, food, waste and nature in relation to climate change.

It often seems that the younger generation blames the older generation for problems caused by global warming. Older people who went through the war years and post war years and learned to cook, garden and live frugally, may feel young people are very wasteful.

There is an interesting book called 'How to Talk about Climate Change in a Way that Makes a Difference' and the following is a condensed example of different scenarios.

Greta Thunberg has inspired many young people but older people may find her difficult to listen to and yet hard to dismiss because apparently 99% of scientists now agree with her. Australians are now working hard to change their stance on fossil fuels. It seems that girls have been particularly good at getting very conservative fathers to think about the impact of climate change. Daughters were also becoming more interested in the science, technology and engineering subjects at school.

In China the impact of family conversation works in a different way. Many grandparents care for the young and are seen as trusted communicators and 'experts' with special status. Their shared memories of climate change were in line with actual scientific data and their influence on the tweens was significant. Focus on local effects of climate change was particularly helpful in changing attitudes.

It is interesting to see how these two social experiments from very different countries show the power of intergenerational discussions on climate change to shift even entrenched attitudes, and to encourage action and support for climate change policies.

Government focus on the subject appears to have shifted away from these issues in more recent times but the next COP conference is almost upon us. The host country leaders in Egypt, are desperately hoping that the UK will be seen to honour the pledges it made last year and lead other countries to do the same. Almost everyday we hear about some sad new climatic event and the corresponding impact on people. More and more people are on the move trying to escape from climate induced disasters. We can contact our MP to ask whoever is going to be the next PM to put this high on their agenda and we can pray that our leaders will respond positively.

There should be a notice in the church hall foyer and on the board in St Giles' with phone numbers and addresses of some of the businesses and groups I have mentioned recently.

More waste reducing or other related ideas always welcome!

Carola Smith
Eco-Congregation representative



Copyright © Randy Glasbergen.
www.glasbergen.com

Any material for the Christmas issue of the Church magazine should be emailed to both Mary, dawsonmarie@sky.com and Kathy at kathleendale2505@gmail.com by 24th November. While we are only doing a web copy it is easier if all material is just emailed to us. The sooner we get the material, the easier it is for us. Many thanks



I know I'm not an estate agent anymore, but I can't stop thinking about how much city folk would pay for an acre of this.

World Mission News

The Church of Scotland has supported an ecumenical effort to convey concerns around Liz Truss' plans to weigh up the possible relocation of the British embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.



In a private letter to the Prime Minister, sent on 11 October, the Church of Scotland, the Church of England, United Reformed Church, Methodist Church in Great Britain, Quakers in Britain, Christian Aid, and other churches and Christian humanitarian organisations with a long history of working with Palestinians and Israelis striving for peace, urged Liz Truss to drop plans to review the location of the British embassy.

Her plans echo that of Donald Trump who caused controversy in 2017 when he announced his decision to move the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and then officially made the move a year later.

The letter follows a statement released by [The Council of the Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem](#) on 10 October, which said it was "gravely concerned" at the Prime Minister's plans.

The letter's signatories asked the Prime Minister to instead "maintain the obligation of all nations to respect the historic status quo of the Holy City, in conformity with the relevant UN resolutions".

The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt Rev Dr Iain Greenshields, said: "The General Assembly has consistently supported a negotiated solution to the ongoing occupation of the Palestinian territory, which includes East Jerusalem, and unilateral UK action to move its embassy would not support efforts to see a peaceful, long-term resolution of this historic injustice."

In the letter, the signatories reminded Liz Trust that "The Holy Land Co-ordination, mandated by the Holy See, and made up of Christian church leaders from around the world, after its May 2022 visit stated: 'Jerusalem is a Jewish city, a Christian city, a Muslim city. It must remain a common patrimony and never become the exclusive monopoly of any one religion. It is our right and duty as Christians to uphold the city's openness and universality'."

The letter concluded with a warning that "a review of the location of the embassy would only send a negative signal that would not serve the interests of a sustainable and just peace for all, Palestinian and Israelis alike".

Vice Convener of a Church of Scotland Forum travels to South Africa

Rev Peter Johnston, vice convener of the Faith Impact Forum, is preparing to travel to South Africa this week with partners from Christian Aid. On the trip, Peter looks to improve his understanding of land justice by seeing first-hand the issues and using his experience to enrich his work with the Faith Impact Forum in highlighting these issues and advocating for justice. Peter was first inspired to learn more about the World Church through a trip to Malawi, with whom his congregation is twinned. Ahead of his travels, Peter has written the following message:

"This is an opportunity to travel with other church leaders from across the UK in order to immerse ourselves in the work of one of Christian Aid's partner organisations.

"Our small group, gathered from across the UK, will be travelling to Durban in South Africa and meeting up with other clergy with whom we will spend the week. We are kindly being hosted by the Church Land Programme, an organisation working in solidarity with the landless poor in Durban and Pietermaritzburg. We will be joining members of this programme which works in and amongst people most affected by injustices over the land on which they live and, increasingly, climate justice issues. This will give us the chance to observe the situation of people living with these threats, reflect on the causes of their predicament, and listen to their stories and those of people working in solidarity with them. I have no doubt that this will help us better understand an issue that affects global development.

"I am looking forward to learning a lot, meeting new friends, and building connections with sisters and brothers in faith across the globe as they strive to advocate for justice for shack-dweller communities".

Peter will be publishing updates on the Church of Scotland's Facebook page with regular posts about his journey.

News from Groups and Associations

MEN'S ASSOCIATION

Wednesday October 5th

Wednesday the 5th saw our new season get under way with a refreshing cuppa and a nice scone. We welcomed a couple of new members and encouraged them to get involved with the Association and feel free to make suggestions. We had decided to hold an open meeting without a speaker this week where we could outline the format of forthcoming meetings. It had been decided to hold more outings during the season which would encourage new and dormant members - as our numbers have seen a decline since the Covid problems. The revised format has been welcomed by the members who are looking forward to more outings.

The meeting was then opened up and allowed informal talks and stories, funny and otherwise, about all things local and national that had taken place during our summer break.

Wednesday October 19th

This saw the Association hold its bi-monthly get together and enjoy a nice cup of tea with a pancake. After refreshments, Liz Tait was introduced as our speaker for the morning. Liz was a late substitution for Rev Sonia Palmer (Sonia will now be here on November 2nd). Liz is a local Red Cross Co-ordinator (Red Cross Member for 55 years) and one of a team of sixty crises response personnel and is one of the few with medical expertise. Liz is on call every second month and can be called at short notice to be in London within six hours and join the emergency disaster team to head out to any part of the world. We heard how Liz has been involved in many of the disasters world-wide bringing aid and comfort to the needy and protecting UK personnel from life-threatening situations. Some of her recent escapades included the evacuation from war-torn Afghanistan and the earthquake in China. Nearer to home, she was involved in the care and help that the public needed after queuing and filing past Queen Elizabeth's coffin at Westminster Hall in London - many needed comfort and attention after this emotional experience.

This is only a snapshot of what was talked about as she went into detail of her many excursions over the years. After a lively question and answer session Liz was given a wholehearted vote of thanks and the meeting closed at around 11:40.

Forthcoming Events

November 2nd	Speaker -	Rev Sonia Palmer at The Williamson Hall
November 16th	Visit -	Speyside Cooperage at Craigellachie
	Cost -	Visit and Tour £5:00 - Soup etc. £5:75

Ken Wood
Chairman

This is a non-denominational men's group and a warm welcome is extended to all.

MONDAY GUILD

The opening meeting of Monday Guild was held in Williamson Hall on 3rd October.

Rev Sonia presided over the meeting and her approach was very refreshing. The theme taken was Sonia's interpretation of Wee Seeds ,Big Trees. She led the singing with cheerful enthusiasm, much appreciated by everyone.

A number of members accepted an invitation to join Lhanbryde Guild for the afternoon on the 18th October. A representative from The Vine Trust gave a very informative account of the work being achieved in Tanzania - building a village to accommodate orphan children into family life.

The Vine Trust is one of the charities supported by The Guild over a span of three years.

At the next meeting, on 7th November, Vivienne Welsh will give a demonstration on spinning.

Doreen Johnston

WEDNESDAY GUILD

The next meeting of the Wednesday Guild will be held in the Williamson Hall at 2 pm when our speaker will be Bert Duffus.

Maureen Stephen

WOMEN'S GROUP

The Rev Sonia was our speaker in October and she gave us a great insight into her holiday in Oberammergau, and her visit to the Passion Play. A wonderful experience.

Our speaker on Wednesday, 2nd November, is Linda Robertson, and we are looking forward to our craft evening.

Marjorie Duthie

ST GILES' THEATRE GROUP

Having enjoyed a break during the school holidays, the cast returned on Sunday 23 October filled with enthusiasm to start rehearsals. Everyone had been told of their part in School of Rock on the last Thursday before the holidays. The hope was they would use some of their break to reflect on what their contribution to the final performance would be. There's now lots of hard work ahead for everyone learning the various songs and dance routines for the show.

Membership numbers have increased since last year, although still not as large as were attending for Shrek. This has meant that many of the parts have been split between two members so more people get the opportunity to display their talents in the final performances. We look forward to keeping you informed about are progress over the next few months.

Lindsay Knight

CRAFT GROUP

The Craft Group will meet on Wednesday 9 November from 2-4pm in the West Room, Williamson Hall.

As part of the training to be a Street Pastor you do two supervised patrols. Recently I went out on my first supervised patrol. As part of team of three people we were out from 9.30pm to 3.30am. Prior to going on patrol, the Team Leader explained what would be happening and where we would be going. Although I was observing, I was given the job of answering one of the most asked question – ‘what is a Street Pastor?’ We then had a time of prayer.

Overall, the evening was fairly uneventful, nothing serious or dramatic happened. There were a few conversations, people expressed their appreciation for the help Street Pastors had given them in the past. We were able to help by giving 2 pairs of flip flops to ladies whose heels were causing them a lot of discomfort. We also gave out 12 lollipops, a few small chocolate bars, a bottle of water and recharged a flat phone battery for someone so they could contact a friend in Keith to come and take them home!

As I reflected later, I was reminded again of the empty cross shaped void in human lives which we try to fill through entertainment etc. Each person, out for a good night, was an individual loved by God who longs to give them the gift of abundant life. It was a privilege to be part of Street Pastors and although we didn't have any meaningful spiritual conversations, we were a light shining in the darkness. Through our actions of listening, helping, and caring, we were able to show God's love and compassion. As a link in a chain in the lives of those we spoke to we trust God will work to His glory.

I'm looking forward to my next supervised patrol and the opportunity of showing God's love through listening, caring, and helping. Thank-you for your prayers for the ministry of Elgin Street Pastors.

Stuart Duff

I truly believe we can either see the connections, celebrate them, and express gratitude for our blessings, or we can see life as a string of coincidences that have no meaning or connection. For me, I'm going to believe in miracles, celebrate life, rejoice in the views of eternity, and hope my choices will create a positive ripple effect in the lives of others. This is my choice. **Mike Ericksen**

In life, one has a choice to take one of two paths: to wait for some special day--or to celebrate each special day. **Rasheed Ogunlaru**

Things turn out best for people who make the best of the way things turn out. **John Wooden**

Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude. **A.A. Milne**

Forget yesterday--it has already forgotten you. Don't sweat tomorrow--you haven't even met. Instead, open your eyes and your heart to a truly precious gift--today. **Steve Maraboli**

We should certainly count our blessings, but we should also make our blessings count. **Neal A. Maxwell**

TRANSPORT TO CHURCH SERVICES

The Laich of Moray minibus will bring members to the Church services on these dates.

St Columba's South

16th October

St Giles'

6th November

St Columba's South

11th December



If you would like the bus to pick you up and take you home, please contact David Small on 549670 or 07715707074

World War I Remembrance Day Poppies are a symbol of respect and remembrance for those who died in World War I. This poppy flower meaning came about because the field poppy, hardy yet delicate, was a common part of the landscape on the Western Front during the Great War. After being heavily bombed and scarred, the land did not lend itself to growing much. In his famous poem, "In Flanders Fields," Canadian-born John McCrae wrote about this pretty red flower that grew over the graves of those who had given the ultimate sacrifice and that it beautified the devastated countryside.

Major John McCrae of the 1st Brigade Canadian Field Artillery had been stationed in the trenches near Ypres, Belgium, in April 1915. In an area known as Flanders, Canadian troops made their first major appearance at the **Second Battle of Ypres**. Within 48 hours, over 6,000 Canadians had died in those Flanders fields. While this terrible scene unfolded, McCrae's friend Lieutenant Alexis Helmer was killed by artillery fire. Lieutenant Helmer, like many others, was buried in a make-do grave in the surrounding fields of Flanders. McCrae later noticed the many graves scattered about were blooming with wild poppies. That scene inspired the writing of his famous poem, which was published in *Punch* magazine on December 8, 1915.

Though the poem was published in 1915 and World War I ended in November 1918, the wearing of the World War I Remembrance Day poppies was not started until 1921. Today, McCrae's poem continues to hold significance during Remembrance Day (also known as Armistice Day) celebrations in Britain, Canada and Europe and Memorial and Veteran's Day celebrations in the United States.

When Should You Wear World War I Remembrance Poppies?

No doubt, you have seen the pretty little flower adorning the lapels of royals and others on several occasions. There is some disagreement about when it is appropriate to wear Remembrance Day poppies. Some say you may start wearing the poppy pins on October 31. Others say that poppies are only appropriate to wear during the 11 days leading up to Remembrance Day.

There is also debate on which shoulder the poppy should be pinned, but most people do as Queen Elizabeth did and wear it on the left! Wearing the poppy pin over the left breast is to have it close to the heart.

Why Do World War I Remembrance Day Poppies Look Different?

Not all poppy pins look the same. Some have leaves, others do not. Some have four petals and others have two. So, why the difference? Simple. The Royal British Legion produces the poppy pins for England, Wales, and Northern Ireland; Poppy Scotland produces poppies for Scotland, and each have their own design for the poppy.

One thing all World War I Remembrance Day poppies have in common is their colour. Remembrance poppies are red, not to signify blood, but because red is the natural colour of field poppies. Typically, each poppy pin has a black centre. Additionally, some may have a green stem or leaf added.

The money raised from the sale of these poppies goes to help fund care for the soldiers who have been hurt in some way during all the conflict which is still happening in our world.

So, if you see a poppy seller in the street, or if they come round your school, buy a poppy to remember those who have died or been injured to keep our country as safe a place as can be for you and me.



We have been asked to put the Men's Association Programme into this month's magazine.

Here it is.

Men's Association Programme 2022/23

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker / Visit</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Location</u>
5 Oct 2022	Open Meeting		Williamson Hall
19 Oct 2022	Liz Tait	Red Cross Co-ordinator	Williamson Hall
2 Nov 2022	Rev Sonia Palmer		Williamson Hall
16 Nov 2022	Speyside Cooperage	Visit & Tour (Tour £5.00 Soup etc £5.75)	Craigellachie
30 Nov 2022	Andy Wardley	RAF Lossiemouth	Williamson Hall
14 Dec 2022	Christmas Lunch	12.30 for 1.00pm at Hotel	Laichmoray Hotel
4 Jan 2023	RNLI		Williamson Hall
18 Jan 2023	Moray Sports Centre	Tour - Coffee or Soup & Sandwich	Sports Centre
1 Feb 2023	Tracy	Tesco - The Pandemic	Williamson Hall
15 Feb 2023	Glen Moray Distillery	History of Distillery	Williamson Hall
1 Mar 2023	Elgin Museum	Provisional	Elgin Museum
15 Mar 2023	Spirit of Speyside	Lynn	Williamson Hall
5 Apr 2023	Boeing - RAF Lossiemouth	Mike	Williamson Hall
19 Apr 2023	Pluscarden Abbey	Visit to Abbey (Requires Donation)	Pluscarden