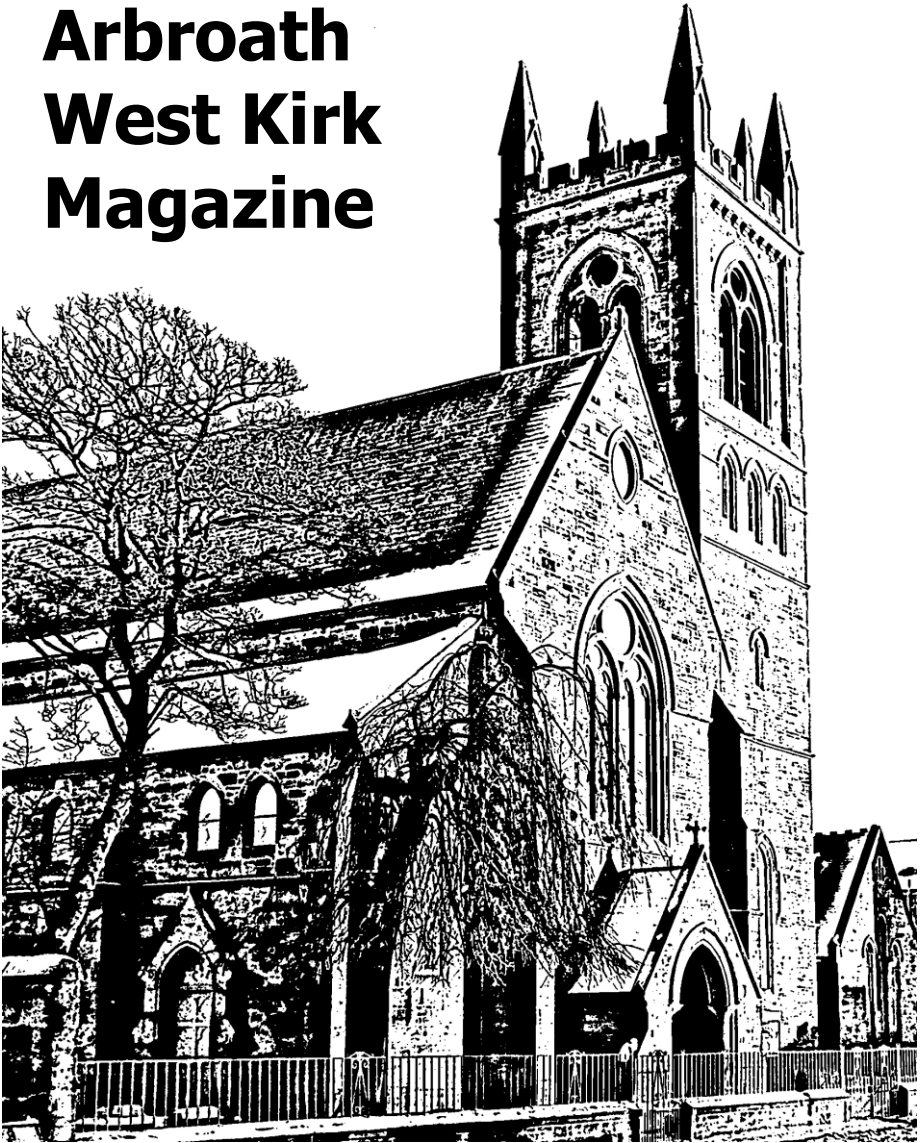


---

# **Arbroath West Kirk Magazine**



**Issue 300: September 2023**

Scottish Charity Number SC006482

Website - [www.arbroathwestkirk.org](http://www.arbroathwestkirk.org)

## Chris's Chatter

Following the school summer holiday weeks, we come to the end of August and start of September with schools, colleges and universities gearing up for the new session.

Other groups, clubs and organisations that also take a break over the summer are also holding their AGMs, planning and agreeing their syllabuses for the new year and seeking to recruit new members and there's plenty of



information about some of the things that are on offer at the West Kirk for all ages in this edition of the magazine together with a look back at some of the summer highlights.

Learning is essential for all of us, whatever our age, for – whoever we are – our circumstances are always changing and we need to learn to adapt to those changes. I read a book on holiday about pilgrimage – its biblical history in the wanderings of the people of Israel in the Old Testament, the early Christian teachers who moved around constantly and from Roman times those who made special journeys to “religious sites”, through the Middle Ages where pilgrimage became big business as a penance, sometimes even undertaken for by someone in the place of the offender and then the Reformation where pilgrimage all but stopped, ending in today's world where there has been a huge upturn in the numbers taking on a pilgrimage – in order to reflect and to learn from others as they travel.

The book emphasised that it's not just the walk, or the time away, or the virtual sessions on a computer (for pilgrimage can take many forms) that are important, it's what one does with what one has learned when one returns. When Jesus encountered folk during his ministry he often challenged them to respond to the encounter – Bartimaeus, the woman at the well, the woman caught in adultery. Peter, Carla and I are reading through various different books and discussing them to learn, to be inspired in order to plan together as a team. I'm also part of a group of ministers (all within their first 5 years of ministry) who meet each month to learn from those with more experience. I hope and pray that some of what I learn I will be able to

share with others in the coming weeks and months as we seek to resolve the restructuring of the churches and share God's love with our communities.



What are you learning or planning on learning this Autumn? It would be great to hear your ideas and share your wisdom with each other.

Chris

### **Presbytery Mission Planning Update**

Following the congregational vote in June which resulted in 7 congregations voting for the union and 2 against, the transition team have been working on a way forward over the summer.

- We have, with the help of volunteers from our churches, arranged 2 Walk and Talk events to Arbirlot and Colliston, with more planned in the Autumn.
- We have enjoyed united worship and fellowship in Summer services in July and August.
- A prayer evening was held in July in St Andrew's Church with another planned on 10<sup>th</sup> September in Carmyllie Church.
- Question and Answer sessions open to all members of the Arbroath churches have been held in an effort to give as much information as we can about the formal side of the process as well as ideas and vision for the future.

These have been opportunities to enjoy spending time together but also to learn more about one another.

- A meeting has been held with Rev Fiona Smith, the principal clerk of the Church of Scotland to consider how we go forward from a legal point of view.

- Further professional information on one of our buildings that we were waiting for has now been received to enhance our thinking.

In September the transition team will meet with Presbytery to decide on the next steps with a view to a second vote the following month. We do appreciate that this process has been longer and more frustrating than many of us anticipated and involves both a sense of lament and grief. Please pray for one another – as parts of the body of Christ – “as we walk the extra mile or hold up a sister who’s struggling or sit with a brother who’s afraid. We are part of something so much bigger than any one of us and blessed to be so.”

(Quote from Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton – GA 2023)

Following the General Assembly, the Church of Scotland magazine, **Life & Work**, produces a summary of the debates and decisions that were taken there. We are going to produce that summary over the next few magazines to give you a flavour of the debates but also the breadth of the work and society that the church is involved in.

### **“A NEW REFORMATION”**

The convener of the Church of Scotland’s Assembly Trustees has urged the Church to display a new spirit of Reformation in the face of falling membership and ministry shortages. The Rev David Cameron told the General Assembly that it was a “critical time” for the church, but encouraged Commissioners to imagine an exciting future.

“Imagine Church where members are enthusiastic about doing things differently,” he said. “Imagine listening to one another and dreaming bold dreams and having the energy and encouragement to experiment and learn in the process. Imagine being able to move forward in positive ways, tackling serious issues of the day, responding to the real need in Scotland. Imagine finding a creative way of getting different people with different views together to create a different future. Imagine planting new church communities where they’ve always been needed, breaking out of our constrained systems to do so. “Sharing ministry for the pastoral care of the elderly in the aging congregations

whilst recognising the need to be intergenerational, fully integrating our young people, shaping the life of the Church.

“The new alongside the old, energising and inspiring with the gospel imperative, ‘go and make disciples’.”

In his speech as outgoing Moderator, the Very Rev Dr Iain Greenshields urged all congregations to “take a long, careful look at who we are”. He added: “Out of lament and grief comes new life and new identity.”

And this year’s Moderator, the Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton, closed the week saying that the church was “the body of Christ” with “hands that aren’t afraid to get dirty”, “feet that walk the extra mile”, and “here to hold up a sister who’s struggling or sit with a brother who’s afraid”.

And she added: “We are part of something so much bigger than any one of us and we are blessed to be. So, challenges – bring them on.”

## **PRESBYTERY MISSION PLANNING AND CHURCH CLOSURES**

Mr Cameron acknowledged the hurt and pain that had been caused by the Presbytery Mission Planning process over the past year, which he admitted ‘has felt harsh and rigid and people have not been as kind and pastorally sensitive as they should have been’. But he said the time had come to “lay down burdens which have been exhausting us all.”

The Trustees agreed to a proposal from the Rev Dr Doug Gay instructing them to explore alternative approaches to ministry planning which would ensure churches that can afford a minister (or be supported to afford one, in the case of deprived areas) would be permitted to call one.

However, the Assembly rejected an Overture from the Presbytery of Glasgow which would have appointed a Special Commission to review the Mission Planning process. Mr Cameron said that setting up a Commission at this stage would be premature and bring delay, but assured the Assembly that review was built into the process. He urged them to “embrace instead the task of rolling up our sleeves and getting involved in this good work going forward.”

During the debate of the General Trustees, the Assembly was assured that there is no quota for the number of church buildings that should

be closed. As some Commissioners expressed concern about the number of churches that are earmarked for closure under Presbytery Mission Plans, the Rev Scott Rennie, vicechair elect of the Trustees, said: “There is no quota. There has never been a quota, in any presbytery.” Adding that buildings could either be an asset or a drain on mission, he added: “The point of the exercise, in partnership with presbyteries, has been to try and find that middle balance, alongside affordability.”

The Trustees accepted a new section from the Rev Dr Grant Barclay confirming that “the Church of Scotland seeks to have adequate spaces in as many places as are properly affordable.” Dr Barclay said that he feared the Church wanted “a handful of Rolls Royces” for its buildings, “when what Scotland needs is a fleet of Fords.”

The Assembly also approved a section welcoming progress on the Presbytery Mission Planning Act, despite Dr Gay saying he didn’t think that reflected the feelings across the Church about the Mission Planning process: “I think we have gone about this in a way which has been disempowering to congregations and harmful to our mission.”

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Advance Notice</b> <b>Harvest – Sunday 1st October at 11am</b></p>
--



## Wedding

What a great day! A real pleasure to marry Lauren Shepherd and Sandy Urquhart on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June. Hopefully some of you were able to catch up on the live stream.



## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2023



Thank you so much to all the supporters and volunteers who helped or contributed in any way to Christian Aid this year. With the proceeds from the lovely Coronation lunch

and our 'delivery only' envelopes we raised the terrific sum of £1445 including Gift Aid.

With every gift, every prayer, every action, you bring more people the chance to live full lives, free from poverty. Thank you again.

Janice Tracey  
Christian Aid Co-ordinator

## DJ Club/Faithfinders

We had a lot of fun on our trip to Edinburgh in June. We visited the castle and St Giles Cathedral. We also had some ice cream, which was delicious.

We are now back for a new term; we meet in the Large Hall before the 11 am service. This term sees the start of the Faithfinders group, this is a group for any young person that are S1+

Leza Gibson

## Guild

We have continued to meet over the Summer on the last Monday of each month for a Cuppie and Chat at 2pm in the Large Hall the last meeting being on 28<sup>th</sup> August.

Guild Dedication Service is in the Church on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October and the new session starts on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm in the Large Hall and fortnightly after that. Our first meeting is Who am I? and we would like you to bring along a photograph of yourself as a child.

Membership Fee this year is £16. We have an interesting syllabus planned and look forward to welcoming everyone back - together with anyone who would like to come along to any of the meetings.

Our Strawberry Tea in June was a great success and raised £300 towards Guild Projects. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported us.

## TimmersTeaRoom@theKirk

Last year saw the start of a new community café – TimmersTeaRoom@theKirk as each month a class came down from the school and hosted anyone from the community offering baking, hot drinks and some entertainment. There was no charge, but the classes accepted donations and over the year they then chose to give to various charities – Cat's Protection, Disasters Emergency Committee, Monkbarns Care Home, Guide Dogs and RNLI.

The café was enjoyed by everyone, including the children and dates are already in the diary for this year – so please mark them on your calendar.

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December





## Walk & Talks



Just some of the crowd at Arbirlot for the first of our Walk n' Talks over the summer. We have enjoyed hospitality and more information about the history and people who have been a part of the history of the churches in our area – Arbirlot at the end of June and Colliston at the end of July. We will be welcoming folks from around the area as the **West Kirk hosts their Walk & Talk at 3pm on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September.**



### Holy Communion

There will be an informal communion immediately after morning worship on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** and everyone is welcome.

## Seaside Rock 2023

This year we welcomed over 60 children during the week who enjoyed a fast paced 2-hour programme each day with a daily weather forecast for the beach, a challenge, bible teaching, games, craft, snacks, songs, keep fit and, of course, a drama.



For the first time we also provided them with a packed lunch to take home, funded by Angus Council's holiday food programme.



At the end of the week, we hosted a Hot Dogs Night for children and parents and gave them a re-cap of the week.



We were delighted that so many of the children also joined us in church on the Sunday to round up the week.



None of this would have been possible without our wonderful volunteers from three different churches.

**THANK YOU!**

## Soup Lunch – 1<sup>st</sup> October

We will be serving soup after the Harvest Service on 1<sup>st</sup> October. There will be a few kinds of soup available, accompanied by bread, and finishing up with a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit. Do come along , it will save you making any lunch, and all at a very reasonable cost. Any proceeds usually go to a good cause. Hope to see you there

Joan Macgregor

Social Committee

## Harvest vegetable soup recipe

This creamy-textured soup has a really lovely flavour – and it's so easy to make. (Thanks to the NHS Website)

Prep: 15 mins

Cook: 30 mins

Serves 4

### Ingredients

1 medium-sized onion, finely chopped

1 leek, trimmed and sliced

1 carrot, diced

200g swede or turnip, diced

1 medium-sized potato, diced

400ml reduced-salt vegetable or chicken stock

1 tbsp cornflour

600ml 1%-fat milk

75g sweetcorn

1 pinch ground black pepper

To serve

4 wholemeal rolls (optional)

### Method

Put the onion, leek, carrot, swede or turnip, potato and stock into a large saucepan. Bring to the boil, then reduce the heat and simmer, partially covered, for 25 minutes, until the vegetables are tender.



Information:

You could use butternut squash or sweet potato instead of swede or turnip, if you prefer.

Blend the cornflour to a smooth paste with 2 to 3 tablespoons of the milk. Add the remaining milk to the saucepan with the sweetcorn, then stir in the blended cornflour. Heat gently, stirring constantly, until the soup thickens and just begins to boil.

Season with black pepper and ladle into bowls. Serve each portion with a wholemeal roll, if you like.

Information:

Cool the soup and store in a covered container for up to 3 days, or freeze for up to 3 months.

### **Fruit and Vegetable Alphabet Challenge**

Can you come up with a fruit or vegetable themed word for every letter of the alphabet. Keep your guesses – answers next month!

A	N
B	O
C	P
D	Q
E	R
F	S
G	T
H	U
I	V
J	W
K	X
L	Y
M	Z



## Arbroath Male Voice Choir Mondays at 7.30pm



Male Voice Choir returns to the West Kirk after a break.  
Monday evenings from 7.30-9.30pm in the small hall.

The Wednesday Club - Old and new members welcome, join us for  
a fun Wednesday afternoon.

## The Wednesday Club





In Harmony September dates are as follows:  
5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>.

Making Music  
2-3pm on the 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> September – All welcome



CHURCH CALENDAR	September 2023
<b>Sunday</b>	
10 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am Worship @ Carmyllie 9.30am Worship @ Arbirlot 11am Sunday worship 11am DJ Club/Faithfinders Tea & coffee after service
<b>Mondays</b>	
25 <sup>th</sup>	2-4pm Guild Cuppy
4th/11 <sup>th</sup> /18 <sup>th</sup> /25 <sup>th</sup>	7.30-9.30pm Male Voice Choir
<b>Tuesdays</b>	
5 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> / 19 <sup>th</sup> / 26 <sup>th</sup>	7.30-9.30pm In Harmony
5 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	7-8.30pm Knit & Knatter
<b>Wednesdays</b>	
6th/13 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am Toddlers@Westkirk
6th/13 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup>	1.30pm Wednesday Club
6th/13 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Bible study by Zoom
13 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup>	7.30-9.30pm Scottish Country Dancing
<b>Thursdays</b>	
7 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup> /21 <sup>st</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup>	5-6 pm Quiet Space in Church
7 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup> /21 <sup>st</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup>	6-8.30pm Youth Club
28 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Prayer Group by Zoom
21 <sup>st</sup>	Timmers Community Cafe
<b>Fridays</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> /15 <sup>th</sup> /22 <sup>nd</sup> /29 <sup>th</sup>	10am – 12 noon Coffee Stop
<b>Saturdays</b>	
<b>Sundays</b>	
10 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>	2-3pm Making Music

If you would like to submit a magazine article for the October edition, you can email : westkirkmag@gmail.com or put it in the box in the vestibule area of Church or post it through the letterbox. Deadline for the next issue is end of day, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September. All articles are subject to copyright, data protection and editorial discretion, thank you.



Those we have lost and loved.....

Just before Jesus was arrested he assured his followers of a peace that he would give to those who grieved, a peace that the world could not give. Over the summer many families have suffered the loss of a loved one and we pray that they will know the peace of Christ through this difficult time.

Jane Pennycook, 14 Albert Street, Arbroath, DD11 1RA

Tom Maplesden, Lunan Court, Arbroath, DD11 1RA

Tom Fraser, 14 Rose Street, Arbroath, DD11 2AQ

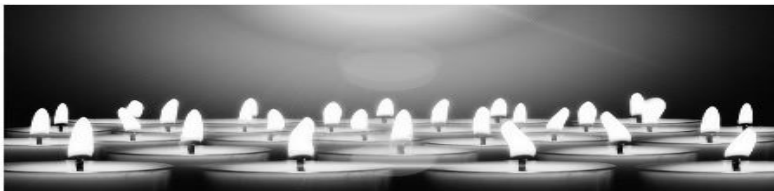
Campbell Carnegie Munro, 33 Guthrie Street, Friockheim

William Lawrence, 3 Birch Path, Arbroath, DD11 2EX

Betty Allan, Monkbarns, Arbroath, DD11 2DS (formerly Grampian Gardens, Arbroath)

Lt. Col. Fred Beattie MBE, Finavon Court Care Home, Forfar, DD8 3HW

***“Lord, we know that You are the God who comforts us. We pray that You provide a time of comfort and rest for those whose hearts are hurting right now. Hold them in Your embrace. Wrap them in Your love and remind them that though they may have lost someone dear, they are not alone, for You are with them. Bring to them the hope of Your unfailing love. Soothe their heartache as they lean on You for comfort and guidance. May they hold on to You for strength, hope, and sustenance. Amen.”***



<i><b>Duty Rota</b></i>	<b>September</b>	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Team 10:</b>	<b>Audrey Shepherd</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Team 01:</b>	<b>Moira McIntosh</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Team 02:</b>	<b>Barbara Cargill</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Team 03:</b>	<b>David Spink</b>
	<b>October</b>	
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Team 04:</b>	<b>Janice Tracey</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Team 05:</b>	<b>Linda Bird</b>
<i><b>Flower Rota</b></i>	<b>September</b>	<b>Arranger</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Bill &amp; Eileen McDonald</b>	<b>Ruth Ferguson</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Edith Cargill</b>	<b>May Herron</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Malcolm Finlayson</b>	<b>Justine McGill</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Jean Cargill</b>	<b>Moira McIntosh</b>
	<b>October</b>	
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Janette Millar</b>	<b>Helen Orsi</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>R McLeish &amp; A Shepherd</b>	<b>same</b>

### Change of Address

If you have moved house recently, or are about to move, either within or out-with the town, please fill in the address slip below and return to the Roll keeper, Mr D Atkinson, 3 Seaton Place, DD11 5DS. Thank you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Former Address \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

# ARBROATH WEST KIRK

## Cash Flow Summary of General Fund for 2022 and Budget for 2023

To Date 2023 £		Actual 2022 £	Budget 2022 £	Budget 2023 £
	<b>INCOME</b>			
6,730	(a) Offerings			
23,956	W.F.O. Scheme (Non Gift Aid)	13,411	12,500	13,000
5,140	Gift Aid	42,922	45,000	45,000
2,583	Tax Recovered on Gift Aid	12,054	12,000	12,000
	Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	4,827	3,000	4,000
<b>38,409</b>		<b>73,214</b>	<b>72,500</b>	<b>74,000</b>
2,249	(b) Other Ordinary General Income			
325	Contributions from Organisations	3,800	3,000	3,000
1,505	Weddings & Funerals	1,025	500	1,000
0	Donations	7,319	2,000	3,000
0	Gift Day	2,053	2,500	2,000
6,548	Fund Raising Events	2,812	3,000	2,500
2,670	Interest etc. for year	7,719	7,000	7,000
	Use of Premises	2,253	1,500	3,000
13,297		26,981	19,500	21,500
<b>51,706</b>	<b>Total Ordinary General Income</b>	<b>100,195</b>	<b>92,000</b>	<b>95,500</b>
	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
35,556	(a) National Ministry and Mission & Wider Work			
(1,746)	Total of Ministries & Mission Allocation (Giving to Grow)	63,638	68,638	61,006
1,575	Less: Endowment Income	(1,746)	(1,746)	(1,746)
1,576	Presbytery Dues	1,972	1,972	1,575
36,961	Service Expenses	1,287	1,500	1,500
		65,151	70,364	62,335
0	(b) Local Staffing Costs			
271	Minister's Travelling Expenses	0	1,500	1,500
	Minister's Telephone & Other Expenses	336	500	500
	Ministerial Assistance (Salaries, NI & Expenses)	0		
	Pulpit Supply	0	400	200
11,520	Other Salaries, National insurance & Pensions)	19,016	19,000	21,000
11,791		19,352	21,400	23,200
14,400	(c) Building Costs			
3,075	Fabric Repairs & Maintenance	50,630	25,000	49,000
4,469	Heating & Lighting	7,770	10,000	10,000
1,414	Water Charges & Insurance	6,871	6,663	7,449
169	Manse Council Tax	3,342	2,710	2,545
23,527	Cleaning and Housekeeping	178	300	300
		68,791	44,673	69,294
2,656	(d) Other Local Costs			
600	Telephone, Posts, Printing, Stationery, Photocopying	3,214	2,500	3,000
0	Accountancy	600	700	600
3,256	Other Expenses	1,680	2,500	2,500
		5,494	5,700	6,100
<b>75,535</b>	<b>Total Ordinary General Expenditure</b>	<b>158,788</b>	<b>142,137</b>	<b>160,929</b>
<b>(23,829)</b>	<b>SURPLUS /(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR (on ordinary activities)</b>	<b>(58,593)</b>	<b>(50,137)</b>	<b>(65,429)</b>
	<b>Extraordinary General Income</b>			
3,902	Unrestricted Legacies	0		
	Ed. Low Memorial Trust	0		
	Duncan Trust	807		
		0		
	Consolidated Fabric Fund	0		
3,902		807	0	(65,429)
	<b>Extraordinary General Expenditure</b>			
	Wall repairs			
<b>(19,927)</b>	<b>SURPLUS /(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</b>	<b>(57,786)</b>	<b>(50,137)</b>	<b>(65,429)</b>

<b>CHURCH OFFICE, Arbroath West Kirk, Keptie Street, Arbroath,</b>
<b>DD11 3AZ</b>
<b>Tel: 01241 434721</b>
<b>Email address: arbroathwestkirk2019@gmail.com</b>
<b><i>On Facebook at Arbroath West Kirk</i></b>
<b><i>YouTube channel at <a href="http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3tXCAWSP-YNx5x4Ph7EYfQ">http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3tXCAWSP-YNx5x4Ph7EYfQ</a></i></b>
<b><i>Website: <a href="http://www.westkirkarbroath.org">www.westkirkarbroath.org</a></i></b>
<b>Opening Times: Monday, Tuesday &amp; Friday 9am – 1pm</b>

<b>Minister</b> – Rev Chris Hay, The Manse, 1 Charles Ave	554189
<b>Session Clerk</b> – Mrs Audrey Shepherd, 25 Bishoploch Rd	870080
<b>Asst. Session Clerk</b> - Mr Bill Clark	
<b>Treasurer</b> - Mr David Spink, 45 High St	434721
<b>Fabric Convener</b> - Mr Ross Cargill, 4 Lochlands Pk	876405
<b>Roll keeper</b> - Mr Derek Atkinson, 3 Seaton Pl	872818
<b>DJ Club Leader</b> - Miss Leza Gibson, 62 Warddykes Rd	872467
<b>Magazine Distribution</b> - Mrs Kathleen Bruce, 39 Ladyloan	870953
<b>Freewill Offering Convener</b> - Miss Myra Scoular, Church Office	434721
<b>Gift Aid Convener</b> - Miss Myra Scoular, Church Office	434721
<b>Secretary/Church Office</b> – Miss Myra Scoular	434721
<b>Safeguarding</b> - Mrs Liz Aiken/Mrs Audrey Cherry	872429