ROSYTH PARISH CHURCH 1931 - 1981

Introduction

The Church was opened for worship on Saturday 11 July 1931 and now fifty years later the session felt that a small souvenir book should be prepared to give a brief history of the main events which have taken place over these fifty years. The two senior Elders, Mr Stewart and Mr Turnbull, were enjoined to carry out this work and, in collaboration with Mr Gray, Session Clerk, Mr Dugan, Minute Secretary to the Session, Mrs McCracken, Clerk of the Board of Management and Mrs Paterson, Minute Secretary to the Board, have endeavoured to carry out this Session's request. It was realised that very few of our present members would have a copy of the Souvenir Booklet issued at the opening of the Church and it was considered appropriate that a short history of the Church, with a list of ministers before building the present Church, (extracted from the above Booklet) should be included.

It is hoped therefore that the present booklet will be a source of interest to present and future members during the next fifty years.

Rosyth Parish and Church - before building of present Church

The old Rosyth Parish was originally situated in the Diocese of Dunkeld and comprised Backmarch, Orchardhead, Rosyth, Hilton, Brucehaven, and the lands of Logie and Urquhart lying to the west of Dunfermline. It was bounded on the west at Brucehaven by the Benzi Burn, on the north by the Brankholme Burn, on the south by the coastline and on the east, separating it from Inverkeithing, by a burn which used to run along the base of the Castlandhill passing under Castlandhill Road and Admiralty Road to join the Brankholme Burn.

At the extreme west end of the parish lies the old churchyard and the ruins of the Pre-Reformation Church. This Church was given by the Bishop of Dunkeld to Inchcolme Abbey in 1170-8, and was ministered by a Vicar of the Abbey until the Reformation, the last Vicar being Sir James Chalmers 1544-5.

After the Reformation the Church was transferred to the care of David Ferguson Minister of Dunfermline, and was served by a Reader, John Burne. In 1520 Mr Burne was appointed Minister of Inverkeithing but who still retained supervision of Rosyth with Reader George Dury in charge.

In 1611 the Church was temporarily united with Inverkeithing, this was made permanent in 1618. For at least another twelve years it was still in use, but it was abandoned prior to 1648 and allowed to fall into decay.

The construction of Rosyth Dockyard and the consequent building of Rosyth Garden City necessitated the provision again of a Church in Rosyth.

The Home Mission Committees of the Church of Scotland and the United Free Church agreed jointly to provide Ministers, each in turn, every six months.

Services were first conducted in the Douglas Block, Castle Road, subsequently in the temporary school on the west side of the Garden City and later in the Church of

Scotland temporary Naval Church, Castle Road, which was ready in 1917, and served the congregation until the building of the present one.

The various ministers servicing the Church were as follows:

Matthew Scott Dickson MA	(February to April 1917)
M. Urie Baird MA	(May - October 1917)
Wm Ogilvy Duncan MA	(November 1917 - April 1918)
David Sutherland	(May - October 1918)
Wm Ogilvy Duncan MA	(November 1918 - March 1919)
J H Michie MA	(March - September 1919)
George Campbell MA	(September 1919 - May 1920)
Wm Lindsay Gordon BD	(June - August 1920)
Matthew W Neilson	(August - November 1920)
George Scanlan	(November 1920 - February 1924)
James Marshall BD	(April 1924 - September 1925)
Erick M Kirk Raff BA	(October 1925 - March 1926)
Reginal Innes Morris BA	(April 1926 - October 1928)
Rev Arnold Boyd MA	(October 1928 - 1941)

From August 1920, Rosyth became a recognised Mission Station and it was under Mr Marshall's ministry that the effort to raise money for the permanent Church was initiated. The effort was earnestly carried out by the congregation and received a fresh impetus under Mr Boyd's ministry. Various methods were employed, Sales of Work, Concerts, Sale of Brick Stamps and a Bazaar, held in Dunfermline. A total sum of £1,700 was raised by the congregation towards a total cost of £5,822, the remainder of the cost being covered by grants from the Home Mission and Baird Trust.

On the inauguration of Mr Boyd's ministry, the Church was raised to an Extension Charge attached to Inverkeithing, the Session being a committee of Inverkeithing Session.

The foundation stone for the new Church was laid by the Right Honourable William Adamson, Secretary of State for Scotland, on Saturday 7 June 1930. The Church was opened for worship by the Rt Rev J A Graham DD CIE, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland on Saturday 11 July 1931.

Officiating Ministers were:

J Miller Graham	Moderator of Presbytery
Wm Stephen DD	Inverkeithing
James Baird BD	Dunfermline Abbey
Arthur H Dunnett BD	Home Mission Deputy
Arnold Boyd MA	Rosyth

The Session consisting of sixteen Elders were:

Mr J G Hopkin	(Secretary)
Mr P A Vickers	(Treasurer)
Mr David Watson	(Roll Keeper)
Mr Donald Ross	Mr Robert Moyes MA
Mr James Burgess MA	Mr W S Lennox
Mr George L Bisset	Mr Alexander King
Mr Alexander Gillespie	Mr J H O Noble
Mr James Letham	Mr William Taylor
Mr William Carruthers	Mr John Latimer
Mr C L Caldwell	

The Organisations at the opening of the Church were:

Woman's Guild	President - Mrs Carruthers
Sunday School	Superintendents - Mr J Turnbull and Miss Myra Hoyes
Bible Class	Leader - Mr C L Caldwell
Scouts	Scoutmaster - Mr William Beveridge
Cubs	Cubmaster - Mrs Clouston
Girl Guides	Captain - Miss B Cairncross
	Lt - Miss Daisy Muir

The Church was now opened, free of all debt, and attention could therefore be directed to efforts to become a Quoad Sacra Parish Church. This meant that the Congregation would have to be completely self supporting and be entirely responsible for the Minister's Stipend, contributions to the Schemes of the Church, and Presbytery and Assembly dues. It was therefore decided to help towards this, that Seat Rents should be instituted, and just over 400 seats were let at 8/-d per annum.

The first two Elders appointed after the opening were Mr David Christie and Mr Arthur Barbour on 27 December 1931. The next item to be considered was the old Wooden Church (which belonged to the Home Mission) and it was with great pleasure that they donated it to the Congregation for use as a Church Hall. In January 1932 the Presbytery intimated that the Session (which was still a committee of Inverkeithing Session) was now to be a Provisional Kirk Session and were empowered to appoint a Congregation Board. It was also intimated that a Proclamation Officer could be appointed for Rosyth.

The first non-session managers to be appointed to the new Board were:

Mr James Logan	Mr James Watson
Mr George Gray	Mr Arthur May
Mr Albert Wilson	

In May 1935 the Session were informed that the Law Agent of the Church had drafted a petition to the General Assembly for Rosyth to be raised to Parish Status and in February 1936 it was intimated that Rosyth was now a Quoad Sacra Parish.

The boundaries of the new Parish varied considerably from the old one. The Funds formerly allocated to Inverkeithing were now divided between North Queensferry and Rosyth. The transfer of the old Wooden Church to the Congregation for use as a Hall resulted in better facilities for the Organisations and for fund raising activities. In 1932 a Badminton Club was started and in 1935 a Boys Brigade Company was founded. Several outside organisations and Churches also used the Hall and if requested wedding receptions could be held there after the Church ceremony, provided the only alcohol consumed was that provided for the toasts.

In 1933 individual Communion cups were used for the first time. Communion plates and common cups had previously been donated by the Woman's Guild and the Communion silver, originally donated by Muckhart Parish Church in 1917, was returned to Church Headquarters for use in some other extension charge as requested by the donors.

During the period between the opening of the Church and the outbreak of war in 1939 there was a steady growth in the membership and finances of the Church, and it was well served with organisations and there were Senior and Junior choirs under the organist Mr C Blair and Choir member Tom Spence respectively.

In 1937 an afternoon meeting called the "Women's Own" (later to become the Women's Fellowship) was formed, to provide for women who could not attend evening meetings.

Because of the difficulty in obtaining accommodation at suitable times the Scout Troop, which had previously been decontrolled at their own request, by the Session, left the Church as one of the organisations, but continued to attend Youth Services.

The outbreak of war created a difficult period for the Church. The Hall was handed over to the numerous Forces in the district as a Canteen and Rest Room and most of the organisations were suspended. Even the Session Room was requisitioned as an Emergency Relief Office (ERO) if required, and a telephone installed. Blackout materials had to be obtained to cover the windows for evening services and meetings.

In 1940 Limekilns Church became vacant and Mr Boyd took over the supervision of Limekilns with the assistance of Mr Alan Logie MA, a divinity student taking the services in Rosyth.

In 1941 Mr Boyd intimated his retiral from the charge of Rosyth Parish Church. He moved to the Manse at Limekilns, which he was already supervising, and before moving there, arranged with the Admiral Superintendent of Rosyth Dockyard that the house at 114 Park Road, used as a Manse, should still be available for a new minister. The Rev John Johnston BD Inverkeithing was appointed Interim Moderator in the vacancy.

In September 1942 the Rev Harold Munro MA was inducted as minister to Rosyth. In June 1943 it was arranged that quarterly communions should replace the half yearly communions. Mr McAlpin, a divinity student, was licensed and appointed as assistant to Mr Munro for a period of six months, his salary being paid by the Home Board. In September 1943 Mr Munro formed a Youth Club but as the Hall was not available the club, like other organisations, had to meet in the Church.

The Boys Brigade had been able to get the use of the Park Road School Gymnasium for their meetings. Shortly after the start of the war a Comforts Fund was formed to provide parcels for Church members in the Forces and this was continued until the end of compulsory National Service in 1963. This Fund was ably administered by one of the Elders, Mr Hill.

In 1944 a Hall and Manse building fund was started. Mr Boyd finally retired from Limekilns and went to live in Leven. The ERO gave up the use of the Session Room. In March 1945 an RAF Hut at Park Road School was obtained for the use of the Youth Club. The cost of purchase was paid by the County Youth Organisation and the Carnegie Trust. This Hut, being too far from the Church for proper supervision, was the source of a good deal of vandalism and theft of equipment. In 1950 it was transferred to spare ground behind the Church.

In October 1947 Mr Munro intimated his resignation on taking up an appointment in South Africa.

The Rev J Johnston, Inverkeithing, was again appointed Interim Moderator in the vacancy. Mr Munro gave up his ministry in January 1948 and on 29 July 1948 the Rev Ian Fraser BD was inducted to Rosyth.

During Mr Fraser's ministry a considerable amount of activity took place to compensate for the lack of growth during the war. In August 1949 a brick wall, designed by one of the Elders, Mr Penman, was build round the Church to replace the iron railings taken for the war effort. This was built by voluntary labour by men of the Church. In December 1949 a Men's Club was formed and a Talents Scheme was organised to gather funds for the Halls and Manse Building Fund. A sum of £100 was loaned by one of the Elders, Mr Christie, to allow a 10/- loan to any member willing to use his talents to increase the loan and return this and increased amount after a given period. This Talents Scheme was a great success. The balance, after Mr Christie had the original loan returned to him, was put into the Building Fund. Meanwhile the organisations continued their efforts to raise money by concerts, whist drives and sales of work, for the Hall and Manse Building Fund.

An Annual Gala Week consisted of decorated cars and lorries, the crowning of a Queen, and various fund-raising events throughout the week was started and continued for some years.

In 1954 the The Church Extension Committee agreed to meet two thirds of the cost of a new Hall up to a maximum of £6,000. In 1955 the Wooden Hall (formerly the Church) was dismantled and sold, and the new Hall begun. The old Church bell in the Hall, after being refused by local Churches, was sent to the Mission Field Daska in the Punjab.

In 1956 a Hood was presented to Dr Fraser on receiving a PhD Degree from Edinburgh University. From an idea of Dr Fraser’s, the Rosyth Council of Churches was formed (RCC) and was very successful. Though still in existence it does not have the same impact of former years.

In the autumn the new Large Hall was opened and a cheque for £3,000 in payment was sent to Church Headquarters. As the new Hall had better facilities for Dramatic Shows a group called the 'Parish Players' was formed and, for a number of years under the direction of Mr William Arthur (later to become an Elder) and John Gregson a schoolteacher, several plays were presented with great satisfaction. In January 1958 intimation was received from Church Headquarters that as Rosyth had no Manse a grant of £400 would be available from Headquarters Manse Building Fund. A piece of ground suitable for a Manse was fued in Woodside Avenue. A Manse Building Committee was formed, and an Architect obtained to prepare a plan for a modern Manse.

In September 1959 the Church Extension Committee notified that as the Hall had cost £6,000 the Church had overpaid by £1,000, and this sum together with proceeds from Gala Week amounted to £2,800 towards the cost of the Manse.

In October 1959 Dr Fraser notified the Session that he would be leaving Rosyth in April 1960 to take up an appointment as Director of Churches House, Dunblane, and in November 1959 the Rev J Johnstone, Inverkeithing, was again appointed Interim Moderator. In April 1960 Dr Fraser demitted the charge of Rosyth and on 7 September 1960 the Rev Ian Cowie MA of Tullibody was inducted. During the year the Manse building was commenced and was completed during the summer of 1961. In May 1961 an Electronic Bird Organ was purchased to replace the old Reed Organ which was donated to St Andrew and St George Episcopal Church. In June 1961 the Boy's Brigade Company returned to the Church for their meetings after meeting at Park Road School for 21 years.

In September 1961 the evening service from the Church was broadcast and received very favourable comments.

In June 1967 the Jubilee of opening the Wooden Church was celebrated with a special Communion Service and a Souvenir leaflet, with coloured pictures of various church activities was prepared by Mr Cowie for church members.

On Sunday 17 March 1968 the morning service in the Church was broadcast on BBC Radio.

The Youth Hut which had served a very useful purpose while the new hall was being built was now requiring a good deal of maintenance and repair and it was decided to replace it with a small permanent Hall as an extension to the Main Hall. This small hall, suitable for a maximum meeting of sixty people was opened for use in December 1969. During 1969-1970 facilities were made available to the Methodist Church to hold services while their New Church was being built. In 1969 the Gala Week, which had gradually been losing support, was terminated.

In June 1970 Mr Cowie intimated his resignation on joining a Team Ministry at Richmond Craigmiller, Edinburgh. The Rev W G Macdonald, Limekilns, was appointed Interim Moderator in the vacancy.

Mr. Cowie preached his last sermon in Rosyth on Sunday 11 October 1970 and on 10 February 1971, the Rev Stanley Scoular was inducted to Rosyth.

Mr Honeyman (one of the Elders) produced for a good number of years, a News Sheet. When he was unable to carry on with this, another Elder, Mr Gerrard, took on the job of printing what was now called Church Notes. Mrs May helped by gathering in items. The Church had a Gestetner Duplicator and the printing was done on the premises.

On 9 April 1971 Miss Elspeth Webster was appointed Deaconess to Rosyth.

After the 'Parish Players' ceased to function in late 1960s, on the departure of Mr Arthur to Gibraltar and Mr Gregson to an East Fife school, the Council of Churches produced several Easter plays under the direction of Father Boyle of the Roman Catholic Church, with limited success and finally closed for want of support.

In July 1972 a number of church ladies, realising the hall was unused in the forenoons and there were no facilities in Rosyth for shoppers to have a cup of tea or coffee, decided to ask the Session for permission to open the hall from 10 to 12 noon two days a week, to provide tea and coffee, any profit to go to the Church Fabric Fund. This has proved quite a successful venture and has resulted in a source of considerable revenue to Church funds for improvements and decorations.

In May 1973 Mrs Kyle and Miss Gorman were appointed the first lady Elders, later to be joined by Mrs McCracken, Mrs Paterson, Mrs Johnston, Mrs Ritchie and Mrs Macdonald. In October 1974 Ian Goring was appointed as Student Attachment and remained until appointed Probation Assistant at Milngavie in March 1975.

Mr Armstrong was appointed Student Attachment in September 1975 leaving in March 1976.

Mr Michael Dawson was appointed Student Assistant in October 1976 for a period of six months and was subsequently appointed full time Assistant Minister.

In October 1975 a Sunday morning service was announced in the new Camdean Community Centre for a trial period, which ended early 1976. In August 1976 Miss Norma Pyper was appointed to replace Miss Elspeth Webster who had retired in November 1975.

In November 1976 it was decided to hold a special Communion Service and a Congregational Dinner to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the beginning of Scottish Church Services in Rosyth.

The communion service was taken by the Rev Horace Walker of the Home Board and the guest speaker at the dinner was the Rev Dr Weir of Limekilns. A Diamond Jubilee Recipe Book was prepared and sold by the ladies of the congregation and proved so successful that it went to three editions.

Late 1977 services were again tried in the Camdean Community Centre, this time on Sunday evenings. Miss N Pyper took these, but after a time (early 1978) they were discontinued due to the poor response and expense of renting the Centre.

In February 1978 the Rev Michael Dawson BD was appointed as full-time assistant to Mr Scoular for a period of one year from 1 July, on the transfer of Miss Pyper to Dundee. In June 1970 Mr Dawson demitted office as Assistant Minister and was later inducted to the charge of Kilmadock Parish Church, Doune.

The Rev Fraser Stewart BD, appointed in February to replace Mr Dawson, took up duties in July 1979 and remained until June 1980, on being appointed to the Church extension charge of Cumbernauld, Abronhill. It was regretted on the departure of Mr Stewart, the congregation found, due to inflation, it was impossible to raise sufficient funds for the stipend of an Assistant Minister or Deaconess.

During the present Ministry of Mr Scoular a very considerable amount of work has been carried out on Stewardship Campaigns and on modernisation and improvements to Church properties. In 1972 a successful Stewardship Campaign under the direction of one of the Elders, Mr Sneddon, was started with the publication of an attractive brochure, a visitation to the homes of Church members and culminating in a congregational family meal, which was held in the Kinema Ballroom on 17 October 1973, resulting in considerable increase in Church interest and finance. Ongoing Stewardship was continued by Mrs Paterson who was appointed Convenor by the Session, between April 1974 and late 1976. During this period a successful Family Rally was held in the Rosyth Public Park on 21 June 1975.

A further campaign in 1978 again headed by Mr Sneddon met with limited success and was eventually combined with the 1979/80 Programme for Action campaign which is at present being pursued by a Committee under the direction of an Elder, Mr W Arthur, and hopefully this will help revitalise Church membership and interest.

Concerning improvements to Church properties, the coke fired boiler in the Church has been converted to oil firing. The Session Room has been redecorated and wall to wall carpeting fitted. During 1978 the Church lighting was redesigned and completely rewired. The main hall was redecorated and painted. Gas fired central heating was installed in the Manse to replace unsatisfactory electrical heating.

The wooden slats on the hall roof which had passed their projected life of twenty years were replaced with tiles. During 1990 the main hall lights were modernised and the buttresses on the north wall of the Church were rebuilt. The gents toilet in the hall has been modernised. Work is still progressing on rewiring the hall passage, kitchen and toilets. It is intended in the near future to replace the electronic 'Bird' organ which is now obsolete and future projected schemes include repair and painting of the outside woodwork of the hall windows and redecorating the Church. All these items when completed would ensure that the Church buildings should remain in a good state for a considerable time.

The Kirk Session in this Jubilee Year consist of 7 lady members and 29 gentlemen members, a total of 36 viz:

Mrs Kyle, Miss Gorman, Mrs McCracken, Mrs Paterson, Mrs Ritchie, Mrs Johnston and Mrs Macdonald.

Mr Stewart, Mr Turnbull, Mr Hill, Mr Kelly, Mr Campbell, Mr Kyle, Mr Black, Mr Gray (Session Clerk), Mr Dugan (Minute Secretary), Mr Lyson, Mr Forsyth, Mr Brown, Mr Watson, Mr Ward, Mr Miller, Mr Harrower, Mr Bews, Mr Wickings, Mr Williamson, Mr Edwards, Mr Sneddon, Mr Young, Mr Smith, Mr Logan, Mr J Miller, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Berry, Mr Arthur and Mr Russell.

Organisations 1981

Congregational Board	Church Treasurer Mr D Macdonald, Clerk Mrs G McCracken, Minute Secretary Mrs I Ritchie.
Woman's Guild	President Mrs M Ritchie, Secretary Mrs Blench
Woman's Fellowship	President Mrs J Kent, Secretary Mrs E Logan
Young Woman's Group	President Mrs Brown, Secretary Mrs I Ritchie
Coffee Morning Group	Secretary Mrs Logan, Treasurer Mrs Carmichael
Flowers in Church Committee	Convenor Mrs Gray
Badminton Club (afternoon)	President Mrs Gibson, Secretary Mrs J Ferguson
Badminton Club (evening)	Secretary Miss J Foster
Men's Club	President Mr J Robertson, Secretary and Treasurer Mr F Hill
Sunday School	Superintendent Mr N Thompson, Secretary Mr W Forsyth Junior leader Mr N Thompson Primary leader Mrs M Taylor Beginners leader Mrs M Brown Sunday Set leader Mr D Wickings Youth Fellowship leader Mark Scoular
Boys Brigade	Captain Mr A Young Company Secretary/Officer in Charge Mr A Bathgate Juniors Officer in Charge Mr J Williamson Pre-Juniors Lieut Mrs C Walker
Girl Guides	Guider Mrs H Clark
Brownies	2 Rosyth Guider Miss Nicol 2 B Rosyth Guider Mrs J Kent 2 A Rosyth Guider Mrs G Payne

Our Ministers over the 50 years

Mr Arnold Boyd was the first of the Ministers in the 'Brick Church', indeed it was largely through his drive that the money was raised. The sale of the 'Brick Stamps' was his idea. Mr Boyd was married, his wife, a semi-invalid, was not seen much about the congregation. His hobby was keeping bees and he was something of an authority on this subject.

Mr Harold Munro was next. He was also a 'first', this time, of our modern Ministers. An older member recalls that Mr Boyd was never without his dog collar, unless you caught him attending his bees or in the Manse, but Mr Munro adopted a more casual style of dress out with Sundays. He mentioned, with a twinkle in his eye, that it upset some of the more staid of the members at that time. Mr Munro was married with one child, a girl, Fiona. A modern young lady herself by all accounts, referring to her parents by their Christian names.

Mr Ian Fraser (becoming Dr Ian Fraser) came after Mr Munro. As written elsewhere in this booklet his ministry was a busy one. He also managed to get in quite a bit of visiting members in their homes, and during this time there was a strong Youth Movement in the Church. Very interested in local affairs he became a Councillor, and the Rosyth Council of Churches (formed at his suggestion) was responsible for a great mixing of the various Churches in the Parish, both socially and spiritually. Another of his ideas, the Rosyth Gala Week, was successful for many years. He had an allotment at the Halt Station and if you couldn't get him at the Manse, you would often find him busy up there, and when the plot of land was bought for the New Manse, he gave up the Halt garden, and used that. Transport was a bike but later on was a green Baby Austin, nicknamed 'the Green Pea'. Married, the Manse lady, Margaret, was busy about the Parish and she was President of our Women's Guild. They had three children, Ann, Keith and Ian. Dr Fraser had links with Iona. There is a group photograph still hanging in the living quarters of the Abbey showing Dr Fraser as part of the work force during the excavation and restoration of the Abbey. After Dunblane he went to Geneva, returning to the UK to take up an appointment at Birmingham University.

Mr Ian Cowie came to 'fill' the Pulpit and leave his mark on the Parish. Another Iona man, he took several groups from the church to the Island, and after one such trip in 1970, at his instigation, church cleaning teams were formed and continued for two years. These were based on the practice of guests staying at the Abbey helping with some of the household chores. He was a keen Artist and took an interest in the local painters. Several Art Exhibitions were held in our Large Hall, the pictures being for sale. He asked Mr Budgett to do a series of paintings for the Church and these can be seen in the windows. Examples of Mr Cowie's own work are in the Session Room. He also had a deep interest in Faith Healing, bringing others with this gift to preach and hold discussion groups in our Church. The Youth movement again was very active during his ministry and encouraged to take part in the Services. Some of them started a Meals on Saturday for the elderly in the Congregation and they were provided for a good number of years. Married, with five children, twin girls Rosalind (Lindy) and Fiona, and three boys Roddy, Malcolm and Christopher. Mrs Alison Cowie had indifferent health and sadly was unable to take much part in the life of the Church. He left the Team Ministry (to which he had gone) at Richmond Craigmillar, Edinburgh after a few years, to do finally what had always interested him very much, Faith Healing. They were the first tenants of the lovely new Manse (Family size).

Mr Stanley Scoular brings us up to the present day, also introducing new ideas and changes into his Ministry. Monthly Communions were held (small Communions), taken after the 11 am Service on the last Sunday in the month. At these and the larger Quarterly Communions the Common Cup can be used by those members wishing to do so. The times of the full Communion Services were gradually changed to exclude the summer months, now falling in February, May, September and November and special ones at Easter and Christmas. Also finally discontinued were the Evening Services and replaced by a 9.30 am one. The Sunday Set for young teenagers was transferred to the evening instead of following the 11 am Service. During Mr Scoular's ministry there has been an emphasis on Christian Stewardship of our lives and the gifts God has entrusted to us. This Stewardship being seen to apply to our personal lives, our church membership, and our stewardship in the care of our Church buildings. A full-scale Stewardship campaign was undertaken in 1973 and several follow-up or refresher programmes held every two to three years since then. A Worship Group was formed which for a while planned and took an occasional morning service. Also, under Mr Scoular's leadership a Bible Study Class is held on Sunday evenings throughout the winter. The lady of the Manse, another Margaret, takes an active part in the life of Church and Parish. President of our Women's Guild for a while, she also started what is now a Young Women's Group. A founder member of the Coffee Morning and the Flower Arrangers. There are still Artists at the Manse, Mark, their only son, and Mrs Scoular herself, producing some fine works. The two daughters of the Manse, Janet and Kirsty, also take their part in church activities.

We have been fortunate in our Ministers in the last fifty years, each one bringing, in their own way, something new and fresh to the Church in Rosyth. Taking it into the modern world without losing sight of the essential truth and teachings of God and the love of Jesus Christ.

Readers of this book will notice the name of the Rev J Johnston, Inverkeithing, occurs frequently, he is our 'adopted' Minister almost, and regarded with much affection by our members, having been Interim Moderator in our congregation on several occasions.

Finally, a few words on the Team responsible for producing this history of our Church, and who also print the church notes and other duplicating work required for the church. Mention has already been made of Mr Honeyman who did the first home produced Newssheet, and Mr Gerrard who took over from him with Mrs May helping. When Mrs May gave up collecting items for the notes, Mrs McCracken, after the Stewardship Meal, took on this job. A few more people joined in, typists and collators. Mr Gerrard then gave up the job of duplicating. The Notes were getting bigger now and Mrs McCracken asked if a proper Editor could be found. In November 1977 Mrs Paterson and Mrs Fawcett took on the job as joint Editors. There is now quite a team working together, though the Church Notes for expense reasons are now only printed for Quarterly Communion instead of every month. Mr David Wickings reproduced the photographs included in this book.

ACTIVIES TO MARK OUR JUBILEE

September 1981

Tuesday 15th	Antique Road Show
Thursday 17th	Scots Concert
Saturday 19th	Outing for all members and organisations to the Inverkeithing Youth and Community Wing
Monday - Friday 21st - 25th	Exhibition of Church and Community over 50 years
Tuesday 22nd	Fashion Show and a look at some fashions over 50 years
Wednesday and Thursday 23rd and 24th	Festival of flowers, our own 'Flower Group Ladies' joined by several local floral art groups.
Friday 25th	Congregational Dinner (£4 per head) Guests will include: Dr Ian and Mrs Doyle (Dr Doyle is secretary to the Home Board, which was responsible for the building of Rosyth Church in 1931) Dr Ian and Mrs Fraser (former Manse folk) Miss Elspeth Webster (former Deaconess) The Rev J and Mrs Johnston (Inverkeithing St Peters)
Sunday 27th	Holy Communion The Right Rev Andrew Doig will preach and conduct Holy Communion at 11 am. This will be followed by a short Reception in the Church Hall, at which the Moderator will present several Long Service Certificates. 6.00 pm Holy Communion 6.30 pm Songs of Praise - Our Top Ten Hymns

During the week of the Exhibition the Coffee Morning Group will provide teas and coffee. We will also have on sale packets of notelets with an illustration of our Church on the front (50p for 8).

Kirk Session at Church opening 1932.

Back Row: L to R — Mr. Latham, Mr. Noyes, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Noble, Mr. Bowyer, Mr. Latimer, Mr. Watson, Mr. Carruthers.

Front Row: L to R — Mr. King, Mr. Ross, Mr. Vickers, Mr. Boyd, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Leamon.

Missing from photograph: Mr. Gillespie and Mr. Caldwell.

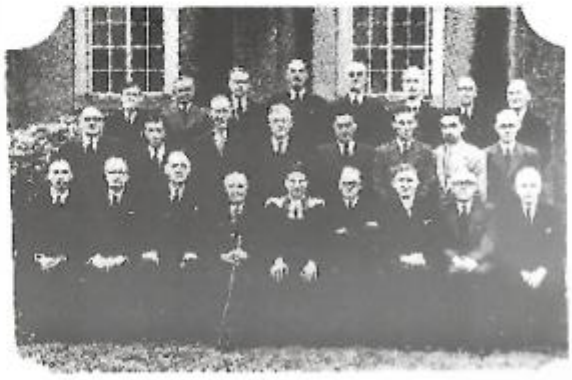


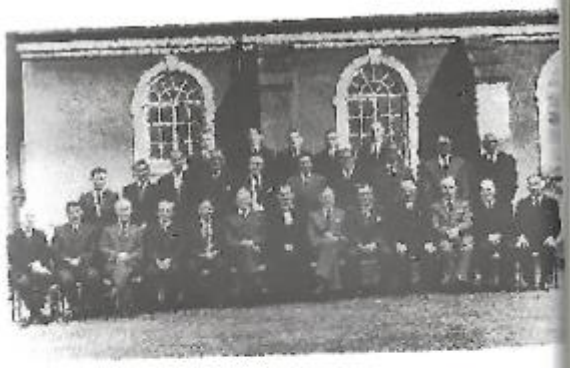
Kirk Session 1936

Back Row: L to R — Mr. McDonald, Mr. Ross, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Renfrew, Mr. Kyle.

Middle Row: L to R — Mr. Douglas, Mr. Hisch, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Grant, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Rundle, Mr. Begg.

Front Row: — Mr. Hill, Mr. Turnbull, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Ross Snr., Mr. Fraser, Mr. Prentice, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Borthwick, Mr. Lonsdale.







Kirk Session 1962

Back Row: L to R — Mr. Campbell, Mr. Lyson, Mr. McBeth, Mr. Strachan, Mr. Hair.

Middle Row: L to R — Mr. Wood, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Brown, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Blakey, Mr. Verbeek, Mr. Snedden, Mr. Gerrard, Mr. Smith.

Front Row: L to R — Mr. Williams, Mr. Duncan, Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Hemingway, Mr. Lennon, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Cowie, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Gray, Mr. Scott, Mr. Dugan, Mr. Kyle, Mr. Hill.

Kirk Session 1981

Back Row: L to R — Mr. Young, Mr. Watson, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Logan, Mr. Forsyth, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Black, Mr. Kelly, Mrs. McGeachie, Mr. Brown, Mr. Hemmeter, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Russell.

Middle Row: L to R — Mr. Edwards, Mrs. Paterson, Mr. Lynch, Miss Gorman, Mr. Cruickshank, Mrs. McDonald, Mrs. Jamieson, Mr. Arthur.

Front Row: L to R — Mrs. Kyle, Mr. Kyle, Mr. Dugan, Mr. Gray, Mr. Snedden, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Turnbull, Mrs. Ritchie.

Missing from photograph: Mr. Hill, Mr. Ward, Mr. Dawe, Mr. McJannett, Mr. Smith, Mr. J. Miller, Mr. Barry, Mr. Snedden, Mr. W. Miller.