

DOORS OPEN DAY in GALSTON PARISH CHURCH

Exhibition

Celebrating the Bicentenary of The Stirling Engine

TODAY! Sunday 4 September 1-4pm

Exhibits displayed in the BALCONY and CHANCEL

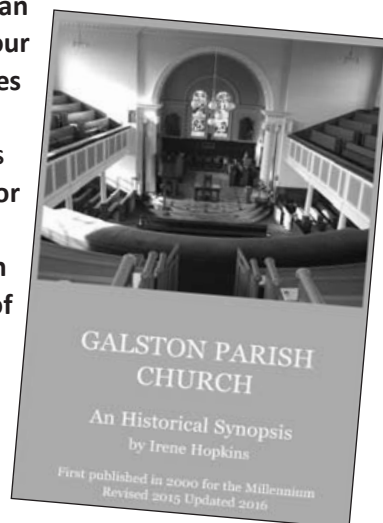
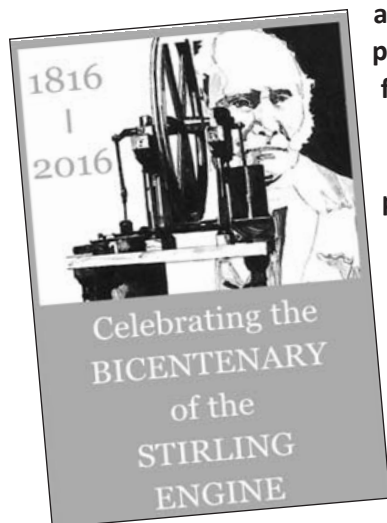
Among the exhibits will be a

POWERED MODEL OF THE 1816 ROBERT STIRLING CONCEPT
(Stirling's vision of how the air engine would work)

and **WOODEN FRAMED SCROLL OF THE 1816 PATENT**
both gifted by Author James Rizzo

Stirling enthusiast Willie Kidd will also be present with models

and you can pick up your free copies of the **BOOKLETS** printed for the occasion as part of **DOORS OPEN DAY.**



HAND-MADE CARDS by Anna Yeudall and Galston Parish Church **SOUVENIRS** on sale in the Hogg Hall - all proceeds to Charity
PHOTO COMPETITION PHOTOS ON DISPLAY
TEAS and COFFEES also served in the Hogg Hall

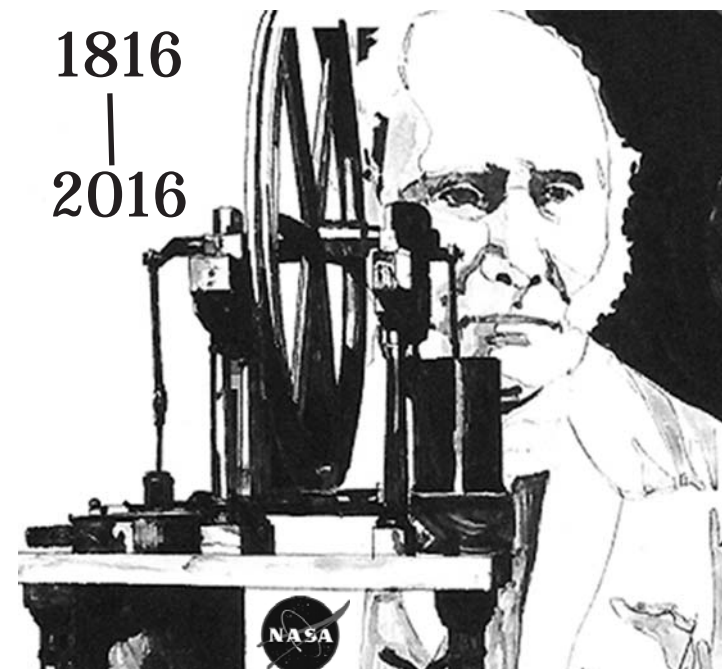


Charity No. SC010370

MISSION STATEMENT

Our aim as a Christian congregation is joyfully to Worship God, in fellowship and lifestyle, encouraging others to join us, by Serving God, through praying, caring, teaching and reaching out beyond ourselves.

1816
|
2016



*Celebrating the Bicentenary of
The Stirling Engine*

Songs of Praise

Sunday 4 September 2016 - 11am

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Service conducted by

Rev. Alastair Symington

Chaplain-in-Ordinary to HM the Queen in Scotland

Director of Music: Graeme Finnie

Order of Service

Entry of Bible and Minister

Prelude: *Gott dich Loben alle wir* J.G. Walther

Intimations and Welcome

Introit: *God be beside me* Malcom Archer

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hymn 63 *All People that on earth do dwell* Tune: Old 100th

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Lord's Prayer

TALK TO THE CHILDREN

Hymn 185 *Come children join and sing* Tune - Madrid

Reading Ephesians 3: 1-13 *Page 950 of Pew Bible*
Robert Smith

Anthem *God is living, God is here* J.S. Bach
Galston Parish Church Choir

Hymn 519: *Love Divine, all loves excelling* Tune - Hyfrydol

SERMON



1987 - 2017
1987 - 2017
1987 - 2017
1987 - 2017
1987 - 2017
1987 - 2017
1987 - 2017



*Celebrating 30 years of Galston's Partnership
with Ahrensfelde and the
500th Anniversary of The Reformation*

Kirchentag BERLIN 23-29 May 2017

A JOYOUS FESTIVAL!

Germany's biggest Protestant Convention
2017 marks 500 years since The Reformation
unleashed by Martin Luther in 1517



INTIMATIONS: Sunday 4 September 2016

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

11am every Sunday
Rev. Alastair Symington

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Sunday 11 September Sacrament of Baptism
Sunday 18 September Harvest Thanksgiving / Sacrament of Baptism
Sunday 9 October Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sunday 16 October Sacrament of Baptism
Sunday 30 October Boys' Brigade Enrolment and 'Gold Lunch'
Sunday 13 November Remembrance Sunday.

TEA & COFFEE are available in the Hall after the Service.

HAND-MADE CARDS by Anna Yeudall are on sale in the Hall.

BOOKS for sale at 50p. Proceeds to Malawi.

EACHA collection box at front door of the Church for the usual donations.

PASTORAL VISITS: Contact Rev. Alastair Symington (01292 312556) Robert Murray (01563 822005) Elizabeth Shearer (01563 821465) to arrange visits of sick or elderly.

FOODBANK: Donations for the Salvation Army Foodbank are always welcome. Our next collection is today, Sunday 4 September, then Sunday 2 October.

BOYS' BRIGADE are organising an over-18s Quiz on Saturday 10 September in Mission Hall at 7.30pm. Buffet Supper provided. £16 per team (4 adults) or £5 for individuals.

KIRK SESSION meets Wednesday 14 September at 7.30pm in the Hogg Hall

A COFFEE MORNING in aid of the Friendship Club is to be held on Saturday 1 October, 10-12, in the Hogg Hall. Admission £1.50 Donations welcome.

PRESBYTERY RETIREMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT will be discussed at a congregational meeting in the Hogg Hall on **Sunday 23 October 2016 at 2pm**. Full report on church website, copies available from Jim Purdie or Robert Murray.

DATA PROTECTION: If you haven't already done so please complete, sign and return your data protection letter as soon as possible or discuss it with your Elder.

STAFF of the Boys' Brigade thank members of the congregation who supported their recent Coffee Morning which raised £570.

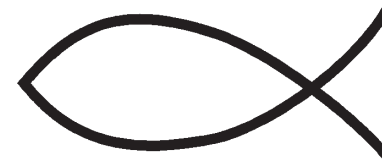
MEMBERS are required for the Property Committee - contact Jim Davidson or Rosemary Menzies if you would like to help out with the upkeep of the fabric of the church building. Rosemary is also looking for members of the congregation to serve on the Congregational Board. Please give some thought to serving the congregation in this way.

WANT TO SERVE GOD? Vocations Conference to be held at The Royal George Hotel, Perth on 5 November 2016. To register, please contact the Church of Scotland Ministries Council, 0131 225 5722 Ext. 2233 or email vocation@churchofscotland.org.uk. The Conference offers an inspirational keynote speech on the Call to Serve Today, practical information and the opportunity to ask important questions about how God might be calling you. Presentations by Ministries Council, Mission and Discipleship, Crossreach and World Mission Council.

A LOOP SYSTEM is installed. Switch hearing aids to 'T' position for better reception.

INTIMATIONS: galstonparishchurch@btinternet.com

CHURCH WEBSITE: www.kirknews.org.uk.



Hymn 111 *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!* Tune - Nicaea

Prayer of Intercession

Hymn 130 *Ye servants of God* Tune: Laudate Dominum

OFFERING

Offertory Voluntary: *Adagio* Samuel Barber

Prayer of Dedication

PRESENTATIONS James Rizzo

Hymn 468 *Son of God, eternal Saviour* Tune: Blaenwern

Solo *A Clare Benediction* John Rutter
Linda Finnie, Mezzo-Soprano

Hymn 167 *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah* Tune: Cwm Rhondda

BENEDICTION

Blessing

May God's blessing surround you each day

As you trust Him and walk in His way

May His presence within, guard and keep you from sin,

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love. Amen

Exit of the Bible

Postlude: Hornpipe from Water Music G.F. Handel

TEA and COFFEE in Hogg Hall afterwards. All welcome.

Robert Stirling and the Cholera Epidemic 1848-49



The deep interest which Robert Stirling had in the community of Galston and the high regard in which he was held by his parishioners is demonstrated on the occasion of a cholera epidemic which struck Scotland during the winter of 1848-49. The Kilmarnock Journal of that time reported, on 19 September 1848, that there was cholera in Edinburgh. The disease eventually spread to Galston and it was not until 1 February 1849 that The Journal was able to report that for Galston the worst was over, although the town had suffered very severely and it reported that: "The medical men, the clergymen and others who have influence here are doing their duty with zeal under the trying circumstances; since the disease had broken out there have been 100 deaths."

On 22 February, The Journal was able to report that Galston was becoming free of the disease. Thereafter, The Kilmarnock Journal, for 10 May 1849, carried a report of a presentation to the Rev. Dr. Robert Stirling. On the Monday night of that week some 50 parishioners had assembled at the Black Bull, Galston, for the purpose of presenting him with a service of silver plate and a gold watch with appendages. The service, consisting of a silver coffee pot, tea vase, a set of silver dessert knives and forks, with case and other articles, was presented by Captain Tait of Milrig, and was inscribed: "Presented to the Rev. Dr. Stirling, as a token of respect for his faithfulness in ministering to the sick when the parish was visited by a serious epidemic, 1849."

John McClure Esq., Banker, Galston, presented the watch which bore the inscription: "Presented by the heirs of the late John McClure, Esq., to the Rev. Dr. Stirling, as a token of esteem and gratitude for his faithful services as the deceased's sole executor in Scotland. May 1849."

On receiving the presentation from Captain Tait, Dr. Stirling rose and said: "Captain Tait and gentlemen, you may easily comprehend the difficulty which I now experience in attempting to express to you the gratitude I feel for the splendid gifts which you have so kindly presented to me. They are possessed of great intrinsic beauty and value. I could never have been justified in purchasing them with my own money. I could not even with propriety have placed them upon my humble board, except as splendid monuments of esteem or friendship.

"But what must ever give them their highest value in my estimation is that they are declared to be the marks of your approbation, which next to the approbation of my great Master, and the testimony of a good conscience, must ever be the highest object of my ambition. If any thing could have increased the gratification which I receive from your valuable presents, it would have been the fact of their proceeding from Christians of all denominations, affording as it does, a pleasing proof of the existence among us of that liberal spirit which I would ever wish to cherish in myself and others. There is only one drawback upon the pleasure which I now experience, namely, the consciousness that I do not deserve your approbation or your gifts.

"A man can have no claim either to praise or reward who only performs his duty and that in an imperfect manner. That duty as I understand it imperatively requires me to visit and pray for the sick, even at the imminent risk of health and of life. But I have no claim to the praise of courage or self-devotion in those proceedings which you so kindly approve, in as much as I scarcely ever had any apprehension or feeling of insecurity. My friend, the Doctor, indeed, when consulted upon the subject, told me that such visits were not free from danger, but I thank God I was able to attend rather to his example than to his advice. I said to myself 'if he and the other medical gentlemen examine and handle, and come into the most intimate contact with their patients, and yet suffer no harm, what possible risk can I encounter when I only enter their dwellings and speak to them upon the words of Christian consolation'.

"I have only to regard therefore, that I did not, and often I had not an opportunity of doing more; and I should have been ashamed to hold up my face, even before the world, if I had done less. I cannot altogether divest myself of a feeling of mortification, when I find such conduct, as I am conscious was far short of my duty, acknowledged by you with exaggerated praise, and rewarded with unexampled munificence. But the less I deserve your praise or rewards the stronger be my feelings of gratitude upon receiving them and I hope that my Divine Master may give me grace to turn them to good and not evil. I trust He will make them the means of exciting my zeal and stimulating my exertions in His service - that henceforth the feelings of personal gratitude and friendship will enforce the calls of Christian philanthropy and official duty, and that thus I may be made more faithful and diligent in watching for the souls of those committed to my charge.

"In the meantime, permit me to return to you and my other kind friends my warmest thanks for your splendid and valuable gifts. I shall ever look upon them with the highest satisfaction; and I hope they will long be preserved by those who come after me, as the gratifying moments of your kindness and liberality. Allow me also, Sir, to express in your own presence, the high gratification I derive from receiving these gifts from the hands of a gentleman, whose life is a daily proof that the most perfect knowledge and enjoyment of the world is compatible with the discharge of every Christian duty."

Copyright: Robert Spier 2015



ROBERT STIRLING

The man who graced Galston with his Ministry for 54 years, was also the man who gave birth to the concept and practicalities of the Stirling Engine. Initially limited in development by availability of very basic materials, it is recorded that in 1876, Robert Stirling optimistically stated: "It remains for some skilled and ambitious mechanist in a future age to repeat it under more favourable circumstances and with complete success". So, almost 200 years since he first had it patented in 1816, that German company - together with other international companies - reflect the concept of that innovative engine within a wide diversity of today's technology. Inducted by Name and Repute into the Scottish Engineering Hall of Fame in 2014, Robert Stirling as a man of Faith and the Future, truly deserved the praise . . .

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT!

Original gravestone when nearly new.



Original gravestone in disrepair.



New gravestone erected in 2014.



In memory of Rev. Dr. Robert Stirling DD

Galston Cemetery, Lair 18. South Border, Old Section



Charity No. SCO 10370

MISSION STATEMENT

Our aim as a Christian congregation is joyfully to Worship God, in fellowship and lifestyle, encouraging others to join us, by Serving God, through praying, caring, teaching and reaching out beyond ourselves.

Fourth Sunday after Easter
11am 3 May 2015

Order of Service

Service conducted by
Rev. Alastair Symington

*Chaplain-in-Ordinary to
HM the Queen in Scotland*

**A LOOP SYSTEM IS
INSTALLED IN THE
CHURCH**

*For better reception
please switch your
hearing aid to the 'T'
position*

CHURCH WEBSITE:
www.kirknews.org.uk

Galston Parish Church Choir
Organist/Director of Music:
Graeme Finnie
Bible Readings: Mr John Connell

Prelude:

Prelude in B Minor - Philip Moore

Entry of Bible and Minister Please stand if you are able

- Intimations -

Introit:

The Lord is my Shepherd - G. A. Macfarren

- CALL TO WORSHIP -

Praise: Hymn 81

I to the hills will lift mine eyes

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Lord's Prayer

- Talk to the children -

Praise: Hymn 146

From all that dwell below the skies

Old Testament Reading:

Psalm 8

Page 427 of Pew Bibles

ANTHEM:

Unto Thee O Lord do I lift up my Soul - Mozart

New Testament Epistle:

Hebrews Chapter 2, Verses 1-9

Page 971 of Pew Bibles

New Testament Gospel:

St. Mark Chapter 3, Verses 13-30

Page 814 of Pew Bibles

FAITH AND THE FUTURE . . .

In 2013, the President of a large German Engineering Company, wrote:

"arising from a vision which has inspired me since my long journeys in this world and especially in Africa, where I saw the misery of the women in the villages who walked for hours each day to collect the last remaining firewood, I considered it humanity's duty to respond to such poverty and environmental destruction, which is entirely unnecessary in a land where energy from the sun is particularly abundant".

Thereafter, that man - a scientist and inventor - decided to put his technical expertise into the service of those who needed it most, and, today that Company produces and markets a range of innovative machines which from the power of the Sun, deliver mechanical energy to drive grain mills and power tools, and generate electricity for lighting, communications, hospitals, schools etc. However, there amidst the sales pitch and technical jargon of that Company, we read the words "innovative low-temperature Stirling Engine".

In *An Historical Synopsis of Galston Parish Church*, published in 1997, revised in 2015, we read comment on Robert Stirling, the Minister of Galston Parish Church from 1824 until his death in 1878, which reflects a life of Christian service during which he earned great respect and love for his kindness, generosity and strong Christian ethics.

Reference is also made to his conscientious caring Ministry during the cholera epidemic of 1848-49, when he moved freely amongst the afflicted in Galston Parish, tending them, praying with them through to their final day, while the world at large passed by.



A quarter-size model of a Stirling Radioisotope Generator - designed to produce 140 watts of electric power in the cold, deep reaches of outer space for over 17 years of unattended and no maintenance operation - a gift from Robert Cataldo of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

learning, and, growing physically and mentally to be a gifted man of care, compassion - and engineering skill!

Robert Stirling was that farmer's son, and, it is not strange that his path through life should lead him to the Ministry within the Church of Scotland, and to the village and parish of Galston which he served for 54 years, with his wife and family by his side.

That path led him to study at both Edinburgh and Glasgow Universities, and, as was quite normal in those days, he commenced his University studies in Latin and Greek at the age of 15, progressing through Logic, Metaphysics, Mathematics and Rhetoric, in advancement to being licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Dumbarton on 4 July 1815. Thereafter, he was presented - by the Duke and Duchess of Portland, of Cessnock Castle - to be 'second charge' i.e., assistant minister at the Laigh Kirk in Kilmarnock; this was enacted under the system of "patronage" within the Church of Scotland of that time, which culminated in the 'Disruption' of 1843.

Robert found challenge in that "patronage" system and was suspended with nine others by the General Assembly of 1842, for 'holding Communion with the deposed Ministers of Strathbogie' (Aberdeenshire)!

In his pathway through life in Kilmarnock, he met Jane Rankine whom he married on 10 July 1819, and thereafter both were blessed by the birth of five sons Patrick, William, Robert, David and James, and, two daughters Jane and Agnes.

Robert's footsteps then brought him to Galston where he commenced his Ministry on the 12 February 1824.

Within those years of following his path within our community, Robert was honoured by having the Degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred upon him by the University of St. Andrews on the 11 January 1840. He is also reported as having gathered around him a large and attached congregation through his caring Ministry, and eventually he arrived at a point late in his walk through life, when he became Father of the Church of Scotland ie, the oldest living Minister.

... A GOOD, CARING AND CLEVER MAN

Praise: Hymn 606

Lord, you sometimes speak in wonders

- SERMON -

Praise: Hymn 396

And can it be that I should gain

Offertory: Pie Jesu - G. Faure

Offering and Prayer of Dedication and Intercession

Hymn 5:

O Lord, our Lord (Tune St. Asaph 745, no 'coda')

The Benediction (Please stand if you are able)

Blessing:

*May God's blessing surround you each day
As you trust him and walk in his way
May his presence within, guard and keep you
from sin
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love. Amen*

Exit of Bible Please stand if you are able

Postlude: Prelude and Fugue in C Minor - J. S. Bach

**The re-dedication of the new
Robert Stirling Memorial Stone
will take place at Galston Cemetery at 12.45pm**

***There is a Stirling Exhibition in the Hogg Hall before and after
the service of worship with tea and coffee being served
before and after the service of re-dedication.***



A half size model of a Stirling Engine which sits under the Pulpit - a gift to the Church from Willie Kidd.

Intimations

INTIMATIONS: To ensure an intimation is included in the Order of Service sheet on a Sunday please inform Jessie Telfer or Elizabeth Shearer before the previous Wednesday. Alternatively, email to: galstonparishchurch@btinternet.com.

EACHA: A collection box is at the front door of the Church for the usual items for distribution to the homeless. Contact Margaret Mair or Greta Hatton for further information.

TEA AT THE HOGG: Thursday 7 May, 2pm in the Hogg Hall. *Entertainment - Music with Leon.*

KIRK SESSION meets on Wednesday 13 May at 7.30 in the Hogg Hall.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY opens on Saturday May 16 - you may wish to follow proceedings with daily updates at:

- www.lifeandwork.org
- www.facebook.com/lifeandwork
- www.twitter.com/cofslifeandwork

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: Sunday 31 May, 11am, in Galston Parish Church.

HEART AND SOUL: *Living Stones* - Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, on Sunday 17 May, 1-6pm - well worth a visit!

B.B. SUMMER FAYRE and Sale of Bedding Plants, Hogg Hall, Saturday 8 May, 10-12. Hall open on Friday evening from 7.30-8.30pm for donations - burgers, bottles, plants, books, dvd's, home baking, hoopla, bric-a-brac and children's games.

CHRISTIAN AID Collector Packs now ready to uplift.

KIRK NEWS No. 153 will be available on Wednesday 13 May - and from tomorrow on-line at www.kirknews.org.uk

SUNDAY WORSHIP: in Church, 11am every week, conducted by Rev. Alastair Symington. (*Sunday 17 May - Rev. Mary Elizabeth Prentice-Hyers while Alastair attends The Assembly*).

FOODBANK donations for the Salvation Army will be collected today and again on Sunday 6 June. Contact Greta Hatton.



PASTORAL CARDS for Visitors and Members are available from the Church Pews.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Ahrensfelde Welcome Committee meets with the Hosts on Tuesday 18 August at 7pm in the Hogg Hall to discuss the visit of the group from our partner church near Berlin who will visit Galston from Thu-Tue 22-27 October.

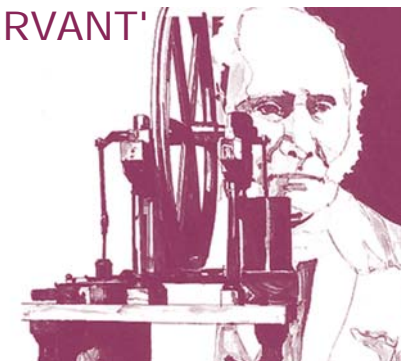
The Kirk Session thanks all who donated to the Stirling Memorial Fund and acknowledge the significant assistance received from Co-operative Funeralcare and East Ayrshire Council in making the project possible.

IMAGES: Page 1- Galston Parish Church. Page 4 - Willie Kidd. Page 5 - Reproduced from 'In Search of Stirling' by HCM Edelman, by permission of Philips Company Archives. Page 7 - Robert Murray. Page 8 - Robert Stirling - Session House Portrait, Gravestones - Stirling Family and Robert Murray. Words - John Connell.

'A GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT'

MEMORIAL RE-DEDICATION

Sunday 3 May 2015



REV. DR. ROBERT STIRLING DD
1790 - 1878

*The able, conscientious and devoted
Minister of the Parish of Galston
for 54 years and the
renowned inventor of the Stirling Engine*

A PATHWAY THROUGH LIFE . . .

The Congregation of this Church today, in 2015, may be conscious of following the footsteps of their forefathers in their walk on their personal path through life. Today's Church in Galston stands on the 'footprint' of earlier churches which we understand extend back to the 13th C.

Throughout those long centuries, many men and women in this ancient Parish of Galston have walked that pathway with its many twists and turns, challenges, good times and bad, always sure of One who shows the way, and, always knowing of others, family and friends, who have endeavoured to faithfully follow in His footsteps.

Today, we think back to a farmer's son from Perthshire, born in 1790 into a simple life within a caring family, nurtured through love and