

# F.O.L.K. NEWSLETTER

December 2001

## We're Getting there!

At last work has begun at the Kirk. This year has consisted of much discussion and delay, but once full grant confirmation was received, and planning permission was in place, things have started to move.

Scaffolding is now in place and a site meeting with Historic Scotland will confirm how to progress the project. All the gravestones and plaques in close proximity to the Kirk, have been enclosed for protection.

Access to the Kirk has been temporarily restricted whilst work is in progress. Currently the repairs to make the building watertight will be completed by the end of February (weather permitting), with a rededication ceremony planned for April.



## Future of FOLK

So what will happen to The Friends of Loudoun Kirk when work is complete?

Under grant conditions we are obliged to continue for a further 10 year to act as custodians of the Kirk.

But other projects of restoration are being considered. Work will still be required, to repair the Burn wall and the bridge parapet by the entrance to the Kirk. The gate itself has been damaged and will need replaced. There is also the constant danger of vandalism to the ground and gravestone repair will be a consideration.

Our work will be far from complete.

### Contact details

If you have any query or suggestions please feel free to contact

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Updates are found on our website:  
<http://www.f-o-l-k.org.uk>



## CLOOTIE DUMPLING

2 Teacups Plain Flour	3 Cups Breadcrumbs
1/2lb Atora (suet)	4oz Raisins
4 Tablespoons Sugar	4oz Sultanas
1 Teaspoon Baking soda	4oz Currents
1 Teaspoon Cream of Tartar	2 Tablespoons Golden Syrup
1 Teaspoon Ginger	1 Tablespoon Treacle
1 Teaspoon Cinnamon	2 Eggs
2 Teaspoons Mixed Spice	Milk to mix

Mix dry ingredients. Add fruit, eggs, syrup & treacle and add enough milk to make a stiff dough. Place in a muslin cloth (floured) and tie tightly. Steam for 2- 2.5 hours. Dry in oven.

### Kirkyard Notables

George Palmer 1797 – 1874

Married Helen Fulton 24 Sept 1825 in Loudoun.

“Born of parents who belonged to that class designated “industrious poor”, he was early apprenticed to the loom. An intelligent man, he thirsted after knowledge and gradually acquired an education that fitted him for a better position. During the radical years he zealously entered into politics, and being gifted with a calm, discriminating mind, and power of language, he soon became a leading spirit amongst those who were infected with similar opinions. To be a radical, especially an intelligent one, was to be a marked man, and the subject of this notice began to be looked upon as a dangerous individual by the authorities, and, with many others, was apprehended on the night of the 14<sup>th</sup> April, 1820, when a regiment of Yeomanry Cavalry invaded Kilmarnock. When made prisoner, Bailie Porteous, who accompanied the captors, searched his house, and when rummaging through his desk, remarked, “George, you are a beautiful writer.” Perhaps this incident had something to do with his future prosperity, for it was this veritable Bailie who introduced him to the Free School. After suffering three months’ imprisonment in Ayr Jail, he was discharged *without a trial*, and returned home to abandon politics for matters of a more profitable nature. Shortly afterwards he received the appointment to the Free School, and after labouring in it for thirty years was granted by the directors a retiring salary, which he enjoyed for nearly twenty years. Mr Palmer was the author of several school manuals, and contributed to the local papers. For a long period was an elder of King Street Church. When he retired from public life he settle in Galston, and became a member and ultimately an elder, in the church of the Rev Mr Matthewson. He fought the good fight, and closed a life of usefulness at a ripe old age.”

*McLeod “Rambles round Kilmarnock”*

### Britt's Teaser's - The Answers

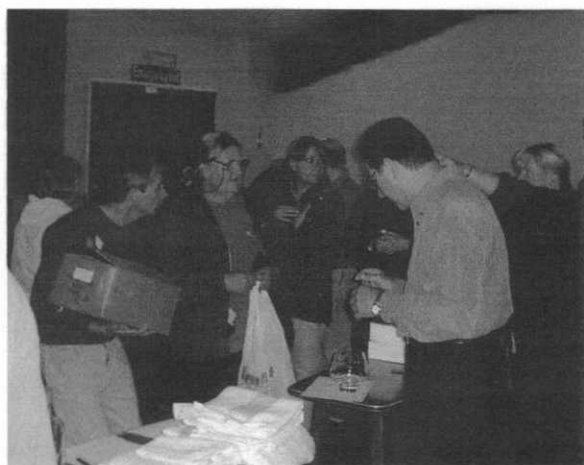
- 1) Fancy that
- 2) One foot in the grave
- 3) A play on words
- 4) Open and shut case

## Events

### *Warm Welcome at the Kirk*

The Ayrshire Doors Open Day took place on the 2nd September 2001.

Doors Open Day is an annual event, where members of the public get a chance, to visit some of Scotland's most interesting buildings. Once again, Loudoun Kirk was open to the public, and over 300 people visited the Kirk.



### *Under the Hammer*

The F.O.L.K. silent auction was held in the Galston Community Centre on Saturday 15th September 2001. A great many items were sold making this a very successful day.

### *Reel Guid Time*

St Andrew's night saw the return of the biennial Ceilidh in the Galston Community Centre. A great evening was had by all, dancing the night away to the sounds of The Caledonian Ceilidh Band.

