

WHO'S WHO IN THE KIRK SESSION



**Jim
Wilson**

For those of you who are regular visitors to the Lunch Bunch you will know Jim well, as he is the leader of the 'band', who does a nifty turn in filling up your cups with tea or coffee. This is the high profile area in which he works for the good of the church and congregation. He became an elder in Polmont Old in October 2000, among the new blood brought into the eldership early in Bill McKaig's ministry.

Jim was born in Leith and educated at the local primary and secondary schools. During this period, with his father being an elder, he had an early start in all facets of church life. The Sunday School, Bible Class, Life Boys and graduating through all sections of the Boys' Brigade to gain his Queen's badge and on to being an Officer and ultimately becoming the Captain of the Company. Parallel with this, he left school and started his apprenticeship in bookbinding with Anderson Book Binders, who were ultimately taken over by Letts, the producers of diaries. Later he moved to Dunn and Wilson in Edinburgh and in turn, moved to manage the company's premises in Grangemouth, bringing him to this area in 1970.

During the 1950's, National Service interrupted the scheme of things and Jim found himself in the RAF and posted to Northern Ireland. This was at the time when the troubles were raising their ugly head, and although he worked on radar, there were many scares in ensuring the equipment was protected and above all working well, and ready for immediate use.

So back to civvy street. Jim met Ellen who was to become his wife in 1958, and they have two daughters, Fiona and Alison and one grand-daughter Caitlin. Ellen had to re-adjust with the move to Polmont and trained for teaching at Callendar Park College, which ultimately worked well for her, in paving the way for a teaching job.

Moving from Edinburgh to Grangemouth, they set up home in Lathallan Drive and soon found their way to Polmont Old Parish Church and became regular attenders.

As a young boy Jim was, as they say now, 'football mad'. He was a keen footballer and played for his school and BB teams, and living in the North Edinburgh area, he was a keen supporter of Hibernian. This has not changed, but we forgive him for that!

As he was, and still is, a keen gardener, he joined the Polmont Horticultural Society, primarily at their invitation to look after the Society's books. This actually made him Secretary, a post he has held for the past 35 years.

Jim also enjoys a round or two of golf, and participates in the church's annual golf outings. He is a keen reader and he and Ellen enjoy foreign holidays, especially to Italy.

In church circles he was one of the early members assisting with the Lunch Bunch and took over the running of this service on behalf of the Kirk Session at the time he became an elder in 2000. He was in the Property Committee involved in the fabric of the Church and Manse, but he is now on the General Matters Committee of the Congregational Board.

Jim has proved to be a faithful addition to the Kirk Session.



That Christ will once again be the focus of the people of Scotland at Christmas.

Remember the poor of the world and the true meaning of Christmas.

We pray that in the midst of the festive season we don't forget the true meaning. Also we remember our loved-ones who will not be joining us, but we remember them always.

Lord – Happy Birthday on your special day – and may I ask you Lord to keep the small children and elderly in the world free from hunger and badness. Help people see that the world would be a better place if we just took time and thought about other people. Lord please keep my family and friends safe in the New Year.