Dundas Church WAR MEMORIAL



(SMR100)

This memorial is now fixed to the wall just to the south of the chancel arch of Abbotsgrange Church. A rectangular brass plaque with plain borders punctuated by square rosettes. It was designed by Robert Lorimer, Edinburgh.

The cast inscription reads:

1914 1918 TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN HONOUR OF THE 66 MEN AND 4 NURSES FROM THIS CONGREGATION WHO

SERVED IN THE GREAT WAR - AND NOTABLY IN THE AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE OF THE FOLLOWING WHO MADE THE GREAT SACRIFICE

AITKEN. JAS	2 ND LT	C.H.
BAXTER. GORDON	GNR	R.G.A.
BAXTER. JOHN R.		A.I.F.
DONALD. THOS. J.	PTE	S.H.
GILBERT. EDWARD	L.CPL	G.H.
LAWRIE. THOS.	PTE	K.O.Y.L.I.
MILLAR. DAVID H.	2 ND LT	R.S.
MITCHELL. JOHN T.	GNR.	R.F.A.
Mc.LEOD. JOSEPH	PTE	R.S.F.
PEDDIE. WM. B.	RIFLEMAN	Q.O.W.R.
SCADE. JAMES	PTE	C.H.
SMITH. JAMES	PTE	C.H.
THOMSON. ALEX.	SAPPER	R.E.

AND IN MEMORY OF WHOM THE/ CHANCEL WINDOWS ARE ERECTED".

The memorial chancel windows of stained glass were erected in memory of those of the congregation who fell in the war and these were unveiled in March 1923. At the ceremony the anthem "What are these" was sung by the choir, after which Mrs McGill and Mrs Blair pulled the cords that caused the Union flags

which had covered them to slip to the floor. Rev Robert McMillan then read the names of the fallen, followed by the Last Post played by Harry Wadsworth, formerly of the Coldstream Guards Band.

Rev. Blair suggested the themes, which were: left window "Our Lord's devoting Himself to the supreme mission of His Life, turning his back on all the world's allurements, resisting all temptation." In the centre window – "What this devotion cost, the sacrifice of Calvary, the dismay of His disciples"; and the right-hand window – "Through Death to Victory, manifested by the empty tomb, but more in the living Christ's presence with the disciples, in their joy and courage." The windows thus represent the Temptation, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection. Near the bottom of the left-hand window is a small circular inset picturing the Birth of Christ and the corresponding circle in the right-hand window shows the empty tomb. The colours are delicately balanced, with deeper tones in the centre window.

The lettering is respectively:

"For their sakes I sanctify Myself; Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"; and

"Lo, I am with you always."

The bronze tablet on the wall to the left of the chancel bears the names of the fallen.

An extra window depicting St Cecelia, the patron saint of music, was inserted into the organ recess to be in-keeping with the rest. The designer was Douglas Strachan of Edinburgh.