

Source – Souvenir Brochure for the Burgh of Tayport Festival year 1951

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Ecclesiastically, from very early times the district has been well served, and the spiritual needs of the people have been well met, and in 1887 there were three churches ministering to the higher life of the town, and that to a very great degree; so much so, that Tayport was regarded as a very strong religious community.

There was the Parish Church, the Free Church, and the United Presbyterian Church, and every Sabbath large congregations worshipped in the various churches. At the time of young Burgh-hood, the parish minister was the Rev. Christopher Halliday, B.A., who was followed by Rev. John Munro, M.A., and later by Rev. C. W. Stobie, M.A.

The oversight of the Free Church was in the care of Rev. Thomas Scott, M.A., who was followed, by a regular succession of young ministers whose terms in the town were very limited. These were Rev. R. Sangster Anderson, M.A., Rev. Dr Hugh R. MacIntosh, Rev. John Macaskill, M.A., Rev. Wm. Purves Boyes, M.A., Rev. Adam W. Burnett, M.A., Rev. Robert Ross, M.A., Rev. A. Fortune, M.A., and Rev. D. H. Soutar, M.A.

In the then U. P. Church, the Minister was Rev. Alexander Jack, M.A., who was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Angus Fraser, M.A., Rev. Alexander Home, Rev. A. M. Davidson, M.A., Rev. Archibald Melrose, M.A., and at the present time Rev. J. Erskine Stewart, M.A., is in, charge. At the union of the Free Church of Scotland and the United Presbyterian Church in 1900 the new body became known as the United Free Church of Scotland, and thereafter the Old Free Church in Queen Street took the name of Queen Street

United Free Church, while the Church in Castle Street, the old U. P. became known as Erskine United Free Church. In 1929, on the Union of the Church of Scotland with the United Free Church of Scotland there were in Tayport as in other towns in Scotland, a minority who wished to adhere to the old United Free Church principles and convictions, and who refused to join the Union with the Established Church of Scotland. In October 1929, at the consummation of the Union they forsook the buildings in which they had worshipped for so long, buildings which had become very dear to them, and continued the life of the United Free Church in the town in common with others throughout the country who were like minded. After worshipping in the Temperance Hall for two years, in 1931 they were able to build for themselves Church premises in King Street, and since that time the U. F. Church has been very successful. With the exception of the first year of their existence this body has been ministered to by Rev. F. V. Atkin and Rev. W. J. Mitchell and for a short time by a missionary.

The small Episcopal Church which stands on the Cupar Road was built in the year 1898 and the worshippers, although never a large body, have 'been able to carry on faithfully during all these years, and have been ministered to by the Rector of St. Mary's, Newport.

In recent years there has been established, also in Cupar Road, a Roman Catholic Chapel, which since its inception has had a congregation who are enthusiastic for their way of religious life. The priest from Newport ministers to this people. For many years several 'other religious bodies have been active in the town, among them being the Salvation Army, whose strength fluctuated considerably from time to time, as enthusiasm rose and fell. There is now no local corps.