

Priestfield Parish Church

*Stained
Glass
Windows*



PRIESTFIELD PARISH CHURCH: STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

1880 Foundation of Rosehall U P Church

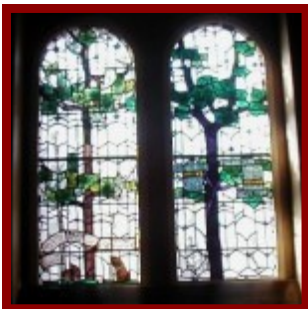
1974 Union of Prestonfield Church and Rosehall Church created Priestfield Parish Church

1980 Interior re-design in Centenary year

The Stained Glass Windows were presented to Rosehall Church, as it was then, in 1921 by Sir John Cowan, in memory of his youngest son, Lt. William Morison Cowan.

Three young artists, Mary Wood, Douglas Hamilton and Alexander Strachan, were commissioned to carry out the work and each shows a distinctive style.

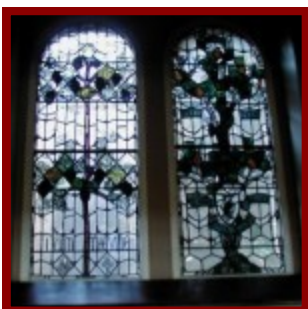
Mary Wood



Under the North gallery – on the right looking from the pulpit to the back of the church – Mary Wood's designs are based on the trees and plants in the Bible. First the **Sycamore** with the inscription from *Psalm 96 v12*, then the **Oak**, with the rabbits, an unusual and cheerful feature in a church window.



Next is the **Rose**, but not just a pretty design, for here the thorns are prominent. The meaning is clear when you notice the details – the whip, the cup of sorrow, the spear, the sponge, the nails and the hammer. In the corner is the **Fir** tree with the stork fluttering over its nest and the text from *Isaiah 60 v13*.



On the left under the south gallery is the **Vine**, then the **Pomegranate**, used as food, medicine and as an ornament of beauty.



These are followed by a tree, which may be the **Acacia**, with the text of *Isaiah 44 v23*. In the corner where the light is poorest, it is difficult to identify the tree, but the text from *Psalm 29 v11* is clear.

PRIESTFIELD PARISH CHURCH: STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Douglas Hamilton



Douglas Hamilton's work is in the four double windows, one in each transept between Mary Wood's and two at the back. These windows are richly coloured with strong rainbow shades and are seen at their best and most powerful in full sunlight. The window pictured here is from the North Transept.

Alexander Strachan



The main windows at the back are by Alexander Strachan. The double window in the lounge is perhaps the nearest to a war memorial. To the left are the words "**He is at peace**" and to the right "**Lest we forget**". In both lights there is a flying angel, with spear and crown and crimson wings. Also depicted here are the Scottish motto and arms in gold and red.



Behind the back gallery are perhaps the most impressive windows of all. To the left is Jesus with the leper, to the right Jesus bearing his cross, and in the middle a great double light based on the vision in the Book of Revelation – the Throne, the golden candles, the seven bowls, the four creatures, the four and twenty elders, the sea of glass and the rainbow of colour.