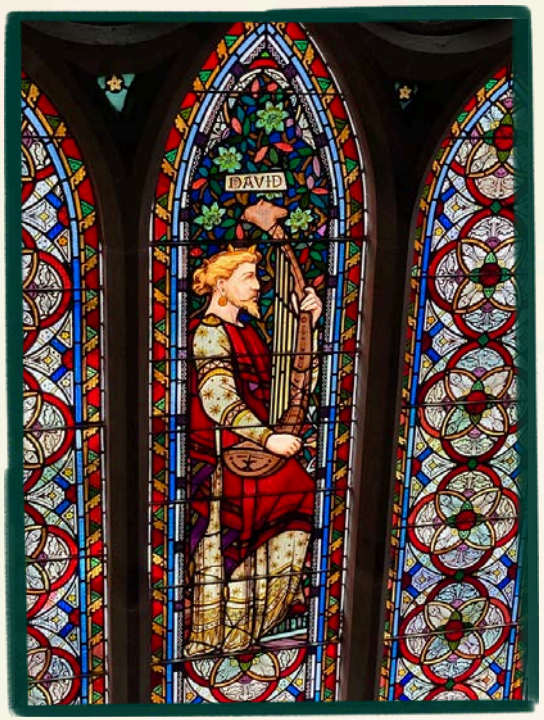
COTTIERS

Historic West End Venue for Tour Groups & Private Dining







Cottiers is situated in Glasgow architect William Leiper's Dowanhill Church in the West End of Glasgow. Over 34 years it has become well known as a grass roots music, wedding and events venue with a very atmospheric interior. The interior is unique due to its historic scheme of stained glass and colourful decoration designed and executed by Daniel Cottier (1838-1891). Cottier made his name here in Scotland and went on to stt up his design businesses in London, New York and Sydney.

Four Acres Charitable Trust is the third sector owner of Cottiers that was able to save the building in the 1980s and has continued to operate it successfully since it opened in 1992 under the principle that surpluses generated go back into the building by repairing and improving the fabric and by promoting heritage conservation and education.

Cottiers offers an unforgettable Scottish setting for travel groups, corporate events and international tour parties.

Featuring soaring vaulted ceilings, original stained glass, and flexible private spaces, Cottiers combines authentic historic character with full modern event capabilities and seamless group logistics.

OUR SPACES AND CAPACITY

The Theatre
(Large Tour Groups)

Our main hall is perfect for large group lunches,
dinners and ceilidhs,
Seated Dining: Up to 180 guests
Buffet / Reception: Up to 200 guests

Leiper's Attic
(Intimate Dinners & Smaller Parties)

Our Attic is ideal for smaller group meals or private group dining, and is only available Mon-Thursday
Seated Dining: Up to 86 guests
Buffet / Reception:
Up to 100 guests





BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES

Email: events@cottiers.com
Address:Cottiers Glasgow 93-95
Hyndland Street, Glasgow, G11 5PU
Telephone: (0)141 357 5825 Website:
www.cottiers.com



GROUP DINING AND PACKAGES
SAMPLE MENUS

Starters

Soup of the day
served with crusty bread & salted butter

Haggis Bon Bon's
potato gratin, turnip purée, whisky sauce

Wild mushroom tart
red onion and mozzarella tart, rocket oil, hazelnut crumb

Mains

Haggis, neeps and tatties with whiskey sauce

Cottiers Guinness, Steak and Onion Pie
Served with Mash Potato, Roasted Carrots & Parsnips

Cottiers Mac n' Cheese
Served with garlic bread & side salad

Roast chicken breast
Served with fondant potato, haggis Bon Bon, honey roast root veg, whisky sauce

Desserts

White chocolate and raspberry cheesecake
raspberry sorbet, chocolate soil, mint syrup

Sticky toffee pudding,
caramel sauce, butterscotch ice cream

Sandwich Menu

All sandwiches served on Ciabatta and served with salad and crisps

Roast Chicken & Herb Mayo

With salad leaves and cucumber

Classic Ham & Cheddar Ploughman's

With pickle and fresh tomato

Smoked Salmon & Cream Cheese
With fresh dill and black pepper

Hummus & Roasted Red Pepper (VG)
With rocket and toasted seeds

The Architecture & heritage of cottiers theatre

Cottiers Theatre, is the sole surviving complete church interior created by pioneer artist, decorator, and designer Daniel Cottier.

Executed between 1865 and 1866 in close collaboration with architect William Leiper, the scheme is an early masterpiece of the Aesthetic Movement, seamlessly integrating painted plaster, carved timber, stone, metalwork, and stained glass into a single harmonious visual environment.



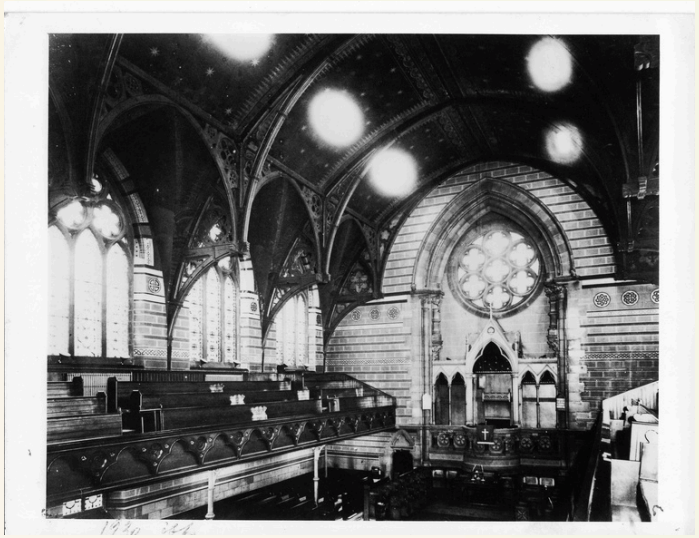
William Leiper



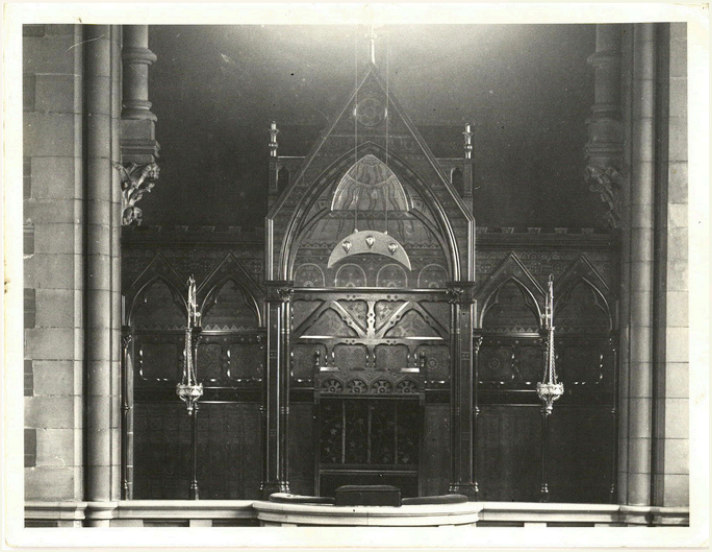
Daniel Cottier

The Architecture & heritage of cottiers theatre

The interior surfaces of the theatre hold over a century of artistic layering's and redecorations:



1865–1866 (The Original Scheme): Defined by bold design, vibrant colour harmonies, and a combination of freehand brushwork and stencil patterns. Cottier applied distemper directly to damp plaster on the walls and executed rich oil painting across timber elements, such as the pulpit canopy.



1899 (Guthrie & Wells): Out of a desire to preserve Cottier's original composition, decorator firm Guthrie & Wells reproduced the full wall scheme in durable oil paint.

The Architecture & heritage of cottiers theatre

1937 (Celtic Motif Redecoration): Under the direction of artist D.Y. Cameron, original wall decorations were replaced with Celtic motifs, though Cottier's painted ceiling was carefully preserved and varnished.

1960s (Overpainting): The intricate historic paintwork was entirely concealed under uniform coats of plain purple, turquoise, and light blue emulsion paint.



The Architecture & heritage of cottiers theatre

Restoration & Preservation Strategy

When the Four Acres Charitable Trust took ownership of the building in 1984, a comprehensive recovery plan was developed in consultation with Historic Scotland.

Rather than repainting entirely over modern layers or leaving raw, damaged areas on display, conservationists selected a balanced approach. The main interior presents a unified aesthetic whole that honours Cottier's original vision, while key exposed sections left throughout the space act as historic "windows" revealing original underlying paintwork.

Following decades of scientific analysis, paint solubility testing, and structural repairs, full-scale restoration began in 2012 in the choir area and upper nave walls—marking the return of one of Scotland's most significant decorative schemes to public view











