

Jennie Milne

“Those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; You will raise up the age-old foundations; And you will be called the repairer of the breach, The restorer of the streets in which to dwell.” Isaiah 58:12

Jennie Milne, a Photography lecturer at Robert Gordon University, has been a committed Christian since the age of 17 and is an active member of her local church in Fraserburgh, Northeast Scotland.

Following a very traumatic childhood, Jennie embarked on a search to discover her late mother’s mysterious background in 2014 in a bid to understand what had caused such devastation in her family. She was to discover that her secretive grandmother, Helena, originated from the Jewish Community in Stryj (then Eastern Poland) and, after fleeing persecution in 1940, hid her only daughter in the UK whilst she fought in the Polish Army under British command. Sadly, Helena did not return to collect her baby after the war, and the two were only briefly reunited in the 1960s. Jennie was to discover that tragically, most of Helena’s relatives were murdered in the Holocaust. She has also traced and been blessed by the discovery of a few surviving family members living in Israel and the USA.

This revelation was to change Jennie’s life and provided a deep connection to the Jewish community. In response to her own family background and the growing issue of present-day antisemitism, Jennie began photographing Holocaust survivors and contemporary Jewish survivors of terrorism in order to bear witness and create an environment in which others could learn their stories. She has held a number of photographic exhibitions, and given talks in the UK, Poland, and the USA.

Jennie lives in Inverallochy, Aberdeenshire with her husband Brian; the couple have 9 adult children and 4 grandchildren.