



St Andrew's and St George's West September 2016 Magazine



EDINBURGH City
Centre CHURCHES
TOGETHER

September 2016

STAGW Matters		
The Power of Music Ian Y Gilmour		3-4
Creationtide Worship Ian Y Gilmour		5
Autumn Diary		6-7
Births, marriages, baptisms and deaths		8
Autumn starts here		
Creative Together – Book Group – Evergreens – Sally Magnusson – AHSS Lectures - Undercroft		10-13
Celebrating Creationtide		
Pat McKerrow's Wildlife Diary		14-15
Water of Leith Walk – St John's Creationtide		16
Care for Creation Conference – Car Free Sunday		17
Thoughts of a Small Island Maggie Morley		18-19
Edinburgh Direct Aid Appeal		20-21
TOGETHER News		
Building Bridges Markus Duenzkofer		22
Making the Gospel Real David Hart		23-24
Deaf Ministry – Exploring Faith in a New Language		26-27
Creating a New Vision for an Old City		28
Mind and spirit		
Feed your soul this autumn		29
Festival of Faiths		30
Hidden Books of the Bible Alex Harper		31
CONTACTS		32

Photo credits: Jane Brown, Alison Bruce, Andrena and Arthur Crawford, Pat McKerrow, Mary Scott, Dorothy Mackenzie, Dong-Yi. Many thanks to everyone who contributes to the magazine.

Copy deadline for the next (October) issue is Monday 26 September

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Editor Alison Bruce. Information correct at TGP!



The Power of Music

A letter from Ian

We have had a marvellous summer of music with members of our choir participating in a wide variety of concerts and many based in the 13 George Street building. It was very good to see them improve their skills and grow in confidence by playing to paying audiences.

One of the services this summer was on a connected theme and several people said it resonated with them. It was entitled *The Power of Music*. The passage for that day was **Jesus'** words in Luke's gospel,

"We played wedding music for you, but you wouldn't dance! We sang funeral songs, but you wouldn't cry!"

Jesus knew the emotional power of song.

Music has the power to lift people, to set their toes tapping, and bodies swaying in time to a beat. It has the power to lift static, disengaged or sad people and bring them into a collective communal musical experience – dance. Music can awaken people, touch people and change people from the inside out. Music engages our emotions in deep ways, not fully understood by scientists nor science.

You don't have to take my word for it. The poet **Longfellow** put it this way, *"Music is the universal language of mankind."* **Thoreau** said *"When I hear music, I fear no danger. I am invulnerable. I see no foe."* And **Bonhoeffer**, *"Music... will help dissolve your perplexities and purify your character and sensibilities, and in time of care and sorrow, will keep a fountain of joy alive in you."*

Every person has their favorite music genres and their preference of performers. Yet with all the variety of music out there, we could all agree that music is truly something powerful.

It is no surprise that many people turn to music when they feel less than stellar as music has the power to soothe and to transform our mood. Science backs this claim. A 2012 study conducted by University of Missouri found that when people are experiencing elevated negative emotions such as anger or sadness, listening to music can slow down their heart rate, providing them with a calming and therapeutic effect. No matter how we're feeling – whether we find ourselves on top of the world or down in a rut, music can inspire, making us feel better – it is a potent medicine of the soul. For this reason, I believe that music is an indispensable gift.

Perhaps **Plato** put it best all those years ago,

"Music is a moral law.

It gives soul to the universe,
wings to the mind,
flight to the imagination,
and charm and life to everything."

Let us give thanks to all of our musicians for helping us week on week to give glory to God through the music we hear and sing at St Andrew's and St George's West.

Enjoy the delights of autumn - and if you are able, listen to some music!

Ian



Creationtide Season 2016

We worship the creator of heaven and earth

Sun 4 Sep at 11am	Ocean Sunday Job 38:1–18 The Season of Creation begins with a focus on the untamed and life-giving, powerful, yet fragile oceans of the world.
Sun 11 Sep at 11am	Fauna and Flora Sunday Psalm 104:14–23 We celebrate the plants and creatures that inhabit Earth, and sink our roots deeper into the ways of deep Wisdom.
Sun 18 Sep at 11am	Storm Sunday Psalm 29 We ponder how we might move with the patterns of the weather and the Spirit and follow the wisdom that creates, sustains, and redeems.
Sun 25 Sep at 11am	Cosmos Sunday Proverbs 8:22–31 We experience the power, energy, and revitalisation God gives to us and to all of nature; ascribing to God the praise due God's name we, with the psalmist of long ago, shout, "Glory."
October 2016	
Sun 2 Oct at 11am	Harvest Sunday We celebrate and give thanks for the successful harvests in 2016 while sharing and praying for those whose harvest has failed

Worship Strengthens and Transforms

Worship is helpful for our growth as followers of Christ, so consider joining us Sunday by Sunday. You can attend **Communion at 9.00am**, the **All Age service at 9.45am** or enjoy our progressive pattern at **11.00am** or come to all three!

September 2016

Fri 2 Sep **Water of Leith Walk (10.30am from Balerno)**
Sat 3 Sep **Messy Church 10am-12.30pm**
St John's Ceilidh (6.30pm, Portyjoppa Church)
Local Vocations Conference, Dalkeith

Sun 4 Sep **9am Communion**
9.45am Learning Together
10.30am Adult Discussion Group
11am Morning Worship
Fellowship Lunch for TOGETHER Homelessness
2pm Albany Deaf Church

Tue 6 Sep **Kirk Session meeting (7.30pm)**

Sun 11 Sep **9am Communion**
9.45am Learning Together
10.30am Adult Discussion Group
11am Morning Worship

3pm John Mills Guitar Recital £12 (£10 conc)
<http://www.zen16170.zen.co.uk/johnmills/concerts.htm>

Sun 18 Sep **9am Communion**
9.45am Learning Together
10.30am Adult Discussion Group
11am Morning Worship

2.30pm Scottish Deaf Choirs Festival

Mon 19 Sept **Book Group meets, chapel (10.30-12)**
Wed 21 Spet **Creative Together meets (home meeting)**

Sat 24 Sep **Doors Open Day @STAGW + Café 11am- 4pm**

Sun 25 Sep **9am Communion**
Car-Free **9.45am Learning Together**
Sunday **10.30am Adult Discussion Group**
11am Morning Worship
2pm Albany Deaf Church

Mon 26 Sep **12.15 Amnesty Group meets, chapel**
Wed 28 Sep **TOGETHER Conference (New College 10-4pm)**
Evergreens 2.30pm

October 2016

Sat 1 Oct Creation Care Conference, Bridge of Allan
Sun 2 Oct **Fellowship Lunch for Mary's Meals**
Mon 3 Oct AHSS Lecture (6.30pm)
Colin McLean: Photography with a Purpose
Sat 8 Oct The Treasure Trove pop up craft fair (10.30-3pm)
Kirk Session Away Day
Sat 15 Oct Georgian Concert Society (7.30pm)
Canzona – Venetian Passions: Virtuoso instrumental
music from 17th-century Venice
Mon 17 **Book Group meets**
18 Oct **Donald Gorrie Lecture: Sally Magnusson**
Remember Who I Am – *From Where Memories Go to*
Playlist for Life
Thur 20 Oct **Kirk Session**
Tue 25 Oct Ed Quartet Rush Hour Concert (5.30pm)
Wed 26 Oct **Evergreens**
27- 29 Oct **Christian Aid Art Sale with Scottish Books and**
Collectables and Saturday Coffee Morning
Sun 30 Oct **Full Communion**
Mon 31 Oct **Amnesty group meets**

November 2016

Tue 1 Nov Deaf Action Conference
Thurs 3 Nov Make Your Money Count Conference
Sat 5 Nov **Messy Church**
Georgian Concert Society Ensemble Odyssee –
Concerti for Small Flute: Virtuoso Recorder Music
Sun 6 Nov **Fellowship Lunch for Peace and Justice Centre**
Mon 7 Nov AHSS Lecture
Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, his legacy in Scotland
Sat 19 Nov **Creative Together CRAFTEA for MND**
Wed 23 Nov **Evergreens**
Thur 24 Nov On The Road Church of Scotland Roadshow
Tue 29 Nov **Kirk Session**

Deaths

Mrs Anne Hepburn
Mrs Marjorie Wood
Dr Anne Peters
Miss Margaret Moodie
Mrs Isabella Nicholson

We welcome several new members

Mr Robert McCall
Mrs Jennifer Stark
Mr Donald Keith
Mrs Morag Keith
Mt. Thomas Leonard

Anne Hepburn 1925-2016

Lesley Orr

“.... How to sum up a long and well-lived life? Anne the troublemaker – who said at the age of 4 ‘I was bad and I meant to be bad’; Anne the godmother, who encouraged us to name and honour the Motherhood of God; Anne the feminist who celebrated our foremothers with her Supper Party for Scottish Women of Faith (a travelling ‘installation’ inspired by Judy Chicago’s feminist artwork, The Dinner Party) and her lifelong enacting of the Scottish suffrage motto ‘A Gude Cause Meks a Strong Arm’; Anne who welcomed strangers and made them her friends. I turn to her beloved daughter Catherine, who summed up her mother’s life and legacy in these powerful and poetic words (at the time of Anne’s 80th birthday):

‘Respect the terrifying energy of a woman of God. Hear the ring of the hammer on the anvil and feel the warmth of the leaping flame: both heart and hearth of home and hospitality, and the refining fire that reshapes the world to God’s will and purpose of justice, peace and life in its fullness. For Anne’s place in our lives, for her contribution to the fullness of so many lives, let us give thanks and glory to God.’

You can read the full text of Lesley’s tribute to Anne Hepburn at <http://www.stagw.org.uk/anne-hepburn-eulogy/>



summer in the city...



... autumn starts here

Creative TOGETHER

Creative TOGETHER meets monthly for chat over coffee and cakes, exchange of ideas and sharing of materials for knitting, sewing and other creative crafts, and planning for the annual fundraising sale for charity.

Last year we were able to support l'Arche Community. This year we are working towards our next event **CRAFTEA!** a sale, with refreshments, on the afternoon of Saturday 19 November in St Andrew's and St George's West when we will be raising funds for the charity Motor Neurone Disease Scotland. Please save the date!

The next meeting of the group will be on **Wednesday 21 September at 10.30am**. Would you like to join us? We'd love to see you! Contact Mary Godden via the church office.



Book Group

resumes Mon 19 Sept
10.30 in the Undercroft
Chapel, reading Marilynne
Robinson's *The Gilead*

All welcome

Christian Aid Sale of Art with Scottish Books

Thursday 27-Saturday
29 October 2016



Evergreens Programme 2016 – 2017

All meetings at 2.30pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month
(unless otherwise stated)

28 Sept	Rev Rosie Addis , Minister to the deaf congregation.
26 Oct	Cinema/theatre/gallery outing tbc
23 Nov	Rev Alistair and Margaret McGregor with an illustrated talk about their recent visit to Palestine with Hadeel
14 Dec	Christmas party with Brigitte Harris. Trees, carols, wonderful story and lovely tea
2017	
25 Jan	Music for Burns Night with Andrew Smith & friends.
22 Feb	Rev Ian Gilmour, “Caddie to the Moderator”.
22 Mar	Alison Barrett, member of the Embroiderers’ Guild, on quilting, cross-stitch and lace etc
26 Apr	Rev David Todd, Chaplain to the Arts
24 May	Summer Outing

Everyone is welcome to all meetings. All meetings finish with tea, coffee and chat. All meetings are free, but a small contribution is asked for tea.



Sally Magnusson

Remember Who I Am – *From
Where Memories Go to Playlist for Life*

The Donald Gorrie Lecture 2016

Tuesday 18th October at 7.30 pm

An illustrated talk by Sally Magnusson followed by book signing and refreshments.

The broadcaster Sally Magnusson wrote about her Mother's dementia in ***Where Memories Go:***

Why dementia changes everything. She also founded a charity called Playlist for Life after being impressed by the effect of personally meaningful music on her late mother's dementia. Her book calls for the restoration of human rights and dignity to the most fragile of our citizens and for music to be used in their care. Dementia affects all of us in one way or another and this is an event not to be missed. The talk will be free but with an opportunity to make a donation. A date for your diary.

AHSS Lectures

Monday 3 Oct 2016 at 6.30pm £5 (£2.50 students)

COLIN McLEAN – Bounce Rates and Europa Nostra - Photography with a Purpose

Colin McLean runs a photography business specialising in architectural photography and photography for the heritage sector. Building on his experience as Head of the Heritage Lottery Fund in Scotland, he provides photographs with a purpose, whether to record a building or project, or for marketing or development. Colin will talk about his own photographic journey and the use of photography today. In September, Colin was appointed the Chair of the Scottish Civic Trust.

Monday 7 Nov 2016 at 6.30pm £5 (£2.50 students)

Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, his legacy in Scotland This is a joint lecture with Scotland's Garden & Landscape Heritage. Speaker(s) to be confirmed shortly.





Undercroft Exhibition in September

This month's exhibition is by an artist collective called NUstART Brunstane. NUstART grew out of a community arts initiative in Craigmillar started by Napier University. Although the Napier connection is no longer live, the group continues to paint, socialize and put the world to rights, meeting in Brunstane Primary School and contributing to local art exhibitions.

Paintings are for sale – someone from the group will be in the Undercroft on Thursdays between 12noon and 2pm to help with sales.

<http://www.nustart-brunstane.co.uk/>

“I feel part of something”

“One day I went to the Church of Scotland to find comfort from what I was feeling, then had a coffee in the café. While I was sitting there I thought it was a nice place to hide from the outside world! I asked if they needed any help in the café and was surprised that I could do the job and meet new friends. I have been there for over a year now and enjoy being part of the team! I have met a lot of nice people and they are very friendly and make you feel welcome. I still have trust issues but it is getting better.

I have learned a lot of the café and the staff are lovely, I feel part of something, maybe a team, which has never happened in my life before, which I am proud of. Thanks”

Undercroft Volunteer



All Things Bright and Beautiful

Pat McKerrow's Wildlife Diary

As the weeks march steadily towards autumn, I cannot help but reflect on all the wonderful wildlife moments I have enjoyed throughout this spring and summer on the Water of Leith and surrounding area. I have spent more hours than ever before regularly watching and photographing families of mallards, goosanders, moorhens, mute swans, plus many different species of garden birds.

Such exciting times, never knowing what each new day might bring, seeing new hatchlings almost running across the surface of the water in an attempt to keep up with parents, adults working so hard to keep vulnerable tiny birds safe, their hungry little beaks full, and me trying my best to capture as much of the action as possible on camera.

I have been so struck by the resilience of all these creatures, particularly in the face of loss. Unfortunately, few ducklings survived, and similarly moorhen chicks; I am also extremely sad to say that my swans eventually lost all three of their cygnets too. Nevertheless, witnessing their individual journeys has been a privilege, and in the case of my swans, I gained so much from the '*Swan Watch*' I began in April, and indeed still do, as each

day I continue to share and follow their particular story through to its next chapter.

The Scots-born founder of the modern conservation movement, John Muir, is credited with having said: 'In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks.' I could not agree more. On those days we all encounter from time to time, when just getting out of bed can seem like a struggle or life's pressures can begin to overwhelm, heading out with my camera certainly brings me huge peace as well as that very precious away from it all 'in the moment' opportunity that I find so restorative. Time also to reflect upon, wonder at and give thanks for all that God has created and given us. Undoubtedly, it gives me quiet time for prayerful thought too.

Having said that, discovering loss of very new life, especially the cygnets, brought me immense sadness. Through it though, I was able to understand more about the circle of the swans' lives and gain greater insight into their senses and behaviours. It has since also given me the opportunity to form a closer bond with the adults. How blessed I am to be in a position to experience all this, and I do give grateful thanks for the lives of these creatures. "God of all ages and Lord of all time, Creator of all things in perfect design;... for beauty in nature, we thank You again." (Hymn 'God of All Ages')

In honour of those little ones whose lives were brief, I share with you a few photos – mallard ducklings, moorhen chicks, and of course, my precious swans, their cygnets, and their crazy photographer!

Every blessing, Pat McKerrow



Water of Leith Walk

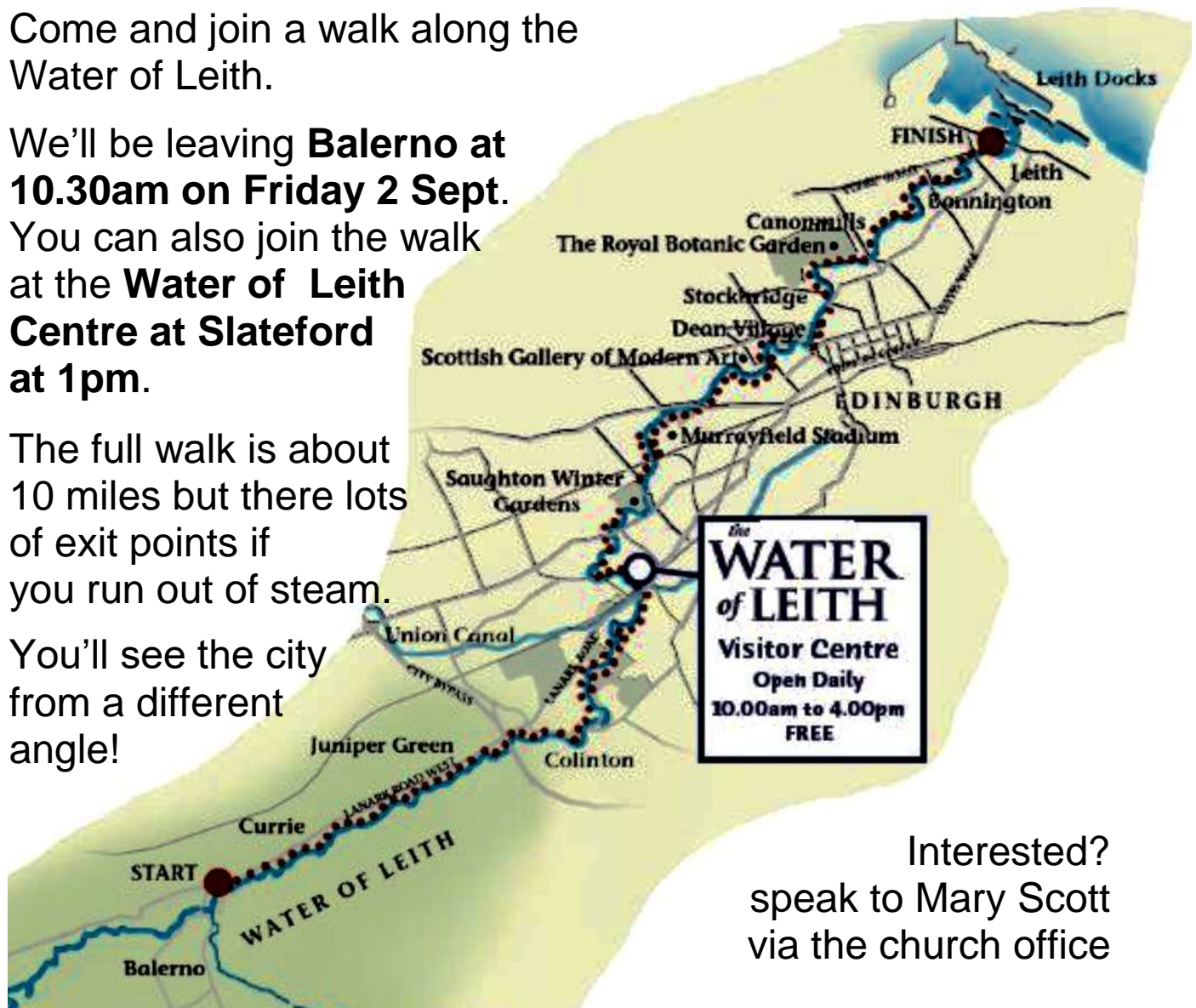
Mary Margaret Scott

Come and join a walk along the Water of Leith.

We'll be leaving **Balerno** at **10.30am on Friday 2 Sept.** You can also join the walk at the **Water of Leith Centre at Slateford** at **1pm.**

The full walk is about 10 miles but there lots of exit points if you run out of steam.

You'll see the city from a different angle!



Interested?
speak to Mary Scott
via the church office

Creationtide at St John's

3-4 September 2016

Saturday 3 Sep 10.30am -12.30pm Messy Church at STAGW
Saturday 3 Sep 6.30-9.30pm All-Age Ceilidh at Portobello and Joppa Parish Church, Brunstane Road EH15 2DL. Tickets £5/£3
Sunday 4 Sep from 10.30am Bioblitz in St John's garden,.

Please contact Reuben Addis via St John's Church Office for tickets or more information.

Care for Creation Conference

On 1 October the Church of Scotland and Christian Aid invite you to Bridge of Allan Church to explore how Climate change changes lives. Speakers from around the world will be sharing the impact of climate change on the lives of communities across the continents and all participants will join workshops to explore how we can respond in Scotland.

Speakers will include:

Cecilia Cordova from Bolivia;

Charles Agboklu from Ghana;

Jacqueline Spence from Jamaica

Mohamed Adow, Climate Advisor to Christian Aid and

John Chalmers, Principal Clerk.

Numbers are limited so please register by email:
niskinner[at]churchofscotland[dot]org[dot]uk



The Church of Scotland



JOIN TOGETHER WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, CHRISTIAN AID, THE GUILD AND OUR INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CARE FOR CREATION IN SCOTLAND AND ACROSS THE WORLD.

1 OCTOBER, 10:00 a.m. - BRIDGE OF ALLAN PARISH CHURCH

To register, email niskinner@churchofscotland.org.uk

www.churchofscotland.org.uk

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Car Free Sunday

Sunday 25 September 2016

Do you drive a car? Could you live without it? Why not try doing without your car for a day on Sunday 25 September – car-free Sunday in Edinburgh? Could it be a day where as many folk as possible left their cars at home and walked, cycled or took public transport to church?

Paris, Berlin, Amsterdam, Singapore have all experimented with car free days and found that residents enjoy a day with much less noise and pollution than usual. Some celebrate with street parties, bike and walking events. If you use your car a lot it might take some planning – but who knows – it might become a habit!

Thoughts of a small island

Maggie Morley



My first sighting of Iona at the age of 12 was from the “King George V” as she sailed into the Sound of Iona, at the start of a family holiday. Waiting at the jetty was John, with his tractor and trailer, to take our luggage along the dirt road to our guest house. We walked behind the tractor to Bishop’s Walk, our home for the next 2 weeks. I don’t remember John ever speaking to us or smiling the whole time we were there. Now I think of it, maybe he only spoke Gaelic. But I do remember wonderful sand dunes nearby at the North End where my younger brother and I spent our days. I also remember an awful lot of spam and cabbage.

The following year the family stayed at the annexe of the St Columba Hotel, close by the Abbey. I don’t remember any spam and cabbage there, but I do remember Whisky and Soda. Yes, I know Iona was a “dry” island then, but they were orphan lambs which we enjoyed bottle feeding. One day there was great excitement when the Puffer arrived at Martyrs’ Bay where the coal was unloaded. The tractors and trailers of the crofters were busy that day.

We never returned as a family, but in the summer of 1957 I worked in the dining-room of the Columba Hotel, at the end of my first University year. Apart from the hotel owner and Annie, the cook, all the staff were students. For one of those weeks there, my boyfriend came from Edinburgh to stay on the island, setting up his tent in the Gully of the Owl, under Dun-I. He’s been part of my life ever since. The island was still “dry” but the staff meals were a slight improvement on spam and cabbage! During that summer, electricity was being installed on the island. That work force which of necessity had to live there made the weekly dances in the Village Hall **very** lively!

The hotel had its own generator but that was switched off at 10 o’clock. No students want to go to bed at that early hour so candles were a necessity for our later socialising. One day when I called at the Post

Office, the only shop at that time, to replenish our stock, Mary Ann, the formidable Post Mistress greeted me with “ Candles! What do you want candles for? The electricity is coming!” (It was still 2 months till switch on!) She had been running down her stock of candles and a mere student was obviously not entitled to any of them!

For the next 45 years, life took me in many directions, when Iona remained still. Or had it?

After my return to live in Edinburgh, my annual visits began. The “KGV” sailed no more. The journey from Oban was now by ferry to Craignure, bus across Mull for an hour to Fionnphort where there was another ferry to cross the Sound. We no longer disembarked at the jetty. There was a pier to allow vehicles to drive off the ferry and up the tarmac road north to the Abbey and beyond or across to the west. The Columba Hotel was much larger, very comfortable and served delicious meals. Even the occasional cabbage from its organic garden was presented in an imaginative way. Whisky and Soda were there but among the alcoholic beverages now available to all.

Several shops including a mini supermarket supplied most needs. There was even a good restaurant at Martyrs’ Bay. Crafts and mementoes were available in a number of outlets, delighting the visitors and providing work for the local people. The Abbey itself was now in Historic Scotland care so there was a charge to enter. Day visitors came flooding off the frequent ferries, strolled to the Abbey, spent a little money on the way and sailed off again a couple of hours later.

Were these visitors able to experience the special atmosphere of Iona as I and many others had in quieter times?

I wondered and worried. This year on my visit I decided that there are now 2 types of visitor. The day tourists who help the economy and those like me who stay long after the ferry has moored for the night behind the small island opposite. Then the calm returns and those of us who are still there appreciate Iona as it was when I was young and still is, I am glad to say. If the sun has been shining the rocks of Mull then turn red as it sets.

The special atmosphere is most certainly there.

Edinburgh Direct Aid Appeal

**WINTER CLOTHES FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES IN LEBANON:
PLEASE HELP TO SEND NOT JUST 1 OR 2 BUT LOTS OF
CONTAINERS !**

For each of the past three winters EDA has shipped containers of clothes to Aarsal, a small town in Lebanon over 5000 ft above sea level with bitterly cold winters and over 70,000 Syrian refugees.

Until now, funds for container transport and distribution have been a limitation, but this year, supported by Qatar's Red Crescent organisation, we will be able to send much more than before. Enough, possibly to send to other high altitude locations in the Bekaa valley as well as to Aarsal. Because of the time lag in packing and shipping and customs and delivery we are starting NOW.

And we need all, and more than all, that everyone can bring in. So please, bring the winter things that you have, and start your neighbours, churches, playgroups, schools collecting too. And if you can, come in to the warehouse and help to pack and sort, whether a 1-off or a regular stint.

This is the wish list:

**WINTER COATS – PADDED JACKETS – WATERPROOFS –
FLEECES – WOOLLIES --THERMALS – MOUNTAIN BOOTS –
WELLY BOOTS – PADDED BOOTS – GOOD SHOES – SOCKS –
GLOVES – WOOLLY HATS**

(for men and women, young and old, babies too, but especially children and teen-agers)

also: NEW UNDERWEAR -- TOILETRIES (SOAP, SHAMPOO, TOOTHPASTE, SANITARY TOWELS, RAZORS) – SIMPLE FIRST AID THINGS (PAIN KILLERS, PLASTERS, DISINFECTANTS)

and, for our self-help workshops and schools: KNITTING & SEWING MATERIALS, HAND-TOOLS, STATIONERY (AND MONEY!)

Please note that we are NOT collecting food, household goods, light clothes (excluding underwear), tents or camping gear, large baby items like car seats & buggies. If you have any doubts about what would be useful please contact us. Our storage space is limited, and it takes time to dispose of unwanted items.

- If you live in or near Edinburgh please bring everything to the EDA Warehouse, 16a West Harbour Road, Edinburgh, EH5 1PN Opening times (may be increased later): Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays 11:00-3:00
- If you live further from Edinburgh, and can organise a collection – or collections – please contact us
email: HQ@edinburghdirectaid.org, or ring the EDA office at: 0131 5521545

and -- equally important --

VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED -- old hands and newbies -
- for odd hours or full shifts:

- TO PACK AND SORT EVERYTHING AS SOON AS IT COMES IN TO THE WAREHOUSE - preferably phone or email in to arrange times -- but you can just turn up –
- ALSO DRIVERS WITH CARS OR VANS TO PICKUP DONATIONS (and a fork lift driver or two!)

CONTACTS for volunteers and for any queries about donations, collections, and volunteering in the warehouse

- email: HQ@edinburghdirectaid.org
- Denis (EDA office) 0131 5521545
- Ian (warehouse manager) 0785 785 5849 (NOT 8 - 25 SEPT)
- Ann 0781 494 9468
- David 0796 356 2686

and for up-to-date information on the progress of this appeal, a map of how to get to the warehouse, and opening times, please see www.edinburghdirectaid.org/warehouse.htm

Building Bridges

Markus Duenzkofer reflects on Tony Bryer's legacy as the first TOGETHER Workplace Chaplain

Tony built bridges between the three Together Congregations and between two Scottish national churches. And maybe it needed an Englishman so to do. Not that that we necessarily needed to build much closer connections between St John's, St Cuthbert's, and St Andrew's and St George's West, but Tony expanded these connections and built ministry links that allowed us to grow together more and to really think how we can be more effective ministers of God's love in the city centre.

Tony also built bridges between communities of faith and the world in which we live and move and have our being. Sometimes churches can be a bit insular, not just disconnected from other religious groups, but also from the many people that might not identify with us, but still will have spiritual identities and spiritual needs.

There is a lot of religion going on beyond the walls of our sacred buildings and beyond the limits of our communities. And Tony and the many chaplains understand this. They are the ones to drag the church into the streets, into our neighbourhoods, into real life. Tony modelled something that we will see more and more in the reality of the church, and Tony did it amazingly well. "If the mountain won't come to Muhammad, then Muhammad must go to the mountain." And thank God for that.

Tony built bridges between diverse people. We are indeed a rainbow people, a wonderful community. Tony, finally, built bridges to God. And these were and are the most important bridges. Of course, it is not Tony who could do this on his own! It was in the end God, the great Bridge-Builder. And Tony has been a wonderful and amazing tool – and we look forward to see how his participating in God's bridge-building will continue."

Tony Bryer will be joining the ministry team at St Andrew's and St George's West in October as Associate Minister on a part time basis.

Making the gospel real

Workplace Chaplaincy Update
David Hart



The Duke of Wellington once said of Napoleon, "... that his presence on the field made the difference of forty thousand men". The presence of a strong leader has a powerful effect. How much greater is the impact of the awesome power of the presence of God especially when you remember that you are a carrier of his presence everywhere you go.

The presence of God radically changes our lives and the lives of others. He gives power to both our words and actions. He makes signs and miracles possible. It characterised the early church and hopefully it can be seen in my work too, but it's more than just presence.

In Romans 15: 18 - 19 Paul tells us that the gospel is the most powerful message in the world. We don't foist the gospel on anyone, but we should be ready to give a reason for the hope that is within us cf: 1 Peter 3:15 and that's why our words are important. He proclaimed the gospel: 'by what I have said...' (v.18).

But sharing the gospel also involves demonstration - actions as well as words. In the same verse Paul says he made the gospel known, 'by what I have...done' (v.18). And then he adds this third dimension which involves a demonstration of the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit (v.19). All of them valid and necessary and in the context of relationship!



These scriptures encourage me because chaplaincy is about making the gospel real to people in a workplace environment, in a language they understand so it makes sense,

impacts their life and improves on their world.

I have spent the summer getting my foot in the door of the stores and businesses I visit and so far, it's been good. People are people wherever you meet them, but in the workplace the essential difference is establishing a trust and relationship so that when life goes off course they can approach you with a confidence that you will be there for them.

I was recently reminded that we can be witnesses every day, everywhere we go as we make ourselves available to others and share life. It doesn't have to be strange and difficult, we just have to be there with an expectation that we will have opportunities to share who and what we love appropriately.

That is the challenge as I work in my own chaplaincies, speak with other city centre churches about possible partnerships and support the small team of volunteer chaplains I oversee: to be a relevant witness and reflect the love of God. I enjoy leaving people speechless when they realise I am different to their definition of what a Christian is. I just want to play my part and be available to lead people into life because in that way the dream God has in his heart for the city will become a reality.

Workplace Chaplaincy Introduction Day

For those interested or involved in workplace chaplaincy

**Thursday 6 October 2016 10am-4pm
Palmerston Place Church, Palmerston Place,
Edinburgh EH12 5AA**

**For further details or to book a place contact
Catriona Parkinson
Info[at]wpcscotland[dot]co[dot]uk**

Chaplaincy

Autumn Lecture Series



Join us for our annual lecture series organised by Edinburgh Greenbank and Morningside Parish Churches.

4 September

Revd Chris Kellock

Army Chaplain (served with the troops that went out to Africa during the Ebola crisis)

18 September

Anne Mulligan DCS

Recently retired hospital chaplain at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary

11 September

Revd Sheena Orr

Prison Chaplain (currently chaplain at HMP Edinburgh but also been a prison chaplain in Kenya)

25 September

Revd John McMahon

Head of Spiritual and Pastoral Care, West London Mental Health Trust, and chaplain at Broadmoor high security psychiatric hospital

Sundays 7.00pm, Morningside Parish Church
on the corner of Cluny Gardens & Braid Road
refreshments served from 6.30pm

Deaf Ministry

Albany Deaf Church united with St Andrew's and St George's West before Easter but they retain their distinct identity and serve a wide area of Scotland.

Albany Deaf Church meets most Sundays in St Andrew's and St George's West and at venues throughout the Borders and East of Scotland. Visual (BSL signed) services are held at 2pm on the followed by conversation, coffee, tea and cake.

The congregations also work together with St John's to offer Messy Church to deaf and hearing families. The next exciting messy celebration on a creation theme is to be held at 13 George Street on Saturday the 3 September at 10am until 12.30pm.

For up to date information on meetings and services please follow Albany on facebook at [facebook.com/albanydeafchurch](https://www.facebook.com/albanydeafchurch)

or contact Rev Rosie Addis, Chaplain to Deaf People in the East of Scotland. Rosie's email is raddis@churchofscotland.org.uk and her mobile number is 07738 983 393.

Sarah Kilbey at St John's writes

Do you remember that programme, "What's my line?" Well I was a lipreading teacher for 30 years and maybe you have never met another one! When I was priested in 1996 about 100 deaf people came to my Ordination from different lipreading classes. Afterwards, many said how much they had enjoyed it, but that they hadn't been in a Church for ages. It turned out it wasn't because they didn't believe: "My Minister doesn't understand", "I get left out at coffee", "we've no loop system (or it's broken)", "I just can't follow."

I decided I should try and do something about that and started a service for hard of hearing and deafened people - (those who don't sign but lipread). It's very informal and everything is written down. I use a lot of the "Wild Goose" material. About 21 older people come, which is remarkable as I don't have any means of publicising it and only one of the original 23 is still alive and able to be with us. About half have no Church connection; the rest are from different denominations.

It's a very happy occasion and the group is so welcoming and supportive of one another. The Service is on the first Monday of the month at 10.30 am, from October to June, and if anyone would like to join us we'd love to see you!

Exploring faith in a new language

Rev Rosie Addis

Here's a question for you: how much is your theology created by the language you use? For those of us fluent in more than one language, there is a unique opportunity to 'step outside' the use of English in worship, and to compare it with other languages. In my case this is British Sign Language (BSL).

When I exchanged my role in the Deaf Community as an interpreter for that of Deacon and Chaplain, my 'name sign' (the sign used to describe me) also changed from '*flower/rose*' to '*minister*', and has now settled on a combination of the two ideas, to create a new sign indicating 'flower' in the position of the clergy collar. The nearest in English would be 'Rev Rosie'.

This creative use of vocabulary to form a new noun is indicative of BSL, and part of my role has been to help people to explore the ideas of the Christian faith in their own language. I am also part of the Edinburgh Signing Choir, a form of Fresh Expression in that it translates and signs Gospel songs.

Here's another example. In English we have the words 'hope' and 'Hope'. This is similar in BSL, with the first being 'fingers crossed' (as incorporated in the sign for 'National Lottery'). The second, the hope that is in us because of Jesus, has two signs – one implying '*membership*' and the other more akin to '*confidence or something one can hang onto/strength*'. So when I take funerals I can make a statement by choosing which sign I use. "In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life" – I will not be using the 'fingers crossed' sign!

The Deaf Church is also working through whether to be part of the congregation is to have '*membership*' (akin to a ticket to heaven), or '*something to hang on to and be confident in*'. We'll keep you posted on that one...!

First published in The Edge in 2015.



**Scottish Deaf Choirs
Festival 2016**

2.30pm, Sun 18 Sept

**St Andrew's & St
George's West**

Creating a New Vision for an Old City



**Are you interested in putting the church
at the heart of Edinburgh city centre?**

Conference at New College, University of Edinburgh,
Mound Place, Edinburgh

Wednesday 28 September 2016

10.30 am to 4.00pm - refreshments and lunch included.

Leaders: Dr Eric Stoddart, St Andrews University,
with Prof Paul Ballard and Revd Fiona Bennett

Free entry, please book in advance: lesley.orr@ed.ac.uk

Tel 0131 650 8900

Scottish Charity Number: SC005336



Feed your soul this autumn

Step into Soul Space at St Cuthbert's Meals with Jesus

Wed 7 Sep 12.30-2pm and 5-7.30pm, free
optional led reflections at 1pm and 7pm

Discover Thomas Merton

with **Matthew Fox** £12 (£10)

Thurs 8 Sept at 7pm at Augustine United

[http://www.eicsp.org/events/event-
details/404-matthew-fox-8-september-2016](http://www.eicsp.org/events/event-details/404-matthew-fox-8-september-2016)

Explore Wisdom Calling at the Salisbury Centre Fri 30 Sep- Sun 2 Oct £55 (£45)

Dance, poetry and contemplative practice.
For more information and to book contact
Jenny Williams 0777 357 0395

Walk the Pilgrim for an Hour Trail

with the booklet or with the app

www.pilgrimforanhour.org

Free, anytime.

Explore Silent Prayer at St John's

Every Tuesday at 3.30pm, free

Feeling called to something more?

Register for the local vocations conference
and explore becoming a reader, an
Ordained Local Minister, or more. It's in
Dalkeith on Sat 3rd September. Contact
Mike Weaver to register interest
mike28atdpc[at]gmail[dot]com Go on!



Festival of Faiths

celebrating spirituality ♦ exploring the richness of
world religions ♦ honouring diversity in the human family



All events will take place in
Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church, 18 West Mayfield, Edinburgh, EH9 1TQ

Programme

Date	Time	Guest Speaker
Sunday 4 September	9.30am & 10.45am	Yahya Barry <i>The beauty in Islam</i> Imam, Edinburgh Central Mosque
	7.00pm	Dharmveer Singh <i>The beauty in Sikhism</i> A member of Edinburgh Gurdwara
Sunday 11 September	9.30am & 10.45am	Scott McKenna <i>The beauty in Mysticism</i> Minister, Mayfield Salisbury Parish
	7.00pm	Carole Hillenbrand <i>Islam: Diversity & Women</i> Professor of Islamic History
Sunday 18 September	9.30am & 10.45am	John Armes <i>The beauty in Christianity</i> Bishop of Edinburgh, Scottish Episcopal Church
	7.00pm	Bryan Webb <i>The beauty in Buddhism</i> Facilitator of Mindfulness
Sunday 25 September	9.30am & 10.45am	Mark Solomon <i>The beauty in Judaism</i> Rabbi, Liberal Jewish Community
	7.00pm	Francesco Stermotich Cappellari <i>The beauty in the Baha'i Faith</i> A member of the Baha'i community

www.mayfieldsalisbury.org

Scottish Charity Number SC000785

Hidden Books of the Bible

Alex Harper

This should provide a most fascinating few moments for you. In truth this is a Lulu, keeping you looking for the facts. Some may find it a real revelation, others may find themselves in a jam, especially since the names are not capitalised. Yes, there are numbers of books of the Bible that will be a hard job to find, but no abundance of intellectual genes is required – only making some time for thought.

Alex Harper, who died in July, in his heyday was a great one for producing quizzes and competitions for fundraising for Christian Aid and other good causes at St George's West.

Veronica and I were clearing out some papers and came across this little piece inviting us to find 20+ Books of the Bible.

'Rachel' is the late Rachel Elliot, redoubtable mother of Barbara Finlayson.

James Crerar

As Barbara smilingly remarked 'The question is; can a human being find all twenty of them? At the worst you shouldn't score fewer than fifteen, although I will admit it usually results in loud lamentations when the easy ones are missed.

Let nothing keep you from answering the challenge. That 'counter of the takings', Rachel, admits that often she brews herself a fresh pot of tea as an aid to concentration. How long you keep yourself working on it, only you can judge, so don't let the strain become chronic lest you fall into a decline just because you, in your independence, chose a solo monkish approach in your struggle to compete.

Remember it's supposed to be fun seeking out twenty-plus 'Hidden Books of the Bible'. Get them all and you'll be found on the red carpet - erudition duly rewarded!

St Andrew's and St George's West, 13 George Street Edinburgh

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www.stagw.org.uk  **stagw**  **@StAGW1**

Office open Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm
Church open Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm: Sat 11am-2pm
Undercroft Café Mon - Fri 10am - 2pm
Sunday worship 9am, 9.45am, 11am
Weekday worship 1pm Monday – Friday

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