



Princes Street Gardens

Church Magazine
July and August 2015

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Welcome to the Magazine

This is my last magazine as editor because as you know I am leaving Christ Church on 14th August. I wanted to say thank you to all of Christ Church for their support, encouragement and friendship. I have been on the staff for three years. I was made so welcome by people here that I instantly felt at home.

The first Sunday I went down for coffee so many people came and said hello that when I went over to Journeys in Faith I had missed the first twenty minutes. Since then I have got to know many people and made some good friends. I am sure those friendships will continue.

I have probably learnt from Susan more than I ever wanted to know about church practice – following the lectionary and the liturgy. I come from a background that holds them far more lightly. I now appreciate the beauty of the liturgy and how sometimes words said many times over can hit you anew as you are reminded of the breadth of God's love and the depth of his forgiveness.

So, a heartfelt thank you to you all, to all you have given to me and the example you have been.

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

*May the sun shine warm upon your face;
the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet
again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

Traditional Gaelic Blessing

Anne Burnett

Church Manager and Magazine Editor

Trinity Sunday (31st May 2015)

It perhaps comes as no surprise that I want to refer to three highlights from this year's Trinity Sunday. This is the day when the Church commemorates not an event, but the mystery that God is one in essence (Greek ousia), but distinct in person (Greek hypostasis). Three persons to be precise - God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit or as we often also say Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of Life.

The three highlights of the day for me were having the Bishop with us, particularly as he welcomed four of our children into the fellowship of Holy Communion, the Celebration of Volunteering and Service in the wider community during the Sung Eucharist and our Volunteering in the life of Christ Church at the Fair afterwards, and of course "Let the bag/hat/tshirt do the talking" gifts. Each recipient is asked when wearing or using the item to tell others one thing they like about Christ Church. The cost of these gifts were met by using part of the funds from a gift given by a member of the congregation for the purpose of making Christ Church better known in the community, so this is YOUR opportunity to help make this happen.



The "talking" gifts, and William and Daniel with caps in action!

Christ Church Corner

Bags were given to adults, t-shirts to Young Church and caps to toddlers. If you haven't got yours yet, or if you are an adult and would like to order a t-shirt and/or cap in your size for purchase let me know and we will get a quote from the supplier.

We are also inviting you to take part in a **Summer Challenge** by taking a photograph of you using your bag, or wearing the t-shirt or cap in places you are visiting – the more unusual the better. Our plan is to make a large collage for the hall, so please email your photograph to me at susan@6a.org.uk, with permission for it to be used in this way.

The Hall ready for us to celebrate and say thank you to the Christ Church Volunteers



The Bishop relaxing in the Rectory garden with Harry, Chloe, Megan and Alexander who had been admitted to the fellowship of holy communion during the Suna Eucharist

Susan Macdonald, Rector

Staff News

As many of you already know Anne Burnett, who has held the post of Church Manager for the past three years, has tendered her resignation and her last working day will be Friday 14th August.

The post of Church Manager was created in 2012 when I was appointed Dean of the Diocese, and is partly funded by the £12,000 per annum Christ Church receives from the Diocese in recognition of the time I spend on Dean duties. The role of Administrative Assistant was created at the same and this post has been held by Christine Johnston since 2012 and will continue to be so.

We are very grateful to Anne for all that she has done in establishing the role of Church Manager, however after much thought and prayer Vestry has decided not to advertise for a replacement, but to appoint someone to the post on a temporary 6 month basis from early September. During this time the person appointed will also 'scope' the current requirements of the Church Manager role with reference to the advertised job description in 2012 when Anne was appointed. I hope to be able to give you more information in early August regarding this appointment.

In the meantime if you have any questions about this development please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Susan Macdonald, Rector

A Vestry Voice.

It was a dark and stormy night as the members of Christ Church Vestry battled their way to the Rectory on Monday 1st June. As usual Susan had tea, coffee and biscuits waiting to cheer and refresh us.

As well as the regular reports from Susan and the committees and Kenny's excellent financial updates, we discussed the work of the 'communications group', the volunteer fair and our decision to take part in the 'Doors Open' event in September.

The communication group have been working hard to write four key messages that capture Christ Church Morningside. Some of you will have seen them on the vestry stall at the Volunteering Fair. Some members of the congregations made comments to help us see if we are on the right lines. In the section on worship the word 'traditional' proved controversial. We spent some time trying to replace it to no avail so will continue to give it some thought. The next steps for the communications group is to break into three groups to develop work on the website and social media, the magazine and the refurbishment of the church porch.

We had all enjoyed the Volunteer Fair and plan to have another in three years' time. The stall holders all got at least one expression of interest and some had several and will now follow them up.

The Doors Open event is on 26th September and will provide an excellent opportunity to welcome people into our church who don't normally make it through the door. There will be activities for children and an organ recital amongst other things. We are all very excited at the prospect of being part of this city wide activity.

It was good to attend such a stimulating and positive meeting.

Those of you who sit in the back rows of church might like to look out for Howard's name scratched into the pew with a 'superior' penknife. And people complain about young folk today! It's surprising what secrets are revealed at Vestry meetings.

Our last piece of business was to agree that a different vestry member will write up a brief account of each vestry meeting for the magazine from a personal perspective. I get to go first because I suggested the idea, 'Let the bag do the talking' as we asked when giving out our beautiful Christ Church bags last Sunday!

Mary Snow

News from the Networker

I have now been in the new role of Families' Networker for two months and am thoroughly enjoying the work. There are lots of things to do and some exciting changes coming for all children (and parents!).

We have had some great things happening in May and June – a Baking Sunday in aid of Christian Aid, a new Play and Pray session in Young Church, and a great Sung Eucharist with Young Church followed by the BBQ, of course the bouncy castle!!

We have summer holidays now and with good weather (!) we hope to use the rectory garden on Sundays for some outdoor fun during Young Church. Crèche and Young Church run throughout the summer, as does as our Play and Praise group on a Friday morning (for pre-school children – though older siblings are very welcome during school holiday.)

Sadly Nicola Chittleburgh has given up being a Young Church leader after many years of 'service', but we are delighted to welcome to the Young Church Team Liz Meredith, Sarah Pickel and Carolyn Valentine. Next term in Young Church will bring exciting changes with the introduction of a monthly all age play and pray session and new teaching material, as well as continuing with the popular Godly Play session.

Next term we are also hoping to offer childcare during the Sunday Journeys in Faith sessions to that parents/carers can attend and more information about this will follow in due course.

You can find full details of The Holy Corner Holiday Club on the opposite page, and that are still currently some spaces available which will be allocated on a first come first served basis. We need the following items for craft work during the Holiday Club so if you can help please leave them in the ikea bag under the table at the back of church – cardboard tubes from kitchen roll, 500ml or 2 litre empty plastic bottles and shoe boxes.

So busy, busy, busy, for me (and the families!) with plenty more to come in the future. I wish you all a happy, and hopefully sunny, summer holiday.

Alex Barrett, Families' Networker



Holiday Clubs @ Holy Corner

*Games, crafts, music, stories,
films and more!*

Monday 27th-Friday 31st July

P1 to P5 children welcome

£4 per club session

*Lunch Club (£2) available if wished,
if attending either or both holiday club sessions*

Christ Church Morningside

10am - 12.30pm

Lunch Club

(bring own packed lunch)

12.30pm-1.30pm

Edinburgh Elim

1.30pm -4.00pm

To register email

alex@6a.org.uk

At The Festival

Three festival ideas for you:

Psalms for All Seasons Worship Gig Grey Friars Kirk

Saturday 8th August at 730pm

Dutch worship collective, The Psalm Project, famed for their powerful contemporary reworking of the Genevan Psalter, are joined by Scottish band, Satellite, for this worship gig rooted in the Psalms of David.

Tickets £10, Concessions £5

Aug 7, 14, 21, 28 at 16:00

Selkie Tales | Voice Box Theatre | Storytelling

From windswept coasts to a land beneath the waves, Selkie Tales is a modern telling of an ancient Celtic myth. Seamlessly blending the physical and the theatrical and drawing on Scotland's wealth of traditional stories and music, this is a circus storytelling with acrobatics, puppetry and song.

St John's Church, Princes St Ticket Prices **Free** Age **Universal (U)**

International Justice Mission

Aug 25 at 18:00: The contribution of faith-based organisations and local faith communities to the development agenda is now increasingly studied and widely debated. Does religion help or hinder development? How should faith-based NGOs frame the work they do? What about impartiality, independence and neutrality?

Chair: Andrew Bevan | Speakers: Habib Malik, Prof. Alistair Ager, Dr Maureen Sier, Humza Yousef MSP, Lynne Paterson

Venue St John's Princes Street, Tickets £5, Age 16+

The Garden Group

A huge thank you to everyone who took the time to fill out the Garden Group mini survey at the Volunteer Celebration at the end of May and especially to those who signed up for further information or volunteered to help out on occasions in the garden. For those who didn't manage to see us, the survey was asking about the future of the garden, specifically as our numbers and strength have diminished considerably over the past few years.

The general consensus was that we should keep the front garden basically as it is (i.e. not increase the hard landscaping or turn it over to grass) and ask someone to make the planting easier to maintain. Several people made suggestions about getting people/organisations from outside the church to help while others would like to see a more child-friendly design to the front. The idea of raising funds specifically for the gardens was also proposed. All these ideas will be discussed and followed up – indeed, a landscape gardener has already been asked to visit to discuss the gardens.

In the meantime, if you have a few minutes to spare anytime between 10 a.m. and noon on a Wednesday morning and can tell the difference between a weed and a bona fide plant, please do pop along – we need all the help we can get to make the garden look beautiful!

In case anyone missed the mini survey and would like to add their view, here it is again. Please put completed forms in the 'H' pigeon-hole (for me, Kate Houston) or hand in to the church office as soon as possible.

Kate Houston

Your opinion is valued

Due to decreasing numbers, energy, strength and availability, the current Garden Group members are struggling to maintain the gardens as they have in the past. We are having to consider what changes could be made. We would value the opinions and suggestions of other members of the church.

Please tick **ONE BOX** to indicate which option you would prefer:

Getting more people to volunteer to help:

- I would like to volunteer. My name is:
.....
- I would like to encourage more people to volunteer but am unable to volunteer at this time.

Reducing the amount of gardening required by volunteers :

- Pave over some or all of the front garden (one-off cost in excess of £6,000)
- Grass over some or all of the front garden (one-off cost unknown plus ongoing cost to mow)
- Pay a gardener to do some of the work (this will have an ongoing cost to the church)
- Pay someone to change the planting to a scheme that's much easier to maintain (one-off cost unknown)

Some other way:

- Please outline your suggestion on a separate piece of paper

Choir News



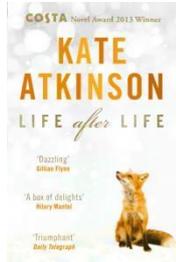
As usual, our choir will take a well-earned rest during July so there is no choir on Sunday mornings in July. Following our last choir practice of the session on Thursday 25th June we had a choir party in the Church Centre and we said goodbye to Liz Forman who is leaving for the far South (well, near Stratford upon Avon anyway). Liz (in the picture) joined us 8 years ago as an alto and has been a faithful member of the choir ever since. We will miss her greatly and congratulate whichever lucky choir she joins next!

Recipe Correction!

For those who picked up the recipe book from the hospitality stand at the Volunteers Fair and want to make the chocolate cookies, the correct number of eggs is 1 and not 3! And you can add 25g of cocoa powder if you wish.

Book Group

Tuesday 7th July 7.30pm in the Church Centre



Life After Life by Kate Atkinson

What if you had the chance to live your life again and again, until you finally got it right?

During a snowstorm in England in 1910, a baby is born and dies before she can take her first breath.

During a snowstorm in England in 1910, the same baby is born and lives to tell the tale.

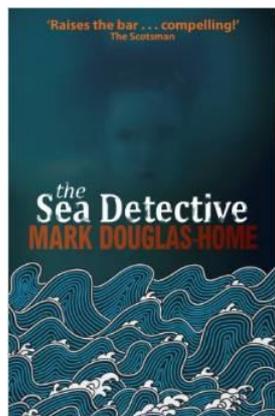
What if there were second chances? And third chances? In fact an infinite number of chances to live your life? Would you eventually be able to save the world from its own inevitable destiny? And would you even want to?

Life After Life follows Ursula Todd as she lives through the turbulent events of the last century again and again. With wit and compassion, Kate Atkinson finds warmth even in life's bleakest moments, and shows an extraordinary ability to evoke the past. Here she is at her most profound and inventive, in a novel that celebrates the best and worst of ourselves.

Extract from Kate Atkinson's Website

August: Tuesday 4th August at 7.30pm in the Church Centre

The Sea Detective : Mark Douglas- Home



Mark Douglas-Home is a writer of outstanding reputation. As a journalist he has garnered the kind of status that most hacks dream of, culminating in a tenure as editor of Scotland's Herald newspaper. The Sea Detective is his first foray in to crime fiction, and yet his journalistic skills are used as a strong conduit for the original and intricate plot that he explores.

The story follows his protagonist Cal McGill, a part-time PhD oceanography student with a macabre interest in floating corpses, who comes across a young woman in dirty clothes with scabs and cracked lips. She explains how her friend died three years ago and was fished out of the sea. This isn't the only unexplained death haunting McGill however. Things soon spiral and McGill becomes embroiled in several subplots. While campaigning to bring polluters to justice he is approached by a Bengalese teenager looking to avenge her friend's death. Cal's soon up to his neck in trying to expose an international paedophile ring while at the same time embarking on a personal quest to solve a genealogical mystery.

This book will be available from the Edinburgh Libraries Book Collection please pick up your copy from the Church Office / or at the book group meeting. .

New members welcome. For further information contact the Church Office.

July 1915

The question of troops attending services at Christ Church was discussed by the vestry in July. The church raised its main funds through a system of seat rents (rather than congregational offerings) at this period and there was 'communication with the Military Authorities regarding fees for services to troops' for most of 1915.

Christ Church had held the first of a number of social activities for troops based locally, reported in July's magazine:

'We had the pleasure of entertaining a Company of the 'Bantams' at a 'Tea and Smoker' in our Church Hall on the evening of June 3rd. And on June 22nd we gave a social reception to a large contingent of the 'Argyll & Sutherlands', at present at camp in Morton Hall grounds. These men march to Christ Church every Sunday morning for divine worship, and it is a great joy to us to be able to minister to their spiritual and physical comfort. We hope to repeat at intervals our 'Socials' for the men.'

August 1915

In August's magazine, the activities of the various working parties at Christ Church are reported. A new activity is the making of 'War dressings':

'At the request of Dr Cathcart we have started making war dressings of sphagnum moss. Mrs Rush has kindly lent a room at 1 Abbotsford Park. We meet on Tuesday from 10.30 to 12.30, and from 1.45 to 3.45, and on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10.30 to 12.30; the entrance is by the small wicket gate just opposite Merchiston Lodge. We shall be glad of help in picking out the moss on these days, and also if those of our congregation who are holidaying amongst the hills would send boxes of

sphagnum moss. Mrs Black will supply a specimen of the moss to those who do not already know it.'

The 'Work Party for Soldiers and Sailors' had suspended activity over the summer holiday period, but there is an announcement in the magazine that it will restart in September:

'when we hope to begin again with renewed energy, for our men will need many warm things in the winter campaign which as far as we can tell, seems to be inevitable. It will be a great help if our friend would give us subscriptions as soon as possible, as we have been obliged to buy flannel and wool now, for the prices are rising rapidly and we felt it would not be wise to delay the purchases if we were to buy economically. '

The work party's efforts were appreciated by the recipients of the various items:

'Lieut. Purves, 43rd Batt, CEF, writes, "Let me assure you that were you able to hear the expression of thanks given forth by the recipients of the socks from Scotland, you, along with all the kind ladies of your Guild, would feel more than recompensed for all your labours.'

In spite of the holidays, the war was coming closer to home: in August, the vestry discussed the risk of aerial bombardment, and a special meeting of the vestry was convened on 12th August 1915, 'to decide whether the Church Buildings should be insured against Aircraft and Bombardment Risks. In the case of no 4 Morningside Road, the Bondholders had insisted that this Building be so insured. After well discussing the matter it was agreed to insure the Church for £14,000 at a cost of £21 and Southville for £1000.'

Helen Williams Archivist

Dear Friends,

When the astronaut John Glenn returned from his first space mission he wrote an article about his belief in God. It was based on his awareness of God the Creator. He said while viewing the world from the vast darkness of outer space he was overwhelmed by the beauty and order of what he saw. His conclusion was that from the tiniest cell to the limitless breadth of space, the hand of God can be seen for those with eyes of faith.

I think this is something that both Nigel and I felt about our trip to Canada. We saw the most amazing mountains, countryside, lakes and oceans.

Since coming to the Scottish Episcopal Church I have greatly learned to appreciate the Psalms, so I naturally turn to the Psalms to express how I feel about creation and in a more poetic way Psalm 8 is saying a very similar thing to John Glenn

O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
² Out of the mouths of babes and infants
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.
³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
⁴ what are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?
⁵ Yet you have made them a little lower than God
and crowned them with glory and honour.

Clergy Letter

⁶You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
⁷all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
⁸the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
⁹O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

The wonder and magnificence of creation point us to the creator God. It is beyond us. It's too much for us to grasp. In relationship to all of that, and especially in contrast to the majestic mountains in the Rockies, we humans seem so small. When we see such vastness and beauty, we ask ourselves, how much can billions of people on earth really matter? Who could possibly care about all of them?

Who are we that God should even know us among all these billions of people? As we look at the enormous backdrop of the world, we have to ask, who am I that God should care?

In spite of our thinking that way, the Bible tells us over and over again that God does care, and we are important. This Psalm tells us that we are made a little lower than God, just a step down from the angels. The gospels tell us that God even knows the number of hairs on our head.

So let us give thanks to our God for all his care of each one of us and for this beautiful amazing world.

Maggie Rode, Associate Priest

Morning of dark at Checkpoint 300

(by EA Elspeth)



Morning of dark

It is dark – 4 o’clock in the morning. Makeshift stalls with falafel, pitta bread, coffee, and cigarettes are already set up. The streets are full of men spilling off buses and cars preparing themselves for the ordeal of getting through Checkpoint 300. Low murmurs of “sabah hilhair”, meaning “good morning, morning of light”, fill the air, but this is not a morning of light for those workers who are steeling themselves to get through the checkpoint. For them early morning is a morning of fear, dread and humiliation – a morning of dark.

Checkpoint 300 is one of over 500 permanent roadblocks and checkpoints illegally obstructing Palestinian movement. It blocks what used to be the main road from Hebron to Jerusalem and is the pivotal crossing for people from Bethlehem and its environs into what is known by the Israeli government as Jerusalem, but by the international community as illegally annexed Palestinian land.

The fences, walls and barriers of the checkpoint are built on a confiscated Palestinian olive grove once owned by the family who still live there, clearly visible on either side of the separation barrier. And to add insult to injury, the checkpoint has been given the Israeli name *Gilo* after a nearby illegal settlement. Settlers, however, do not use this checkpoint – this one is for the Palestinians and early in the morning it is a harrowing place to be.



Waiting in the dark at the checkpoint

Each morning up to 8,000 people, mainly men, have to snake their way through a series of narrow barriers, turnstiles and metal detectors to get to work. As people with West Bank ID, they are not allowed to live – or even drive – in Jerusalem ‘for security reasons’. They come early in the morning and join the queue with no idea how long it will take them to cross the 200 metres between the food stalls at the entrance lanes and the buses waiting to take them to work on the other side.



The morning line at Checkpoint 300



Anxiously waiting at the metal detectors

The Israeli government considers each one of these ordinary working men to be a potential terrorist, needing to be contained, controlled and restrained. As potential terrorists they are subjected to a form of structural violence that is dehumanising and degrading. Penned within grills, metal corridors and full body turnstiles that are often locked with no warning, they are routinely shouted at, mocked and insolently ignored by soldiers young enough to be their children or grandchildren. As they queue, a shrill woman's voice often barks out painfully loud commands over a harsh tannoy while overhead a fully armed soldier surveys the scene from a gangway high above. Any argument is greeted by an aggressive grey clad security guard, pointing to the exit.

Despite all this, these men are considered to be the lucky ones. They have managed to obtain permits to work in Israel and will earn twice as much as those who work in the West Bank. But their good fortune is precarious. Permits are routinely rejected at the ID booths and although

the reason for refusal may be something as simple as a cut on a fingerprint (everyone has to undergo a biometric test), they are seldom told why. The often disdainful, haughty border control soldiers turn them back with a gesture of dismissal or make them stand around forlornly for hours awaiting information, fearful that they will be late and lose their jobs....or indeed that they have lost them already since unscrupulous Israeli employers can cancel a contract at the drop of a hat. As EAs, it is our role to stand on both sides of the checkpoint to monitor what is happening and to offer some sort of protective presence to those going through. We also have a series of telephone numbers to try to help those who are refused entry, but in reality, very little can be done to ease the situation. It is physically, emotionally and mentally deeply stressful.



EA Ingrid trying to help

One Israeli family from Haifa who had never experienced a checkpoint asked why the experience was so upsetting:

“Surely it is just like an airport?” they said.

“Not like any airport I have ever known!” I retorted.

One morning for instance when I was on duty, eight of the twelve ID booths on the Jerusalem side were open. Very few people were passing through and it looked like things were going to be smooth that day.

But the men who trickled through, adjusting their belts, shoe laces and jackets from the metal detectors, had faces that told a different story – they were sombre, crushed and vulnerable, with a hurt of humiliation behind the eyes. As I smiled “sabah hilhair, good morning” to them, they looked at me with such sadness. “It is terrible in there,” said one. “It is very bad today,” said another. “This is a madhouse,” said another.

I contacted my colleague on the other side and discovered that turnstiles, gates, metal detectors, all entrances had been closed for long periods of time for no apparent reason, creating a huge build-up of desperate people. Hundreds, probably thousands of men were tightly packed together in the main access lane, four or five abreast.



The closed turnstile at Checkpoint 300 Climbing the walls at Checkpoint 300

People couldn't breathe, young men were crawling over the heads of their friends, climbing on the bars of the corridors – despite the grease of years smeared on by others to stop them – or forcing themselves under a railing. The sound of their distress could be heard in neighbouring streets. At times like this, because of the pressure, people faint, have

nose bleeds; in recent years one man died. “They treat them like battery hens”, said one woman who lives nearby and regularly hears their cries. “We are treated like animals,” agreed another, “but animals have more rights in Israel”.

The checkpoint in Bethlehem is an outrage. Like all other checkpoints, (see EA Sandra’s blog on the checkpoint at Qalandia) it illegally restricts access to work, livelihood, education and worship and breaches International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law. It also breaches Israel’s obligation under the Geneva Conventions to care for the people whose land they occupy.

What can be done? Many organisations such as [Diakonia](#), [Machsom Watch](#), [Kavlaoved](#) and [Christian Aid](#) are doing their best to publicise what is happening, to lobby for change and to help. But **we** can also spread the news of the conditions at the checkpoint. Our elected representatives need to know what happening on the ground here in Israel and occupied Palestine, so please spend a moment to write to or email them and publicise this abuse of the most basic of human rights .

Article from:

<http://eyewitnessblogs.com/2015/06/05/morning-of-dark-at-checkpoint-300-by-ea-elspeth/>

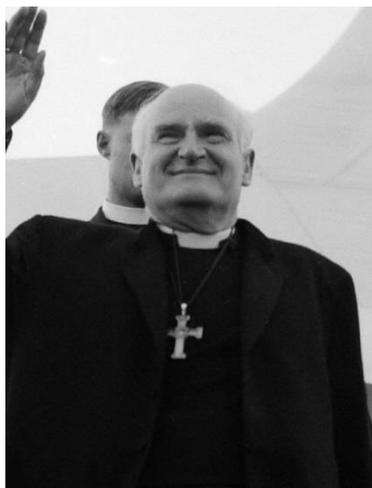
All photos: *[Photo: EAPPI/HOJonsson]*

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Iona 1963

In 1963 , I happened to be in between jobs , so my father and I decided to join the centenary celebrations for St Columba`s landing on IONA My father had been sent a tape of Archbishop Ramsay`s sermon which would be played at Oban Cathedral if the weather was bad . It wasn`t needed. On the day in question, we boarded the train at Waverley station and eventually arrived at Oban where a thick mist had fallen and there was a slight drizzle . As our party approached the steamer King George V we noted the tall gaunt figure of the Primus, the Bishop of Glasgow, the RT Rev Francis Moncrief standing at the bottom of the gangway . As we got nearer, he greeted us with the unforgettable words " which one of yous didnae say yer prayers this morning ?" He was referring to the weather! With everyone on board, the gangway up , the bridge telegraph sounded and the George was under way . We could not see Mull. After some two hours sailing, we heard the telegraph sound , the engines stopped and the anchor dropped .

From out of the mist, the red boat IONA appeared alongside and we clambered aboard and about five minutes later came alongside the jetty . As we trooped through the village, other folk appeared from nowhere . Where had they come from? We made our way up past the resting place of many kings and queens, and into the Abbey. By the time the service started the abbey was full .We enjoyed an excellent sermon from the Archbishop.



Michael Ramsey, Archbishop of Canterbury (1961-1974)

As we headed for the door , we wondered what kind of weather would we find ? It was the most astonishing sight I have ever seen! It was as if God was saying to us "You have shown FAITH in me - I will show you my creation" . There was not a cloud in the sky. North South East West was clear as far as the eye could see , and the Sound of Iona was green and blue , but was more astonishing was the sight of three passenger ships at anchor .This was seamanship of the best to anchor in dense fog , allow for a sand bank which runs up the middle and the tidal swing .

We headed back to the jetty and then onto the George where we were joined by the Archbishop. As we got under way, Scottish dance music sounded throughout the ship as Archbishop Ramsey made his way amongst the passengers chatting to them. Before we left Iona, I looked to see if I could see Staffa and sure enough it was clear, even the white mark on the side of the entrance to the cave where a war time mine blew up

Back to Oban and thence Edinburgh at the end of a memorable day

Christopher Fentiman

Journeys in Faith

July to September

SUNDAYS 11.30am to 12.30pm in the Church Centre

5th July “What’s the use of the Bible?” led by Susan Macdonald

A talk and discussion on different understandings of the Bible, on ways we use and even abuse it, and of its continuing relevance for us in the 21st century.

2nd August “Through a Glass Darkly” led by Howard Moody

Lockerbie 1989: the largest murder and first major terrorist act in Britain. The immediate response in Scotland vindicated careful forward planning benefitting from lessons learnt from the Piper Alpha Oil Rig disaster while parallel events on the ground provided some insight into the mystery of suffering. No one single great act to tell the world about but rather a multitude of acts of compassion that could be seen not through clear spectacles but rather as flashes of light perceived through a darkened lens; acts sown as seeds the fruit from which is still being harvested. Lives were changed - two tragically, many for the good and one miraculously. "

6th September "Autism: a perspective from Nagaland" led by Lindsay Graham

A talk and discussion based on some of Lindsay’s experiences during a six month stay with her family in Nagaland last year.

20th September “Music in the Jewish Tradition led by Rabbi Mark Solomon

Rabbi Mark began as a chorister was later Reader and Deputy Cantor at the Great Synagogue in Sydney and he continues to have a deep love of synagogue music and biblical cantillation. Rabbi Mark is the Interfaith Consultant for Liberal Judaism, and Rabbi of the Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community, which he visits regularly.

WEEKDAYS

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR IN THE CHURCH CENTRE

The Wednesday Reflection Group starting with coffee at 10.15 am in the Church Centre. The group are taking a summer break and recommence on 16th September. Contact the Church Office for more information.

OCCASIONAL STUDY SERIES AND ONE OFF SESSIONS AS ANNOUNCED

For further information about any of the above events, or to make suggestions for future events, please contact the Journeys in Faith Planning Group

Hugh Goddard, Susan Macdonald and Alan Shotter

Bethany Volunteers



Volunteers needed!

Do you have a few hours to spare?
Do you like to keep busy and meet people?
Do you want to help people in need?



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Faith in Older People

29 September 2015: OUTSIDE WORLD and WELLBEING

2.00pm-4.30pm

Speaker: Professor Mary Marshall

Venue: Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-35 Royal Mile, Edinburgh EH1 1SR

Cost: £25.00 includes Scottish Cream Tea

22 October 2015

MALCOLM GOLDSMITH LECTURE 2015

4.30pm-6.30pm

Speaker: Professor Sir Harry Burns

Venue: Hilton Edinburgh, Grosvenor Street, Edinburgh

Lecture - The causes of wellness throughout life

Cost: £16.00 including wine reception

For further information please contact Email: info@fiop.org.uk

Lectionary Readings for July

July 5 th Pentecost 6	Ezekiel 2.1-5 Psalm 123 2 Corinthians 12.2-10 Mark 6.1-13
July 12 th Pentecost 7	Amos 7.7-15 Psalm 85.8-13 Ephesians 1.3-14 Mark 6.14-29
July 19 th Pentecost 8	Jeremiah 23.1-6 Psalm 23 Ephesians 2.11-22 Mark 6.30-34,53-56
July 26 th Pentecost 9	2 Kings 4.42-44 Psalm 145.10-19 Ephesians 3.14-21 John 6.1-21

“A” Walkers Group Programme 2015

1st August – The Lowther Hills. This walk takes in Green Lowther, Lowther Hill and East Mount Lowther. Setting off from Wanlockhead at an altitude of 467 metres much of the climbing is already done. The gradients are shallow and some of the walk is on a private tarmac road. There are panoramic views from the summits which are the highest in the area. Distance 11.5 kilometres; Ascent 541 metres. OS Sheet 78.

Christ Church Calendar

Here is an opportunity over the next three months to make a start on the Southern Upland Way which traverses 340 kilometres of the country from the North Sea to the Irish Sea:

5th September – Lauder to Watch Water. This section of the Way lies in the Lammermuirs and crosses pastures and open moorland to Twin Law with its distinctive cylindrical cairns and open views to the South. The path continues eastwards to Watch Water Reservoir. Distance 19 kilometres; Ascent 560 metres. OS Sheets 67.

3rd October – Watch Water Reservoir to Abbey St. Bathans. This section of the Way begins alongside Dye Water close to Longformacus, and then goes through farmland and woods towards Ellenford. The final stretch follows the Whiteadder River to Abbey St Bathans. Distance 18 kilometres; Ascent 210 metres. OS Sheet 67

7th November – Abbey St. Bathans to Cockburnspath. The eastern end of the Way is a varied walk though farmland, forestry and on clifftop. Pease Bridge and Cove Harbour are notable sights on the route. Distance 18 kilometres. Ascent 230 metres. OS Sheet 67

5th December – Pentlands walk; starting from Fairmilehead a walk with panoramic views over the Forth Estuary and east across the Lammermuir Hills to the North Sea. Distance 10 kilometres; Ascent 500 metres. OS Sheet 66

For more information please contact the Church Office

Christ Church Calendar

“B” Walkers Programme 2015

June 20th	Upper Tweed Valley 8 miles
July 18th	Romanno Bridge up to 8 miles.
August 15th	Traquair 7 miles
September 19th	Falkirk Wheel and the Kelpies 8 miles
October 17th	Earlston circular 8 miles
November 21st	Coastal walk 7.5 miles
December 12th	Roslin Glen 6+ miles

Please contact the named organiser by the preceding Thursday so transport can be arranged. We share petrol costs. New walkers are always welcome. For more information, please contact the church office.

Dates for 2015

Wednesday 8 th July	Strawberry Lunch
Sunday 4 th October	Harvest
Sunday 1 st November	Annual Meeting and Lunch for Area Visitors, Area Visitor Supporters and Pastoral Visitors
Saturday 14 th November	Annual Wine Tasting
Sunday 15 th November	Focus on UK Charities supported by Christ Church
Sunday 29 th November	Annual General Meeting

Christ Church Calendar

Every Week at Christ Church

Sunday Services

8.00am Holy Communion (1929)

10.00am Sung Eucharist (1982)

With Crèche and Young Church

Followed by coffee & the One World Shop in the hall

11.30am 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday – Journeys in Faith

Theological or Topical Discussion or Workshop in the Church Centre

11.40am 2nd Sunday Silent Prayer in the side chapel

6pm Evening Service (see below)

Sunday Evening Services (in the Church Centre)

Normal pattern, exceptions as announced

First Sunday Creative Space

A service of readings, music and silence

Second Sunday Prayer in the style of Taizé

Third Sunday Open Table – an informal communion service

Fourth Sunday Sung Compline – gently chanted night prayer

Fifth Sunday Choral Evensong (in the church)

or Service in the Centre as advertised

Christ Church Calendar

Weekdays at Christ Church

Monday

- 8am Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
1pm 1st and 3rd Mondays: Knitting Group
6pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday

- 8am Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
10am Last Week Bi-Monthly - The Bi-Monthly Carers Group
10.15am 3rd week in the Centre – Holy Corner Carers Group
2pm Quilting Group
2pm 4th Week: Mothers' Union at a member's home
6pm Evening prayer
7.30pm 1st Week: Book Group
2nd Week: Mothers' Union in the Centre

Wednesday

- 8am Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
10am Gardening Group *weather permitting*
10.15am Reflection Group, Quiet Room, in the Centre (not 2nd week)
11am Holy Communion
2.30pm 2nd Week in the Centre
Afternoon Communion followed by tea (Cameo)
6pm Evening Prayer

Thursday

- 8am Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
6pm Evening Prayer
7.30pm Choir Practice in the Church

Friday

- 8am Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
9.45-11am Play & Praise :
Birth to school age children and their carers in the Centre
6pm Evening Prayer

Who's Who

Staff

Rector Very Revd. Susan Macdonald

Associate Priests: Revd Maggie Rode
Revd Nigel Rode

Assistant Priest: Revd Imre Katay-Fodor

Director of Music: Dr Michael Green

Families' Networker: Alex Barrett

Church Manager: Anne Burnett

Monday to Friday

Office Assistant: Christine Johnson

Monday, Thursday, Friday morning

The Church Office is normally open Monday to Thursday 9am-3pm and Friday 9am to 1pm.

Booking Enquiries: bookings@6a.org.uk

General Enquiries: admin@6a.org.uk

Office Bearers and Vestry Members

Rector's Warden: Ex Officio Vestry

Lindsay Graham

People's Warden: Ex Officio Vestry

Robin Morris

Treasurer: Ex Officio Vestry

Kenneth Ramage

Vestry Secretary: Ex Officio Vestry

Linda Brown

Factor

Michael Herriott

Lay Representative Ex Officio Vestry

Howard Moody

Elected Vestry Members: Hugh Goddard, Mike McNamee, Alan Shotter,
Mary Snow and Stuart Valentine

No charge is made for this magazine or for 'Inspires' but contributions to the Treasurer are always acceptable. An envelope marked Magazine may be placed on the offering plates. Charity No: SC 003009