



September 2019

Issue 242

Scottish Charity SC000785

# GRAPEVINE

Mayfield Salisbury Parish (Edinburgh) Church of Scotland



**CHILD ACTION LANKA**

**SERMON: NOT PEACE, A SWORD!**

**COFFEE AND BLETHERS**

**[www.mayfieldsalisbury.org](http://www.mayfieldsalisbury.org)**

# PASTORAL ASSISTANT



Main ridge of the Cuillin, Isle of Skye

*God's soul is in the wind rustling  
plants and leaves,  
the dew dancing on the grass  
the rainy breezes making everything to grow.  
Just like this, the kindness of a person flows,  
touching those dragging burdens of longing.  
We should be a breeze helping the homeless,  
dew comforting those who are depressed,  
the cool, misty air refreshing the exhausted,  
and with God's teaching we have  
got to feed the hungry:  
This is how we share God's soul.*

Hildegard of Bingen

Our pastoral care team endeavour to reach out to members of our congregation and to people living within the boundaries of our parish. To do this well, we recognise that we need your help in noticing if someone hasn't been to church in a while and alerting us. Our team of visitors are allocated to people in hospital, nursing homes, sheltered housing and their own individual homes.

We would like to be informed if someone is celebrating an anniversary or a special birthday or perhaps a family bereavement, so that our flower team may respond accordingly.

If you now feel that you would like to be allocated a pastoral visitor then please speak to me and I will start that process for you. If you would like to be remembered in prayer then please let me know.

I may be contacted on 07903 266 307 or [kay@backedge.co.uk](mailto:kay@backedge.co.uk)

Contact details for PV group co-ordinators:

**Dorothy Cloughley**

0131 667 3565

[dorothycloughley@googlemail.com](mailto:dorothycloughley@googlemail.com)

**Wendy Mathison**

0131 447 5562

[wsmdance3@gmail.com](mailto:wsmdance3@gmail.com)

**Anne Mulligan**

0131 664 3426

[mulliganne@aol.com](mailto:mulliganne@aol.com)

**Maggie Ross**

0131 668 3859

[maggiejeanross@btinternet.com](mailto:maggiejeanross@btinternet.com)

**Hilary Watkinson**

[hilary.watkinson@btinternet.com](mailto:hilary.watkinson@btinternet.com)

Changes of address etc. should continue to be passed to the roll keeper, Hugh Somerville.

Kay

# INCHCOLM PILGRIMAGE

On the 1 August, a band of members and relatives of the congregation sailed on the Maid of the Forth from South Queensferry on a pilgrimage to the island and abbey of Inchcolm, one of Scotland's earliest Christian centres. The island is named for St Colm, who has been identified with 6<sup>th</sup> century St Columba. Very many centuries later, we were ready to follow '*in the footsteps of St Columba*', as Scott titled the pilgrimage.



and enthusiastic singing by our small band of pilgrims.

Our order of service had an illustration of the Cathach of Columba, a decorated 6 - 7<sup>th</sup> century Latin psalter. It is the oldest surviving manuscript in Ireland, traditionally associated with the saint, and for us a reminder of the extent of Christian history the island has seen.

Scott's address gave us a sense of the inspiring life and ethos of Columba – and at the close of the service we gathered outside to picnic, chat, and admire the view of Edinburgh and the Forth.

Our service was held in Inchcolm Abbey's chapterhouse, a vaulted octagonal room with stone benches; its setting and acoustics are ideal for evocative worship

It was also possible to explore the island to a greater extent than in previous years - the seagull chicks had flown their nests, and their parents felt no need to ward us off!

## Douglas Currie - A 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Douglas, congratulations on the celebration of your 90<sup>th</sup> birthday! May your days be filled with warmth from God's care and love from the companionship of friends and family. May each day bring you a precious memory of the past as well as the opportunity to create another tomorrow.

# NEWS

## PRINCES STREET GARDENS TOUR

David Booth  
0131 667 0582

On Thursday 26 September we have another fascinating gardens walk, led by Jean Bareham of Greenyonder Tours. This time it's Princes St. Gardens - amazingly diverse in their geology, history, planting and both use and abuse. It starts at the Scott Monument ticket office, covers a mile of easy paths with some steps, lasts just under 2 hours, and costs £6 per person. The group has to be limited to 20, so it's best to book to be sure of a place – contact David.

## AFTERNOON SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

10 September at 2.30 pm



**Bill McDonald Hall**  
*via West Mayfield level access*

Anne Sturrock

Our mid-week services are especially appreciated by the less mobile in our parish community although everyone is always made most welcome. Assistance is given on arriving and leaving and we all remain seated at our tea tables throughout the afternoon. The service will be followed by tea and fellowship until around 3.45pm

If you haven't joined us in the past and would appreciate further information - or if you require extra assistance to be able to attend - please contact Pastoral Assistant Kay McIntosh, your own Pastoral Visitor (PV) or Anne Sturrock, early in September.

**The following Afternoon Service of Remembrance, and the last one in 2019, is on Tuesday 12 November.**

## GRAPEVINE BY EMAIL



We are aiming to save 100 paper copies; that's 2,400 pages! Please help us by offering to receive your copy of *Grapevine* electronically. All you have to do is send your email address to the Church Manager, William Mearns at [churchmanager@googlemail.com](mailto:churchmanager@googlemail.com)

## FLOWERS - HELP WANTED!

Jane Main  
0131 667 1711  
Chrystine Patterson  
0131 662 4506



Flowers during July and August were donated and arranged by Deirdre Eustace, Aileen Nimmo, Sandra Carter, Hilary Watkinson, Nora Macfarlane, Diana Tudhope, Rosemary Currie and Jane Main.

Sincere thanks are due to the ever shrinking band of flower arrangers and distributors who deliver the bouquets on Sunday mornings, a service which is very much appreciated. Needless to say, we would love to welcome new recruits and look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your support.

Whether it's bonnets for prem babies or beanie hats for homeless folk, Craft Moments is the place to come for knitting with a purpose. We start up again on Thursday 5 September, and every other Thursday, in the Fountainhall Room from 10.00 to 12.00. Bring along your craft of preference or pick up wool and needles there for our latest project. This group is also good for chatting over tea or coffee.

## CRAFT MOMENTS

[hilary.watkinson@btinternet.com](mailto:hilary.watkinson@btinternet.com)  
Hilary Watkinson

Calling all country dancers! Country dancing starts for the season on Tuesday 17 September, the next one on 1 October. We meet fortnightly in the Bill McDonald Hall from 7.45pm to 9.30pm.

## COUNTRY DANCING

0131 667 7701  
[aathie@hotmail.com](mailto:aathie@hotmail.com)  
Anne Aithie

Dances are walked through first -new and old favourites. All standards welcome. A full list of dates will be issued

Do you find you are affected by memory loss? First Fridays Friends is a support group which meets each month on the first Friday at 2.30pm in the Bill McDonald Hall. Why not come along to see what happens and join us for a cup of tea? For more information contact Sandra.

## FIRST FRIDAYS FRIENDS

[sandra.carter@barts.mynzen.co.uk](mailto:sandra.carter@barts.mynzen.co.uk)  
Sandra Carter

Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church is participating in Doors Open Day on Saturday 28 September. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Alastair MacGilchrist.

## DOORS OPEN DAY

[a.macgilchrist@gmail.com](mailto:a.macgilchrist@gmail.com)  
Alastair MacGilchrist

Doors Open Day 2019 gives you the chance to discover some of Edinburgh's most unique and interesting buildings.. Across the weekend you can visit these fantastic sites across the city, completely free of charge.

[www.doorsopendays.org.uk](http://www.doorsopendays.org.uk)



## MORNING PRAYERS ON TUESDAYS

Morning prayers take place in the Sanctuary each Tuesday morning from 9.30am. This provides an opportunity to pray in silence for those known to us who are ill or who are passing through difficult times.

If you, or someone known to you, would like to be remembered this way in prayer, please inform Kay or Scott.

# CHILD ACTION LANKA



On Sunday 15 September, **Mrs Debbie Edirisinghe**, the Founder and Director of **Child Action Lanka, (CAL)** will give a talk at 7.00pm in Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church on the work of CAL in Sri Lanka.

Starting with just eight children in a basement area rented from the Baptist Church in Kandy on 23 September 2006, CAL currently has over 1000 registered children (1 month to 18 years) in 12 centres around Sri Lanka. Debbie and her husband Dilshan have been delighted to see their project grow from eight students to reach a large number of beneficiaries in six districts of Sri Lanka:

- Kandy (Est. in 2006)
- Nuwara Eliya (Est. in 2009)
- Kelaniya (Est. in 2010)
- Killinochchi (Est. in 2012)
- Batticaloa (Est. in 2012)
- Galle (Est. in 2017)

They pooled their resources and rounded up family and friends to reach out to those completely overwhelmed by poverty and lost in despair and hopelessness. It was apparent that the urban street children, and the war and tsunami victims, required specific types of attention and care based on their relevant needs, which the team was determined to provide.

CAL was subsequently registered as a Non Governmental Organization with the clear objective of serving street and underprivileged children by giving them a safe place to spend their weekdays. The CAL Child Development Centres cover crèche, playgroup, preschool and afterschool care by providing facilities such as meals, school uniforms, shoes and clothing, books and tuition along with a washing area and laundry. They are also loved and cared for and mentored by trained caregivers, teachers and other service providers.

---

## CAL's Vision

To guide children to reach their maximum potential, free them from poverty, and enlighten them with hope.

## CAL's Mission

To provide a protective and nurturing environment through Child Development Centres, allowing a child to reach an understanding of their capacity to overcome poverty and become a responsible and independent adult to have a better future, AND to sustain the organisation through social enterprises.

## CAL's Modus Operandi

Having completed nearly 13 years of its mission among the target groups, CAL is in a constant process of growth and change in order to serve the communities better. Their focus is mainly to facilitate marginalised street and underprivileged communities in society, and to empower them to a dignified life by focusing on improving education, especially early childhood education, life skills and vocational training. Health and nutrition and child protection of the target groups is also paramount.

CAL engages with children (0-18) young adults and parents in urban, rural, (tea plantation) estate sectors of Sri Lanka to help them understand their individual capacity, their own value, their skills, aptitude and potential for growth. The expectation is that they will become responsible and independent citizens who can, in turn, foster an equivalent development in the next generation.

## CAL Donor Partners

CAL mainly partners with UK base International Private Donors to receive support for the child development work. The majority of UK funding is channeled through Global Development Group (GDG) and Epiphany Trust. However, there are many other individual donors who contribute towards the ministry through personal contacts. CAL also partners with local charities, corporate bodies, and local individuals to raise funds for children in monetary terms as well as gifts in kind.

Social Enterprising was an initiative taken by CAL as a way of rationalising the sustainability of the organizational work. These entities will maximize social impact as well as generating income to feedback into the organisation itself. CAL has established a Coffee Shop under the name of BUONO to promote the charitable cause of the organization and a farm which also serves as a safe house for women subjected to violence.

Volunteers are also a great asset for CAL, who consider 'volunteerism' as a powerful means of connecting their work to the wider world. Volunteers are engaged in the ongoing development work using their expertise where relevant.

If you would like to get involved as a donor or as a volunteer, or are simply curious to learn more about this organization doing wonderful work for children in Sri Lanka, please come along to **Debbie Edirisinghe's talk on Sunday 15 September.**

*Steve and Valerie HOLEHOUSE*



## CrossReach @150

The history of CrossReach stretches back 150 years to the formation of the Church of Scotland Committee on Christian Life and Work in 1869. Throughout this time, CrossReach and its predecessor bodies have worked in communities all over Scotland and beyond, providing social care for those most in need.

In celebration, a free exhibition will be on display in a variety of venues and locations throughout the coming months.

To read about CrossReach history visit: [www.crossreach.org.uk/about-us/the-history-of-crossreach](http://www.crossreach.org.uk/about-us/the-history-of-crossreach)

For more about the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Exhibition visit: [www.crossreach.org.uk/150th-anniversary](http://www.crossreach.org.uk/150th-anniversary)

## Host the 150th Anniversary Exhibition

CrossReach is inviting churches and organisations to host the social care exhibition. There are various options available to ensure all can be catered for!

Explore the brochure: [bit.ly/150ExhibitBrochure](http://bit.ly/150ExhibitBrochure)

## Christmas Catalogue 2019

The CrossReach Christmas Card and Calendar Catalogue will be arriving late August, with the online shop opening at 9.00am on 2 September. Look out for videos and read how you can make a difference to social isolation and to loneliness. Call 0131 454 4374 or visit [shop.crossreach.org.uk](http://shop.crossreach.org.uk) to order.

## Teaming up to promote recovery!!

Dundee United Football Club are supporting the work of the Revive and Restore Café as part of the DUFC's Community Trust. The Coldside Parish Church volunteer-led café is co-ordinated by CrossReach Tayside Support Services and provides a safe place for those at any stage in their recovery from substance use. [www.crossreach.org.uk/news/teaming-up-to-promote-recovery](http://www.crossreach.org.uk/news/teaming-up-to-promote-recovery)

## Smiling together

CrossReach Daisy Chain Early Years Project in Glasgow is running an initiative in partnership with the Scottish Government to promote oral health for pre-school age children. Sessions will include advice and discussions around oral health, alongside fun games, crafts, and healthy snacks. Registration is now open. [www.crossreach.org.uk/our-locations/daisy-chain-early-years-project](http://www.crossreach.org.uk/our-locations/daisy-chain-early-years-project)

# CROSS REACH

Care you can put your faith in

## Events

Lots of ways to have fun, and support CrossReach while you do! CrossReach has events taking place throughout 2019, where you can have fun whilst supporting its work with children and families across Scotland. For more information visit: [www.crossreach.org.uk/events](http://www.crossreach.org.uk/events)



## Edinburgh Kiltwalk - 15 September

Join Team CrossReach and take on the Edinburgh Kiltwalk. Whether it's the six mile Wee Wander, 15 mile Big Stroll or 23 mile Mighty Stride that tickles your fancy, this is a fun and family friendly event. CrossReach has a limited offer on for August and September where the first 10 bookings each month will receive their KiltWalk place for free!

For your free voucher contact: [events@crossreach.org.uk](mailto:events@crossreach.org.uk)

To sign up visit:

[www.thekiltwalk.co.uk/events/edinburgh](http://www.thekiltwalk.co.uk/events/edinburgh)

## Get crafty and raise funds with a CrossReach Craftathon!

Bursting with yummy recipes (including melt in your mouth truffles) and exciting craft ideas from knitting to henna, Craftathon is a brilliant way to bring

people together. Hold a Craftathon in your church, house or hall and help build friendships and community. CrossReach's Craftathon pack will get you started and their crafty team are on hand with tips and advice! For your free pack email: [events@crossreach.org.uk](mailto:events@crossreach.org.uk) or call: 0131 454 4391



## Whinnieknowe's Victorian Saturday.

The CrossReach Whinnieknowe Care Home, with the support of the local community, pulled out all the stops to host an incredible Victorian fun day to celebrate their 70th anniversary and the 150th anniversary of CrossReach. There was cake, Clydesdales, Penny Farthings, face painting and live music! Read more:

[www.crossreach.org.uk/news/whinnieknowe-victorian-saturday](http://www.crossreach.org.uk/news/whinnieknowe-victorian-saturday)

## Social Care Forum

Looking to share ideas on local social care and outreach projects? The Social Care Forum is your one-stop-shop for social care resources. To register, visit: [www.socialcareforum.scot](http://www.socialcareforum.scot)

[www.crossreach.org.uk](http://www.crossreach.org.uk)

Social Care Council Operating as CrossReach.

### HARVEST FESTIVAL AND CRAFTERNOON

Saturday 5 October 2.00pm - 4.00pm

This year we will be holding another spectacular Harvest Festival and Crafternoon with afternoon teas, craft stalls, activities, exhibitions, jam and preserve stalls, bake stalls and music! The whole church will be full of fun and interest, from the Garden to the Sanctuary. Fun for everyone.

Tickets :- £5 per adult, £2.50 per school age child - price includes afternoon tea. Please save the date !



*God of lost things,  
help us to retrieve our  
wonder of creation  
to find a future  
where nature and  
humanity flourishes  
together. Amen*

### CHRISTIAN AID EXHIBITION: IN THEIR LIFETIME. Celebrating 10 years of Ground-breaking Work

Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High Street, EH1 Friday 6 to Saturday 28 September.

This exhibition showcases images and information about Christian Aid's pioneering In Their Lifetime (ITL) programme, which is different from traditional emergency aid or mainstream

### PRAYER THOUGHTS

'Turn back with joy'

Read Luke 15: 1 – 10

Pray for Christian Aid partner UNES (The Salvadoran Ecological Unit) in El Salvador which helps communities adapt creatively and become resilient to the changing climate. Give thanks for how UNES is helping local communities in El Salvador to guard and protect their local mangrove forest. Praise God they successfully took on the local mayor to prevent the forest being cut down to turn into sugar cane fields

development work. It enables Christian Aid to test out new ideas, exploring bold and creative possibilities in the search for lasting change.

ITL brings together philanthropists, technical experts and grassroots organisations in developing countries to find radical new solutions to entrenched problems in fighting poverty. Featuring projects from Myanmar, Kenya, Nicaragua, Columbia and Burundi.



Sunday 25 August  
BBC Radio 4 and  
Congregational BBQ



## NOT PEACE, A SWORD!

Is religion the cause of violence?

Sunday 18 August 2019

Hebrews 11: 29 – 12: 2

St Luke 12: 49 – 56

Our lessons this morning are particularly vivid and dramatic. Jesus said, 'I came to bring fire to the earth....Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division?' In the sermonic Book of Hebrews we were treated to a litany of suffering: mocking and flogging, chains and imprisonment; the saints stoned to death or sawn in two; persecution and torment. Truly, these verses of Scripture are serious, deadly serious, and not a matter of frivolity or fun. Found also in the Gospel of St Matthew, the traditional translation of Jesus' words is, 'Think not that I am come to send peace on earth; I am come not to send peace, but a sword'. In the Book of Hebrews, it is the saints who suffer and endure violence but in *the Gospel lesson*, on the face of it, it appears that Jesus incites violence.

There is violence in Scripture; violence that is instructed by God, the Eternal One. In the Tanakh, the Old Testament, in the Book of Numbers the LORD spoke to Moses saying, 'Avenge the Israelites on the Midianites!' Moses instructed soldiers from the tribes of Israel to kill every male and every mother.

It is a recurring charge against religion that it is the cause of division and violence, suffering and death. In the opening chapters of the Gospel of Luke, the newborn infant, eight days old, is taken to the

temple by his parents for circumcision. The righteous and devout priest, Simeon, holds the child in his arms and blesses Mary with these haunting words:

*This child is destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.*

What are we to make of this violent language? Did Jesus not say that He would divide families: father against son, son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother? We live in an age in which religion is often identified as the source of human misery and suffering. Jesus said, 'I am come not to send peace, but a sword'.

The twenty-first century has begun with Islamic State fighters rampaging across the Middle East and Isis sympathisers have attacked soft targets on European soil. The ardent atheist Richard Dawkins said that 'only religious faith is a strong enough force to motivate such utter madness in otherwise sane and decent people'.

However, most often, there is more to history, events and words than meets the eye. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the so-called European wars of religion led to the slaughter of 35% of the population of central Europe. It has been

claimed that Protestants and Catholics were so inflamed by theological passion, by the differences of the Reformation, that they butchered one another. The historian, Karen Armstrong, says that if these were truly wars of religion, we would not expect to find Protestant and Catholics fighting on the same side. These wars, she said, are the birth pangs of the modern nation-state. So, not wars of religion, though religion may have been part of the mix.

What may we say of violence the twentieth century? The greatest atrocities of last century were secular: Nazi Germany, Stalin's Russia, Mao Zedung's China and Pol Pot's Cambodia. In Russia alone, Stalin's atheist regime was responsible for the deaths of eighteen million of his fellow citizens. Today one of the darkest places to live is in the atheist regime of North Korea. We must not let secular voices claim that religion is the source of violence in the world. The satirist, broadcaster and editor of the current affairs magazine *Private Eye*, Ian Hislop is a practising Anglican. In typical style, Hislop said, 'I've tried atheism, but I can't stick it. I keep having doubts'. The source of human violence is the human heart; it is what lies in here.

What of Jesus' words, 'Not peace, but division; not peace, but a sword'? Jesus stood in a long line of Jewish prophets and, like other biblical prophets, he used allegory. Religion is heavily dependent on symbolism and the imaginative language of poetry. It is a mistake to read Scripture as if it were a washing machine manual in which words mean only one thing. Scripture is an art form; it requires literary engagement. It is a painting into which we gaze. Set alongside His words of division



and sword, Jesus said, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God'; 'love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you'. In the Garden of Gethsemane, when a large crowd arrived with clubs and swords to arrest Jesus, one of His disciples drew a sword. Jesus said, 'Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword'.

The fire and sword of which Jesus spoke are Scriptural allegory: they are images or metaphors of judgement. Jesus did say



Christ before Pontius Pilate, the fifth governor of the Roman province of Judaea. Mihály Munkácsy, 1881

that He would bring division, disagreement and dissension but it would be in the name of justice. Against the backdrop of the merciless violence of the first century Roman Empire, Jesus espoused peace, inclusion and each person's supreme worth in God's sight. The actions of a government, of a powerful state, have always been a source of discussion and division. Can you imagine a severe political crisis ever being the source of discussion and division in a nation and among family members? Does that sound credible? The fire and sword of Jesus was to measure the military and political might

of Rome against the values of God's kingdom.

Jesus was a teacher of inwardness, of inner spiritual growth. One rabbi has said:

*Controlling your temper, holding your tongue, seeking reconciliation, and seeing our own part in disputes frees us from the prison of the ego, the small self.*

If Jesus meant anything at all by fire and sword, it was that judgement is against ourselves as well as the actions of others.

We are to take the sword to our own worldly values, our own propensity towards disputation, selfishness and violence.

It is a tremendous comfort to draw strength from the great cloud of witnesses, the saints of the church today and across the generations. In Venezuela, the Roman Catholic

Church has publicly condemned in the strongest terms the immoral repression by the Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro. Despite losing the recent election, he remains in power. The United Nations has said that as many as nine thousand people have been executed; silenced through extrajudicial killings. The bishops have spoken of the heartache, pain and economic and structural disaster that is Venezuela.

Christian Aid is currently calling for the cancellation of international debt in Sierra Leone. The debt was accrued when the country faced the worst recorded outbreak of the Ebola virus in history. The crippling debt repayments mean that there is a health deficit; the maternal mortality rate is high. Christian Aid says that Sierra Leone is 'the world's most dangerous place to become a mother'. Bishops in Venezuela and Christian Aid in Sierra Leone: these are the fire and sword of Christ today!



Photo: Corporal Paul Shaw ABIPP/MOD

Sierra Leone. Port Loko District Ebola Response Centre (DERC) carry out a decontamination on the property of a family who fell victim to Ebola

On 1 December 1955, an ordinary woman, a black woman, refused to give up her seat on a bus for a white male passenger. Arrested for a non-violent and seemingly innocuous act, Rosa Parks set in motion a chain of events that would be felt in every corner of the United States. Known as 'the mother of the modern-day civil rights movement' in America, Parks was a woman of immense personal faith. She said:

*My belief in Christ was developed early in life.... Prayer and the Bible became a part of my everyday thoughts and beliefs. I remember finding such comfort and peace while reading the Bible.*

One of her favourite hymns was 'Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus'. Her favourite book of the Bible was the Psalms. Parks said that in one of the darkest moments of her life, when she was eighteen, she turned to Psalm 27:



*Rosa Parks*

*The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?*

*The Lord is the strength of my life,  
of whom shall I be afraid?*

.....

*Though a host may encamp against me,  
my heart shall not fear.*

.....

*One thing I have desired of the Lord,  
that will I seek after:  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord,  
and to inquire in his temple.*

Rosa Parks is one of the cloud of witnesses with whom we are in communion today. On an Alabama bus, she was the fire and sword of which Jesus spoke. She brought division: father against son, daughter against mother, but it was the division that seeks humanity's true peace. Amen.

## **THE WEB AND THE WORD**

A selection of sermons in audio, text and video, preached by Scott and others, can be found on the church web at:

**[mayfieldsalisbury.org](http://mayfieldsalisbury.org)**



# MOUNTAIN MILERS

On Sunday 28 July a party of fourteen set off after the morning service, bound for the Pentlands.

After a week which had included days of baking heat and lashing downpours, we were hopeful of more moderate conditions, but initially the steady rain and low cloud nearly led to the expedition being abandoned. However, by 1.00pm there were signs of improvement so we left NineMileburn climbing to West and East Kip, then to Scald Law, the highest point in the Pentlands, at 579 meters above sea level. From there we descended to the path known as the 'Kirk Road', once regularly used by Penicuik parishioners living on the far side of the hills to make their way to church.

The decision having been taken earlier to reduce the extent of our plans from five

peaks to four, we then climbed Carnethy Hill to the huge cairn of boulders at the top which is thought to have been used by Sun Worshipers in the ancient past. For us, the sun remained very elusive, and after descending to the Kirk Road, we ended our walk where it joined the A702 near Silverburn.

In spite of the clouds and limited view, it was a thoroughly enjoyable outing in excellent company.

Special thanks are due to Jean and Alastair McGilchrist and Susan Wooding for their planning and organisation, to Douglas Blackwood and Rachel Phillips for providing transport, and to Ruth Kirkpatrick for her generous and reviving hospitality at the end of the day

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH FUND

The congregation has a fund administered by the Kirk Session, the purpose of which is to resource spiritual growth. One use of the fund is to support individuals who wish to undertake courses designed to help with personal spiritual growth, such as silent prayer, Spiritual Direction or Ignatian Spirituality. To be eligible, applicants need to explain how undertaking such a course would be beneficial to them and Mayfield Salisbury or the wider Church. You can apply for a grant from this fund by contacting the Minister (in confidence).



Photo by Ray\_LAC

# SESSION MATTERS

Session met on 18 June 2019 when the following was discussed:

**New members** The Moderator reported that he had received requests from a number of people seeking membership of Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church: Jenny Hughes, Hillary Spencely, Ochai and Lisa Onazin. Session agreed to these requests and extended a warm welcome to them all.

**Renomination of Presbytery Elder** As required by Presbytery, we are to nominate a Presbytery Elder for the year beginning 1 July 2019. Anne Steele, our existing Presbytery Elder, had put her name forward to continue. Session was pleased to ratify her re-nomination.

**Communion Arrangements** The recent changes to Communion arrangements were discussed. A few comments were made on points of detail, which were briefly discussed. The general sense is that the new process is smoother and that it marks an improvement.

**Local Church Review** The Session Clerk invited Session's view on the Local Church Review meeting on 7 May. The consensus was that it had gone well. Some revisions were approved and the Session Clerk undertook to amend the material in line with what had been discussed and to forward it to the LCR team.

**General Assembly** Ewan Brown, who represented us as Commissioner at the recent General Assembly, spoke to his

reports which had been previously circulated. He began by noting the work which William Mearns had done during the Assembly and thanking him for it; Session fully endorsed this sentiment.

He then outlined what he saw as the main developments arising from the Assembly, including the challenges and opportunities for the future. One significant outcome was the appointment of the new trustees (who include Sandra Carter) and a recognition that identifying a suitable chief officer will be very important for the success of the trustees' endeavours. Sandra noted that the work had already begun in earnest and that there had been 5 meetings to date, with many programmes of work being developed.

Ewan also spoke of the planned reduction in Presbyteries, urging the reasons for it to be clearly articulated. He warned that, in practice, it was likely to be an ambitious task if undertaken in parallel with the other changes mentioned just above. Ewan gave a number of other insights into his time as a Commissioner, and did so with warmth and humour; his impression was that, although many of the tasks are likely to be arduous and although some of the decision-making processes are slightly cumbersome, the deliberations at the Assembly were undertaken in a spirit of true Christian generosity.

The Moderator and Session thanked Ewan very much for undertaking his role as Commissioner on our behalf and for his detailed reports.

## **Edinburgh University Listening Service**

The Moderator outlined the developments so far, namely that he had had a meeting with the Head of Counselling Services at Edinburgh University and the University Chaplain. This was against a background that we have many students living in the parish and many others who pass by the Church regularly on their way to and from University premises (notably those travelling to and from King's Buildings). A further acknowledged fact is that there is increasing concern about, and focus on, student welfare, including mental health, at Edinburgh University and elsewhere. The meeting had been an initial one and the question for discussion by Session was whether to take this further.

In discussion a good number of comments were raised and questions asked. Alastair MacGilchrist mentioned that the idea of trying to do something with and for students is currently on the agenda for the Research Committee. The Moderator said that there was absolute clarity that it would be the University that was running the service and not us. There were questions as to what role we might play, how we might undertake it, in what accommodation, and so on. There were, as yet, no answers to these detailed points as the plans were at a very early and exploratory stage.

In conclusion, Session considered that the initiative was worth pursuing and that it would be useful if the Minister were to have a further meeting with the University representatives, accompanied by two or three elders. A report would be brought

back to Session later in the year, perhaps in September.

## **Committee, Subcommittee Reports**

**Business Committee** The Convenor outlined some proposed personnel changes. Peter Grant is standing down as property convenor, and will be replaced with immediate effect by Jack Cadell. Alison Bogle would join Business Committee in September as health and safety officer (in place of Anne Robertson), and Ros Burns and Boyd McAdam would also join then as members without portfolio. Session expressed its thanks to Peter for his enthusiastic work on BC, and approved the appointment of the new members. In relation to discussions at recent Kirk Session meetings, the return of £177,053 to the Salisbury Fund was approved. Finally, the Convenor noted that a display screen for the side entrance hallway was coming soon.

**Christian Aid** The written report, circulated in advance, was noted.

**CrossReach** Wendy Mathison gave an update on the fund-raising event held on 1 June. £974 had been raised, and the event had involved a full cross-section of the congregation: for example, the youth had helped with the table decorations; parents from the 9:30 service had provided baking, members of the congregation had performed, and of course many others had come along to enjoy the afternoon. Barbara Mole and Ailsa Garland were thanked for their creative and enthusiastic organisation of the event.

---

**Research Committee** The Convenor gave a review of the first 6 months of the '5 Minutes' Peace' initiative, for which he had prepared a report with graphs. He emphasised, though, that the numbers told only part of the story; what was also important was the motivation behind those coming into the sanctuary and the benefits derived. From what could be learned, some of those coming did so out of curiosity, but most did so in order to sit and enjoy the peace and tranquility. Although it is a labour-intensive exercise, involving a rota of around 30 volunteers, it is felt by all to be worthwhile (and at least one volunteer added that a benefit of the role was to experience some peace themselves!) The piece which appeared recently in *The Scotsman* was thought to have been helpful and Jane Sizer was thanked for organising this.

There was discussion about whether it would be good to open the sanctuary only at certain times of the year. The Convenor mentioned that just two days had had to be cancelled so far (one for floor sanding and once for a Chinese Church wedding). He said that the initiative would take a break during July but added that if, for example, it were to operate only in the winter, it might be difficult to build up momentum and that it would therefore be preferable to keep going again from August. But this and other matters will be kept under review.

Session approved the proposal to operate the scheme for a year before deciding what further action to take. In other initiatives, Alastair MacGilchrist

mentioned that we would be taking part in this year's Doors Open Day on 28 September, when the sanctuary would be open from 10.00am until 4.00pm. There would be an organ recital during part of that time and the chamber group would also perform. Volunteers to staff the building were sought.

Secondly, as noted under the Business Committee report, a digital display screen is coming soon; William and Hillary will be among those who will learn how to use the software.

Thirdly, it is hoped that there will be a lecture on the evening of 6 October on the theme of caring for the earth to coincide with Creation Sunday.

**First Friday Friends** Sandra Carter reported that the group is meeting as usual and had held two Scottish music afternoons recently. She thanked those who had provided the music, which had been warmly appreciated. There are some new flyers for the group.

Each Convenor was thanked for his or her work and that of the respective teams.

**AOCB** In connection with the recent death of John Peterson, the Moderator acknowledged the enormous contribution he had made over many years to youth work within MSPC.

He also acknowledged the awarding of an OBE to Boyd McAdam.

Session joined in both of these acknowledgements.

# COFFEE AND BLETERS



‘It’s a long time till we meet again’ has been the comment for some years when the Thursday Club splits up at the end of April for its summer break. So this year we decided to do something about it.

We asked for help with this new venture and were delighted to get 21 very willing volunteers.

Coffee and Bleters was then announced in the Orders of Service and our first meeting was on 13 June.

From the very start there was a buzz. The first person to come into the hall had a smile from ear to ear and said ‘this is great! If I hadn’t been here I’d have been sitting alone in my house or garden - reading’, and so it went on. The reaction has been fantastic with many similar comments.

Not all are Thursday Club members.

Friends, family and neighbours have come, some every time, some now and again! This venture has in no small way been greatly helped by the support of our volunteers and by their generous donations of very scrummy cakes, special coffee and delicious fruit teas.

We are also very grateful to William for his help when he has so many other commitments.

We have been meeting twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays. But we’re not finished yet! We still have the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in September, 2-3.30 pm, in the Bill McDonald Hall, so, if you want to enjoy the buzz, why not join us?

For information contact Kay on 0790 326 6307

*Christina Somerville*

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## SEPTEMBER

Sun	1	9.30am	All-Age Worship (SSM)
		10.45am	Traditional Worship: 11th Sunday after Trinity (SSM)
		7.00pm	Evening Service (KM)
Tues	3	9.30am	Prayers in the sanctuary
Sun	8	9.30am	All-Age Worship & Communion (SSM)
		10.45am	Traditional Worship: Communion (SSM)
		7.00pm	Evening Service (KM)
Tues	10	9.30am	Prayers in the sanctuary
		2.30pm	Afternoon Service (SSM/KM)
		7.30pm	Kirk Session
Sun	15	9.30am	All-Age Worship (tbc)
		10.45am	Traditional Worship: 13th Sunday after Trinity (tbc)
		7.00pm	TALK: The work of Child Action Lanka in Sri Lanka (Debbie Edirisinghe)
Tues	17	9.30am	Prayers in the sanctuary
Sun	22	9.30am	All-Age Worship (SSM)
		10.45am	Traditional Worship: 14th Sunday after Trinity (SSM)
		7.00pm	Communion round the Table (SSM)
Tues	24	9.30am	Prayers in the sanctuary
Sat	28		Edinburgh Doors Open Day
Sun	29	9.30am	All-Age Worship & Baptism (SSM)
		10.45am	Traditional Worship: 15th Sunday after Trinity (SSM)
		7.00pm	LECTURE: 'Jesus through Muslim Eyes' (Professor Robert Hillenbrand)

## OCTOBER

Tues	1	9.30am	Prayers in the sanctuary
Sat	5	2.00pm	Christian Aid Harvest Festival & Crafternoon
Sun	6	9.30am	All-Age Worship (SSM)
		10.45am	Traditional Worship: Creation Covenant Service (SSM)
		7.00pm	LECTURE: 'Climate Change' (David Gorman)

# MAYFIELD MILERS UPCOMING WALKS

If you require any further information about these walks please contact Jenny McCallum on 0131 667 2888 or at [jennymccallum15@gmail.com](mailto:jennymccallum15@gmail.com)

## SEPTEMBER

- Wed 4 Falkirk Wheel to Kelpies and Helix Park 5mls.  
Waterloo Place 9.50am for 10.03 38A bus destination Falkirk.  
Picnic lunch at the Wheel then the canal path to the Kelpies.
- Thu 12 Linlithgow Basin to Linlithgow Bridge 3mls.  
Church 10.00am, picnic lunch on the canal side.
- Wed 18 Planning Meeting, 7.30pm Church House. Ideas to Jenny McCallum or Bob McNie. Either Jenny or Bob would be pleased to discuss your ideas if you think that may be helpful.
- Wed 25 Cramond to West Granton. 3mls  
Blackford Post Office 10am for 41 bus to Cramond. Members may join the bus at a more convenient stop. Picnic lunch or the shore Café.

## CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

### Departure

David Hamilton

### Death

Rhoda Drummond

## THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

Sept 1 Song of Songs 5,6 / I Timothy 5  
Sept. 2 Song of Songs 7,8 / Psalms 99-101  
Sept. 3 Isaiah 1,2 / I Timothy 6  
Sept. 4 Isaiah 3-5 / II Timothy 1  
Sept. 5 Isaiah 6,7 / II Timothy 2  
Sept. 6 Isaiah 8,9 / Psalm 102  
Sept. 7 Isaiah 10-12 / II Timothy 3  
Sept. 8 Isaiah 13,14 / II Timothy 4  
Sept. 9 Isaiah 15,16 / Psalm 103  
Sept. 10 Isaiah 17-20 / Titus 1  
Sept. 11 Isaiah 21,22 / Titus 2  
Sept. 12 Isaiah 23,24 / Titus 3  
Sept. 13 Isaiah 25,26 / Hebrews 104  
Sept. 14 Isaiah 27,28 / Philemon  
Sept. 15 Isaiah 29,30 / Hebrews 1  
Sept. 16 Isaiah 31,32 / Psalm 105  
Sept. 17 Isaiah 33,34 / Hebrews 2  
Sept. 18 Isaiah 35,36 / Hebrews 3  
Sept. 19 Isaiah 37,38 / Hebrews 4  
Sept. 20 Isaiah 39,40 / Psalm 106  
Sept. 21 Isaiah 41,42 / Hebrews 5  
Sept. 22 Isaiah 43,44 / Hebrews 6  
Sept. 23 Isaiah 45,46 / Psalm 107

Sept. 24 Isaiah 47,48 / Hebrews 7  
Sept. 25 Isaiah 49,50 / Hebrews 8  
Sept. 26 Isaiah 51,52 / Hebrews 9  
Sept. 27 Isaiah 53,54 / Psalms 108,109  
Sept. 28 Isaiah 55,56 / Hebrews 10  
Sept. 29 Isaiah 57,58 / Hebrews 11  
Sept. 30 Isaiah 59,60 / Psalms 110,111  
Oct. 1 Isaiah 61,62 / Hebrews 12  
Oct. 2 Isaiah 63,64 / Hebrews 13  
Oct. 3 Isaiah 65,66 / John 1  
Oct. 4 Jeremiah 1,2 / Psalms 112,113  
Oct. 5 Jeremiah 3,4 / John 2  
Oct. 6 Jeremiah 5,6 / John 3  
Oct. 7 Jeremiah 7,8 / Psalms 114,115  
Oct. 8 Jeremiah 9,10 / John 4  
Oct. 9 Jeremiah 11,12 / John 5  
Oct. 10 Jeremiah 13,14 / John 6  
Oct. 11 Jeremiah 15,16 / Psalm 116  
Oct. 12 Jeremiah 17,18 / John 7  
Oct. 13 Jeremiah 19,20 / John 8  
Oct. 14 Jeremiah 21,22 / Psalms 117,118  
Oct. 15 Jeremiah 23,24 / John 9  
Oct. 16 Jeremiah 25,26 / John 10

# WHO'S WHO IN MAYFIELD SALISBURY

Mayfield Salisbury Parish (Edinburgh) Church of Scotland Scottish Charity Number SC000785	<b>Minister</b> Revd Dr Scott S McKenna	<a href="mailto:scottsmckenna@aol.com">scottsmckenna@aol.com</a>	0131 667 1286
	<b>Pastoral Assistant</b> Kay McIntosh DCS	<a href="mailto:kay@backedge.co.uk">kay@backedge.co.uk</a>	0790 326 6307
	<b>Youth Worker</b> Hillary Leslie	<a href="mailto:Hillary.MayfieldYouth@gmail.com">Hillary.MayfieldYouth@gmail.com</a>	0745 372 2224
	<b>Church Manager</b> William Mearns	<a href="mailto:churchmanager@googlemail.com">churchmanager@googlemail.com</a>	0131 667 1522
	<b>Organist</b> Kate Pearson	<a href="mailto:kate.q.kate@gmail.com">kate.q.kate@gmail.com</a>	0744 238 2296
	<b>Session Clerk</b> Charles Garland	<a href="mailto:charles.edin@gmail.com">charles.edin@gmail.com</a>	0131 668 4296
	<b>Treasurer</b> John Graham	<a href="mailto:culkein@btinternet.com">culkein@btinternet.com</a>	0131 667 6331
<b>Gift Aid Donations &amp; Roll Keeper</b> Hugh Somerville	<a href="mailto:hs.somerville2@gmail.com">hs.somerville2@gmail.com</a>	0131 466 2446	

## Church Office

18 West Mayfield,  
Edinburgh, EH9 1TQ  
0131 667 1522 or  
[churchmanager@googlemail.com](mailto:churchmanager@googlemail.com)

## Pastoral Care

For Home or Hospital visits,  
please contact the Minister, Revd  
Dr Scott McKenna, on 0131 667  
1286 or [scottsmckenna@aol.com](mailto:scottsmckenna@aol.com)

## Mayfield Radio

[mayfieldradiounit@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldradiounit@gmail.com)  
0131 667 7742

## Grapevine Submissions

William Mearns 0131 667 1522  
[churchmanager@googlemail.com](mailto:churchmanager@googlemail.com)

## Grapevine Distribution

Kirstine Baxter 0754 991 3813  
[churchmanager@googlemail.com](mailto:churchmanager@googlemail.com)

## Staff Days Off

Minister: Monday (generally)  
Pastoral Assistant: Friday and Saturday  
Youth Worker: Friday and Saturday  
Manager: Monday PM & Friday

## Social Media



[www.facebook.com/MayfieldSalisbury](http://www.facebook.com/MayfieldSalisbury)



[www.youtube.com/user/MayfieldSalisbChurch](http://www.youtube.com/user/MayfieldSalisbChurch)



[www.flickr.com/photos/98063709@N06/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/98063709@N06/)



@ScottSMcKenna



[www.mayfieldsalisbury.org](http://www.mayfieldsalisbury.org)



Front cover: The name 'Jesus, son of Mary'  
written in Arabic calligraphy, followed by  
'peace be upon him'. Author: ليلى دال الربيع

Copy date for next issue: 7.00pm on **Friday 27 September**