

April 2021 Magazine



*All Saints Scottish Episcopal
Church
Drymen Road, Bearsden*



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The cover photo is of the Benson's Easter Tree

Dear Friends,

The 23rd of March saw a year pass since the first lockdown. Back then we thought it would be a short-term disruption, but as the weeks turned to months we increasingly talked about getting back to normal. Briefly it felt as if we just might, then the virus took hold again. There was a shift and the term 'new normal' appeared, as the realisation began to sink in that things would never be quite as they once had been. It will probably be the little things that will take us unawares, not the mask wearing and hand sanitising that were so strange to begin with. Rather the things that we so much took for granted and would have never thought twice about before 2020 came charging in with its uninvited guest.

Recently two friends and I were reminiscing over a celebration dinner gathering on a balmy summer's evening a couple of years ago. As the other two live by themselves they rarely drink, so rather than drinking multiple cocktails we set about tasting each other's. As we recalled the evening, we were all shocked at the thought that we had shared drinks. Among my family and friends it was quite normal to share drinks and food from each other's plates and glasses. I was struck by how much had changed in such a short time.

Recently I have been dipping in and out of CS Lewis', A Grief Observed, where I was struck by this passage:

At first I was afraid of going to places where H and I had been happy - our favourite pub, our favourite wood. But I decided to do it at once - like sending a pilot up again as soon as possible after he's had a crash. Unexpectedly, it makes no difference. Her absence is no more empathic in those places than anywhere else. It's not local at all. I suppose that if one were forbidden all salt one wouldn't notice it much more in any one food than in another. Eating in general would be different, every day, at every meal. It is like that. The act of living is different all through. Her absence is like the sky spread over everything.

While Lewis is writing about death, I was struck by how this passage might also reflect the pandemic. Are there some places we will be slow to return to? Personally, I have no desire to go on an airplane or anywhere that relies on air conditioning, not for some time yet at least. Will living in general be different and, like other forms of grief, will we have to learn how to live with those differences rather than expect life to taste just as it always did? Probably only time will tell. We all need to be aware however that everyone will come out of this past year with different experiences and different expectations. Plus, like

grief, people will journey out of this global pandemic at different rates, with different priorities, and even with different expectations from a year ago of what is important in their lives.

As we approach Holy Week and Easter, as well as people there are lots of other things we might wish to bring to God to give thanks for, to mourn, to acknowledge they might be gone for good. We might not discover all that we have lost until many years hence with the sudden realization that they still haven't returned. While this year there is a tad more freedom, this Good Friday there is more to place at the foot of the cross, to leave there for God's healing love to deal with, so that when Easter morn dawns our burdens are lighter.

May you have a blessed Easter, filled with hope and joy.

Blessings Kirstin

Thank You

I and the family would like to thank you for your thoughts and prayers which have sustained us over the death of my mum. My own thanks goes to David Simmons for picking up organising the Sunday service on 14th and 21st March and those that assisted him; also those who gather for Morning Prayers whose prayerful presence has enveloped and upheld me on the weariness of mornings. Your cards, letters and flowers, expressions of care and understanding have helped in making this difficult time a little easier, while your words and care have provided strength in the darkest of times. Thank you.

Kirstin, Paul and the Family

Resuming in Person Worship

While the Scottish Government surprised most people by indicating that in person worship will be able to resume from 28th March, it will be under level 4 restrictions. All Saints like many other churches has not be open for worship under level 4 restrictions. It is hoped that East Dunbartonshire will leave level 4 on 26th April, and restrictions will be relaxed including travel so that those who live outwith East Dunbartonshire will be able to attend services at All Saints. As long as there are no changes to the Governments plans the **10.30am in person worship will resume at All Saints from Sunday 2nd May**. Social distancing, wearing of masks and all other health measures recommended by the government and the province at the time will continue to be followed. Services will also continue to be live streamed via zoom. More information will follow in the May Magazine.

All this being said, and although there will be no in person worship during the rest of April, there will be an opportunity for in person worship at All Saints on **Easter Sunday, 4th April at 10am**. It will be only for those who live in East Dunbartonshire and will be a Said Eucharist using the 1970 Liturgy. A maximum of 20 will be able to attend and Communion will be shared spiritually only. If you would like to attend this service please let Kirstin know before **Wednesday 31st March at noon**. This service will not be available via zoom. There will be a zoom service for Easter, beginning as usual at 10.30am, when we can celebrate the resurrection in song as well as word.

The Rector

From the Primus

One of the privileges and joys of my ministry is the continuing contact I have with the young (and now not so young) members of the youth clubs I have been involved with. This includes a number of years organising our provincial youth structures including the annual camp at Glenalmond. I find it hard to believe that I started the first of those youth groups nearly forty years ago.



Those connections with people now living and working all over the world, having their own children, living faithful lives keep me young but also alerts me to the never changing issues that each generation faces.

The young woman afraid to walk home because of the comments from the men at the pub on the corner, the young woman now aged 52 and still anxious about passing a group of men smoking outside the pub. The number of young women who have felt scared because of the footsteps behind them. I had a dear friend anxious that their new car had a push button fob and no key for her to hold in her hand as security as she goes on night shift.

I have heard these and so many more messages of fear and anxiety this week. The Provincial youth meeting became a place where over half the group were talking about their fears and the limits this society so often places on them.

I have also asked the question, *What can we do? Or more importantly what can I do?* As a senior church leader surely there must be something to say? The saddest comment came from one of my own daughters. "I think misogyny is so deep rooted, I don't know what will change that".

Yet as I have talked this week I have heard pleas for things to change, for the blame not to be placed on the behaviour of the victim but on the attitude of a part of society, the male part. Do we too often believe we have a right to do and take what we want from the women we share society with? A father failing to point out the abusive behaviour in a child who already treats women as if they are less than him. A friend ignoring the sexism in a comment or a "joke" being told or standing by as another woman is abused on public transport.

Perhaps most importantly each and every man needs to look at themselves and to see how their behaviour, intended or unintended can heighten anxiety in the women around them.

That goes for life in the congregations and dioceses of our church. We must always think about our own behaviour, how we can improve the life of people and play our part to remove fear in others lives.

Most Rev Mark Strange, Bishop of Moray, Ross & Caithness

Ecumenical Call to Prayer

The Ecumenical Call to Prayer and lighting a candle at a window has continued on Sundays at 7pm through much of the last year. As the 1st year anniversary of lockdown on 23rd March approached, church leaders across Scotland issued a message along with a new prayer for use on Sunday evenings in the weeks ahead.

"We have endured much during these past months. Personally and communally, we have endured challenges which we could not have anticipated, or imagined, even a year ago. We have endured much and undoubtedly there have been times when the limits of our endurance have been tested.

"Woven into this has been the recollection of that which has also endured, the steadfast love of God. The Psalmist recalls the people of God to a remembrance of the 'steadfast love' of the Lord which 'endures for ever'. (Psalm 107: 1) As we remember and recall, we bear witness to the truth that the love of God spans the whole breadth of our lives and embraces all that we experience and endure. This is given supreme expression in the self-giving of God in Jesus Christ: 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son'. (John 3: 16)

"In all we have endured and will endure, the 'steadfast love' of the Lord 'endures for ever' in the God whose love is revealed in Jesus Christ."

We pray:

God whose love endures and is revealed in Jesus Christ,
May we hear the words of the Psalmist who calls us to remember:
The steadfast love of the Lord endures for ever.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God whose love endures and is revealed in Jesus Christ,
Be with us in all we endure at this time. Grant that we may know your love in
days of light and in days of shadow.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God whose love endures and is revealed in Jesus Christ,
Be with all who find themselves at the limit of their endurance and embrace them
in the depths of your enduring love.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God whose love endures and is revealed in Jesus Christ,
Grant to us a vision of a community and society that will endure in times to come
and hear us as we pray: Thy Kingdom Come.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God whose love endures and is revealed in Jesus Christ,
May we live our lives in response to the gift of the life of your Son in whose life is
love embodied.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Signed by:

Most Rev. Mark Strange, Primus, on behalf of the College of Bishops, Scottish
Episcopal Church

Rt. Rev. Dr Martin Fair, Moderator of the General Assembly, Church of Scotland

Most Rev. Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, Roman
Catholic Church

Rev. John Fulton, Moderator, United Free Church of Scotland

Rev. Donnie G. MacDonald, Moderator, Free Church of Scotland

Rev. Paul Whittle, Moderator, United Reformed Church (Scotland)

Rev. Martin Hodson, General Director, Baptist Union of Scotland

Rev. Mark Slaney, District Chair, Methodist Church (Scotland)

Rev. May-Kane Logan, Chair, Congregational Federation in Scotland

Lt. Col. Carol Bailey, Secretary for Scotland, Salvation Army

Adwoa Bittle, Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Rev. Claire Fender, District Superintendent, British Isles North District, Church of
the Nazarene

Pastor Chris Gbenle, Provincial Pastor, Province of Scotland, Redeemed Christian
Church of God

Bishop Francis Alao, Church of God (Scotland)/Minority Ethnic Churches Together
in Scotland (MECTIS)

Rev Fred Drummond, Director, Evangelical Alliance (Scotland)

Glen 21

Nothing can stop Glen! The SEC's annual gathering of Youth from across the
province. Last year, in the middle of the pandemic, Glen20 met entirely online,
and did many of the things that make the Provincial Youth Week so special. In
doing so, they learnt that no matter what, we can still see each other's faces, talk,
laugh, explore our faith, have fun and worship together. So Glen will go ahead
between Sunday 1st August and Saturday 7th August 2021! We just don't yet
know quite what form it will take: in person, online, or a blend of the two. To find
out more and sign up go to [Glen 21 Provincial Youth Week](#)

ALL SAINTS CHRISTMAS APPEAL

After the brief announcement in the March Magazine that the Christmas Appeal
had been closed and payment was about to be made, I received a request from
the Editor-in-Chief to repeat the list of recipients. This had been given in the
December/January Magazine when the Appeal had been announced, but she felt
that members would be interested to hear where their generous donations had
gone.

The list of recipients was:-

Aberlour Childrens Trust	Self Help Africa
Scottish Bible Society	Beautiful Gate, South Africa
Glasgow City Mission	Livingstonia Hospital Partnership
Maxie Richards Foundation	Emmanuel Ministries Ramallah
Glasgow Childrens Holiday Scheme	St Francis Hospital Katete Zambia
SEC Missionary Association	WaterAid
Friends of Vellore Hospital	

Each charity received a minimum of £369. In the original announcement, you will
remember that I asked people to let me know if they wished their donation to go
to any particular donee on the list; these sums were taken off the top first and

the remaining donations divided equally. As a result of your generosity we were able to distribute a total of £5200.

With one exception, the donations have now been made, and messages of thanks are beginning to come in. The next article is based on one of these. The exception noted is the donation to Beautiful Gate in South Africa, where conditions are very difficult at the moment. We will endeavour to make this payment as soon as possible.

Andrew Long

ST FRANCIS HOSPITAL, KATETE, ZAMBIA



St Francis' Hospital at Katete, Zambia serves a population of about a million people in the south-east of the country. It was founded in 1948 and lies just off the Great East Road from Lusaka, the Zambian capital, to Lilongwe in Malawi, not far from either the Malawian or the Mozambique borders. It is one of the two referral hospitals in Zambia's eastern province which has an area similar to that of Scotland. There are about 20 resident doctors, who deal with around 17,000 admissions every year. Maternity services are an important element of the hospital's facilities, with over 3000 babies being born there every year, often after late referral, and about a quarter by Caesarian section.

Among the recent highlights of the care provided by the hospital, is the Orphans and Vulnerable Care (OVC) project. In the early 1990s the sudden onset of HIV/AIDS left unusually large numbers of orphans in the surrounding communities. These are cared for by members of their extended families, but supported by the OVC project run from the hospital, which provides contributions for education and general expenses. About 1200 children in some 60 villages are supported in this way.

A recent development at the hospital has been the installation of an oxygen plant at the hospital, the only one in the eastern province. Before its introduction, to fill a cylinder with oxygen required a round trip to Lusaka, a distance of about 1000 km. It is planned to pipe oxygen from this plant round the hospital taking in the ICU. This is obviously important given the current Covid crisis.

I have extracted this article from the Spring 2020 edition of the newsletter produced by the Friends of St Francis Katete Charitable Trust. If anyone would like a copy of this, please contact me. Reading this newsletter has reminded me strongly of my own experiences at the Livingstonia hospital in rural Malawi. Of course the operation at Katete is much larger in scope but the style of the architecture of the main building and its wooded environment, as shown in the introductory picture, is very reminiscent of Livingstonia and the problems faced by the staff in offering medical care are much the same.

Andrew Long



PROPOSED CHANGES TO HOW WE ELECT BISHOPS: WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Dear Friends, Just a brief note this month. As I mentioned last month, at General Synod last year we discussed some tentative proposals to change "Canon 4" of the Scottish Episcopal Church, which governs the rules on how we elect bishops. It has been apparent in the last few Episcopal elections that there are some problems with the current system and that changes probably need to be made. A review group has come up with two alternative proposals, one of which is essentially tinkering with the current Canon to streamline it, while the other proposes a more radical change which somewhat reduces the role of individual charges in the electoral process. I have a detailed document on these proposed changes which I'm happy to share with anyone who wants to read it. If you do, please drop me an email (David.Simmons@glasgow.ac.uk). Unfortunately the timeline is quite short, because we have to submit a response by the end of March, although we can probably request an extension to this deadline if people feel strongly about it. I'm also happy to field questions about this after church or in the meantime.

David Simmons

ANOTHER THANK YOU LETTER FOR A CHRISTMAS APPEAL DONATION



Dear Louise,

Thank you!

Thank you very much for the generous donation of £394.00 from your Mission Support Group. Your continued support is much appreciated and vital to our ongoing work in Glasgow.

I wanted to introduce myself as I am the Marketing and Fundraising manager and now your best point of contact. I thought you'd be interested in a short summary of our present work. With the government's announcements yesterday, we hope to restart some services and open up our Crimea Street base very soon but this is what we're doing at present.

Our three projects – the Overnight Welcome Centre, City Centre Project and the Child and Family Centre are all still open. The Overnight Welcome Centre service has not changed and we continue to provide a warm bed, hot cooked dinner and safe space for those who would otherwise sleep rough in the city centre.

Our City Centre Project is offering hot carry out food as a door service. We are able to discuss any issues with our guests at the door and if they need further advocacy we can bring our guest into the building to address the need. We are restricting this to one guest at a time. Our one-to-one counselling service is still available and our street teams still go out 11 times a week to help those around Glasgow.

The nursery at our Child and Family Centre in Govan is open for a reduced number of 16 children. Here, as at our City Centre project, we are also running many online groups to keep in contact with our guests and maintain community in these difficult days. We are also able to drop off food, essential items and kids' learning packs to families in the area.

Thank you again for your support that makes this work possible in Glasgow and gives hope to those affected by homelessness and poverty.

Kind regards,

Jack Geddes
Marketing and Fundraising Manager

A MESSAGE FROM JANE LOWIS

I would like to thank all those people who have phoned, emailed and sent a letter to me while Simon has been in hospital. You have all been so kind to me and it is much appreciated.

By the time you read this Simon will be in the Abbotsford Care Home - he will have to isolate for two weeks - then the family are looking forward to seeing him personally – it's been a long time!!

Hope you are all keeping well - and we can meet each other soon!

Kind regards, Jane

THE PERRETT GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

On 6th March Graham and I celebrated a lockdown Golden Wedding Anniversary. We had been married in a lovely Norman Church in a Kentish village on a very, very snowy day.

Among our cards was a beautiful hand made one from our very talented friend Barbara who had written the following poem.

Elaine Perrett

50 years ago

We've organised the wedding – Elaine had said to Heather
The only thing we cannot do is organise the weather
On 5th March and overnight - Shoreham village had turned white
The photographer looked out and cried "How difficult to snap the bride "
As Graham with his best man sat waiting in their pew
The door was opened for the bride and an icy blast blew through
Graham stood with shaking knees - more than his toes had begun to freeze
The reason for this is I guess - He was attired in traditional dress
Graham whispered "I'm sturdily built but
there's more than a breeze blowing up my kilt"
"It's chilly in the Cairngorms - if we'd known this snowy scene
We could have saved the petrol and got wed at Greta Green"
The photographs were lovely and the bridesmaids looked a treat
Prettily dressed in lilac to make it all complete.
The bride was looking beautiful - the groom was oh so proud!
When the best man whispered in his ear a little bit too loud
"It's chilly in the Trossachs but it's even colder here"
"When we get to the reception I'll be needing more than beer"
He smiled back for the camera and said "I quite agree"
"A wee dram or two right now would go down well with me"
Elaine gave him a little frown to bring him back to order
Is this how all young men behave north of the Scottish Border !
How those 50 years have flown since your married life began
"GREAT SCOT "you've now created an entire new Scottish clan!!
Such a lovely wedding – there's one more thing to say
CONGRATULATIONS to you both on your GOLDEN WEDDING DAY

TWO BOOK REVIEWS

The Girl With Seven Names by Hyeonseo Lee

Hyeonseo Lee escaped from North Korea in 1997 aged 17. It was a difficult escapade across a river to China. If she had been caught there would not only have been dire consequences for herself but also for her family left behind in North Korea. She had begun to realise there was a world beyond the secretive and totalitarian regime she lived under.

Hyeonseo learnt Chinese, adapted and survived spending the next twelve years working there in all sorts of jobs, changing her name often as she felt safer as a “non-person”. After a daring mission back to North Korea she rescued her mother and brother, who she hadn’t seen since her escape in 1997. She guided them through China and Laos (where Hyeonseo met her future husband). It was an arduous and dangerous journey to South Korea, where they now live.

Hyeonseo is now a student and activist, and has also spoken to the United Nations to promote human rights.

The Pianist of Yarmouk by Aeham Ahmad

This is another riveting read about someone else who overcomes all the odds to have a successful life.

Aeham Ahmad was born in Damascus in 1988. He lived in the suburb of Yarmouk. He was fortunate that living in war torn Syria he still did have a musical education. His father even though blind was a violinist and carpenter. He taught Aeham to play the piano, and encouraged his ability and love of music from an early age.

As the conflict escalated and the situation deteriorated there was solace in music and family. Even though Aeham was starving he managed to drag his piano onto the streets where he played! Eventually he escaped from Syria in 2015. Another perilous journey for him as for Hyeonseo in the first review.

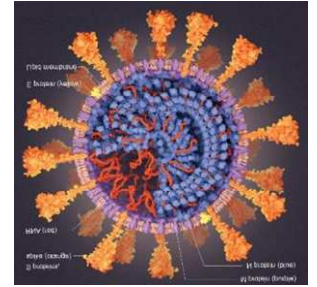
Aeham now lives in Germany with his family. His father made it to Germany too. Aeham teaches and gives concerts Europe wide. He has been awarded the International Beethoven Prize for Human Rights.

I have read these two books during the first lockdown on recommendations from one of my long standing friends, Barbara, in Kent. There are so many brave and resourceful people out there!! When we eventually can, I will put these books on the book stall in the Church Hall.

Elaine Perrett

THE COVID-19 VACCINE, PART 2

As a friend of many at All Saints and husband of Mary, I read with interest Kate Ross’s article in the church magazine on the Covid-19 vaccine and share her wonder at the progress that has been made since, like her, I started research in the early days of immunology. I too attended the zoom meeting hosted by the University of Glasgow on the Pfizer/Biontech mRNA vaccine, but I also attended another zoom meeting that same day called “Meet the Experts”, hosted by the Retired Staff Association, which described the Oxford/Astra Zeneca vaccine, developed at the Jenner Institute for Vaccine Research.



This vaccine, which many of you, like myself, will have received, is completely different in design although also based on the coronavirus spike protein, since that is essential for the virus to enter our cells and reproduce, causing Covid-19. The vaccine contains a chimpanzee adenovirus that has been genetically engineered to prevent it reproducing and includes the gene encoding the coronavirus spike protein. When injected into our muscle, our muscle cells make and secrete the spike protein, stimulating an immune response which will destroy the coronavirus.

I asked the experts how the adenovirus had been made non-replicating, as described in the leaflet we were given with the vaccine, when it clearly has to replicate in order to make the massive quantities for vaccination of the population. None of them knew the answer but one of them said she would find out. A couple of days later I received an email explaining what is a very ingenious bit of genetic engineering. To prevent replication in our muscle cells (viruses cannot replicate alone, they must use the biochemical machinery of the host cell) a gene called E1, that is essential for the adenovirus to reproduce, has been deleted. For production of the vaccine, the engineered adenovirus is grown in a cell line called HEK. The E1 adenovirus gene has been inserted into the HEK cell line so that it produces the E1 protein required for the adenovirus to multiply – isn’t that ingenious!

But that isn’t the whole story: another adenovirus gene called E3, that isn’t necessary for the virus to replicate, was also deleted – why? A search of the literature revealed that the E3 gene inhibits the immune response, which is clearly undesirable in a vaccine, hence the reason why it has been deleted – amazing!

It is frequently stated that these vaccines have been developed and become available for the general population with amazing speed, within 9 months of the SARS-Cov-2 genome sequence being published on the internet. This is only partly true.

Certainly, in the past it took 10 – 15 years to produce a vaccine using conventional techniques, which often failed after Phase I, II or III clinical trials costing millions of pounds. However, we should remember that the research that went into the development of these new vaccines has taken 10 – 15 years, which itself is dependent on much earlier discoveries, such as the structure of viruses by electron microscopy and X-ray diffraction studies, the solving of the helical structure of DNA, the invention of the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) that enabled the amplification of large amounts of DNA from as little as a single molecule, enabling the viral (and human) genome to be sequenced; the discovery of a method of sequencing DNA by Fred Sanger (one of an elite group of scientists to have been awarded not one, but two Nobel Prizes); the subsequent development of rapid DNA sequencing techniques that enable a whole genome to be sequenced within weeks; and many more discoveries without which none of these vaccines could have been produced.

David I. Stott, Emeritus Professor of Molecular Immunology
Honorary Senior Research Fellow, University of Glasgow

DID YOU GET A JAB OR A JAG?

Naturally it doesn't matter as long as you got vaccinated, but it brings to the fore that old chestnut “What is Scots?” Well, there's no right or wrong with jab or jag and in the US they talk of ‘shots’. In social media, however, there are many Glaswegians claiming that ‘jag’ is right, while Aberdonians and BBC Scotland apparently are voting for ‘jab’!

This brings us to the issue of ‘What is Scots language?’, a topic I talked about at our Wednesday lunches a few years back. There's a danger that Scots is only associated with words like ‘glaikit’ or ‘scunner’ on tea-towels or mugs, or used for comic effect as in *Parliamo Glasgow* by Stanley Baxter, which is brilliant, but reflects our attitude to Scots. ‘Layaff-yenyaf’ is diplomatically translated by Baxter as ‘please cease your amorous approaches’ or ‘Whirraboorit?’ ‘Would you like to become better acquainted?’!

I could (but I won't, for your sakes!) go into the whole sociolinguistic argument surrounding the status of Scots today, but I thought I'd ask you, especially the

Scots readers, if you are always aware if it's a Scots or a Standard English word/expression you're using. For example, do you say:

- ‘I'm staying in my bed’
- ‘Are you going to the university/school?’
- ‘Have you got the cold?’
- Do you shed your hair?
- Do you say ‘first please’ in a queue?
- Do you have a sore head?
- Can I sort that for you?
- Do you say ‘a carry-out’ or ‘a take-away’
- ‘a housing scheme’ or ‘a housing estate’
- ‘I stay in Bearsden’ or ‘I live in Bearsden’
- ‘I'm swithering’ or ‘I'm feeling indecisive’
- ‘I've jagged my pinkie’ or ‘I've pricked my little finger’
- And of course, did you get a ‘jab’ or a ‘jag’?

There's no right or wrong; it only reflects the joy of words!

Graham Caie

THE PAN(HAT)DEMIC

What did you do in the pandemic??

One year ago I thought I would fill my solitary evenings of lockdown knitting hats for the Seamen's Mission. Do you remember we sent 200 hats a few years ago organised by the Lunch club.

It's been a bit like Topsy, it's grown and grown ...152 hats and one year later, the mission have had 65 hats, plus 60 from Lorna.. a big thank you for this Lorna.

I have branched out, each one is now individual and quite unique, knitted with wool donated by members of the church and friends.

Some hats have been chosen by members of the Siroptimist's in Paisley. They each donated a gift to their benevolent fund and raised £120. Thirty hats are pink, each one different, for The Pink Ladies, ladies who curl and who will be reconvening later this year for a celebratory 30th anniversary lunch (hats to be worn and provided).



Some have been taken by friends, who are keeping their heads warm and going on “lockdown “ walks around the country from the north in Grantown on Spey to the south in London.



Great customers have been friends with grandchildren, fortyone so far, even with exports to Europe!!

I did get a tentative enquiry from the army!!!! But with the cut backs they are concentrating on new tanks!!!

So a lot of fun and productive evenings .. one week off last October with repetitive strain injury !!

At the moment there is a surge for Easter Bonnets!! Every hat is free, no cost I am only grateful if they find a good home. (Some still available....)

Where will it end???

Hopefully in the summer when the garden calls and the sunshine beckons.

Love from The Pandemic Going rather “mad Hatter”

Love to you all

Sheena .. Happy Easter

Two happy hatted grandchildren thanks to Sheena



VESTRY NOTES

The Vestry has been meeting on Zoom since the start of the pandemic, though less frequently than before. The latest meeting was held on 18 March 2021, and was to discuss some important items concerning property. In the absence of the Rector, Lay Representative David Simmons chaired the meeting

- The Vestry agreed to a request from the Property Convenor to trim the trees at the Drymen Road boundary which were overhanging the pavement and road beyond. If the contractors could do the extra work easily, they should extend their trimming to cut back the neighbour’s trees from above the Halls.
- The boundary wall between the Church grounds and the neighbours at 1 Colquhoun Drive, at the Drymen Road end, had collapsed, most probably as a result of being undermined by tree roots. It was agreed to seek to meet the neighbours to discuss how to repair the damage.
- Access to the Church cellar, which had flooded in November 2020 to a depth of some four feet, had not been possible during the latest lockdown. When the Covid restrictions were relaxed, it was agreed to make a careful survey to ascertain exactly how the flood had occurred, and hence how to make sure it does not happen again. Thereafter the organ blower in the cellar, which was submerged and was now unlikely to be functional, would be removed and serviced or replaced.
- The Vestry confirmed that it was in favour of opening the Halls as soon as this was possible. We had already received an enquiry from the Helen O’Grady Drama Academy about their using the Halls again after Easter, and it was agreed to discuss with them the details about how this would be done, when the position with respect to removing the lockdown became clearer.
- David Simmons agreed to co-ordinate the All Saints response to the request for feedback about the proposed changes to SEC Canon 4. (see p9)



Andrew Long

AN EASTER WINDOW BY MORAG

Sent by Kate Ross (Morag's mother)



TEARFUND SCOTLAND ETHIOPIAN COFFEE CEREMONY

On Saturday 20th March Janet, David and I hosted a virtual Ethiopian Coffee Ceremony using the materials prepared by Tearfund Scotland. In advance of the coffee morning Ethiopian coffee was delivered to all our local "guests".



We watched a video showing and explaining the stages and importance of this Coffee Ceremony and Janet added to this with some wonderful photos and tales of her travels in Ethiopia in 2019. We also learned about the importance of coffee production to the economy of Ethiopia, the significant impact of climate change and the resulting severe water shortage in regions of the country, and about the conflict in Tigray.

What a fascinating country it is and despite the conflict, drought and pestilence many of us would dearly love to visit one day.

We provided details of Tearfund and Wateraid websites in case any of our "guests" would like to send a donation. Thanks to all who attended and to Janet and David in particular.

Louise

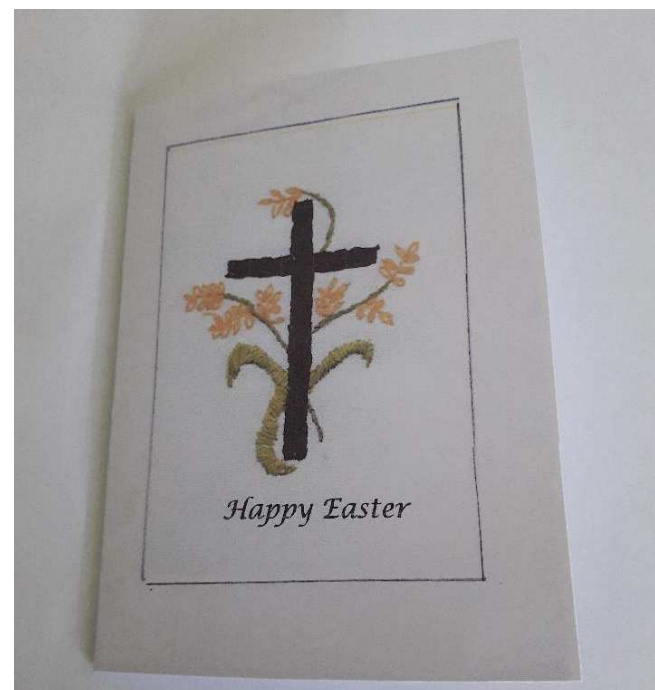
This great idea came from Louise, who also organised the coffee delivery. *Editor*

ROTA FOR THE SUNDAY SERVICES IN APRIL

During April, all services will be on Zoom at 10.30 am. See p.3 for more details.

Date	Celebrant	Reader/intercessor	Reading
4 April Easter	Rev Kirstin Freeman	Louise Benson	Isaiah 25:6-9
11 April Easter2	Rev Kirstin Freeman	David Hamblen	Psalms 133
18 April Easter 3	Rev Kirstin Freeman	Celia Fisher	1 John 3:1-3
25 April Easter 4	Rev Kirstin Freeman	Andrew Long	Acts 4:5-12

The Editor for the May edition will be Andrew Long. Please send articles to him at andrew.long200@ntlworld.com by Sunday 18th April, 2021.



By Susan Gray