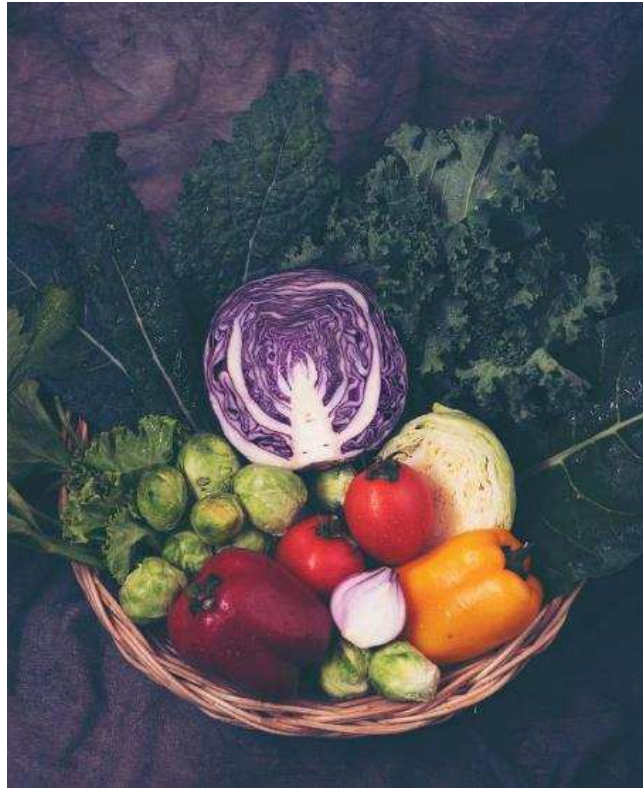


# October 2021 Magazine

Rector Vacancy     *The Revd. Andrea Hagenbuch has been appointed as Interim Priest and can be contacted for pastoral emergencies on 0141 942 0029*

All other contacts are available on the printed copy in the church



Web Site: <http://bearsden.church.scot>

Web Site Co-ordinator: Janet Stack ([janet.stack@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.stack@btinternet.com))

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The cover picture – Harvest Vegetables

*All Saints Scottish Episcopal  
Church*

*Drymen Road, Bearsden*



October 2021

Dear All,

May I begin by saying what a privilege and a pleasure it is to be your interim priest during the forthcoming vacancy following the departure of Kirstin.

We will of course continue to remember Kirstin in our prayers as she prepares for ministry in her new charges.

How long a vacancy lasts is a bit like asking "how long is a piece of string....." however during this time I look forward to sharing ministry with you all, helping and assisting you through the next few months.

I very much look forward to meeting you as a congregation when I take your Sunday Eucharist at the end of October. However, I will be in touch with many of you before then through the vestry and other church activities.

The last 18 months has been very difficult for all of us but there is a sense of hope now as we begin to pick up our pre-covid activities and commitments. This week I have been preparing for two funerals, in both cases the scripture chosen has included that great passage from the book of Ecclesiastes.

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace."

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

It occurs to me that this passage speaks to us now as we emerge from the restrictions of the pandemic. Life has changed for many of us: different routines have been adopted; methods of working altered and priorities and

demands on our time reassessed. This all reminds us that life often changes, sometimes in ways we don't expect or desire - nothing is guaranteed to stay the same. At All Saints it's a time of change which means a new chapter in the life of the church.

In the forthcoming months much consideration will be given to the appointment of a new rector in the context of the ministry offered in this church. When considering ministry, we are immediately reminded of the words of Jesus to his disciples in the Great Commission.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you. **And surely I am with you always, even to the end of the age.**"

Matthew 28:19-20

Jesus calls us to serve him, but we do not do so alone. He assures us that we will be given the gift of the Holy Spirit which inspires, encourages and supports us in all we do.

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have told you."

John 14:26

I look forward to meeting you all and working together over the next few months.

*Many blessings to you all*

*Andrea*

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES

We have a provisional date of the evening of the **1st of November** from Bishop Kevin to come to All Saints to conduct confirmations. Andrea, as our interim priest, has kindly offered to hold confirmation classes in the church. At present, we have two teenage candidates, but if anyone else would like to join the classes they would be very welcome.

Contact Andrea on [andrehagenbuch@outlook.com](mailto:andrehagenbuch@outlook.com) .

Andrew Roach

## **VESTRY NOTES – MEETING OF 6 SEPTEMBER**

- The Vestry met on 6 September 2021 for the first meeting of the interregnum. In addition to the members of the Vestry of 2019-21 and those co-opted to assist with the transition period, the meeting was attended by Rev. Andrea Hagenbuch, Rector of St Andrews, Milngavie and Interim Pastor at All Saints during the interregnum. David Simmons, Lay Representative was in the Chair.
- Under matters arising, the successful drain repairs and the refurbishment of the organ blower were reported to the meeting. The organ had been played at the previous day's service and having accompanied hymns had increased everyone's enjoyment of the service.
- David Hamblen asked that thanks to everyone who had contributed to the successful and enjoyable first service of the interregnum period be recorded in the Minutes, which was warmly agreed by all.
- There had been no-one who had joined the service on Zoom on the preceding day. The Vestry agreed to continue to run the Zoom transmission for a few more weeks. David Simmons stated however that he would need deputies if this broadcast was continued, and Anne MacDougall agreed to learn how the Zoom transmission was done.
- It was agreed that the inner main door would be closed during services from the following week to reduce the extraneous noise. The loss of ventilation would be more than compensated by that introduced by playing the organ, and the windows and the fire escape door would remain open during the service.
- Although John Harrington had successfully arranged an organists' rota for September, the Vestry agreed to start the process of finding a replacement for Laura.
- In his property report, Jim Craig said that, after Kirstin leaves the Rectory, it should be surveyed as part of the Quinquennial Review of our property, and brought up to scratch. The Vestry agreed to this approach. Jim also suggested that it would be timely to perform a survey of Church keys held by members, to see if they are in appropriate hands. Again the Vestry supported this move.
- The AGMs for 19-20 and 20-21 would be held on 24 October after the 10.30 am service. Members should be given the opportunity to suggest to Vestry members particular issues that they would like to discuss under AOCB.

- The Treasurer reported that the finances of all Saints were developing much as expected in his previous reports. The total cost of the drain work was likely to be around £6000, which would be taken from the reserves.
- John Brooker reminded the Vestry that it was of paramount importance to find candidates to take over his two duties as Hall Convenor and as Secretary before he demitted office at the AGM.
- The next Vestry meeting would be on Monday 4th October.

Andrew Long

### **The Leaving Collection for Rev. Kirstin Freeman**

As members will know, at the beginning of August the Vestry launched a collection for a leaving present for Kirstin. At the end of the service on 29 August, she was presented with a cheque and also with a book to mark her 12 years of service at All Saints. The book chosen was "Ars Sacra" by Rolf Toman, which is a copiously illustrated volume tracking the development of Christian Sacred Art over the last two thousand years. The collection realised just over £1000 in total.

Andrew Long

## **REPORT ON SEPTEMBER MEETING OF NORTH-WEST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

It was a pleasure to take a sunny train ride to the seaside to meet our friends at St. Michael's, Helensburgh, (and others) for the first face-to-face meeting of the North-West Regional Council (NWRC) for some months. This was on the 2nd September. We (David Hamblen and myself) enjoyed some welcome hospitality before a said Eucharist, led by Rev. Dom Ind, and then the meeting itself. The meeting was chaired by Rev. Andrea Hagenbuch of St. Andrews, Milngavie, who told us that evening that she had just been made our interim priest. We also had the opportunity to discuss the extent of her involvement with All Saints, including a possible weekday Service, as well as officiating at our Patronal Festival Service.

During the meeting itself, much of our discussion was about the implications of the changes to the Diocesan constitution agreed at the last Diocesan Synod (see last month's magazine for more details). We also gave each other updates about what was happening in each charge: A long list for us! It was interesting to hear that both St. Michael's, Helensburgh, and St. Bride's, Hyndland, are

spending legacy income on major refurbishment projects, St. Augustine's, Dumbarton, have been running services aimed at people struggling with addictions and that everyone is worried about whether people will return to church following the pandemic. All charges in the region seem to be slowly opening up. One piece of sage advice from a number of the NWRC is that we spend at least some of the money we save during the vacancy on improvements to the Rectory. We also discussed the implications of the Scottish Episcopal Church's commitment to being net-zero in terms of carbon emissions by 2030, with a suggestion that we start to share resources on how best to achieve that.

### **Important Calendar (and other) Notes for coming weeks**

**Zoom:** We are still continuing to broadcast the Sunday morning services on Zoom. A reminder that new meeting number is **913-382-1554** and the password is **Housegrp**. If you are having any issues with Zoom access or quality then please contact **David Simmons**.

**Sunday, 3rd October:** Our Harvest service, led by Rev. Kenneth Roach, incorporating the interment of ashes of Keith Robinson. The service will be followed by a Harvest lunch [see **p.6** of this magazine]

**Sunday, 24th October:** Following the usual service there will be both the 2020 and 2021 AGMs. The former will be a very short formality, with the most of the usual AGM business reserved for the latter. This will be the time when we formally elect new vestry members and confirm/elect other key appointments. Please bear in mind that our secretary, John Brooker, will be retiring at this meeting and he will also demit as Hall convenor, so we are looking for people to take on these responsibilities. John has agreed to continue as PVG rep. Despite this, John will still be happy to receive items of business to be discussed at the (2021) AGM under "AOCB".

**Tuesday, 26th October:** The vestry will meet with Bishop Kevin and Dean Reuben to be taken through vacancy procedures and how we go about finding our next Rector.

**Sunday, 31st October:** Our patronal festival service, with Rev Andrea Hagenbuch presiding.

**Monday, 1st November (TBC):** Special confirmation service with Bishop Kevin presiding.

David Simmons

## **HARVEST LUNCH**

Our Harvest Festival will be celebrated on Sunday October 3rd. There will be a harvest lunch held after the service and we hope this will provide a great occasion for the congregation to meet again and enjoy the fellowship that has been so missed during the pandemic.

As mentioned in the September magazine, the interment of Keith Robinson's ashes will take place in the Garden of Remembrance on October 3rd and some of Keith's family will be joining us for the service and lunch. We will also be welcoming back the Revd. Kenneth Roach as celebrant.

Let us make this harvest celebration a joyful occasion. If you are able to help in anyway with the lunch by providing food (cold), setting up the hall or clearing up, your help will be welcomed, but we hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend.

Please contact Janet Stack ([janet.stack@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.stack@btinternet.com)) or Gill Hamblen for more information and offers of help.



## **RICHARD HOLLOWAY SERMON**

A recent sad event reported in the Diocesan Newsletter was a final service of thanksgiving at the closure and deconsecration of St Mungo's, Alexandria. This had opened as a Church in 1894 and was finally closed on Sunday 29th August. The Service was a Sung Eucharist with Bishop Kevin leading and gave thanks for the many years of faithful and dedicated ministry. A high point was the Sermon given by the former Primus Richard Holloway. Those of you who have read his biography, *Leaving Alexandria*, will understand his close ties with St Mungo's. The message he gave in the text was one of a journey of loss and hope, as applicable to us in All Saints as to the Church in the wider world. The Sermon is reproduced on the following pages and I hope you find it as poignant and inspiring as I did.

David Hamblen.

## Saint Mungo's Alexandria August 29th

After Bishop Kevin phoned to ask me to speak at this service, marking the closure of Saint Mungo's, I sat down, feeling sad, and these words immediately came to me - not my own words, words from Isaiah chapter 40:

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.  
Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her,  
that her warfare is accomplished...

They were the words God spoke to Israel exiled in Babylon, far from the holy land they adored, the land to which God promised to restore them.

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the  
desert a highway for our God.

It was along that highway that Israel longed to be taken back home, never again to be exiled. But that's not what happened. The history of Israel was a history of constant loss, culminating in the destruction of Jerusalem and the scattering of its people across the face of the earth to a life of persecution and near-annihilation. Yet their scripture constantly cried out these words to them:

'Comfort ye, comfort ye my people...Speak ye comfortably  
to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is  
accomplished.'

What kind of comfort is it that comes in the midst of loss and exile? What kind of comfort can we find here in St Mungo's today, when we know there will be no return to this beloved place, no highway being prepared to bring us back home? Today is the beginning, not the end of our exile, so what comfort can we find?

Well, part of the work of comfort lies in gathering memories of our wee church; and it's a story that possesses some endearing contrasts. In a sense, we're coming full circle today, because when there was no Episcopal church in Alexandria, the faithful few in the town were looked after by the church in Dumbarton, which started holding mission services for them in 1877. Then one of those demographic shifts occurred that often alter the course of history. Skilled craftspeople were needed to work in the bleach fields and textile operations that were opening in factories along the banks of the river Leven, and the people who came to fill the jobs were members of the Church of Ireland from Ulster. In 1889 a space to minister to them was found at Dalmonach Reading Room in Bonhill; and 5 years later, in 1894, this church was opened.

It's first priest was William Hildesley, who reinforced the Ulster Protestant tradition of the immigrants by becoming Grand Master of the local Orange Lodge and practising a prim Low-Church style of worship. Hildesley must have been birling in his grave 50 years later, when James Alexander Nigel Mackay became rector and took St Mungo's so far up the High-Church Candle it was dancing in the flames. Six candles and a tabernacle for the Blessed Sacrament on the High Altar; sung mass with incense as the main service on Sundays; and colourful festivals to which clergy and servers from other churches in the diocese came in their droves. The poet John Betjeman caught the style:

The fiddle-back vestments a-glitter with morning rays,  
The bells and banners - those were the waking days  
When Faith was taught and fanned to a golden blaze.

Father Mackay, as he liked to be called, was Irish of Scottish extraction. A graduate of Trinity College, Dublin and Edinburgh Theological College, he was a tall, bony, charming man, with a drink-problem and an outrageous comb-over. But I loved him, and he changed my life forever. St Mungo's was the church the Holloways belonged to, but rarely attended. Then one day my wee cousin died and I was there when Father Mackay came to arrange the funeral, and he persuaded me to serve at the altar and sing in the choir. A year later he sent me to Kelham to train for the priesthood, where I became even more Anglo-Catholic than he was.

One of my embarrassing memories was of a meeting I had with Father Mackay's successor, Clifford Woodhouse. Mr Woodhouse, as he insisted on being called, became rector in 1951 and only stayed a couple of years. On one of my holidays from Kelham I challenged him for no longer having a daily mass at St Mungo's. When he told me that there was no demand for it, I threw the Lord's Prayer at him: 'Give us this day our daily bread', to which he politely replied that the Lord's Prayer was about real bread for the starving not about providing ceremonial opportunities for young prigs like me.

Woodhouse was succeeded by Joe Wilding in 1953. Joe stayed for over 30 years. A shy, saintly man, there was something supernatural about Joe. He cycled all over the Vale on pastoral visits, bent over an old bike that defied gravity by remaining upright, though it never actually seemed to move. Joe valued silence and reflection and he created the little chapel in the side aisle as a place to go apart and be quiet in.

The years after Joe's retirement saw a series of young, energetic rectors at St Mungo's who all worked hard to keep the place going just when, in the words of the poet Matthew Arnold, 'The Sea of Faith' was beginning 'Its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar' of retreat, and churches everywhere started to close, reminding us why we are here today.

I can't name all the clergy who ministered at St Mungo's in its 130-year history, but I want to remember what they did for us. They Christened us in that font. They married us in front of those altar rails. They came to see us when we were sick. They forgave us our sins and listened to our sorrows. And when we died, they took us up the hill and laid us with our forebears in the graveyard that looked down on the factories along the Leven we used to work in. Flawed humans like the rest of us, they brought grace and mercy into our lives.

As these memories crowd in on us, I want to conclude by thinking about why church buildings are so important to us, and why it breaks our hearts to see them close. It is because ours is a religion of sacraments as well as words. There are Christian leaders today who think we no longer need church buildings, because we can listen to the Word anywhere, even in our own living rooms.

That's fine for people whose faith is something they can confidently recite, but it fails those who long for something they can't find the words for. You can sometimes see them sitting alone in the dark aisle of a parish church or cathedral, those sacraments of stone that mediate transcendence, without giving it a name. That nostalgic old atheist, Philip Larkin, catches their mood in his famous poem, 'Church Going'.

A serious house on serious earth it is,  
In whose blent air all our compulsions meet,  
Are recognised, and robed as destinies.  
And that much never can be obsolete,  
Since someone will forever be surprising  
A hunger in himself to be more serious,  
And gravitating with it to this ground,  
Which, he once heard, was proper to grow wise in,  
If only that so many dead lie round.

I can remember another occasion when I went to say goodbye to another 'serious house on serious earth'. In 1930, a religious order for women, called the Community of Saint Peter, established itself in the mill-town of Walkerburn in the Borders, in two large villas called Sunnybrae and Stoneyhill. Sunnybrae was the convent for the nuns and Stoneyhill was used as a retreat house and

conference centre. Generations of Scottish clergy did their ordination retreats there, and it was where we took parish groups for conferences and study weekends. It became obvious that the ageing sisters couldn't continue the work, and in 1976 they decided they had to close. I went to the closing. As I mooned sadly around the place for the last time, I found a prayer card on the noticeboard in Sunnybrae that someone had sent to them. It stuck in my memory. This is what it said:

Look back, remember, and give thanks.  
The future, like the past, has God in it.  
God's cupped hands bear the whole of time, and you.

At the end of the Gospel of Mark, a group of women who loved Jesus go to the tomb where they had placed his dead body three days before. They find it empty, and a young man tells them not to be afraid: 'Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified...he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples...that he is going before you into Galilee'.

That is the resurrection voice, calling us from the losses of the past into the future. It tells us that Jesus is no longer here for us. This tomb is empty. He has gone before us into Galilee. We are to look back for the last time, wipe the tears from our eyes, and follow him there.

Amen.

## **EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE WELCOMES REFUGEES GROUP**

A few months ago in the June magazine Helen Paisley wrote a brief article about the setting up of the East Dunbartonshire Welcomes Refugees' group. As my whole teaching career up here has been centred around teaching asylum seekers and refugees in a Glasgow college, I felt this was something I wanted to and could help with. I have learnt since then much more about the group and the cause and would like to share it with you. If you'd like to learn/do more please contact me.

The group of 18 active members, who live in across East Dunbartonshire, in Bearsden, Milngavie, Bishopbriggs, Lenzie and Kirkintilloch, was started in March 2021. We want to help a family who have been displaced from their country and are currently in a refugee camp, to resettle in Scotland by providing them with the support they need to become independent, happy, productive and secure here. We are committed to supporting them for at least two years

after they arrive, although at present we have no idea when that will be nor where they will come from.

We are preparing a detailed resettlement plan and completing the extensive Home Office application form for Community Sponsorship. We have to fundraise £10,000 to cover all costs, and source accommodation for the family. The funds will be used to pay the first month's rent on a suitable property, to furnish their home, and provide the essentials for the family's arrival like food, clothes, access to an interpreter.

Although we will do all we can to support the family, there will be a lot of focus on assisting them, rather than doing everything for them. We want the family to become independent and productive members of our community. These are people like us, they had jobs, professions, homes, businesses and children and through no fault of their own they have become refugees and need our help.

Throughout this process we have support and advice from a charity called Citizens UK. They work across the United Kingdom helping diverse groups to organise and make changes in their own communities. They have a wealth of experience and were instrumental in starting the UK Government's Community Sponsorship Scheme back in 2016. Since then, over 100 community groups have welcomed over 500 families to the UK. From reading the stories of other community sponsorship groups it's clear that lasting friendships can be made and that everyone within a group and community can benefit from working together.

Members of the group fund-raise via selling cards/second hand clothes/tea parties/ fruit and jam selling.

One focus of our fund-raising efforts is our **WALK SYRIA TO SCOTLAND** challenge, a total of 3000 miles, the distance from Syria to Scotland. The majority of refugees in the world in 2019 came from Syria and although we don't know where in the world a family may come from, this walk represents the journey that a family seeking refuge may take. The route crosses from Syria into Turkey, through Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Austria, The Czech Republic, Germany, The Netherlands and England to Scotland.

We have until June 2022 to reach the target and hope people will donate as we go via a **Justgiving page**. (see below) We record our miles via a website called **Challenge Hound**. Members of the group walk, run, cycle as many as miles we can and as often as we can. So far, at the time of writing, we have covered almost 2300 miles, and are currently somewhere in Austria.

Many people have contributed so far and the amount raised stands at about £6000. If you would like to add to that you can do so at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ed-welcomes-refugees>.

Alternatively, you can give £5 by texting MVIT09 on 70970. Once we have found accommodation we will be looking for donations of furniture etc.

On Saturday September 25th please visit our **East Dunbartonshire Welcomes Refugees'** stall at the Afro Celtic Carnival Day in Milngavie. We will be promoting our cause and selling cards and craft goods.

Celia

*(speak to Celia if you'd like to know more/would like to be actively involved with the group/have ideas for fundraising)*

## **E GROUP 'SUMMER' PARTY**

Last Friday 17th September, we at last had the E group summer party after 18 months of only having zoom meetings. It was really nice to see one another face to face in a relaxed light hearted way. We had a bring and share supper, Tracey played the piano, we even had a game which Tracey deservedly won. Now though serious stuff. We are meeting on 6th October for study and discussion at Jean Stirling's at 7.30. Book being :- Living the Prayer by Tristan Owain Hughes



Elaine Perrett

## MONDAY HOUSE GROUP CROQUET PARTY

### LUNCH AT BURNBRAE



Former Mothers' Union members and friends met for lunch at the Burnbrae on the second Tuesday of September. The first time for eighteen months - since the first lockdown last year.

We soon slipped into our lively chat. Nothing too serious: tv programmes watched, theatres trips planned, our families and happy events, babies due and weddings to go to.

There is no requirement to book now so please if anyone would like to join us on the second Tuesday of the month at 12.30.

Elaine Perrett



For many years, in the early summer months, the Monday House Group has held a croquet tournament at Ross Priory followed by a delicious supper, organised by the Kingslakes. Last year of course we were unable to meet, but on September 5th this year we again enjoyed a wonderful afternoon and evening in the beautiful surroundings by Loch Lomond. We were delighted to welcome Mike Graham, Peter and Joan Kemp and Iain and Kaoru Stewart, previous house group members, who returned for the festivities. One of the advantages of Zoom is that it enabled long distance friends to join our regular



on-line house group meetings during lockdown. Also included in the party were two young visitors, Anna my granddaughter from Berlin and Taksu, a Japanese student staying with the Caies. They entered into the proceedings with gusto and had a very entertaining experience!

Ross Priory provided a delicious supper to round off a long awaited occasion. Many thanks to Richard and Gillian for superb organisation.

Janet Stack



## BOOK SUGGESTION

I read a semi-autobiographical book titled "Borges and Me: An Encounter" written by Jay Parini. I did not know anything about either the Argentinian writer and poet Jorge Luis Borges, or Jay Parini, who is an American academic and author. It is a story about when Jay Parini, who wanted to write poetry, was a PhD student at St Andrews University in order to dodge the conscription during the Vietnam war in the 1970s. In due course he became acquainted with the Scottish poet Alastair Reid (I did not know him either!) who asked Jay to take care of his guest Borges while he was away. Jay and the blind Borges took up their enterprise of travelling around the Scottish Highlands in their Rocinante (an aged Morris Minor!). It is very funny and evocative of the generation of that time and of that part of Scotland. The book was for me an encounter with those colourful characters and their work too!

Kaoru Stewart

## BRASS CLEANING

### Brass Cleaning (Temporary) Rota 2021

( I have used the last few months of the 2020 rota.)

17 September	Janet Shields
1st October	Margery Pollock
15th October	Fiona Hempel
29th October	Gill Hambleton
12th November	Jean Stirling
26th November	John Brooker
10th December	Janet Shields
24th December	Kate Ross

2022 Rota coming soon...

If anyone is willing to help with Brass Cleaning ( only twice a Year) you would be most welcome.

Thank you,  
Janet Shields.

## To Autumn

William Blake (1757-1827)

O Autumn, laden with fruit and stain'd  
With the blood of the grape, pass not, but sit  
Beneath my shady roof; there thou may'st rest ,  
And tune thy jolly voice to my fresh pipe,  
And all the daughters of the year shall dance!  
Sing now the lusty song of fruits and flowers.

"The narrow bud opens her beauties to  
The sun, and love runs in her thrilling veins;  
Blossoms hang round the brows of Morning, and  
Flourish down the bright cheek of modest Eve,  
Till clust'ring Summer breaks forth into singing,  
And feather'd clouds strew flowers round her head.

The spirits of the air live in the smells  
Of fruit, and Joy, with pinions light, roves around  
The gardens, or sits singing in the trees."  
Thus sang the jolly Autumn as he sat,  
Then rose, girded himself, and o'er the bleak  
Hills fled from our sight, but left his golden load.

Blake wrote four short poems for each of the four seasons. In this poem he is celebrating autumn which he personifies as a welcome visitor to the narrator's home, who appears laden with autumn fruits. The narrator asks him to stay and sing, while he himself smokes his pipe, and the young girls dance.

Autumn is a fun character with a colourful appearance and a jolly voice, and when he starts to sing, he evokes a glorious image of summer flowers decorating both Morning and Eve, while Summer herself, covered in flowers, sings amongst the featherlike clouds. Blake brings alive for us the joys of the season through sights and smells of autumn, along with the birds who joyfully sing in the trees or roam around the garden on light wings. When his song is done, the visitor rushes away, leaving behind him the familiar image of gorgeous autumn gold. Blake does not share the depressing view of autumn so commonly expressed in poetry; for him it is a beautiful time which he hopes will linger in its splendour before the coming winter. *(Thanks to Brenda for suggesting this poem)*

## MEMORIES AND MUSEUMS

Our recent, very enjoyable, week in the Lake District contained two major highlights. The first, and some would say the most important, was a walk to the site of David's old school camp. Amazingly, after 70 plus years, the building was still standing and apart from the addition of one room, just as he remembered it.

The second highlight was on our last day when the weather took a downturn and a museum visit seemed to be the order of the day. Despite its inauspicious title we decided to visit the Pencil Museum in Keswick, and what a gem it turned out to be. Full of interesting facts relating to the properties of graphite (the same chemical compound as diamonds) the number of pencils produced by one cedar tree (300,000) and also on display the World's Longest Colour Pencil, an incredible 7.9 metres in length. It brought back happy memories of boxed sets of Derwent crayons, a modest present by today's standards but much appreciated and enjoyed.

Fascinating though these facts were, the most amazing part of the exhibition was a description and photographs of the way in which pencils were used by MI5 during the second world war in order to secrete information. The pencils were hollowed out and hidden inside was a map drawn on the finest tissue paper which was wrapped around a wire to hold it in place. The ferrule contained a minute compass. These were issued to RAF pilots so that if they were shot down they had a chance to escape using the map and compass.

A video showed an attempt 70 years later to replicate this, emphasising that even with modern technology, the skills required were tremendous. It took several attempts before they were satisfied with the result.

We spent a most enjoyable and informative few hours in the museum and would recommend a visit to anyone on holiday in the area.



Gill Hamblen

I have happy memories of seven years of family holidays by Derwentwater as a child, and always returning home with such a box of coloured pencils. We had many picnics on Friars' Crag as in the picture. My father once caught a fish from the point using string and a bent safety pin!

Janet Stack

## ROTA FOR THE SUNDAY SERVICES IN OCTOBER

Services will be held both in Church and on Zoom at 10.30 am.  
Zoom details on p 5

Date Sunday	3 October Pentecost 19	10 October Pentecost 20	17 October Pentecost 21	24 October Pentecost 22	31 October (All Saints Day)
<b>Celebrant</b>	Rev Kenneth Roach	Rev Sally Gorton	Rev Moira Jamieson	Rev Canon Prof John Riches	Rev Andrea Hagenbuch
<b>10.30 Service</b>	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist
<b>Stewards</b>	Andrew Long Tracey Conway	Janet Stack Andrew Roach	Celia Fisher Brenda Hadcroft	Kate Ross Andrew Long	Tracey Conway Brenda Hadcroft
<b>Eucharistic Assistants</b>	Louise	Graham	Jenny	Richard	Andrew R
<b>Readings</b>	TBA	Ps 90:12-17 Heb 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31	Ps 91:9-16 Heb 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45	Ps 126 Heb 7:23-38 Mark 10:46-52	TBA
<b>Reader</b>	Gill Hamblen	Janet Stack	Graham Caie	Catriona Craig	Mary Stott
<b>Intercessor</b>	David Hamblen	David Simmons	Louise Benson	Andrew Long	Celia Fisher
<b>After-service Coffee</b>	Gillian Kingslake Elaine Perrett	Sheena MacDonald Kate Ross	Brenda Hadcroft Jane Lewis	John Brooker Joyce James	Gioia Whitmore Janet Stack
<b>Other events</b>	Harvest lunch			AGMs after service	Patronal Festival

The Editor for the November edition will be Janet Stack. Please send articles to [janet.stack@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.stack@btinternet.com) by Sunday 24 October, 2021