

March 2022 Magazine



Rector Vacancy *The Rev. 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.

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

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

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The cover picture – Snowdrops at Finlaystone Country Park

*All Saints Scottish Episcopal
Church*

Drymen Road, Bearsden



March 2022

Dear All,

Today has been bright and still; there has even been a hint of warmth in the sun. However, storms are predicted later in the week which seem to be the theme of this winter. Several weather fronts have made their way across the nation leaving trees down and even worse on the east coast; many have experienced power cuts and snowdrifts.

On the world stage a worrying storm is also brewing with significant military build-up on the Russian-Ukrainian border resulting in increasing tension between Russia and the West.

At home I'm sure we all have our own domestic and personal storms to face.

It's life and it has been ever thus!

It seems fitting that the gospel for this Sunday is St Luke's story of Jesus calming the storm. I have always been very keen on this passage. I can remember as a child reading it from the children's illustrated Bible, enjoying the dramatic picture of the disciples in the boat surrounded by huge waves and Jesus standing at the stern calmly commanding the waves to be still.



It's a simple passage with two clear messages.

Firstly, Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, can bring calm to our lives if we trust and turn to him in prayer. We may even be able to recall times when we have felt held by the Holy Spirit when we have faced difficult circumstances.

Secondly, through the calming of the storm itself the scripture tells us of the unique transforming power of Christ. This reveals his divinity and the fact that he was the Son of God. In response to this the disciples exclaim "Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?" *Luke 8:25*

In the remainder of the chapter Jesus then goes on to heal Legion from his demons, the haemorrhaging women and Jairus' daughter. In these miracles Jesus transforms the lives of all he encounters.

In the church's year we are now approaching Lent – a time of reflection and contemplation as we prepare for the events of Holy week and Easter.

At Easter we will celebrate Christ's ultimate act of transformation – his resurrection.

When Jesus rose from the dead, he demonstrated that all things, even death, can be transformed and renewed. Therefore, the resurrection can bring transformation to our lives now and ultimately, in time, at our death.

This is central to our Christian faith. Without the resurrection the Christian faith makes no sense. The whole Christian hope would be lacking in any foundation. There would be no hope of eternal life and no forgiveness of sins. An "eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die" attitude would be the only realistic approach. Yet the reality is totally different: Christ has been raised from the dead. And because Christ is being raised, we will be raised as well!

Many Blessings to you all

Andrea

VESTRY NOTES – MEETING OF 10 FEBRUARY 2022

Mission Support Group

Funds will be allocated to the chosen causes by 31 March. Further details will follow.

Visitors

The Visitor system is being revised and extended. The congregation will be consulted, and new volunteer visitors will be greatly welcome.

Church Heating

Andrew Long has written a short manual for controlling the heating of the Church.

Sunday services

Our Sunday services are going very well. People are continuing to use the Zoom services. To the joy of everyone the choir will resume at the beginning of March.

Special services

The Ash Wednesday service will be on Wednesday 2 March at 11.30. Mothering Sunday is on 27 March.

There will be no service at All Saints on Good Friday on 15 April, but we are looking into a possible joint service with another congregation. Our usual Easter Sunday service will take place on 17 April at 10.30.

Vacancy Progress

Progress is continuing in the appointment process for a new Rector and the refurbishment of the Rectory.

Remembrance Garden

It has been agreed that memorial plaques can be placed in the Remembrance Garden. The Remembrance Garden sign will be brought to the front of the garden so that it can be seen by people as they enter. Small plastic vases will shortly be made available for those who would like to use them for flowers.

Vestry Meeting with the Bishop and the Dean – Tuesday 15 February 2022

The Vestry met the Bishop and the Dean on Zoom on Tuesday 15 February. The purpose of the meeting was for us to discuss the progress the Vestry has been making in preparation for the appointment of a new priest, and to consider the details of further planning.

We were able to give an update of our progress so far with the congregational profile, the Rector's profile, and the video, for which the deadline is the end of March.

The Bishop and the Dean then introduced a paper 'Doing the groundwork in the Charge in 2022 – planning for a new Priest-in-Charge/Rector' which is a tool to help vestries plan for the financial and housing requirements necessary as they look for a new priest.

The Vestry thanked the Bishop and the Dean for this very helpful meeting.

Brenda Hadcroft

Report on the North West Regional Council AGM

I attended the AGM of the North West Regional Council on Monday 31st January 2021 which was held in St Andrews Milngavie and was chaired by the Rev. Andrea Haggenbuch. It was a cold and wet evening, perhaps explaining why only 12 members attended, 2 Clergy and 10 Lay Representatives. These included Louise Benson and myself from All Saints.

After some welcoming refreshments, the formal meeting was preceded by a celebration of the Eucharist led by Andrea. The minutes of the last AGM, held

by Zoom on 30th November 2020 were approved, together with those of the last regular meeting on the 2nd of September 2021.

The Diocesan Council Report from their last meeting on 29th of January 2021 had not yet been circulated, but a verbal report was given by Richard Smith, our retiring Lay Representative. He drew attention to two important items which will be the focus of further discussion and action. The first was the proposed changes to the 1982 Liturgy, where concerns had been raised on some of the use of gender words, such as 'human' in place of 'man'. The second major topic was the continued discussion on what is required from our Churches and from us as individuals if we are to meet the target of net Zero Carbon Emissions by the Year 2030. More detail on both these issues is available on the Diocesan Website.

The Bishop's Report had included material that was relevant to our own situation in seeking a new Rector. He expressed concern that too many new Clergy appointees were resigning from their Charges after a very short period in post, and that this might indicate a 'poor fit' with the Diocese as much as the Congregation. Clearly the Bishop and the Management Group wish to be much more involved at an early stage in the Recruitment process to correct this. He also reported that Audrey Stewart, the Canon Missioner had been very busy in linking the three Vestries involved in the Heartland Group of Churches. In addition, she had been developing resources to deal with tiredness and burn-out in both Clergy and Lay Readers. However, it was hoped that she would soon be available to assist other Congregations with Mission Support (hopefully including ours).

The Bishop's Lenten Appeal this year was to be for ***Children in Distress***, a Charity supporting children with complex needs and Hospice care in Romania.

It was also announced that the Diocesan Synod planned for 5th March 2022 would again be a Virtual event, as the planned venue in Glasgow Academy was no longer available because of the recent upsurge in Covid infections. There will be no voting for the membership of the Diocesan Council as under the new 'slimmed down' structure there will only be 6 Lay and 4 Clergy appointed to join the 4 members of the Management Group. Applications for consideration were still required and the request from David Simmons for his name to be considered was strongly supported by the Meeting.

Nominations were also invited for the General Synod and Carol Lovett was supported for Lay membership, though Andrea does not wish to stand for a further term as a Clergy member.

The Meeting then returned to the issue of meeting targets for reducing carbon emissions with discussion on Heating Church buildings led by Hugh Waterfield. He suggested that older people in our Congregations should be putting finance aside to help the costs that would fall on younger people in the future. There was also a need to begin to adopt measures, however small, to reduce our use of fossil fuels and that we should be prepared learn from others' ideas.

As usual, the final item was 'Sharing Experiences' on our Congregational activities. We were able to report our gradual return to more face-to-face Services at All Saints, with some still preferring to use Zoom. Our new Organist with a return to 'live music' was also helping to attract members back to Church. We were also able to record our thanks to Andrea for the extra work she has done as our Interim Priest and to the many Clergy from the Diocese who have been conducting our Services during the Vacancy so effectively.

The Regional Council's own Elections produced no surprises. Rev Andrea Haggendorn was re-elected as Convenor and Tim Rhead as Secretary. Richard Smith was no longer eligible to be Vice-Convenor, but David Simmons was elected in his place.

The date of the next Council Meeting was fixed for Tuesday 31st May and will be held in Dumbarton at St Augustine's.

David Hamblen

Some Words from Your Lay Representative



Eddie Simmons in Switzerland

I (David Simmons) write this from my "Alpine Retreat". In our first trip abroad since September 2019, we are visiting some old university friends who live half-way up a mountain in Switzerland. The magnificent views and majestic scenery remind us of the awesome power of nature, especially now it has all been covered in a fresh layer of snow.

This is a welcome break for us, after what has been a hectic year so far. After the success of finding a new organist (welcome again Jeremy!) most of the focus of the vestry is divided between keeping the regular life of the church going as usual and working on the materials that we have to produce (i.e. two documents and a video) before we can advertise our

vacancy. Following on from a meeting with the Dean and Bishop on Tuesday, 15th February, we now have a firm deadline for submission of these to the Diocese on 31st March this year. This might not be the end of the story, however, as the Diocese will probably require us to change a few things. At the same meeting we were given a reasonable idea of what the options for us will be once we have completed this process and the timeline once the post has been advertised. Given the necessary time required for advertising, interviewing, shortlisting, and notice-giving we are still looking at another 6-12 months before a new Rector is installed. Still, I feel like we are now getting into a good routine on Sundays with our regular team of clergy and it is marvellous that we have resumed after-service coffee and the Wednesday Lunch Group.

Another topic in our meeting with the Dean and Bishop was a discussion of the costs involved with advertising the post, interviewing candidates, and relocating our new Rector to Bearsden. Whilst we have the current bonus of not having to pay a clergy salary during the vacancy, we were planning for most of this to be spent on the very necessary refurbishment of the Rectory House. Our excellent treasurer, Andrew Long, assures me that we are able to cover these costs, but we are having to make some decisions about priorities for our spending which we will inform you of in due course.

I should also update you on my usual areas of responsibility as your Lay Representative. On Saturday, 5th March, I shall be your representative at this year's Diocesan Synod, which will take place online. Alongside the usual Synodal business of elections and reports, the main issues for discussion this year are the proposed alterations to the 1982 Scottish Liturgy and the response to the General Synod's climate action plan. Do let me know as soon as you can if you have any specific views on these issues. Some of you may know that I put myself forward as a lay member on the newly re-constituted and slimmed down Diocesan Council. It appears that there are six nominees for six places, so it looks like success is assured although it may not be a full term of four years. I shall let you know after Synod! Although I didn't attend the recent AGM of our North-West Regional Council (NWRC; David Hamblen has written a report about this, above) I was voted vice-convenor in my absence and my nomination for Diocesan Council was encouraged. In other news, we have also heard from the Diocese that the official move to the new Diocesan office has now taken place. The new address is: Scottish Episcopal Church, Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway, 49 Cochrane Street, Glasgow G1 1HL. The telephone number remains the same: 0141 221 5720. However, the

office is not yet officially “open”, so please don’t turn up to it expecting to see anyone!

I think that’s all for now. All the best from snowy Switzerland!

David Simmons

MISSION SUPPORT GROUP

We met for the first time as the new Mission Support Group in early February and had a great discussion about how to allocate the £6000 agreed by the Vestry. Our group membership is made up of Celia Fisher, Janet Stack, Philip Thompson and Susan Gray.

We also discussed £307 carried forward from last year and agreed to send this with immediate effect to the DEC Afghanistan Appeal.

The following projects/charities have been agreed for this year:

UK

- Scottish Bible Society £100 – working so that all people can have a Bible in a language they understand, with a request to target a current appeal.
- Freedom From Torture £600 – standing by torture survivors, providing therapy and support, with a request for our donation to be used in Glasgow, if possible.
- Glasgow City Mission £500 – working with people who are affected by homelessness and poverty in Glasgow.
- Aberlour Trust £600 – working with children and families in Scotland before a crisis point is reached.
- Maxie Richards Foundation £200 – providing abstinence-based support for individuals with drug and alcohol dependencies.

Overseas

- Self Help Africa £500 – dedicated to ending hunger and poverty with a vision of an economically and resilient rural Africa.
- David Gordon Memorial Hospital in Livingstonia, Malawi £500 – a 100 bed Mission Hospital providing much needed medical care. We have had a long and special contact with this hospital.
- St Francis Hospital in Katete, Zambia £500 – a hospital which only receives limited funding from the Zambian Ministry of Health. Graham Caie will provide more information about his connection with this hospital in a future magazine.

- WaterAid £1000 – clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene are basic human rights the provision of which enables communities to unlock their potential and break away from poverty.
- Afghan Aid £1000 – drought, the war and Covid-19 are causing a catastrophic rise in hunger. Millions are at risk of dying in the next few months. Afghan Aid is working in partnership with Christian Aid, CAFOD and other established charities at this time.
- Person-to-Person, Friends of Vellore UK £500, funding treatment for patients unable to pay their medical bills at the Christian Medical College, Vellore, India.

We plan to send these donations as soon as possible and will provide feedback as we receive it

Louise Benson

East Dunbartonshire Welcomes Refugees (EDWR)

EDWR have now raised about £20,000 and so at the end of January we were able to submit the formal application to the Home Office to settle a refugee family in Kirkintilloch. It is now a question of waiting, apparently it can take 3-4 months before we hear anything.

However, that time won’t be wasted as the sheer scale of paperwork and hoops that need to be jumped through have become more apparent. That sounds a little flippant, which is wrong of me since all the many safeguards being put into place are simply to ensure both the family and the volunteers can work successfully and safely together. So, for example, with the help of Citizens UK we are working on a very comprehensive handbook for volunteers, as well as ensuring we all undertake an online Safeguarding course, have basic disclosures and references. I completed the excellent Safeguarding course last week, which was a good opportunity to “meet” members of other groups. There were 35 participants from all around the UK, so clearly there are multiple groups everywhere which is wonderful. We are already sharing ideas and information with a group in Edinburgh and at the training I met someone from a newly formed group in Govan.

Additionally, one of our team has excellent IT skills that he is putting to good use, setting up “Airtable”, a kind of project management system whereby all the volunteers can enter information about their visit. You can picture the problem of “too many cooks” whereby 2 or 3 volunteers find themselves all working on a problem independently, unaware of others doing the same.

Once we have had our application approved, we can start preparing the flat we have been promised by Hillhead Housing Association in Kirkintilloch. That is the point at which I may well put out a plea for items of furniture, or people's time to help decorate etc. Meantime, thank you for your support.

Celia Fisher

A Visit to Holy Trinity Church – part 2

In October we spent a long weekend at Edale in the Peak District National Park. Those who have walked the Pennine way from there to Kirk Yetholm in the Borders or vice versa will be familiar with it as the start or end point. The occasion was our Family Reunion which takes place every second year but this time we hadn't met for three because of the pandemic. It was great to meet with my cousins and brother and some of their children and grandchildren.

There were 26 of us with an age range from 85 down to two weeks, when we all met for dinner on the Saturday at the Ramblers. Those of us who live miles away stay at the hotel for the weekend and on the Saturday we visit all the graves of our forebears of which



The Ramblers Inn, Edale

there are many. Our great-grandparents left Edale in 1853 as a young married couple, to start a new life in Sheffield but were returned there for burial in the early years of the last century. Their headstone has sadly decayed and must have been of poorly selected stone, but, our great-great-grandparents who were buried in the 1870's have a well-preserved headstone, as do their parents. They all lie in the old Church yard which still has the font in its original place filled now with colourful flowers. The 17th century church was demolished when the most recent Church was built in the latter years of the 19th century. This is a fine building. Until the 17th century there was no Church in Edale and the corpses had to be carried up the steep hill, on the so named coffin road, then down the other steep decline into Castleton for burial. David and brother, Tym and James made the journey there and back and said what a strenuous climb it was. It is used by walkers regularly.

On Sunday I attended the 9:30 a.m. Eucharist at the new Church. There were 12 of us including the organist and the Vicar, who is a retired GP. He feels that he doesn't need to take a stipend and he is well liked. In place of a sermon we

were asked to meditate on the Gospel of the day, which was on the restoration of sight to blind Bartimaeus. It was a very strange experience and one which has stayed with me. Once again, we had coffee and conversation following the service and I was asked about my link with Edale. I explained.

Strangely, the place where I had been invited to sit was under the brass plate, transferred from the old Church which recorded the following information:

Near this place was interred the body of Joseph Tym of Ollerbrook: April 5th, 1767, age 62. who by his last will left to the schoolmaster of the free school of Edale the interest of £50 for teaching 4 poor children, and likewise to the poor inhabitants of Edale the interest of £50 towards clothing 4 women and children in linsey every St. Thomas' day. The children to be placed at the said school and the linsey to be divided by Thomas Cresswell and his heirs for ever.

Today the inhabitants of Edale number only 300 plus and the school struggles to find pupils. The inhabitants are all well provided for and houses such as Ollerbrook sell for over 2 million pounds. Of the numerous Tym Family not one remains. The railway arrived in the 1890's and most of them left. The name is unusual and anyone bearing it is most probably descended from this Family.

Mary Stott

Snowdrops



We are now in the season of storms and wild weather. We decided to catch one of the rare days of sun and go to Finlaystone Country Park to see the snowdrops. They are truly beautiful just now, and we had a wonderful day – a real spirit-lifter after such a drier winter.

Snowdrops arrive in our woodlands about now and they are a herald of spring. The name snowdrop does not mean 'drop' of snow; it means drop as in eardrop – the old word for earring.

There are many names for this lovely flower: Fair maids of February, Mary's tapers, Snow piercer, Dingle-dangle, Bulbous violets, Eve's tears, and many others.

There are many legends about the snowdrop. Here are two that I rather like:–

The first legend tells of the moments following Adam & Eve's exile from the garden of Eden. They felt hopeless and dejected; they shiver as the snows swirl around them and the frost bites at their toes. An Angel descends from the Heavens to relate the message that Eden is no longer their privilege and that they must swiftly move on. Frightened and awed by the Angel and apprehensive of the nameless world that lies beyond, Adam and Eve take each other's hand and wander towards the unfamiliar and cruel new lands, heads bowed and tearful.

The Angel then feels deep sorrow in his heart, so he reaches out a hand where the soft snowfall lands in its perfect kaleidoscope of shapes, twinkling crystals in his palm, perfect and unmelting. The Angel brings the snowflakes to his face and breaths upon them, transforming the glittering ice into soft, pearly flowers; the first Snowdrops. "Take these little flowers," says the Angel to Adam and Eve, "take them as a sign of hope. A sign for you and for the earth outside." The Angel casts the tiny flowers to the ground where they form the first snowdrops. They carry this blessing of hope with them out into the world beyond.

The second legend is part of the creation story. When God was creating the world in six days, a lot of decisions were to be made and different characteristics were to be given to each creature and each place on earth.



There seemed to be a dearth of colours or imagination, in the hurry for all things to be created in those few days. So the snow and winds were colourless. When the rain was created, the snow and wind had to be kept away. The snow refused to withdraw itself after winter, and hence all the forests and fields were covered by snow. God told snow to ask a plant for some colour. However, the plants refused. The snow was very upset with this and joined the wind to bring heavy snowstorms on earth. A small flower took pity on the snow, approached it, and offered her white colour, which touched the snow. The snow thought the white colour was unique and beautiful. Because the flower expected nothing in return, its generosity was rewarded. The snowdrop was the only flower allowed to grow in the snow, bringing the promise of spring to the world. The flower was extremely happy and called herself 'snowdrop'

Richard Kingslake

The Cross in My Pocket

I received my Cross in My Pocket from a friend. I had just been appointed as Chairman of Glasgow Battalion Training Committee being the first lady to hold such a position and having been a Brigade Training Officer for many years. This Gift was given to me on the occasion of the first course I was Chairman and the message in the poem speaks for itself. Our uniform, whether it was



the suit or the now 'modern' one had a pocket in it, and this was where I carried the Cross at every Training Course I attended and there was many. The Courses held saw us training young men to be Queen's Men and Men and Women to become Officers in The Boys' Brigade. All told we would train upwards of 200 per year with our Objective always underpinning all that

we did – 'The Advancement of Christ's Kingdom'

Whilst I no longer train for The Boys Brigade 'The Cross in my Pocket' always reminds me of a valuable lesson: That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life – If only I'll let Him be.

Susan Gray

The poem:

I carry a cross in my pocket
That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life
A simple reminder to me
Of the fact that I am a Christian
No matter where I may be.
This little cross is not magic
Nor is it a good luck charm.
It isn't meant to protect me
From every physical harm.
When I put my hand in my pocket
To bring out a coin or key
The cross is there to remind me
Of the price He paid for me.
It reminds me too, to be thankful

For my blessings day by day
And to strive to serve Him better
In all that I do and say.
It's also a daily reminder
Of the peace and comfort I share
With all who know my Master
And give themselves to His care.
So, I carry a cross in my pocket
Reminding no one but me
That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life
If only I'll let Him be.
If only I'll let Him be.

Written by Mrs. Verna Mae Thomas

P.S. You can also find reference to the poem on the Mothers' Union website.

Rota for the Sunday Services in March

Services will be held both in Church and on Zoom at 10.30 am
Zoom Meeting Number 913-382-1554 Password Housegrp



Date Sunday	6 March 1 st in Lent Purple	13 March 2 nd in Lent Purple	20 March 3 rd in Lent Purple	27 March 4 th in Lent Purple Mothering Sunday
Celebrant	Rev Moira Jamieson	Rev Moira Jamieson	Rev Canon Prof John Riches	Rev Sally Gorton
10.30 Service	Sung Eucharist	Said Eucharist	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist
Stewards	Pauline Waugh Joyce James	David Hamblen Andrew Long	Tracey Conway Andrew Long	Janet Stack Celia Fisher
Eucharistic Assistants	Celia	Catriona	Andrew	Louise
Readings	Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Romans 10:8-13 Luke 4:1-13	Genesis 15:1-12.17-18 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35	Isaiah 55:1-9 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9	Joshua 5:9-12 2 Corinthians 5:16-end Luke 15:1-3,11-end
Reader	Janet Stack	Graham Caie	Catriona Craig	David Simmons
Intercessor	Celia Fisher	David Hamblen	Sheena MacDonald	David Simmons
After-service Coffee	Janet Stack Gioia Whitmore	Pauline Waugh Tracey Conway	Gillian Kingslake Elaine Perrett	Sheena MacDonald Kate Ross
Other events	Coffee after church and Wednesday Lunches have resumed			

There will be a Said Eucharist on Ash Wednesday 2nd March at 11.30 a.m., celebrant Rev. Robin Pailey.

The Editor for the April edition will be Janet Stack. Please send articles to janet.stack@btinternet.com by Sunday 20th March, 2022