

June 2024 Magazine



All Saints Scottish Episcopal Church

Drymen Road Bearsden



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All Saints is a registered charity in Scotland SC005552
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Please do not contact the Rector in connection with hall bookings – the contact details for Celia, who deals with this, are above.

The cover picture: All Things Bright and Beautiful (see p 6)

June 2024

Dear All,

LET GOD SPEAK

If you wander off the road to the right or the left, you will hear his voice behind you saying, "Here is the road. Follow it." (Isaiah 30: 21, Good News version)

An important part of our journey with God as Christians is to listen. For many, meeting with God is quite the opposite and we all too easily end up talking to the point of babble. That is, if we bother to have any sort of encounter with God in our daily lives.

And yet listening to what God has to say is something that is made clear in Scripture and is something which is pleasing to him. In fact it is the best possible sort of prayer – stopping every other activity and being still in God's presence, daring to hope that he might have something to say to us.

We've just had the chance to pray and listen together at our Prayer and Giving Day and I hope people will use the new prayer sheet day by day as we think and pray about our church and community.

At any Day of Prayer an important thing is to be quiet and open our hearts and minds to the voice of God. This practice usually provides some very clear messages and pictures that seem to be truly of God – always affirming and challenging. I am hoping we can have a church quiet day for more prayer, study and reflection either here or somewhere else, so let me know if you are interested and/or have any ideas about a location.

I remember over 30 years ago singing a solo in church: *Let God speak and I will listen, Let God speak, there's things I'm needing to put right. Let God speak and I will obey what He says - Please God, I want to hear Your voice tonight.* Some might say that is easier said than done, that it's very hard work putting aside all distractions and finding time to be silent and try to hear God's voice.

But the fact remains it is something we should always try to do and we need to practise the presence of Christ, so that we can identify his voice amidst all the other voices that clamour for attention in our heads. Jesus says in John's gospel: *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.* So we know that if we work at it, we will be able to hear God's voice and we will have no doubt of what he says to us.

Perhaps it scares some people. If we truly hear God's voice then the only options are to go and do what he says or ignore it and tell him we're not going to obey!

How can we discover God's will for our lives if we don't listen for God's voice? When you pray, how much time is spent speaking, and how much is spent listening? Could it be God has been speaking to you but you haven't heard because you've been doing all the talking?

A long time ago I was given a "listening to God" checklist, and it's something I have always found helpful. 1. **Read the Bible.** He will never tell you something that contradicts His Word; 2. **Listen to the Holy Spirit.** One of His jobs is to guide you by speaking to *your* spirit; 3. **Pray.** Prayer is talking *and* listening to God. Read at least a small portion of Scripture each day, and ask God to speak through it; 4. **Be watchful.** Look for the Lord to reveal Himself to you through circumstances. When life takes you by surprise, ask Him what He is doing. Watch for Him to guide you through open and closed doors. 5. **Expect Him to guide you through others.** He will use pastors, parents, friends, family members, and at times even strangers to lead you. Just be careful to evaluate everything in the light of Scripture.

Rev'd David

MIDWEEK COMMUNION

Our new weekly midweek Communion service got off to a good start on May 15th and we look forward to continuing these through the summer.

This is a spin-off from our Prayer and Giving Day on May 11th. We have been running a once-a-month Wednesday Communion for a few years and this had largely been linked to Wednesday Lunch Group.

However, it was found that few if any attended – either because it was difficult to remember on which Wednesday the service was held, and also because a lot of people who wished to come were helping with the lunch group and unable to get away.

So in the wake of the prayer day and our renewed emphasis on the importance of prayer in our church life, we are trying out the weekly service while Wednesday Lunch Club is having its summer break. The Communion is at 10.00am, and beforehand from 9.30am we meet for a prayer group, praying for important issues global, national, local and personal, using our new prayer sheet as a springboard.

We are alternating our Communion service with a more usual, formal style in the chancel one week, and a more informal style in the choir vestry the next. These services have taken place in the past, so we are delighted to be reviving them.

After the service there's an opportunity to gather for refreshments.

Rev'd David

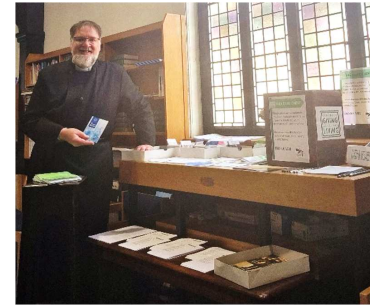
VESTRY NOTES - 13 MAY 2024

- **Extraordinary General Meeting:** an Extraordinary General Meeting was held in church after the service on April 28th. David Hamblen was unanimously accepted to take on/continue in the role of Alternate Lay Representative.
- **Keys:** A list of key holders is necessary for insurance purposes. The Rector asks that those who have not yet done so let him know who has keys for the church buildings and what they unlock so this list can be given to the property committee.
- **Property:** various work including cleaning of church and hall guttering will be carried out soon, and the Vestry will explore what needs to be done in all church buildings and grounds based on the last quinquennial report three years ago. Electrical items will shortly be PAT tested.
- **Giving/Prayer Day:** Vestry members were grateful for the response to the Prayer and Giving Day on May 11th (reported on elsewhere in the Magazine). There had been some generous donations. The congregation is encouraged to use the new church prayer sheets regularly and the “treasure chest” for further donations and “talent forms” will remain in church for a few weeks.
- **Flower Festival:** to run in church from 14th - 16th June with a Songs of Praise theme – hymns reflected in the displays will also be included in the Songs of Praise on Sunday 16th at 6.00pm. Help is needed for stewarding and serving refreshments.
- **Bishop Kevin:** prior to his retirement in August Bishop Kevin will be holding a service of thanksgiving and celebration of the 45th anniversary of his ordination in the Cathedral on Saturday, June 29th, at 11.00am. If anyone wishes to make a donation towards a gift for the Bishop they are invited to give cash in an envelope to the Rector.
- **Next meeting:** Monday, June 3rd, 7.30pm

The Rector

GATHERINGS

It was a particular pleasure to be present and assist at two new “Gatherings” for the people of All Saints during May.



First there was the day of prayer and thanksgiving, of generous giving and generous living (Saturday May 11th). The church was open all day from 9.30am to 4.00pm, the day being bookended with the shorter forms of Morning and Evening Prayer. Apart from one short period of ten minutes or so there was always at least one member of the congregation present in addition to the Rector and me. Some came, went away and came back;

some came, stayed for a little while and then left. That's part of the point of days like this: they are provided for people to use as seems best and/or most needful for those who come. We came together for corporate prayers led by the clergy on each hour through the day.

A church open for six and a half hours? What a long day! Well, the truth is, it didn't seem that long. Indeed, the time flew past. How so? The psalmist offers us one clue in Psalm 46, v10:

Be still then, and know that I am God.

Most of the time when we are in church it is for a reason: for worship (and that for many will involve specific roles with their responsibilities), or for meetings, or for cleaning, or ... rarely are we there simply to be still in the presence of God. This can be precious time. But if stillness is not your thing then it can be a good time to read or even to explore. (I enjoyed finding the Rolls of Honours and the dedications to musicians.) And prayer? How might one spend the day in prayer? One way is to commit a period of time (ten minutes, an hour ...) to one of the themes we recognise from our Sunday intercessions: perhaps praying for the world, or for the church, for those we love, for all who are ill ... Similarly, one could follow the daily pattern of prayer as outlined by the Rector for each period. What quickly becomes clear is that there are always more prayers to be offered than there is time for!

And then on Wednesday 15th May the weekly day-time Eucharist was resumed at 10am with a gathering for prayer beforehand, meeting in the choir vestry. This I found to be a helpful and easeful time before the Eucharist. It was relaxed and informal and gave those of us there a chance to talk a little about our concerns – for the world, for people we knew ... and then we were led in prayer by the Rector.

We then gathered in the choir stalls for the Eucharist – again, a quiet and peaceful setting.

So, two ‘new’ (for little is ever truly new in the church world) gatherings, both of which I found helpful and which, personally, I hope will both become embedded in the life of All Saints.

Revd Dr Kevin Francis

MAY 11 PRAYER DAY

Some Thoughts By Various People Who Came.

“The quietness was lovely and the material provided really helped me to focus on prayer”

“Peaceful, quiet and moving time of prayer and reflection, helped by some beautiful resources.”

“For me, it was lovely to be in the church and not be responsible for anything. I enjoyed sitting quietly at the back and letting the music wash over me. The prayer materials were very helpful and I meditated on the Ascension Gospel before finding a bible at the back of the church and reading some psalms ... something I have been meaning to do for a while. I found the experience both moving and restful.”

“Saturdays are invariably busy days, so I found it really enjoyable to sit quietly, pray some of the prayers on the sheets at the back, pray my own personal prayers, and listen to the prayers that Rev Kevin and David lead on the hour each hour. I hope this becomes an annual day in All Saints calendar and will lead to a greater focus on prayer in our church life.”

Celia Fisher

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Many thanks to everyone who delivered Christian Aid week leaflets. I haven’t got any news with regards what Bearsden’s Christian Aid Just Giving site has collected yet. In All Saints we raised £233.20 from our pew collection.

Coffee Concert at Bearsden Cross Church in aid of Christian Aid. Saturday May 18th

What a wonderful hour of well-known operatic arias and ensembles this was. If I were organised enough I’d keep the programme and watch out for the names of

these young singers ten years hence, for I am sure some of them will star in the professional operatic world. Their voices were a joy and their performances were energetic, enthusiastic and talented.

Eight vocal students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland gave up their time for nothing to entertain the audience with the best of Mozart, Puccini, Offenbach and Bizet. This meant that all ticket sales and donations went to Christian Aid.

They didn’t play in costume which made it more of a challenge, as they were also constrained by the small performance area between the piano and the pews! However, it meant that we could concentrate one hundred percent on their voices and we were well rewarded. We had already enjoyed coffee and home baking and so sat, replete and contented, listening to some sublime music. For those of you who opted to stay in the sunshine, I can understand why as it’s hard to come by – but so too is operatic talent on your doorstep and on this occasion we definitely won out!

I have just been informed that the concert raised £860 for Christian Aid which is fantastic.

Celia

FLOWER FESTIVAL IN JUNE



The Flower Group are arranging a Flower Festival on the **14, 15 and 16 June**. The theme is *Favourite Hymns* and the event will culminate with a Songs of Praise at 6.00 pm on **Sunday 16th** when we will sing the hymns portrayed in the displays. This is a fund-raising event but we also want to attract people into our Church, for example the hall users and people who are going about their business at the Cross. There will be a banner across the railings on Drymen Road and flowers at the entrance of the Church to entice people in.

Coffees and teas will be served in the Choir Vestry and there will be a home baking stall. Please talk to Celia if you can provide home baking or help with serving the teas and coffees. (See below)

There will be some small entertainments for children on Saturday.

The church will be open from 10.30 am - 4pm on Friday and Saturday and from 2pm until the service at pm on Sunday.

The most important thing for the congregation to do is to bring all their friends and relations to the Church that weekend. There is no charge for entry but we will ask for donations. There will be a small charge for tea and coffee.

We would like this to be a big success so **please support us.**

If you have any questions, please speak to me - Ann Caie or any member of the Flower Group.



Flower Festival: Hamper Raffle prizes



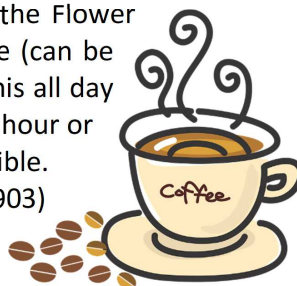
Revd David and I would be very grateful for any donations of food or bottles which we can put in food hamper/s. We will sell raffle tickets for these before and during the Flower Festival. There will be a box, clearly labelled for donations at the back of the church. If you cannot come to church, please get in touch with me and I will arrange a pick up. Many thanks.

Celia

Flower Festival: Home Baking and help needed.

We will be serving teas/coffees and home baking during the Flower Festival. I would be very grateful for offers of help to bake (can be frozen in advance) and to help serve. We will be offering this all day on Friday and Saturday, so if you can come and help for an hour or two please or bake something, let me know as soon as possible.

Celia (0141 570 0903)



Scottish Episcopal Church
United Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway



You are invited to attend a Diocesan Service celebrating

Bishop Kevin's 45th Anniversary of Ordination & his Farewell Eucharist for the Diocese

as he retires at the end of August 2024

This service is hosted for the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway by
St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, 300 Great Western Road, Glasgow G4 9JB
at **11am Saturday 29 June 2024 the Feast of Saints Peter & Paul**

Lay Readers &
Clergy to robe – white stoles

Refreshments will follow the service.

RSVP to the Bishop's PA
office@glasgow.anglican.org
by 15 June 2024

Bishop Kevin Pearson's farewell service following the announcement of his retirement as Bishop of Glasgow & Galloway will be held at St Mary's Cathedral in Glasgow at 11am on **Saturday 29 June**, when he will celebrate 45 years of ordained public ministry.

It is hoped as many as possible will be able to join together as a diocese for the occasion, and requests for estimated numbers attending from charges will follow nearer the time for the purpose of catering planning.

If anyone wishes to make a donation to his retirement gift they should give it to me clearly marked.

Revd. David

A RED, RED ROSE

Robert Burns 1759-1796

O my Luve is like a red, red rose
That's newly sprung in June;
O my Luve is like the melody
That's sweetly played in tune.

So fair art thou, my bonnie lass,
So deep in luve am I;
And I will luve thee still, my dear,
Till a' the seas gang dry.

Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,
And the rocks melt wi' the sun;
I will love thee still, my dear,
While the sands o' life shall run.

And fare thee weel, my only luve!
And fare thee weel awhile!
And I will come again, my luve,
Though it were ten thousand mile.

This poem is so famous that, as a poem or a song, it lives in the national psyche! Burns wrote it in 1794, and it needs little explanation. He describes his love for his 'bonnie lass' which is like a beautiful red rose, freshly blooming in June.

The image of a new love resembling a new red rose is beautiful and clear, but sadly inappropriate as the lifespan of a June rose is inescapably short: it quickly fades and soon dies. So then Burns makes three further images to describe the length of his love: he will love her till all the seas run dry, the rocks melt in the sun and the sands of life run out. In other words, his love will defy nature and last forever.

In the last stanza Burns says farewell to his love for a time but says he will return, even if the journey is 10,000 miles.

At this point Burns has completed the imagery and made his point: his love is fresh and delicate, but nonetheless it will outlast the furthest limits of nature, and he will defy all physical challenges to find his way back to his 'bonnie lass'.

Brenda

READ... MARK... LEARN — PART 2

As we continue thinking about Mark's Gospel it's important to remember why it was written and who it was written for. Context for all of the writings in the Bible is important. At the time of Mark's Gospel being written the Gentile audience was facing persecution and martyrdom under the Roman emperor Nero. This is why one of the major themes of the book is the nature and cost of discipleship (e.g. 8:35; 9:35; 10:23, 44). The persecuted Christians could gain comfort by being reminded of the Lord's suffering in life and death which was followed by the glory of resurrection and eternal life.

One of the costs of being a disciple of Jesus is that just as Jesus was misunderstood and had to stand alone without the understanding and support of His Own, so too will a follower of Jesus. This is the subject of many passages throughout the book. The rejection by Jewish leadership sent Jesus to the Cross. All disciples of Jesus are to take up their cross and follow Jesus (8:34).

Inevitably, this means that a disciple of Jesus who practices His faith will face rejection and perhaps even persecution. If Jesus experienced misunderstanding and even rejection from His own prior to the accomplishment of His purpose on earth, then in a similar manner, any true disciple of Jesus can expect to be misunderstood and be required to stand alone. No doubt this would have been an encouragement to the Gentile Roman believers who would have read this Gospel.

On at least nine separate occasions after performing a miracle, Jesus issued a command for the observers of the miracle to keep silent (see 1:25, 34, 44; 3:12; 5:43; 7:36; 8:26, 30; 9:9). This is known as the messianic secret in Mark's Gospel, its purpose most likely to demonstrate that Jesus as the Son of Man must first suffer and die and be resurrected before He would be allowed to carry out His messianic role.

Jesus did not want His identity proclaimed until the entire message could be understood. Throughout Mark, there is a progressive withdrawal of the veil from His identity until He openly declared it in 14:62.

There are other themes that are interwoven throughout the Gospel of Mark and most of these themes derive from Mark's greater emphasis upon the cost of discipleship.

I was encouraged to write this brief look at Mark's Gospel after my sermon on Easter Day, based on the 16th chapter of the gospel. As I said then, Mark's original Gospel ends with chapter 16 verse 8, which many feel is rather downbeat. There

are arguments that the original ending was lost or that Mark couldn't finish it. Early Church members in the 2nd Century were apparently so embarrassed that they hurriedly wrote a more upbeat ending in an attempt to make it look and sound better.

I am always left particularly moved, challenged, and inspired by Mark's account of the resurrection. For isn't what happens in verses 1-8 of chapter 16 of Mark's gospel far more realistic to us? The reality is that resurrection is dramatic, and earth-shattering, and threatening – and a response of fear and trembling, of terror and amazement, is surely entirely appropriate. How would you have felt had you gone to the tomb on that Sunday morning? You would be suffering a sense of great loss, grieving a special friend and teacher. And no matter how you felt, you would not expect his body to be GONE! Wouldn't you be terrified if that happened? Remember, we know how the story plays out, but the disciples did not. Of course they were afraid!

But that's not the end of the story. It may be the end of Mark but, as we know from the other gospels, there's more to it than an empty tomb and frightened, speechless disciples. They told someone eventually, they picked up on the words of the angel: "But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."

For Mark you don't meet Jesus Christ through the written word; you meet him by seeing him at work, by encountering the man of action in the midst of his mission. The words can only point you in the right direction, not provide you with a ready-made answer. If you want to become a follower of Jesus, then Mark says you need to meet him personally, not base your decision on what someone else has told you.

Mark began his gospel by announcing that he was telling the good news of Jesus Christ, and the first appearance of Jesus is when he comes from Galilee to be baptised by John. So for Mark, the good news begins in Galilee; indeed it is in Galilee that Jesus first preaches his message, "God's kingdom is here. Change your life and believe the good news."

If you read the whole of the gospel in one sitting you can't help but notice how often Galilee crops up - it's where Jesus comes from, it's where he performs miracles, it's where he preaches and teaches, it's where he calls his first disciples, it's where the crowds who follow him come from, and so it goes on.

I believe this is what Mark was doing in his unusual ending to the gospel. The women go to the empty tomb to find Jesus, but he's not there - he has risen. If anybody had paid the slightest bit of attention to what Jesus had said while he

was alive then they'd have remembered that he said he would rise again after being put to death.

In fact, Mark says that Jesus spoke about all this quite plainly. So, what on earth is the point of going to the tomb to find the dead Jesus when he had already announced that he would be risen on the third day and not there! The story doesn't end for the women when they run away any more than it ends for us. In fact, we are all part of the ongoing story.

The words of the young man in the tomb are also those of Mark to his readers. If you've heard all about Jesus Christ in this gospel and you still turn up at the empty tomb hoping to find him then you've got it all wrong. The young man directs the women back to Galilee, where they will meet him - and Galilee, you may remember, is where Mark began. What he's saying is, if you expected to find the answers at the end of this gospel in that empty tomb, then you need to go back to the beginning, go back to Galilee, go back to where it all began, read the gospel again, and then you'll know where you can meet the risen Lord and share in his risen life.

Revd David

ALL SAINTS FACEBOOK

On Pentecost Sunday we tested livestreaming our 10.30am Communion via Facebook.

This was a very basic test to check various aspects but the results were encouraging.

For the moment we will continue our Zoom broadcast but we will also be experimenting with the Facebook streaming. The advantage of the latter is that the video remains on the page so can be watched at any time.

Do join our church Facebook community on

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090533958840> or by searching for "AllSaints_Bearsden"

Revd David

Remember that if you would like to read one of Revd. David's sermons, you can suggest it is put on All Saints website. <http://bearsden.church.scot/sermons>

FEEDING OF THE 5000



During our recent stay in Grange-over-Sands in the Lake District, we visited Hawkshead. This attractive small village is a popular tourist spot but somewhat spoilt by overuse of signage on every shop and store. The church of St. Michael and All Angels has a commanding view overlooking the village and fells. Originally built around 1300 the majority of the building now is 16th/17th century and has a fine stained-glass window. William Wordsworth studied at the adjacent former grammar school. Sadly, on the day of our visit the church warden informed us that the church had been vandalised the previous day, the safe broken into and money taken.

He told us a little of the history of the church and then recommended that we look into the Methodist Chapel where we would find something of interest. Following his advice, we opened the door of the tiny chapel and were amazed to see the entire space occupied by *5,000 small figures made out of salt dough*, representing the feeding of the 5,000. Each one was unique having been created by church members throughout the North of Cumbria and was both impressive and moving, a reminder of the needs of others around the world today This Art Project was part of the Moving Mountains series of events in 2018 and moves around the country. One wonders how long it must take to wrap them all up and transport them safely! The exhibition is only in Hawkshead during the month of May so we were very fortunate to be there at the right time. Gill Hamblen

Welcome to the First Diocesan Environmental Group Newsletter!

Dear Friends in Christ,

Welcome to the inaugural newsletter of the Environmental Group! We are thrilled to continue this journey with you, dedicated to nurturing a deeper engagement between faith and environmental awareness and action within our Diocese. Here, you'll find inspiring stories, practical tips, and opportunities as we strive to fulfil our duty of caring for God's creation. Together, let's weave a tapestry of compassion, discipleship, and sustainability, guided by the Holy Spirit and our commitment to leaving a positive impact on the world around us.

Save the Date: Diocesan Eco Pilgrimage to the Cathedral

On Saturday, 24 August, from 10am to 3pm, the Diocese is invited to gather for a day of sharing and learning about our responsibility to protect and care for our natural world.

The day will feature presentations about topics related to reducing our carbon emissions at church and at home, ways to preserve God's beautiful creation, and ideas for how your church can get involved with the push towards Net Zero.

Congregations will be offered a chance to set up stalls showing more about how they are engaging with climate care in their own communities.

Opportunities for networking, creating partnerships, and obtaining resources will all be available. Lunch will be provided for those who wish or you can plan to enjoy one of the many restaurants or cafés nearby.

A schedule for the day will be released closer to the event and RSVPs will be requested for catering purposes.

You Are Invited: Maybole Eco-Day at St Oswald's

On Saturday, 11 May, from 11am to 4pm, pop by St Oswald's, Maybole, KA19 8AF, and celebrate the first Maybole Eco-Day!

St Oswald's Eco-Group, joined by fellow community champions, groups, and organisations, is gearing up to showcase various eco-ideas and initiatives for engaging with the local community. Explore sustainable solutions, dive into interactive eco-activities for all ages, and ignite change for a brighter future.

SPRING 2024

United Diocese
of Glasgow and Galloway
Scottish Episcopal Church

CONNECT WITH US

FIND RESOURCES

bit.ly/GGDioEnvGroup



TAG US ONLINE!

Facebook: @GGEpiscopal

Instagram: @GGEpiscopal

Email:
digital@glasgow.anglican.org



Eco-Highlights from around the Diocese

Find the full text of the items below on our website:
bit.ly/DEGSpring24

- The Rev Alison Mathew, priest in charge at St Oswald's, King's Park, writes about the circular economy achieved at her church via the collaboration of Tales for Tots, a pre-school group offering storytelling and lending library, and Kinder Handl, a community enterprise.
- The Rev Stuart Bain, chair of the Diocesan Environmental Group, writes about setting up a new Eco/Net Zero Group at All Saints, Challock and working on a plan of action.
- The Rev Kirstin Freeman shares how her church communities engaged with Consider Creation, our Diocesan Environmental Group Lent Resource.
- Work has begun on the Community Garden at St Ninian's, Troon.
- As part of the bicentenary celebrations at St John's, Greenock, young people helped plant an environmental garden. The St John's community hopes to also plant sunflowers and looks forward to their wild garden coming to fruition. Thank you to everyone who helped support this family day!

From the Provincial NZAP Group

Three new additions complete Net Zero Team: bit.ly/3wqeBho
New Net Zero Portal launched: <https://netzerochurch.scot>

Let us know how your community is engaging with Creation!

Sign up to News from the Diocesan Environmental Group

You can sign up to receive this newsletter and future updates and resources from our Environmental Group by filling out the form on our website page, here: bit.ly/DEGNewsletter



SPRING 2024

United Diocese
of Glasgow and Galloway
Scottish Episcopal Church

Next edition: SUMMER 2024
early August, contact us with
items by 26 July 2024!

THE RECITAL

This was an excellent event held in the Glasgow Art Club. Esther and her colleague Scott Bryant gave us a performance of Brahms/Janacek sonatas for violin and piano.

It was enhanced by the fact that it was held in the main gallery where the Summer Art Exhibition was hung, so we had the pleasure of listening to the music and looking at the paintings on the walls and as a bonus the beautiful wall frieze which had been done by Charles Rennie Macintosh had been recently restored.

Well done Esther and Scott! I really enjoyed the recital, thank you.

Jean Stirling

For those who have not seen the Art Club, this is the description from their website:

You will be amazed at the beautiful, large, bright open space which is our largest exhibition gallery. With its Charles Rennie Mackintosh frieze, panelled walls and breathtaking fireplaces, the Glasgow Art Club Gallery truly is a hidden gem in the heart of the city



A BRIEF TRIP TO UZBEKISTAN — THE LAND OF SILK ROAD TREASURES

Uzbekistan has been at the crossroads of cultures and customs for over two millennia. Located halfway along the Silk Road, its cities and monuments pay glorious testament to the wealth and commerce that passed through the region.

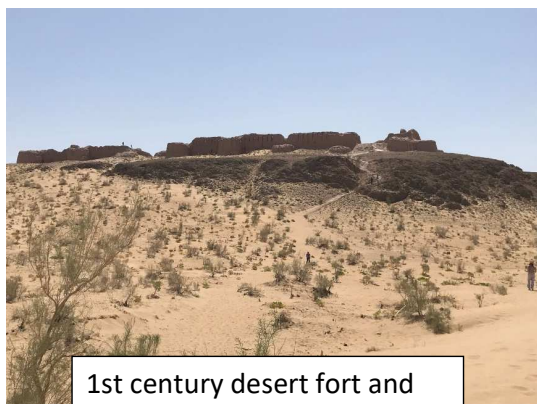
Uzbekistan has a rich history from the legend of Tamerlane to the Emirate of Bukhara and the inner walled city of Khiva. It has some of the finest mosques and mausoleums found anywhere in Central Asia, and of course the romantic sounding city of Samarkand.

Uzbekistan is surrounded by several other 'stans', and situated north of Afghanistan. Seeing the snow-covered mountains to the east of Samarkand, it was strange to think that the Hindu Kush was on their far side.

Uzbekistan is a land of contrasts: big modern cities, mainly developed in Soviet times, huge desert areas, both sand desert and scrub, beautiful mosques and madrasas and mausoleums, restored expertly in many cases, soviet style suburbs, and delightful mountain areas.



Samarkand



1st century desert fort and later a fortified caravanserai

We did not visit the area to the west towards the disaster of the Aral Sea where, to support vast areas of soviet cotton farming, the rivers were diverted to canals so the Aral Sea has shrunk to about 10% of its original size causing huge problems.

It was a wonderful visit to a very friendly people. Far too short and it will take time to ponder all our impressions. Joyce will be able to add

much to the story of Uzbekistan, having

conducted a school trip there during soviet times.

Janet Stack

SERVICES IN JUNE

Services will be held both in Church and on Zoom at 10.30am

Andrew Long will provide the log in details on request.

Please remember to mute yourself during the service.

| Date Sunday | 2 June Pentecost 2 Trinity 1 (Green) | 9 June Pentecost 3 Trinity 2 (Green) | 16 June Pentecost 4 Trinity 3 (Green) | 23 June Pentecost 5 Trinity 4 (Green) | 30 June Pentecost 6 Trinity 5 (Green) |
|------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|
| Celebrant | Rev Kevin Francis | Rev David Guest | Rev David Guest | Rev Kevin Francis | Rev Kevin Francis |
| 9.00am Service | Said Eucharist (1970 Liturgy) | | Said Eucharist (1970 Liturgy) | | |
| 10.30am Service | Sung Eucharist | Sung Eucharist | Sung Eucharist | Sung Eucharist | Sung Eucharist |
| Stewards | Celia | Kate | Pauline | Andrew | Janet |
| Eucharistic Assistants | Celia | Jenny | Hanan | Louise | Graham |
| Readings | Deuteronomy 5:12-15; 2 Corinthians 4:5-12; Mark 2:23 – 3:6 | Genesis 3:8-15; 2 Corinthians 4:13 – 5:1; Mark 3:20-35 | Ezekiel 17:22-24; 2 Corinthians 5:6-17; Mark 4: 26-34 | Job 38:1-11; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41 | Lamentations 3:23-33; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43 |
| Reader | Bryan Stack | Sheena MacDonald | Gillian Kingslake | Gill Hamblen | Richard Kingslake |
| Intercessor | Andrew Long | Celia Fisher | David Hamblen | Shena MacDonald | David Simmons |
| After-service Coffee | Jane Brenda | Joyce John | Janet Gioia | Pauline Anne | Gillian Fiona |
| Other events | A 9.00am Said Eucharist is held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, using the 1970 liturgy. There is a 10.00am Said Eucharist on Wednesday mornings, preceded by a prayer group at 9.30am. There will be a Songs of Praise service on Sunday, June 16 th at 6.00pm, marking the end of the Flower Festival | | | | |

The Editor for the July/August edition will be Janet Stack. Please send articles to janet.stack@btinternet.com by **Sunday, 2024**.

The Rector's usual days off each week are Thursdays and Fridays. One of these may occasionally change depending on other work demands.