

THE SHUTTLE

May/June 2016



1a Kilgraston Road, Edinburgh, EH9 2DW

Meeting Matters

Every Saturday

10 - 12pm Morning Coffee

Every Tuesday

10.00 Prayers & Reflection South Transept

May

- 8 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Worship and Sacrament of Baptism
- 9 10.00 Bible Study
- 14 10.00 Coffee Morning & Sale in support of Christian Aid
- 15 9.50 Family Service
- 11.00 Joint Christian Aid Service - GSCC, Chalmers Cresc
- 16 10.00 Toddler Church
- 21 General Assembly begins
- 22 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Worship
- 1.00 Heart and Soul in Princes Street Gardens
- 28 3.00 Through the Roof - Kids Club
- 29 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Worship

June

- 5 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Worship
- 6 7.30 Kirk Session
- 12 9.50 Family Worship
- 10.30 Morning Service
- 13 10.00 Toddler Church
- 19 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Service - Upside Down Service

Reflections

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.' She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, 'These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.' The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. Acts 16:16-24

In the Acts of the Apostles we read of a woman who is caught in both financial and spiritual slavery.

There are so many people in this world, who are caught in the grip of things which they cannot control, nor influence. Once the woman has been freed spiritually, she is still physically enslaved, and may have been at risk as a result of Paul's healing, however, she is now free to be able to give thanks to God, for her freedom.

Freedom, however, as we know, is not merely a physical reality, but also a spiritual reality as well.

If we don't feel free, then how can we be free?

There are many examples of this throughout history. One obvious example is the slave trade and slavery throughout the Western world.

John Newton's story from slaver to priest and anti-slavery campaigner, attempting to change the hearts and minds of MP's

and members of the public alike. is a strong witness to our role as Christians in the world and what can be achieved, even if it takes years and has a great cost.

Another story is that of Harriet Tubman, who was born into slavery, was terribly brutalised and harmed, but found freedom and took part in the "underground railroad", which smuggled slaves from the southern States to the North and freedom.

These stories from the past and the story of Malala from Pakistan who worked for girls' education and was shot as a result, are other examples of the human rights and freedoms, which many of us hold as 'normal' and 'obvious', and still need to be fought for today.

When we stand up and work together, then we can do so much better. If we have a will to achieve something, then when we join together, there is no telling what can be achieved.

This story of Paul and Silas from the Acts of the Apostles, has a message for us which is not immediately obvious. It shows us that there are consequences to actions. The enslaved girl may be free spiritually and that is very important for us as Christians, but she is still physically enslaved and no longer has a currency that these slavers can trade on. From one perspective it could be argued that Paul makes her more vulnerable to abuse. We are told what happens to Paul and Silas, but not to the young girl.

This story reminds us that there are long term consequences and responsibilities when we work with vulnerable people. It is life long and ongoing. If we think that we are in the business of solving problems, a one hit wonder, so to speak and then we move on to the next 'issue', then we are mistaken. Our commitment to supporting people is ongoing and necessary.

The Kirk Session are thinking about our response to our work in the world and our mission as a congregation. It is proposed that we sponsor a young person through their education and support them to give them more opportunities than they might have had. This will be something which we can contribute to and support for many years ahead as we move forward. As we do this we will also get news of the sponsored person and hear how their life is going.

If you have any other suggestions about how, as a congregation, we might engage in the wider work of the Church in the world, please let me or the Session Clerk know. Together, we can make a difference.

Karen K Campbell

OUR CHURCH FAMILY & PARISH NEWS



The Baptism of Rhona Elisabeth Hildegard Mitchell, wee sister of Bridget and William, took place on Sunday 17th April 2016 at Marchmont St Giles'.

We give thanks for the life and service of:



Janet Laing, a resident of the parish, who died on the 20th March 2016.

Neil Fortheath, a resident of the parish, who died on the 26th March 2016.

Flora Brown, a resident of the parish, who died on the 31st March 2016.

Betty Bruce, who died on the 8th April 2016, mother of Linda & Alec Jamieson, residents of the parish.

Dorothy Minck, a good friend of this congregation, who died on the 30th April 2016 and always made us rack our brains with her annual quiz in aid of Christian Aid.

AROUND THE AISLES

Several people from MSG went to the induction of the new Minister, **Rev Stuart Irvin, at St Catherine's Argyle** on Thursday 28th April. It was a very happy occasion and we send our best wishes to our neighbours for the future.

Butterflies Plus will not be available on Wednesday 25th May.

The Minister will be in daily attendance at the General Assembly in her role as **Safeguarding Convenor**.

The annual **Heart and Soul event**, which is part of the General assembly, will be taking place in Princes Street Gardens as usual on Sunday 22nd May from 1 - 6pm. There is lots to do for all from walking the Labyrinth, listening to Fischy Music and Swing Bands, wandering around the stalls which show us the work of the wider church and last but not least joining in the Closing Worship with over 1000 other voices.

The **Hall Development** is progressing well with applications for the Fundraiser's post coming in and a ground survey having been completed this week.

The **Kirk Session** had a very stimulating meeting in April reviewing our SMART Goals from the last 5 years and looking towards the future - where we have come from and where we are heading. Some goals were not "Achieved " due to decisions being taken to alter course or were deemed not to be right for us but take a look at what we **HAVE** achieved and it is quite staggering! All 3 pages of it!!!

The Kirk Session would be delighted to hear from any member of the congregation who has any ideas for the future which they would like to be included or achievements which we have missed out in this extensive list. We shouldn't dismiss what we do on a daily basis as this is what the Local Church Review team, who will be coming in November, will be looking at with a view to reporting back on our continuing work in God's name and the wider church.

SMART GOALS REVIEW

Christian Education - original goals

Messy Church within 3 years Not achieved – did other things
Appoint p/t Family & Children's Worker ACHIEVED
Outreach to students Not achieved – not applicable

What we have achieved

Bi-weekly Bible Study
Weekly Prayer Group
Film Nights

Fellowship & Worship - original goals

Children's Service ACHIEVED

What we have achieved

Fellowship

Butterflies +
Men's Curry Nights

Worship

Blue Christmas Service
Christingle
Upside Down Service
Children's Holy Saturday Communion
Toddler Church
Easter Event for Kids
Scouts and Youth Organisations for Remembrance (links between Scouts/Brownies)

Social - original goals

Establish an All Age Church Trip ACHIEVED

What we have achieved

Vogrie
Panto
Ceilidh
Fringe Outings
5 years Centre Celebration
40 Years Celebration of Union forming Marchmont St Giles'

Finance

Stewardship Campaign within 5 years ACHIEVED
Maintain Accounts in Credit ACHIEVED

Mission and Outreach

Parish

Promote Centre as a suitable
place for Dementia Care

Not achieved – did other things

What we have achieved

Collaboration with Parkinson's Singing for Fun

Collaboration with Chest, Heart and Stroke Association

Butterflies Cafe

Butterflies+

Collaboration with Chinese Cultural Group

Weekly Guild Coffee

Wider Community Outreach

Develop contact with George Shand

continued while in post

Investigate Twinning investigated

not viable at moment

Links with Jerusalem & Rome began

decided on other things

What we have achieved

Christian Aid

Blythswood

Mary's Meals

Harvest Food

Calais Refugees

Fresh Start

Toys for Refugees

Perth Prison

Criagmillar Schools

£5000 to Muirhouse for kick start for Centipede Project

Alan in Malawi

Communications

Continue to develop website and information leaflets

ACHIEVED

Write a history of the Church/Centre

ACHIEVED

What we have achieved

Facebook, Twitter, website

Shuttle Magazine

History Leaflet

Open Doors Day

Welcome Leaflet

Flower/Wedding Event for 40th Anniversary of Union of Churches

Easter Advert Board to replace invites

Christmas Advert Board to replace invites

Property

Develop Phase 2

ACHIEVED

Develop Phase 3

ACHIEVED

Move towards effective Carbon Footprint

ACHIEVED

What we have achieved

Hand Dryers

Recycling

The Future**“Nourished, Nurtured and Growing”****Property**

Complete Phase 2/3

Own the Development

Fundraising (Outreach to Community)

Fellowship

Student Ministry

Fellowship Meals

Outreach

Sponsor a child abroad

Support JGHS in South Africa

Social

Theatre Group

Fringe Group

Worship

Café Church

Flexible use after Development

Communications

Survey of Students

Expand The Shuttle Magazine to non-members

Increase use of social media

Finance

Childrens’ Contributions

Fringe Venue development

Evangelism

St Catherine’s

German Speaking Congregation

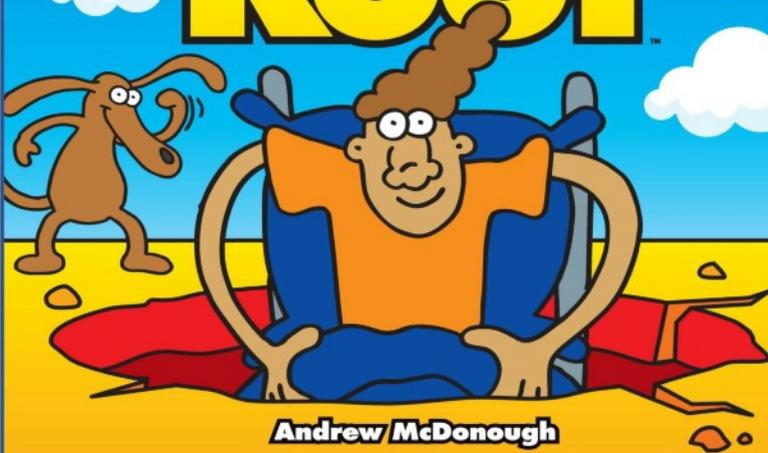
The Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community

Righteous Muslim Exhibition

Joined Edinburgh Interfaith Association

LOST
SHEEP

Through the Roof



Andrew McDonough

Kids Club

Saturday 28th May 2016, 3.00pm - 4.30pm

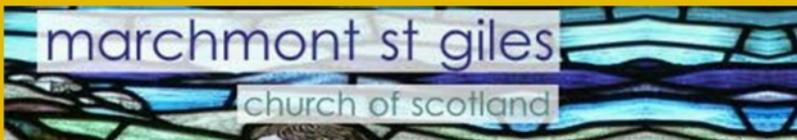
At Marchmont St. Giles' Church Centre,

1a Kilgraston Road, EH9 2DW

Bible theme, team challenges, crafts, fun & games for P1 - 2's & P3 - 4's.

Book now! £1 PER CHILD

For booking forms, to register & for more details contact Bettina, Family & Children's worker at family@marchmontstgiles.org.uk or 0131 447 4359



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PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
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EDINBURGH BRANCH

Annual Ceilidh

SATURDAY 21st MAY 2016

Venue

KINGS HALL

**41a South Clerk Street
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7pm START!

£10 Tickets available NOW!
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Live band

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lo4parkinsonsfundraising@gmail.com

Panning for Gold

Last summer a large nugget of gold worth £10,000 was found near Wanlockhead, the highest village in Scotland. It was found in a river and is thought to be the most significant discovery in Scotland in the past 70 years. The nugget weighed just over 18 grams. It was discovered by a Canadian man during a gold panning course in the Lowther Hills. He was so unimpressed that he almost threw it back in the water. It didn't look like much. However, it has been talked about as a major discovery and it has encouraged others to dream of finding gold.

Most of the larger pieces of Scottish gold have been found in this small area of hills which were once known as "God's Treasure House".

Scottish gold is indeed treasure. It is pure and rare and so it is precious. At the opening of the Scottish Parliament in 1999, the Queen gifted a mace, within which is a ring of Scottish gold. So it has a place at the heart of Scottish government.

Gold has a place in the Bible too. Jesus' disciple, John, had a vision of gold. He dreamed of a gold city coming down to earth from heaven. There were precious jewels on the city walls and a river of the water of life flowed down a golden street. This vision was not of some future, distant time but of now, of the treasure of God being with us today.

We sometimes need maps to find golden treasure. One map which we have been using for the past year is the Church of Scotland's annual book of meditations, prayers and blessings from the Pray Now Group, on the theme Living Stones. These are written for everyone and draw us deeper into God's response to the questions which we have about our lives today. Each Tuesday at 10am there is a time to sit in peace in the church and to read and to listen. All are welcome. This May, the church's theme will change from Living Stones to People of the Way. I leave you with a Living Stones blessing about sand and people.

Katherine Taylor

As the sands of life,
Ripple around our being,
May we be blessed,
By the treasures that are revealed,
When we push beyond the familiar,
To the depths of Your presence.

Loads of Love

This is the name given to an Outreach programme at the oldest Church of Scotland congregation outside Scotland. **Christ Church**, located in Warwick Parish on the beautiful island of Bermuda 600 miles east of the American coast, celebrates its tercentenary in three years time. It provides a very welcome service to some of those unfortunate enough to be homeless in such an idyllic place.

The programme offers a laundry service so that users have an opportunity to have their clothes laundered, a shower, a meal and a listening ear. As with many church outreach projects it operates through the dedication of a group of volunteers using their time, talents and treasures to support others in our society. Donations recently have consisted of bulk packages of washing powders, a new industrial washing machine or as one church group did the provision of a traditional Bermuda meal of codfish and potatoes.

The facility, staffed by volunteers from the congregation of Christ Church, uses two large industrial washing machines, three tumblers and a shower all using water collected from the white painted roof of the church buildings and stored underground. The kitchen facility is of a professional standard and well able to cater for a variety of church events.

Christ Church is one of the churches in the Presbytery of Europe which will next convene in Bermuda. The church will soon open a new chapter in its life with the induction of its new minister, Rev Alistair Bennett, formerly of Bowden & Melrose on 13th May. The Locum and Interim Moderator will leave Bermuda in the coming weeks to prepare for preaching as sole nominee at the Scots Kirk in Rotterdam. One of the many items of business before the General Assembly this month is a motion to approve the change of name to the International Presbytery better reflecting the world wide spread of churches under the Church of Scotland -18 churches in 14 countries on 3 continents - from Trinidad in the west to Sri Lanka in the east.

It was noted during my visit that distance from the Presbytery office was no barrier to completing tasks for the Presbytery - a survey of attendance of members and visitors took place at the services on the last Sunday in April! It's our turn this Sunday!

Family Focus May/June 2016

I would like to invite all our Church family as a whole, to support the Church of Scotland National Youth Assembly **Back Pack Appeal** by supplying back packs and/or the contents to support refugee children aged 4 -18 both here in Scotland and in Egypt under the aegis of StARS (see page 17)

Suggested items for the backpacks include the following: Hat, scarf, gloves, socks, colouring book, notebook, pencil case, pencils, rubbers, sharpener, ruler, colouring pencils, water bottle, small toy/game and a card or note to the recipient.

It is recommended that we label the backpacks as suitable for boys or girls and also what age. If you just wish to supply one or two items on the list then that is fine - just hand them into the office or the cafe or you can donate financially on

<https://mydonate.bt.com/events/nyabackpack>

Family Dates for the Diary in May and June

8th May Baptism of Innes Adams

15th May Early Service as usual then Christian Aid joint service at German Church 11am
(children's activities provided there so we can all go down together)

16th May Monday, Toddler Church 10am

Saturday 28th May 3.00pm - 4.30pm

Kids Club 'Through the Roof' (P1 & 2 and P3 & 4) see page 10

22nd to 12th June as usual (one of the Junes will include 'Moving Up' in the service)

13th June Toddler Church 10am (then resumes Monday 22nd August)

19th June Upside Down Service

26th June Last Junior Church for the summer

Summer Sundays:

Early service continues each week (10am TBC) followed by activities in side chapel during the morning service, but one or two may be big craft or activities in hall...TBC)

Plans also in the early stages for a possible Congregational Social; we'll keep you posted!

Bettina Hather

MEET OUR NEIGHBOUR MORSHEDA

Morsheda will never forget the day she nearly lost her baby son, Murshid. As floodwaters poured into her home, he fell from his bed into the inky water. He could have drowned in moments. Luckily, Morsheda woke when she heard him fall and was able to save him.

But she knows that the floods will come again. Her home has already been hit several times. Each time, Morsheda gathers her family and holds them close as they wait for the danger to pass.

'I feel very scared of the river. I keep thinking "it is coming".'

Morsheda lives on low-lying islands in Bangladesh. She shares a single-room, corrugated-iron house with her four children.

She earns as little as 74p a day doing backbreaking manual labour. She has no savings. And because floods are a terrifying part of everyday life, she doesn't even have a safe place to call home.

When the river levels rise, Morsheda worries that it might be like the worst time the floods hit. She remembers how desperate she was.

How she hurried to build a makeshift raft for her frightened children.

How they scrambled to safety as huge waves crashed against their house.

How she prayed the raft wouldn't capsize as it tipped and plunged on the swirling waters.

'My children were so scared. My sister was holding them very tightly and we were panicking because my neighbour's child was washed away.'

Morsheda and her children live a precarious life. They know that the floods will come again, and soon. But we can lift our neighbours like Morsheda to safety. Just £250 is enough for a Christian Aid Home Safety Package. keeping her family safe at last.

It could flood-proof Morsheda's home, raising it seven foot on an earth plinth.

It could also buy a goat, seeds and a wormery to help produce compost, so Morsheda could keep livestock and grow crops on the small patch of land around her home.

All of this will give her a long-term income and a solid foundation for a new life.

'If I could raise my house then I would feel much safer living here with my children.'

Whether you host a Coffee Morning, hold a church collection or collect house-to-house, your actions this Christian Aid Week could change the life of our global neighbours like Morsheda.



Join us in the week we love every neighbour.

Thank you



Christian Aid Week 2016

15th - 21st May

14th May - Coffee Morning & Sale with Luxury Raffle & Quiz

15th May - Joint Service at the German Speaking Church

15th May - House-to-House Collection begins

If you can help in any way then please contact Frances Brown (672 3329). All offers of help and/or baking will be very gratefully received from 7.30 - 8.30pm on Friday or Saturday morning.

And Talking about loving every neighbour....

"I learned today that the overall total for the Nepal Let Us Build A House Project stands at over £135,000 with more donations still coming in. The Edinburgh Presbytery total to date is £17,415.65. Please convey this information to your congregations and as it was a World Mission Conveners Challenge, will you do so with my sincere thanks for enabling us, as a Presbytery, to build more than one house."

Jack Holt, Convener of the World Mission Committee

Also

The two Moderators, Right Rev Angus Morrison and Hannah Mary Goodlad have raised almost £5,000 to date through the "Mods' Challenge" for the StAR refugee service in Egypt after they travelled there earlier this year as part of a World Mission visit to the Church of Egypt. The project will work with about 11,500 vulnerable refugees and migrants this year helping them build a new life in Egypt.

"We both saw StARS and what wonderful work they are doing supporting tremendously desperate people," the Moderator said. "They do it with such Christian commitment and love, it was very moving to see it."

You can still contribute to both causes either by post or online.

GUILD ROUND-UP FOR SESSION 2015-2016

At our Business meeting, we allocated for donations a grand total of £1990, the same amount as last year.



£500 pounds were set aside for each of the two official Guild Projects which we are supporting this year, the **Mission International project**, which is constructing a building in Ouanaminthe in Haiti to house a school, a church, and a community centre; and **Prospects Scotland All Friends Together**, which is helping people with learning disabilities to build friendships and learn more about Jesus.

Smaller amounts were reserved for other good causes represented by various speakers throughout the year – Eco-Congregation Scotland, the NSPCC, the Order of St. John, Muscular Dystrophy, and (not least!) the Sick Kids Friends Foundation and Hearing Dogs for Deaf People.

As we expect to raise more money before the end of June, from the Saturday Morning Coffees, the meeting agreed to give the committee permission to raise proportionately some of the sums already allocated.

You will therefore understand that **your support for the Saturday Morning Coffees is much appreciated**, and vital in allowing the Guild to give donations in so many different directions.

After our Business Meeting we enjoyed a visit from **Hearing Dogs for Deaf People**, represented by Rico, with Billy Falconer and his wife Margaret. It was most enlightening to hear from Billy how his first dog had changed his life, getting him out of the house and restoring his self-confidence. Rico is carrying on the good work, and we were treated to a display of how Rico responds to sounds like door bells, smoke alarms etc, and gives the appropriate signals to Billy.

This being our last meeting for the session, we wish you all a good and warmer summer! The Saturday Morning Coffees however continue till June 25th so do drop in, you will be most welcome.

And Finally.....

A Blonde was sent on her way to Heaven. Upon arrival, a concerned St Peter met her at the Pearly Gates.

'I'm sorry,' St Peter said; 'But Heaven is suffering from an overload of goodly souls and we have been forced to make an Entrance Exam for new arrivals to ease the burden of Heavenly Arrivals.'

There are three questions' said St Peter. 'The first,' said St Peter, 'is, which two days of the week start with the letter 'T' '? The second is 'How many seconds are there in a year?' The third is 'What was the name of the swagman in Waltzing Matilda?'

'Now,' said St Peter, 'Go away and think about those questions and when I call upon you, I shall expect you to have those answers for me.'

The following morning, St Peter called upon the blonde and asked if she had considered the questions, to which she replied, 'I have. 'Which two days of the week start with the letter T?' The blonde said, 'Today and Tomorrow.' St Peter pondered this answer for some time, and decided that indeed the answer can be applied to the question.

'Well then, could I have your answer to the second of the three questions?' St Peter went on, 'how many seconds in a year?' The Blonde replied, 'Twelve!' 'Only twelve?' exclaimed St Peter, 'How did you arrive at that figure?' 'Easy,' said the blonde, 'there's the second of January, the second of February, right through to the second of December, giving a total of twelve seconds.'

A short time later, St Peter returned to the Blonde. 'I'll allow the answer to stand, but you need to get the third and final question absolutely correct to be allowed into Heaven. Now, can you tell me the answer to the name of the swagman in Waltzing Matilda?'

The blonde replied: 'Of the three questions, I found this the easiest. 'It's Andy.' 'Andy??' 'Yes, Andy,' said the blonde.

This totally floored St Peter, and he paced this way and that, deliberating the answer. Finally, he could not stand the suspense any longer, and turning to the blonde, asked 'How did you arrive at THAT answer?'

'Easy' said the blonde, 'Andy sat, Andy watched, Andy waited til his billy boiled.'

And the blonde entered Heaven...

And you're singing or whistling Waltzing Matilda aren't you ?

MARCHMONT ST GILES' PARISH CHURCH

Minister email	Rev Dr Karen K Campbell kkcampbell@churchofscotland.org.uk	447 2834
Session Clerk email	Mr Ian Moss sessionclerk@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	662 9293
Children & Family email	Mrs Bettina Hather family@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	447 4359
Treasurer email	Mrs Jessica McCraw treasurer@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	667 4514
Organist & Choirmaster	Mr Robert Parsons	557 1257
Flower	Miss Cathie Murray	668 3711
Safeguarding email	Mrs Catriona Moss safeguarding@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	662 9293
Pastoral Care	Mrs Marjory McCardel	667 7426
The Shuttle Editors email	Charles & Judith Stewart theshuttle@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	668 1970

Church Centre Booking Enquiries

Church Centre Office

(Monday - Thursday 9.00am - 1.00pm)

Email : office@marchmontstgiles.org.uk

0131 447 4359

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