

# THE SHUTTLE

November / December 2016



1a Kilgraston Road, Edinburgh, EH9 2DW

## Meeting Matters

### Every Saturday

10 - 12pm Morning Coffee

### Every Tuesday

10.00 Prayers & Reflection South Transept

### November

- 13 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Service : Act of Remembrance
- 14 10.00 Toddler Church
- 20 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Service
- 22 19.30 Guild: Barry Hughes - Refugees of Northern Iraq
- 27 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Service - followed by Communion
- 15.00 Blue Service

### December

- 4 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Service :
- 5 Guild Christmas Lunch
- Deadline** for contributions for the next issue of The Shuttle
- 8 19.30 Advent Crafts and Reflections
- 11 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Service : Service of Lessons and Carols
- 14 12.30 Butterflies Plus Christmas Lunch
- 17 10.00 Nativity Rehearsal
- 18 9.50 Family Service
- 10.30 Morning Service - Nativity & Gift Service

### Front Page

The wreath pictured was made by the 187th Brownie Pack who meet in the Church Centre. The pack is operating to full capacity at present and has a closed waiting list of potential new members.

## Reflections

I'm writing this before the result of the American election is known, and it is almost surreal to think about the different outcomes and consequences which could and will come from it. As we enter the darkest point of the year, the Celts believed that this time of year brought about a "thin place", when we entered a time when the difference between Heaven and Earth became very close. The



lights go on a little earlier, and the heating is a little higher, and often we forget that there is still much to learn from the realm of darkness. And sometimes, because of the way we view life in this post-modern world, we resist the call to consider Winter, the inner workings of the soul and the contemplation of our spiritual mortality. Sometimes in the dark, just like the stars, other things become so much brighter and more obvious to our sight and comprehension.

In the 17th century, the theologian Master Eckhart, said:

"Truly, it is in darkness that one finds the light, so when we are in sorrow, then this light is nearest of all to us."

When the chips are down, we find out more about ourselves, and in the challenge of adversity, often things become clear. A girl who knew about adversity was Dymphna. She was a 7th century Irish Princess, whose mother was Christian and her father, Damon, was pagan and a minor King. At 14 years old she dedicated herself to Christ and shortly thereafter, her mother died and the King's mental health deteriorated.

The story goes that his advisors eventually asked that he remarry, and he said that he would only do so if a bride could be found as beautiful as his deceased wife. Now, his daughter was the image of her mother and after searching fruitlessly, Damon began to desire his daughter because of her strong resemblance to her mother. When Dymphna learned of her father's intentions, she fled his court along with her confessor sailing to Geel in Belgium.

There, she set up a hospice for people with mental illnesses and people from all over brought vulnerable people to be cared there. Unfortunately her father discovered where she was, travelled there and because she would not return, Damon drew his sword and struck off his daughter's head.

Her story and her work did not die with her and her care for vulnerable people continued in the town. By 1480, pilgrims were coming from all over Europe, seeking treatment for the mentally ill and the church housing for them was expanded; and the townspeople began taking them into their own homes.

Thus began a tradition for the ongoing care of the people with mental illness. Boarders, as the patients are called, are treated as ordinary and useful members of the town. They are treated as members of the host family. They work and become part of the community. Some stay a few months, some decades, some for their entire lives. It is a model of care for the mentally ill and one that has worked.

St. Dymphna is the patron saint of the nervous, emotionally disturbed, mentally ill and those who suffer neurological disorders and consequently, of psychologists, psychiatrists, and neurologists. She is also the patron saint of victims of incest. Dymphna reminds us of those less than famous people, whose lives are an example of what we can do to make the world a better place and how to do it by making vulnerable peoples' lives just a little bit safer. In her short life – and in her own way she lived her life – she expressed her beliefs and her commitments in action.

So in this world, where things seem a little dangerous, it is good to know that small kindnesses can be a strong light in a very dark place. We can give action to our faith and to be a constant source of hope in a world which so desperately needs it.

*Karen K Campbell*



# **CHRISTMAS TREE-LIGHTING and CAROL SINGING**

**on SAT. 5TH  
DECEMBER  
AT 4PM  
at the tree  
outside  
ScotMid,  
Marchmont  
Crescent**



**Come and join us  
at the tree  
for carol singing  
and mince pies**



**Organised by the Marchmont  
and Sciennes Community Council  
with the support of the local traders,  
Sciennes Primary  
and James Gillespies**



## **HALL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The Committee has put together a Business Plan as requested by the General Trustees and a minute from our Kirk Session giving approval for the development plans has been sent to both Edinburgh Presbytery and Property Committee. It only remains for CARTA (Church Art and Architecture Committee) to endorse our plans for us to seek Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent.

Feasibility Costings are being fine tuned at the moment to ensure that we get the best value for our money.

A meeting with an Audio Visual company has already taken place, with two other companies about to be approached to ensure that the quality of our sound is not affected and we will be able to offer 21st century facilities to those who use our premises.

## **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

### **Trust & Foundation Officer**

This position has been re-advertised and applications have been received. A very interesting meeting was held with Cornerstone, a non-profit making fundraising company based in Durham and we await their quotation.

### **Fundraising**

Applications have been sent to the Aviva Community Fund (see next page) and the Martin Currie Charitable Foundation for funds. Please vote and ask all your friends to vote for us on the Aviva website and share us on Facebook. There are flyers in the church centre giving all the details.

An application is being made to the Climate Challenge Fund who are keen to support projects which are looking to make a serious contribution to reducing their carbon footprint.

Proceeds from the Hogmanay Ceilidh will be donated to the Hall Development fundraising effort.



## **MARCHMONT ST GILES' CHURCH NEEDS YOUR VOTES!**

**An exciting new development is  
being planned to add more  
space and better facilities for  
everyone in our community.**

Funding is being sought from the  
AVIVA COMMUNITY FUND so please help  
our fundraising efforts by registering to  
cast your vote for us at  
[avivacommunityfund.co.uk](http://avivacommunityfund.co.uk)



## CHURCH FAMILY & PARISH NEWS



Congratulations to Isabel (nee Agnew) and Charlie Manning on the birth of their daughter Flossie Lesley Skye Manning on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016. Grandma and Grandpa doing well!



Catherine Grace MacKenzie Lewthwaite was baptised on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2016.



We give thanks for the life and service of Alexandra (Sandy) Wishart, a member and elder of the church, who died on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016.



31<sup>st</sup> October - our minister conducted a service to open the Garden of Remembrance in Princes Street Gardens in her role as National Chaplain of The Royal British Legion Scotland. The garden includes the Poppyscotland Field of Remembrance on the western side of Scott Monument.

8<sup>th</sup> November - at the Cenotaph in George Square, Glasgow she conducted a service to open the Glasgow Garden of Remembrance.

11<sup>th</sup> November at 11am she also led the Act Of Remembrance in Princes Street Gardens to mark the Armistice.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November again as National Chaplain, she attended the National Act of Remembrance at the Stone of Remembrance at the City Chambers and thereafter preached in the Service of Remembrance in St Giles' in the presence of the Lord Provost, First Minister and other political, civic and military leaders.

# AROUND THE AISLES

We are delighted to welcome the members of our uniformed organisations to our **Remembrance Sunday** service. It is always moving and appropriate to see our young men and women and children take part in laying the wreaths on our behalf.

**Butterflies Plus Christmas Lunch** will take place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. A list will be available from next week for you to book a place for a three course lunch for £10.00.

**Please, please, please** let the Minister know if you hear of anyone who is unwell and/or in hospital. She would rather be told half a dozen times than not know at all.

The local **Community Police** will be holding their next public surgery in Butterflies Cafe on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November.

The annual **Blue Service** will take place on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 3 pm. This is an opportunity for those who find the festive season a difficult time to come and find a haven of peacefulness and a chance to step of the festive treadmill.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> October the congregation said a fond farewell to **Katherine Taylor** who had been on placement with us during her training as an OLM. Everyone enjoyed some cake at coffee time whilst taking the opportunity to wish Katherine every success as she trains for full-time ministry.

**Church Flowers** Miss Cathie Murray will be in the St Giles' Room after the Morning Services on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November and 4<sup>th</sup> December armed with the Flower Calendar for 2017. If you would like to contribute towards the church flowers or mark a particular date with flowers please see Miss Murray on either of these dates.

**Butterflies Cafe** is pleased to provide mince pies and shortbread for the Christmas Tree lighting on 3<sup>rd</sup> December in Marchmont Crescent at 4pm. Come along and join in (see page 5).

## Family Focus

We have been looking at Proverbs: 3 v 5 and these birds' nests were made to remind Junior Church to trust in God as he protects and takes care of us.



I saw a few flocks of geese on our long family road trip south over half term. Then when I read an article from a church I was visiting as part of my church workers network I felt the prompt to take notice of the "Lessons from Geese". I am sharing it here as encouragement and challenge to us all. In particular for those who lead, take part in, support and share the vision for families in our church.

### 'Lessons from Geese'

As each goose flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the bird following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71% more flying range than if each bird flew alone.

**Lesson:** *People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are travelling on the thrust of one another*

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the "lifting power" of the bird immediately in front.

**Lesson:** *If we have as much sense as a goose, we will join in formations with those who are headed where we want to go.*

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

**Lesson:** *It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership – with people, as with geese, interdependent with one other.*

The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed!

**Lesson:** *We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging - not something less helpful.*

When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow their fellow member down to help provide protection. They stay with this member of the flock for protection; or until he or she is either able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own, with another formation, or catch up with their own flock.

**Lesson:** *If we have as much sense as the geese, we'll stand by each other like that.*

Shared by Sally Evans, St. Andrews & St. Georges West Church, October 2016

(Attributable to Dr. Robert McNeish of Baltimore (1972), a science teacher before becoming involved in school administration. He had been intrigued with observing geese for years and first wrote the piece for a sermon he delivered in his church)

I am privileged to be in formation with you all here at Marchmont St Giles' 2 years into my post. Thank you to all of you for being part of it with me; especially my wonderful Sunday families and Team.

I am not grounded yet!

Honk Honk!

Bettina

**Diary Dates:**

**Monday, 14th November**

**Toddler Church 10am**

**Sunday, 4th December**

**Next 10+ Sunday group**

**Saturday, 17th December**

**Nativity rehearsal 10-11am**

**Sunday 18th December**

**Nativity Service**

## Hearing Dogs for Deaf People



I just wanted to say thank you to all those of you who have asked about Echo, our first Hearing Dog in training.

*Picture :  
Echo and sibling Inca sharing some training!*

Echo arrived in March 2015 and left at the end of August 2016 to go into advanced training. He moved south to be near his new trainer, who is based in High Wycombe and lives with new socialisers. The trainer visits frequently!

The advanced training programme lasts for 4 months so we hope that by the end of December he will have passed this part of his training and be ready to go out into the world as a working hearing dog. We receive photos on a regular basis and he looks very happy. Echo loved coming to Church and being part of the welcome team when I was on duty. He also helped with the sound and became a competent assistant Beadle. However he did tend to sleep through sermons.

Of course we miss Echo, but on 21 October we collected our new puppy, Kenny, from Newcastle. Kenny is a yellow Labrador and our second Hearing Dog in training.

He will be with us for the next 16-18 months. At present he is too young to bring to Church as he has not yet had his second immunisations, but I will bring him as soon as I can.

I hope everyone will make him welcome!  
Jessica & David McCraw



## ROWAN TREES

Most will be aware of the group of rowan trees at the front of the church and the fact that they are looking rather poorly. Mr Peter Pitkin, the Grange Association's tree adviser, has been approached and he has confirmed that all three trees are affected by a fungal disease. He recommends the two nearest the church be removed with the third one pruned, as it may still have a few year's life in it. In their place he recommends we consider replacing them, but not with the same variety of tree as it may also succumb to the same fungal disease.

Following further discussion with Peter on 27 October, it is proposed we inform the Grange Association, the Community Council and Edinburgh City Council that it is intended to proceed as advised.

As to a replacement tree(s) an initial view is that a single maple tree may be an attractive choice to balance the scale of rowan tree on the other side of the grass area. Before making a decision, Peter suggests a visit to the Edinburgh Botanic Garden to see what other options may be suitable. Any new planting would be deferred until the proposed building works on the south side of the church are completed.



### Advent crafts

Join us in the church centre on the 8th December at 7.30pm for an evening of Chris, nibbles and a quiet period of reflection.

Please let Bettina know if you would like to come along.



## Prayer

When we remember...  
lives etched as shadows on broken walls  
following nuclear fission  
and the fractured bonds of a common humanity:  
tell us of your new heavens and new earth.

When we see...  
oil-fields burning in the desert,  
clouding any hope of ordinary living,  
turning days of opportunity to nights of fear:  
tell us of your new heavens and new earth.

When we hear of...  
young lives lost by the thousand,  
and forests turned to wasteland to capture a dozen yards of land:  
tell us of your new heavens and new earth.

When our instinct tells us...  
to reject rather than welcome diversity  
because we have too well learned lessons of terror:  
tell us of your new heavens and new earth.

When we watch...  
athletes compete with strength and skill  
in ways which conquer war-caused injury:  
tell us of your new heavens and new earth.

When we despair...  
and think that nothing changes and no hope is real,  
or that peace is too elusive and too fragile to survive:  
tell us of your new heavens and new earth  
and of your Son:  
victim of violence,  
sentenced to die,  
risen from death  
the first fruits of your new heaven and new earth.

Amen

## **Elsie Inglis**

Born in India in 1864 Inglis and her family returned to their former homeland of Scotland upon the retirement of her father when she was 14, the family choosing to settle in Edinburgh.

Having studied medicine at the Edinburgh School of Medicine for Women Inglis subsequently established her own medical college (with the moral and financial backing of her father). She qualified as a doctor and secured a teaching appointment at the New Hospital for Women under the latter's founder, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson. A keen suffragette Inglis was later to found her own maternity hospital entirely staffed by women.

In 1906 Inglis played a notable role in the establishment of the Scottish Women's Suffrage Federation. The outbreak of war in Europe in August 1914 brought about a temporary cease-fire where political - including suffragette - issues were concerned, and Inglis promptly suggested the creation of women's medical units on the Western Front.

When Elsie Inglis approached the Royal Army Medical Corps to offer them a ready-made Medical Unit staffed by qualified women, the War Office told her "My good lady, go home and sit still". It was, instead, the French government that took up her offer and established her unit in Serbia.

Elsie Inglis, herself, went with the teams sent to Serbia where her presence and work in improving hygiene reduced typhus and other epidemics that had been raging there. In 1915 she was captured and repatriated but upon reaching home she began organising funds for a Scottish Women's Hospital team in Russia. She headed the team when it left for Odessa, Russia in 1916 but lasted only a year before she was forced to return to the United Kingdom, suffering from cancer.

She died on 26 November 1917, the day after she arrived back in England, at the Station Hotel, Newcastle upon Tyne. Her funeral service at St Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh on 29 November was "the occasion of an impressive public tribute", according to *The Scotsman*. Winston Churchill said of Inglis and her nurses "they will shine in history."

A memorial fountain was erected in her memory in Mladenovac, Serbia, commemorating her work for the country. A plaque marking her pre-war surgery from 1898 to 1914 was erected at 8 Walker Street, Edinburgh. In 1922 a large tablet to her memory (sculpted by Pilkington Jackson) was erected in the north aisle of St Giles Cathedral, in Edinburgh. Her main physical memorial was the building of the Elsie Inglis Memorial Hospital in 1925. This primarily ran as a maternity hospital and thereby had a female-only patient base. But a small plaque to Elsie Inglis exists near the south-west corner at the entrance to Holyrood Park.

Elsie Inglis was commemorated on a new series of banknotes issued by the Clydesdale Bank in 2009; her image appeared on the new issue of £50 notes. In March 2015, the British Residence in Belgrade was renamed 'Elsie Inglis House' in recognition of her work in the country.



At the start of October I travelled to the small island of Cumbrae off the coast of Largs to take part in the first Scottish Conference for Godly Play storytelling. I was in the middle of reading the book "Surprised by Joy" by C. S. Lewis, the Christian writer of the Narnia books, and was thinking about the Guild theme for 2016/17, "Go in Joy". On arrival at the College of the Holy Spirit, I was in turn surprised to be given the key to a room named "Joy". I soon lost this key, although happily also found it again.

As we begin to approach the season of Advent, we are preparing to celebrate the gift of the key to everlasting joy with the birth of Jesus. Whether we describe our experience as joy or happiness, we are given the key to experiencing now something of the divine and the eternal, something which we may recognise and treasure as infinitely precious. The memory of it can sustain and support us in difficult times.

I am very grateful for the joy and happiness which I have experienced here at Marchmont St Giles'. So much of it involves the sharing of worship, conversation, stories and food, inside and outside church. I leave to study divinity full time for two years at the University of Edinburgh and after that, all being well, will have a final probationary church placement.

Thank you for the blessing of all your kindness and generosity during my time with you.

Katherine Taylor

## THE GUILD : TILL CHRISTMAS AND BEYOND



Our second November meeting will be at 7.30pm on **Tuesday 22nd**, when, as proof that there is no escape from Marchmont St. Giles' Guild, Barry Hughes will be welcomed back amongst us to speak about his experiences in Iraq and his topic "The refugees of Northern Iraq.

Already we are looking forward to our Christmas lunch on **Monday December 5th**, and on **Tuesday 13th** a further celebration of Christmas will be held, including refreshments (of course) and some carol singing. Then we hibernate till **January 17th at 2.30**, in the St Giles Room, when we will be hearing about Ho Chi Minh City in Viet Nam, from Myra Wattie.

Except of course, that Saturday Morning Coffees will continue weekly until December 17th, and restart on January 14th. Hope to see you there!

## LOCAL CHURCH REVIEW

On Monday 7th November the Kirk Session met with Edinburgh Presbytery to discuss our Local Church Review, in other words where have we come from, where are we going and how do we intend to get there. The visiting team were led by Rev James Dewar, currently Moderator of Edinburgh Presbytery, along with 2 other ministers and an elder. We had already been sent an information pack and questions to answer enabling us to "Tell our story" in preparation for the meeting and we were led through our journey with firm but caring hands. Some of the questions were difficult to answer and everyone felt a sense of responsibility to do their best. It was a stimulating if slightly nerve-racking evening with lots of positive comments.

The Presbytery Team seemed impressed by our commitment and enthusiasm for our service in God's name and for the ongoing development of our premises to ensure that "MSG is at the heart of the community" - the minister even asked them to vote for us in our fundraising bid with Aviva Community Funds!! We will be visited again in another couple of years to see what progress we have made in achieving our stated goals.

# HOGMANAY CEILIDH



FOR ALL THE FAMILY

WITH

DAVID VIVANCO

AT

MARCHMONT ST GILES'

PARISH CHURCH

SATURDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER

7.30 - 10.00PM



TICKETS £7.50 UNDER 12's £3.00

FAMILY TICKET £20

(2 ADULTS AND UP TO 3 KIDS)

INCLUDES PATE, CHEESE, OATCAKES

AND SOFT DRINKS

**BYOB**

## And Finally.....

Everyone Has a Story in Life

A 24 year old boy seeing out from the train's window shouted...

"Dad, look the trees are going behind!"

Dad smiled and a young couple sitting nearby, looked at the 24 year old's childish behaviour with pity, suddenly he again exclaimed...

"Dad, look the clouds are running with us!"

The couple couldn't resist and said to the old man...

"Why don't you take your son to a good doctor?" The old man smiled and said..."I did and we are just coming from the hospital, my son was blind from birth, he just got his eyes today".

Every single person on the planet has a story. Don't judge people before you truly know them. The truth might surprise you.



# MARCHMONT ST GILES' PARISH CHURCH

<b>Minister</b> email	Rev Dr Karen K Campbell kkcampbell@church of scotland.org.uk	447 2834
<b>Session Clerk</b> email	Mr Ian Moss sessionclerk@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	662 9293
<b>Children &amp; Family</b> email	Mrs Bettina Hather family@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	447 4359
<b>Treasurer</b> email	Mrs Jessica McCraw treasurer@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	667 4514
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</b>	Mr Robert Parsons	557 1257
<b>Flowers</b>	Miss Cathie Murray	668 3711
<b>Safeguarding</b> email	Mrs Catriona Moss safeguarding@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	662 9293
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	Mrs Marjory McCardel	667 7426
<b>The Shuttle Editors</b> 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](mailto:office@marchmontstgiles.org.uk)**

**0131 447 4359**

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