

THE SHUTTLE

Winter 2017



1a Kilgraston Road, Edinburgh, EH9 2DW

Meeting Matters

Every Saturday

10 - 12pm

Morning Coffee - resumes 13th January 2018

Every Tuesday

10.00

Prayers & Reflection South Transept

Every Wednesday

12.30

Butterflies Plus - Lunch for the Over 60s

December

17 10.30 Nativity & Gift Service

23 10.00 Christingle Preparations for Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve

24 10.30 4th Sunday in Advent

4.00 Christingle Service

11.00 Community Carol Singing

11.30 Watchnight Service

Christmas Day

25 10.00 Family Service

31 10.30 Morning Service

7.30 Hogmanay Fundraising Ceilidh

January 2018

7 9.50 Early Service

10.30 Morning Service

14 9.50 Early Service

10.30 Morning Service

16 2.30 Guild - note different time

21 9.50 Early Service

10.30 Morning Service

22 10.00 Toddler Church

28 9.50 Early Service

10.30 Sacrament of Holy Communion

February

4 9.50 Early Service

10.30 Morning Service

Articles for the February Shuttle to be with the Editors

11 9.50 Family Service

10.30 Morning Service

Front Cover

12 Days of Christmas - See the "And finally....." for the story behind the meaning of the words of this song.

Reflections

The story of Bethlehem, which means "house of bread", has been a town, which has always been a place where conflict and dissent was part of its story. From the first mention of it in the 14th century BC, the people there have been distinct from Jerusalem, which is a mere 5 miles away. It is the town of Naomi, who returns with her Moabite daughter in law, Ruth who marries Boaz and becomes part of the story of King David and then Jesus. David, the shepherd boy, transfers the capital and the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. It can be no small step to acknowledge the importance of Bethlehem and Jerusalem in the story of salvation, with the clear links between David and The Christ as well as Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Lastly, it is Jerusalem where the stories of the shepherds and the magi are told and where Herod is sure the Christ child will be born.

These important links and sign posts for us in the story of faith is important, not as a children's fable for a cosy Christmas Nativity, but as places where the foundational events of our faith are sourced.

As I write, The President of the United States has changed the narrative of 2000 more years of conflict in that area. Peace is still the aim of the United Nations and many people of different faiths, who call that land Holy. The tensions have been there for as long as there have been people trying to express their faith differently. The current tensions which involve the various strands of Christianity, Judaism and Islam, in some way are no different from the different groupings over 3000 years ago, except now, there is a global narrative and counter narrative of what should be best for the region, which was made far more complicated in 1947 by the establishment of the State of Israel.

What happens now is anyone's guess as Christian, Muslim and Jew re-adjust to the new stance of America and how this will play out on the world stage. The immediate fear is that this will lead to violence and innocent people of every faith and nationality being caught in the crossfire. Until now a status quo has established an uneasy situation with many demanding a more just situation, which would deny the Israelis ongoing building of settlements of Palestinian territory.

Now that the United States clearly support the claims of the Israelis, the result could lead to many outcomes, some of which were unthinkable not that long ago.

Justice and peace are 2 concepts which seem obvious to us, but many people in the land we call Holy, feel they have neither and frustration about an intractable situation can and does lead to violence as well as non-violent protest, which is often met with violence and intolerance.

What should be our response as Christians this Christmas. Let us pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Let us pray for the peace of Bethlehem and let us also pray for those pilgrims who gather there. May they celebrate with joy, the salvation which came to that place 2000 and more years ago through the birth of a child, the witness of shepherds and foreigners and the faith and strength of a young girl and her husband who responded to the Call of God and still encourage us to see God at work through the outcast and stranger and the least expected of God's people.

Karen K Campbell

CHURCH FAMILY & PARISH NEWS



The Baptism of Holly Diana and Lucinda Louise Anderson took place on Sunday 19th November 2017.



We give thanks for the life and service of;
Conrad Wilson, a resident of the parish, who died on the 17th November 2017.

BUTTERFLIES CAFE & BUTTERFLIES PLUS

The Cafe was delighted to support the Marchmont Sciennes Community Council by supplying mince pies and shortbread for refreshments after the Tree Lighting Ceremony on 9th December.

Butterflies will be on holiday from 3pm on Friday 22nd December and re-open at 10am on Monday 8th January 2018.

Butterflies Plus' Christmas Lunch will be held on Wednesday 20th December at 12.30pm. Three courses and coffee will be £10 each.

Judith and Nicci wish to thank all their volunteers in the Cafe and Butterflies Plus for all their help. The Cafe has been particularly busy this last few weeks with outside catering and we couldn't do it without you. We would also like to thank all our lovely, lovely customers - young and old - who make our job a privilege to be part of their lives. (One customer bought us cake for looking after her so well - it really made our day!)

Finally Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

Thanks

There are several people who deserve our thanks this Christmas:

Firstly to our uniformed organisations for their participation in our Service of Remembrance and in particular Alison Gamble and Pasha Korniyenko from the Meadows Explorers.

Also to the Anderson Family who decorated our Christmas tree so beautifully.

A huge thank you has been sent from Richmond Craigmillar Church for all our support over the year in providing items to help people in their community. Let's have one big push for Christmas, which can be such an expensive time of year particularly with the weather being so cold this year.

Thank you in advance also to all of you who will contribute **new** toys or gifts for the local schools in Craigmillar. Please mark your gift with an approximate age and state whether it is suitable for a boy or a girl. Many children will have a big smile on their faces because of your gifts and this is what Christmas is about!!

FAMILY FOCUS WINTER 2017

Inter-generational challenge!

Following an exchange over coffee after the service, could you write alternative words to the rhyme 'Mary had a little lamb'? Rosemary & Joel welcome more suggestions. Rosemary is in the lead so far!

Answers on a postcard to the office...please observe a 'Universal' rating!

Mary had a little lamb,
'is fleece as black as soot,
Into Mary's nice hot porridge,
'is sooty foot 'he put.



Toddler Church does the Nativity!

Monday, 18th December, 10-10.30am ... turn up, dress up and play! Look forward to seeing you there! Do continue to share the news with any parents, grandparents or carers of the 'little or loud' crowd that you know.

Forthcoming Toddler Church: Mondays, 22nd January & 26th February in Church.

As I write and reflect on this last year we still have Nativities, Christingle and Carols to prepare for and enjoy including the annual navigation between practicalities and living in the season.

In the last few months more than one person to me has said they do not go to church as they are not used to it or they are worried that their children will make a noise. My answer is "please come"! Anytime. We are always here. No need to book, no need to worry that the children are not listening (I am used to talking or singing to myself!), no tokens to get out of the gate at the end, like in car parks. I am blessed to say they did. I hope others that we may only see seasonally or who may be new to the area or our church do the same, particularly over the Christmas season.

It has been another packed year of family and children's work; doing our best to grow, learn and live life together with God. I am looking forward to the next chapter; who to meet and welcome, who to be part of nurturing and how we can all embrace the next year in our Church family.

Thank you to all the people that make this work possible day in day out, Sunday by Sunday, from the side lines and back benches to those covered in glue, squashed biscuit or bombarded by paper airplanes.



Thanks to those that hold the parents and children in our Church and community in prayer and those that hold their hands and hearts. Thanks to everyone for sharing your lives with us.

It is not a one person job and I am privileged to do it with you all.

Bettina

Future Dates

Saturday January 13th 3pm Kids Club/ Family Event TBC
Monday January 22nd 10am Toddler Church



GREETINGS FROM THE GUILD

Saturday Morning Coffees will resume in the New Year on January 13th and we look forward to seeing you then.

Our first meeting of 2018 will be, as usual, at **2.30** in the St Giles room, on **January 16th**, when **Simon Fairnie, of Musselburgh Museum, will deliver his talk, Fisherwomen, Part 1!**

AND FINALLY(!) every good wish for Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year to all Guild members, friends, coffee drinkers and all who read these notes!

**Marchmont St Giles'
Christmas Eve
Christingle & Nativity
4pm**



**Come dressed as your favourite character
Everyone Welcome**

**HOGMANAY CEILIDH
MARCHMONT ST GILES'
HALL FUNDRAISER
FOR ALL THE FAMILY
WITH DAVID VIVANCO**



SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER

7.30 -10.00PM

TICKETS £8.00 UNDER 12's £3.00

FAMILY TICKET £21 (2 ADULTS AND UP TO 3 KIDS)

INCLUDES

PATE, CHEESE, OATCAKES AND SOFT DRINKS

BYOB

**Tickets available from the Cafe, the Office or at
the door on the night**



Our Christmas offerings are going to the Rock Trust this year and this is an organisation which works locally with young people aged between 16 and 25. This includes young people who are in transitions, leaving care or home and those involved in offending, alcohol or drug misuse.

As this issue goes to print the Right Rev Derek Browning, along with other past Moderators will be spending the night in Princes Street Gardens along with at least 9,000 others to highlight the problem that exists throughout the nation - that of people who are homeless often due to no fault of their own.

By supporting this organisation we can help fund the Nightstop service whereby accommodation can be found for up to 2 weeks for a vulnerable young person. Nicci, who works in the Cafe, along with her partner Alex have hosted several people who have used this service and just want to contribute their bit to society but need a helping hand to get there. That hand could be yours!!

Another way to help is to fill a box during advent with items suitable for these vulnerable, often scared and fragile people and hand it in to the Rock Trust office at 55 Albany Street, Edinburgh. Items such as warm gloves, scarves, hats, sweets and toiletries are a good start.

The Rock Trust provides:

Advice service available at our Underground drop in centre

One to one support, at our offices or at the young person's accommodation

Group programmes, including sport, gardening, cooking etc

Opportunities for volunteering and work experience

A respite place to stay, for those who need time away from their situation

Mediation to build positive relationships

Supported housing in shared or single accommodation

Training for professionals

AROUND THE AISLES

Rev Teri Peterson will be preaching as sole nominee at Gourcock: St John's Parish Church on Sunday 10th December and we wish her every success.

Help is required to assemble the Christingle oranges on Saturday 23rd December at 10am in the Cafe. All ages are welcome so why not come as a family and take part - young legs are very much appreciated.

Help is also required to set up the Centre for the **Hogmanay Ceilidh**, which is also a fundraising event for the Hall Development project. It is proposed to do this after the Morning Service on Sunday 31st December and your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Kirk Session will meet on Monday 5th March. It has been decided to cancel the February meeting as there is very little business to discuss.

The Office will close on Friday 23rd December and re-open on the 8th January 2018.

Sue Undy, our Administrator, will be leaving MSG at the end of January for pastures new and we wish her well and thank her for her contribution to the life of Marchmont St Giles'.

The next **Police Surgery** in the Cafe will be on the 17th January. If you have any concerns then our lovely Community Bobbies will be delighted to hear from you.

Please remember to save your **Christmas stamps** which can be used to raise funds for church projects. Please leave a centimetre border around the stamp and hand them into the office.

The Shuttle Editors wish all their readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and will be back in February 2018. They would be delighted to receive your news, articles or photos for inclusion in your magazine.

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Aviva Bid. Our bid for funds to improve access to the Centre was unsuccessful as we did not receive sufficient votes to qualify for the next stage. Having spoken to various members of the congregation and friends who tried to vote for our cause and who tried to support other ventures in last year's round of voting it appears that voting on the Aviva website is quite problematic. Aviva have acknowledged the difficulty and are giving us £100 in compensation for our difficulties but they do need to improve the process for 2018.

Donating It has been agreed that should you wish to donate by cheque you may easily do so. Please put a cheque payable to "Marchmont St Giles" in one of the yellow envelopes to be found on the pews, mark the envelope clearly "FUNDRAISING" and either put it in the collection plate or hand it in to the office.

We have also signed up to **BT MyDonate** and through their website it is now possible to donate and for us to receive a tax rebate. Unlike similar schemes we pay no commission to BT MyDonate.

Web-site. A new page "At the Heart of the Community" has been added to the Church website. Please view our video, prepared by Sonja Mitchell, which gives a very good picture of life at Marchmont St Giles.

Burns Supper We are holding a fund raising Burns Supper in the Church Centre on Saturday 20th January. Further details appear elsewhere in this edition of The Shuttle. At present we are short of a piper to welcome the haggis. If you can volunteer your services or know of a piper in the congregation please contact Sandy Wake.

By the time that the next edition of The Shuttle appears we hope to have received planning permission for our programme of alterations and our professional fund-raisers, Cornerstone, will be on board.

"MARCHMONT ST GILES' AT THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY"



BURNS SUPPER SATURDAY 20TH JANUARY 2018, 6.45 for 7.15pm

**Selkirk Grace - Karen Campbell
Address to the Haggis - Sandy Wake
Immortal Memory - Ken Ballantyne
Toast to the Lassies - tbc
Reply on behalf of the Lassies - tbc
Music and Songs - David Vivanco & Ken Ballantyne**

MENU

**Cock a Leekie Soup
Haggis, Neeps and Tatties (vegetarian Haggis available)
Cranachan
Tea/Coffee and tablet**

**As the Church does not have a licence to sell alcohol this
will be a BYOB event. Soft drinks will be supplied.**

**Tickets £12.50 per person. Available from: Office and Cafe
Please sign up for Menu choices when purchasing tickets.**

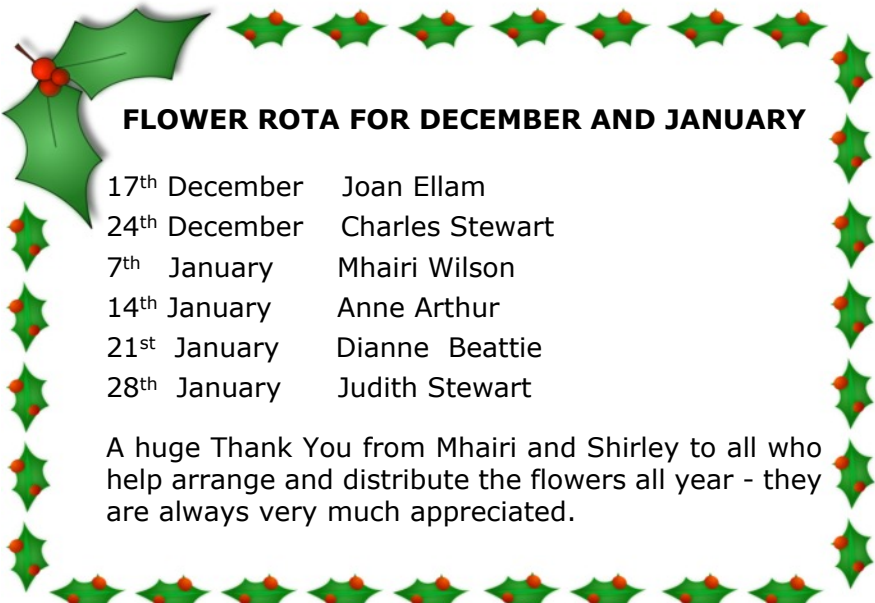
**This event is in aid of the Marchmont St Giles'
Development fund.**

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

The Committee asked the Kirk Session to ratify their decision to move to DRD Architects Ltd on the retiral of Ian Riddell, which they duly did.

A very positive meeting has taken place with Glen Wade from DRD and we are very hopeful that we will have all permissions in place by Christmas. Permission has already been granted to knock down the South end!!! The next step is to prepare the Building Warrant application and this is a lot of work. Due to a lack of resources the Council are taking months to grant these, so it looks unlikely that we will be able to start in the summer of 2018 but it is vital that the Committee and the Consultants get it right first time so that the Tenders can be prepared accurately as this will be most cost effective.

Sometimes it feels like two steps forward and one step backwards but we are definitely progressing in the right direction.



FLOWER ROTA FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

17 th December	Joan Ellam
24 th December	Charles Stewart
7 th January	Mhairi Wilson
14 th January	Anne Arthur
21 st January	Dianne Beattie
28 th January	Judith Stewart

A huge Thank You from Mhairi and Shirley to all who help arrange and distribute the flowers all year - they are always very much appreciated.

And finally.....

The Story Behind The 12 Days Of Christmas Song

The song was written by Catholics in England as a catechism song to teach their children about the Christian faith. The song's "gifts" help remember the teachings of the faith.

"True Love" refers to God.

"Me" refers to every Christian.

The other symbols mean the following:

- 1 Partridge in a Pear Tree = Jesus Christ
- 2 Turtle Doves = The Old & New Testaments
- 3 French Hens = Faith, Hope and Charity or the Father, Son and Holy Spirit Trinity
- 4 Calling Birds = The Four Gospels
- 5 Golden Rings = First Five Books of the Old Testament
- 6 Geese-A-Laying = The Six Days of Creation
- 7 Swans-A-Swimming = The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit
(I Corinthians 12:8-10)
- 8 Maids-A-Milking = The Eight Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-10)
- 9 Ladies Dancing = The Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
(Galatians 5:22-23)
- 10 Lords-A-Leaping = The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20)
- 11 Pipers Piping = Eleven Apostles, not Judas
- 12 Drummers Drumming = The Twelve Points of Doctrine in the Apostles' Creed

MARCHMONT ST GILES' PARISH CHURCH

Minister	Rev Dr Karen K Campbell	447 2834
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Session Clerk	Mr Ian Moss	662 9293
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Children & Family	Mrs Bettina Hather	447 4359
email	family@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	
Treasurer	Mrs Jessica McCraw	667 4514
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Organist & Choirmaster	Mr Robert Parsons	557 1257
Flowers	Mrs Mhairi Wilson	445 1835
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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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