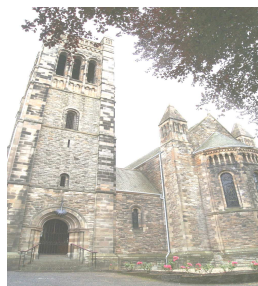


St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church Magazine

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A clash of two philosophies?

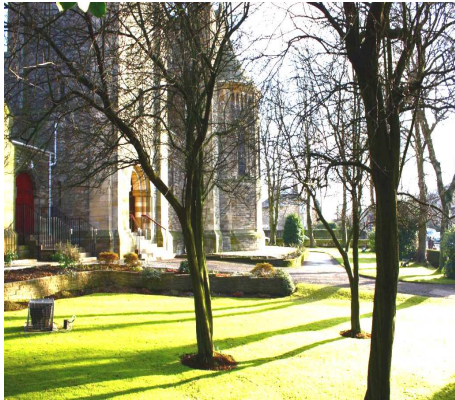
October 2010

THE CHURCH OFFICE:
353/355 Kilmarnock Road, Newlands, Glasgow G43 2DS
is open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 1.00 pm
0141 636 1131
Church Administrator: Miss May Livingstone

CLERGY

Rector : Reverend Scott Robertson, B.D. , M.A., Ph.D.
22 Monreith Road, Newlands
Glasgow G43 2NY
0141 632 3292

Associate Priest : Revd. Paul Romano
63 Westfield Drive, Glasgow, G52 2SG
0141 882 7026



**A warm welcome
to
St Margaret's**

Should you wish to speak to the Rector, he is regularly available at the Church on **Wednesdays between 6 & 7pm**. Otherwise he can be contacted on **0141 632 3292**

St. Margaret's on the internet:
<http://episcopalnewlands.org.uk>
e-mail: stmargaretsnewlands@tiscali.co.uk
Diocesan web-site: www.scotland.anglican.org/diocese/glasgow
Magazine submissions to stmargaretsnewlands@tiscali.co.uk
Marked 'Magazine'

Scott writes...



Dear all,

As I write, the Pope has just arrived for his state visit. It's a trip that has been well-trailed in the media with Messrs Dawkins and Hitchens setting the tone.



A few weeks ago they claimed that, through a diplomatic technicality, as soon as the pontiff stepped onto the tarmac at Edinburgh Airport, the British authorities could arrest him on charges of turning a blind eye to child abuse. Needless to say the boys in blue didn't oblige, but it is certainly fair to say that the advance headlines have

not been good. The spectre of both past and, at least in Belgium, current abuses has overshadowed this particular trip and, in my opinion, more needs to be done to exorcise this particular ghost of the church. I'm not holding my breath.

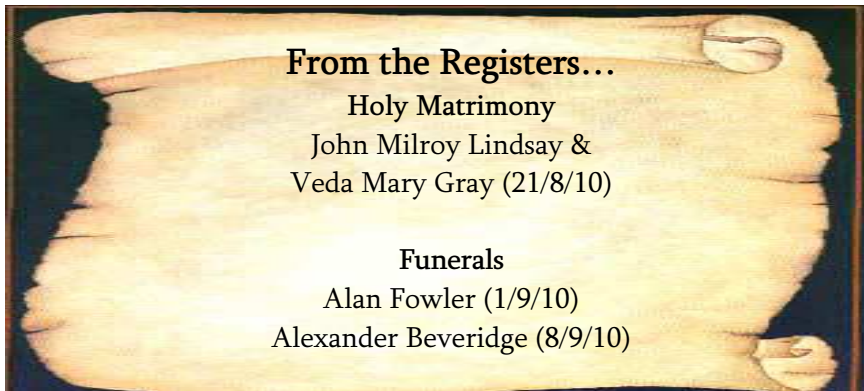
But, of course, the much broader and closely related issues of belief and authority are also to the fore as the Pope arrives in this country of ours. Scotland has a new parliament, if not independence and, if the *Good Without God* campaigners are to be believed, two million of us Scots have no faith of any kind. That's quite a claim and it sets the tone for what would appear on the face of it to be a clash of two philosophies. On the one hand you have an outmoded, reactionary movement dedicated to suppressing the moral freedoms of millions. On the other, we are presented with the brave new world that is secular society, where each of us has the freedom to believe or not to believe as we see fit. No doubt this is a caricature, but like most caricatures it is based on a substantial kernel of perceived truth. The presence of such a prominent religious figure at this early stage of the 21st century (regardless of the numbers attending (or not attending) mass in Bellahouston Park), inevitably forces the issue as to the relative importance of faith in our society today.

The Pope himself has made it quite clear that his mission is to roll back the secularist agenda. The gaffe by Cardinal Walter Kasper, who likened the UK to a Third-World country ‘where aggressive new atheism is rife’, is probably not a million miles away from the Pope’s own stance. (Could it be that Kasper’s gaffe was part of the Vatican PR machine’s softening up strategy....surely not?!!) Politics aside, I actually think the Pope has a point. The question is, though, what kind of secularism has he in mind? It is all too easy to bandy words around like ‘secularism’ or indeed ‘atheism’ and assume that we are singing from the same hymn sheet. The sociologist and philosopher, Charles Taylor recognised some time ago that secularism is not just one thing, but a variety of different movements, many of which are not by any means anti-religious.

Again, one need only go back a few decades to another German theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who argued for what he called a ‘religionless Christianity’. By this he meant that Christians are not to try to live in a separate ‘religious sphere’ but are to enter the world just as Christ did. To this extent Bonhoeffer saw no demarcation between secular and religious. There was the world and our place as believers in that world, and that was it. This alone, he suggests, is what makes discipleship such a costly business. So costly, indeed, for Bonhoeffer, that he was martyred for it.

And I guess that, for me, is the important thing to remember. While we may argue and wring our hands at the ‘state of the world’ particularly in the West, the world continues to turn and we must, in some way, relate to that world and not retreat from it. It is too easy for the church to batten down the hatches and fall to criticizing from the sidelines, (even high-profile sidelines like the Vatican) becoming, as it does so, increasingly irrelevant. The church, it seems to me, is to flesh out the person of Jesus to the world. That doesn’t mean slavishly following the so-called secularist agenda, but nor does it mean reacting against it to the extent that we fail to communicate anything of value let alone what we believe.

As you can imagine it’s a bit like walking a tightrope, or better still, as Jesus himself once put it, like walking a narrow path, red-carpeted or not.
Love, Scott



Come & Sing Day

Saturday 9 October 2010
St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church
353/355 Kilmarnock Rd
Glasgow G43 2DS



Rehearsal 3.30 - 5.30pm

Performance 7.00pm

Entrance to performance £5 - all proceeds to Mary's Meals

<http://www.marysmeals.org/> or further information please contact Jenny Whelan through the Church Website

Coffee Rota

At the end of October I will be making up the coffee rota for 2011. I have already had 2 people ask to come off the rota and now need to recruit new volunteers. Last year changed some Sundays to 2 people on the rota. I will be keeping these the same as last year. If anybody would like to help on the Coffee Rota please can they contact me through the Church website by Sunday 24th October.

Fiona Campbell



VESTRY REPORT

The first full session of the Vestry since Scott's arrival was a very busy one and one which, it was felt, had achieved quite a bit.



The Treasurer gave an extremely detailed breakdown of our current financial state. We are still having to spend much more than our income produces in order to keep things going. As you would see over the summer, work has begun on the roof. This will be done in stages over the next couple of years in order to ease the burden of the considerable cost. The Vestry's next major consideration will have to be the organ. We have been very fortunate that Michael has been able to nurse and coax the organ which suffered greatly during the severe weather at the beginning of the year, but there has been no extensive refurbishment done on the Willis since the mid 1960s and the problem must be addressed. The congregation will be delighted to hear that St. Margaret's has been the beneficiary of two legacies recently: Miss Marie Howell has left the church £20,000, and we have been given £1,000 from the estate of Miss Brenda Palmer, a former member of St. Margaret's and friend of Dorothy Williamson and her late sister, Marjory Goldie. We are most grateful for such generosity.

It has been decided that the "All Age" services which were trialled over the past year will recommence, the first being held on October 31st. The questionnaires which the congregation was asked to complete were studied carefully and, while inevitably there had been a mixed reaction to these innovative services, it was thought to be worthwhile to continue them at this stage on a bi-monthly basis. The Rector would like it to be known that he wishes to be closely associated with these services and will be involved with their development.

Our weekly bulletin is likely to be undergoing a minor face change shortly. Scott would like to try out a new front page and we look forward to having your comments when you see it. In this, as in many other ways, Scott and the congregation are listening to and learning from one another and this can only be mutually beneficial. Scott has instituted a "Rector's Hour" when he will be available in the Church Office on Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. for anyone wishing to speak to him. He is also starting a study group which will meet in the Upper Room on Tuesday evenings from October onwards.

I hope that you have all had enjoyable and restful holidays over the summer. We now look forward to a busy session ahead, and I would ask you to remember the Rector and the members of the Vestry in your prayers and uphold them in all that they seek to do.

Joan Girling

Fun Page

Fun Page

ACORN
APPLE
BIRD MIGRATION
BLOWING LEAVES
BLUSTERY DAY
CANNING
CHESTNUTS
CHILLY
COLD
CROPS
EQUINOX
FALL
FARMING
FEAST
FROST
HALLOWEEN
HARVEST
HAYSTACK
HICKORY NUTS
LONGER NIGHTS

NOVEMBER
OCTOBER
ORANGE LEAVES
PIE
PUMPKIN
RAKE
RED LEAVES
SCARECROW
SCHOOL
SEASON
SEPTEMBER
SHORTER DAYS
SQUASH
SWEET POTATOES
THANKSGIVING
TURKEY
WINDY
YELLOW LEAVES

Autumn

Find and circle all of the Autumn words that are hidden in the grid.

The remaining letters spell a secret message - an Albert Camus quotation.

L	O	N	G	E	R	N	I	G	H	T	S	N	A	A	U	C	N
T	O	R	U	E	S	T	U	N	Y	R	O	K	C	I	H	R	I
M	S	O	A	Y	Q	E	N	I	S	I	A	O	T	R	W	O	K
R	C	Y	H	N	E	U	V	S	T	E	R	F	H	E	O	P	P
C	E	A	A	C	G	K	I	A	S	N	O	A	A	B	R	S	M
K	N	D	N	D	S	E	R	N	E	D	S	R	N	M	C	O	U
S	C	Y	L	N	R	G	L	U	O	L	P	M	K	E	E	C	P
Q	R	A	K	E	I	E	R	E	T	X	G	I	S	V	R	T	S
U	Y	D	T	M	A	N	T	S	A	E	F	N	G	O	A	O	E
A	D	Y	D	S	I	V	G	R	T	V	S	G	I	N	C	B	P
S	N	R	N	G	Y	W	E	H	O	E	E	N	V	W	S	E	T
H	I	E	L	P	P	A	E	S	P	H	A	S	I	V	O	R	E
B	W	T	Y	L	L	I	H	C	T	E	S	P	N	R	F	L	M
F	T	S	E	V	R	A	H	Y	E	L	O	I	G	C	R	E	B
A	A	U	H	A	L	L	O	W	E	E	N	E	F	I	O	S	E
A	F	L	S	E	V	A	E	L	W	O	L	L	E	Y	S	L	R
L	O	B	L	W	E	C	H	E	S	T	N	U	T	S	T	R	D

Housegroup 2010

We begin our series of housegroup meetings on **Tuesday 5th October at 7.30pm** in the upper room. This series of six meetings is entitled 'Freedom to Live' and will be focussed around one of the earliest of Paul's letters, Galatians. The group will meet fortnightly. At the time of writing we have one space left. If you are interested in joining the group, please speak to either Paul or Scott.



Reading Group



I'm hoping to begin a reading group in due course. This will be an opportunity to look at a variety of novels and other forms of literature. At this stage I envisage it meeting once a month or so. If anyone would like to become part of this group, would you let me know soon. Dates (and books!) can then be decided upon.

Scott

Readers and Intercessors Evening

An evening for readers and intercessors will take place in the Church on Wednesday 20th October at 7.30pm. This is a chance for us to share our experience of leading in this way, and also for us to ask any questions we may have as we seek to develop these important ministries in St Margaret's.



Church & the Academy



The new session of Church & the Academy seminars takes place in No. 4, The Square, University of Glasgow on **Thursday 30th September at 5.30pm**. This is an informal monthly opportunity to reflect on various matters of a broadly theological nature. Scott will lead this first session and his topic will be: *Fundamentals for the 21st Century?* All are very welcome.

In the garden.....

“Pineapples in Partick?”

As a nation we are obsessed with the weather! The weather we encounter daily is an endless source of conversation and complaint, and the more extreme it is the better we remember it and the more we have to say about it!



So obsessed are we with “weather”, we tend to overlook “climate”; the underlying long term trends in temperature, rainfall, wind speed etc, determined by carefully observing, measuring and recording the weather. Climate issues are of course the crux of the global warming debate; a subject laced with controversy, and guilty of generating more questions than answers. “Is it a real phenomenon?”, “To what extent is it the result of human intervention?” or “Is it part of the planets natural rhythm; meaning it would be happening anyway even if we hadn’t been belching out pollutants since the start of the industrial revolution?” These are complicated issues, muddled to an even greater extent by recent scandals relating to the reliability of some data. So where do we stand, is our climate actually changing whatever the reason?

As a gardener, I think the climate is getting warmer; and it doesn’t need to be by much to change the sorts of plants we can grow and the pests and diseases that attack them. (*Less than 1degree C in fact*)

In the 1970’s, I would have been ridiculed for suggesting we should grow New Zealand Tree Ferns in our gardens as a matter of course, let alone that B&Q would be flogging them in bulk. Olive trees, Date Palms, Grape Vines, Cabbage Palms, Passion flowers, Canna, Eucalyptus, Osteospermums, White Jasmine, Bananas and all of the other exotica available to us in garden centres would have been unthinkable to the average gardener of 30 years ago and would only have survived in areas bathed by the Gulf Stream. (*Now I know a lot of this stuff got hammered last winter, but that was “weather” and not “climate”.*)

In the bugs and beasts department, I certainly think that Large Shelled Snails have increased over the years and that Ants are a much more common feature, both preferring warmer conditions; not to mention the presence of Scorpions in Kent and a 12 year old Termite colony in Devon that the authorities have not yet managed to eradicate!

Closer to home, I have had Lily Beetle damage in the garden for a couple of years now. I like Lilies a lot, and always have tubs of “Stargazer” at the front of the house (*Cerise pink, heavily scented upward facing blooms*), as well as several other types dotted around.



The Red Lily Beetle, native to Southern Europe and Asia, is a striking bright red colour and is just under 1cm in length (*about 1/3 rd of an inch*). It eats holes in Lily leaves and the flower buds and later in the season it is aided and abetted by its larvae.

First identified in the UK in 1939 at Chobham, Surrey, (*probably accidentally introduced in imported plant material*) it remained a small scale, localised pest for four decades until the 1980's when, in response to a rise in average temperature, it began to spread and make a nuisance of itself. By 1990 it could be found in all counties south of the Midlands and by the late 90's it was accelerating towards the border. In 2002 it was found in Glasgow and Belfast and by 2007 it could be found in every county of England and Wales. It continues to spread in Scotland unhindered it would seem by the bad winter. There is a similar picture of spread in both USA and Canada, again directly attributable to an increase in average temperatures.

So weather has its “ups and downs”, but the underlying climate determines what we can grow and what we may encounter in our humble plots, and in my experience this has changed. So what next; Pineapples in Partick?



Church and the Academy 2010 Autumn Term

2010 marks a number of theological anniversaries. This term at the Church & the Academy Seminar we will be remembering and reflecting upon both the centenary of the publication of the first of *The Fundamentals* and the 450th anniversary of the Scottish Reformation. In addition we will look at a recent work by the distinguished scholar, Emeritus Professor James Dunn, who will visit us in January.

30th September

Revd Dr Scott Robertson
'Fundamentals' for the 21st Century?

28th October

Book Review led by Revd Dr Nicholas Taylor:
Did the first Christians worship Jesus?
James D. G. Dunn

25th November

Revd Dr Doug Gay
Where now for the Scottish Church?

All sessions take place on Thursday evenings at
5.30pm in
No. 4, The Square, University of Glasgow
All are very welcome

Look out! – New magazine editor

I have agreed to take on the mantle of magazine editor, but this does NOT mean that I intend to do it all myself!

We already have a magazine team and I intend to draw on their expertise, to assist in the process of gathering copy and producing the magazine. I see my role as coordinating and facilitating.



My vision is that we “look out” in various ways:

Look out – for others, being alert for their needs, informing, encouraging and helping.

Look out – for problems and obstacles, see what’s coming, seek to offer a Christian perspective on the world around us.

Look out – be outward looking, find out what’s going on in our congregation, our community, our diocese, encourage the mission the mission of the church.

As always, contributions will be welcome, so please take up your pen (or pound your keyboard) and write, or speak to me if you have any thoughts or experiences you would like to share.

Scott has kindly volunteered to produce the October issue and I am grateful to him for allowing me time to get my feet under the editorial desk!

**THE NOVEMBER ISSUE WILL APPEAR ON SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER.
COPY MUST REACH ME BY 6pm ON FRIDAY 22 OCTOBER.**

Jim Gibson

What's happening, when.... *October*

Sun 3rd	Pentecost 19 (Harvest)
Tues 5th	Holy Communion 10am Housegroup at the Church (Upper Room) 7.30pm
Wed 6th	Rector's Hour at the Church 6pm
Thurs 7th	Vestry Meeting at the Church 7.30pm
Sat 9th	Come and Sing in St. Margaret's from 3.30pm Liturgy Workshop at Holy Trinity, Paisley
Sun 10th	Pentecost 20 2nd Sunday Concert at the Church 3.30pm
Mon 11th	Regional Meeting on Mission at St. Margaret's 7.30pm
Wed 12th	Rector's Hour at the Church 6pm
Sun 17th	Pentecost 21
Tues 19th	Holy Communion 10am Housegroup at the Church (Upper Room) 7.30pm
Wed 20th	Rector's Hour at the Church 6pm Readers & Intercessors Evening at the Church 7.30pm
Thur 22nd	Southside Regional Council at the Church of the Good Shepherd 7.30pm
Sun 24th	Pentecost 22
Mon 25th	Clergy Chapter Meeting at St. Aidan's Rectory 7.30pm
Wed 27th	Bishop's Visitation from 10am Holy Communion 10am Rector's Hour at the Church 6pm
Thur 28th	Church & the Academy at 4, The Square, University of Glasgow 5.30pm
Sat 30th	A Time to Remember at the Church 3pm
Sun 31st	Pentecost 23 (All age Service)



Readings for October



PENTECOST 19 HARVEST

03/10/10

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Philippians 4:4-9

John 6:25-35

PENTECOST 20

10/10/10

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

PENTECOST 21 St. Luke

17/10/10

Isaiah 35:3-6

2 Timothy 4:5-17

Luke 10:1-9

PENTECOST 22

24/10/10

Ecclesiasticus 35:12-17

2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

Luke 18: 9-14

PENTECOST 23 All Saints

31/10/10

Isaiah 56:3-8

Hebrews 12:18-24

Matthew 5:1-12

*Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path...*

Psalm 119



OFFICERS AND KEY CONTACTS

Organist & Director of Music Michael Bawtree (as office)

Creche Organiser F Graham

Sunday School contact person vacant

Youth Group Co-ordinator C Fraser

Bible Study/House/Prayer Groups The Rector

Lay Reader Emeritus A Linnegan

CHURCH WARDENS

People's Warden L Fisher

Rector's Warden G Allan

Secretary to the Vestry J Girling

Treasurer M Gibson

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Altar Linen F McCracken

Archivist C Fowler

Catering co-ordinator J Macdonald

Child protection co-ordinator C Ball

Domestic Bursar F Campbell

Fair Trade co-ordinator L Bryce

Flowers O Parkes

Free-will Offering secretary G McKendrick

Garden co-ordinator *vacant*

Gift Aid Secretary R Connor

Hall Convener M Livingstone

Lay diocesan representative JWhiteside

Magazine Distribution C Fowler

Magazine Editor *Vacant*

Pastoral care team E Smith

Property Convener J Fisher

Readers' Rota J Girling

Roll-keeper J Gray

Stewards' Rota E McIndoe

Sunday Coffee Rota F Campbell

The Last Word

A man and his wife were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning. The wife said, 'You should do it, because you get up first, and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee.'
The husband said, ' You are in charge of cooking around here and you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee.'
Wife replies, 'No, you should do it, and besides, it is in the Bible that the man should do the coffee.'
Husband replies, 'I can't believe that, show me.'
So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him at the top of several pages, that it indeed says.....'HEBREWS'



St Margaret of Scotland Newlands

Service Details:

Sundays

9.00am Said Eucharist

10.30am Sung Eucharist,

Crèche, Sunday School & Youth Group

Tuesdays

10am Holy Communion



For other services not listed please see Diary inside

***Church Web Site Address:* www.episcopalnewlands.org.uk**

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Rector: Rev Dr Scott Robertson 22 Monreith Road, Newlands Glasgow G43 2NY

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Asst. Priest: Rev Paul Romano 63, Westfield Drive, Cardonald Glasgow G52 2SG

Tel. 0141 882 7026 / *e-mail:* paul.romano@btinternet.com