

**St Margaret's  
Scottish Episcopal Church  
Magazine**

**November 2010**

**When comes the promised time  
When war shall be no more.....?**



Flanders  
  
Stalingrad  
  
Korea  
  
Cyprus



Northern  
Ireland  
  
Vietnam  
  
Congo  
  
Afghani-  
stan

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up your quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

*John McCrae*

## **THE CHURCH OFFICE**

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Church administrator: Miss May Livingstone

## **CLERGY**

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### **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 and 7pm (if the church does not appear to be open, please ring the bell at the left side of the small door to the left of the main West door). Otherwise he can be contacted on 0141 632 3292.

St Margaret's on the internet: [www.episcopalnewlands.org.uk](http://www.episcopalnewlands.org.uk)

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or in the drawer marked "Magazine Editor" at the back of the church



## Scott writes.....

My first letter in this magazine spoke a little about remembrance and, as we approach that time of year where we reflect upon the conflicts which particularly marred the twentieth century, so I find myself thinking about it again.

How we remember is explored in different ways. For some, the focus is clearly upon the sacrifice of those who fought and died. The need to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice at memorials up and down the country is not only regarded as an act of respect and devotion, but is often seen as providing a sense of community cohesion that is otherwise so largely absent in our society. Others, however, fearful of an apparent though subtle glorification of war that Armistice Day can engender, choose to concentrate more tangibly on the need to establish peaceful resolutions to international problems. To that end, the white poppy is utilised as a means to reorientate our thinking at this time of year. The director of the Christian lobby group, *Ekklesia*, Jonathan Bartley, argued a few years ago that red poppies ‘implied redemption through war, but Christianity seeks redemption through non-violence.’ White poppies were introduced, therefore, to symbolise peace. The irony, of course, is that there can be tension between those who hold to these two different ways of remembering. We can fight over how we remember the great conflicts of our time.

I have to confess that, though I fully understand and indeed sympathise with much that the white poppy campaign stands for, I’m not entirely convinced that it is the way to go. I say this not for political reasons but, believe it or not, for artistic ones. The poppy is a symbol. It is a symbol that isn’t a logo that advertisers would use. It is a pointer to the real world in which much of the horror of World War One was played out. Good symbols do that. Like the cross. So for me, to colour the poppy white, whilst having the immediate effect of making one stop and think (no bad thing), actually weakens the power of the symbol. We have to allow the symbol to do its work and not try to tell it what to do. I’m not sure if that makes much sense to you.

We have for a long time been isolated from symbols in our lives. We have been bombarded by words. There is a long philosophical history behind this and it’s a story that is now, I believe, changing in favour of the symbol. This is happening because we are recovering the great truth that, despite our great scientific strides, human life is not something that is completely quantifiable. Life always defies many of the boundaries that we set up. The very fact that your experience of life is not mine more than suggests the mystery that life entails. Often, in the face of the overwhelming experiences that life throws at us, words can get in the way. What that means is that we need a new kind of vocabulary that in many cases goes beyond words. And that is where the symbol comes in. Symbols communicate in a way that words cannot. Symbols help us to re-member, that is re-connect with the world in a more visceral way.

This is, of course, not to suggest that words are completely irrelevant. After all, I'm writing here! And good words allied to symbols enable us to share in the deeply important aspects of our life together. That's why, as well as recognising the symbol of the poppy, we say 'We will remember them.'

Love,

*Scott*

## Church register

### Baptism

17 October

Matilda Anne Cottrell,  
daughter of Peter and Jill

### Funeral

23 September

Colin Atkinson



## Thanksgiving

**Question:** What is the busiest day in American airports?

**Answer:** The day before Thanksgiving (the fourth Thursday in November - 25 November this year), when all go home to be with their families. Recalling the way in which the first European settlers gave thanks for the way in which they endured the rigours of life in their new land, and survived to gather in the harvest, Americans today cherish Thanksgiving as a time to tell of their journey through the year, to reflect and give thanks for how God has led them.

(And the bonus for American shoppers is that Christmas decorations and paraphernalia do not appear in the shops until **after** Thanksgiving!)

*“In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (Philippians 4.6).*

## What is happening, Zen?

Letter from Muenster – Multi-religious identities

*[Readers will remember Perry and Doris Schmidt-Leukel, who together with their two sons Dominic and Amit were members of St. Margaret's from 2000-2009 when they moved to Muenster, where Perry has taken up a new position as Professor of Religious Studies and Intercultural Theology – Ed]*

*Happy is the one who walks otherwise ...  
Who does not sit in the seat of the scornful  
But finds delight in the loveliness of things*  
(Norman Fisher, Opening to You, p. 3)

This summer I received an invitation from the University of Hamburg to participate in a conference on “Buddhism in the West” and read a paper on the Question “Can a Christian be a Buddhist too?”. Multi-religious identity is a religious issue that I have been pondering for quite some time. It is not confined to Christian-Buddhist dual identity. In East Asia it became almost a common phenomenon over the past millennium to see oneself as belonging to Buddhism, Confucianism and Daoism or – as in Japan – to Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism and Shintoism. In the West, however, multireligious allegiance is new, but rapidly growing. In the US, for example, there are now a considerable number of people who see themselves as Jubus (so goes the official nickname), that is, as Jewish Buddhists.

While preparing my paper for the Hamburg conference (which will be held in November), I ordered a copy of a book of which I had been aware for some time but had not yet seen: Norman Fisher’s “Opening to You: Zen-Inspired translations of the Psalms” (Penguin Compass 2002). Norman Fisher himself is a Jubu, a highly renowned American Zen-Master of Jewish origin who through his practice of Zen-meditation rediscovered the spiritual depth of his own Jewish tradition. One outcome of his exciting inner journey is his “Zen-inspired translations” or, rather, reinterpretations of the Psalms. The lines at the top of my letter are taken from his rendering of Psalm 1.

Since I myself practice Buddhist meditation every morning (apart from weekends, I need to confess), I decided to experiment with Fisher’s translations and read one Psalm at the beginning of each of my meditation sessions. The texts are undoubtedly powerful poetry and Fisher has managed to let them breathe the air of both Zen and the prophetic cry for justice. At times I become curious and want to see what the New Revised Standard Version has for some of the verses that strike me most in Fishers book. The last line of the verse quoted above speaks in the NRSV, not of the “loveliness of things”, but of “delight ... in the law of the Lord”. Oh, this – I thought – is not the same. Or to give another example: while Psalm 2 according to the NRSV ends with “Happy are all who take refuge in him”, Fisher reads: “Happy are they who find their home in the kingdom of what is”.

So has Fisher illegitimately replaced God with the concept of being? Does his “translation” amount to some sort of forgery? Definitely not. He does not leave God out. The whole booklet is called “Opening to You”. In its introduction, Fisher states the fact that “for many ... the word *God* has been all but emptied of its spiritual power”(p. xix). So his intention is to re-introduce a new sensitivity to prayer as the “reaching out and into ... the boundless unknowable, the unnameable” (p. xviii), which we nevertheless dare to address as “You”. The idea of “God” – the great “You” and at the same time the mystery of being – is by no means something alien either to the Jewish or the Christian tradition. Finding delight in the loveliness of things reminds me of Loyola’s famous spiritual advice of “finding God in all things” – and yet presents this in a refreshingly new light.

*Perry Schmidt-Leukel*

<b>Readings for November</b>	
7 November Third Sunday before Advent	Job 19: 23-27a 2 Thessalonians 2: 1-5, 13-17 Luke 20: 27-38
14 November Second Sunday before Advent	Malachi 4: 1-2a 2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13 Luke 21: 5-19
21 November Christ The King	Jeremiah 23: 1-6 Colossians 1: 11-20 Luke 23: 33-43
28 November Advent 1	Isaiah 2: 1-5 Romans 13: 11-14 Matthew 24: 36-44



## November Music at St Margaret's

November is a very busy month for music at St Margaret's both for the Choir and for concerts. Choral Evensong on **Sunday 7 November at 6.30pm** will include a celebration of the music of Samuel Sebastian Wesley, born in 1810. (His middle name came from his father Samuel's love of the music of Johann Sebastian Bach.) We will be singing SSW's large-scale anthem "Blessed be the God and Father", composed when he was organist at Exeter Cathedral.

Remembrance Sunday weekend is full of music at St Margaret's. On **Saturday 13 November at 7.30pm**, Glasgow Chamber Choir, conducted by Michael Bawtree, returns to Newlands to perform Johannes Brahms' stunningly beautiful German Requiem. We are used to hearing this life-affirming work with large chorus and orchestra; however, Brahms also made a version for piano duet accompaniment (to be used at this concert) which makes the whole piece feel like chamber music and distinctly reveals the influences of Bach and other early composers on Brahms. Irish soprano Emma Harper and Swedish baritone Anders Ostberg join pianists Ed Cohen and Jennifer Redmond for this special performance. The concert also reflects Remembrance-tide: the choir performs Herbert Howells' motet "Take him, earth, for cherishing", composed in 1963 for the memorial service of President John F Kennedy, and one of Howells' finest creations. On **Sunday 14 November at 3.30pm**, RSNO associate leader Tamas Fejes returns to St Margaret's to continue his survey of Bach's unaccompanied works for violin. Many will recall Tamas' previous brilliant concerts in our Second Sunday series, on his own and with his Quartet. Please do support this wonderful weekend of music if you can.

On **Sunday 21 November**, violinist David Smith (father of chorister Aidan Smith) will team up with Michael Bawtree to give a concert in aid of Diabetes research and care in Glasgow. Look out for further details of this event.

*Michael Bawtree*



## Freewill Offering envelopes

The envelopes for the year November 2010 to October 2011 are available at the back of the church and should be collected **NOW**. Anyone wishing to join the Freewill Offering scheme should see Gail McKendrick.



## **Eco-congregation – How green is St Margaret’s?**

Many Christians are concerned about the environment but don't know what they can do. Eco-Congregation Scotland is an ecumenical charity, launched in March 2001, which helps congregations understand environmental issues and respond practically and spiritually. As part of a wider British and European network, it aims to encourage churches to consider environmental issues within a Christian context and enable local churches to make positive contributions in their life and mission. Progress within congregations is recognised by the granting of Eco-Congregation awards.

Since the launch, hundreds of congregations in Scotland, from all denominations and from all “styles” of worship have begun to explore ways of using the Eco-Congregation resources in their own contexts. They share the conviction that our society's wholesale exploitation of the natural world dishonours God the Creator, and that to do nothing in the face of environmental destruction is to fail in our duty to worship God and to care for the poor. Over 250 registered churches are working on environmental initiatives and 87 have received Eco-Congregation Awards. As well as taking action in their own church life, eco-congregations are working together in networks, and promoting the programme to other churches through talks, workshops, events and materials.

Eco-congregationalism in essence asks us whether care for the environment really forms part of

- our faith (through our worship, children’s and youth work and Bible Studies)
- our practice (in care for our church premises and management of our finances)
- our outreach (in “greening” our own lifestyle, and that of our community and world)

St Margaret’s is already registered on the programme and we therefore benefit from support from local networks of churches, free resource modules on all aspects of church life, information and links to other organisations.

To obtain a First Award we are required to work through a series of 13 modules and to demonstrate that we have taken initiatives in all the relevant areas. As we take more initiatives we qualify for Second and Third Awards. An essential component of the First Award is measuring the carbon footprint of our church buildings and having plans to reduce it.

An informal assessment of our progress so far at St Margaret's indicates that we are doing reasonably well in most of the 13 modules, but that some more work is required on others such as how we bring together bible study, theology and environmental issues, and how we manage church business in an environmentally friendly way. Once that work is done we can achieve our First Award.

The future development and growth of the Eco-Congregation programme depends on eco-congregations signing up as members, taking up office bearer roles and fundraising for the charity; an annual donation from each congregation of about £100 is suggested.

The challenge is for eco-congregations to take spiritual leadership in Scotland, which means:

- challenging the idolatry of consumerism in worship and in our lives
- taking essential practical steps to cut our own consumption of energy
- being active in communities and contributing forcefully to the national debate.

Edmund Burke once famously said "For evil to triumph all that is necessary is for good men to do nothing". The eco ball is with us – what are we going to do about it?

*Jan MacDonald*

## **Christmas Services at the Victoria Infirmary**

Rev Ishaku is looking for volunteers to be involved in the following services:

- Christmas Carol Service—Sunday 12 December in the Cafe Fleure on E level at 5.30 for 6pm
- Christmas Carol Singing round the wards—Thursday 23 December at 5.30 for 6pm

If you can help at either or both services, please speak to Eileen Smith. More details will be available nearer the time

## **Calendar of events..... November**

- Tues 2nd      Holy Communion 10am  
Housegroup in the Church (Upper Room) 7.30pm
- Wed 3rd      Rector's Hour at the church 6pm
- Sun 7th      Third before Advent  
Evensong 6.30pm
- Tues 9th      Holy Communion 10am
- Wed 10th     Rector's Hour at the church 6pm
- Fri 12th     Magazine committee Upper Room 7.30pm
- Sat 13th     Glasgow Chamber Choir 7.30pm
- Sun 14th     Second before Advent (Remembrance Sunday)  
Second Sunday Concert in the Church 3.30pm
- Tues 16th    Holy Communion 10am  
Housegroup in the Church (Upper Room) 7.30pm
- Wed 17th    Rector's Hour at the church 6pm
- Sun 21st     Christ The King  
Concert with David Smith
- Tues 23rd    Holy Communion 10am
- Wed 24th    Rector's Hour at the church 6pm
- Thurs 25th   Church & The Academy  
At 4 The Square, University of Glasgow 5.30pm  
"Where now for the Scottish Church?"
- Sun 28th     Advent 1  
Annual General Meeting after the service
- Tues 30th    Holy Communion 10am  
Housegroup in the Church (Upper Room) 7.30pm

## **News from Saint Margaret's Fair-trade Group**

Many thanks to all of you who have supported our weekly Fair-trade stall and other events over the past year. As well as helping to make a difference to the lives of farmers, crafters and producers we have been able to hand £300 to the vestry and another £300 to Traidcraft Direct to enhance further their work in developing countries.

We are now well in to selling Christmas goods and you are urged to buy Fair-trade cards and wrapping paper. Traidcraft does a lot of good work with the profits from cards; they are all printed on FSC board and some are producer inspired (in these cases the producer receives a royalty for the design).

You can also buy ingredients for your festive baking and I know there are many wonderful bakers amongst us. The Christmas gifts and crafts are beautiful and well worth buying. Some of the people who make these items rely on people like us to earn enough to feed their family. Please give it some thought and at least have a look at a catalogue and see what is available.

In case you have not visited the stall recently, we have some new products including flapjacks. The chocolate Geobars are delicious again and we have catalogues and order forms for you to take away and peruse at your leisure. It may seem ages away but it's never too early to get prepared.

See you all at the stall.

*Liz Bryce*

## **Home Start - helpers wanted**

Home Start Glasgow is a local charity supporting parents with young children under 5 in situations such as isolation, multiple births, illness, disability or who just finding parenting a struggle. We are looking for volunteers to help provide non-judgemental, practical and emotional support and help build the family's confidence and ability to cope. The only qualification you need is to be a parent yourself and have a couple of hours a week to spare. If you think you might be interested in helping a family, then please call us on 0141 585 6712 and we will arrange a visit to tell you more.

## From the Archives

*Over the past few years, I have mostly reproduced articles from the old magazines with the theme of recording the gradual emergence of the beautiful church which we know today. For my last submission, I have chosen to end on a “family” note: the following is a description of the mosaic floor in the Baptistry which was designed by my late father-in-law, Fred Jay Girling.*

*George Rawson has kindly agreed to keep the “From the Archives” feature going. It has been a great privilege to have had access to the records of life at St. Margaret’s from 1909 on and to sense some of the enthusiasm and dedication which went into the development of a thriving congregation and I wish George well with his re-searching. – Joan Girling]*

The Mosaic floor of the Baptistry, perhaps more accurately described as tessellated paving, was laid in 1958, at the time of the Jubilee celebrations, and as the inscription records, it is the gift of the children of St. Margaret’s, that is to say, it is the gift of the children – and their friends – of the first generation in the life of the church.

The floor, or paving, is designed to conform to the Celtic Romanesque style of the remainder of the church itself and to harmonise with the colouring of the semi-dome overhead, and so, adopting the Celtic motif, and incorporating the traditional colours of white for Grace, black for Sin, red for Repentance, and, of course the “Westminster” blue always associated with Saint Margaret, the floor seeks to tell the story of the regenerating power of the Sacrament of Baptism.

Thus, in the decorative panels will be seen differing arrangements of that peculiarly Celtic form of interlacing, which, having neither beginning nor end, signifies not only Grace in its infinite variety, but also, circumscribed by the black borders, “the Sin that doth so easily beset us”.

Before we approach the Font it will be seen how that Sin cancels out both Repentance and Grace, but we also see that by following the way of the Font, either to the right or to the left, we are led to the crown of the apse, and to The Cross, which with Repentance, ultimately cancels out sin.

The children are especially commemorated in the intermediate decorative panels, which, whilst retaining the Celtic motif, display some of the pastimes of the children of the generation 1908 – 1958, including a Noah’s Ark, a skipping rope, a ball, a whip and peerie, a kaleidoscope, and bell tents of the Scouts and Guides pitched in a Highland setting.

...Likewise/

... Likewise reckon yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin; but alive unto God, through Jesus Christ our Lord...

With this flooring, the whole work in the Baptistry done by the children is now complete.

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## **Theatre news**



The Pantheon Club, which has brought fantastic shows to Glasgow for the past 80 years, is presenting the 80's musical Footloose at the King's Theatre from November 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>.

Liz Bryce will be appearing in this, albeit in a small way, and would be very happy to know you are in the audience. If you would like more information or for her to get you tickets with no admin charges please let her know very soon and it can be arranged. If the show is anything like the usual Pantheon standard you will not be disappointed.

*Liz Bryce*

## **Notes from the Editor**

As you can see, it's a pretty full magazine this month. Thanks for all your contributions; I've had to hold some over, but please keep them coming!

Thoughts and feedback on the magazine content and layout will be welcome.

I'm hoping to form a small group to help collect and prepare material for the magazine, and would like to invite anyone interested in this to a meeting on Friday 12 November, at 7.30pm in the Upper Room.

## **Friends at St Margaret's.....**

*“Carry each others’ burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ” (Galatians 6.2).*

I would like to thank everyone who sent me cards and flowers, made telephone calls and visited me following the sad loss of my grandson Alan. I was very grateful for the love and concern shown.

The whole family appreciated the many people who attended the Thanksgiving Service for Alan. It was a wonderful tribute to him.

*Connie Fowler*

As many of you know, the last few weeks have been a rollercoaster of deep emotions—the great great sadness of our loss counteracted by the joy of new beginnings in married life.

We have been strengthened and encouraged by the prayers, love and concern of family and friends and just wanted to let you know how very much your support has been appreciated.

*Moir, Hilary, Michael and Alison Atkinson*

## **East End Kids - Christmas gifts**

This year we will again be collecting Christmas gifts for disadvantaged youngsters in the East End of Glasgow. The age range is babies to teenagers. Please bring new gifts, unwrapped, on Sunday 28 November or Sunday 5 December. Thereafter they will be taken to the offices of the Glasgow Children’s Holiday Scheme and distributed to needy youngsters. The staff are always delighted to receive these gifts and send an enthusiastic letter of thanks at the end of the year.

Very many thanks to you all in appreciation of your response which has always been wonderful.

*Fiona McCracken and Dorothy Williamson*

## Alzheimers Craft Fair

It's me again with an update on the Wednesday Quilters' activities. Our handmade quilt, which will be first prize in the Grand Draw, is now finished, It is made of coffee and cream coloured fabric in a Log Cabin design (please note that Log Cabin is a type of patchwork and not a series of pictures of log cabins, as non sewers often think!).

A wide variety of items will also be on sale, hand made and unique. These can be bought only at the Craft Fair, so I hope that you will be able to come along and help us raise funds for Alzheimer Scotland.

Raffle tickets are now available and can be bought from Jan MacDonald. Looking forward to seeing you again.

*Irene Dunbar*

## Fun Corner - Bible Quiz

1. When Jesus performed His miracle in Cana of Galilee, what did He turn the water into?
2. What is the longest Psalm in the Bible?
3. What did Lydia sell?
4. In what book of the Bible do you find the phrase "cleanliness is next to godliness"?
5. What is the beginning of knowledge?
6. How many years are but one day to God?
7. Who inherited Elijah's mantle?
8. What name did Matthew use before Jesus called him?
9. What request regarding John the Baptist did Herodias' daughter make?
10. What was the name of Moses' wife?

Answers in the next issue!

"Most people are bothered by those passages in Scripture which they cannot understand; but as for me I always notice that the passages in Scripture which trouble me most are those that I do understand."

*Mark Twain*

# In the Garden



## The answer lies in the soil..... - Part 1

Nature's own recipe for a good soil has 2 main ingredients; finely broken down stone particles from the bedrock deep underground and decomposed organic matter from the dead plants, animal waste and fallen leaves being continually deposited on the surface. Over time, natural processes bring these two ingredients together to form the "soil crumbs" which make up our topsoil.

Between the soil crumbs we find a complex network of small spaces (*the "pore spaces"*) and these are probably more important than the soil crumbs themselves. They contain the soil-air (*an extension of the atmosphere we breath*), store water (*vital for the survival of plants*), allow excess water to drain away after rainfall, and provide easy passage for the growth of roots and a habitat for the myriads of soil living organisms.

Damage or destroy these spaces and the soil will be compacted, air will be excluded, water will tend to puddle on the surface rather than move through the soil and on slopes. This surface water will start to run downhill causing soil erosion. Generally, the soil's ability to support life will be impaired and plant growth will suffer.

We can minimise physical damage to our soil structure by taking a few simple precautions. Walk on bare soil as little as possible, especially after cultivation and use planks to spread your weight when weeding, planting or pushing wheelbarrows. Never work on the soil when it is thawing after frost, saturated after rainfall or when snow is lying, avoid excessive cultivation (*you can overwork the soil and physically break down the soil crumbs too far*) and finally add plenty of organic matter.

The organic component is the real key to soil health, as it sticks the soil crumbs together and strengthens them (*and the pore spaces*), retains moisture, sustains the soil's population and provides natural plant nutrients that are not easily washed away. (*Granular fertilizers are!*)

In the natural world there is a constant and ample supply of organic matter recycling back into the soil and some of the best soils anywhere are to be found under perfectly natural grassland or on a wild woodland floor. (*Guess why large swathes of virgin rain-forest are destroyed globally to create new agricultural land??*)

On cultivated land however, (*for example gardens, farmland, parks and golf courses*) it's a different story. Organic recycling doesn't happen to the same extent because we pull out and throw away dead plants at the end of the growing season, rake up and remove the fallen leaves, impose our choice of vegetation on the land then remove it as a "crop", kill native plants when they appear (*weeds!*), cut the grass and remove the clippings and often keep the soil surface between our valued specimens devoid of any vegetation whatsoever. All the organic matter that should be recycling back into the soil isn't allowed to, with the net result that many "managed" soils have an organic matter deficit leading to a poor and easily damaged crumb structure, a rather grey and pale colour (*indicating a lack of organic content*), infertility and a tendency towards being dusty and dry.

In cultivated situations we have to a great extent taken nature out of the equation and so these soils are almost entirely dependent on human intervention to ensure that the recycling of organic matter takes place. We should be adding garden compost, farmyard manure, leaf mould, rotted grass clippings, seaweed, basically anything organic to bare soil at every opportunity, but we rarely do and hardly ever in sufficient quantities to match what would be happening if nature were in sole charge!

So how can we redress the balance? Find out in Part 2 sometime in the New Year.

*Kenneth Watson*

## **Vestry Report October 2010**

A periodic summary of Vestry decisions regarding key issues facing the Church will be produced in order to keep the Congregation informed and ensure the process of communication works both ways. Members of the Congregation are encouraged to raise any issues they have by contacting the Secretary to the Vestry.

### **The Organ**

The Organ has suffered recurring problems over the course of the last year. The Vestry has decided to form a working group, consisting of the Rector, Director of Music and Vestry and Congregation members, to obtain professional opinions as to the exact nature of the problem and to consider all options for repair, refurbishment and/or replacement. A report will be produced for discussion no later than March 2011. Please note **no decision has been made as to what definitive action is required**. We are in a process of information gathering and this must take place first to fully inform decision-making.

## **Garden of Remembrance**

There is a need to extend the current Garden of Remembrance. A suitable alternative site has been identified within the Church grounds, easily accessible to all while providing the necessary seclusion. We hope the site will be consecrated by the Bishop when he visits and ready for use shortly.

## **Sunday First Services**

The All Age Service, also previously known as the Second Sunday Service, ran for a trial period of one year during the tenure of our previous Rector. After a process of consultation, taking into account feedback from members of the Congregation, the Rector and Vestry are keen that this continues for the foreseeable future, being in broad agreement that the All Age Service, now to be known as the **Sunday First Service**, makes a valuable contribution to our regular worship.

Sunday First services will now take place bimonthly. Dates will be published on the website and in the Magazine.

## **Revision of the Constitution**

A revision of our current Constitution, mandated by a change in Charities Law, is currently underway. This will require ratification at the AGM and at a second meeting thereafter. Copies of the proposed revision will be circulated in due course.

## **Vestry vacancies**

It is anticipated that there will be up to three vacancies for the position of Ordinary Member of the Vestry come the next Annual General Meeting. Ordinary Members are usually elected for an initial term of two years which can be extended to four years. Recommendations for nomination are welcome.

Charity Law requires that Vestry members sign a declaration that they are Fit and Proper Persons. Further details are available at <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/charities/guidance-notes/chapter2/fp-persons-test.htm>.

Additionally it is anticipated that the post of People's Warden will be vacant come the next AGM. The People's Warden is elected by the Congregation at the AGM and holds the post for a term of not more than four years. Members of the Congregation are urged to give this their consideration.

The AGM is scheduled to be held on Sunday 28th November after the Sung Eucharist.

## Church officials and key contacts

<b>Organist &amp; Director of Music</b>	Michael Bawtree	(as office)
<b>Creche Organiser</b>	F Graham	
<b>Sunday School contact person</b>	<i>vacant</i>	
<b>Youth Group Co-ordinator</b>	<i>vacant</i>	
<b>Bible Study/House/Prayer Groups</b>	The Rector	
<b>Lay Reader Emeritus</b>	A Linnegan	
<b>Church Wardens</b>		
<b>People's Warden</b>	L Fisher	
<b>Rector's Warden</b>	G Allan	
<b>Secretary to the Vestry</b>	J Girling	
<b>Treasurer</b>	M Gibson	
<b>Other contacts</b>		
<b>Altar Linen</b>	F McCracken	
<b>Archivist</b>	C Fowler	
<b>Catering Co-ordinator</b>	J MacDonald	
<b>Child Protection Co-ordinator</b>	C Ball	
<b>Domestic Bursar</b>	F Campbell	
<b>Fair Trade Co-ordinator</b>	L Bryce	
<b>Flowers</b>	O Parkes	
<b>Freewill Offering Secretary</b>	G McKendrick	
<b>Garden Co-ordinator</b>	<i>vacant</i>	
<b>Gift Aid Secretary</b>	R Connor	
<b>Hall Convener</b>	M Livingstone	
<b>Lay Diocesan Representative</b>	J Whiteside	
<b>Magazine Distribution</b>	C Fowler	
<b>Magazine Editor</b>	J Gibson	
<b>Pastoral Care Team</b>	Ei Smith	
<b>Property Convener</b>	<i>vacant</i>	
<b>Readers' Rota</b>	J Girling	
<b>Roll-keeper</b>	J Gray	
<b>Stewards' Rota</b>	E McIndoe	
<b>Sunday Coffee Rota</b>	F Campbell	

## **The Last Word**

A father was approached by his small son who proudly told him “I know what the Bible means!” His father smiled and replied, “What do you mean, you ‘know’ what the Bible means?” The son replied “I do know!” “Okay, said his father, “What does the Bible mean?” “That’s easy, Daddy....,” the young boy replied excitedly, “It stands for Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.”

## **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 Website address: [www.episcopalnewlands.org.uk](http://www.episcopalnewlands.org.uk)  
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**Copy deadline  
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