

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

**50p**

**April 2011 - Easter edition**



He hangs, by whom the world was made,  
Beneath the darkened sky;  
The everlasting ransom paid,  
I see my Saviour die.

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926- )*

## **THE CHURCH OFFICE**

353/355 Kilmarnock Road, Newlands, Glasgow G43 2DS  
Open Monday to Friday 9.00am to 1.00pm  
0141 636 1131  
Church administrator: Miss May Livingstone

## **CLERGY**

Rector: Reverend Scott Robertson BD MA PhD  
22 Monreith Road, Newlands, Glasgow G43 2NY  
0141 632 3292

Associate Priest: Reverend 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 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)  
email: [stmargaretsnewlands@btinternet.com](mailto:stmargaretsnewlands@btinternet.com)

Diocesan website: [www.scotland.anglican.org/diocese/glasgow](http://www.scotland.anglican.org/diocese/glasgow)

Magazine submissions to [stmargaretsnewlands@btinternet.com](mailto:stmargaretsnewlands@btinternet.com),  
or [maidagibson@hotmail.com](mailto:maidagibson@hotmail.com), marked "Magazine",  
or in the drawer marked "Magazine Editor" at the back of the church

## Notes and reminders

The church's new email address is [stmargaretsnewlands@btinternet.com](mailto:stmargaretsnewlands@btinternet.com)

### Easter Lilies

If you would like to donate a lily in memory of a loved one, and help to beautify the church at Easter, please complete the form enclosed with last month's magazine. Please return the form **by Sunday 10 April**, with your remittance, so that the list can be prepared.

### Lent Boxes

This year's the Bishop's Lent Appeal is to support the work of Mercy Ships, an international Christian charity that provides free medical and humanitarian care to some of the world's poorest people. It is sometimes hard for us in Scotland where health care is plentiful (whatever we may say about the NHS!) to remember that there are many parts of the world where it is all too scarce. The Lent Boxes are at the back of the church and should be returned **by Easter Sunday 24 April**. Please give generously.

### Mothering Sunday Diocesan Choral Evensong - Sunday 3 April

In St Mary's Cathedral 6.30pm, including music by Stanford and Elgar

**There will be no Rector's Hour on 27 April**

### Tuesday 10 May Bishop's Teaching Evening

Easter Encounters, an exploration of the Gospel Easter narratives  
St Silas', 69 Park Road 7.30pm

### Included in this issue:

Diocesan Growth Strategy	Page 6
The Word - Amazing Grace	Page 9
News from Paul Watson	Page 10
Church Calendar	Page 12
Fragile Planet	Page 14
Puzzle Page	Page 15
Intercessions	Page 16
In the Garden	Page 18
The Big 5	Page 20
Letter from North America	Page 21

## Scott writes.....

Dear All,

No sooner had the world felt that it was appropriate to move on from the terrible events in Christchurch, New Zealand than a cataclysm of biblical proportions struck the north-east coast of Japan. The numbers 6.3 and 9 are, on the face of it, not so far apart, but if one uses these numbers to describe earthquakes then the difference is monumental. Japan fell victim to an event one thousand times more powerful than that which occurred in New Zealand. Apparently Japan (that is the *entire* north island of Honshu) has moved 8 feet eastward as a result of the quake. Because of the effect the event has had on the earth's axis (it shifted some 8 inches), our day, according to NASA, has shortened by 1.8 milliseconds. The word 'seismic' doesn't do it justice. At the human level, none of us will, I'm sure, ever forget the images and footage of the relentless wall of water which tossed vehicles like toys, uprooted houses like weeds, and quite literally wiped entire towns off the map. In the face of such overwhelming experience, often the best recourse is to remain silent. At Ibrox the other evening, I, along with 40,000 others, took part in a silence to offer sympathy and mark our collective inability to do much else before the power of our planet.



Silence, however, though powerful and appropriate in its proper place, must give way to words in the fullness of time. The Bible (a book not short on experiences of disaster) offers us these words:

How lonely sits the city  
That once was full of people!  
How like a widow she has become  
She that was great among the nations!

*Lamentations 1:1*

The cry of lamentation does have its place. We too often dismiss it as a waste of time, and worse an expression of faithlessness. To cry out can become associated with a kind of spiritual weakness that is unbecoming those of us who would call ourselves religious. Far better that we bow before the Almighty and just grin and bear it. That advice finds its place in the Bible, too. It was the advice that was given by Job's comforters. In fact they went further. Instead of keeping their big mouths shut, (which they did at the beginning of the book), they attempted what is called a 'theodicy' (a philosophical attempt to justify the purposes of God). In other words they basically tried to prove to Job that

there must be a reason behind his suffering. Chief amongst these reasons was Job's obvious sinfulness – Eliphaz says:

‘Is it for your piety that he reproves you, and enters into judgement with you? Is not your wickedness great?’

*Job 22: 4-5*

Eliphaz's ancient platitudes (Job is considered by some to be amongst the oldest books of the Hebrew Bible) echo down the centuries to our own day with tele-evangelists who lick their lips at events in Sendai as irrefutable, delicious evidence of the imminent apocalypse.

The point of *Job* is not to offer answers to the question of suffering or to interpret it in our own theological image. No, it is to offer us the radical message that honesty before God is actually okay. He laments his loss with terrific passion and dignity. He cries out to God, he cries out against God, he cries out. The book of Job is an expression of our humanity in the face of overwhelming odds. It provides no clues to why things happen, but it does provide us with the experience of one courageous individual who was able to open his mouth and release his pain before God. Lucy Winkett, in a book called *The Sound is our Wound*, writes this:

Lament is visceral, not mannered, and it makes itself heard without our permission or initiative. Although later formalized in liturgy, in origin lament is involuntary, as if we were retching out our pain.

In the face of such pain, Easter is another retching. It is a retching from the tomb of the overwhelming and joyful response of God to the unfathomable monstrosity of Good Friday. It is not a theological answer, it is not a doctrinal statement that can be put in a church's book of discipline – it is the cry of God to a hurting world and the cry is there for you, if you have ears to hear. As we approach the great day, and in anticipation of the reverberation of that Easter cry, pray for the peace of Tokyo, plead for the people of Fukushima and lament for those who, like us, live on the fragile, hard edge of eternity.

*Scott*

# DIOCESAN GROWTH STRATEGY



What do you think? Do you look around at the empty seats or pews which surround you on a Sunday and feel despondent about falling numbers and the lack of young folk in the Church today? Or do you worry about those outside the Church whose lives lack any knowledge of the God who loves them and wants them to have life in all its fullness? Or both? Do you see a crisis or do you see an opportunity?

As believers, we serve a God whose mission is to redeem His creation. God sent Jesus and Jesus sends us. God's mission has a Church! Bishop Gregor pledged to promote a strategy which would open the way for this mission to grow and develop in the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.

This process began with a reality check; a 'summer questionnaire' filled in by vestries and clergy and this identified strengths, hopes, and weaknesses. Regions then met to discuss the findings of the questionnaires and to appoint a Growth Strategy Representative, which for Glasgow South is myself. My role is to work with other regional reps and develop the Diocesan Growth Strategy which will be launched at Pentecost.

## **What are we trying to do?**

The Strategy will provide a framework which will guide our planning over the coming years, both as individual charges and as a Diocese. The framework aims to ensure that the resources, support and training are in place for the plans to come to fruition. Individual charges will plan their mission activities and will be supported by those in authority and by each other. Communication will be a vital part of the strategy so that we know what others are doing - what is working and what is not worth trying! It is a Strategy which will foster growth.

## **Six areas of growth have been identified:**

1. Prayer and spirituality
2. Learning and discipleship
3. Missional Leadership
4. Numerical Growth/welcome and integration

5. Imaginative outreach into the local community
6. Children and young people

**Where do we go from here?**

Every charge will be helped to draw up a ‘Mission Action Plan’. This plan will identify areas from the six strands above which the community wants to develop. The Mission Action Plan will be time specified, specific in nature and evaluated. Regional Facilitators will be trained to help the charges draw up these plans. Each congregation’s plan will be reviewed annually by the Bishop or Dean.



Anyone who would be interested in finding out more about becoming trained as a Regional Facilitator should contact me on 01360 620 258 or at [sue.cowling@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.cowling@btinternet.com). Training will be provided by the Diocese and will start in the spring. I know we are all busy but this is a vital part of our church life and it will be exciting to be helping to make it happen.

*Sue Cowling*

~~~~~

**Music Notes**

It will probably not have escaped your notice that Michael Bawtree has been exceptionally busy of late. He masterminded a wonderful concert in St Mary’s Cathedral on 28 February in aid of the victims of the earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand, raising £5,000.

Here at St Margaret’s he has led the choir in our Choral evensong on 20 February and has also brought to us Vicky Blair and Bede Williams the talented trumpeters who featured in the Sunday concert on 13 February (and got married five days later!) and also the quixotically named trio Daniel’s Beard (violin, horn and piano), who played for us on 13 March, and who performed the world premiere of a Horn trio by Eddie McGuire.

These concerts remain a worthwhile community outreach, as well over half the audience are not members of St Margaret’s.

~~~~~

## Vestry report

### Finance



February showed a deficit of £4,500, largely due to a drop in Freewill Offering income and the resumption of the quota payment. The deficit for the five months to February is £18,837.

Income for the Organ Fund stands at £4,804.

### Diocesan seminars

St Margaret's was represented at the seminar on Fundraising (12 Feb), where a number of useful ideas were gained. The Diocesan Growth Strategy is the subject of a separate article (see page 6).

Under the title of "Know Your Stuff", St Margaret's hosted a seminar for South Side Region churches, focusing on Charity legislation and good practice for Vestries.

### Church in Society

We have contributed to a questionnaire compiled by the Church in Society committee of the Diocese giving details of our involvement with our local community.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Calling all theatre fans!

The High School Musical takes place at the SECC from May 21 to 23. Make sure you come!

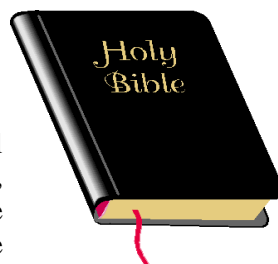
### News from the Fair Trade Stall

Many thanks to all who baked for and bought from our Big Brew cake stall on 13 March. £176 was raised and this plus £50 will be sent to Traidcraft Exchange to help support beekeepers in the poor communities of the developing world. £25 can provide a hive of bees, £75 can equip a beekeeper with hives, tools and training, and £150 can train a beekeeping cooperative.

Look out for the results from the Honey Quiz in next month's magazine. Please note that you can now buy your Easter eggs from the Fair Trade stall. Thanks again for all your support, and remember that is an easy way to make a difference.

*Liz Bryce*

## 400 years on from The Authorized Version *Reflections on “The Word” - Amazing Grace*



John Newton (1725 - 1807), converted slave trader, is well known through his hymns, most particularly, perhaps, “Amazing Grace”, but also others such as “How sweet the name of Jesus sounds”, “Glorious things of thee are spoken”, “May the grace of Christ my Saviour”. Many were written in conjunction with William Cowper for midweek meetings at Olney in Buckinghamshire, where Newton was a minister from 1764 to 1779.

John Newton was, however, also a prolific letter writer. He once wrote “Anatomy is my favourite branch; I mean the study of the human heart with all its workings and counter-workings, as it is differently affected in a state of nature or of grace”, and many had cause to be grateful to him for his advice and counsel on spiritual growth and development. Here is an extract from one of his letters on the subject of growth in grace, based on Jesus’s words in Mark 4.28, “All by itself the soil produces corn, first the blade, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear”.

“The Christian is in the same state of absolute dependence, as incapable of performing spiritual acts, or of resisting temptation by his own power, as he was at the first day of his setting out. Yet he is in a sense much stronger, because he has a more constant sense of his own weakness. His heart has deceived him so often, that he is now in a good measure weaned from trusting it; and therefore he does not meet with so many disappointments. And having found again and again the vanity of other helps, he is now taught to go to the Lord at once for “grace to help in every time of need”. Thus he is strong, not in himself, but in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

“His life is marked by humility, spirituality and a union of heart to the glory and will of God. Apprehending the infinite Majesty of God combined with Infinite Love, he is content in every state and shows a tenderness of spirit towards his fellow Christians. His spiritual taste means that the world can never be his prevailing choice. A palace would be a prison to him without the Lord’s presence, and a prison would be a palace. From hence arises a peaceful reliance upon the Lord. His desire to seek the will of God means that as he advances nearer to Him his judgement, aim and end will be conformable to His, and His glory will have the highest place in his heart.

“May the Lord give to you and me daily to grow in the experience of that wisdom which ‘is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good works, without partiality, and without hypocrisy’ ”. *Jim Gibson*

## News from Paul Watson

*Readers may be interested in hearing about Paul Watson whom we supported when he was in Sri Lanka, and who is now in Aberdeen.*

We feel very blessed to be living in such a beautiful part of the UK where the four seasons are so distinct and our walks with dog and daughters continually vary as the year goes through its cycle.



### Called to till God's garden

One of the images that resonated with me many years ago as I prayed through whether to become a church minister was that of a gardener. Each pastor is called to a particular patch of ground, to tend the soil and understand the unique local conditions so that he may work with God over the long haul and with great patience grow and nurture a garden from the raw humus of life and scripture. Two and a half years in, I feel that calling more than ever here in this 21<sup>st</sup> century patch on the western edge of Aberdeen with the unique mix of folk in church and community.



Part of the process has been coming to terms with my own limitations, unspoken agendas and bustling ego ( I thought all I needed to do was to show up and “be me” and the church would grow!). Some folk have left, other folk have come, the church is slowly moving towards greater health and spiritual vitality

but we are seeing very few non Christians come over our door and our vision for mission needs to grow. So, gardening is a steady and careful work in this affluent and secure area as we trust ourselves to Christ's purpose and learn what it means to be good news to this generation.

### Guiding lives

Ina is happy in her two jobs as Student Counsellor at Robert Gordon University and with Capita Health Solutions. The variety of clients she has makes her work stimulating and stretching, ranging from undergraduates to senior oil executives. Abigail and Hannah are well and enjoying this time of life when their inner and outer worlds are expanding and they are making their choices about friendships, values, faith, studies, priorities and so on. There are immensely powerful narratives and discourses shaping young people's lives today and we would value your prayers as we try to live out the gospel, that this will ground and guide our children.

## Kandy friends



We are planning to be in Sri Lanka for most of July and look forward to seeing many friends again who still mean much to us. We feel privileged as a family to have received such friendship from folk we got to know in Kandy and I know our link with that beautiful island will continue for years to come.

## Grace sufficient

I lost most of my hearing last July after fracturing my skull on a low ceiling. This was not an easy time; however, through the incredibly loyal support of Ina and the girls (who affectionately call me Dalek Man) my wider family and the congregation, and the NHS who have equipped me with hearing aids, I am coming to terms with this change in life. My ministry and life continues in more vulnerable terms than before, but I am hoping that time will show that I and others will be the richer for that. God has been generous to me in preserving me so far from darkness or despair and I now have much greater empathy with those with long term chronic conditions and disabilities.

\*\*\*\*\*

## To my mother

I watch you on your constant way,  
In selfless duty long grown grey;  
And to myself I say  
That I have lived my life to learn  
How lives like yours unasking earn  
Aureoles that guide, and burn  
In heart's remembrance when the proud  
Who snared the suffrage of the crowd  
Are dumb and dusty browed...  
For you live onward in my thought  
Because you have not sought  
Rewards that can be bought.  
And so when I remember you  
I think of all things rich and true  
That I have reaped and wrought.



*Siegfried Sassoon*

## April Calendar of events

Sun 3rd	All Age Worship
Mon 4th	Vestry meeting 7.30pm
Tues 5th	Holy Communion 10am
Wed 6th	Rector's Hour at the church 6pm Lent Study Group 7.30pm in the Upper Room
Thu 7th	Lenten Eucharist 7.30pm
Sun 10th	Lent 5 - Baptism Second Sunday concert in the church 3.30pm Artisan Trio - works by Brahms, Gal and Nicholson
Tues 12th	Holy Communion 10am
Wed 13th	Rector's Hour at the church 6pm Lent Study Group 7.30pm in the Upper Room
Thu 14th	Lenten Eucharist 7.30pm
Sun 17th	Palm Sunday
Tues 19th	Holy Communion 10am
Wed 20th	Rector's Hour at the church 6pm Lent Study Group 7.30pm in the Upper Room
Thur 21st	Maundy Thursday service 7.30pm
Fri 22nd	Good Friday Service 2pm Ecumenical service 7.30pm
Sat 23rd	Easter Vigil 8pm
<b>Sun 24th</b>	<b>Easter Day</b> Service in Newlands Park 7am Sung Eucharist 10.30am
Tues 26th	Holy Communion 10am

## Rotas for April

	Apr 3	Apr 10	Apr 17	Apr 24
<b>Counters</b>	G McKendrick	D Smith	L Wallace	F Campbell
	J Pexton	J Whiteside	C Lennox	J Gibson
<b>Stewards</b>	F Harvey	M Davidson	M Linnegan	A Panickar
	D Williamson	C MacDonald	M Atkinson	K Panickar
<b>Reader</b>	H Cais	A Rawson	G McKendrick	M Whiteside

<b>Readings for April</b>	
3 April Mothering Sunday	Isaiah 49: 12-18 Luke 2: 25-35
10 April Lent 5	Ezekiel 37: 1-14 Romans 8: 6-11 John 11: 17-45
17 April Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50: 4-9a Philippians 2: 5-11 Matthew 26 and 27 (passim)
21 April Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26 John 13: 1-17, 31b-35
24 April Easter Sunday	Jeremiah 31: 1-6 Acts 10: 34-43 John 20: 1-18

### **Christian Aid Book Sale – Your help needed**

Merrylea Parish Church is planning a book sale and cafe in aid of Christian Aid on Saturday 16 April from 10am to 3pm. To make this event a success they need loads of books for the sale. They are looking for all kinds of books, fiction and non fiction, from all authors. It doesn't matter how old or new they are, Merrylea want them! If you have any unwanted books you could donate, even if it's only one or two could you please leave them in the box at the back of the church and we'll make sure they get to Merrylea.

Merrylea is also open for donations of books on Saturday 9 April from 10am to 2pm and Friday 15 April from 10am to 2pm.

Merrylea also warmly invite us to the book sale to enjoy fellowship over coffee and a browse round the books.

## Fragile Planet

5,500,000,000,000,000, (that is 5,500 million million) plastic pellets will this year be disposed of and will end up polluting our ocean. The seas are already full of plastic which, when acted on by sunlight and wave motion, releases toxins that are absorbed by fish and plankton and ultimately end up on our plates.



The UK based STOP (Science and Technology against Ocean Plastics) is working to change this. As well as lobbying governments and raising awareness of the issue, it is encouraging industry to develop more sustainable materials. It also identifies and invests in practical solutions to clear plastic waste already littering our oceans and beaches.

Anyone who has walked along our coastal shore will have seen the debris which accumulates and it is no surprise to learn that what we have in Scotland is literally a drop in the ocean. This campaign deserves our support.

To learn more about the campaign, visit [www.stopoceanplastics.org](http://www.stopoceanplastics.org).

## Last month's Sudoku solution - SPRINGDAY

R	I	S	P	N	Y	A	G	D
P	Y	D	R	A	G	I	N	S
N	G	A	I	S	D	P	Y	R
A	D	Y	N	R	P	S	I	G
S	R	P	G	I	A	Y	D	N
G	N	I	D	Y	S	R	P	A
I	P	G	S	D	R	N	A	Y
D	A	R	Y	P	N	G	S	I
Y	S	N	A	G	I	D	R	P

# EASTER WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

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

APRIL

BASKET

BUNNY

CANDLES

CELEBRATION

CHOCOLATE

CHRISTIAN

CHURCH

COLORED EGGS

CRUCIFIXION

EASTER SUNDAY

EGG HUNT

GOOD FRIDAY

HOLIDAY

HOT CROSS  
BUNS

LILY

LONG WEEKEND

MARCH

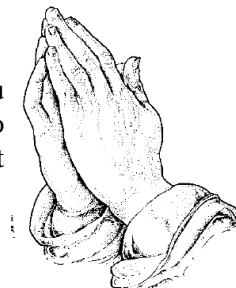
RESURRECTION

SPRING

## Intercessions

Lord God, you alone, are our strength and our provider. You see our every need and will never forget us. Help us to remember that we are safe and secure in your hands and that we need not fret our lives away worrying.

***Lord our rock, let us stand firm.***



God our strength we know we can trust you. Help us to be people you can trust. Bless us individually and as a congregation to use the talents, possessions and time you have bestowed on us to work with you for the good of the world. May we not be distracted by material desires. May we be strong when we encounter misunderstanding, criticism or ridicule from those who do not understand our motives.

***Lord our rock, let us stand firm.***

We bring to his love, all who have power and influence over people's lives. We pray for all who are working in the political arena. We pray that whatever their religion they hear God's voice speaking to them, encouraging them to work for love, justice and peace. We remember all who live in countries suffering political unrest especially the people of Libya. We pray that every leader and citizen may have freedom and the opportunity to live an honest and peaceful life.

***Lord our rock, let us stand firm.***

As this is Fair-trade fortnight we give thanks for the work of the Fair-trade movement and pray for all those who rely on our support for their daily needs. Help them not to worry but to trust that with God's help trade justice will prevail.

***Lord our rock, let us stand firm.***

We bring to His love all who are ill at this time, especially all who are anxious and fearful; all who find life a constant worry and cannot cope with their problems; those who are unable to relax; that through each may flow the healing peace of God to allow them to unwind and rest in his love.

***Lord our rock, let us stand firm.***

Why do we worry about things we can't afford or what the media tell us we need? God our provider, help us always to remember that Jesus told us not to worry about food, clothes or what tomorrow may bring but only to be concerned about what we are doing with our lives.

And so, we bring to his love ourselves and those we love and any particular problems that are worrying us or them. We pray that we have faith to trust in

God's love for us, and put ourselves consciously into his care knowing that he will not let us come to harm.

***Lord our rock, let us stand firm.***

Father in confidence we pray and ask you to accept these prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

*Liz Bryce (27 February)*

## **Hands**

I see Lord, in my tightly clenched fists, a symbol of myself. I grasp my life, hiding all I don't want others to see.



I hold my pride, I hold my anxieties, I hold my fear, I hold my anger.

I ache with this tension, with the immense energy required to hide myself

- from you, lest you change me
- from them, lest they hurt me

With these fists I want to strike out – against you – against them – against all that threatens me. But I see, in these whitened knuckles and straining forearms what this is doing to me.

I am enslaved.

But I sense your presence Lord – your open hands reaching out to me.

I slowly open my hands and release myself to you  
I offer all I have been grasping so tightly.



Lord! My arms no longer ache!  
They are open and able to receive  
Fill them with your love!  
Show them how to touch, how to serve.  
Freed from my own grasp, I am suddenly aware of others.  
I reach out to my sisters and brothers.

Let our hands be your hands to reach out to the world you love.

*(Contributed by Penny Forshaw)*

## In the Garden.....

We continue our interviews with what has been good and bad for our allotment holders.

Name – Jan MacDonald  
Allotment Site - Mansewood

### Do you tend your plot on your own?

I well remember the emphasis Wil Frew put on “*Do you have someone to give you a hand??*” as he looked me up and down: a prospective female plot-holder with potentially a huge amount of repairs to do to a dilapidated shed and a very over-grown plot in need of much structural work. I looked him straight in the eye and said “Yes. *I can manage*”. Of course I had the luxury of knowing that I had at least one willing (with bribes) pair of hands – possibly more. The potential greatly outweighed the work-load (women are good at that kind of calculation...!)



### How long have you been growing veg?

I grew up in a house full of plants...my eldest sister, backed up by my mum. Plants were important. As a student I had the usual robust house plants and progressed to herbs in (London) window-boxes. I moved to Skye with a garden of “Russian Steppes micro-environment” – but still excited and keen; no time but keen...I had the wonderful opportunity to work for a year on a croft producing high quality organic salad leaves, fruit and veg whose produce I had previously used in my own restaurant. That was it! I was hooked; having never grown more than a nasturtium from seed I now wanted to grow *all* veg!

When I came to Glasgow I sought out the possibility of getting an allotment and was lucky enough to get one locally – albeit on a run down site; but I didn’t care. So Yes, I’ve been growing veg for 4 years now on an allotment!

### Which crops grew exceptionally well for you over the past season?

Every year is better than the last. In 2010 the best crops have been the beans – runner, broad and dwarf as well as peas – tall mangetout and shorter pod peas. The Brussels sprouts – including an open red variety have been excellent as were the red cabbage, summer cabbage, “wok-broc” and kale. For the first time I grew good cauliflowers!

All fruit has been fab – apples, pears, crab-apples, blueberries, strawberries & raspberries. 14lb gooseberries went into wine! Oops; nearly forgot the garlic and parsnips – still eating both.

Potatoes – Red Duke of York (Lady Christl not as good), Juliette (salad) and Valour (MC) despite the fact I mixed up the tubers! Sarpo Mira were as blight resistant as the packet said. Much success due to use of trickle hose laid down before the foliage got too high and no leaf mould to earth up!

### What was the most challenging aspect of the past season?

Forgot to sow a lot of seeds planned, especially salad leaves – just too busy with this and that, and time away! Lack of pollination in a small greenhouse; watched with envy how neglected aubergines in a big communal greenhouse set beautiful fruit on sad plants while my nice plants failed to set and hold fruit!

### What was the most challenging pest or disease on your plot?

Slugs; perennial problem, but I do use Nemaslug bio-control which is expensive, but effective. To be honest, no *particular* pest problem. My best tip was garlic spray + chilli for aphids (aubergines in greenhouse). I strongly believe that healthy soil = healthy plants (not overcrowded, which I'm inclined to do) resist disease remarkably well. We always seem to be troubled by "early blight" on potatoes.

### Best moment on your plot?

Any opportunity for a BBQ on our own plot or up on the communal area – fantastic! Any time of year. Playing peek-a-boo with the resident fox is good fun too! (unless they nick your shoes or gloves!). Long tailed tits are soooo cute.

### One variety of vegetable you would recommend to others?

I love them all! But if I had to grow something easy and rewarding it is potatoes. Red Duke of York was fab! However I think for me (not Robert!) it is salad leaves. Having been supplied by, then worked for Brigitte on Skye, I learnt the value of a salad not made of iceberg lettuce.....I *love* my own mixed leaf salads – with every herb, continental and oriental leaf flavour. ☺ winter

### Any tips to pass onto new veg gardeners?

Read up as best you can, listen to others and just have a go – every year pays dividends. Don't over order on seed – swap where you can. Healthy soil.

### If you could invite 1 famous person to have a cup of tea with you on the plot, who would it be?

Hugh Fernley-Whittingstall does it for me as an all-round food producer with a chef's approach and a no waste attitude.

### Most useful tool in your shed?

Robert says shovel (that's cos I get him to do all the shovelling!).

I say the hoe – if properly used it does all the necessities in the growing season with very little effort!!!

## **The Big 5 - This month we interview Jan Whiteside**

### **Who is your heroine and why?**

My heroine has to be Emmeline Pankhurst. She was born in 1858 and spent most of her adult life fighting for the right of women to vote. She founded the Women's Franchise League which fought to allow married women the vote for local elections and later helped found the more militant Women's Social and Political Union. The members of this group were the first to be called suffragettes. She was arrested on many occasions and went on hunger strike which resulted in her being violently force fed. Without the commitment and bravery of Pankhurst and her followers, many years would have passed before women would have the right to vote.

### **What is your favourite piece of music: favourite painting: favourite poem?**

Usually the piece I last listened to, but having said that I have recently become acquainted with Kapsberger a late 16<sup>th</sup> Century composer of lute music. Wonderful!

Raphael's School of Athens. It has everything from wonderful architecture to humour!

"Warning" by Jenny Joseph. 'When I am old woman I shall wear purple with a red hat which doesn't go, and doesn't suit me.....but maybe I should practise a little now? So people who know me are not too shocked and surprised when suddenly I am old and start to wear purple.' My favourite poem has changed over the years and while I have always loved this it has become much more meaningful as I approach my 60th birthday!

### **What is your favourite book/film?**

As I am moving to Sri Lanka in the next few months I have been gradually adding books to my Kindle. However, there are a few books that will come in the case with me and Travelling Light by Max Lucado has to be one of them. This is a book about burdens and Lucado uses the words of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm to help us release the burdens that we were never meant to bear.

### **What is your favourite significant memory of St Margaret's?**

This has to be Mark's confirmation. The church looked stunning, the music was lovely and the then Bishop, Bishop Idris, was presiding at the service. We were joined by family and friends, many of whom are no longer with us.

### **Who would you like to be locked inside St Margaret's with?**

Bishop Richard Holloway, former Primus. I would like to hear more about why he decided to resign when he did and why the catalyst for him leaving was the 1998 Lambeth Conference.

## Letter from North America

*Joan Francuz, who lived in Glasgow for several years and attended St Margaret's reflects on similarities and differences in her church life in Nova Scotia.*

### Colourful history.....



Here in Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, I live in one of the oldest towns in Canada. The first French explorers arrived just over 400 years ago and we have had First Nations peoples living here for thousands of years. So people of faith have had plenty of time to build their churches.

Today the town has four churches that hold regular services: Catholic, Anglican, Baptist, and United and each one is a heritage property. It should be noted that the town now has fewer than 500 inhabitants and should probably be called a village but the locals refuse to admit that the population has declined!

The area was first settled by the French, and named Port Royal, so there has been a Catholic presence here since they arrived in 1605. The church of St. Louis is on the site of the original chapel built in 1605 but the current building was built in 1910. It is the oldest Catholic parish in Canada.

Then in 1710 the English defeated the French and named the town after Queen Anne, the reigning monarch. The current Anglican church of St. Luke's was built in 1822, replacing the building that had stood there. Remember that here in Canada most buildings are made of wood, so they don't last as long as the stone buildings that you may be accustomed to. Fire was and is a major threat, not to mention water damage caused by ice building up on the roof then thawing suddenly.

The land as well as the funds for building St. Luke's were provided by the Royal Family so that a Garrison Church would be provided for the officers, men, and their families stationed here. As a Royal Foundation, the Church is entitled to show the coat of arms above its main doors. The last regiment left Fort Anne in 1854.

The Baptist church has a strong presence in Atlantic Canada because of some early missionaries who came here. The Baptist Church in Annapolis Royal was built in 1874 and has a very large finger pointing upward (to heaven?) on its steeple.



### **Welcoming church.....**

When I moved here and starting looking for a church that had the same welcoming community and tradition of music as St. Margaret's, I found it at St. George and St. Andrew United Church.

The United Church is a Canadian invention that came into being in 1925 when the Methodist Church, the Congregational Union, and the Presbyterian Church joined together. It was the first union of churches in the world to cross historical denominational lines. I have always known the United Church as a liberal institution with a long history of social justice. They had a woman moderator in the 1960s, for example, and a history - through the Presbyterians - that went back to the French Huguenots who came to Canada to escape persecution. After this province moved from French to English control, Presbyterians came from Scotland and Ireland and soon outnumbered the small French group. The first ministers from Scotland were Daniel Cook, David Smith, and Hugh Graham who organized the Presbytery of Truro in 1786.

So I joined that church and soon found myself in the choir. And like every church I have ever been part of, we had a leaky roof which needed replacing. That debt was paid off last year thanks to our community dinners and our time and talent auctions. I donated an hour of computer training, for example, and people bid on that, and other people donated a meal cooked in their home for four people.

This year is the 100th anniversary of our building, a solid brick structure built by the Methodists, and we are commemorating it in many ways including a "heritage moment" read aloud during the service. That is how I found out that the manse was moved to the adjoining lot to make way for the current church which, in fact, was the third Methodist church to be built in Annapolis Royal.



## Church officials and key contacts

<b>Bible Study/House/Prayer Groups</b>	Scott Robertson
<b>Organist and Director of Music</b>	Michael Bawtree (as office)
<b>Church Wardens</b>	
<b>People's Warden</b>	E Smith
<b>Rector's Warden</b>	J Whelan
<b>Secretary to the Vestry</b>	A Panickar
<b>Treasurer</b>	M Gibson
<b>Lay Reader Emeritus</b>	A Linnegan
<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>Other contacts</b>	
<b>Altar Linen</b>	<i>vacant</i>
<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>	M Kennedy
<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>	E Smith
<b>Property Convener</b>	M Maddox
<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

**Stop Press!**

**Paul Romano to be Rector of St Ninian's**

It was announced on 20 March that Paul Romano, our Associate Priest, has been chosen to fill the vacancy at St Ninian's, Pollokshields. Paul will be retiring from his post with the City Council on 23 June and taking up his new duties in September. Said Paul, "I am deeply conscious of this great honour and I owe so much to you all at St Margaret's, who have taught me all I know". Paul, our prayers go with you.

**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)  
Scottish Charity No SC 008953

**Next issue 1 May**

**Copy deadline  
Wednesday 20 April 6pm**