

PARISH PUBLICATION

EDINBURGH PENTLANDS PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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UPDATES & ARTICLES

- REV. CALLUM MACFARLANE-GRIEVE •
- FROM THE SESSION CLERK • MESSY CHURCH •
- GREETINGS FROM MALLAIG •
- GROUPS & CLUBS • WALKING BY FAITH •





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THE PARISH PUBLICATION

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If you would like to submit an article for consideration for inclusion in the magazine, please provide an unformatted Word document (**not PDF**) together with hi-resolution JPEG image(s) which should be attached separately.

Article: 500 words

Notice: 150 words

Please note:

The deadline for the
**June / July 2026 issue is
Friday 22nd May**

Articles can be sent to the Editor at the email address above, or contact the Church Office. Please note that all articles are subject to editing.

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Guild of Friendship	Margaret Woodrow
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Leprosy Mission	Rita Brownlie
Messy Church	Alison Downie
Open Door Baby & Toddlers	Karen Barry & Linda Johnston

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Kath Hay
Editor

WELCOME to the Spring issue of our magazine

We are all delighted to welcome Rev. Callum Macfarlane-Grieve and Callum has provided his first article as our new Minister. Readers will also find images from the celebration, which took place at Juniper Green Church, following his induction on 26th February. Our former Locum Minister, Rev. Matthew Ross, sends good wishes to everyone and has provided an article about his new parish in Mallaig.

Readers will also find information on an event taking place at Heriot-Watt University regarding a re-creation of the Kinleith Paper Mill...then there are some reflections on Walking in Faith, interesting thoughts from our Fairtrade champion regarding how and what food we choose to eat...and much more.

My thanks go to all our many helpful contributors.

Felice Editrice

FROM HELLO TO GOODBYE

*“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven”
Ecclesiastes 3:1*

I am writing this at the close of my first fortnight and, in many ways, I do not know where the time has gone. It has just blown past in a whirlwind of activity.

What has stood out though, has been the sheer number of ‘hellos’ and ‘goodbyes’ that have defined these opening weeks. Following my ordination and induction, which was a wonderful celebration, I was delighted to say hello to so many as I embark on this new chapter for Edinburgh Pentlands Parish. I look forward to getting to know you all better in the months and years ahead.

The service, however, was in another sense a ‘goodbye’ to my formal training, though of course not to learning, which is a lifelong journey! It was goodbye to some incredible times alongside mentors and friends with whom I have had the privilege of journeying. It was wonderful, and a little odd, to have so many

faces and memories all in one room!

The weeks that followed have had a similar rhythm of hello and goodbye - from taking my first services as an ordained minister, to meeting folk from throughout the community. It is wonderful to encounter so many new faces and names, though it’s also a real test of memory!

Along with the introductions, there have also been several funerals during these opening weeks. One of the difficult privileges that come with being a minister, is helping families say goodbye and grieve. I guess that is the nature of the seasons of life. As one season celebrates new beginnings, eager for what is to come, another season feels the ending, and the pain of loss that comes with it.

Ministry takes place in the midst of life - the highs, the lows and everything in between. For those of you thinking Habakkuk was an odd place from which to start preaching on my first Sunday, it was, in part, to highlight that truth. As we look with



hope to what God is doing next, we cannot ignore the pain of what has been.

It’s all part of the journey of faith. The wonder of our God is that He is ever present with us, whatever season we face.

I look forward to all the ‘hellos’ and ‘goodbyes’ to come, for between those moments we find life and, with Jesus, we find it in all its fullness.

Every blessing

Rev. Callum Macfarlane-Grieve



A WELCOMING CELEBRATION

Folks gathered at Juniper Green Church for Callum's Ordination and Induction Service in February, then celebrated with him and his family members in the hall afterwards. Callum is pictured on the left with his mother Hazel on his right and grandma Anne and aunt Angela on his left.

Everyone enjoyed coffee, tea, delicious cakes and bakes and much cheerful chat.

*Callum
and wife Amy*





Rev. Rita Welsh

Our thanks go to Rita for supporting us as Locum Minister from early November 2025 through to the arrival of Callum.

Deputy Session Clerk

My thanks also go to John Sharp for the support and help he provided as Deputy Session Clerk during the first eighteen months of our new Edinburgh Pentlands Parish, in particular for all the hints and help regarding how Juniper Green Church has operated in the past. John stepped down from this role at the January Kirk Session and the Kirk Session has decided not to replace John at the moment.

New Organist at Juniper Green Church

Eddie Campbell has agreed to take on the post of organist at Juniper Green Church for six months from mid-March to mid-September. Eddie is familiar with the Juniper Green organ and lives in our parish. During this 6-month period, there will be a review of worship, led by the relevant Kirk Session group, to provide recommendations for the longer term.

Car Parking at Colinton

We have obtained planning permission for five additional car park spaces at Colinton Church, subject to some conditions, which we believe we can meet. In March, the Kirk Session considered how to implement this as well as the sale of the old Colinton Manse. Both of these will be progressed during the next few months.

Finance and Stated Annual Meeting

The Stated Annual Meeting of Edinburgh Pentlands Parish will be held immediately after the joint Sunday service at Juniper Green Church

UPDATE FROM THE SESSION CLERK

Arrival of our new Minister

The Ordination and Induction Service for our new Minister, Callum Macfarlane-Grieve, was held at Juniper Green Church on Thursday 26th February. It was great to see so many people present and taking part in such an encouraging Service. Callum and Amy have now happily settled into our new Manse.

on Sunday 26th April. The Annual Report and Accounts were approved at the March Kirk Session and will be made available for the congregation prior to, and at, the Stated Annual Meeting. The accounts show a loss of £37,491 even after allowing for some gains on our investments. We are predicting a large loss for 2026. This is not sustainable in the long term and the Finance Group is looking at ways to increase income.

Inspection of Records

The Annual Inspection of our Congregational Records by the Presbytery took place on 18th March. These records include the Communion Roll, Adherents Roll, Supplementary Roll, Baptismal Roll, Safeguarding Register and Property Records, as well as a Congregational Checklist, Property Checklist and Safeguarding Checklist, all of which have to be completed each year. I am pleased to advise that the Inspection found all our records to be satisfactory.

Stair Lift at Dreghorn Loan Hall

At the time of writing, the new stair lift was in UK Customs on its way to our local supplier. Hopefully, by the time this issue of the magazine is available, or very soon after, it will be installed in full working order.

PC, Projector, Sound System at Juniper Green

At the February joint service at Juniper Green Church there were problems with the PC, so a new PC has been purchased and will be installed. At the March Kirk Session proposals to install new projectors was approved and, additionally, it was agreed that a review be held into the deteriorating sound system. Proposals for improvement will be brought to the Kirk Session in May.

*Ian Morrison
Session Clerk*



Scottish Christians take action on the Environment

Does the environment matter? What can we do about climate change? These vexed questions can be hard to answer, but here in Scotland there is a movement which aims to help churches address them.

Eco-Congregation Scotland is an ecumenical environmental movement made up of more than 500 local congregations whose vision is “a Scotland that cares for God’s creation”.

Registered congregations are encouraged to link environmental issues to their Christian faith and take practical action in their church and local community. There are 22 local networks from Orkney to Dumfries providing support at a local level for congregations to live more sustainably.

Eco-Congregation Scotland is open to every congregation from any Christian tradition and is supported by many different denominations.



Volunteers wanted for Pentlands Open Studios Art Trail 15th - 16th August

Pentlands Open Studios is seeking friendly, enthusiastic volunteers to help deliver this year’s Art Trail on **15th and 16th August**, from **10am to 4pm**.

Set in and around the villages of Balerno, Currie, Juniper Green and Colinton, the annual trail invites visitors to explore working studios, meet professional artists and discover a wide range of artwork. Volunteers play a vital role in making the weekend welcoming and enjoyable for all.

We are looking for:

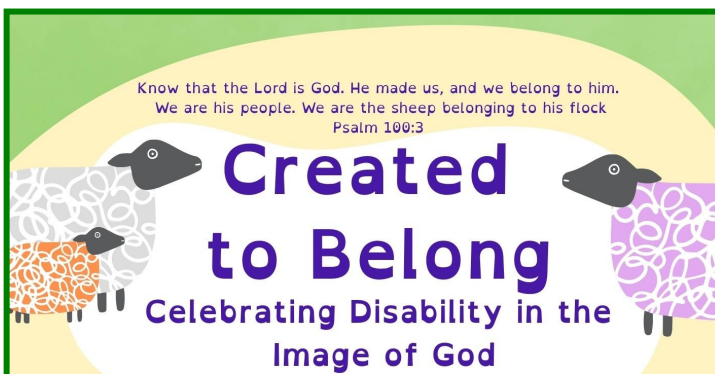
- **Flyer and poster distributors** to help publicise the event in local villages
- **Trail wardens** to guide visitors between studios and villages
- **Information hub volunteers** to answer questions and hand out printed materials
- **Studio support volunteers** to assist artists in welcoming visitors and managing footfall

Volunteering is a great way to support a much-loved local arts event, experience the trail from behind the scenes and spend time in inspiring surroundings. As a thank you, volunteers will receive **free coffee and cake** during their shift.

No previous experience is required - just a positive attitude and willingness to help.

To register your interest and availability, please email volunteers@postudios.org.

Help us make this year’s Art Trail a memorable celebration of art and community.



This event will take place 9.30am to 4.30pm

Saturday 23rd May

The Howarth Centre, 5 Portland Road, Kilmarnock, KA1 2BT

- Worship • Speakers • Makaton • Craft • Drama •
- Lunch • Books • Storytelling • Music •
- Resources • Quiet spaces •
- British Sign Language •

PILGRIMING / WALKING BY FAITH

Gemma King

“I lift up my eyes to the mountains,
where does my help come from?”

Psalm 121:1

In the Lent Bible Study Group we have been exploring the Psalms and, at the time of writing, we have had the introductory session and are looking forward to studies on Psalm 19, 121 and 148.

I have been spending more time exploring Psalm 121, as that is the psalm about which I am leading the study. Psalm 121 is one of the psalms pilgrims recited while on their way to Jerusalem. As I read this psalm, I reflected on how, when I am having a difficult time, I seek the solitude of the Pentland Hills, where I feel closer to God.

The psalm’s context as a psalm for pilgriming also made me reflect on my experience of pilgrimage. While walking the St Cuthbert’s Way, I always remember the story I heard about St Boisil standing in the Tweed and reciting psalms.

In more recent pilgriming experiences, I have been out walking sections of the Fife Pilgrim Way, which runs from Culross or North Queensferry to St. Andrews. My friend Simon, the Pilgrim Pastor, has been organising a series of short winter walks along the Pilgrim Way, usually around 5 to 10km, and often starting and ending at churches along the route. For me, as Secretary of the Fife



Pilgrim Pastorate Steering Group, these walks have been great opportunities to make connections with people in the churches along the way – both those who walk with us and those who welcome us into their churches.

These walks have given me the space to reflect on the importance of the hospitality provided by churches on the route. Churches which regularly run soup lunches or have cafés are a real blessing to pilgrims and walkers. This made me really appreciate the importance

of both The Swing Café at Colinton and the Friday Soup Lunch at Juniper Green, as ways in which Edinburgh Pentlands Church is welcoming to walkers who are passing through our parish.

The experience of pilgriming through so many parishes reminded me of the privilege we have with the Pentland Hills on our doorstep. There are so many beautiful walks in those hills, where it is easy to be alone with God, or experience God’s presence in fellowship, while walking with friends.



Gemma (above) and on the left, an image of St Boisil





Dear Friends

I am greatly enjoying ministry in North West Lochaber. This huge parish is centred on Mallaig and includes Morar, Arisaig, Glenuig, Lochailort, Glenfinnan, Knoydart Peninsula and the Small Isles, which are Rùm, Eigg, Muck and Canna.

In 2008, the local Church of Scotland parishes were united to create the current Parish of North West Lochaber. These constituent parishes were Mallaig St Columba's & Knoydart, and Arisaig & Small Isles. St Columba's Church in Mallaig (pictured above and right) is the only church building still in use. Arisaig Church was sold in 2025 and Eigg Church was sold earlier this year.

Sunday services alternate weekly between Mallaig and the village hall in Arisaig. Services are also held in Knoydart and the Small Isles on an occasional mid-week basis and take place in local community halls. Recently, I held communion services in Knoydart and the Isle of Muck.

Local ministry involves travelling long distances and includes weather-related disruption to ferries. For example, my recent visit to the Isle of Muck entailed a

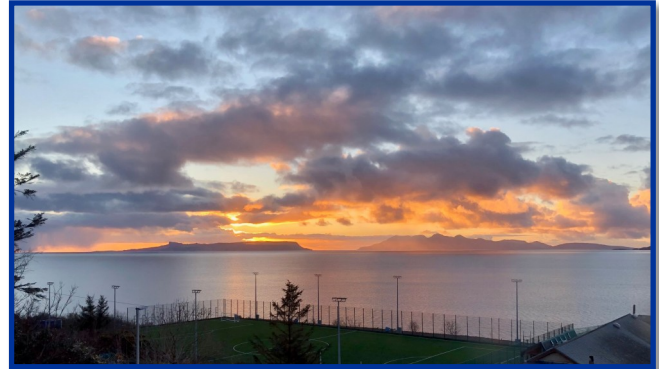
two-night stay. Then a visit to Rùm proved impossible due to rough seas, but I did get to know the crew of the CalMac ferry *MV Lochnevis*.

Local history is closely connected with the Jacobite Rising in 1745. Bonnie Prince Charlie both landed at, and departed from, Loch nan Uamh. The area was Gaelic-speaking and overwhelmingly Roman Catholic. Gaelic remains spoken by some, but not as much as in Skye or the Outer Hebrides. Ecumenical relations today are excellent, with roughly equal numbers of Catholics and Protestants in the local area.

Until the turn of the 20th century the area suffered from serious economic deprivation. To alleviate this, the railway line was extended from Fort William to Mallaig. It was the first to be built with public funding and the first to make extensive use

MINISTRY IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

REV. MATTHEW ROSS



View from the Manse



of concrete in construction, notably the Glenfinnan Viaduct, becoming world-famous due to the Harry Potter films.

The Fort William-Mallaig A830 road was the last single track trunk road in the UK and was not fully upgraded to two lanes until 2007. The delay to this much-needed upgrading proved a mixed blessing – had the road been upgraded a few decades earlier the Fort William to Mallaig railway would almost certainly have been closed during the Beeching cuts.

Continued...p9

*Ministry in the Highlands and Islands
...continued*

The opening of the railway line in 1901 led to the development of Mallaig as a major fishing port, becoming the largest community in the local area. Fishermen and their families were encouraged to relocate to Mallaig from the East Coast of Scotland, notably from around Banff and Buchan.

In 1903, St Columba's Church of Scotland in Mallaig was opened to serve the community.

St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Mallaig opened in the 1930s and was served by a priest from nearby Morar.

The herring fisheries have declined during recent decades, with tourism, public services and online working now the mainstay of the local economy.

Do come and visit! My warmest greetings and prayerful good wishes go to all at Edinburgh Pentlands Parish Church, and I have very happy memories of being your Locum Minister.

Rev. Matthew Ross



The Jacobite Steam Train at Mallaig station



The CalMac ferry MV Lochnevis approaching the Isle of Muck



**GREEN STROLLERS
ANNUAL DINNER**

On Monday 2nd March, twenty-five Green Strollers met for dinner at Kingsknowe Golf Club. This has now become an annual event.

The meal was excellent and enjoyed by all. Many thanks to the staff at the Golf Club for looking after us so well.

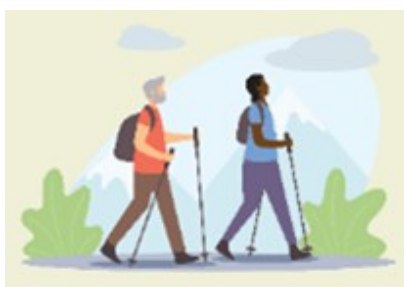
It is now time to take a look at our walking calendar for this year which, hopefully, started towards the end of March. As always, details will be in the intimations and on the church website.

And can you help? One volunteer has come forward but we are looking for more willing leaders. If you have an idea for a walk, we want to hear from you. If you are also willing to lead a walk that would be good.

No pressure!!

If you've got any questions, just contact me on 07732 988 976.

**Happy Strolling!
Jeanette**





Peter and Margaret Ng
...our Fairtrade champions



FAIRTRADE IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Choosing food is a complicated business these days. **Harmful pesticides, questionable food fillers, plus chemicals and emulsifiers, are creeping into our bodies without our permission.**

We simply do not have time, or enough knowledge, to look into every detail before buying or consuming food. Accumulating those substances in our bodies has long-term health issues for us all.

In addition to affecting our health, there are also food ethics; the moral principles guiding the production of the foods we consume; the correct methods of distribution; sustainability and the impact on the environment; and fair labour - all these should be taken into account and challenge consumers to consider the impact of their choices.

Today, the UK imports nearly 50% of food we consume: coffee, tea, rice, bananas, chocolate, wine and sugar are among the most common foods we purchase. Do we really trust that importers have our interests at heart more than their profits?

Would it not be simpler if we focused on a trusted certification like **Fairtrade** to look after our interests and things that matter to us? Most people want food to pose no health risks, to be sustainable, have minimal impact on the environment, free of exploitation of farmers and workers and, last but not least, to have a positive impact on those who provide food. Helping farmers and workers to be trained and educated about taking care of their environment and long-term business interests and to improve their welfare in general is crucial for them to produce better food and benefit us environmentally.

The **Fairtrade Foundation** does all of these and more, as it encourages organic farming. 60% of farmers are in organic practices. The Foundation now provides non-food items like flowers and clothing which further increase our choices of including **Fairtrade** in our way of living.

Making the right choice today gives us a better tomorrow.

Margaret Ng



DANIEL AND THE SCARY SLEEPOVER



If you were walking down Dregghorn Loan about 3:30pm on Saturday 7th March, you may have heard a very loud roar.

Yes, it could have been an appreciative crowd at Murrayfield, but it is more likely to have been the Messy Church congregation, roaring like angry lions, as we told the story about Daniel and his scary sleepover.

King Darius had been tricked into making a bad law so that Daniel, one of the King's best helpers, had to be thrown into the lions' den for breaking the law by praying to God. Would God send help? Yes, thanks to the power of prayer, God sent an angel into the lions' den to very firmly tell the lions

it was time to sleep, not time to eat and, as the angel stroked the lions, their angry roars turned to a gentle purr, then to contented snoring.

This is a wonderful story with an important message. God looks after us - he's got our backs - and prayer is the way we can talk to God and listen to him too. We can always tell God if we are scared.

As one of our activities, we invited children and adults to write down or draw a picture to tell God what they were scared of. We then posted these prayers into the mouth of our scary lion. Big hairy spiders and dogs were common things to be scared of, but lions got a mention too.

Continued...p11

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

There are moments when we are simply overwhelmed, whether by the weight of global news headlines or the personal crises we face. In those moments, we may reach a point where we become speechless, simply not knowing how to comprehend what is happening. We might even ask: Where is God in all of this?

As Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, to a certain extent, the message of a crucified Christ appeared weak, foolish and unimpressive to the world. On the surface it seems that nothing has really changed after all. Oppressive regimes remain; we continue to struggle with health and wellbeing issues; the world is still vulnerable in every aspect.

There are so many questions we could bring forward and often, we simply don't know what to say. But out of all these unanswerables, Paul simply directs us to look back to what Jesus did on the cross. The crucifixion narrative in John 19:16-42 is a literary structure in which the centre is what the author wanted to emphasise in his writing (just like the meat in a sandwich).

At the height of the scene, John 'zooms his camera in' on the dialogue in v.25-27 (the centre of the structure). When Jesus saw his mother and the beloved disciple standing nearby, he entrusted Mary to his disciple's care. Some scholars suggest this symbolises Jesus entrusting the church to his disciples.

On the cross, when pain was absolute and every second of suffering counted, Jesus was thinking solely of his loved ones. He takes care of their future struggles and needs until the last second. On the cross, he sees, he knows, he cares - and he is still working to provide a place of rest and belonging for his loved ones.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote:

"God consents to be pushed out of the world and onto the cross; God is weak and powerless in the world and in precisely this way, and only so, is at our side and helps us. Human religiosity directs people in need to the power of God in the world. The Bible directs people toward the suffering of God; only the suffering God can help."



Today, John invites us to draw near and pause at the foot of the cross. Jesus sees us as we are. He speaks to the burden we bring to the cross and says, "I see you. I know you. I care. I am here at your side". The weakness and suffering of Christ becomes our ground and our meeting place with Him. He meets us there, accompanying us in the carrying of our own cross, helping us from within that place of weakness.

Before the dawn of the first Easter, the death of Christ, the True Light, had already begun to pierce the darkness, bringing men like Joseph and Nicodemus out from the shadows. God is working and turning lives around, even when we have not yet noticed it.

Steven Leung
Pastoral Care

Messy Church...continued



We also made friendly lions out of toilet rolls to take home, and we decorated biscuits to look like Daniel, as well as a lion to eat at snack time. Cheese can work really well as a lion's mane!

Our next session is our Easter Celebration on 4th April and then our last meeting before the summer break will be on Saturday 2nd May. That day we shall be setting sail on an adventure with Jonah and the whale.

Please join us if you can - all ages are welcome.

Alison Downie



The 'Lit'

Colinton Literary Society

The 2025/6 season of talks at The 'Lit' spanned many centuries and many ideas. This brief summary describes just a few of the 15 excellent lectures presented to members in Dreghorn Loan Hall during the winter season.

- ◇ Dr John Reid turned detective to find out what happened to the Roman Ninth Legion, whose fate may have been defeat and annihilation at the hands of Caledonians, leading to the construction of Hadrian's Wall in 122AD.
- ◇ Audiences were taken back fifteen thousand years to when retreating glaciers shaped the Pentland Hills. Retired Professor Patrick Corbett blended rocks with poetry, in the new and serious literary genre of geopoetics.
- ◇ Donald Smith from the Scottish Storytelling Centre beguiled us with Old Scots Tales of fairies who walk a thin line between justice and revenge.

- ◇ Funeral Director, Tim Purves, told the story of Scotland's part in mourning the loss of Queen Elizabeth II. Being the man in charge of the hearse, he explained that the firm's logo was taken off the window of the vehicle between Balmoral and Dundee, debunking conspiracy theories about vehicles being switched.
- ◇ Sir Paul Grice, Vice Chancellor of Queen Margaret University, looked at the opinion polls trying to predict the next Holyrood election result. New parties and the d'Hondt voting system make it a tricky call.

The 'Lit' has a social side as well, with a buzz of conversation every week and a Christmas buffet supper in December, featuring live musical entertainment.

The society is run by a committee of local volunteers and details can be found on the website of the Edinburgh Pentlands Parish Church: <https://edinburghpentlands.church>



The Garden Club held a very successful Members' Evening on Monday 23rd February in Dreghorn Loan Hall. This is always a popular event and more than 90 people attended, even though it was a very cold winter's night.

Our three guest speakers each gave short presentations on topics that are of particular interest to them.

Fiona Stevenson shared her beautiful paintings and talked about her experience of illustrating wonderful garden scenes and landscapes *en plein air* in Scotland. This involved a great deal of warm clothing and tips on removing midges from the canvases!

Bob Jones shared his great knowledge of orchids, concentrating on Phaelonopsis or "Supermarket Orchids" as he called them. He discussed their anatomy, origins in the wild and cultivation. As always, he had superb photographs to illustrate the talk.

Kath Hay teased the audience with the title of her talk "Royal Secrets". The talk was, in fact, a fascinating account of the history and the hidden gardens in the closes and vennels off the Royal Mile. Most of them were unknown to the audience and they are certainly well worth exploring.

During the summer there will be our annual **Members' Open Gardens**, an evening **Reception** at a local garden and a coach trip to **Abbotsford House and Garden** (right).



Bob, Kath and Fiona



For more information and membership details please see our website: colintongardens.org.uk

ORDAINED LOCAL MINISTER IN TRAINING

Dear Friends, thank you for your words of encouragement and support during recent weeks, after I was told my previous probation placement was ending.

It has been challenging, as I try to understand the next steps. The detail of this is still being worked out but, following an interim appraisal, I need to plug some gaps in my training and continue to reflect on my calling and development into my OLM ministry. I shall have a further appraisal in late summer which will, hopefully, enable me to move to a new probation placement.

I was encouraged by the words from Lectio 365 (*a daily prayer app*) at a time in discussions when I was struggling. The gist of the prayer was “Spirit of the Living God move me from beyond the land of my comfort and into the land of my becoming”. We are all work in progress under God’s hand. We are all moving towards that place of becoming, becoming more Christ-like, becoming the person God has called us to be and, in my case, becoming ready to take the next step towards being an Ordained Local Minister.

I am excited that my time of ‘limbo’ has coincided with Rev. Callum Macfarlane-Grieve

starting with us here at Edinburgh Pentlands Parish Church, and I look forward to seeing how his ministry unfolds and offering my support to him as best I can.

It was lovely to attend both Callum’s and Elaine Wood’s ordinations in recent weeks and see their years of calling, training and placements affirmed. It has been a privilege to journey some of that road with them. I hope that, in due course, I too can reach that point of affirmation as I continue to discern God’s will for me.

I encourage you to own the prayer I took courage from, whatever your ‘becoming’ might look like:

Spirit of the Living God move me from beyond the land of my comfort and into the land of my becoming.

As we discern where God is leading us, may God bless you in your journeying towards becoming, more fully, the person God longs for you to be.

Janet Shepherd



Edinburgh’s lost Kinleith Paper Mill will be brought back to life when a working model of the Mill makes its public debut.

Organised by the Pentland Model Railway Group, the exhibition will take place from 10am to 4:30pm on 11th and 12th April at The Students’ Union, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton.

The model recreates much of the mill complex, together with a stretch of the Water of Leith. Sadly, the real mill has long since disappeared, with housing now occupying the site.

As well as detailed layouts for enthusiasts, the show offers plenty for families. A themed railway will entertain younger visitors, while a hands-on shunting puzzle provides a fun and interactive challenge for all ages.

KINLEITH PAPER MILL COMES BACK TO LIFE

Children can also take part in a special challenge, searching for hidden **Mr Men** and **Little Miss** characters around the layouts. Entry cards will be given out and those who find them all can return their completed card and receive a sweet treat.

Seven specialist traders will be attending, offering new and second-hand locomotives and rolling stock, scenic materials, 3D-printed models, accessories and hobby supplies. Visitors can also enjoy the excellent on-site café run by the Students’ Union team, serving hot and cold food, drinks and freshly prepared cakes.

There is a £6 admission charge for adults, and children aged 0 - 15 are admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult. Free car parking is available.

As a local community event the organisers hope it may be of interest to readers and help attract visitors from all over.

Patricia Joyce





Once again we have enjoyed a full season of excellent talks, covering a huge range of topics, the success of which can be seen in record attendances each evening.

Our meetings are now finished until October, but there will be a visit to Thirlestane Castle later this summer for our members to enjoy.

Like last summer and, as a result of **Archive Open Days** which took place in January and February, several of our members are keen to undertake further research on more aspects of Colinton life. Coupled with that, the sale of our four publications about our village has shown that there is an appetite for greater knowledge of our local area.

Yes, you guessed it...! These members have now started their research into our historic buildings and features in Colinton, with a view to the Society publishing the 5th book in our series later this summer.

Derek Douglas
Archivist



GUILD OF FRIENDSHIP

The group meets fortnightly from September to April, on Thursday afternoon, at 2pm, in Hall 2 at Juniper Green Church.

Ladies and gentlemen are all welcome to join us for an afternoon of fellowship, friendship and fun.

The programme includes speakers, music, games, a cup of tea and a chance to make new friends.

LADIES BADMINTON GROUP

We meet on Wednesday morning from 10:00am to 12 noon, in Juniper Green Church Hall 1. Please enter from Woodhall Avenue.

We play for fun and also have a short break for coffee and chat.

New players will be made very welcome.

Look forward to seeing you there!

Linda Sharp



SINGING IN THE SUMMER

Please come and join us for a series of eight fun and enjoyable evenings for all singers. They will take place at St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church, Westgarth Avenue, Colinton EH13 0BB, from 7:15pm - 9pm, Monday 20th April to Monday 8th June inclusive. We will learn and sing a wide variety of classical, popular and traditional songs and also take a break for tea, coffee and biscuits.

We will be singing purely for pleasure and there will be no actual 'performance'. No previous experience of singing is required and you do not have to be able to read music.

The cost for the eight sessions is £47pp and includes the hire of music scores, tea and coffee. If you would like to reserve a slot, please email secretary@colintonchoir.org

For more information, please consult our website: www.colintonchoir.org



the
**colinton &
merchiston**
community choir

The Leprosy Mission

I am delighted to report that I have just sent £57 to the Leprosy Mission from the Guild of Friendship at Juniper Green Church. Thank you to everyone who has donated.

Rita Brownlie

The Leprosy Mission is a Christian organisation leading the fight against leprosy. No one should suffer because of a preventable and treatable disease. The Mission seeks to bring about transformation, breaking the chains of leprosy and empowering people to attain healing, dignity and life in all its fullness. The Leprosy Mission works with people of all faiths and none, to defeat leprosy and transform the lives of people affected. The Leprosy Mission's Global Fellowship works in 27 countries, including Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Mozambique, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, and Sri Lanka. These places have high rates of leprosy and all help is appreciated.



PARISH REGISTER

FUNERALS HAVE TAKEN PLACE FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE

Alexander Anderson
Christina Blue
Alexandra Henderson
May Mitchell
Ronnie Seiler
George Norman Turnbull
Ian M. Wilson

Please note that not everyone listed above is a member of this congregation.



Sat 4th April, 2pm
West Princes St Gdns
Free & unticketed
www.easterplay.org

CUTTING
EDGE THEATRE
Edinburgh

Reg. Charity SC 032828 Image by Mada Schmidt, Bannerman/Orphan

UNBROKEN

This year's Edinburgh Easter Play production is a new play called **Unbroken**. It explores Jesus and disability, looks at how Jesus responded to disabled people he met, and what we can learn from him today.

Held on Easter Saturday in West Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, this is a free and un-ticketed event. The theatre company that produces the Edinburgh Easter Play, Cutting Edge Theatre, explains more about it on the Edinburgh Easter Play website:

"We are delighted to welcome some of Cutting Edge Theatre's INSPIRE participants into the cast this year. INSPIRE is our programme specifically designed for disabled people to enable them to enjoy equal access to theatre as participants, audience members and professionals. We currently run drama classes for learning/disabled people from aged 8+ in Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy and Aberdeen. Being part of the play is a way that they can perform in a very supportive environment."

Cutting Edge Theatre is keen to hear from anyone willing to volunteer and help on future occasions. If you are interested, or would like more information, email them at admin@easterplay.org

You can find more details on the Edinburgh Easter Play website, including access information, at <https://easterplay.org>

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