

# PARISH PUBLICATION

EDINBURGH PENTLANDS PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Issue 13 . June / July 2026 . Distributed free

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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 August / September 2026 issue is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

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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Colinton Literary Society	Colin Fischbacher
Green Strollers	Jeanette Campbell
Guild of Friendship	Margaret Woodrow
Ladies Badminton Group	Linda Sharp
Leprosy Mission	Rita Brownlie
Messy Church	Alison Downie
Open Door Baby & Toddler	Karen Berry & Linda Johnston

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**Kath Hay**  
Editor

## WELCOME to the latest issue of our magazine

Times, they are a'changing yet again. Having spent more than seven years as Editor of our church magazine, I have decided to step down from the role. The August-September issue will be my final one.

But before that, you can read updates and stories in this edition. Please note that a **Church BBQ** will take place

in the garden at our new Manse on Lanark Road on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June. You will find more details on p5.

Many of our church groups will soon be taking a summer break - but they are also planning for the sessions starting in the Autumn, so diaries at the ready.

Happy reading.

*Felice Editrice*

*The sheep know their shepherd's voice. He calls each of them by name and leads them out. When he has led out all of his sheep, he walks in front of them, and they follow, because they know his voice. John 10:3-4*

**As I write this, I still firmly claim the title of "the New Minister" though I'm not quite sure where these opening months have gone!** Many firsts have taken place, from leading my first communion and baptism, then moderating at my first Kirk Session to my first time joining with the Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian. Not to mention the first meetings with so many of you, as strangers become faces known and stories are shared.

In time, the weight of firsts will carve out paths trodden and known. New becomes less about being shiny, and more a caveat to any limitations on my knowledge or experience. I am still learning about the people and rhythms of this place, understanding that which can only be gleaned in the months and years ahead. I do recognise how much energy and effort has gone into reaching this point with a new minister. As this minister becomes slightly less new

## LOTS OF FIRSTS



and the sheen wears off, there is still much new for us to discover together. The questions move from who will be the new minister, to who *is* the new minister, and who will we become together?

The question of who we are becoming is what will shape the years ahead. As I am new, so too is Edinburgh Pentlands Parish Church. As I encounter many firsts, so too do we encounter such new beginnings. What comes must honour and draw from what has been, but also have the courage and freedom to discover what this new thing might become.

I do not know the path, but I do know the voice that's calling us. We will discover the way together, and we go, because we trust the voice of the Good Shepherd, who is beckoning us to where he already is. I know the unknown of the new horizon can be daunting, scary even. There can be a real and understandable fear of what will be lost and forgotten on the journey. But there is also great hope to be found in the simplest of truths: He knows your name.

The road is being uncovered, the exact destination may be uncertain, but one thing is certain beyond doubt: you belong there. The heart of faith rests on a profound truth: the Creator of all things speaks your name and you know His voice.

I truly believe there is an exciting journey of discovery ahead for us as a church, but the steps are trod in the faith of that truth. You belong, and just as you belong, so too does the person next to you. For now, they may be strangers, but in time, they too can be faces known, with stories shared.

*Every blessing,*  
**Rev. Callum Macfarlane-Grieve**



**Edward Campbell**  
**Organist**  
**Juniper Green Church**

**Despite imagining that I am a cosmopolitan citizen of the world, my fellow Glaswegians can tell almost immediately from my accent that I am one of them, often effortlessly naming the area I come from in the city.**

To set the record straight, I'm from Pollokshaws in the south side of the city, though I've been living in Edinburgh with my wife Gill, and latterly, with our daughter Claire, (now aged 23), for the past thirty years. After leaving school, I studied philosophy and theology for six years and then worked in ministry (Roman Catholic church) for nine years, in the Archdiocese of Glasgow.

On leaving active ministry, for fifteen years I worked as a teacher of philosophy and religious



## NOTES FROM A MUSICIAN

studies in secondary schools. This included one year in Currie High School and twelve years at Firrhill High School, where I was principal teacher of Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies. You, or someone in your family, may even have passed through my classroom.

Music was always an important part of my life. As a child, every Saturday morning I was sent to piano accordion and guitar lessons, and it was only in my late teens that I first took lessons in piano and organ - that was with Walter Blair, who was, at the time, the organist at what is now Helensburgh Parish Church.

I continued my music studies, completing a BMus degree at Glasgow University, then a year at teacher training college and finally obtaining a PhD in musicology at the University of Edinburgh.

On leaving Firrhill High School in 2007, I changed career once again and from then until my retirement in 2024, I taught music at Aberdeen University, where I became Professor of Music, specialising in musicology.

A few years ago, Rev. Jim Dewar, then minister of Juniper Green Parish Church, asked me to say a few words about my job during the Sunday service. I was quite surprised when some people in the congregation commented on how lucky I was to have a job which I clearly loved so much - and they were right.

My university position gave me opportunities to mix with interesting people, to travel to a number of other countries (for research trips, conferences and PhD examining), to publish books and articles and to develop my own understanding of musical and philosophical questions, which continue to intrigue me.

In my retirement, I have continued to carry out research, publishing my own work and editing the work of other scholars (musicology is a real cottage industry). I'm not sure what I'd do if I stopped.

In the 1990s, I was organist at Martyrs' Church of Scotland Parish in Paisley and then in Currie Kirk (when Willis Jones was minister).

More recently, on a number of occasions I substituted for Florence Kinnear as organist at Juniper Green Church. I always enjoyed playing there and was very pleased to be asked to be the organist, working with Callum at the start of his ministry, and supporting the congregation in song at this key and interesting moment in the life of Edinburgh Pentlands Parish Church.



*Juniper Green Church  
left and above*

**Eddie Campbell**

## UPDATE FROM THE SESSION CLERK

### Stairlift at Dreghorn Loan Hall

The new stairlift has now been installed and keys for its use are available for organisations that lease the Hall. We are grateful to those individuals and organisations who specifically donated towards its purchase and installation.

### Projectors and sound system at Juniper Green Church

In May, new projectors were installed at Juniper Green Church. Hopefully, once teething problems are resolved, they will provide a better quality of image and last for many more years. At the Kirk Session May meeting, funding to improve the sound system was authorised. As yet, we do not have a date for this to be implemented.

### External Lighting at Juniper Green Church

The Kirk Session has also authorised spending on repairing and replacing

the external lighting at Juniper Green Church. It is intended this work will be completed during the summer, before the darker mornings return!

### Elders' Conference

At the services on 24<sup>th</sup> May, members of the congregation were invited to complete two "luggage labels" with questions. They will be collated and the inputs discussed as part of the activities at the Elders' Conference taking place on 20<sup>th</sup> June.

### Children's Area at Colinton Church

The May Kirk Session also authorised the creation of a **Children's Area** at Colinton Church. This will be similar to the one at Juniper Green Church and will be created by removing two of the side pews near the front, on the right hand side of Colinton Church.



Ian Morrison  
Session Clerk

## EDINBURGH PENTLANDS PARISH CHURCH ~ BARBECUE

**When:** 1pm on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June

**Where:** The Manse gardens, 418 Lanark Road, Edinburgh

**Cost:** Suggested donation £5pp

This will be a great opportunity to gather as a church family, enjoy some delicious food, get to know each other better and make new friends in our new, secluded Manse gardens.

Sign-up sheets will soon be available so we know how many people will be coming. Please also let us know if there are any dietary needs.

Due to limited parking nearby, you are encouraged to travel there by bus or by walking, but if people need a lift, we hope to coordinate with those willing to car-share.

**Further details will be made available through the weekly Update for Edinburgh Pentlands Parish Church**



On 28<sup>th</sup> March this year I attended Eco Congregation Scotland's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and annual gathering in Perth. I really enjoyed taking part and was encouraged to learn what churches all over Scotland are doing to help the environment. Here are a few ideas I brought back.

Tayside Biodiversity Partnership gave me a packet of non-genetically modified sunflower seeds. I sowed them at Easter and it has been exciting to see them appear and start to grow. I hope to hand-pollinate them, and then save their seeds to give to anyone who would like some. Sunflowers help biodiversity, as they are a good food source for pollinators and birds.



**GROWING SUNFLOWERS**  
*Image provided by the author*

Dalmeny & Queensferry Parish Church of Scotland have installed bike racks at both their buildings. The local children also use the racks for scooters. The racks were funded by Cycling Scotland and Edinburgh Community Climate Action Network's Greenlight funding.

Having these racks means that church and church hall users can now park their bikes and scooters securely.

Selkirk Parish Church of Scotland is a B-listed building in a conservation area. They fitted 40 solar panels on their church roof in 2012. The panels were part-funded by a UK Government Low Carbon Buildings grant, and a loan from the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland. Selkirk Parish Church paid the rest of the cost out of their own funds. Any electricity generated by the solar panels, which the church doesn't use, is fed into the national grid and the church receives payment for it. Selkirk Parish Church plans to put this income towards installing a low carbon heating system.

*Article provided by a member of the congregation*



**BIKE & SCOOTER RACKS**  
*Image: Dalmeny & Queensferry Parish Church, used with permission*



**INSTALLING SOLAR PANELS & LOW CARBON HEATING**  
*Image: David Bethune, used with permission*

## the colinton & merchiston community choir

Please come and join us for either one or both of our **Open Rehearsals** which will take place at 7pm in the Memorial Hall, Merchiston Castle School, Colinton Road. Our open rehearsals provide an opportunity for people to find out more about our choir and to see what it would be like to sing with us - but with no commitment to join.

We are a very welcoming, non-auditioning choir with a mixed range of ages and singing and sight-reading abilities.

## Open Rehearsals ~ 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> September

We will be learning ***The First Nowell*** by Vaughan Williams, ***In Terra Pax*** by Finzi, and ***Gaudete*** plus a selection of ***Christmas carols***. This is in preparation for our Christmas Concert, which will also have audience participation.

After the open rehearsals, our regular rehearsals will begin at 7.15pm and end at 9pm, but it's not a problem if you can't be there for 7.15pm or have to leave early.

To access the Hall, when you arrive at the main school building turn right and come into the East

Quad. There will be someone at the entry door in the left hand corner to let you in.

We have great fun but also learn a lot with our enthusiastic and dynamic Director of Music, Tim Coleman, and Accompanist, the excellent and well-known Morley Whitehead.

For more information about our choir, please visit our website [www.colintonchoir.org](http://www.colintonchoir.org)

*Margaret Kieran,  
on behalf of the Choir*

## EDINBURGH PENTLANDS GUILD OF FRIENDSHIP

We have enjoyed a very varied programme of events during the last few months.

Our Guest Speaker from The Museum of Childhood gave an illustrated and very interesting talk on books through the ages. There was lots of interaction as we recalled our favourites, from **The Water Babies** through Ladybird Books, to today's **Gruffalo**.

A retired police constable, dressed as his alter ego, described his life experiences of growing up in Leith, and his career in the police in the 1940's.

The Haver Quartet from **Live Music Now** proved yet again how talented these young musicians are. Then there was lots of fun and creativity when we arranged flowers for Easter and decorated hard-boiled eggs.



Our AGM was successful and was followed by a fun afternoon of Bingo.

Guild of Friendship is taking a break during the summer and plans to resume meetings on September 10<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in Hall 2 at Juniper Green Church. Please come and join us - ladies and gentlemen - you will all be made very welcome.

**And finally...**

Guild members are always keen to hear from former members who have moved away from the area, and I am happy to pass on greetings from Mrs Jean Bruce who sends love to all at the Guild of Friendship congregation.

Jean was a very busy lady who always found time for a 'cuppa' or a chat, usually including funny anecdotes and lots of jokes.

As Treasurer of the Guild, the accounts were immaculately kept and commented on. Perhaps the wee G & T on a Thursday with Peter helped! Jean supported Peter, her late husband, in his duties as an Elder. He was part of **Christian Action** for many years.

Jean walked with the Green Strollers, and organised games afternoons and lively evenings playing bingo in local care homes, whilst maintaining a beautiful garden.

Jean...enjoy putting your feet up when not doing your physical exercises, and enjoy spending time with your family down south.

*Margaret Woodrow*

## THE OPEN DOOR BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Gatherings take place during school term time on Tuesday mornings, in Hall 1 at Juniper Green Church. This free service is run by volunteers Karen Berry, Yvonne Hunter, Linda Grigor and Linda Johnston. They provide a safe, friendly environment for babies, pre-schoolers and the big people who look after them!

We regularly have between 15 and 25 little ones, who are accompanied by mums, dads, grannies, grandads and child-minders. The wee ones enjoy playing in the various zones set up in the hall, before enjoying a well-earned snack to recharge their batteries. Then it's back to reading books, colouring-in, the trikes, trains, dolls and kitchen area.

During the 2025-2026 session, we have welcomed new

babies, watched older babies grow and the toddlers develop their personalities. They provide

many entertaining moments and it is a pleasure to spend a few hours with them each week, before getting our 'high five' as they leave.

As we come to the end of the current session in June, we will bid a fond farewell to our older toddlers as they move on to nursery and primary school.

We also bid farewell to a long-standing childminder who retires this summer. She has been coming to the **Open Door** sessions for nearly 30 years, initially as a parent, then as a childminder.

Roll on August when it all begins once again with the 2026-2027 gatherings!

*Linda Johnston*



## AN ISLAND SANCTUARY

The Italian Chapel in Orkney is unique, gloriously beautiful and uplifting, and is also a clear, moving declaration that creativity and collaboration achieve more than war

A treasure that reflects devotion, hard work and incredible artistry sits on a tiny island within the Orkney Isles. Some readers may have heard of this special place but may not have travelled there, so let me explain more.

On the island of Lamb Holm sits the Italian Chapel, a truly wonderful example of creative endeavour achieved in the midst of war. I recently travelled to the Orkney Isles for a holiday with two cousins and we made our way to Lamb Holm to visit this beautiful place of worship.

In 1939, HMS Royal Oak was anchored in Scapa Flow, but sank, with huge loss of life, after being attacked by an enemy submarine which had secretly entered the area where many UK naval vessels were anchored.

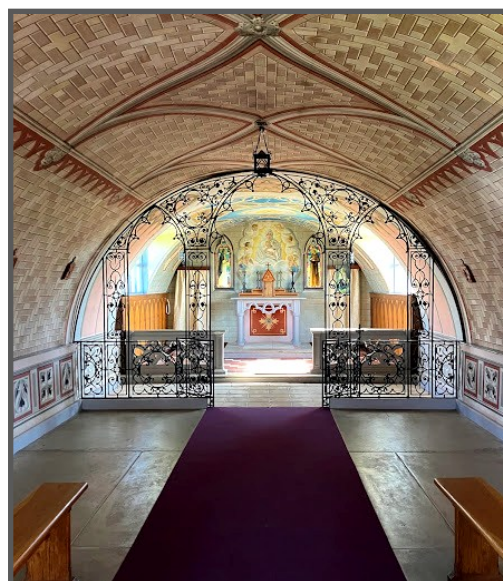
As a result of this attack, the decision was taken to bring in Italian prisoners of war to build

what became known as 'The Churchill Barriers' and close off four of the entrances to Scapa Flow in order to make the base for the UK naval fleet more secure. A shortage of manpower to construct the barriers coincided with the capture of thousands of Italian soldiers who had been fighting in North Africa. Around 600 of those men were then transported to Camp 60 on Lamb Holm island to carry out the work.

But something that wasn't on the little island was a place of worship for the prisoners, so the camp priest, Fr Giacobazzi, had a discussion with Major Thomas Pyres Buckland, the British officer in charge. It turned out that Major Buckland absolutely loved Italy, having spent time

there in his younger days. He could speak the language and admired the art and culture of the country, so of course he said 'yes' to the construction of a chapel. What a wonderful coincidence that was.

It was agreed that two Nissen huts would be joined together to provide a larger structure. Metal Nissen huts are not at all pretty, but one prisoner of war there was an artist, Domenico Chiocchetti from Moena, a town in north-east Italy. He was given the task of transforming the two austere huts into one chapel.



*Domenico Chiocchetti, pictured far left, on one of his many visits he made to the Chapel in order to maintain the artwork.*

*The interior of the Chapel (left)*

*Continues...p9*

*An Island Sanctuary...continued*

He was assisted by other Italian prisoners - in particular Giuseppe Palumbi, a blacksmith, and Domenico Buttapasta, a cement worker.

In his pocket, Domenico Chiocchetti carried a small prayer card which had been given to him by his mother when he left his home in Italy. The image on the card was of the Madonna and Child, by artist Nicolo Barabino. This inspired Chiocchetti to replicate the image and he created the painting above the altar in the Chapel. When the Camp Commander, Major Buckland, realised that the prisoner was a very talented artist, Chiocchetti was allowed to continue painting the whole of the interior of the Chapel, and make the building even more beautiful.

Now, many decades after the completion of the Chapel, it is one of Orkney's most loved attractions. The Orkney folk



have a strong friendship with the town of Moena in Italy, and members of the Chiocchetti family visit the Orkney Isles from time to time.

Chiocchetti's daughter, Letizia, is Honorary President of the Friends of the Italian Chapel Committee. She continues to honour her father's legacy by supporting the preservation of the Chapel. Antonella Papa, a restoration artist from Rome who recently carried out work



*Editor Kath and her cousins*

in the Sistine Chapel, also spent time in the Italian Chapel in order to refresh areas of Chiocchetti's painting.

This special place is such a beautiful example of peace and reconciliation and makes for a wonderful visit.

*Kath Hay*



**Saint George is the patron saint of soldiers, knights and cavalry.**

A legendary Roman soldier and Christian martyr, he is revered in Italy as the protector of the Italian Armed Forces.

The sculpture of St George, pictured on the left, stands outside the Italian Chapel and represents the prisoners' triumph over captivity, as well as a symbol of peace. The statue was created by Domenico Chiocchetti, pictured right, using only barbed wire and concrete.





Our winter meetings came to a close at our AGM at the end of March, but much work still goes on, as we are now preparing for the start of the Society's 2026/2027 season in October.

Wendy, our Speakers' Secretary, has already finalised our programme of talks and a super selection it is too. Elspeth, our Secretary, has organised our summer outing, which is a private visit to Thirlestane Castle, near Lauder.

We also have several members actively re-researching some of the buildings, houses and many other aspects of Colinton in preparation for yet another book, which will be published by the time that we start our new season. The research has thrown up quite a few surprises and little known facts. For instance, did you know:

- Before Dreghorn Castle was bought by the War Department, it had housed two boarding schools in the late 1800s and the early 1900s
- The 'Colinton Manner' was the name given to the style of low-eaved houses that Robert Lorimer designed
- At the time they were planning to broaden Gillespie Bridge, there was serious discussion about knocking it down and re-routing it across Spylaw Park, and joining Gillespie Road at the top of Downes Nursery
- Before Redhall House was built, there was a Redhall Castle which was captured and then destroyed by Cromwell in 1650
- We had several Charity Homes in Colinton; for instance The William Fraser Homes and The Flora Hastings Homes



Thirlestane Castle



Dreghorn Castle

These are only a fraction of the fascinating things our members are discovering as they carry out research ...and guess what, you will find out more when our new book comes out!

Finally, a reminder that we have an excellent website which we are continually developing. It is certainly worth a look.

**Derek Douglas, Archivist**

[www.colintonhistory.org.uk](http://www.colintonhistory.org.uk)



More than two decades of scientific research have shown that listening to a personal playlist can improve the lives of people living with dementia. It helps to reduce anxiety, improve mood, make difficult tasks more manageable and evoke memories that help families and carers connect. This interactive course explains the benefits of using personalised playlists to support people living with dementia.

There are 16 places available on this course and the day will be fully catered for. Places are free but donations are very welcome and will go to our Morningside Hope Project.

If you are interested in finding out more, contact our Pastoral Assistant, Jacqui Lindsay, 07834 364 628 or email:

[pastoralassistant@](mailto:pastoralassistant@)

[morningsideparishchurch.org.uk](http://morningsideparishchurch.org.uk)

**Date:** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June

**Time:** 10am – 4pm

**Venue:** Morningside Parish Church, Edinburgh EH10 6BQ

*Information provided by Steven Leung*



## PRAYER



### I WONDER WHAT YOU THINK OF WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT PRAYER

Is the first thing that comes into your mind the prayers during the service on a Sunday? Or is it Prayer Space, the group that meets on Tuesday evenings? Or the Prayer Space outline which offers suggestions of things to pray about during the week? Or when you are out in God's creation enjoying its beauty – marvelling at tiny flowers or gazing in awe at the vastness of the seas and mountains?

Put simply, prayer is talking with God. It happens any time we pause and turn to God. It can be times when we have lots to say to God – or times of great joy or frustration. It can be times when we have no words and are seeking God's comfort or consolation.

Sometimes prayers can be inspired by the words in the Bible. Words which describe God as a God who listens and responds with love. Sometimes when we have no words, we can turn to the Bible for words to pray.

Jesus offered us a form of prayer which we can use – the Lord's Prayer. We can commit the words to memory and recite them. We can also use the structure to help guide us in our own prayers – beginning with reflecting on who God is, then moving to bring our worries and concerns to God, before ending with praise to our eternal, loving God.

*Gemma King*



### MEMBERS OF COLINTON GARDEN CLUB TRAVELLED TO BACKHOUSE ROSSIE ESTATE IN FIFE FOR THEIR SPRING OUTING

This is an historically rich site, dating back to the 11<sup>th</sup> century. During the past 20 years, the owners, Caroline and Andrew Thomson, have restored the Walled Garden to its current, award-winning state. Caroline is a descendant of the Quaker-Backhouse family, well-known botanists who revolutionised plant breeding in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century. She delivered a detailed talk about the history of the estate and the story of its plants.

The gardens hold the National Collection of Narcissus Backhouse cultivars. Sarah Backhouse (1857–1921) is credited as a pioneering, but often overlooked breeder, who developed the first pink-crowned daffodil. There is also a family link, through marriage, to Mary, Queen of Scots and this deep historical connection enriches the heritage of Rossie Estate, adding an intriguing layer to its fascinating past.

Charles Darwin corresponded with the Backhouse family in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. He conducted many experiments as part of his research into the purpose of the water-repellent layer on brassica leaves (bloom).

More than a 100 years later, Darwin's findings are still relevant today, where bloom plays a crucial role in determining the shelf-life and transportation of vegetables and fruits.

Garden Club members ended their fascinating visit with coffee and cake. Their next trip will be to Abbotsford House & Garden in June.

If you would like to find out more about Colinton Garden Club, just get in touch by email:

[Publicity@colintongardens.org.uk](mailto:Publicity@colintongardens.org.uk)



*Images: Kath Hay*





The Bethany Welcome Centre has recently been fortunate enough to receive funding from Edinburgh City Council to extend its work during the summer months.

The Centre provides sleeping accommodation and two-course hot meals to Edinburgh's homeless community. Typically, this support runs from October to Spring, focusing on the coldest nights of the year. However, the funding extension now bridges the summer gap and will guarantee support is provided until Spring 2027. This means that nobody *needs* to sleep outdoors on our streets.



### CAN YOU HELP?

However, the year-round service also means an increased need for volunteer teams to provide meals at the Centre. The current rota includes church groups from Edinburgh and the Lothians,

each making regular commitments to help on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.

As regular Care Van contributors, Edinburgh Pentlands Parish Church has been approached to provide a cooking team. If we have enough volunteers this could work and would give us an outreach opportunity. We need to carefully gauge interest, to be sure we make a realistic commitment, which is likely to be either monthly or bi-monthly. The role of the cooking team is likely to involve cooking

the food on church premises (either during the day or in the early evening), re-heating, then serving meals to the people who are making use of this service.

The team will also be chatting and making those folk feel comfortable at the Welcome Centre during the evening. Volunteers might prefer to support one part of this undertaking or a different one, so we can be flexible to suit our volunteers. For example, some may prefer to prepare the meal during the day, while others may find serving in the evening easier.

Nothing has been agreed or decided at this point, as we shape our Edinburgh Pentlands input, but we aim to fulfil Bethany Christian Trust's service needs.

If anyone is interested in exploring this opportunity, please contact Sarah Rhynas at [sarah@rhynas.co.uk](mailto:sarah@rhynas.co.uk)



### BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOXES

The Kirk Session has agreed to support the Blythswood Shoebox Appeal for 2026. More details will follow when information is received, but this is a *'heads up'* to get you thinking about preparing a shoebox for later this year.

Thanking you in advance for your support for this very worthwhile cause.

*Irene Falla & Margaret Woodrow*

## THE GREEN STROLLERS

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, ten Strollers set off from Juniper Green Church and walked by the Water of Leith to Kingsknowe, before joining the canal path to Meggetland. We stopped for a snack lunch in the sports complex, where we were joined by two more Strollers. Lunch was enjoyed by all and then we headed back to Juniper Green. The weather was mostly fine that day, we all enjoyed each other's company and, of course, lunch!



**Our background:** Almost twenty years ago, a couple of individuals at Juniper Green Church decided to start a walking group and so the **Green Strollers** came into being. The group walks every three weeks throughout the year, weather permitting. There are around 25 Strollers and approximately 10 to 15 people join in on each walk.

Details of our next walk will be on the parish website and in the intimations. Do come and join us.

**Keep Strolling  
Jeanette**

## The 'Lit'

### Colinton Literary Society

The Colinton Lit committee is working hard to prepare yet another superb banquet of Guest Speakers and events for the 114<sup>th</sup> session. Yes - the 'Lit' has been in operation for a very long time!

On the right are just some of the fabulous topics that will be presented in the 2026-2027 session - so diaries at the ready. The first talk will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> October.

Meetings take place on Wednesday evenings in Dreghorn Loan Hall, Colinton.

Coffee, tea and wine are served from 7.30pm and the talk or event starts at 8pm, ending at about 9pm.

Do come and join us - you will be made very welcome.



**14<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Cameron Wylie, former principal of George Heriot's School, will talk about his book of anecdotes from his life in education

**21<sup>st</sup> Oct:** Alex Renton will expound his book *Stiff Upper Lip*, on the uses and abuses found in Britain's boarding schools

**28<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Kath Hay will tell the story behind an icon, *Our Lady of Ostrabrama*, a copy of which can be found in Falkland Palace, Fife

**04<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Former police detective Tom Wood will speak about his book, *The Bombing of Edinburgh and Leith 1939-1942*. There is both tragedy and farce in the stories of local people under attack from the Luftwaffe

**11<sup>th</sup> Nov:** A smaller 'war' that took place in 1823 is the subject of Chris Whatley's talk, *Harvie's Dyke*. This was a wall built by a Glasgow distiller to block public access to the banks of the Clyde. It was the focus of one of the earliest fights for the right to roam in Scotland

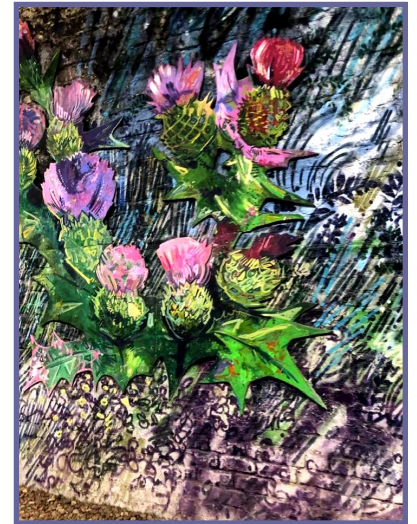
**18<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Edinburgh G&S Society will present *HMS Pinafore* with David Lyle, Music Director

**25<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Scottish storyteller Donald Smith will explore the rewilding of epic stories by which nature and ecology come to prominence in great *Folk Tales*

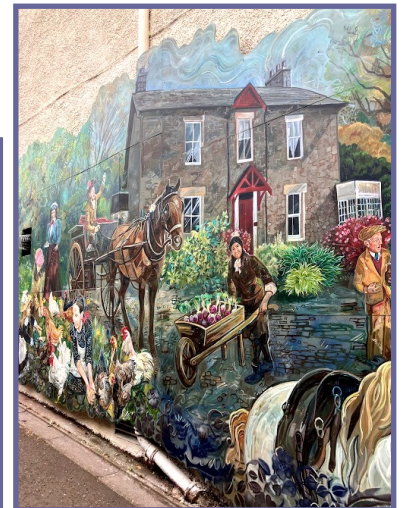
....and there will be more to follow!



**A reminder of the incredible, beautiful artwork, created by artist Chris Rutterford, pictured above in Colinton Tunnel and also...**



**...in Cuddies Lane, leading down to Colinton Church**



Images: Kath Hay



**Duncan Campbell**

*Image provided by  
Ian Boyter*



The late Duncan Campbell campaigned tirelessly to improve Colinton's amenities and environment. To commemorate his passing, Colinton Amenity Association, one of the numerous organisations of which Duncan had been a member, had a memorial stone placed in the wall of the New Drivers Path, between Woodhall Road and Bridge Road.



Many local residents came along to the ceremony, which took place on a sunny, but cold, 6<sup>th</sup> April this year. Cllr Jason Rust (pictured above right) performed the unveiling.

## PARISH REGISTER

### BAPTISM

Billy John Vernon Wills

### FUNERALS WILL TAKE PLACE FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE

Mavis Campbell  
Michael Gilmartin  
Marion Windass

*Please note that not everyone mentioned is a member of the congregation*



## LADIES BADMINTON GROUP

The last meeting before the summer break will be on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, then we will restart on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September. We meet at 10am on Wednesdays in Juniper Green Church Hall 1 (enter from Woodhall Avenue). We play for fun and have a short break for coffee and chat. New players will be made very welcome.

**Linda Sharp**



At Tiphereth Camphill, we provide high-quality residential and day service support for adults with learning disabilities, enabling people to live meaningful, connected lives.

The Camphill name comes from Camphill Estate in Aberdeen, where the pioneers of the organisation opened their first community for children with special needs in 1940. There are a number of Camphill across Scotland and Edinburgh's began operating in 1993, starting with a single family home. We are now spread across five sites.

Residents can participate in craftwork, gardening, woodworking and conservation. Our work is delivered through a mix of services, brought to life by a dedicated community of skilled staff and volunteers.

Why not come and join us for a special Tiphereth summer event?

## Summer Fayre

**Lots of tasty treats, beautiful crafts, plants, music, tombola and more!**

- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2026
- 10am - 2pm
- 37-39 Torphin Road, Edinburgh

### Please note:

The Swing Café will close for the summer holidays on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> June and re-open on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> July at 10am



**Lynn Leslie**  
Catering Manager  
The Swing Café



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