

THE SIGN

JUNE 2018

**St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church
Westgarth Avenue
Colinton
Edinburgh EH13 0BD**



St Cuthbert's endeavours to be a community in which all are encouraged to participate in worshipping God and serving the wider community. It welcomes those who are doubters and sceptics as well as those who are committed in faith, and has a particular concern for those who have been hurt by their experiences of life.

Dear Friends

May has been a difficult month for me due to my mother's illness, so my apologies for anything I've had to cancel and my thanks to everyone who has been so kind and efficient in getting my work done. Special thanks to Markus Dúnzkofer and John Hampton for covering services for me.



Sitting at Mum's bedside in hospital has certainly given me time to read, reflect and just be. Strangely the book I was reading was Richard Holloway's, *Waiting for the last bus, reflections on life and death*. In one chapter he talks about nearing the end of our lives and looking back with regrets over decisions made, hurt caused, or anything else really. But he suggests that we should be forgiving and kind to ourselves and when we turn our minds to our own ending (however near or far away it might be) we should get into the right mood. He says, "The mood I recommend is the last day of the holidays – another summer gone, and the sweet sadness of leaving."

As I write, my mum still fights but I hope her mood is the last day of the holidays – her first and last in Scotland with me and my family. We were discussing her funeral before she came to Scotland, as I am a great believer in everyone having their funerals decided long before they are needed.

I know everything she wants – do your family and / or friends know what you would like?

To help in this, we are hosting ‘Grave Talk’ on Saturday 18th August, 2-4pm, so I’m giving you plenty of notice to think about attending. It is a ‘fun’ event, where we enjoy our usual refreshments and chat with friends over hymn choices, readings, or anything else. To help us, there will be question cards on the tables and then, if you wish, forms to fill in with your decisions. These can obviously be changed at any time but at least the process will have been started. Please come along.

During May, we celebrated the Day of Ascension with an early service and wonderful breakfast, with thanks to Joan. The season of Easter ended with the Day of Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit and Trinity was celebrated by John Hampton, celebrating 65 years of ordained ministry. (He also celebrated his 90th birthday earlier in May but I was told we were not allowed to sing to him).

I offer John many congratulations on both and wish him peace and joy in his retirement from being a working ‘retired’ priest.

Love and blessings.
Nicki

Beryl Gardner RIP 1st August 1929 – 19th May 2018.



The Big Day the Diocese of Edinburgh: Celebrating Together.

It feels somewhat churlish to say that I wasn't looking forward to 'the Big Day', however having somehow volunteered to be involved there was really only one way to go and that was forward. The day grew closer and I felt concerned that although the four of us who agreed to put together St Cuthbert's display had lots of ideas we seemed to be progressing with 'more movement than action' as a friend of mine might say. Ah I thought a meeting is required and suggested that the four of us get together at my house.

The result was for me a great evening getting to know three other members of St Cuthbert's in a way that I never had over coffee. Bob P has frequently commented to me that I seem at a bit of a loss at coffee time and how right he is. It never ceases to amaze me how much everyone has to say as soon as the service is over I just don't seem to have that immediate ability to burst into conversation. Anyway we arranged to meet again the following week at my house and whether or not we formulated immaculate plans for the 'Big Day' which was by this time only days away I felt a deepening sense of connection with my fellow planners and of course in the end every fell into some kind of place.

The day arrived and it was anticipated that at least 400 people would be attending and on walking into the Cathedral on a bright and sunny morning at the end of April there was an immediate sense of a market place with all the stall holders busily setting up. Coffee and tea were served and we were all given a recyclable cup which had our name and church written on it and we used it throughout the day. This was just one example of a brilliantly organised day where everyone was catered for and no one seemed stressed. An ample crèche area for children was

right at the heart of things and there was plenty of time to walk round the many stalls all evidencing the unique identity of the particular church communicating just how richly creative we can be often in the simplest of ways. There were workshops galore and a resource exhibition in the Walpole Hall and all these aspects in themselves deserve a newsletter article.

For me, however the pinnacle of the experience came early on with the Provost's call to worship which felt profoundly ordinary and inclusive whilst at the same time deeply moving and I found myself coming alive in a way I had not anticipated. Fischy Music ensured that we could all sing out without any fear in a worship area resembling a long narrow boat and I loved the image of us all being at sea together. After my initial hesitation how very glad I was to be part of this wonderful occasion and thank you to everyone who ensured it all ran so smoothly.

Margaret Temple

REMEMBERING 1918 in 2018

This year in November we plan to remember the Armistice of 1918 which ended the Great War in special ways. We are now calling on our knitters to provide a great store of poppies to be used in a display in church.

This is an example knitted by Rosemary Yeoman

If you would like to knit some poppies a pattern will be available and there will be a box for them at the back of the church. Of course you may use your own pattern too.



It would be wonderful if we could have an abundance of red poppies and there is lots of time to get knitting before October when we would like them all in the box!

From the Archivist 5

The Story of the Episcopal Church

Two Churches

The Episcopal Church was now separated from the Presbyterian Church which ruled Scottish religious life. Here, disputes over the appointment of ministers led to the creation of a number of dissenting groups.

For many Episcopalians James VII and his successors were the rightful heirs to the throne and head of the church. These were the non-jurors (unwilling to take an oath of allegiance). The non-jurors were naturally linked with the Jacobite cause. The rebellions of 1715 and 1745 distanced many of the wealthier members of Scottish society from the Church. They used the Prayer Book introduced by Charles I in 1637. This group was led by Bishop Rose of Edinburgh who died in 1720.

The other group who occupied Qualified Chapels supported the crown. They used the English Book of Common Prayer which included prayers for the king. In 1722, John Smith, a Baron of the Exchequer, founded a qualified Episcopal chapel in Edinburgh. Two other chapels in Skinners' Close and Carrubber's Close were established.

Bonnie Prince Charles (1745) occupied Edinburgh and nearly succeeded in overthrowing the Hanoverian government. This resulted in a crackdown on all non-jurors. The death of Charles Edward Stewart in 1788 brought an end to the link between the Episcopalians and the Jacobite Rebels. The bishops met in Aberdeen and agreed to pray for George III and his family. An Act of Parliament in 1792 permitted Episcopal clergy to lead worship and an attempt was begun to unite the two groups.

A new Episcopal Chapel was built in the Cowgate. Opened in 1774 this chapel could seat a congregation of a thousand. It brought together the members of the three qualified chapels. Once free from its ties to the Jacobite Cause the Episcopalians began to attract many of the wealthier members of society into their churches. Sir William Forbes, an Edinburgh banker, provided the finance for this venture.

John Peacock our Archivist has been researching the history of the Scottish Episcopal Church in Edinburgh. This will be in the Sign during the next few months.

VESTRY REPORT

April 2018 Vestry

- Jean, Margaret and Russell will set up and staff our stall at the Diocesan Celebration at St Mary's Cathedral on the 28th April.
- A prayer diary from The Bethany Trust has been received and will be put at the back of the church. Joan read out a thank you letter from Donald Mackintosh. Vestry acknowledged a letter from Cliff Daley dated 9.4.2018 tending his resignation from Vestry and as People's Warden.
- Martin presented the Income and Expenditure accounts to the end of March, which Vestry read. There were no queries. Vestry heard that the accounts sheet had been efficiently prepared by Marie Neil the new administrator.
- Laura agreed to take on the role of charity coordinator.
- There is to be a tender process for an accountant to act as Independent Examiner. Martin informed Vestry that we are looking to replace the current photocopier. Broad Band is being installed in the Church and may be available in the Hall and Church in future. Martin briefly went through the latest OSCR information available. Martin stressed that the church charity number needs to be on all official correspondence. This can be found on the latest edition of The Sign.
- Vestry were given a copy of the new risk register for St Cuthbert's. Comments were invited. Vestry appointed Marie as Data Controller.
- An email letter from Trena and David Macaulay of 4 Westgarth Avenue states that they are very happy to leave the North Rectory wall as it is and are not concerned about the state of the wall.
- An email from Dave Willis about the new church doors suggests that we should consider introducing a hardwood frame to facilitate the fixing of the doors. Vestry agreed that this was a good idea. Simon Filsell in the Diocese office is to be contacted to check whether this alteration would affect the Canon 35. Dave Willis will then be asked to prepare a specification for this alteration. The wiring circuits in the Rectory have now been checked.
- Via Joan, the Rector thanked Vestry for their participation during Holy week and Easter. Details of the scheduled services and church events for May were given. St Cuthbert's raised £610 for the Bishop's Lent appeal.
- St Cuthbert's now needs a new Peoples' Warden.

The full minutes are available in the folder at the back of the Church. An electronic version can be requested by email, contact: julia.roberts01@btinternet.com

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR

The anthem that the choir sings tries to reflect the readings for that service.

The anthems for June are:

3 June morning: I am the Bread of Life

3 June evensong: God be in my head

10 June Henry Loosemore: O Lord increase our faith

17 June Maurice Greene: Thou visitest the earth

24 June Marc Antoine Charpentier: Proclaim the Story

Julian Jefferson

FLOWER ARRANGERS' NEWS

JUNE FLOWERS

You will notice that there are quite a few gaps on the Flower Rota over the summer.

If you feel at all able and would be willing to do an arrangement, please add your name to the list. Alternatively, perhaps you would not mind watering the flowers. Any help is very much appreciated.

READINGS FOR JUNE 2018

3 June – Pentecost 2

First Reading	Deuteronomy 5.12-15
Psalm	81.1-10
Second Reading	2 Corinthians 4.5-12
Gospel	Mark 2.23-3.6

10 June – Pentecost 3

First Reading	Genesis 3.8-15
Psalm	130
Second Reading	2 Corinthians 4.13-5.1
Gospel	Mark 3.20-35

17 June – Pentecost 4

First Reading	Ezekiel 17.22-24
Psalm	92.1-4, 11-14
Second Reading	2 Corinthians 5.6-10,14-17
Gospel	Mark 4.26-34

24 June – Pentecost 5

First Reading	Job 38.1-11
Psalm	107.1-3,23-32
Second Reading	2 Corinthians 6.1-13
Gospel	Mark 4.35-41

1 July – Pentecost 6

First Reading	Wisdom 1.13-15;2.23-24
Psalm	30
Second Reading	2 Corinthians 8.7-15
Gospel	Mark 5.21-43

**St. Cuthbert's
Scottish Episcopal Church
Colinton
9.30am**



**Last Wednesday
of the month
27 JUNE**

**Join us to pray for the life, work and
witness of our church**

A Brew & A Blether

You would be most welcome to join us in the hall between 2 & 4 pm on

Saturday 2 June

for a brew, a blether, a cup of tea, a piece of cake, a game of Scrabble and an opportunity to meet and make new friends.

Everyone welcome

CHRISTIAN AID

It's almost the end of Christian Aid Week. 63 people from the two Churches have walked around Colinton covering 76 roads or parts of roads, delivering envelopes, knocking on doors, being greeted, sometimes with incomprehension, but more often with a smile and a willingness to give. Sometimes the bags are heavy with coins, sometimes light, but it's all money **for Christian Aid's building programme** in hurricane-ravaged Haiti.

Vilia's Story



After losing her mother and her home in the 2010 earthquake in Port-au-Prince, the capital of Haiti, Vilia returned to the village she had grown up in. Homeless and with 7 children to support, she was determined: "Anything a man can do, with my strength I can do it. He uses a pick. So can I. The man throws his hoe. I can too. He's digging a hole. I can dig it. I'm alone, so I have to fight to stay alive."

When she reached Les Cayes, she met Christian Aid Partner KORAL who reached out to help the clearly vulnerable family. The old family house was beyond repair, so KORAL built her a new home that was strong enough to stand up to natural disasters.

'On 4 October 2016 KORAL told us all: "A hurricane is coming." Everyone went to bed. I heard chaos outside. A young woman came for shelter. I asked her, "Where is your father?" She said, "He was with me but the wind blew him away."

People came. People came. People came.

Then one last person showed up. He told me, "You're the only one with a house left." (Vilia's old house was destroyed by the hurricane. The ruin stands alongside her Christian Aid house, one of only a few in the area that survived.)

I would have died, I would have died. If I didn't have this house, I would have died.

54 people ended up in my house that night. I formed a chain of solidarity, so that we could eat together, share with each other, sleep together, just until they could return home, or find shelter.

Vilia allowed her home to become an emergency shelter when Hurricane

Matthew struck She is incredibly grateful for the help she's received:



"I love my house so much. I am crazy about my house."

But she worries about those without a secure home: "To this day there are still people who haven't found a place to stay. They don't have the means, they don't have the capacity, they don't have the strength."

I pray my God, "The country is in your hands. We ask that you give us strength in Haiti where at any moment we might have a hurricane. We have children and we don't know what to do. To the people overseas, Lord, please give them strength and courage. Place compassion in their hearts. Our livestock have gone, our fields are destroyed. The country is in mourning. You can guide us, you can protect us, and we know that with faith, with our strength, with courage, we will be able to find what we are looking for. This is how we pray to you. Amen"



Thank you for the part you played during this Christian Aid Week.

Patricia Brignall

SHALOM (In the presence of God)

Our next meeting – **30 June 2018**

Our usual pattern is to start with a short welcome/stilling exercise then 20 minutes of shared silence or a reading and reflection and finishing with a prayer of thanks.

Everyone is welcome to suggest new ways of exploring, sharing and praying together. It's an enriching part of the life of the church and a way of encouraging one another to grow in our spiritual lives.

You are free to come and go in silence but we often end with coffee, cake and a chat!

We seek to provide a 'sacred space';
a space to reflect, to pray;
a space to find peace, stillness and refreshment.

Our meetings are usually on the last Saturday of each month

We meet from 10am to 11am in the Lady Chapel –

Contact Jean Myers for further details

THE OPEN FORUM

Programme

June 10	Judgement	Facilitator	John Hampton
July 1	Origins of the Creeds	Facilitator	David Ferro
August 12	The Creeds in Today's World	Facilitators	Jean and George Haskell

NB By general consensus it was agreed to move the meetings to the second Sunday in the month. All the meetings apart from the July one will therefore take place on the 2nd Sunday of the month

Wendy Stewart

PHOENIX GROUP

Many thanks again to Dr John Gooding for his very interesting, illuminating and enjoyable talk "Russia : 1917 and Now - Part 2".

We have nothing else planned at the moment and would welcome suggestions for future gatherings. We are also happy to organise events, like John's talk which are open to all in the congregation.

Please make any suggestions to Jean Myers, Margaret Temple or myself.
Margaret Kieran

THE LEPROSY MISSION SCOTLAND

TLMS NEWS

I have been given several Blue Tubs in the last few weeks; so I will send another donation early in June. If you wish to hand your tub in after reading this, please do so; otherwise please keep it till early July.

In ASK 2018 [the Prayer Diary of TLM] we are asked to pray in June for the work being done to help people suffering from leprosy in Bangladesh and Ethiopia and the fundraising work, supporting TLM, in Denmark and Finland. These stories are from pages 40 to 43 in ASK. If you haven't got a copy, please take one from the shelf by the Font. There are lots of inspiring stories from people who have been treated and helped to make a new independent life for themselves.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support of TLMS.

Barbara Tatlock

RAISE FUNDS AS YOU KNIT FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES!



Could you join fellow knitters across the country in a sponsored knitting drive to help refugees living in camps in Lebanon? Since 2013 EDA has been sending regular shipments of warm clothes to help 60,000 Syrian refugees live through harsh snowy winters in tented camps in Aarsal, Lebanon, in the mountains 5,000ft above sea level.

Our ever generous donors have included many knitters of warm woolly hats, gloves, scarves, sweaters, blankets, & toys.

All our donations are packed into huge 40' long shipping containers, then sent by sea to Lebanon. Our local team of refugees in Aarsal makes sure they are distributed to those in most need. It costs a lot to ship each container - some £3,500 in all. The value of donated goods aboard works out at over £20,000 in local prices, so it's money well spent.

BUT we have to raise that £3,500 for every container sent. And we need funds also to make local purchases of fuel, medicine etc, and support schools, training and workshops in Aarsal.

SO we are asking our knitters to make a realistic but challenging commitment to any knitting target they choose, and seek sponsorship for achieving it, from 14th May to 30th June.

. this may sound rather "woolly" but here are some ideas. In some you would donate us both knitting & money raised; in others just the money. It will all help!

- Set yourself an aim of completing a number of items – eg 20 hats, 10 teddy bears – in the period.
- Finish that project that has been half done for years, or unravel & re-knit that failure!
- Form a group, or meet as an existing group, to make a set of items – eg sweaters for every age of child, or in every colour.
- Knit non-stop for a certain period, as an individual or a group.
- Encourage your partner, children, grandchildren, to get sponsored to learn to knit; fine him or her for every dropped stitch.
- Hold a knitting party with coffee & cakes & charge for entrance.
- Get a commission for knitting something special

If you are a Facebook/Twitter user, do keep in touch with other knitters and groups, and EDA, by posting photos of your progress.

For more details, to sign up as a knitter, or to sponsor a knitter, go to www.edinburghdirectaid.org

or: email Knit2018@edinburghdirectaid.org

PS Sponsors don't have to be a long list of names – just a fiver from your nearest and dearest will be equally appreciated!

THANK YOU! www.edinburghdirectaid.org

Edinburgh Direct Aid, 29 Starbank Rd, Edinburgh EH5 3BY.

Charity ref SC021007

Would you like to help?

Sponsorship information and forms available from Joan Smith

Abbey Summer School

This year, at the free Evening Public Lecture of The Abbey Summer School, we're excited to hear Iwan Russell-Jones speaking on the subject of "Fake News and Fearless Speech: The Film-Maker's Calling to Tell the Truth". Iwan joined the faculty of Regent College in 2011 after a long career in broadcasting including many years at the BBC. The lecture will be held on Friday 1st June 2018 at 7.30pm at Newhaven Church, Edinburgh.

The Abbey Summer School is a venture in Scotland that offers Christian teaching and nourishment to all who like to think about their faith. Now in its fourth year, The Abbey seeks to address core elements of Christian faith that speak in a particularly direct way to our present cultural moment, and to do this with theological and spiritual depth and integrity. In doing so, our aim is to reach towards something of the integration of thought and emotion, head and heart, spirituality and theology. The free evening public lecture is a great way to come and experience The Abbey for yourself and hear some of the excellent teaching on offer.

Bookings - this is free event, but tickets must be booked in advance on Eventbrite (google 'Eventbrite Abbey Summer School' and the link should come up).

For more information contact Laura Ogilvie Jones

Did you know that the Diocese has an online magazine “The Communicant”?

This is accessible to everyone and contains information about what is happening in the Diocese as well details of forthcoming events, training, lectures and talks. You can find it at the Diocese website:
<https://edinburgh.anglican.org/publications/the-communicant>

THE SIGN Subscriptions

The annual subscription for THE SIGN is £10, £16 if you want THE SIGN posted to you. Cheques should be made payable to St Cuthbert’s Church and handed in or sent to The Rectory, 6 Westgarth Avenue, Edinburgh EH13 0BD. Thanks to all our regular subscribers. We value your support.

A reminder to those who have not yet paid for this year please could your 2018 subscription be handed in or sent as soon as is convenient – thank you

St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church
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Email: stcuthbertsrector@gmail.com

Website: www.stcuthbertscolinton.org.uk

Usual Sunday Services

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Sung Eucharist

A sung service, with sermon

Children & Young People during term-time

6.00pm Evensong

On the first Sunday of each month

Weekday Services

Wednesdays

10.30am Holy Communion *followed by coffee*

Thursdays

2.30pm The Thursday Service

A short Ecumenical service designed with elderly people in mind. Followed by tea.

Scottish Charity Number: SC007578