

THE SIGN

OCTOBER 2023



**ST. CUTHBERT'S
SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
COLINTON**

THE SIGN

October 2023

St Cuthbert's
Scottish 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 concern for those who have been hurt by their experiences of life.

If you wish to receive Home Communion, please contact Revd Nicki McNelly – Tel: 0131 441 7580



Facebook: @stcuthbertscolinton



Instagram: stcuthbertscolinton



Twitter: @stcuthbertsSEC



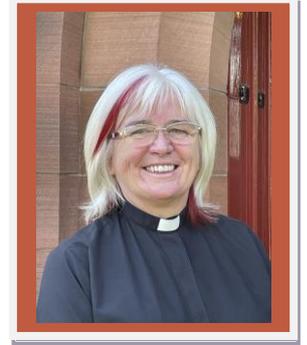
**St Cuthbert's Scottish Episcopal Church
Colinton**

Front Page Photo – Harvest, St Cuthbert's, Colinton

Dear Friends,

We finally had some wonderful weather to enjoy (if you like the heat) at the start of September to begin our Season of Creation.

Hopefully, you will be reading this as I continue to enjoy good weather on The Amalfi Coast and Lesley will be leading her last services with us. Photos from her final service and reception will have to wait until November, as it happens after this magazine is produced.



Lesley has been a great asset to St. Cuthbert's and will be sorely missed, particularly by me, as we were fortunate in having a very good relationship for a training incumbent and curate. When she came to St. Cuthbert's, we all knew her time was limited, as it was a period of learning as a curate. She now continues that learning (and leading) in the Borders and I'm happy to say that I will continue to journey with her to the end of her curacy next year and with our friendship beyond that. I'm sure you will join me in wishing Lesley and Colin every blessing as they move on.



In September we restarted Playgroup which had a great attendance on the first day. This runs on Mondays, 10am – 11.30am during school term time.

I would like to thank Megan for agreeing to take on the role of running this but she will need help with setting up / putting away and preparing refreshments. If you think this is something you could help with, approximately once a month, please speak to me or Megan.



We also had our first 'Forget me Notes'. An hour of singing and sharing memories led by their volunteers, followed by refreshments, hosted by our volunteers. I must admit, I am not a singer, but after

joining in for an hour, I left with a smile on my face. People keep telling me that singing is good therapy – how right they are. Come along and try for yourself, on the first and third Monday of the month at 2pm.

As we come to the end of The Season of Creation, I share their 2023 prayer with you and wish you a blessed Autumn.

Every blessing.

Nicki



Creator of All, from your communion of love life sprung forth like a mighty river and the whole cosmos came into being. On this Earth of overflowing love, the Word was made flesh and went forth with the life-giving waters proclaiming peace and justice for all creation.

You called human beings to till and keep your garden. You placed us into right relationship with each creature, but we failed to listen to the cries of the Earth and the cries of the most vulnerable. We broke with the flowing communion of love and sinned against you by not safeguarding the conditions for life.

We lament the loss of our fellow species and their habitats, we grieve the loss of human cultures, along with the lives and livelihoods that have been displaced or perished, and we ache at the sight of an economy of death, war and violence that we have inflicted on ourselves and on the Earth.

Open our ears to your creative, reconciling and sustaining Word that calls to us through the book of Scripture and the book of creation. Bless us once again with your life-giving waters so that the Creator Spirit may let justice and peace flow in our hearts and overflow into all creation.

Open our hearts to receive the living waters of God's justice and peace, and to share it with our suffering brothers and sisters, all creatures around us, and all creation.

Bless us to walk together with all people of good will so that the many streams of the living waters of God's justice and peace may become a mighty river all over the Earth.

In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ. Amen.



The Sanctuary Project Update

After much thought, prayer and discussion, the Vestry has decided not to continue with the Sanctuary Project.

This decision has been made with heavy hearts, but it was clear that the project could not move forward without the full support of all within the congregation. Disagreements on how to proceed have taken their toll on Vestry members, and we now feel we cannot continue to commit the required time and effort to take the Project forward.

Essential works to the building will continue to be carried out, as will a limited amount of renovation and restoration work.

Yours, in sadness.

Nicki

St. Cuthbert's AGM

This meeting will take place, in church, following the 10.30am service on Sunday 26th November 2023.

Vacancies this year are:

Vestry Member x 3

People's Warden – George Bungay has agreed to be renominated.

Lay Rep – one nomination received.

Alternate Lay Rep – one nomination received.

Nomination forms are available from Marie.

If you wish to ask a question during any other business, could you please submit it in writing to the Vestry Secretary by November 19th to enable a full response.

Reports will be available in church from Sunday 12th November. If you would like a full set of the accounts, these can be obtained from Marie.



*From
Rev. Dr. Lesley
Penny...*

It feels very strange writing this article in the knowledge that when you read it, I will be spending my final days with you all at St Cuthbert's. The four months since my interview have flown in and we find ourselves awaiting packing boxes and trying to eat our way through the freezer contents.



Change is always hard but I have felt a call towards the Borders from very early in the discernment process so that makes it easier for me to make this move. Colin has similar feelings and is also delighted that we will be so close to some very good fishing. We are very fortunate to find ourselves in this position.

It is now four years since I first set (nervous) foot in St Cuthbert's and Nicki began the long process of educating me in the finer skills of being an Episcopalian. This has been no small task and thanks are also due to Joan as sacristan for keeping me right on many occasions as technical terms have failed me and we have played a game of Anglican charades in the vestry.

I have so enjoyed my time with you. The standard of music has been a particular highlight and I think you are more than aware how blessed you are to have Philip and the choir in your midst.

It has been great celebrating with Margaret and Bishop Bob as well as Nicki, and I know the 8.30 service are going to miss playing '*what has Lesley forgotten today?*' whether that be microphones, glasses or memorably on one occasion, enough wafers. (Sorry Morgan).

Thank you too to Marie who has been such a great help to me and to Martin and Robin for making sure that I was paid! And to my wee support group who prayed for me. I am sure that I will have missed someone out, but the fact is that I am grateful to you all, for your encouragement, your support and for allowing me to learn about life as a priest in the SEC. And Nicki. Thank you for graciously preparing me for the times that are yet to come.

We wish you every blessing for the future.

Lesley and Colin x



News from the NSM, October 2023

Two weeks ago from the date of writing this article, I returned from a fascinating and enjoyable cruise discovering our Scandinavian Viking Heritage. Unfortunately I also returned with a cold/cough bug, causing me to lie low for a week.

However, it also gave me time to reflect on my recent spiritual, emotional and practical journey. It clarified for me the fact that our spiritual journeys are very much linked to our individual paths through life, with its twists and turns, its surprises, its sometimes seeming boredom and its varying trials and tribulations.

The focus of my reflections was my recent marriage to Ian, a man with whom I'd shared for some years a journey of mutual friendship, support and caring. The chosen readings for the service reflected the core of our relationship, with perhaps more widely relevant pointers to other people too, concerning our relationships with God and with our chosen partners and friends.

The well-known passage from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians demonstrates the centrality of **love**, its selflessness, patience, kindness, lack of self-centredness or envy. The quote I found from Victor Hugo's 'Les Misérables' gives further emphasis to the importance of love. To quote: 'You can give without loving, but you can never love without giving. The great acts of love are done by those who are habitually performing small acts of kindness. We pardon to the extent that we love.'

Finally, I come to the familiar passage ‘On Marriage’ from Kahlil Gibran’s work ‘The Prophet.’ ‘Let there be spaces in your togetherness and let the winds of the heavens dance between you.’ I see **respect** for the different life experiences and inherited personalities that have shaped us over the years as being central to living in harmony with our spouses, allowing our differences to enrich, not detract, from our warm relationship with each other. Hence the blessing Ian gave me as I set out on my cruise, whilst he stayed at home, enjoying his own bed after too many years of army travel in the past.

Finally, as I returned to my ministry this week, I experienced much pleasure in sharing, with those attending our Thursday service, the amazing insights into God’s natural creation, passed on to us through the medium of spiritual poetry. Relevant to our month celebrating creation, that sense is continued by Joan into October, when, on Thursday 5th, she will deliver a presentation entitled ‘All Creatures Great and Small – the Story of St. Francis of Assisi.’ Please join us for the service and fellowship and refreshments afterwards.

With love and blessings,

Margaret (McCrindle).



OCTOBER 2023

Music Notes



On the first Sunday of the month, our Harvest Festival services will take place. In the morning, the choir will sing *Thou visitest the earth* by Maurice Greene, who lived from 1696 until 1755: he was a prolific composer of church music, and was organist of St Paul's Cathedral, London, and the Chapel Royal. This anthem, with words taken from Psalm 65, has been very popular with church choirs as a staple harvest anthem for many years. At evensong, in addition to a setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, the anthem will be by the popular contemporary composer John Rutter: his attractive and lyrical *Look at the World*, which has not been sung in St Cuthbert's for quite a number of years. On the final Sunday of the month, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints, and the hymns and readings have been chosen to reflect this joyful occasion.

Sunday 1st, 10.30am:

Thou visitest the earth - Maurice Greene

Sunday 1st, 6.00pm:

Bunnett in F

Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis

Look at the World - John Rutter

Sunday 8th:

Bread of Heaven - Malcolm Archer

Sunday 15th:

My shepherd is Lord - Harrison Oxley

Sunday 22nd:

Lord, give me faith - Kathleen Robson

Sunday 29th:

Blest are the pure in heart - Walford Davies

Philip Rossiter



EVENSONG SERVICE

Sunday 1 October at 6pm

HARVEST EVENSONG AND PARTY



**Sunday 1 October
at 6pm**

**Join us to celebrate Harvest
and to say farewell to Lesley**



**Donations will be
invited to cover
costs and for
church funds**

FreshStart
helping people make a home for themselves

‘Thank you’ to everyone who donated items to our collection for Fresh Start, Edinburgh at the end of August – it was a *fantastic* response from our congregation and community.

These donations are very much appreciated, and will help people who have been homeless get established in their new homes.

Thank you also to Hilary, Ross, George, and Lesley and Martin Gourley, for all their help.



ST CUTHBERT'S FONT

John Bann of the
Grassmarket
Community
Project

returned to
St Cuthbert's to put
the finishing touch
onto the font.





St. Cuthbert's Playgroup

10am - 11.30am

Every Monday during
school term time

£2 per family



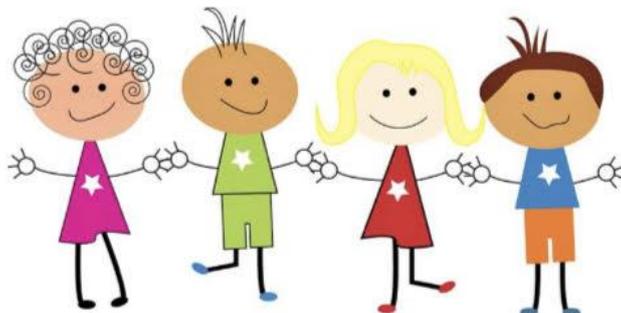
SCAN ME

St. Cuthbert's Church Hall, Westgarth Avenue

Contact Nicki McNelly for more information:

stcuthbertsrector@gmail.com

or 0131 4417580





Music, Memories and Cake

**St. Cuthbert's Church Hall
Westgarth Avenue, Colinton**

**First & Third Monday of every month
2pm – 4pm**

Join us when you can, for an hour of music and memories, followed by refreshments.

All Welcome

Please call Nicki for more information
on 0131 441 7580 or stcuthbertsrector@gmail.com

www.forgetmenotes.org.uk
www.stcuthbertscolinton.org.uk

Membership Booklet & Nominal Roll Update 2023

If you have completed a membership and GDPR form and are happy that all content is correct, you need do nothing. If anything needs updating, (e.g., telephone number / email / permissions) please notify Marie at stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com and put UPDATE in the subject line.

If you have not completed a membership and GDPR form and wish to do so, please contact Marie as above, and put MEMBERSHIP in the subject line on the email.

If you do not use email, please speak to either Nicki or Marie so that necessary updates can be made.

We hope to have a new Membership Booklet available at the AGM in November, which will only show contact details of those who have agreed to allow us to do so.

Deadline date – 1 October 2023

THE SIGN

Please note –

**The deadline for information and articles for the
November 2023 issue is**

Sunday 15 October 2023

Please send to stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com

Thank you!



Sadly, no volunteers have come forward to help with this service to the housebound, therefore from October onwards, we will only have live-streamed services when Martin, or others are available.

Planned dates for live-streaming are:

1st October
5th November
26th November
10th December
25th December

With apologies to those who use this service.



**OCTOBER 2023
ROTAS**

READINGS FOR OCTOBER 2023

Year A

Readings are taken from the NRSV

1st October – Harvest Festival

Deuteronomy 8. 7-18
1 Timothy 2. 1-7
Matthew 6. 25-33

8th October – Pentecost 19

Isaiah 5. 1-7
Philippians 3. 4b-14
Matthew 21. 33-46

15th October – Pentecost 20

Isaiah 25. 1-9
Philippians 4. 1-9
Matthew 22. 1-14

22nd October – Pentecost 21

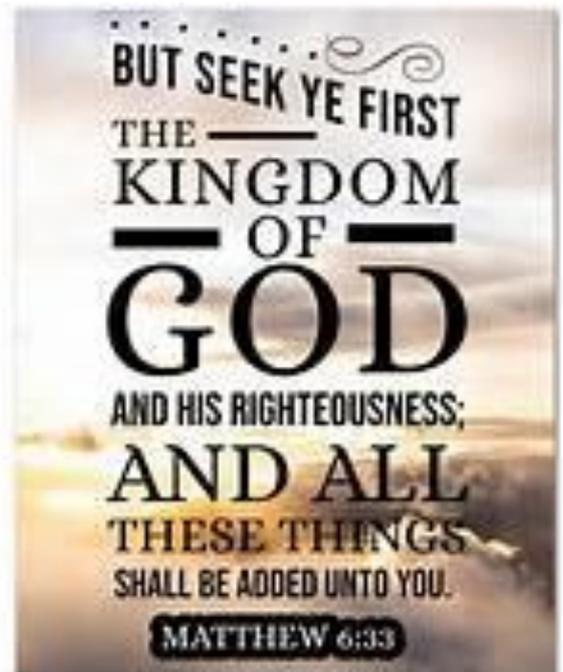
Isaiah 45. 1-7
1 Thessalonians 1. 1-10
Matthew 22. 15-22

29th October - All Saints

Revelation 7. 9-17
1 John 3. 1-3,
Matthew 5. 1-12

5th November - Pentecost 23

Micah 3. 5-12
1 Thessalonians 2. 9-13
Matthew 23. 1-12

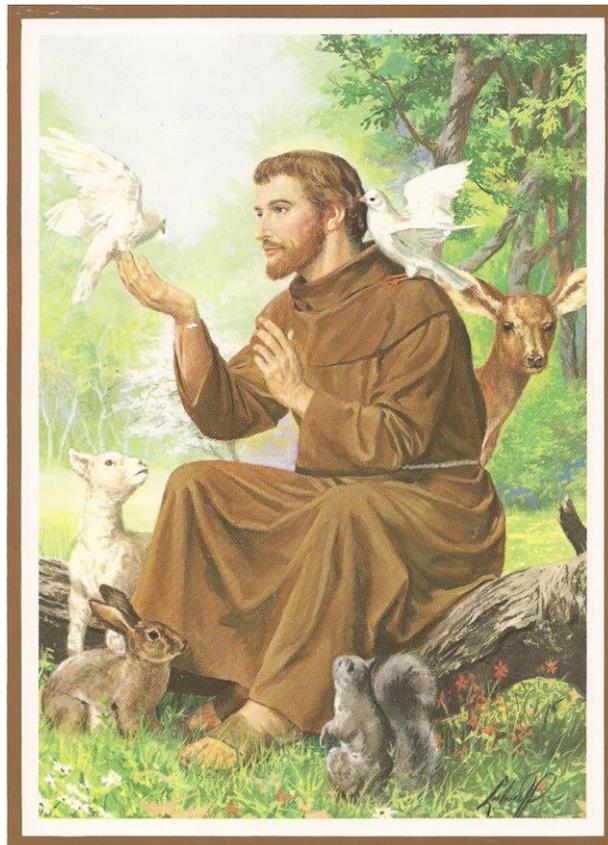


The Thursday Service

5 October 2023

2.30pm

All creatures great and small



The story of St Francis of Assisi

All are welcome

Refreshments will be served after the service

Future Thursday Services

2 November

7 December

Thursday Afternoon Service

Thursday, November 2nd, 2023 at 2.30pm

The theme will be:

St Paul goes to Thessalonica



**The names of those to be remembered for
All Souls' Day will be read out at this service.**

**Please join us for this informal service,
Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you there.**

Refreshments will be served after the service

Future services: Thursday, December 7th and Thursday, January 4th

ALL SOULS' DAY

Thursday 2nd November

2.30pm

We will remember the souls of the faithful departed at the Thursday afternoon service.

If you would like a loved one to be named on that day, please **PRINT** their names on the list at the back of the church.



Some photos from a wonderful September weekend of celebrations at St. Cuthbert's.

Eira, Rector Nicki's granddaughter, turned 4, Frances and John Davies celebrated 60 years of marriage and Agnes Stone had a big birthday, turning 90. Lots of cake, juice and fizz was shared.





SAVE THE DATE

**ST CUTHBERT'S
CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER

IN THE CHURCH HALL

LOTS OF STALLS

TOMBOLA

(GIFTS FOR THIS STALL VERY WELCOME)

TEA AND COFFEE



CHRISTIAN AID

Faith Will....

Your faith is powerful, and so is your Will!

Churches and Quaker meetings across the UK are coming together this autumn to ask their congregations to consider leaving a gift in their Will to Christian Aid.

Faith Will.... grow crops on barren land

Farmers, like Jane, in Zimbabwe are some of the most resilient people on earth. But when crops are continually destroyed by drought and pests, strong will is not enough. Jane's children's lives depend on the food she grows. There was a time when they had to go hungry.

With Christian Aid's support, Jane **was trained** in new climate-smart techniques. She has transformed her farm and her children are fed.

Faith Will.... support communities to tackle poverty

But it is not just Jane's family who have benefitted from gifts in Wills: in addition to learning new farming skills for herself, Jane was trained as a lead farmer to help her community. She has shared her new-found skills and knowledge with her neighbours, so that the whole area has been transformed.

Gifts in Wills don't just enable people to survive. They support farmers like Jane to unlock the amazing potential of their communities and change their lives forever.



By putting our faith into action we can help transform lives.

Will you....?

Patricia Brignall patriciabriggnall@gmail.com

THE LEPROSY MISSION SCOTLAND

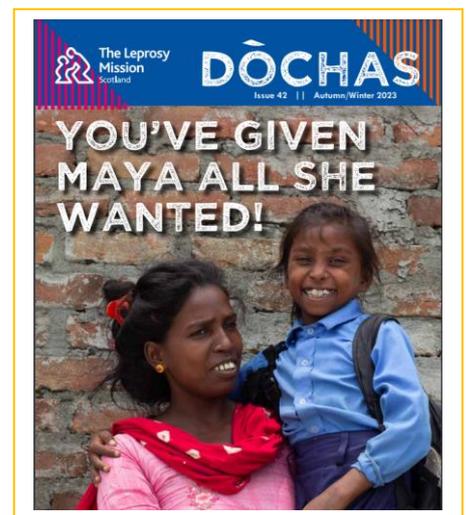


Dear Friends,

I am still collecting the Blue Tubs and donations handed in during September and will send the total amount raised to TLMS at the beginning of October.

There is a new Autumn/Winter edition of DOCHAS [which in Gaelic means Hope] , the magazine of THE LEPROSY MISSION SCOTLAND.

Please take a copy from the shelf by the Font if you would like to read some very inspiring stories of the success of treatments for leprosy you have helped to support recently.



As always thank you for your ongoing support of TLMS.

Barbara Tatlock

MAKE LEPROSY A THING OF THE PAST



For more information on any of the activities, or to hire the hall, please contact stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com

Morning Prayer on Zoom

A small group meets each Tuesday and Thursday at 9.15am for a service of Morning Prayer. After the reading, we have a short time of discussion about it and then continue in prayer.



If you would like to join us, please contact Nicki.

Colinton Literary Society

The Society welcomes you to its 2023-2024 programme of meetings. The meetings take place in Dreghorn Loan Hall, Colinton at 8pm each Wednesday evening from October 11th to March 6th. Tea, coffee and wine are served from 7.30pm. The cost is £15 for the whole season, or £3 for individual meetings.

The first few topics are as follows:-

October 11th. The Shetland Bus - what was it, when was it, who was involved and what was the route. Kath Hay.

October 18th. The impact of the Islamic Revolution on me as a woman. Frith Robb tells her life story, based on her memoir *In the Shadow of the Shahs*.

October 25th. A Family History of Slavery. Alex Renton.

November 1st. Travelling Scotland with One Yellow Welly - the work of a Quality Adviser with the Scottish Tourist Board. Reta MacLennan.

More details can be found at:

www.colinton-parish.com/colinton-literary-society

WHO'S WHO AT ST CUTHBERT'S

Rector	The Revd Nicki McNelly stcuthbertsrector@gmail.com Tel: 0131 441 7580
NSM (Non-Stipendiary Minister)	Revd Dr Margaret McCrindle <i>stcuthbertsnsm@gmail.com (07931 483906)</i>
Curate	Revd Dr Lesley Penny stcuthbertscurate21@gmail.com (Tel: 07761 056504)
Church Administrator	Marie Neil <i>stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com</i> 07305 911986 (working hours Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9am-1pm)
Rector's Warden	Judith Mackintosh 443 1313
People's Warden	George Bungay 478 0834
Children & Young People	Contact Revd Nicki McNelly
Gift Aid	Contact our Church Administrator
Lay Representative	Margaret Temple 441 3379
Alternate Lay Rep.	Joan Smith
Safeguarding	Christine Nimmo 445 3053 <i>christinenimmo@btinternet.com</i>
Organist & Choirmaster	Philip Rossiter 283 0234
Property Committee	Nicki McNelly, Ross Addison
Sacristans	Bev Henderson, Joan Smith
Treasurer	Martin Fairley 441 7873
Vestry Secretary	Julia Roberts 441 4965 <i>Julia.roberts01@btinternet.com</i>
Website & Magazine Editor	Church Administrator <i>stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com</i>
Archivist	Contact Revd Nicki McNelly
R&R	Wendy Pearson <i>wendypearson37@gmail.com</i>
Badminton Club	Julia Roberts & Archie Clark 441 4965
Christian Aid	Patricia Brignall 441 1184
Coffee Rota	Audrey Naden 441 1545
Eco congregation	Kay Dalley 441 7920
Flower Convenor	Margaret Holmes 441 7394
Hall Bookings	Contact our Church Administrator
Leprosy Mission	Barbara Tatlock 444 2919
Phoenix Group	Margaret Kieran 445 3751
St. Raphael's Rep.	Judith Mackintosh 443 1313
Vestry Members	George Bungay, Andrew Daye, Judith Mackintosh, Hilary Pritchard 449 4336, Julia Roberts 441 4965, Philip Rossiter, Wendy Pearson, Margaret Temple (Lay Rep) 441 3379, Jean Wood, Joan Smith (Alt. Lay Rep)



St Cuthbert's Scottish Episcopal Church

Westgarth Avenue, Colinton, Edinburgh EH13 0BD

Tel: 0131 441 7580

Email: stcuthbertsrector@gmail.com

Website: www.stcuthbertscolinton.org.uk

Services:

Wednesday:

10.30am Said Eucharist

First Thursday of each month:

2.30pm An informal service for all

Sunday:

8.30am Said Eucharist, no sermon

10.30am Sung Eucharist

Evensong – ‘announced’ in our pew notices and on our Website.

Scottish Charity Number: SC007578

