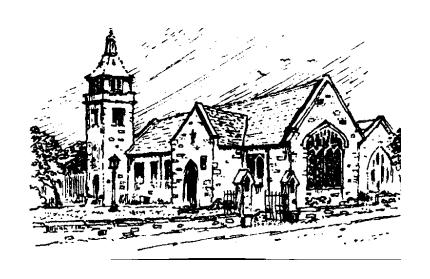
Annual Reports 2025



St. Cuthbert's Scottish Episcopal Church Colinton

Rector's Report

Revd Nicki McNelly will give her report at the AGM on Sunday 23 November 2025

St Cuthbert's Reports:

- 1. Badminton Club
- 2. Choir
- 3. Eco congregation
- 4. Edinburgh South-West Children's Choir
- 5. Events & Fundraising
- 6. Flowers
- 7. Foodbanks
- 8. Forget-Me-Notes
- 9. Garden Team
- 10. Lay Representative
- 11. Leprosy Mission Scotland
- 12. Pastoral Visitors
- 13. People's Warden
- 14. Phoenix Group
- 15. Property Group
- 16. R&R
- 17. Rector's Warden
- 18. Sacristans
- 19. Safeguarding
- 20. St Cuthbert's Playgroup
- 21. St Raphael's Prayer Group
- 22. Thursday Afternoon Service
- 23. The Sign
- 24. Website

Badminton Club

St Cuthbert's Badminton Club has been in existence since around 1946 and continues to thrive as a place where people from the church and local community can meet and get some gentle to moderate exercise through playing a friendly game of doubles. The atmosphere is of friendly competition and a wide variety of levels of experience (and ages) are happily accommodated. We meet every Monday evening 8-10pm in the church hall from late September until mid-December and then from early January to usually the week before Easter (which is the end of our year as many members are busy with other activities over the summer). There are usually eight to thirteen players on any evening, and we are rotated by the nominated game organiser to play doubles throughout the evening whilst enjoying the varied conversation in between games. We have a short break for tea and biscuits at half time.

Archie Clark officially stood down from running the club with care and enthusiasm for many decades at the end of 2024 and the members marked the occasion by presenting Archie with a small gift at our Christmas party. Julia continues as Treasurer and now takes on some of the general organising duties along with Agnes Chapman, one of our members who has kindly agreed to take on a secretarial role.

We needed to change our Bank Account at the beginning of 2025 as our old bank had introduced financial charges for the club's transactions. Our new provider (RBS) still operates free accounts for Community Groups. This was successfully completed in early February with 4 signatories.

We continue to advertise in local magazines and maintain a steady healthy membership. However, we would really like to have more members from the church community. The club provides a welcoming place for some gentle exercise and if wanted, caring, supportive friendship.

Julia Roberts

Choir

Throughout the year, the choir has led the singing at our Sunday services, and has met to rehearse fortnightly on Wednesdays at 12 noon and at 9.45am on Sundays. Numbers have remained pretty constant Sunday by Sunday, and, although we are a small choir that can be affected by holiday plans, it has only been on rare occasions that we have not been able to sing the planned anthem. At our Carol Service last Christmas, we had a particularly strong choir, which made a first-rate contribution to this well received annual service. In addition, the choir has led the singing at weddings and funerals held in the church through the year. One of the undoubted highlights of 2025 was the event which we called "Singing the Seasons", which took place on the afternoon of Saturday 14 June, at which the choir performed representative music from its repertoire covering the liturgical year. This event was very well received by those who attended, and the choir appreciated the opportunity to have a "big sing".

My thanks go to Andrew Matheson and Michael Green for their services at the organ, giving me some much-appreciated Sundays off. As ever, my sincere thanks go to the choir members for all their hard work through the year, and to those who augment our ranks from time to time. Having an enthusiastic and committed choir in a church nowadays is indeed a rarity – St Cuthbert's is very fortunate.

Philip Rossiter

Eco Congregation: Engaging with Nature for the future

We are one of 620 congregations registered as Eco-congregations, including 16 different denominations. The Edinburgh groups have numerous online meetings and networks covering practical matters and resources and also have their own chaplain. Day-to-day St Cuthberts follows recycling and sustainability good practice as far as we can.

This year as a vestry we have been looking at building repairs and improvements from the perspective of the Scottish Episcopal Church's own Net Zero policy in the Edinburgh Diocese (a target of Net Zero by 2030 was adopted in 2023). We had a visit and tour round our buildings with the Clean Energy Adviser of the General Synod looking at our energy tariff and how this can be a green energy option; insulation; draught-proofing and heating.

Following on from this, in July Nicki and I attended the Net Zero Roadshow at St Mary's Cathedral. A lot of information was available in terms of help to keep church buildings in good repair, and most helpful were the stories shared by other churches in the diocese about their experiences, and a possibility of networking. A Rocha and the Cathedral Art and Ecology Group did a very inspiring workshop making the point that Edinburgh is at the forefront of climate change – the temperature long term and May and June this year being the driest ever recorded. We looked at the grounds of the Cathedral and how nature and biodiversity can be appreciated right around us with creative ideas – a section of the grounds was an outdoor installation drawing attention to facts about places and biodiversity of plants and habitats in Scotland. That was inspiring for looking at our own church garden space and its potential. Creation-tide provides food for thought for our care for creation in church life, and how we might be creative in that.

Kay Dalley

Edinburgh Schools Singing Programme: (Edinburgh South-West Children's Choir)

The Edinburgh South-West Children's Choir is now up and running! I am thrilled to say that we have twenty-three children aged 8 to 10 officially signed up for choir. The families love coming to St. Cuthbert's Church. Many have commented on how beautiful the church is. The volunteers from the church — Nicki, Philip, Caroline, and Megan — have been invaluable. Not only do they help me make sure the children leave safely with their respective parents and tidy up after rehearsal, but they also help the children feel at ease and answer any of their non-musical questions.

The children are progressing beautifully as we tackle Classical pieces, sacred Christmas music, and satisfying canons. We are learning a challenging setting of a South-African Christmas carol. The children are quick to ask incisive questions such as why the text mentions "summer skies" if it is Christmas time. There is so much more than just singing that we can learn at choir!

I am very much looking forward to presenting our Christmas concert in December, (Saturday 13th December). Though these are still early days, I am confident that the children will be able to put on a lovely little concert that will touch the hearts of those who hear it.

Submitted by Katrina MacKinnon, Schools Choral Director

Events & Fundraising

It has been another busy year for the Events team with eight activities, at time of writing, and three still to come before Christmas.

A very special thank you to Nicki who organised the Curry Night with a Scottish theme in January. This was a huge success socially and financially. It was especially nice to welcome lots of guests from the wider Colinton community.

We have so far had two congregational lunches after the 10.30 service and there will be an extra special lunch to celebrate Harvest at the beginning of October. We repeated a Bake Sale in March, always popular, and also that month we had a Springtime Afternoon Tea which was much enjoyed by those who attended. Although perhaps we did not have quite so many there as in previous years.

Thank you to all the hardy walkers who undertook the Walking Challenge in May. It did not attract the attention perhaps of the first challenge last year but we did continue to raise funds and we really appreciate the efforts of those who walked and of course the generosity of their sponsors.

Philip and the choir worked hard to prepare a wonderful programme of anthems from the church seasons for the June event Singing the Seasons. It was well publicised in the community, including at the Merchiston Choir summer course held in the church. Although the turnout was a little disappointing it nevertheless showed the choir at its best and the feedback from those who did attend was very positive and encouraging.

In July we enjoyed a wonderful indoor picnic lunch with the Ukrainians who meet to worship here every month. Sadly the weather did not allow us to get into the garden. We shared food, lots of conversation and even singing when the Ukrainians invited our choir members to learn some of their music.

In the next three months we look forward to the Harvest Festival in October, the Christmas Fayre at the end of November and the Christmas Tea in December. All of these take much planning and we hope that you and your family and friends will be able to support these events, especially the Fayre where we have many different stalls already booked.

This group is of course tasked with trying to raise funds for the church and we understand that you will want to know how we are doing. There is a fundraising section in the annual report which will give an overview but we shall try, for next year, to ensure an indication of how much has been raised will go into the pew notes, as well as being announced in church, after each event.

We are not just about fund raising but also about bringing people together and raising the profile of the church. We have been a little disappointed by the response and participation in some of the events this year. We want to do things that will engage members of the congregation but also those from beyond our immediate community. We are very open to any suggestions and to offers of help in planning events. Please speak to any member of the group.

Joan Smith, Judith Mackintosh, Philip Rossiter, Susan Leishman, Bev Henderson, George Bungay

Flowers

There are flower arrangements in church almost every week of the year except during the periods of Lent and Advent. Most of these beautiful displays will have been the work of Diana Hughes and Christine Nimmo. However, the Festivals of Easter, Harvest and Christmas are celebrated with lovely, brightly coloured arrangements on every windowsill and accessible flat surface, produced and provided by the Flower Fairies and hopefully enjoyed by the congregation.

If you would like to join the group, please let me know or if you would like to do an arrangement on a date significant and important to you, just pop your name on the rota - or join us in December to help decorate the church for Christmas - you would be most welcome. Coffee and cakes provided!

Margaret Holmes

Foodbanks

2025 Holy Trinity Foodbank Report:

This is the 13th year we have supported the Holy Trinity Foodbank in Wester Hailes. Initially we made monthly collections of food for them but now many individual members of the congregation find it easier to give them regular cash donations. Without this income they could not commit to helping so many people.

Last Christmas, members of our Church helped this foodbank fill their 'Santa's Store Cupboard'. Many rose to the challenge of finding gifts for teenagers, which had been particularly asked for. I was able to deliver 50 gifts for teenagers to join the collection of presents for younger age groups.

Holy Trinity really appreciate our ongoing support.

Susan Clark

St Salvador's Community Food Initiative:

To the Congregation of St Cuthbert's, Colinton:A word of thanks from everyone at St Salvador's Community Food Initiative for your gifts and donations. We are currently assisting around 80+ people each week. This is something that we simply could not do without your support.

St Salvador's Community Food Initiative

Forget Me Notes

Another year of pleasant Monday afternoons supplied by John and Ken has passed. On the first and third Mondays of each month, we have been entertained to a programme of old favourites.

Our two musicians have led our "sing song" faithfully, except on one occasion when there was a weather warning for the whole of Edinburgh, and once when Ken was on holiday - this gave me the chance to join in on the piano which I enjoyed very much.

As well as the music, we have had the pleasure of meeting friends old and new, and having a chat over tea and biscuits.

I would like to thank both the musicians and the ladies who provide the teas.

Donald Mackintosh

Garden Team

The garden group continues to meet for two hours on the second and fourth Monday mornings of the month between March and October, thus saving the congregation a small fortune.

The high point of the sessions is the coffee break, but a considerable amount of work is also carried out keeping the grounds largely weed free, the grass cut and edged, the shrubs and hedges pruned, the wooden seats oiled and the paths raked.

We are of course at the mercy of the weather and at the time of writing Edinburgh has been the driest city in the UK this year so that judicious watering has also been necessary.

Many thanks to all the team who have helped to make our grounds a thing of beauty and a community resource.

Bryan Dale

Lay Representative

This is my second report as your Lay Representative at St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh. 2025 has already proven to be an interesting year in the life of our Diocese, both in its rhythm of regular business and in the uncommon but significant circumstances surrounding the retirement of Bishop John Armes and the process of electing his successor.

Diocesan Synods in 2025:

This year has included not only the usual Diocesan Synods but also an additional gathering in July—an unusual virtual occurrence prompted by the need to address Canon 4 (the rules that govern the election of a bishop) in relation to the forthcoming Episcopal election. The Diocesan Synods have once again taken place at St. Paul's and St. George's, and as always, they have been prayerful, purposeful occasions with a balance of practical governance and deep reflection on our shared mission.

In August, we also saw an additional virtual General Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church – also convened specifically to consider and approve an expedited revision of Canon 4. This unusual summertime synodical activity were required as changes to canon law normally follow the pattern of:

- 1st reading at General Synod,
- discussions (and any amendments tabled) at Diocesan Synods throughout the following year, then
- 2nd reading and ratification at the following years General Synod.

To allow the updated canon to be used for the election of +John's successor the additional meeting of Diocesan Synod in July and additional General Synod in August allowed the amendments to be passed in time for the issuing of the mandate (the legal process that governs the election of a new bishop) in September 2025.

Edinburgh South West Area Council Meetings:

As in previous years, I attended meetings of the Edinburgh South West Area Council. Alongside the regular meetings, an extra meeting was convened in June 2025. This additional meeting was held in conjunction with Edinburgh South Area Council at St John's Princes St, allowing the Dean to give us all an update of the day-to-day running of the Diocese between Bishop John's retirement and the election of our next bishop.

Electoral Synod – 27th September 2025:

Just prior to submitting this report (hot off the press!) I was involved in yet another Synod – this time the Electoral Synod, which is the official kick-off of the process of electing a new bishop. This was an opportunity for the Clergy and Lay Reps from across the diocese to come together and discuss the process and reflect on

where we are as a diocese and feed back on the Diocesan Profile that is provided to those discerning their calling to be our next bishop. The process was run by Bishop Andrew from Brechin and Bishop Mark (Primus) from Moray, Ross and Caithness, both of whom remarked on the feeling of excitement in the Cathedral.

Reflections on an Extraordinary Year:

The retirement of Bishop John Armes marks the end of an era of dedicated leadership and faithful service. At the same time, the rapid adjustments required to Canon 4—and the rare sight of additional Synods over the summer months—have underscored the adaptability and responsiveness of our Church structures when the need arises.

For me personally, the experience of being involved in the electoral process for a new Bishop stands out as a highlight of lay representation. It is not only an exercise in governance but also a deeply spiritual journey of discernment. To be entrusted with this responsibility on behalf of St. Cuthbert's fills me with excitement, humility, and gratitude.

Moving Forward:

As we look ahead to the Electoral Synod democratic process and beyond, I remain deeply thankful for the opportunity to serve St. Cuthbert's and to contribute to the life of the Diocese at this pivotal time. The coming months will shape the future of our Diocese for years to come, and I am both eager and honoured to walk this path with my fellow representatives.

Faithfully, Andrew Daye, Lay Rep

Leprosy Mission Scotland

Since becoming the contact for TLM at St Cuthbert's I have learned a great deal about the extensive work of TLM worldwide; it is at the forefront of changing people's lives and relieving suffering every day.

On 26th January we had an information point at coffee after church on World Leprosy Day when looking at world maps and areas where TLM is active gave us a picture of the extent of the work that began 150 years ago in 1874 in India. A major new project began in Odisha state in India where there were leprosy colonies without help with people living in desperate conditions. Our fund-raising continues to help support other ongoing projects – Anandaban Hospital in Nepal after flooding and landslides and community outreach in Myanmar in the wake of an earthquake and conflict, and Danja Hospital in Niger to name three.

We are looking forward to having Steven McLeish the new Scotland Country Head coming to speak at St Cuthberts in the Sunday main service soon.

We have sent in £309.94 to date this year. Newsletters and gift envelopes are available on the back shelf in church. Much more information and news of appeals is on the website, leprosymission.org.uk. There is also a TLM shop with an attractive catalogue and the ASK Prayer Diary for use throughout the year.

Kay Dalley

Pastoral Visitors

The pastoral visiting team comprises 12 members of the congregation, all of whom have been trained in safeguarding and have PVG certification. We complement the work of the ministry team.

Our role is to maintain contact with church members who may be housebound, in care homes or unable to attend church very often. We visit or keep in touch by phone and through listening, conversation and prayer keep the link with the church. Currently 18 people are on our visiting list. We always welcome news of other members of the congregation who would like a visit.

Hilary Pritchard on behalf of Rev Nicki McNelly

People's Warden

My duties as a People's Warden, rely on the support and assistance of the members of the congregation, my fellow Vestry members, and especially the Rev Nicki, Rev Margaret, and Marie (Administrator).

During the year, the Events and Fund-Raising Group, have had a number of successful and well attended events. Members of the Congregation have also played a massive part in the Fund Raising. I would like to thank you all, as always, for your support during the year.

Events include:

- * CHRISTMAS FAYRE: Christmas Fayre- 29th November, 2025.
- * VESTRY & MINISTRY TEAM TRAINING DAYS: The main Training Day was held in St Ninian's, Comely Bank, with a further training day, held at Haddington.
- * UKRAINIAN CHURCH: In summer we hosted a joint picnic with the Ukrainian Church. There was also a wonderful recital from both choirs. It was lovely to get together with our Ukrainian friends, and we look forward to doing more events in the future.

As always, we had a number of visitors to St Cuthbert's over the last year, and many of them commented on the warm welcome they received, and especially the open invitation to join us for tea and coffee, after the service.

Thank you all for your warmth and hospitality.

In closing, I would like to say that it's a privilege to serve as the People's Warden, and I look forward to continuing in this role next year.

Thank you and God's Blessings.

George Bungay

Phoenix Group

We have had another very enjoyable and interesting year since our last AGM report with the following gatherings/events:-

CAROLINE'S QUIZZES:

We are so grateful to Caroline Seville for planning, organising and hosting her twice-yearly fun quizzes, which have become such an important part of our calendar. The questions are just right for those who attend with many being straightforward or with multiple choices given and just enough tricky and challenging ones too. Caroline sets the questions, provides tea and biscuits and most of the prizes for the raffle and also allows enough time for conversation. These are free events but donations for church funds are very welcome.

AUTUMN RATHO TRIP:

Our round trip on two boats on the Canal from Ratho at the end of October last year was delightful. It was a little bit cooler than on previous trips at earlier times in the year but the Autumn colours were splendid. As before, all of the crew were very friendly, informative and helpful and we enjoyed tea, coffee, cake and biscuits in the cabin.

OUR CHRISTMAS LUNCH:

Last year over 20 of us enjoyed a traditional Christmas Lunch at Kingsknowe Golf Club. This year we hope to go back to the Royal Scots Club, where Jean Myers is a member. It was our main venue for a lot of years.

WALK and LUNCH at the BOTANICS:

A smaller group of us met at the East Gate of the Botanic Garden on a sunny day in May, walked through the gardens, which were looking very beautiful, and then had a very pleasant lunch and chat in the Gateway Cafe at the West Gate, before sauntering back to the East Gate for our buses.

CROQUET at the MEADOWS CROQUET CLUB:

What a delightful afternoon a group of us had in July playing croquet at the Meadows Croquet Club, a lovely secluded spot in the Meadows! We thank Jean Wood, a member there, for suggesting, organising and hosting the event and providing helpers to show us how to play. Afterwards, we sat in the sunshine and enjoyed afternoon tea. The Club make their facilities available to groups like ours at a very reasonable cost and we hope to make a return visit next year.

FUTURE EVENTS:

We always welcome suggestions for future events and look forward to going to Liberton Golf Club for a buffet lunch, as suggested by Audrey Naden. We are also looking into a trip to the Kelpies followed by lunch, as suggested by Louise Stobie.

Margaret Kieran, Jean Myers, Margaret Temple

Property Group

This last year has been a busy one. Alongside the continued repairs from the Quinquennial and urgent repairs as they appeared, the following has been completed in church (in no particular order):

Refurbishment of the choir vestry.

Refurbishment of the hall.

Installation of new spot lights.

Installation of new sound system.

New corner notice board in front garden. (Gifted by Skansa Construction through Pentland Men's Shed).

There have been several compliments from hall users on the refurbishment, and hall rentals have also increased since it was completed.

I thank Marie for all she has done in supporting me with access for contractors etc. and looking after workers when they have been in the building.

I also thank Ross for being our 'handyman' and adviser, when small jobs have needed to be done in and around the church.

In the Rectory, wood surrounds in the kitchen and at the back door were replaced and insulated. Pipes and wires in the kitchen were re-boxed and tidied up and a new kitchen is being installed as this is written. The back door also had some work carried out, as an old cat flap had a plastic sheet over it. The cat flap has been removed and a new panel installed to prevent draughts.

We are still looking for a property convenor, so please let me know if this is something you could consider, or if you know somebody outside of church that may be able to help.

We are all called to be stewards of this beautiful building and the rectory and while I am doing this role alone, other parts of my ministry suffer.

Rev Nicki McNelly/ Property

<u>R&R</u>

"In returning and rest you shall be saved In quietness and in trust shall be your strength." Isaiah 30: 15

R&R continues to flourish online, meeting every Wednesday evening. Two long term facilitators stood down in December 2024 for personal reasons and we are delighted to welcome a new person to the the team, this time based in Forres. All facilitators are trained in Ignatian Spiritual Direction by the Epiphany Group or The Ignatian Spirituality Centre. Our purpose remains as always: to return to the presence of God, to be refreshed, rested and restored... ... growing spiritually whilst deepening our relationship with God and developing a regular prayer life.

We begin each week with a time of 'stilling', giving ourselves time to adjust from the busy internal and external noise of life, followed by an Examen. We use art, music, poetry and of course scripture for our reflections, with times of silence and times of sharing insights together. There is a mailing list of 25 members (5 from St Cuthberts') and normally there is a regular attendance of 16. As our attendees come from various parts of the UK, and now less than half from the Edinburgh area, our Face to Face gatherings are less often. We have had occasional "guest leaders" who have enriched our time together, and have a weekend retreat booked for October 2026. If anyone would like to know more about what we offer, please speak to Wendy Pearson.

Wendy Pearson

Rector's Warden

It has been my honour to serve as Rectors Warden for another year, and the experience has taught me several things.

It always amazes me to see how many ideas and events Nicki's thoughtfulness creates: most of my duties are simplified by the preparation and hard work which Nicki has put in before my assistance becomes necessary.

As always, I am grateful to the helpers who turn out for all the congregational social events.

And finally, let us not forget the strong support to all of us from Marie and members of the Vestry.

Judith Mackintosh

Sacristans

The regular tasks of preparation, laundry and ensuring that supplies are in place continues as always.

At the beginning of this year the Cornerstone Bookshop closed so we now have to buy all supplies online. Although I always tried to support them as much as possible many did not return to shopping there after Covid. I do miss the friendly ever helpful team there and the convenience of being able to drop in and get what was required.

I know that some of you were concerned about the change in style of wafer recently. This was because the supplier, who we have always used, did not have the type we normally use in stock for several months. We have now found a reasonable alternative until we are able to reorder as before.

My thanks as always to Bev Henderson for all her support when I am not there.

Joan Smith

Safeguarding

My report has not changed much since last year. All information and posters required by the Scottish Episcopal Church are displayed both in the church hall and porch.

We will be required to renew existing PVG membership, but I have not yet received a commencement date from the Diocesan Office. Those who hold an existing certificate but who do not now perform that role will be removed. I have sent an updated list of the people eligible for renewal of PVG membership to the Diocesan Office.

Some members of the congregation have now obtained PVG membership under the new rules. Their membership is valid for 5 years.

If you have any safeguarding concerns please feel free to contact me at any time.

Christine Nimmo

St Cuthbert's Playgroup

I am now in my third year at the helm of the Toddler Group and we are still a vibrant and successful group. We meet on a Monday 10-11.30 in the hall in school term time and between 8 and 20 families attend each week. We have a good variety of toys out including cars, kitchen play, dolls' house, books, jigsaws, building blocks, prams with dolls, rocking horse, large ride in cars, a slide, play dough, chalk boards and drawing. I run a craft table with seasonal activities which is a good opportunity to get to know both toddlers and their carers. We all have our refreshment break together; the adults enjoying coffee and chocolate biscuits whilst the toddlers sit together at tables for organic snacks. We spend the last 15 minutes together as a group singing nursery rhymes and playing small instruments. By the end of the year in June we had 56 families registered (We start a new registration every August) and had many compliments on how well run the group was. At Christmas and Easter we have had trails in the church and garden and dressing up corners to tell the Christmas & Easter story and Keith Gordon visited us at Christmas as Santa. I am extremely grateful to my regular rota of helpers: Christine Sanderson, Julia Roberts, Margaret Temple, Jean Wood and Caroline Seville. Marie has been a tower of strength helping with our admin. We have 2 adults (in addition to me) on duty every week to put out the toys, greet the visitors, play games with older children, make the coffee and clear up. We all feel we have had a real aerobic workout by lunchtime on a Monday!

Additionally we spent a day in the summer holidays sorting and cleaning all the toys. I would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to join our rota of helpers.

Megan Emmerson

St Raphael's Prayer Group

This is a small group who meet up once a month on a Wednesday morning at 11.30am. We pray for anyone within our congregation who are sick, in hospital, or troubled in mind. Also all those who are in nursing homes, those who need carers and of course the carers. We remember those who have died and those who have lost a loved one. Where appropriate cards and flowers are sent out. All this information is strictly confidential. If you want a name added to our prayer list, please let me or Rev Nicki know.

Judith Mackintosh

Thursday Afternoon Service

These services, which take place at 2.30pm on the first Thursday of each month, continue to be pretty well attended. The invitation has continued to be extended to members of St. Fillan's, whom we are happy to welcome each month, and remains in place during the current vacancy at that church. Our team, comprising myself, Joan Smith and Caroline Seville, meet at regular intervals to plan our forthcoming services. Each service is led by one of us, apart from significant times in our liturgical calendar, such as Advent and Lent, when we share the leadership. Different themes are picked for every service, which may reflect particular liturgical seasons, such as Creationtide or Epiphany, or specific saints, such as Margaret or Columba, or a variety of spiritual or theological subjects, including Old Age in the Bible or Holy Days and Holidays.

The services incorporate readings, reflections, hymns and prayers and everyone attending is invited to take part in singing the hymns, joining in the prayers and occasionally to undertake short readings. However, we would be delighted to have more congregational participation in the future and would welcome suggestions for themes to include in our programme.

Following the service everyone is warmly invited to adjourn to the hall to share refreshments and fellowship – a very important part of gathering together.

We would love to see more of you attending these informal services, so please come along, firstly to see for yourselves what is involved, and then whenever you are able – it does not have to be each month – and bring along family members, friends or neighbours – everyone is welcome.

Revd Dr. Margaret McCrindle NSM

'The Sign' (St Cuthbert's Church Magazine)

'The Sign' magazine, produced each month (double issues in December/January and July/August) continues to inform us of forthcoming services in church, duties, 'events', and any other information to keep the St Cuthbert's community connected. Paper copies are printed and distributed (some posted) to around 40 people, and 120 'digital' copies are sent by email. I upload a copy to the National Library of Scotland each month, and of course an archive copy is also filed. It has been a pleasure to publish this well-loved magazine each month. 'Thank you' to Louise Stobie this year, for providing the photographs each month for the front page.

Marie Neil, Church Administrator

Website (and Live-Streaming)

The St Cuthbert's website continues to provide updated information on church services, events and contact details.

www.stcuthbertscolinton.org.uk

St Cuthbert's also uses social media channels, Facebook and Instagram mainly, reaching further than just the website page. If you use social media, and see a post from St Cuthbert's, please 'like', 'share' or 'comment', as your feedback is much appreciated.

We live-stream the first Sunday service of each month. Of course, we require volunteers to control the live-streaming on the day of the service. It is actually quite easy to do, so if you would like to help, please let Nicki, or myself know. The services are then available to watch at any time, on our YouTube channel.

Marie Neil, Church Administrator

Additional report received:-Coffee Team:

Coffee refreshments after Sunday service is a welcome time to catch up with friends and neighbours and this has been a success with the help of our ladies.

From funds raised we made donations to two food banks, Holy Trinity Church and St Salvador's Episcopal Church and also the Bishop's Lent Appeal.

As we are all getting a bit older it is becoming more difficult to put together a group of ladies to serve refreshments after Sunday service therefore if any volunteers would like to join our little band please contact Audrey Naden.

	www.stcuthbertscolinton.org.uk	
	Facebook: @stcuthbertscolinton	
	Instagram: stcuthbertscolinton	
YO	uTube: St Cuthbert's Scottish Episcopal Church	
	Coattich Charity Newsbar CC007F70	
	Scottish Charity Number: SC007578	