

news&views

St Peter's, Luton Place

October 2022





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From the Rector

Rev Nick Wills

Recent days have witnessed historic and momentous events following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, and the Accession of His Majesty King Charles. All at St Peter's join together in remembering and giving thanks for the faithful service given by Her Majesty, and in praying for our new King. In my sermon on Sunday 11th September I quoted from Her Majesty's speech to the COP26 summit in Glasgow less than a year ago. It was a poignant reminder, in our season of Creation, of the need for political leaders to be statesmen and women in facing up to the already-present realities of the results of climate change, a cause dear to the heart of Her Majesty and the late Duke of Edinburgh.

For those who may be interested, the documentary series I referred to in that sermon is called "Big Oil v The World". It is still available on BBC iPlayer and in three one hour episodes meticulously lays out the ways in which politicians and public opinion have been manipulated to avoid meaningful action to combat climate change over half a century.

Our season of Creation continues over the coming weeks, including our Harvest Festival on Sunday 2nd October. We'll again be collecting donations for Central Edinburgh (Newington) Food Bank, followed by a simple Harvest lunch of soup which will raise funds for St Peter's work with refugees.

On page 17 you will also be hearing more about our next Community meal when we'll have an opportunity to meet with refugees from Afghanistan and to share food provided by a wonderful local Afghan restaurant.

And as a new year begins for the city's Universities and other academic institutions, we have already been able to welcome a number of students and young adults (either returning or new to us) after the summer and hope that more will find us as term progresses. On Sunday 18th September

News & Views

October 2022

St Peter's Lutton Place

Edinburgh
SC017358

The Scottish Episcopal Church

The Rt Revd John Armes
Bishop, Diocese of Edinburgh

Church Office

14 Lutton Place
Edinburgh
EH8 9PE

office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Tel No: 0131 563 8198

Sheila and Laura work flexibly part-time, mostly working from home. Messages may be left on the office answer machine, but please note it may be a few days before it is heard or dealt with.

we held a family BBQ and lunch. It was great to see so many from our established church family joining to welcome students and others who are new to our city. It was a very friendly, welcoming and enjoyable community occasion. My warmest thanks to Chris and Janet H, Christian, Kristee and Becky for their hard work and willingness to do all that was required to make the event such a success.

We have a fun and varied selection of events planned for our students and young adults, which we hope they will enjoy, but most of all we hope that there will be a genuine sharing of faith and community between generations, between nations and between those in our city for a short time and those who have long term roots here.

With my prayers and best wishes,
Nick

On the Sunday following the death of the Queen on 8th September, our Rector read to the congregation this message from Bishop John.

My Dear Sisters and Brothers

‘There was evening, there was morning...’ a new day.

May I offer my love and encouragement at this time of national loss. I suspect that in these days of mourning we shall discover that we are affected by the death of our Queen in unexpected and surprising ways. This will be true of the whole nation and, as the church of God, we must step up to offer welcome and opportunity for people to express their sorrow and find solace.

I note the significance that the Queen died on the Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, another woman of faith whose sense of duty and obedience enabled her to fulfil a great calling. We know that Queen Elizabeth was a devout believer with a profound sense of divine purpose and God’s sustaining presence. As we offer her into God’s gracious care, we have the opportunity to lead others to find the same assurance in God’s love that she enjoyed.

We must, of course, also pray for our new monarch, King Charles. His task is great, all the more so as he is dealing with his own grief at the death of his dear mother.

The United Kingdom is turbulent place just now, and I’m sure that the death of our Queen is likely to add to the mood of fear and despondency about the future. Let us, therefore, be ready to explain the reason for the hope that is in us and let us pray for wisdom, compassion and courage, so that we and all Christian people may offer that hope to others and show by our own actions the love of God.

With my love and my blessings, +John



Queen Elizabeth (1926-2022)

St Peter's offers our condolences to the Royal Family following the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, our prayers for all who mourn her loss, and especially for His Majesty, King Charles and Camilla, Queen Consort.

Queen Elizabeth was an example to the nation of service and duty, dignity and faith. We thank God for all that she contributed to the life of this country, the Commonwealth, and the World.

Prayer following the death of Queen Elizabeth

Almighty and eternal God, you uphold and govern all things both in heaven and on earth, and by your grace alone kings and queens do reign.

We thank you for all the blessings which you have bestowed upon us through our late sovereign lady, Queen Elizabeth, whom you have called from this life. We thank you for the wisdom of her guidance and her love of peace, for the care and devotion with which she served her people, for the example of her gracious life.

We pray that you would fill our hearts with gratitude for all these good things, and give us grace that we may use the memory of them as a perpetual call to live according to your will, for the good of all the world, and the glory of your great name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for the accession of King Charles

O God, you govern your people by your creative love: we hold before you your servant Charles, our King, praying that, guided by your Spirit, under him this nation may be wisely and justly governed, and your Church proclaim your Gospel in peace; may he be dedicated to you in heart, and mind, and soul, persevering in good works to the end, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Bishops of the Scottish Episcopal Church

Children's Church

By Kristee Boyd, Community Development Officer

Despite ongoing work in St Peter's hall, Kristee and a second adult will do their best to provide something fun for the children during the 10.45am service - sometimes, it will mean an activity at the back of church, other times we will be in the garden or in the small hall. We will decide each week, based on numbers, ages and weather! Please speak to Kristee if you have any questions or concerns. All children are welcome to join us. 😊

Young Adults / International Students

By Kristee Boyd, Community Development Officer

We have put together a schedule of activities for the term ahead specifically for our young adults and college/university students. Please find key dates below and note that we have also included St Peter's walking groups in the schedule, as young adults/students are warmly invited to these, to get to know the wider congregation, as well!

28 th September	Walking Tour, followed by a pub drink together
2 nd October, after church	Harvest Lunch (St Peter's)
4 th & 15 th October	St Peter's Walking Group, Local (See p. 15)
16 th October, 1pm	Skittles Bowling (Sheep Heid Inn)
30 th October, 7.30pm	Halloween/Mexican food at St Peter's (Day of the Dead theme!)
11 th December	Christmas dinner, open invitation to students of all faiths

Many thanks to Sheila for creating the poster and handout for these events! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to chat with Rev Nick Wills or Kristee on a Sunday, or to email Kristee: communitydevelopment@stpetersedinburgh.org.

Season of Reflection & Remembrance

From 9th October until Advent, we will move into a Season of Reflection & Remembrance. During this time, for the 10.45am service please make sure that you pick up a Liturgy Book. We will be singing Merbecke's Communion setting and Lord's Prayer.

Vestry Update, September

By Janice Allister, Vestry Secretary

We remember the words "though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me. Your rod and staff, they comfort me".

Vestry members met on the 7th of September at the Rectory. We were unaware then of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's final illness. The news of her death on the following day was a great sadness.

All we discussed at the meeting is put in perspective.

Our September meeting is the time when we receive the annual summary of accounts. It was reassuring to know that things are relatively stable, although investments have been subject to highs and lows over the past couple of years. As far as is possible, these are subject to ethical principles.

The services continue in a regular pattern, with a traditional said Communion at 9am and a more modern Communion service, with choir and sermon at 10.45am every Sunday, a traditional Communion at 11am on the first Thursday of each month and Evensong at 6.30pm usually on the last Sunday of each month from 25th September onwards. Harvest festival is planned for 2nd October

Our church AGM will be on Sunday 23rd October after our 10.45 service.

We have a duty to maintain Hope Park Crescent. The sash windows are all in need of replacement. We approved a contractor but the waiting time for their fitting is likely to be some weeks. Immediate repairs are needed for the kitchen window which we have also authorised. We thank our tenants for bearing with inconveniences.

Work on the Hall continues apace, thanks to the helpful contractors. The scaffolding inside has been taken away and we are looking forward to receiving our regular groups. New bookings continue to be received. Cupboard space will be improved. We are grateful for the patience and adaptability of hall users while this work continues. *(Photo taken in June '22)*



The roof re-slating, with some disruption outside, will commence soon. We will be reviewing heating requirements in spring 2023 once the effect of the new insulation is assessed.

Vestry agreed to Nick & Becky's request for a Ukrainian refugee family to be hosted by them at the Rectory for a period of up to 12 months. Their arrival is expected at the beginning of October. The works committee are planning further improvements to the Rectory top floor. This may be continuing after the guests have arrived.

Nick gave us news of his appointment as the Assistant Honorary Anglican Chaplain at Edinburgh University. The work will involve being available to them most Wednesdays. Some students may wish to join us on Sundays, so please help make them welcome, as others join too.

We pray for all these considerations.

The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for 5th October.

Annual General Meeting

By Janice Allister, Vestry Secretary

Our 2022 Annual General Meeting will take place on Sunday 23rd October, after the 10.45 service. The meeting will commence at approximately midday in the church hall and will be chaired by Nick, our Rector. The main purpose of the meeting will be to receive the Annual Report and Accounts.

The business of the meeting will also include: the election of three constituent members of the congregation to act as members of the Vestry; the election of a Lay Representative and Alternate Lay Representative; and appoint an independent examiner (to audit the annual accounts). The meeting will also receive a presentation on the refurbishment of the main hall and deal with any other competent business; notice of which should be lodged with myself or Nick prior to the meeting.

The names of all candidates seeking election to the Vestry, as Lay or Alternative representatives, together with their proposers and seconders, should be lodged with myself or Nick prior to the meeting, and in any event no later than midday on Saturday 22nd October. I am happy to receive nominations for all positions electronically – if you wish to receive a nomination form by email, please email me via the office. Forms are also be available from the back of church.

As required, copies of the Annual Report and Accounts will be available to view from 9th October 2022. Also available from that date will be copies of a draft minute of last year's AGM.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly, or via the office, if you have any queries on arrangements for the AGM.

Music Notes



By Rupert Forbes, Director of Music

LENNOX BROWN

At the beginning of the service on Sunday 18th September one of our Junior Choristers, Lennox Brown, was awarded his surplice, making him a full member of St Peter's Choir. His time as a probationer has been a difficult period with so much interruption due to lockdown, and rehearsals and services being cancelled due to COVID. However even in these unfortunate circumstances he has made excellent progress, not only with his singing, but also during the Voice for Life sessions which Sheila runs, educating the Junior Choristers in Music Theory and Church Liturgy. We offer Lennox our congratulations and are delighted to welcome him as a full member of our choir!



RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS CELEBRATION

At 6.30pm on Sunday 9th October we will be holding an evening service to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Ralph Vaughan Williams who was born on 12th October 1872. Vaughan Williams was the music editor of the original English Hymnal, first published in 1906. He, together with the general editor, the Rev Percy Dearmer, sought to produce a hymn book suitable for the Anglican church which would replace many over-sentimental Victorian hymns with tunes more suited to the worship of God. To this end Vaughan Williams wrote a number of tunes himself which are still very popular, including Down Ampney (set to the words: Come Down, O Love Divine) and Sine Nomine (For All the Saints). He also adapted a number of English Folk Songs for liturgical use, rather

in the way in which J. S. Bach had taken well-known beer-hall ballad tunes in the eighteenth century and adapted them as Chorales for the Lutheran Church. Amongst the most popular of these folk songs are Forest Green (O Little Town of Bethlehem), King's Lynn (O God of Earth and Altar) and Monks' Gate (He Who Would Valiant Be).

During the service there will be an opportunity for the congregation to sing selected verses from many of these hymns, interspersed with anthems sung by the choir and an organ voluntary, all composed by Vaughan Williams.



CHORAL EVENSONG SERVICES

Choral Evensong services usually take place on the last Sunday of the month, so the next two services will be on September 25th and October 30th. However in November, in order to avoid a clash with the Tree Lighting Ceremony, traditionally held on Advent Sunday which this year falls on November 27th, the Choral Evensong service will be brought forward by one week to November 20th. There will be no Choral Evensong on December 25th, Christmas Day!

Future dates of Choral Evensong 2022: 25th Sept, 30th Oct, 20th Nov.
2023: 29th Jan, 26th Feb, 26th March, 30th April, 28th May, 25th June.

CHOIR

New members are always very welcome to join the choir and can either simply turn up to the church for the 7.45pm-9.30pm Thursday evening rehearsal, or for more information, speak to or email Rupert.

Young singers up to the age of 16 are welcome to join the Junior Choir which rehearses on a Thursday evening from 7.00pm–8.00pm, with an option of joining the *Voice for Life* sessions which are run by Sheila Chisholm from 6.15pm–7.00pm.

Junior choir members join the adult choir to sing at Sunday morning services, rehearsing at 10.00am for the 10.45am morning service. The choir sings Choral Evensong on the last Sunday of the month, rehearsing at 5.30pm for the 6.30pm service, and also occasionally at other events.

If you or your child are interested in joining the choir, please contact Rupert, and for information about Voice for Life, please contact Sheila.

office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Toddler Group

By Kristee Boyd, Community Development Officer

Due to the hall renovations, we are operating in the garden, weather permitting, Mondays and Thursdays 10am – 11.30am. We continue to offer tea and barista coffee, as well as healthy snacks for the children. It's lovely to have Ann back with us at Toddler Groups, making her amazing barista coffees, and we are also very grateful to Liz, who has been covering in recent months! Thanks a million to you both for all that you contribute ☺

Feel free to email Kristee if you have any questions about Toddler Groups: communitydevelopment@stpetersedinburgh.org. All parents, grandparents and carers are most welcome to bring their little ones along.

Thank you!

A big 'thank you' to all who have recently bought Catherine Rednall's beautiful greetings cards! She recently designed and painted a beautiful sunflower using watercolour. Having had 100 greetings cards printed less than a month ago, when going to print there were only 9 left! Originally, £1 from each card was going towards helping to support the Ukrainian family that Nick and Becky will soon be hosting. Catherine has now very generously decided she is donating all the profits to help the family! This comes to £204, plus extra donations people have made.



Catherine, thank you VERY much for your thoughtfulness and generosity!!

Magazine Articles

Please note the earlier deadline!

This is due to the magazine having to be put together earlier than usual.

Please email or submit your articles and photographs to Sheila asap to office@stpetersedinburgh.org Thank you!

*The DEADLINE for the
November issue is
SUNDAY 16th October*

Thank You for the New Bench!

Many will have noticed the beautiful new half-moon bench that has been beautifully remade and returned to the garden. This was crafted and generously donated to St Peter's by John Spencely, CBE, who has had a distinguished career as an architect and chartered town planner. He also made the beautiful trolley for the popular 'Leave a Book, Take a Book'.



The bench is in memory of late members of St Peter's, Eileen, Raymond and Alan Broughton, who lived directly across the road in a flat that overlooks the garden. For many years, Eileen was our Social Convenor, and for a while, her son Alan was the Verger.



Using the bench during the summer picnic lunch in the garden after the monthly Communion service on Thursday on 1st September, a number of members were able to thank John personally and show how much they appreciate its return. John and his wife, Lynn had been invited to join the picnic, and on thanking John for such a wonderful, kind and generous gesture, that will be greatly enjoyed for *many* years to come, Nick presented him with a token that we trust John will enjoy.



*Front cover picture taken by Janice Allister
Back cover picture taken by Beth Phillips*

Walking Group

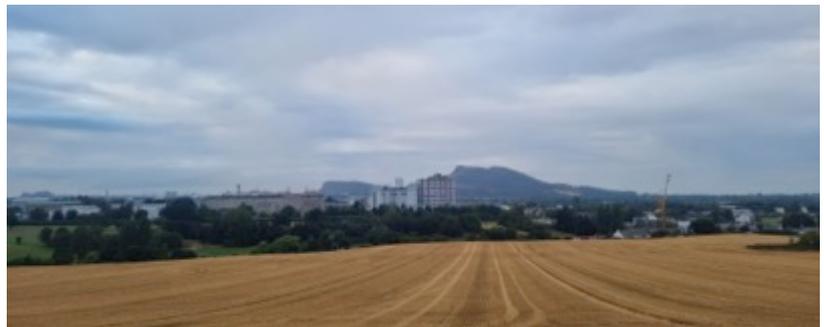
Thank you to our walk co-ordinators, who have led two local interesting and fun walks!

Friday 26th August *Millenium Wood, Braid Burn & Braid Hills*
By Laura Bird, co-ordinator

A drizzly afternoon punctuated by downpours caused most of the walkers to phone or text me trying to call off our 'pop-up' Blackford and Braid walk. Fortunately most were persuaded (or strong-armed) to persevere and six of us convened in the Observatory car park with waterproof boots, jackets and brollies.



In the end the weather was fairly kind to us. But given the sky's threats, we didn't dilly-dally and marched downhill through the Millennium Forest Community Woodland, planted on an old landfill mound, to the Braid Burn. Like the grand old Duke of York's men we then marched back up the Howe Dean path, a steep wooded gorge. Turning east at Braid Hills road we reached the little hamlet clustered round the 15th century fortress, Liberton Tower. At this point nature reserve gives way to arable farmland. On a sunny evening the yellow stubble glows with golden light below views over the Firth of Forth. On our grey, leaden walk we instead found joy eating the delicious brambles growing along the edge of the path.



We are truly blessed on the south side of Edinburgh by the Green Belt policies of our forebears. Blackford Hill was bought by the Edinburgh Corporation in 1884, and the adjacent Hermitage of Braid estate was gifted to the city of Edinburgh in 1938, by its final owner, John McDougal. In 1957 the Edinburgh Green Belt became a designated area to control urban growth, protect farmland and to conserve the setting of the city. Alas, current government planning policy is, at best, apathetic towards the Green Belt. The nine acres of grassland and mature trees at Midmar Paddock, part of Blackford Hill, is still under threat. The rewards for the private owner and successful developer are no doubt substantial, but

would also be a great loss for the thousands of people who enjoy time in nearby nature.

Walking and chatting is a great way to get to know acquaintances better and Blackford, Hermitage & Braid are on the doorstep for many of us at St Peter's. Hope to see some of you again on another walk.

Friday 9th September *Bruntsfield Links to the Grange & Sciennes*
By Sue & Michael Rotter, co-ordinator, Janet Hodgson

This walk around parts of south Edinburgh passed many historic landmarks which most of us had not known or observed before, with some excellent descriptions given by some members of the group. For anyone wishing to follow the route, or to read a more detailed description, more information can be found on our website, <https://stpetersedinburgh.org/st-peters-walking-group>.

Eight of us met at the south west corner of Bruntsfield Links. The weather was cloudy, but dry. We began by walking past the building originally James Gillespie's High School for Girls, attended by Muriel Spark, before passing several interesting features including General Maczek Walk, Jawbone Walk, and the memorial fountain to Helen Acquiroff Sister Cathedral.



After crossing to the north of the Meadows, we saw the former Buccleuch Parish School now housing the Orthodox Community of St Andrew. We then entered Buccleuch Street, stopped at Archers' Hall with its interesting carved stone sculptures and learned a little of the important historical role of these archers to the monarch seen very recently in the role accompanying the late Queen's coffin. Thence we passed into the narrow cobbled street of Boroughloch and noticed the site and entrance into the old Boroughloch Brewery which used water from the Boroughloch (long since drained to make the Meadows).



Re-crossing the Meadows to Sciennes Road, Sciennes is named for St Catherine of Siena's Convent. One of the houses in St Catherine's Place has a historic stone in the garden that marks its location.

The narrow Sciennes House Place contains Sciennes Hill House where Rabbin Burns met the 16-year-old Walter Scott in 1786. Close by there is the old fire station and the old Police Station. As we entered Causewayside, the modern building opposite is on the site of the former Steamie. And so down Causewayside to Leslie's Bar for a welcome drink in a historic pub. We owe a big thank you to Janet for organising such an interesting, varied and informative walk!



Future Walks. *Both walks begin at Blackford Pond, but they then go in different directions.*

Tuesday 4th October, 6pm *The Hermitage of Braid*

Walking through the Hermitage of Braid, the meeting point is at the entrance to Blackford Pond area on Charterhall Rd for a 6pm departure. It will be approximately 1 hour in length, with some up and down but generally level. For more information, or to confirm you are going, please contact Janet Hodgson via the office.

Saturday 15th October, 2pm *Blackford Pond to Swanston & back.*

More detailed information will be given nearer the time but this walk from Blackford Pond to Swanston and back has a good coffee stop along the way! For more information, or to confirm you are going, please contact Roddy Simson via the office.

For those who are not already on the Walking Group email list and would like to receive information about future walks, please email the office and ask to be added to it. office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Details of forthcoming and previous walks can be found online at, <https://stpetersedinburgh.org/st-peters-walking-group>

Helping Ukrainians

Various charities are helping Ukrainian refugees, including

Sanctuary Foundation <https://www.sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk/>

Christian Aid

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/ukraine-crisis-appeal>

Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)

<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>

Monday Group

By Liz Philp

Our regular monthly meetings with speakers on Monday afternoons will recommence on 17th October at 2.30pm in the hall with an illustrated talk by Liz Philp entitled "Around the World 1974 – 1976". All are most welcome, please bring £1 in cash to help cover expenses. Refreshments will be served at the end.

The Committee met recently and decided that the cost of annual membership of the Monday Group would remain at £5. We would like to encourage all those who come and enjoy our meetings to become members. We decided that after our first October meeting we would continue to ask only £1 per afternoon for members, but £2 from non-members. On 12th December we will be having a Christmas Party for members – now there's an incentive to join! Our next talk is on 14th November – John Graham will be talking about St Petersburg.

For further information about the Monday Group you can contact our president Jane Sutherland, or secretary Pam Dugan via the office. office@stpetersedinburgh.org

St Peter's Book Club

By Kristee Boyd, Community Development Officer

St Peter's Book Club will meet on Zoom on Monday 26th September, 7.30pm, to discuss our two summer books: Jodi Picoult's *A Spark of Light* and Ece Temelkuren's *How to Lose a Country: The Seven Steps from Democracy to Dictatorship*. If you're interested in joining us for this discussion, make sure you let Kristee know so that she can send you the Zoom link. Email: communitydevelopment@stpetersedinburgh.org

Our October book will be *The Gate of Angels* by Penelope Fitzgerald. All are very welcome to join our discussions.

For information on how you can help to support God's mission and ministry in St Peter's through giving, or to update your tax status, please contact:

Gift Aid Secretary: Chris Hodgson, via office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Treasurer: Laura Bird, development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Afghan Community Meal

By Kristee Boyd, Community Development Officer

On 8th October, St Peter's - together with Edinburgh City Mission and Building Bridges - will host our first Afghan Community Meal! This meal will be catered by a local Afghan restaurant and it will be a celebration of Afghan culture, as well as a warm welcome to New Scots from Afghanistan. We will be inviting local Afghan families, as well as members of the wider community. If you're interested in coming, make sure you save the date, as it should be a wonderful evening.

We are still in the early planning stages - more info to come very soon, including information on how to save your place. If you have questions at this early stage, please feel free to email Kristee: communitydevelopment@stpetersedinburgh.org.

‘Glen’

By Angus Gibson, a former Head Chorister

Recently I attended the Scottish Episcopal Church's Youth Week ('Yeek!') at Glenalmond College in Perthshire. It is a summer residential camp for young people across Scotland. During the day we get to do activities in small groups, such as sports, or various arts and crafts. At night there is a different camp activity like a ceilidh or a quiz night. Throughout, there is a strong focus on worship, and the camp is split up into year groups each one of which gets to lead the whole camp in a worship.



Some of the highlights for me personally are making and renewing close friendships, the spirit of togetherness that comes from living and working together, and being able to dig a little deeper into the religion and what it means. I would very much like to thank the Church for supporting me and helping me attend for the past five years, it has been an invaluable part of my summer's experiences through those years!

Eco-Matters

Season of Creation & Harvest Festival

During September, we have been celebrating the Season of Creation, or Creationtide. It will culminate with our Harvest Festival on Sunday 2nd October, when a community Harvest Lunch will follow the 10.45am service. The Eco Congregation



Webpage has more information about Creationtide. <https://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/creation-time/>

Tae a (Wood)louse... *By Christine Bethune*

In his sermon on 4th September, Nick memorably extolled the humble and not immediately attractive woodlouse when inviting us to think of the wonders of God's creation. I'm delighted to report large numbers of woodlice in my garden; they are indeed curious and wondrous little creatures, playing their part in the food chain and punching above their weight as they recycle decaying plant material into soil.



Since I last wrote about the autumn garden a year ago, I've continued a relaxed approach to gardening, learning to avoid terms such as 'weeds' or 'pests'. Although invasive plants, snails and the smaller slugs that eat tender shoots are not so welcome, I'm trying to adopt a more hands-off approach to the rest in an effort to improve wildlife diversity. Seedheads, long grasses, shorter turf areas and (new for 2022) a tiny pond, as well as stick piles and hollow stems, have definitely resulted in more insects: bees and butterflies, birds and bats. There's been at least one baby newt. I have not struggled to grow plants that aren't suitable, but instead (with a granddaughter's enthusiastic assistance) collected seed and 'rescued' plants (native) from local verges and kerbsides... the Council's reduced spraying programme has seen some very attractive flora!

We may well be dismayed at the sluggish (pun not intended) response to COP26, with energy producers and governments slow to make changes (and the Ukraine conflict has inevitably shifted the focus) but that should not prevent us making our own response: doing something is much better than doing nothing - not just in the garden! I've been enthused by what I

have seen and learned from others, and hopefully our own actions might also have that effect.

So three cheers for those who have made wildlife-friendly changes to our beautiful garden at St Peter's, helping us to appreciate and share it with the woodlice and other creatures who make their home there, as well as making a lovely space for all to enjoy!

The 2022 Lambeth Conference

Entitled 'God's Church for God's World – walking, listening and witnessing together', the 2022 Lambeth Conference explored what it means for the Anglican Communion to be responsive to the needs of a 21st Century world.



Initiated in 2019, the 'Communion Forest' comprises 'local activities of forest protection, tree growing and eco-system restoration undertaken by provinces, dioceses and individual churches across the Anglican Communion to safeguard creation'. More information can be found online: <https://www.communionforest.org/>

Charities supported by St Peter's

Newington Foodbank

St Peter's supports the Newington Foodbank and we will be collecting for it at our Harvest Festival Services on 2nd October. Useful food and items include: non-perishable food, microwavable food, toiletries, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

A lady who goes to the foodbank was asked what she gained by coming. She said "So I can eat". Seriously? "Absolutely. It's a choice between food and paying bills." That's the difference the Foodbank makes.

Fresh Start *By Pat Whike*



After a long break, FreshStart has started accepting duvets and pillows again, as long as they are clean with no stains. It is in need of various household donations: dishes, cutlery, pots & pans, cleaning items, small electrical items such as toasters, kettles, irons, etc.

If you would like to help, please pick up a leaflet at the back of the church, or see <https://www.freshstartweb.org.uk/> and click on 'items we can use'.

Pastoral Care

If you know of a member of St Peter's who is ill please let Nick or Sue know.

If you would like to book a Pastoral visit with Nick, please contact him directly. He would especially like to bring Home Communion to those who have not received Communion because they have been unable to come to Church.

Nick can be contacted via the office: office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Keeping in Touch

We keep in touch with the congregation and give whatever support is needed, with updates and additional material for services and upcoming events being emailed out to congregational members each Saturday evening. If you do not already receive these emails and wish to keep in touch, please email Sheila via the church office; office@stpetersedinburgh.org.

Sheila and Laura continue to work flexibly part-time, mostly working from home. The office telephone number is 0131 563 8198. Messages may be left on the office answer machine, but please note it may be a few days before it is heard or dealt with.

The Ministry Team can be contacted via office@stpetersedinburgh.org:

Rev Nick Wills

Rev Sue Whitehouse

Kristee Boyd: communitydevelopment@stpetersedinburgh.org

The most up-to-date information can be found on the website: <http://stpetersedinburgh.org/> and blog: <http://stpetersedinburgh.org/blog>

If you have moved, have a new phone number, or are not sure whether we hold your contact details, please contact Sheila in the office. She will then be able to update our records. Thank you!

Sunday Readings

**The passages being read*

October

2nd October Harvest Thanksgiving

Deuteronomy 8: 7-18 ♦ Psalm 65 ♦ *2 Corinthians 9: 6-15 ♦ *Luke 12: 16-30

9th October Season of Reflection & Remembrance

2 Kings 5: 1-3 ♦ Psalm 111 ♦ *2 Timothy 2: 8-15 ♦ *Luke 17: 11-19

16th October Season of Reflection & Remembrance

*Genesis 32: 22-31 ♦ Psalm 121 ♦ 2 Timothy 3: 14 – 4: 5 ♦ *Luke 18: 1-8

23rd October Season of Reflection & Remembrance

Ecclesiasticus 35: 12-17 ♦ Psalm 84: 1-7 ♦ *2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18 ♦

*Luke 18: 9-14

30th October All Saints Day

Daniel 7: 1-3, 15-18 ♦ Psalm 149 ♦ *Ephesians 1: 11-23 ♦ *Luke 6: 20-36

30th October Choral Evensong All Saints Day

*Isaiah 65: 17-25 ♦ Psalms 148 & 150 ♦ *Hebrews 11: 32-12: 2

Office Hours

Sheila works part-time as Administrator on a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, with emails regarding church usually being attended to on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, the rest of her hours being taken up with other tasks. She works flexibly, mostly working from home.

If you need to see her at the office, please arrange a time with her to be there. Email, office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Rector's days off

In this day and age when technology means everyone can be contacted constantly, the SEC policy is that all serving Clergy should have two days off a week. Friday and Saturday are our Rector's days off, and we hope that all will respect this.

On these days, please only contact him if it is an emergency. Thank you.

Dates for the Diary

Services

Sundays ♦ 9am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Traditional language with no music or sermon.

Sundays ♦ 10.45am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Modern language, with choir & congregational singing.

Usually Last Sunday of the Month ♦ 6.30pm ♦ Choral Evensong

1st Thursday of the month ♦ 11am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Traditional language with no music or sermon.

Regular Activities

Mondays & Thursdays ♦ 10am-11.30am ♦ Toddler Group (*In the garden*)

Thursdays (*In Church.*)

6.15pm, *Voice for Life* ♦ 7pm-8pm, Junior Choir ♦ 7.45pm, Adult Choir

Last Monday of the Month ♦ 7.30pm ♦ Reading Group (*On Zoom*)

Special Events in October

Sun	25th	Sept	Choral Evensong ♦ 6.30pm
Mon	26th	Sept	St Peter's Book Club (<i>On Zoom</i>) ♦ 7.30pm
Sun	2nd	Oct	Harvest Thanksgiving Festival ♦ 9am & 10.45am ♦ <i>A Harvest Lunch will follow the 10.45am service.</i>
Tues	4th	Oct	Walking Group ♦ 6pm ♦ <i>The Hermitage of Braid</i>
Thur	6th	Oct	Communion Service ♦ 11am
Sat	8th	Oct	Afghan Community Meal ♦ Early evening
Sun	9th	Oct	Celebration of the Life of Ralph Vaughan Williams ♦ 6.30pm-7.30pm
Sat	15th	Oct	Walking Group ♦ 2pm ♦ <i>Blackford Pond to Swanston</i>
Sun	16th	Oct	Student / Young Adult Pub Skittles Event ♦ 1pm
Sun	16th	Oct	Magazine Deadline
Mon	17th	Oct	Monday Group ♦ 2.30pm
Sun	23rd	Oct	AGM ♦ after the 10.45am service
Sun	30th	Oct	Choral Evensong ♦ 6.30pm
Sun	30th	Oct	Student / Young Adult Mexican Evening ♦ 7.30pm
Mon	31st	Oct	St Peter's Book Club (<i>On Zoom</i>) ♦ 7.30pm

