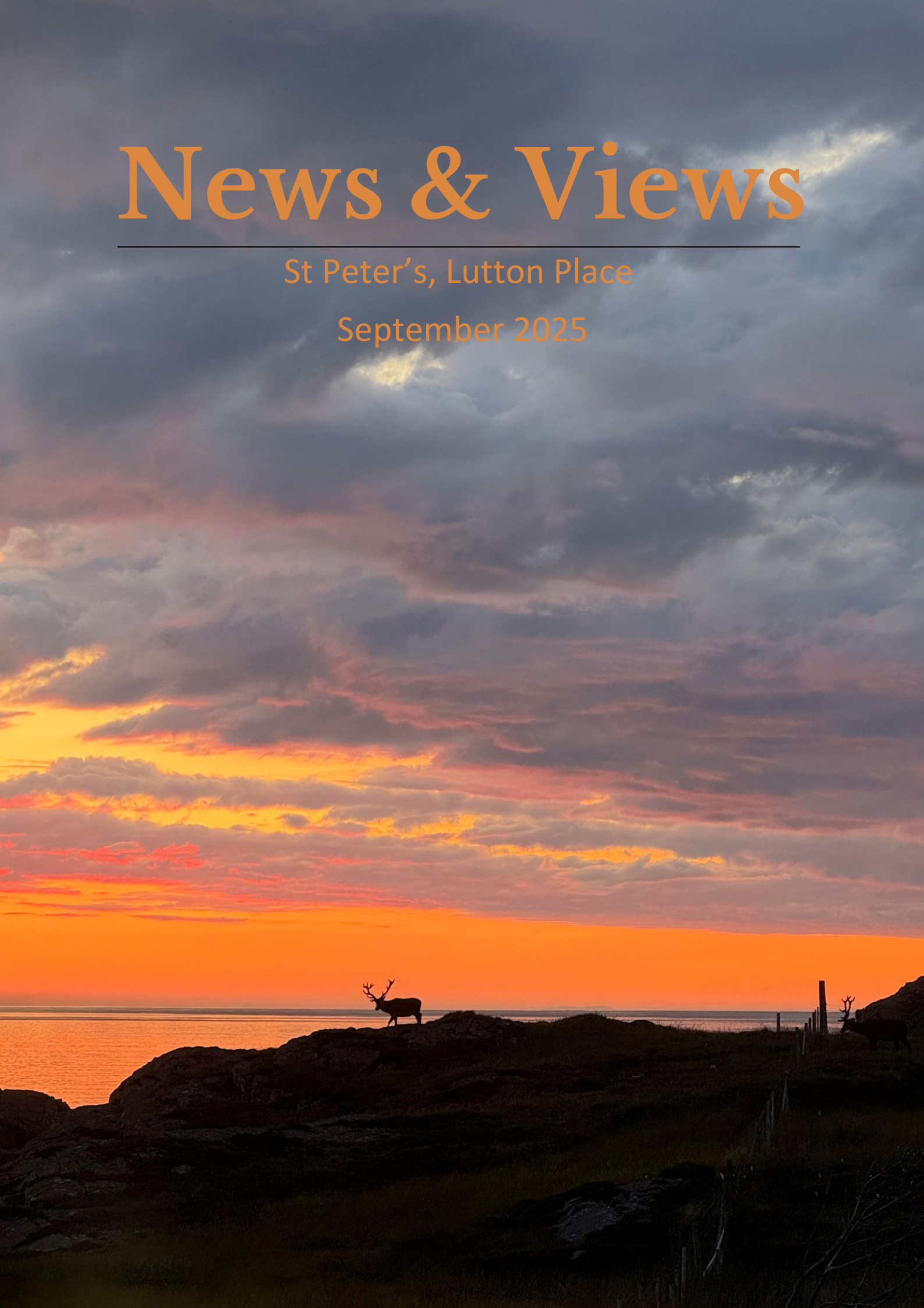


News & Views

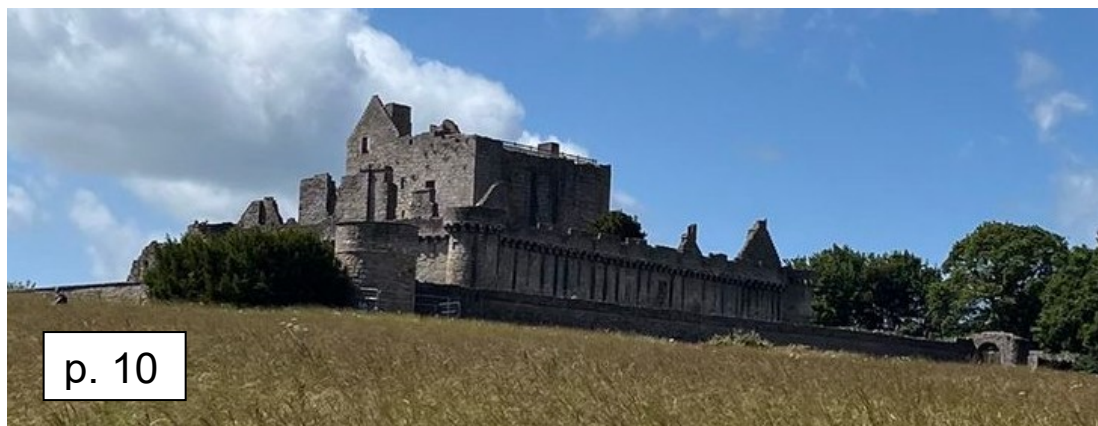
St Peter's, Lutton Place

September 2025





Above: In Dalkeith Country Park
Below: Craigmillar Castle



From the Rector

Rev Nick Wills

As a generally warm and pleasant summer starts to fade, we look back at a quieter time, as usual, with many people away and regular activities taking a break.

The three Toddler Summer Specials were well received by grateful parents. The crafts were enthusiastically created, and the children who come regularly are getting used to going up to church for the Bible story told by Becky, and enjoy participating in acting out or providing sound effects (see more on page 9, and photographs on the back cover).

I was delighted to hear, along with a good number of St Peter's choir and congregation and many others, the premiere of our organ scholar Christian's composition 'O nata lux' at a concert to celebrate the prize-winning compositions in the Edinburgh Festival of the Sacred Arts 'Young Composers' competition. Christian's piece was a very sensitive and thoughtful response to the text, and it was sung beautifully by the Festival Singers. Well done Christian!

It was great to be able to present Voice for Life ribbons on Sunday 24th August; the Red ribbon to our Head Chorister, Emma, and the Dark Blue for Lennox. Congratulations to you both.

Grateful thanks to Janet H. who has led the walking group on some lovely summer walks (see more on page 10 & 11). Both the Book Club and the weekly Tuesday evening Bible Study Group led by Ruth and Donald have continued over the summer, too, and are much appreciated by their members.

News & Views
September 2025

**St Peter's
Lutton Place**
Edinburgh
SC017358

The Scottish Episcopal Church
The Most Rev Mark Strange
Acting Bishop for the Diocese
of Edinburgh.

Church Office
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Sheila and Laura work flexibly part-time. 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. Webpage;

<https://stpetersedinburgh.org/>

There was no Process service in August, but in July we contemplated some of the stained-glass windows, and returned to the story of Ruth, to help us to reflect on the plight of children and civilians slaughtered as they queued for food and water in Gaza. The next Process service will be on September 14th, at 6.30pm. The team who create these services are meeting in early September - as the name suggests the process of creating the service is a form of worship in its own right. If you are interested in being a part of this please let me know.

It was with enormous sadness that we learned the news of the death of Professor Michael Rotter. His Memorial Service is at 2.30pm on Wednesday 3rd September at St Peter's, when we will remember Michael as his family and friends pay tribute to his considerable achievements.

This autumn we have much to look forward to, with some exciting new projects in the pipeline, as well as resuming regular events.

As in previous years we will hold a 'Welcome (Back) to Students Burger Lunch' on Sunday 14th September. Please stay after the 10.45am service to welcome this year's cohort and share fellowship with the church family.

The Season of Creation starts on the 7th September and finishes with our Harvest lunch on the 5th of October. During this season some services are using Creation readings and not the Lectionary readings, depending on the preacher.

Thursday Communion continue on the first Thursday of the month, and are now followed with a picnic in the hall. Bring a lunch (or pop out and buy a Meal Deal!) to eat together after the service.

We have a series of exciting new ventures, mostly happening on Tuesdays. We are launching a new Morning Prayer service at 11am - a chance to worship together and pray together for St Peter's, and those in need in our local community, our nation and the wider world. This will be followed by a daytime Bible Study with Rev Sue Whitehouse at 12pm, which is especially for those who aren't able to come to the evening Bible Study, but who would appreciate that opportunity for fellowship. (See Sue's message on page 8.)

We will then be providing a light lunch to share together from 1pm - we've called it 'Tuesday's Chewsday!'. (See page 8) We hope that these additions to our weekly programme will enrich us spiritually and bring us closer together as a church family. When we pray, study and eat together, I believe we will grow together and be well equipped to welcome others.

And talking of welcoming others, we are introducing a new musical strand to St Peter's, by supporting and developing a folk music hub in our area. This is something which has come about through various conversations and serendipitous meetings, and a gap in the provision for this kind of music in the city. We felt that we could provide a service for our area, use our fantastic facilities and open up our church to welcome in people who would otherwise never come to us.

We will be hosting friendly 'Folk and Acoustic Open Mic' nights on Tuesdays 16th September, 21st October and 18th November, from 7.30-9.30pm. These will be advertised especially to the students on our doorstep, many of whom are talented and creative and looking for an outlet to share their skills and learn from others. They will also be open to anyone, not just students, who want to share and listen to folk and roots standards, and maybe some new and original music, in a supportive atmosphere. We have enlisted the help of one of Edinburgh's finest folk and roots musicians, Adam Holmes, to host the evenings, so we know we will be in safe hands. Please share the news with anyone who may be interested, particularly those willing and able to perform.

The Open Mic nights will be part of a rolling roster of activities for students and young adults on Tuesday evenings; Bible Study, meals and games together, and a return to the popular pub quiz nights. We will be producing a term card with the dates for the different events to be shared at Freshers events, through the chaplaincy, locally and through our established networks.

Another strand of the Folk Music Hub will be a Children's Folk singing group starting on Sunday afternoons in term-time from 3.00pm to 4.00pm, from Sunday 21st September. We hope that children from our Toddler group, and church, up to 6 or 7 years old and their parents, grandparents and carers, will join us to sing and play simple, traditional music together, and that we will build on the relationships begun with weekly Toddler sessions, annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Holiday Specials.

I hope that you will join me in praying that we will enjoy this busy but hopefully richly stimulating and dynamic period of St Peter's mission and ministry, reflecting the Creator God's gifts of creativity and abundant welcome.

Your Rector,

Nick

Welcome (Back) to Students Burger Lunch

We hope as many of the congregation as possible will stay for a burger lunch after 10.45am service on Sunday 14th September. This is an opportunity for us all to welcome returning and new students and young adults. (Various dietary options will be available.)

Season of Creation & Harvest Festival

During September we are following the Season of Creation, a season when we reflect on the commitment of our Church to respond appropriately to the global environmental and climate crisis. Some of the readings will be different from the Lectionary readings for the day.

Our Harvest Festival on Sunday 5th October will end the season, and the Harvest collection will be in aid of our local Newington FoodBank⁺. After the 10.45am service, we will also be having a congregational soup and bread lunch to which all are warmly invited.



Children's Church

We always welcome children to our services.

At all services, children are very welcome to use and enjoy the activity and colouring-in station set up in the Millar Chapel, where the Children's Corner is during the scheduled work in church.

During the 10.45am service, children and their leaders usually leave for Children's Church in the hall during the Gloria and return to the service in time for Communion. Fun activities based on the day's Bible theme are organised by Becky, our Children and Young People's Worker, and a group of PVG covered volunteers help her to run the activities.

If you have any questions, please speak to a Welcomer or to Becky before the service. Or you can email becky@stpetersedinburgh.org any time.

Folk and Acoustic Music Open Mic Night

Hosted by Adam Holmes,
one of Edinburgh's finest folk and roots musicians.

7.30pm-9.30pm In the Hall Free

Tuesdays, 16th September, 21st October, 18th November



- Do you want to share and listen to folk and roots standards and maybe some new and original music?
- Are you talented and creative, and looking for an outlet to share your skills and learn from others, in a supportive atmosphere?

If so, come and let's create Edinburgh's friendliest Open Mic Night together!

New Children's Folk Singing Group

- For all children up to age 7 (*All children must be accompanied by an adult, who is responsible for their own child/children at all times.*)
- A relaxed and fun introduction to music through a mixture of song, stories and movement
- Meets in church on Sundays 21st & 28th Sept & 5th Oct; 3.00pm-4.00pm
- Mainly led/run by Sheila, Nick & Becky, with help from others

Process

Usually on the 2nd Sunday of the month, and from 6.30pm – 7.30pm, we gather in the hall for this contemporary evening service, which is reflective, sometimes interactive and always different! The service lasts about an hour, and refreshments are always shared afterwards.

See Nick's letter on page 4 about the July service, which reflected on the plight of children and civilians in Gaza. The next service is on Sunday 14th September, and more details about it will be given nearer the time in the Saturday email.



If you would like to be part of the team who creates these service, please speak to Nick!

Updated information is given in our Saturday emails and online:
<https://stpetersedinburgh.org/process>

Tuesdays in St Peter's

11am Morning Prayer Service Nick Wills (*Millar Chapel*)

16th, 23rd, 30th September; 7th, 21st, 28th October; 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th November.

An opportunity to pray together for St Peter's, and those in need in our local community, our nation and the wider world.

12 noon Bible Study Group Sue Whitehouse (*Millar Chapel*)

16th, 23rd, 30th September; 7th, 21st, 28th October; 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th November.

As part of the programme for the new Tuesday mornings that Nick writes about in his Rector's letter there will be an opportunity for Bible study.

Everyone is invited to come and join in. Reading scripture is one of the fundamental ways in which we can learn more about God and respond to the presence of the different persons of the Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - in our lives and church community.

The plan is to read St Mark's Gospel together over the coming weeks. This Gospel is written in an engaging style, drawing us in to the dynamic of the story. But within the fast-moving narrative and sense of urgency there are many things, said and unsaid, for us to mull over gently and prayerfully.

No prior knowledge is required. Scripture is there for each of us to engage with. Reading together allows us to listen to each other's ideas and experiences as we grow in our faith and learn to recognise what God intends for us in the world today.

1pm Tuesday's Chewsday! (*Church Hall*)

16th, 23rd, 30th September; 7th, 21st, 28th October; 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th November.

A freshly cooked light lunch to eat socially together - for congregational members, and we hope it will be especially attractive to those who attend the 12 noon Bible Study Group. It would be helpful if you could please let the office know by the Sunday before if you plan to come, especially if you have any dietary requirements. There is a suggested donation of £6, but we would not want this to be an obstacle to anyone who wants to join us.

7pm Bible Study Group Ruth Green & Donald Allister (*Choir Vestry*)
Weekly

No prior learning is required, just an enthusiasm to engage with the text, bringing our fervour for the writing together with our questions and doubts.

Contact details for Nick, Sue, Donald, Ruth and the Office are on page 23.

Toddler Group

Our Toddler Group runs from 9.30am–11.30am on Mondays and Thursdays. It is for those aged 0-3. All children must be accompanied by an adult, who is responsible for their own child/children at all times. Donation £1 per family and tea/coffee and snacks are provided.



Due to the Edinburgh Public Holiday, there is no Toddler Group on Monday 15th September.

Our international groups are very welcoming and friendly, with families from all over the world!



If you would like to attend or have any questions, please email Becky via becky@stpetersedinburgh.org.

Summer Specials

Many children, up to the age of 6, of our church family and Toddler Group enjoyed our three Summer Specials! During each session there were the usual toddler toys, games, the children went up to the church to hear Becky tell one of the three stories Jesus told and enjoyed related crafts: The stories were: The Lost Sheep, The Good Samaritan and The Two House Builders. See the pictures on the back page.

Young Adults & Students

We warmly welcome new students and young adults, and there is a varied programme of events, usually held on Tuesday evenings. It starts with our Welcome (Back) Burger lunch after the 10.45am service on Sunday 14th September, and Folk Music Open Mic Night from 7.30pm-9.30pm on Tuesday 16th September.

Any students or young adults who want further details are invited to join our student and young adult email lists and hear about their activities. You can also speak to Becky or Nick, or email becky@stpetersedinburgh.org

St Peter's Book Club

The Book Club always welcomes new members to discuss a wide range of titles. It meets in the Choir Vestry and one can just turn up to discuss the chosen book. The group usually meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 7pm, and the next meeting is on 24th September.



The book being discussed is *'Defy: The Power of No in a World that demands Yes'* by Sunita Sah. This non-fiction book encourages us to think through what is really important for us rather than just following the crowd. The author was interviewed by the medical twin brothers recently on What's up Docs on BBC Radio 4. Not a difficult read but challenging by giving instances of when individuals have done so and changed society.

For more information about the Book Club, please contact the office, or see <https://stpetersedinburgh.org/book-club>

Walking Group

Two walks have been held and thank you to Janet H. for leading and writing about them!



Saturday 28th June; *The back of the Royal Infirmary via Little France Park over to and through Craigmillar Castle Park, and down to Bridgend Farm on the Old Dalkeith Road.*

On a fine Saturday, eight of us gathered by the back of the Royal Infirmary and headed into Little France Park. This park was developed from reclaiming unmanaged grassland and provides a green corridor for wildlife as well as offering paths and cycleways. Little France got its name from the entourage brought to Scotland by Mary, Queen of Scots, who liked to stay in Craigmillar Castle.

Our route headed uphill to Hawkhill Wood, then over to Craigmillar Castle Park. We had good views of the castle and towards Arthur's Seat. We made our way by various paths to Bridgend Farmhouse, the community centre on the Old Dalkeith Road. Bridgend was having a summer fair so there were plenty of food, stalls on offer, and even a silent disco for some to join.

Saturday 19th July; *From Dalkeith town centre to Dalkeith Country Park Town Gate, then round by St Mary's Church to a trail following River South Esk to the old stables area (Restoration Yard).*

On Saturday 19th July seven of us headed off on the bus to Dalkeith intending to explore Dalkeith Country Park and some of its trails. Just as we arrived in the town centre the heavens opened, the thunder crashed overhead. However, we splashed our way in the torrential rain to the Town Gate of the Park passing St Mary's Episcopal Church which was consecrated in 1848. Inside it has a Hamilton of Edinburgh organ, the only currently working water powered organ in Scotland regularly used in worship.

We then set off on a trail through the trees following the River South Esk. We reached the old stables area now known as Restoration Yard where some were restored with ice cream or coffee. As there was torrential rain and thunder, we decided not to continue the walk but headed back getting good views of the impressive Dalkeith Palace on the way. The delights of the rest of the walk will have to wait for another day.

Janet would also be delighted if you would let her know the days / times which would suit you for walks so she can plan accordingly.

If you would like to receive Walking Group emails with information about forthcoming and last-minute walks, please email Janet via the office.

Edinburgh City Centre Historic Churches Walking Trail

A new ecumenical walk, created together by the Scottish Episcopal Church, Church of Scotland, and the Catholic Church launched at St Giles' Cathedral on 24th July. It takes walkers on a spiritual and architectural tour of ten of Edinburgh's historic and iconic city centre churches.

The available leaflet includes a QR code that leads to an interactive online map together with more information about each building. This was produced on behalf of the City Centre Churches and edited by Anne Martin of Edinburgh Diocese.

Information about the tour can be found on the Edinburgh Diocese web at <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/churches-walking-trail/>

The self-guided route covers buildings within the Royal Mile, New Town and West End, visiting churches that are open during the day:

St Giles' Cathedral; Greyfriars Kirk; St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church; Canongate Kirk; Old St Paul's; St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral on York Place; The New Town Church (formerly St Andrew's St George's West); St John's Episcopal Church, Princes Street; the Parish Church of St Cuthbert and St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Palmerston Place.

Practical Information

Building Work

The roofing contractor has started work on the dry rot timber repairs. This is on the small corner of the church above the porch and access to the church during this period is through the Narthex door. A more accessible entrance (and lift) into the church is along the drive and through the hall entrance.

Vestry did not meet over the summer, and next meets on 17th September.

Giving to St Peter's

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:

Treasurer Laura development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Weekly email to keep in touch

About 3pm each Saturday an email with the weekly notices, together with the Sunday readings, Collect and Year's Mind is sent to our congregational members.

If you attend services but do not already receive these emails and would like to keep in touch, please fill in a GDPR form, available at the back of the church, and give it to Sheila, a Welcomer, or hand it into the office.

Magazine Articles

Please email or submit your articles and photographs to Sheila,

office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Thank you!

*The DEADLINE for the
October issue is
Thursday 18th September*

Music Notes

By Rupert, Director of Music



Organ Scholar

We are delighted that Christian, who has now been with us for two years, will continue for another year as our Organ Scholar.

A number of our members attended this year's Edinburgh Sacred Arts Festival Young Composers concert in Canongate Kirk to hear Christian's choral setting of *O nata lux*, which had been awarded third prize. Before hearing the works of the three winners and two runners up, the renowned composer, Paul Mealor, who had judged the competition, spoke about why he became interested in sacred music, and about the various entries. Christian's work was beautiful, and the choir looks forward to singing it soon!



Choral Evensong

In 2025, Choral Evensong will be held at 6.30pm on 31st August, 28th September, 19th October and 23rd November.

Do you enjoy singing?

Choral music lies at the heart of the worshipping life of our church, and we sing a wide variety of Anglican repertoire. We would love you to join our four-part choir!



We rehearse on a Thursday evening, and new members are very welcome in both the junior choir (age 8-17) and adult choir (age 16+). For more information about joining the choir, where to go and the commitment required, please speak to me after a morning service, email me at office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Thursdays 7.00pm–8pm: Junior Choir; 7.45pm - 9.30pm for adults.
Sundays 10am for the 10.45am service, and 5.30pm when Evensong.

Junior Choristers meet before junior choir and follow the RSCM Voice for Life programme, where medals and ribbons are awarded as various targets are reached. For more information about this, please speak to Sheila, our Organist, after a service or email her at office@stpetersedinburgh.org. *Many congratulations to Emma and Lennox, who on Sunday 24th August received their next level of V4L ribbons! Emma her Red Ribbon, and Lennox his Dark Blue.*



Monday Group

We will resume our meetings on Monday 15th September at 2.30pm in the meeting room at the back of the stage and thereafter on the third Monday of the month. This will be a social get-together with entertainment of some kind to be decided.

All are most welcome to our meetings, men and women of any age. For those who wish to become members the annual subscription is £10. Suggested donations at meetings are £1 for members and £2 for non-members – but in these cash-free days we wouldn't turn anyone away!

For further information about the Monday Group you can contact Jane or Liz P. via the office.

Regular Activities in St Peter's

Sundays (*from 21st September, term-time only*)

- ♦ 3.00pm-4.00pm ♦ Children's Folk Singing Group

Mondays & Thursdays (*term-time only*)

- ♦ 9.30am-11.30am ♦ Toddler Group

Third Monday of the Month ♦ 2.30pm ♦ Monday Group

Tuesdays (*term-time only*)

- ♦ 11.00am ♦ Prayer Service ♦ weekly in Millar Chapel
- ♦ 12 noon ♦ Bible Study Group ♦ in Millar Chapel
- ♦ 1.00pm ♦ Tuesday's Chewsday! ♦ lunch in the hall

Tuesdays (*year round*)

- ♦ 7.00pm ♦ Bible Study Group ♦ in Choir Vestry

Last Wednesday of the month (*usually*) ♦ 7.00pm ♦ St Peter's Book Club

Thursdays

6.15pm Voice for Life ♦ **7.00-8.00pm** Junior Choir ♦ **7.45-9.30pm** Adult Choir

News from the Edinburgh Diocese

Retirement of Bishop John Armes

On Sunday 24th August, St Mary's Cathedral was packed for the farewell Evensong for Bishop John, who at the end of August retires as Bishop of Edinburgh. There were a number of speeches, gifts presented to him and to his wife, Claire, with everyone wishing Bishop John a long and happy retirement. He then reflected on his 42 years of ministry and spoke of his gratitude for the privilege of being elected the Bishop of the Diocese of Edinburgh 13 years ago. For his full speech, see the Diocesan webpage at: <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/2025/08/bishop-johns-final-sunday-at-st-marys-cathedral/>



Acting Bishop of Edinburgh

From September, the Primus, Most Rev Mark Strange, Bishop of Moray, Ross & Caithness, will be the Acting Bishop of the Edinburgh Diocese, and the Rt Rev Andrew Swift, Bishop of Brechin, will convene the Electoral Process.

Receiving news from the Diocese and across Scotland

The Communicant The latest news and notices from Edinburgh Diocese can be found online in its free fortnightly magazine via <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/publications/the-communicant/>

Inspires featuring articles, comments, opinions and reflections from various contributors on topics of broad interest relating to the life of the Scottish Episcopal church, one can sign up to receive by email the free monthly online magazine. This is found online via <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/publications/inspires/>

Youth & other Events in Edinburgh Diocese

To register for the 6-monthly youth newsletter, see: [Youth and Children Newsletter | Diocese of Edinburgh \(anglican.org\)](#)

To read about other Diocesan events, and to sign up to receive emails, see <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/category/adventures-in-faith/>

For information about all Diocesan events, please contact Rev Fiona (Fee) Reynolds, The Diocesan Advisor for Christian Life.

Email: freynolds@dioceseofedinburgh.org or phone 0131 346 9089.

Helping Those in Need

Newington FoodBank⁺

The donations that keep appearing in the box at the back of church each week are all greatly appreciated! This month, they particularly need Sardines, Cooking Oil, Custard, Coffee, Sugar, Biscuits, Shampoo and Shower Gel.



Fresh Start

Fresh Start is always in need of various household donations. If you would like to help, please pick up a leaflet at the back of the church, or see their webpage:

<https://www.freshstartweb.org.uk/>



Ukraine and Middle East Crisis Appeals

Christian Aid offers assistance to Ukraine refugees

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

Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)

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

Christian Aid Middle East Crisis Appeal

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

Eco-Matters

Christine B. writes:

2025 Autumn Lectures at Morningside Parish Church

This series of three lectures organised by Greenbank, Morningside Parish and Fairmilehead Parish Churches, has for 2025 the theme *Ecology Matters – Wellbeing of Creation and Humanity*.

They are on Sundays 7th, 14th and 21st September at Morningside Parish Church, 2 Cluny Gardens EH10 6BQ, meeting in the Braid Hall from 6.30pm for refreshments before the lecture from 7-8pm.

The three topics are:

7th September Mike Robinson, Chair, Stop Climate Chaos Scotland:
Ecology, the Climate and the need for action.

14th September Val Brown, Head of Christian Aid in Scotland:
The Unstoppable Power of Hope: Christian Aid at 80 – a look at the global work of building a more just world.

21st September Professor David Farrier, Professor of Literature and the Environment at the University of Edinburgh will talk on his recently published book *Nature's Genius: Evolution's Lessons for a Changing Planet.*

Entrance is free, and there will be an opportunity to donate to running costs each evening.

Alternatively one can join the livestream event remotely via the church website at morningsideparishchurch.org.uk. You can find out more about the speakers there too - click on the 'Annual Lectures' link on the home page.

Two Hundred Years Ago

By Liz P.

I was born and brought up in Stockton-on-Tees. Sadly, it is now somewhat run-down, coupled in people's minds with its even more insalubrious neighbour Middlesbrough. However it was once a thriving river port, a prosperous market town with a castle (sadly blown up by Oliver Cromwell in 1646). It has a fine Georgian Town Hall, boasts the widest high street in England and was home to the inventor of the friction match, John Walker. A town with a fine history.

In 1823, George Stephenson was asked to build a railway from Stockton to Darlington. This was to be a freight line bringing coal from the Durham coalfields to the River Tees and importing Scandinavian timber for pit props. In 1823 Middlesbrough simply didn't exist. There were a number of railways in the northeast by that time, most used horse-drawn wagons, but Stephenson favoured steam locomotives. By 1825 the railway was complete but meanwhile Stephenson had hit upon the notion that it could carry passengers. Thus on 27th September 1825 the railway was opened with a passenger train hauled by an engine called "Locomotion No. 1" and first-

class passengers in a coach called “Experiment”, the rest of the passengers travelling in open trucks. That engine was on display on Darlington station for many years and the coach was on Stockton station. I remember well standing on the platform next to it at the beginning of each term, fighting back homesick tears as I was put onto the train for my boarding school in York! Both Locomotion No. 1 and its coach are now in a railway museum in Darlington.

After a while the idea of passenger railways caught on. George Stephenson had already built a freight line from Manchester to Liverpool and in 1830 it began to run regular passenger



trains, hauled by locomotives designed like the famous “Rocket” which won the Rainhill Trials for the safest and most efficient design of engine. Within ten years 1,775 miles of rail track specifically for passenger traffic as well as freight were built in Britain and 20 years later there were 6,200 miles. In 1842 Queen Victoria travelled on a train, making it respectable. More importantly vast numbers of ordinary people started to travel around the country. Before passenger railways the majority of people in Britain never travelled further from their own village than the nearest market town. Now the whole idea of “holidays” came, mostly to the seaside by train. This was a revolution which soon spread to Europe and beyond. Think of the railways crossing the American continent, the Orient Express, the Trans-Siberian railway, the railways of India, the railway crossing from the east to the west of Australia across the Nullarbor Plain – two days of nothingness, I’ve done that!

One cannot put an actual date on the beginning of the industrial revolution, but we do have a date for that amazing, fantastic social revolution, the coming of the passenger railway. It transformed the whole world, it is a monumentally significant date. I am proud to have a modest connection to that first railway and will be celebrating on 27th September 2025!

Christine B. adds: Discover more at the free exhibition 'Scots on the Move: Railways and Tourism in Victorian Scotland', at General Register House until 26 September.

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/learning-and-events/all-features-and-articles/scots-on-the-move-railways-and-tourism-in-victorian-scotland/>

Memorial Service for Professor Michael Rotter

Wednesday, 3rd September, 2.30pm

We learned with great sadness that Michael Rotter died on 9th August. One of our faithful members who attended church regularly, Michael was involved in a number of our church activities, and was until recently a Vestry member. His encouragement, humour and phenomenal knowledge in so many areas will be greatly missed.



Michael's wife Sue warmly invites friends from St Peter's to the Memorial Service celebrating Michael's life being held in church, and to the reception in the hall after.

Sue has asked that in lieu of flowers, the family would like people to please donate to Marie Curie. <https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/>

A full tribute to Michael will be included with the October magazine.

Bishop Donald Allister's Bible Teaching Videos

Each Monday, Donald uploads a new Bible teaching video to his YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@feedmysheep2023>

These are free to view, and it is fine to pass the link on to anyone who might be interested.

During the autumn months Donald's YouTube Bible teaching will take us through another frequently ignored but important part of scripture, the "pastoral epistles". In these letters, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, and Titus, the apostle Paul, approaching the end of his life, passes on his wisdom and priorities for the future generations of the Church. Not to be missed!



If you find accessing and navigating YouTube difficult, Donald would be very happy to send you MP4 files of his talks, which should work on any modern computer or mobile phone. Please email him or ask him in Church.

Services in St Peter's

Sundays ♦ 9am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Traditional language, no music and sometimes no sermon.

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

2nd Sunday of the month (usually) ♦ 6.30pm ♦ Process

Last Sunday of the month (usually) ♦ 6.30pm ♦ Choral Evensong

Tuesdays (during term-time) ♦ 11am ♦ Prayer Service ♦ no music or sermon

1st Thursday of the month ♦ 11am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Traditional language, no music and usually no sermon ♦ followed with a picnic lunch in the hall

Sunday Readings

**The passages being read*

31st August Twelfth Sunday of Trinity

Proverbs 25: 6-7 ♦ Psalm 112 ♦ *Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16 ♦ *Luke 14: 1, 7-14

31st August Choral Evensong Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Psalm 119: 1-8 ♦ *Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23; *Psalm 119: 9-16

7th September First Sunday in the Season of Creation

*Deuteronomy 30: 15-20 ♦ Psalm 1 ♦ Philemon 1-21 ♦ *Luke 14: 25-33

14th September Second Sunday in the Season of Creation

Exodus 32: 7-14 ♦ *Psalm 148: 1-13 ♦ 1 Timothy 1: 12-17 ♦ *John 14: 25-31

21st September Third Sunday in the Season of Creation

*Amos 8: 4-7 ♦ Psalm 113 ♦ 1 Timothy 2: 1-7 ♦ *Luke 16: 1-13

28th Sept & Thur 2nd Oct Fourth Sunday in the Season of Creation

*Isaiah 32: 14-18 ♦ Psalm 146 ♦ 1 Timothy 6: 6-19 ♦ *Luke 16: 19-31

28th September Choral Evensong Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

*Ezekiel 37: 15-28 ♦ *1 John 2: 22-29 ♦ Psalms 120 & 121

5th October Harvest Thanksgiving

*Deuteronomy 8: 7-18 ♦ Psalm 126 ♦ 1 Timothy 2: 1-7 ♦ *Matthew 6: 25-33

Dates for the Diary

Events in September

- Tue 2nd** Bible Study Group ♦ 7.00pm
Wed 3rd Memorial Service for Professor Michael Rotter ♦ 2.30pm
Thu 4th Monthly Thursday Communion ♦ 11am
Tue 9th Bible Study Group ♦ 7.00pm
Sun 14th Welcome (Back) to Students Burger Lunch ♦ after 10.45am service
Sun 14th Process ♦ 6.30pm-7.30pm
Mon 15th No Toddler Group
Mon 15th Monday Group ♦ 2.30pm
Tue 16th Morning Prayer Service ♦ 11.00am
Tue 16th Bible Study Group ♦ 12 noon
Tue 16th Tuesday's Chewsday! (lunch) ♦ 1.00pm
Tue 16th Bible Study Group ♦ 7.00pm
Tue 16th Folk and Acoustic Open Mic Night ♦ 7.30pm-9.30pm
Thu 18th October Magazine deadline
Sun 21st Children's Folk Singing Group ♦ 3.00pm-4.00pm
Tue 23rd Morning Prayer Service ♦ 11.00am
Tue 23rd Bible Study Group ♦ 12 noon
Tue 23rd Tuesday's Chewsday! ♦ 1.00pm
Tue 23rd Bible Study Group ♦ 7.00pm
Wed 24th St Peter's Book Club ♦ 7.00pm
Sun 28th Children's Folk Singing Group ♦ 3.00pm-4.00pm
Sun 28th Choral Evensong ♦ 6.30pm
Tue 30th Morning Prayer Service ♦ 11.00am
Tue 30th Bible Study Group ♦ 12 noon
Tue 30th Tuesday's Chewsday! (lunch) ♦ 1.00pm
Tue 30th Bible Study Group ♦ 7.00pm

Events in early October

- Thu 2nd** Monthly Thursday Communion ♦ 11.00am
Sun 5th Harvest Thanksgiving ♦ Harvest soup lunch after the 10.45am service.
Sun 5th Children's Folk Singing Group ♦ 3.00pm-4.00pm
Tue 7th Morning Prayer Service ♦ 11.00am
Tue 7th Bible Study Group ♦ 12 noon
Tue 7th Tuesday's Chewsday! (lunch) ♦ 1.00pm
Tue 7th Bible Study Group ♦ 7.00pm

Clergy

Contact details for our Clergy are on page 23.

Rector Rev Nick Wills

Associate Clergy Rev Sue Whitehouse
Bishop Donald Allister
Rev Ruth Green



Nick



Sue



Donald



Ruth

Nick and all the Associate Clergy Team are very happy to spend time with members of St Peter's who have concerns or are facing difficult situations.

Please feel able to speak to any of them to arrange a time to talk. We are grateful for their willingness to minister in this way.

If you, or someone you know, have not received Communion because you/they have been unable to come to Church, then members of our Clergy and Lay Pastoral Team would be happy to bring you Communion at home. Please let Sue, Donald or Ruth know if you hear of a member of St Peter's who is ill.

The Office

There are currently no set office hours with Laura and Sheila working flexibly part-time, sometimes from home. If you want to see either of them in the office, please make an appointment.

Laura Amongst several jobs, Laura covers finances, building maintenance and hall bookings.



If you would like to book the hall please email Laura:
development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Sheila is the Church Administrator. She deals with anything concerning church matters and supporting the Clergy Team. She works 20 hours a week, usually working on Monday and Tuesday, and Thursday and Sunday mornings. Church emails are usually attended to on Mondays and Tuesdays: 10am-4pm, and Thursdays 10am-1pm. The rest of her hours are taken up with other tasks. Sheila's email: office@stpetersedinburgh.org



Contacts

Clergy and Staff

Rector Rev Nick Wills

Associate Clergy Rev Sue Whitehouse
Bishop Donald Allister
Rev Ruth Green

Children's & Young People's Worker Becky
becky@stpetersedinburgh.org

Hall Bookings / Development Laura
development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Administrator / Magazine Sheila office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Church Office Sheila or Laura 0131 563 8198
(Please note, messages left on the office answer machine may take a few days before they are heard and dealt with.)

Director of Music Rupert

Organist & Voice for Life Sheila office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Church Officers

Vestry Secretary Janice

Treasurer Laura development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Lay Representative Jan

Alternate Lay Representative Roddy

Finance Convenor Ralph

Works Convenor Liz M

Connect Becky becky@stpetersedinburgh.org

Sacristan Liz M

Fire Warden Pam

Church Organisations and Groups

Servers' Guild Bill

Monday Group Jane

Thursday Lunch Club (1st Thursday) Delia

All of the above can be contacted by emailing office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Fun at the Summer Specials!
See page 9



The Lost Sheep.

The Two House Builders.



Should the
houses be built
on sand or
on rock??

