



Summer 2018

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Pages 2 & 3 | A View from the Manse |
| Page 4 | Dates for your Diary |
| Page 5 | The Church Family & Prayer |
| Page 6 | Ramblings of the St Leonard's Treasurer |
| Pages 7 & 8 | South Sudan – the wounds |
| Page 9 | St Leonard's Befriending Ministry |
| Pages 10 - 13 | Farewell to Alan and Jo McGeogh |
| Page 14 | St Leonard's Parish Kids |
| Page 15 | Reminders |
| Page 16 | TWAM |
| Page 17 | The Newsletter is Changing |
| Page 18 | Quiz |
| Pages 19 & 20 | Community Hub/ Café/Hosting Hope |
| Page 21 | Christian Aid |
| Pages 22 & 23 | Rotas and Quiz answers |
| Page 24 | Useful contacts |

A View from the Manse

My Dear Friends,

I'm writing this letter at the end of a busy week in Auld Reekie, where, along with George McIntosh from St. Leonard's, I've been a Commissioner at this year's General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

No matter how many times you go to Assembly - and this is something like my eighth time - it's always a memorable experience...making your way to the Assembly Hall on The Mound near Edinburgh Castle; the pomp and pageantry of the opening and the arrival of Her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner; being one of the 730 voices praising God at the beginning of each day and then listening to the reports of all the Councils and Committees and Panels and being blown away by just how much the Church does, inside and outside Scotland.

And then, of course there was the chance to catch-up with old friends as well as making a few new ones along the way; meeting people from all over Scotland and beyond, from different countries and denominations, from congregations much like our own and congregations that couldn't be more different; hearing their stories and then sharing ours...and in and through it all, being made aware, over and over again that the Church of Scotland, though suffering from its fair share of atrophy in some areas, is still very much alive and kicking and doing a power of work in Christ's name in congregations, large and small, in communities far and wide, in cities and towns and villages, through people like you and me...

Continued on page 3

A View from the Manse continued from page 2

But as a Church we've also just celebrated the Day of Pentecost and the coming of the Spirit; and what these days in Edinburgh have reminded me is that for all the difficulties the Church faces, the Holy Spirit is very much at work - energising, inspiring and leading God's people forward to a new and exciting future. Yes; it may be hard to see where that future is taking us, but, as the song says, our God is 'a great big God', and we are in His hands.

But that isn't all; because again and again, in fact all through this week in Edinburgh I've wished that all of you could have been there with George and me - those who play an active part in the life of our congregations and those who prefer the sidelines; those who come regularly, Sunday by Sunday, and those who only come on high days and holidays, if at all...I wish you could all have been with us so that you could share the experience and see what it is you are a part of.



The badge of the Church of Scotland has at its heart an image of the burning bush and around it the Latin motto, *Nec tamen consumebatur*...Yet it was not consumed.

I want you to remember that, and I also want you to remember this...

That you and I are blessed beyond words to be part of Cameron and St. Leonard's, and, though we have our own hurdles here, there is much to encourage and excite us in the fellowship we share and the life we live as we serve Christ in our community.

With Love and Blessings

Your friend and pastor

DATES FOR THE DIARY

St Leonard's

- 5 June Kirk Session Meeting
- 10 June Community Picnic – Lawhead School
1pm to 3pm
- 24 June St Leonard's Parish Kids Sponsored Walk
from Cameron Kirk to St Leonard's
- 10 July Congregational Board

Community Picnic

Along with our friends from Lawhead Primary, we are organising a community Picnic at the school on Sunday 10th June from 1pm to 3pm. Everyone is invited..family, friends, neighbours. You need to bring your own picnic, but tea, coffee and juice will be provided. There'll be games for all ages, but most all we just want to bring people together

AN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

Date for your Diary

Graeme will celebrate his 25th Anniversary of Ordination on **Sunday 28th October 2018**. We are intending to mark this momentous and happy occasion with a joint St Leonard's and Cameron Lunch in St Leonard's Church Hall, immediately following the Service at approximately 12.15 pm that day. Everybody is most cordially invited.

More details to follow – but be sure and keep that Sunday free!

Mary Popple, Marion Mason

The Church Family

St Leonard's

New Members

Mr Geoffrey Whitley, 57 Kilrymont Road (D46 Anne Aitken)
Mrs Heather Whitley, 57 Kilrymont Road (D46 Anne Aitken)
Mr Ian Lorimer, 17 Priory Gardens
Mrs Morag Lorimer, 17 Priory Gardens



Deaths

Mr Dennis Matthews, 17 Hepburn Gardens (D10 Joan Peter)

Tides and Seasons

David Adam 1989 Tides and Seasons SPCK p. 77

Creator of the tides, give to me

Space for stillness

Room for repentance

Place for prayer

Home for happiness

Ways to walk in

Paths with purpose.

Creator of the seasons, give to me

Minutes of meditation

Hours of holiness

Days of discipline

Weeks of worship

Years for you

Life for love

Eons of eternity.

Submitted by Marie Robinson

Treasurer's Ramblings

No depressing figures to present this month – that will come after the next budget report which will be presented to the Congregational Board on 10th July.



However, I have good news. I am delighted to let everyone know that Joan Peter has stepped forward to take on the role of treasurer. As is said, a volunteer is better than ten pressed men.....or women! My task now is to get myself organised to be able to hand things over, but that will likely be a gradual process. And, looking forward, I am more than happy to give Joan whatever assistance

she might need.....if any!

The fact that Joan volunteered is wonderful, but asking for volunteers can have unexpected results. Some years ago, Anne and I were waiting to board a flight to Rome, when the airline announced the flight was overbooked and they needed three volunteers to give up their seats. As compensation, they would be upgraded to first class for the next available flight and would be given a voucher for £100 towards any future flight. Eight passengers seemed keen to volunteer and rushed to the desk. However, they all returned swiftly to the lounge looking rather dejected. Then another announcement was made. ""If there is anyone else OTHER than the flight crew who'd like to volunteer, please step forward..."

South Sudan – the wounds

From Maureen Jack's Blog 17th May 2018

"As the World Council of Churches pilgrim visit of justice and peace to South Sudan draws to a close, I'm struck by how several issues intersect and interact: the position of women, poverty, sexual exploitation, the prevalence of weapons, and the lack of safety.

During our visit we have met groups of church leaders, young people, women, and women parliamentarians. We have heard consistently of the expectation that bringing up children and running a home are the responsibility of women, not just in doing the work, but also in earning the money to support the family and run the home. Women from local churches told us, "Here we are seen as animals.". Rape is commonplace, of women and of children. A woman told us that things are worse in the rainy season because the grass is higher and it is easier for men to hide. The economic demands on women are such that if they have no alternative they may offer their own bodies for sale. Luckily, the man one woman approached outside a supermarket recently is a church leader; he gave her some food and did not judge her. Because of the dowry system girls are forced into early marriages; one young man said that young women are seen as sources of money rather than as people. Some of the women we met feel that they have little access to leadership positions in the church. And, perhaps surprisingly, even the women members of parliament struggle to have their voices heard, and several reported having been threatened when they spoke the truth; as one put it, "Lives are at stake when you speak out."

Continued on page 8

Maureen's blog continued from page 7

South Sudan – the wounds

Despite their country's natural resources, South Sudan's people mostly live in poverty: in 2014 the nation was 169th in the Human Development Index. Adult illiteracy is 73%, and higher than that for women. Government employees have not been paid for the last six months. Because of this, looting is rife. Small arms are everywhere (though not in the home of a feisty young woman member of parliament who lives alone) and armed gangs attack people on the street or in their homes, looking for money and anything sellable; in one case we heard of, they even made the teenage boys they had come across strip, so that they could take their clothes.

In view of all this, it is not surprising that women here are afraid: scared of how they will feed their families, afraid of being robbed, frightened of the threat of rape or worse, and terrified that the same fate will befall their children. South Sudan is not a safe environment for women. But still their faith, strength and determination shine through. It is good that we came."

Disclaimer

The impressions, hopes and ideas expressed in this blog are the contributions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the World Council of Churches.

Our thanks to Maureen for sharing this with us.

St Leonard's Befriending Ministry

We are always looking for ways of taking the ministry of our congregation beyond the church building, breaking down the walls. To this end, we hope to establish a Befriending Ministry, making contacts between members of our congregation and anyone in the area who would like this. This can be to offer companionship, friendship, support or help, with general or specific matters.

Cath Carter is our Parish Nurse, funded by the Pilgrim Care. Her job includes visiting and caring for people in the community who are sick, lonely or otherwise in need of nursing care. She knows of many who would benefit from receiving more time than she has the capacity give. Cath will be coming to the service at St Leonard's on Sunday 10th June, to tell us, briefly, more about how we can get involved in helping her.

Then we will have a separate short meeting in the church on Monday 11th June, 6.30pm, for anyone interested in finding out more. At that meeting, we will ask people who might consider volunteering to come and hear more about Cath's work and ministry, and to discuss informally how we might take it forward as a partnership with St Leonard's.

We believe this is a way of showing and sharing God's love in the community. Please note these dates, and think about offering some time. At this stage, we are gauging interest only, not seeking commitment! Thank you

Blair H. Smith

Alan McGeoch

Alan McGeoch came to St Leonard's in 1984 as Organist and Choirmaster following the retiral of the late Bob Murray. At that time, Alan was head of music at Madras College and therefore brought with him great musical skill and understanding. This professionalism soon showed in the performances of the choir and the varied music being presented in the Church. He is also a very capable composer and the choir enjoyed singing his original compositions. Subsequently Alan and the choir performed Nine Lessons and Carols at evening service before Christmas, only ceasing as the congregational support began to lessen.

In 1993 Alan decided to leave St Leonard's and soon afterwards became Organist and Choirmaster at Martyrs Church. However, in 2008 Alan returned to St Leonard's and has fulfilled the roles most successfully until now. On the closure of Martyrs Church several of the choir members were happy to follow Alan and joined St Leonard's swelling our own choir numbers. Again, Alan has been most successful in producing our Church music not least the wonderful work he has done with the children's Christmas presentations. Alan's wife Jo has been a faithful member of the choir during his tenure and her talents and experience have been of great benefit to the choir.

Both Alan and Jo will be sorely missed and in thanking them for all they have done for St Leonard's, we all would like to wish them a very long and happy retirement with more time to enjoy their grandchildren. Alan however will not be totally retired and has plenty to keep him occupied. He makes violins, violas and cellos and his instruments are in great demand. *Angus Peters*

Alan and Jo McGeoch: A Thank You

Alan thanked Graeme and members of the congregation for their good wishes and presents and for making him welcome and happy. He thanked Jo for her support and for singing in the choir and Mary Popple and her team.

He then went on to say

"Good speeches start with saying you'll not go on too long. Sadly so do a lot of bad speeches I've heard. As a child, sitting in the congregation of Greyfriars Church, Dumfries, I used to will the minister to miss a few pages and say "And lastly, brethren", because I knew then that his sermon was only about 20 minutes from finishing. I'd better get on though, myself. But first a brief history lesson.

Our family acquired a harmonium when I was about 12 years old and I was soon being encouraged by knowledgeable relatives (of the Victorian and early Edwardian sort) that the truly noble thing was to search for Sullivan's LOST CHORD. Many of you will remember this song. *Seated one day at the organ, I was weary and ill at ease..... But I struck one chord of music, like the sound of a great Amen.*

Fortified by this, though it wasn't of much practical use really, I started out as organist and choirmaster in Dumfries Baptist Church at the age of 14 ½ (still in short trousers), and after 35 years of regular organ playing in four different churches, all of them with great choirs, it's time to go in search of the LAST chord (I know, I should have gone to that optician's some time ago). Those of you who are smart at maths will put me down as a rather elderly-looking 49½ year old. But you know, I'll take any compliments I can get. But now I feel it's time to hang up my organ-playing shoes.

Continued on page 12

Alan and Jo McGeoch: A Thank You *continued from page 11*

Some people think that church choirs are an extension of the organist's arm. However, *I* know, and I want you all to know that *this* choir is different. Their spirit individually and as a group is tremendous, they have an amazing combination of complementary skills, which is ideal for any choir to work as a great team, often reading arrangements or compositions I put in front of them straight off and performing them an hour later in a service. *For them, that's normal.* They are courageous in the best way, trusting that if I decide to do a particular piece as an introit or an anthem, it will happen without mishap. In modern parlance, *They Get It.* I receive many fine comments from parishioners and visitors about the choir. That's job satisfaction you could not begin to measure. Thank you, choir.

"And lastly, brethren...."

Then..... there was the long-anticipated arrival of Graeme and Ailsa last summer and the gentle zephyrs they brought from southern climes. But it was well worth the wait. It's been a truly wonderful last year for me and a joy, Graeme. Whenever I think of you, Graeme, (I usually do this at about 9am on Tuesdays) I also think, for some odd reason, of surfboards.

Graeme has bestowed his boundless energy on me, enough to encourage me to stand up there on that surfboard with him. Time to sit upright in your deck-chairs and raise your binoculars: if you would picture it, both of us in our smartest Speedos, the ones with Hawaiian prints, of course, best foot forward, hair streaming in the gale - riding the front of the wave. The friendship has been palpable and all I can say is" Thank you Graeme – it's been a breeze!" "

Extract from Alan's farewell speech on 27th May.

ALAN'S FAREWELL !

One more step along the world WE go
One more step along the world WE go
From the old things to the new
Keep US travelling along with you
And from the old WE travel to the new;
Keep us travelling along with you.

Alan McGeoch is to leave today
Humming arpeggios and silly scales
From the old things to the new
Introits and Anthems but nothing blue
And it's from the old you travel to the new
Keep us travelling along with you

Alan and Jo are two of the best
Oh what fun we've had at his behest
Basses too loud and Tenors don't know
Altos, Sopranos are the stars of the show
And it's from the old we travel to the new
WE'LL MISS YOU
SO GOOD LUCK TO YOU

*Adapted from "One More Step Along the Way I Go"
by David Aitken and sung by the St Leonard's choir on 27th May.*



St Leonard's Parish Kids

StLPK have enjoyed a productive May. We thank George Black for taking time out to come and discuss the work of Christian Aid with us.

We also thank the congregation for their continued support at the Parish Pancakes and at our Pie Sale. In May these combined to raise nearly £200 (kindly rounded up by our Minister!).

June will see half term holiday for us on the 3rd. Followed by the Community Picnic on 10th June at Lawhead Primary School (StLPKs will help set up) - watch Facebook for further details.

On the 17th June we welcome Rosemary Cantlay who will be talking to the children about the RNLI and sea safety for the Summer.

Our final meeting will be on the 24th June. We hope to complete a sponsored walk from Cameron Kirk to St Leonard's. Finished off by a pot luck picnic. We warmly welcome any of the congregation that wishes to join us for either or both parts of this. We will supply details nearer the time.

We shall then break for the Summer and will restart either late August or start of September. Check Facebook for updates.

Finally, we would like to thank our lovely leader Sarah Donaldson who after many years of helping and nearly four years as a leader is now stepping down. Sarah has made a massive contribution to our Sunday School with her dedication and hard work.

On that note we are looking for anyone who would like to step in to help by leading or assisting an occasional StLPK - this would be most welcome. Even two sessions a year would be gratefully received. Please contact the Church Office or myself (claireolley@hotmail.co.uk) for further details.

Reminders

Rev Valerie Watson's Retirement Card

As reported last month Valerie Watson is retiring (for the third and last time – she claims) at the end of June this year. Mary and Neil Gillespie thought that there may be several members of St Leonards and Cameron who might like to join them in sending a card to wish her well in her retirement. Mary has made a card to send on behalf of the two congregations which will be available to sign in both churches on the following dates:

10th, 17th and 24th June.

It is hoped that as many of you as possible will take the opportunity to send good wishes to someone who served our congregations well and was greatly appreciated during her time with us when Alan MacDonald fulfilled his role as Moderator.

Storehouse

Storehouse is currently low on the following items: UHT milk, pasta sauce, tinned meat/fish/ ready meals, sugar, instant coffee, toiletries.

St Leonard's Website and Facebook: these ways of accessing information about the congregation can be found at stleonardschurchstandrews.com for the Website; Facebook: [@stleonardsandcameron](https://www.facebook.com/stleonardsandcameron)

Joining our Church Family: If you would like to join the St Leonard's Church family please contact the Minister for further details.



Tools with a Mission (TWAM) is a British Christian Charity enabling people to earn a living and support themselves and their families. They do this by collecting and refurbishing tools and equipment no longer required in the UK and sending them to several countries, mostly in Africa.

Many of you have helped previously, but I hope to take another load to their depot in Cowdenbeath sometime over the summer. So, if you have unused but functional tools that you would like to donate, please contact me and I can arrange to collect them. Please bear in mind that while 'tools' obviously includes all the usual things used by joiners, mechanics, builders, electricians, plumbers and gardeners, knitting and sewing machines are also required. Wherever you go in Africa you will find tailors with their sewing machines making clothes. The gift of a sewing machine will enable a newly trained tailor to work from her or his home or in the market, and to put food on the table and send their children to school. And having mentioned schools, few African pupils have access to a computer. TWAM provides hundreds of charities and schools with computers and printers to help young people in their quest for education and employment. Your old computer might have been replaced by something faster but if it still works, it's probably still useful.

Please contact me from mid-June onward if you have anything you would like to donate and I shall arrange to collect it.

Peter Robinson 01334 476914

The Newsletter is changing.

The newsletter or magazine or supplement depending on what you call it, is going to change or perhaps evolve is a better description.

There are going to be fewer issues. There will be five instead of the nine we have at present. This is not because the editor has got tired of producing them, but with the intention of having more items of interest in them. The five issues will be September/October; November/December/January; February/March/Easter; April/May; June/July/August.

There will still be the standard items – View from the Manse, Rotas, Dates for your Diary, The Church Family and reports from Christian Aid, the Guilds, the Community Hub and the Parish Kids. However, we hope there will be other general interest items e.g. recipes, a children's page, puzzles, memories and stories from members of the congregations, desert island discs, book reviews and other items.

I am sure many readers have something they could contribute and would like to share, so please send them to the editor or have a chat about it.

After all it is YOUR church newsletter.

Editor

Ken Morris

After 15 years as Magazine Convenor, Ken Morris is stepping down. For more than 10 years he collated the newsletter, a not inconsiderable task for 400 copies of 4, 5 or even 6 sheets. He also coordinated the distribution, delivering many of the newsletters himself. He has gone about this in his usual quiet competent manner. I would like to thank him for this and for the support he gave me as Editor.

Animal Collectives: nouns used to denote groups of animals.

e.g. An Aurora of Polar Bears

Give the collective noun for the following:

Apes (8) S _____ Nightingales (5) W _____

Buffalo (9) O _____ Otters (4) R _____

Cats (6) P _____ Porcupines (7) P _____

Dolphin (3) P _____ Quail (5) C _____

Eagles ((11) C _____ Rhinoceroses (5) C _____

Ferrets (4-4) B _____ Squirrels (5) S _____

Giraffes (5) T _____ Tigers (6) S _____

Hippopotami (5) B _____ Unicorns (7) B _____

Jays (5) S _____ Vultures (12) C _____

Kangaroos (5) T _____ Woodpeckers (7) D _____

Leopards (4) L _____ Yaks (7) C _____

Moles (6) L _____ Zebras (6) D _____

Answers on page 22

I realise there are alternative collective nouns but I went for the most appropriate in my opinion.



After the disappointment of losing out on what seemed ideal premises for the Hub Café at the beginning of the year, we are delighted to report that a great new venue has been found, and from 28th May the Hub Café will be open at the St Andrews United Football and Social Club, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, from 9am-4pm.

The club is being very generous in its support for the project, and over the coming months of the pilot phase, more activities and support group will be coming together there.

Ways you can support the Hub include:

- * Volunteering as a driver
- * Volunteering in the café
- * Collecting food donated by local businesses
- * Spreading the word about the café
- * Fundraising for the Hub
- * Drop in on the café and chat to folk
- * Help to organise the Clothes Bank clothes
- * People with vegetable gardening know-how (a farmer, perhaps?) to advise on when / how / what to plant to help supply the kitchen
- * People to fill out forms to apply for funding
- * Admin support
- * Web page sponsorship and development

For further information contact the Church Office, email nefcommunityhub@gmail.com , or better still, come along!

HOSTING HOPE
ST ANDREWS

INVITES YOU TO

COMMUNITY DINNER

EVERY FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH @ 5.30 - 7.00PM
FULLERTON LOUNGE, ST ANDREWS SOCIAL CLUB,
84 LANGLANDS ROAD, ST ANDREWS

| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 5 MARCH 2018 | 6 AUGUST 2018 |
| 2 APRIL 2018 | 3 SEPTEMBER 2018 |
| 7 MAY 2018 | 1 OCTOBER 2018 |
| 4 JUNE 2018 | 5 NOVEMBER 2018 |
| 2 JULY 2018 | 3 DECEMBER 2018 |

THIS EVENT IS FREE OF CHARGE - EVERYONE WELCOME!

TO HELP US ENSURE THERE IS ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYONE, PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND BY TEXT OR EMAIL:

TEXT - 07766-014100
EMAIL - SUPPORT@HOSTINGHOPE.UK



COMMUNITY CAFE
your friendly meeting place
for tea and coffee, food and chat

St Andrews United Football and Social Club
Langlands Road, St Andrews, KY16 8BN
07875085410 nefcommunityhub@gmail.com



St Leonard's Christian Aid Week 2018

As I go to press, St Leonard's has raised the magnificent total of £2,659.63 with several districts still to hand in returns. Full results will be given in September. This year's weather was superb and made collecting a pleasure. Two new collectors were a great help.

The united service in Holy Trinity at the start of the week with Rev Marion Paton's sermon on "Inasmuch as ye did it unto me" struck the right note of urgency. There was fine singing from the choir from all six churches.

If you have been away, there is still time to donate online at caweek.org or by calling 08080 006006. The people of Haiti need all the help they can get to rebuild their shattered country.

George A Black

Cameron – Christian Aid week 2018

The Christian Aid money from Cameron parish, door-to-door collection, and amounted to £852.37.

Marie Robinson

Christian Aid Lunch

The Christian Aid lunch following the united Churches of Scotland service at Holy Trinity on 13th May raised a total of £164.30 of which £97 was Gift Aided.

ST LEONARD'S CRÈCHE ROTA

| | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|
| 3 June | Linda Orr & Elspeth Wallace |
| 10 June | Alison Cuthill & Olwen Robertson |
| 17 June | Sheila Bentley & Vivienne Wright |
| 24 June | Rosemary Cantley & Pauline Borthwick |
| 1 July | Gillian Leiper & Marjory Watson |
| 8 July | Pauline Borthwick & Jan Constable |
| 15 July | Katie Mitchell & Evelyn Grieve |
| 22 July | Marjory Watson & Elspeth Wallace |
| 29 July | Linda Orr & Sheila Bentley |
| 5 Aug | Alison Cuthill & Olwen Robertson |
| 12 Aug | Rosemary Cantley & Vivienne Wright |
| 19 Aug | Gillian Leiper & Jan Constable |
| 26 Aug | Pauline Borthwick & Marjory Watson |
| 2 Sept | Evelyn Grieve & Katie Mitchell |

Answers to the Animal Collective Nouns

*A shrewdness of apes; an obstinacy of buffalos; a pounce of cats;
a pod of dolphins; a convocation of eagles; a busy-ness of ferrets;
a tower of giraffes; a bloat of hippopotami; a scold of jays;
a troop of kangaroos; a leap of leopards; a labour of moles;
a watch of nightingales; a romp of otters;
a prickle of porcupines; a covey of quail; a crash of rhinoceroses;
a scurry of squirrels; a streak of tigers; a blessing of unicorns;
a congregation of vultures; a descent of woodpeckers;
a cabinet of yaks; a dazzle of zebras.*

