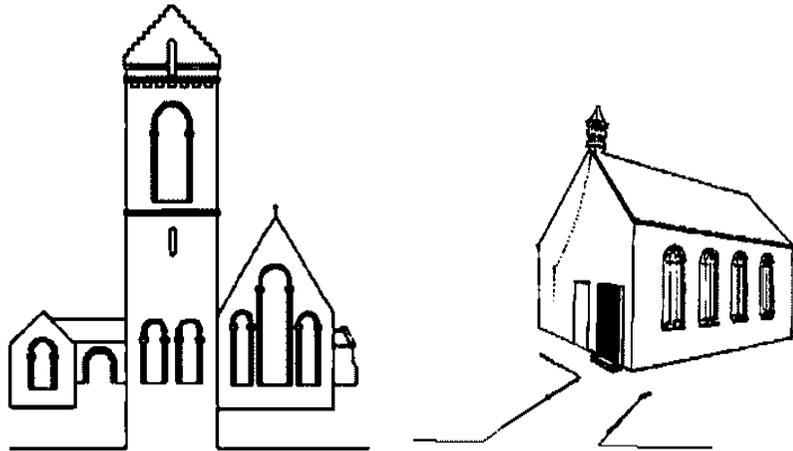


St Leonard's and Cameron
Magazine

**Bumper Christmas and
New Year Issue**



View from the Manse
Recipe Desert Island Discs
St Leonard's Parish Kids' Page
Stories from Members

St Leonard's Parish Church of Scotland Congregation No: SC013586
Cameron Parish Church of Scotland Scottish Charity No: SC05565

CONTENTS

Page 3	Dates for the Diary
Pages 4 & 5	View from the Manse
Page 6	The Church Family & Prayer
Pages 7 -10	Proposal to change from "Model Constitution" to Unitary Constitution
Pages 11 -13	My Desert Island Discs by Phil Gribbon
Pages 14 & 15	Kia ora tatou no Aotearoa
Page 16	St Leonard's Parish Kids/ The Leprosy Mission
Pages 17 & 18	Feeding 50000 & Bomber Command
Pages 19 - 23	News from St Leonard's Guild and events
Page 24	Message from the new organist at St Leonard's/ A big thank-you from Graeme
Pages 25 & 26	Reunion Update from Doris Findlay
Page 27	Christian Aid
Page 28	Lunch for 25 th Anniversary of Graeme's Ordination
Page 29	Last Ramble of the St Leonard's Treasurer
Page 30	Community Hub
Page 31	Fair Trade/ Cameron Guild Notices
Page 32	Christmas Fair Trade Nut Cookies Recipe
Page 33	Notices
Back Page	St Leonard's Parish Kids Page

With best wishes for Christmas and New Year.

Next issue March/April including Easter

Dates for the Diary

St Leonard's

4 th Dec	Kirk Session Meeting
16 th Dec	StLPK Nativity Play - 'No Room at the Inn' with Non-Alcoholic Mulled wine & Mince Pies in the hall afterwards for Christian Aid.
23 rd Dec	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
24 th Dec	Christmas Watchnight Service – 11.30pm
25 th Dec	Cameron at 10.30am - A Short Christmas Day Family Service
30 th Dec	Morning Worship – 11.15 am
6 th Jan	Joint Service for St Andrews Cluster at Holy Trinity Church at 11 am
5 th Feb	Kirk Session Meal
12 th Feb	Congregational Board Meeting
19 th Feb	Joint Kirk Session/Board Trustees Meeting

Cameron

16 th Dec	Nativity Service 'A Donkey Christmas'
24 th Dec	Pyjama Service – A Sweet Story of Christmas
25 th Dec	10.30 am A Short Christmas Day Family Service
30 th Dec	Family Worship at 9.45 am
6 th Jan	Joint Service for St Andrews Cluster at Holy Trinity Church at 11 am

View from the Manse

Dear Friends

I'm writing this letter a day after communities across our nation and beyond stood in silence, at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, one hundred years on from the day and hour and moment that the guns fell silent and the First World War came to an end; and as I write I find myself struck by the same thought I have every year: how odd it is to be thinking about the Season of Peace and Goodwill so soon after this time of Remembrance

And yet one of the most remarkable events, not just of the First World War but of any war, happened at Christmas - something which became known as The Christmas Truce. Henry Williamson, a Private serving in the 5th London Regiment was one of those involved and later he wrote an account of which this is an extract:

'On Christmas Eve of 1914 we were in the support line, about 200 yards inside Ploegsteert Wood. It was freezing. Our overcoats were stiff as boards, our boots were too hard to remove, but we rejoiced.

At midnight we heard laughing and singing from the German lines – carols the tunes of which we knew. I noticed a very bright light on a tall pole, raised in their lines. Down opposite the East Lancs trench, in front of the convent, a Christmas tree, with lighted candles, was set on their parapet. And then came the cries of 'Come over, Tommy! We won't fire at you!' A dark figure approached me, hesitatingly. A trap? I walked towards it with bumping heart. 'Merry Christmas, English friend!' We shook hands. And then I saw that the light on the pole was the morning star, the Star in the East. It was Christmas morning and all day, grey and khaki figures mingled and talked in No Man's Land.'

Continued on page 5

View from the Manse continued from page 4

I think most of us know that they even kicked a football around. It's a wonderful story of humanity made all the more *wonder-full* because of when and where it happened.

Christmas is a time when the world seems to be a kinder, more caring, more compassionate place; a time when folk make an effort to think about one another and not just themselves.

The pity is that it never seems to last. In his account of that Christmas Truce of 1914, Henry Williamson wrote that two days later, an order came down the line saying that anyone caught fraternising with the enemy would face Court-Martial and, if found guilty, would be shot.

How often is that the way with the angels' message of peace and goodwill? It's fine for a couple of days, even a couple of weeks, but it's not the way people seem to want to live. Yet for Christmas to mean anything people have to take the message and the Christ-child at its heart into *their* hearts. For it to make a lasting difference in our world - a world which, this Christmas still echoes to the sound of conflict - people have to take its light into their lives and not just hang it on the tree.

So, don't pack either the light or the message of Christmas away on twelfth night, for that message of a God who is with us in Jesus Christ, the Light of the World is given for the whole of life; a gift more precious than any we'll find under the tree, and more lasting also.

So, may I wish you and yours peace and goodwill for this Christmas and beyond.

Your friend and pastor



The Church Family

St Leonard's



NEW MEMBER

Miss Pamela Esther Collinson, 8 Spinkie Crescent

PRAYER

South African Blessing

Patricia Schonstein Pinnock; African Sun Press, Cape Town.
Spotted on a fridge magnet in the McKane household, and reproduced here by kind permission of Patricia Schonstein Pinnock.

Walk tall, walk well, walk safe, walk free
And may harm never come to thee.

Walk wise, walk good, walk proud, walk true
And may sun always smile on you.

Walk prayer, walk hope, walk faith, walk light
And may peace always guide you right.

Walk joy, walk brave, walk love, walk strong
And may life always give you song

Proposal to change from the "Model Constitution" to the "Unitary Constitution" at St Leonard's

1. Background

At present St. Leonard's is organised under what is known as a 'Model Constitution' which was adopted a number of years ago. At that time the Model Constitution was the most frequently used form of constitution for a Church of Scotland congregation. However, since 2003, a new form of Constitution has been developed known as the "Unitary Constitution" and an increasing number of congregations have changed to this new constitution.

Under a Model Constitution all secular affairs (e.g. property and finance) are handled by a Congregational Board (mix of non-office bearers and Elders), and all spiritual and pastoral matters are handled by the Kirk Session (made up of Elders).

Under a Unitary Constitution all matters are the responsibility of the Kirk Session, but a number of action groups would be set up and given responsibility to oversee specific aspects of the congregation's life and work. These groups handle both secular and pastoral business.

2. Reasons for change

There are several reasons why our Kirk Session feels the time is right for St. Leonard's to change its constitution and these include:

- The General Assembly is instructing all parishes using the Model Constitution to consider changing to the Unitary Constitution and the Model Constitution is no longer allowed to be adopted.

Continued on page 8

Proposal to change from the "Model Constitution" to the "Unitary Constitution" at St Leonard's continued from page 7

- Under the OSCR regulations which govern charities in Scotland all members of the Congregational Board are considered trustees and jointly are responsible for all decisions made, however under the Model Constitution they are not party to decisions made by the Kirk Session (although they are still responsible for such decisions).
- Congregational Board members can feel excluded from discussions that affect them which are discussed by the Kirk Session.
- Our Congregational Board and Kirk Session meetings are frequently lengthy and hold discussions in which many members are not fully engaged.
- Under a Unitary Constitution, Action Groups can be established to discuss and make decisions within their remit and report to Session meetings; members of those Action Groups can be more actively and meaningfully involved in work in which they are specifically interested.

3. What would the organisation look like with a Unitary Constitution

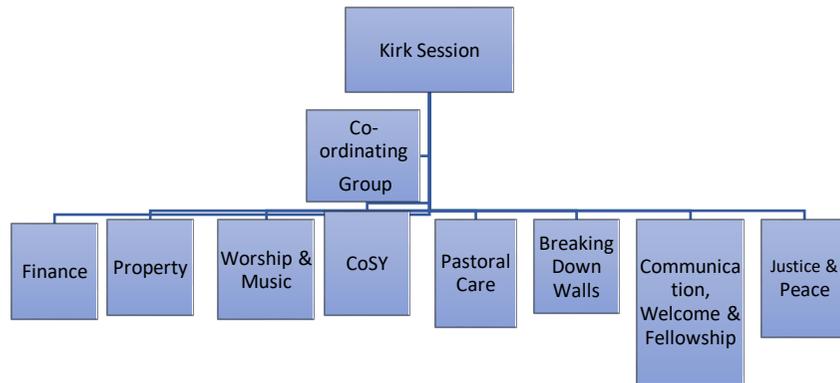
The senior committee would remain as the Kirk Session of which all elders would be entitled to be present and to vote, and as present, most aspects of session meetings would be open to observers. Authority would be granted to a number of Action Groups, each of which would have a Convener and which would operate within a defined remit, with certain decisions being made within the Groups. However, in some areas the Action Groups would make recommendations to be ratified by Session.

Any members of the congregation could be members of these Action Groups, using their particular talents and interests; and all existing Congregational Board members would be encouraged to sit on at least one Action Group.

Continued on page 9

Proposal to change from the "Model Constitution" to the "Unitary Constitution" at St Leonard's continued from page 8

A structure for the organisation could look like this:



The function and remit of each of the Action Groups could include:

- Finance
- Property
- Worship & Music
- CoSY – Church of Scotland Youth
- Pastoral Care
- Breaking down Walls
- Communication, Welcome & Fellowship
- Justice and Peace

Continued on page 10

Proposal to change from the "Model Constitution" to the "Unitary Constitution" at St Leonard's continued from page 9

As currently, the minister would be the moderator of the Kirk Session and the Session Clerk role would continue, and these may be ex-officio members of the various Action Groups.

It is hoped that more people will be involved than currently.

Although the elders will continue to make up the Kirk Session and are expected to be actively involved, membership of the Action Groups will be open to all and will need people to be involved.

4. Process for changing

The process of changing constitution is relatively straightforward, however, since we are in the Church of Scotland, there are a number of formalities.

As the Kirk Session and Congregational Board considers that moving to the Unitary Constitution is a good idea, we will call a meeting following worship on Sunday 13th January 2019 at which a vote will be taken. If the congregation decides to change constitution, we then advise Presbytery that we have voted to change, ask their permission, and subsequently register the new constitution with 121 George Street (Head office of the Church of Scotland) and with OSCR (the Scottish charities regulatory body).

Graeme Beebee & Mary Pople

Retiral Collection at St Leonard's

The retiral collection on 11th November for Poppyscotland totalled £545.00. Last year, the figure was £441.50

My Desert Island Discs by Phil Gribbon



It is most unlikely that I would have the equipment to play these discs on my island and besides even now you won't be able to hear them being played. If you know some of the music that I have chosen well and good, and so enjoy conjuring up their notes, chords and melodies in your head, or get them on line. My knowledge of music is limited but in the familiar phrase "I know what I like" so I have selected my choice to link it with either a time, a place, a person, or a memory triggered off by just a few of the relevant notes coming out of the blue.

1. Gustav Holst: The Planets; Jupiter

Here is the sweeping majesty and infinite power of the universe to match the effect of standing outside in the dark watching those pinpoints of light across a frosty night sky in the stillness of a mountain valley. My picture is wrongly placed because Holst based his symphony on astrology rather than astronomy, but it will be okay as Jupiter was the bringer of jollity, so indulge in its benefits now.

2. Beatles: Here comes the sun

I can still hear Chris droning out the words and relishing the dawn sun emerging out of the horizon beyond the pack ice drifting down the coast. We had spent the night on a ledge below the virgin summit we had climbed; we called the hill Phris, a quirky creation out of our two names.

3. Sibelius, 5th Symphony, the finale

Another inspiring evocative masterpiece with its quintet of haunting notes creeping out unbidden as the finale moves relentlessly to a crashing orchestral completeness interspersed with passages of deep silent nothingness. He was fulfilling his debt to his native northern land, with its myriad trees beyond count, its peaceful wilderness, its intellectual sensitivity.

Continued on page 12

My Desert Island Discs by Phil Gribbon continued from page 11

Where am I with it? Lying on bare rocks, the endless sunny day tracking round the sky, perched above a brilliant dazzling snowy plateau with sharp peaks ringing the distant view, the yellow poppies alive to the brief summer, with the only background sound to the music from the tape recorder being the drip of melting snow dropping from a snow bank.

4. Bob Dylan: Blowing in the Wind

He didn't have much of a voice, but he was unique with his poetic touch to his songs and the variety to the composition of his lyrics. There is a certain relevance to these anti-war words written at the time of the Vietnam war, and even more so today one hundred years after the end of the needless slaughterings in yet another of mankind's bouts of madness.

5. Supertramp: The Logical Song

A spring day, a fresh breeze rippling the lough waters glimpsed through the hazel bushes along the shore, the bluebells vivid under the trees, to the west the outline of the hills that make a rugged fringe on the Land of Saints and Scholars. It was a pleasure to follow the shore road, the car swinging round the corners and trusting there were no cows grazing on the grass verge. Think on the words of the song, it passes the time.

6. Pink Floyd: Time, from Dark Side of the Moon

Progressive rock with a magical soaring guitar score, quite balanced, stimulating and profoundly professional. With my friends I sat on the patio in suburban London taking in the sun's warmth, drinking tea, and bewitched with the musical impact of this unknown group heard for the first time. Just another acquaintance to treasure.

7. Dido: Don't leave home

Only a girl singer out of a multitude who could grace the discs to listen to and enjoy. Follow the words, maybe, learn the tune, sing along as I type at the word processor. Look out the window, the last leaves are still on the branches, it is getting dark. Don't think of going anywhere, you are best off where you are.

Continued on page 13

8. Dougie Maclean: Caledonia

It expresses a heartfelt feeling for his native land lived from a little hamlet of houses near Dunkeld. Words that instil a deep love of where he came from, what his life means to him. It plucks at the heartstrings. Pity the tune was used for a drinks advert, but was adopted so appropriately for a political cause.

Go up the winding steep hill under the trees with the burn threading its talking trickle in the den as it makes for the lowland loch, find a slowworm in the grass, then on to the level to make for the big loch, close to the osprey's nest built on top of the decapitated conifer. The path goes round the water with the bell heather bursting into bloom. This is where we saw the osprey try in a flurry of spray to grasp its meal. No luck, but the hymn of one's native land still echoes for a while in the mind's eye.

Plenty more discs to enjoy. Isn't music so fulfilling and Bountiful?

My choice of a book to have on my sojourn on the island is "Always a Little Further" by Alastair Borthwick, which although written in the years before the war is a classic of the joy of open-air life amongst the hills and glens of Scotland. It vividly conveys the sense of fun, adventure and excitement revealed to those who had found a fresh way of life in their brief escapes from the city.

It is a short book but its style feeds into my wish of passing the time before rescue by trying to emulate the author.

My luxury item is a good supply of paper and pens, and a big plastic bag to keep them in.

Phil Gribbon

Kia ora tatou no Aotearoa

Greetings to all from New Zealand.



Haere Mai. Welcome to the Bay of Islands Uniting Church, Paihia, Northland, overseen by the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches of New Zealand. Our parish is a mainstream community which tries to be outreaching and inclusive.

In 1992, the parish established a Local Shared Ministry Team, resulting in any money which would traditionally be used for a stipend, being now distributed to local worthy causes.

We invite guest ministers and lay preachers to lead Sunday Worship, offering them accommodation in one of our letting units, in return. (We oversee three self-contained units) For those unfamiliar with Paihia, it is a beautiful village in the heart of the Bay of Islands. Historically, neighbouring Waitangi is of great significance.

Continued on page 15



Kia ora tatou no Aotearoa continued from page 15

It is here that the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840, stating that the Maori are now British subjects, with the same rights and duties of people of the United Kingdom

Te Reo, the Maori language, is incorporated into our worship with services often concluded with the Blessing sung as follows:-

Ma te Atua Tamaiti ra
May the Son of God
Ma te Wairua Tapu hoki
and the Holy Spirit too
Ratou, Atua kotahi nei
one God
Tatou katoa e whakapai
bless us all.
Amine

Heather McNeill, Paihia, New Zealand.



Heather is a member of St Leonard's who lives in New Zealand for most of the year. Thank you for telling us about your worship in New Zealand.

St Leonard's Parish Kids

The **StLPK** have had a successful start to our 2018/19 year. Fun at tennis and some beautiful poppy pottery to commemorate the centenary of WW1. We also had a highly successful bake sale raising over £217.65.



December is a month of preparation towards Christmas and our Nativity on the **16th December**.

We will return in the new year after a well-earned rest on the **13th January 2019**. We will be enjoying some sporting action at the University, Yoga and musical sessions in the next term and look forward to seeing you all.

StLPK is on in term time from 11am in the church hall. Ages 3+. A crèche is also available for younger children.

THE LEPROSY MISSION

Very many thanks to all those who continue to donate using the blue tubs. £279.20 has been collected so far this year.

World Leprosy Day is the major date in the leprosy calendar. Every year on the last Sunday in January the whole world has a chance to stop and consider those people who are affected by leprosy around the world.

It is an opportunity to celebrate the many stories of hope, transformation and restoration that have been achieved as The Leprosy Mission and many other organisations take steps towards achieving their goal of Defeating Leprosy and Transforming Lives.

If anyone wishes to make a one-off donation or to donate by gift aid there are gift aid envelopes available in the Church's welcome area. Alternatively, if you would like a blue tub please contact me.

Nina Swan

World War One

Feeding the 50000 report by David Aitken



Anne and I were fortunate recently to attend a performance in St Columba's Church, Pont Street, London recalling the hospitality offered to 50,000 troops during the First World War. Members of the congregation recognised between 1915 and 1919 that thousands of troops were passing through London either taking leave in Scotland or returning to fight in

France. The Scots were identified at train stations and invited back to Pont Street where they could wash and shave, be fed, enjoy entertainment, write letters or sleep! It seems that the tales of kindness and warmth soon spread among the troops who sought out the "Angels" on station platforms, appreciated their hospitality and told their colleagues about the safe and generous "Home" in London.

Professional actors including David Robb, Gordon Kennedy, Phyllis Logan, David Riddell and singer Isla St Clair read and sang during the moving and memorable event with anecdotes - poignant and amusing - interspersed with songs of the time. A fiddler played brilliantly some Scot's Airs while Gaelic singers added to the Scottish story. Along with the pipes and drums, this performance in St Columba's captivated us all, offering a true record of this simple act of kindness undertaken by Christians during the stressful and trying time of the "War to End All Wars".

Bomber Command



Photograph courtesy of IBCC

On our way north, Anne and I visited the International Bomber Command Centre near Lincoln which opened earlier this year. The large site is dominated by a 102 feet steel spire the same as the wingspan of the Lancaster Bomber; 23 memorial walls of steel containing the names of nearly 58,000 young lives cut tragically short; a ten-acre Peace Garden paying tribute to the 62 nations who were part of Bomber Command: and also, a Visitor Centre with exhibition and lecture areas

Anne's Uncle Bobby lost his life in May 1941 while serving in Bomber Command. She found the whole experience of visiting this site both moving and humbling. Locating her Uncle's name on a wall, she was able to place a poppy as a mark of remembrance beside his name. A memorial well worth visiting

"Recognition, Remembrance, Reconciliation".

These three tenets have been at the heart of the vision for the International Bomber Command Centre". *David Aitken*

News from St Leonard's Guild

We started our new session with our devotions led by Shirley and our Minister Graeme. Our guests for the evening were our Minister Graeme Beebee and Moira Cockburn accompanied by her husband. They wanted to celebrate the life of Mary Lindsay, Moira's mother, by gifting the Guild with a Lectern for use at our meetings. Mary was a kind and wise lady, a long standing, committed member of the Guild who also led the Thursday afternoon group. Moira presented the Lectern to the Guild with words of love and appreciation for all the fellowship her Mother had experienced at St Leonard's Church Guild. Shirley thanked Moira for a very appropriate gift and gave thanks for Mary's life and service to the Guild.

Graeme was then invited to share his topic and led us around the paths of many well-known labyrinths. First, we were shown the labyrinth set into the floor stones in the nave of Chartres Cathedral. It is thought to be the world's most recognised and famous path, yet it is surrounded by mystery. We heard of its ancient symbolism that relates to wholeness and a purposeful single path which lead to the centre and then out again. Nearer home, we have a labyrinth in the grounds of Kinburn Park, recently completed. Food for thought before we enjoyed a lovely supper cooked and served by the Committee.

The speaker at our next meeting on October 18th was a retired criminal lawyer who became a Coroner and whose job it was to determine the manner and causes of death and hold an inquest. Our speaker gave training to police officers in what they should look for when attending a sudden death. He gave us an insight into some of the cases he had been involved in. As a criminal lawyer he had defended a young man who, when hearing of a man having fallen and injured himself, went to his aid becoming splattered and contaminated by the person's blood in the process.

Continued on page 20

News from St Leonard's Guild continued from page 19

When members of the injured man's family were alerted and came to the scene, they immediately accused the young man who was arrested and tried for murder.

This was before DNA and other tests were available to determine whether his soiled clothes were by helping or murdering. The young man was sent to prison. As time passed the legal system learned of scientific means by which it could determine by what means blood patterns on clothing were caused. The clothes of the convicted young man were still held by the police and were taken to America and left for examination. Years passed. The young man was released, gained employment, got married and had a family. Then the young man and his defence lawyer were summoned to meet with a Senior Judge to advise them that new evidence has come to light that proved the young man's innocence of the crime. However, neither would ever be allowed to know what that evidence was or make an appeal for a Pardon. After accepting these conditions, the young man accepted a deserved large sum of money. He used it to set up his own business.

During the British involvement in Afghanistan the Coroner's duty was to hold Inquests on the bodies of our soldiers. One Inquest was paused to allow one soldier's Mother to read the pathologist medical report. When screaming was heard from the Court corridors the news was brought to the Coroner that the body was not her son. The report said this body had tattoos and she knew her son had none as he had been stripped to the waist in order to paint her fence when he was on leave a month prior to his death. The inquest was adjourned. On further investigation it was discovered with modern technology that the pathology report had been cut and pasted to another male body report. The mistake was put down to overwork, understaffing and sickness.

This was a fascinating topic and very interesting speaker.

Continued on page 21

News from St Leonard's Guild continued from page 20

November 1st - Our first Guild Project talk by Maureen Jack, one of our members, on Empowering Teenage Mothers in Zambia. There are many reasons why teenage girls become pregnant. From a lack of sexual and reproductive health education, to social factors such as poverty, peer pressure and sexual violence. Being a pregnant teenager in Kanyama area means the likelihood of dropping out of school and being unemployed is high, continuing the vicious cycle of poverty.

Most roads are like dirt tracks. Homes are poorly constructed with no sanitation or running water. Mabel, a Deaconess in the United Church of Zambia, fights for the rights of young people especially girls who are more vulnerable to the negative cultural norms in Zambia that fuel teenage pregnancy, early marriage and violence. Mabel hopes with our prayers and financial assistance to implement the Project to meet the needs of the girls so appropriate training can be designed and implemented. Most young mothers expressed a desire to go back to school. We wish all involved our thanks for supporting the girls in our name.

November 15th - Speaker Madeleine Allen gave us "A Personal History of the Coram Foundling Hospital." It must be a potted history of what we listened to due to limitations of space. The Coram Foundling Hospital was the idea of a sea captain, Thomas Coram, born 1668, who retired to London aged 52 years. He was appalled by the poverty in parts of London and destitution of mothers who bore illegitimate children and their poor mortality rate. From his travels round the world he was aware of Foundling Hospitals in such cities as Paris, Tenerife and Florence and this gave him the idea of starting something similar in London. The question was how to raise funds in order to achieve his goal. Supported by his wife he agreed with her idea to cultivate the interest of wives of wealthy men.

Continued on page 22

News from St Leonard's Guild continued from page 21

This bore fruit with women like the Duchess of Somerset and Queen Charlotte and once they came on board the list became endless along with their husbands' money.

1722 - the campaign for a Hospital for Foundlings began.

1734 – Thomas Coram started collecting support of Noblemen.

1737 - Wm Hogarth donated a painting called Frontispiece for Coram's Appeal.

1739 – on 17th October King George II signed Charter.

1741 - the Hospital was officially opened.

Mothers, who were prepared to give up their babies for what they knew would be a better life for them, were interviewed to establish whether they were suitable characters and required to promise there would be no more illegitimate babies within 3 years or the baby would be returned. The other criterion had to be that her baby wasn't a 'sickly' baby. After this process there were still too many babies, so a ballot was drawn from a bag with 3 coloured balls. A red ball meant the baby was accepted, a yellow ball the baby would be put on a waiting list but if a black ball was drawn the baby would never to be accepted. This is the origin of the phrase to be 'Black balled'. On admission all personal belongings were kept with their birth names, but the Hospital chose new names for all the children. The names chosen at random from trades or grave stones were inscribed on discs which the children.

Madeleine Allen told a more modern story of a child named Joan who was given up to the Hospital in 1935 by her mother. The girls were dressed in nurse looking uniforms and the boys in naval looking dress. The girls were expected to go into service and the boys into the navy on leaving school. There were no mirrors in the hospital which meant Joan was unable to identify herself in any photograph taken. Due to her musical talent, Joan was given a place in a private school called Malvern. This was an educational experiment which didn't last long.

Continued on page 23

News from St Leonard's Guild continued from page 22

However, Joan made one friend at the school and was introduced to her brother whom Joan later married. Joan is now 83 years old and one of a very few surviving Coram children. The list of nobility who supported the Foundling Hospital is too numerous to list here. One interesting piece of information was that George Frederic Handel wrote a piece of music for the opening of the Hospital which he later decided to add to the well-known Messiah and it was called The Hallelujah Chorus! There was a surprise for us in the very last photograph which was of two women, one older than the other. Madeleine was the younger woman and the older was her mother, Joan, whose story we had just heard!

St Leonard's Guild Notices.

Preparations are underway for the Christmas Sale and Coffee Morning in St Leonard's church hall on Saturday **December 1st** 10-11.30am. Please come and support us.

Thursday **December 6th** at 7.30pm we look forward to hearing the Swilcan Singers with a programme of Christmas music. We also have the Lighthouse sales table with cards, books and gifts to buy.

Friday **December 14th**- Christmas Lunch at the Links Clubhouse- 1.30pm.

2019 -**January 17th** at 7.30pm. Project speaker. Join the Dots.

January 31st Brian Cunningham. Scone Palace. Garden & Estates.

February 14th Joint Meeting. Maureen & David Clark.
150 yrs. of Scripture Union.

February 28th Fire Safety in the Home. Paul Dalrymple.

March 1st (Fri). World Day of Prayer.

You will be made most welcome at any of our meetings.

Mima Clark

Message from Margaret

I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome that my husband Vic and I have received in St Leonard's following my appointment as the new organist and choir leader. I am delighted to have been offered the post and look forward to working with Graeme and the choir in leading worship each week. Choir rehearsals for Christmas music begin on **Sunday December 2nd at 9.45am**. The choir extends a warm welcome to anyone who would like to sing with us for this special time of year. Do come and join us.

Vic and I also look forward to moving house in the coming months (perhaps not to decluttering and packing), long walks on the beach with Bella our collie dog and to becoming more involved in the life of the church and local community. In my 'day job' as a music therapist my work involves offering support to people living with dementia and their carers in care home and community settings. I hope to continue to develop this work in St Andrews and surrounding areas.

Margaret Broad

We are delighted to welcome Margaret and Vic to St Leonard's

A Big Thank You! from Graeme

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both congregations for marking the 25th anniversary of my Ordination in such a memorable way. After what is a relatively short time amongst you – barely 5% of those twenty-five years – it was quite overwhelming to have people go to so much bother. Sharing the service and the lunch with friends, old and new, was the perfect way to celebrate the milestone, and I am so grateful to Muriel Gray and her team from St. Leonard's and Cameron, as well as all those who prepared food and set-up the hall for making Sunday 28 October, 2018 as unforgettable as Thursday 28 October, 1993.

Reunion Update *from Doris Findlay*

This is an update of the wondrous story of my Mother's reunion with her Jewish childhood-friend from Mannheim, Germany. To review: We had been able to trace and make contact with the long-lost Jewish Ullmann family in San Francisco, California, thanks to George's asking for help from the American Red Cross. The family – parents and two teenage sons - could escape in the nick of time from Nazi-Germany in late 1938. Just recently, in fact, Grandson Peter found the ticket for the unwieldy and expensive ocean voyage from Genova, Italy to Shanghai, China. Here the Ullmanns were safe but spent ten miserable years largely under Japanese occupation prior to being able to emigrate to California. Later in 2008, coincidentally on the 70th anniversary of "Crystal Night", my Mother enjoyed the first telephone contact with her childhood friend Walter, the younger Ullmann brother. This was the beginning of many telephone conversations between my Mother and both Ullmann brothers, Günter and Walter, and families. Furthermore, my Mother and we met Günter and his dear wife Ilse (originally from Vienna, Austria), and their son Peter when in 2012 they came for a visit to Germany - their first return to the country that had been so hostile to their parents' generation. Now, ten years on, we relish the memories and we are so very grateful that we had been able to make contact "just in time". Both Ullmann brothers have passed on since that time, Walter in 2011 and Günter in 2014. Still, we remain in close contact with Ilse, also with son Peter and his family. Indeed, when we visited them in California this past autumn, they made us feel like we were on a family visit.

Continued on page 30

Reunion Update continued from page 29

Much to our delight, Peter, his dear wife Vicki and their two student daughters Izzy and Leila, came on an exploratory trip to Europe in August of this year. Regrettably, George and I could not be there to meet them. However, our older son Stephen and his wife Sylvia, along with their two school-age children, Vivien and Mark, travelled from Munich for a quick weekend get-together with the younger Ullmanns and my Mother. The next generation – Izzy and Leila and Vivien and Mark – hit it off really well right from the beginning, so well that we are quite certain there will be other get-togethers somewhere in the world to follow. After their weekend in Schwäbisch Hall, the young Ullmanns journeyed to Steinsfurt, near Heidelberg, where Peter had determined from family records that his father's great-grandparents were buried, and that the Jewish cemetery still exists within its serene forest setting. Sure enough, they did find the head-stones of both ancestors – a very moving discovery. They also learned that earlier generations of relatives were laid to rest there as well. Thus, the young Ullmann family from the New World was able to connect with the evidence of their ancestors in the Old World and re-establish the family bond. They also found the Synagogue in Steinsfurt where their ancestors had worshipped. It had not been destroyed during the Nazi-regime but used as a storage facility for agricultural wares. Indeed, much of the painting on the walls and ceiling have remained and currently is being restored. They thus saw, what generations before them had seen and internalised – for them and us a most meaningful reminder of the link between the pre-1938 vibrant Jewish life in Germany and the tolerant Germany of today. The horrors of the Holocaust are not to be forgotten and the restoration of the previous multicultural life in Germany is to be honoured.

Doris Findlay



October saw the "Inherit the Earth" exhibition in Holy Trinity throughout the month. Many thanks to members of both Cameron and St Leonard's who took a turn to be present when the church was open. The theme was The Solar Oven Project in Bolivia and the threat of Global Warming. Someone asked "Do they need charcoal?" No, they don't! Hence a reduction in carbon dioxide and wood gathering and more free time for women. Visitors were from Sweden, Poland, Holland, Canada, Brazil, Japan and elsewhere. A frequent question was "Did John Knox preach here?" The Dutch wanted to sing a Reformed Church hymn which we did -- all six of us and Martin Luther's "A sure stronghold our God is still" Donations totalled £132. Data Protection legislation is changing. If you would like to hear from Christian Aid individually and have not already let me know, please visit [caid.org.uk/keep in touch](http://caid.org.uk/keep-in-touch) or call 01412217475 to update your personal preference. We hope to repeat last year's successful Punch and Mince Pies after the much-anticipated Nativity Play on 16th December. There will be a booklet of opportunities to buy a practical present for someone in the developing world. This year's Christmas Theme is "Be a Peacemaker This Christmas". Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 11th December at 7.30** in the Coffee Lounge when plans will be finalised for the above.

George Black

The collection taken for Christian Aid's Kerala Floods Appeal at Cameron raised £218. The money will be used to help deliver relief supplies to 20,000 people most at risk of water-borne disease in northern Kerala. These will include water filters and purification tablets, and hygiene essentials.

Marie Robinson

Harvest Thanksgiving Appeal at Cameron

The recent appeal at Cameron raised £320 for the Ploughs for Malawi project.

Marie Robinson



Sunday 28th October 2018 - Lunch to celebrate 25th anniversary of Graeme's Ordination



Good food and good company



Last Ramble

Joan Peter and I have been continuing our work towards the handover of the treasurer's mantle, so this is my last contribution to the Newsletter in that role. I am disappointed that my last submission is on the gloomy side: the prediction for the year end does not make good reading. At this time last year, I was hoping for a 2% rise in givings following our very successful gift day. My fear that I had been over optimistic proved only too real. Givings have fallen by 6%, some £7,000, and we're looking at a deficit of £17,000. Now I realise that not everyone is in a position to increase their contribution, especially in the recent years of austerity, but we have it on high authority that austerity is at an end, so no excuses! And there is a tradition of generosity within our congregation as seen in previous stewardship campaigns and gift days. We must all ask ourselves, "What can I offer in terms of stewardship to help ensure the future of St Leonard's?" At the same time the Congregational Board is working on making savings. In the current year, we have reduced our expenditure by £11,000 compared to 2017, but that is largely due to Graeme working without an assistant and not claiming all his expenses. To take this further, a working group is picking over the expenditure accounts with a fine toothcomb to see what further reductions we can make.

I feel a sense of failure to be quitting the job when the general fund is in poor shape as that means we will have to draw on our reserves. However, you can be confident that the finances will be in good hands with Joan Peter. A final thought loosely related to failure but confirming my cynicism about statistics. An architect, a chief executive and a statistician are on a shoot in the Cairngorms. They track a deer and the architect shoots but misses 5 feet to the left. The chief executive takes a shot and misses 5 feet to the right. The statistician yells, "We got 'em!"

Hamish Tait

Community Hub

The Hub Café is now open four days per week at St Andrews Football and Social Club, and the number of people visiting is constantly growing. It is there for all, so if you fancy a cuppa or light lunch, why not drop in on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday?

The St Andrews cluster of Churches of Scotland have supported the work of the hub with their offerings at joint services, which has been valuable, and much appreciated. The ongoing challenges include finding funding for a salaried person to work in the kitchen, to ensure continuity and guide volunteers. If you have any suitable skills or ideas to facilitate this, please get in touch. Also required are volunteers to help staff the kitchen. If you enjoy the challenge of taking a selection of random ingredients and creating something appealing from them, please consider offering a couple of hours or so on a weekly basis. If you would like more information, drop in to the café, or contact the Church Office.

Jane Harrison

Dear God

So far today

I've done all right

I haven't gossiped

I haven't lost my temper

**I haven't been greedy, grumpy,
Nasty, selfish or overindulgent.**

I'm very thankful for that

But in a few minutes God

I'm going to get out of bed:

And from then on, I'm probably

Going to need a lot more help

Amen





FAIR TRADE

CHRISTMAS IS COMING AND

Yes, Christmas is fast approaching but there is still time to place your order for Christmas cards from the samples available to view on the Fairtrade Stall each Sunday in the hall at St Leonard's. Catalogues are also available with lots of ideas such as, Christmas calendars, decorations, festive tableware, unusual presents to surprise and delight children and adults alike not forgetting of course, all the delicious food and chocolate you might need! The run up to Christmas can be hectic so why not take the pressure off and pay us a visit? The Fairtrade Stall at St Leonard's is having a holiday break during January but normal service will resume on Sunday 3rd February 2019.

Cameron Guild Notices

All interested are most welcome to come along to any of our meetings.

2 December 2018: mini stall in the Sunday school after the service, proceeds to Cameron Guild funds.

13 December 2018: A Christmas Celebration in Cameron village hall at 2.30 pm.

17 January 2019: AGM and DVD of the 2018 Annual Gathering of the Guild in Dundee. Meet at 2.30 pm, at 4 Cairnsden Gardens, KY16 8SQ.

14 February 2019: Rev Graeme Beebee will be our speaker on St Valentine's Day. Cameron village hall, 2.30 pm.

Christmas Fairtrade Nut Cookies

(Adapted from a brazil nut recipe, Dan Lepard, The Guardian, 4th. December, 2010)

Ingredients marked are available from Traidcraft or other Fairtrade outlets*

125g unsalted butter, softened or soft marg.
150g light soft brown sugar (or other brown sugar) *
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 medium egg
25g cocoa*
¾ tsp ground cinnamon
175g plain flour
½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
150g brazil nuts, chopped*
150g milk or dark chocolate, chopped into fairly big chunks*

METHOD

- Beat the butter, sugar and vanilla in a bowl.
- Beat in the egg, then stir in the cocoa and cinnamon.
- Add the flour and soda bicarb., work until combined, then mix in the chocolate and nuts.
- Spoon balls of dough the size of a ping-pong ball (or smaller for mini-cookies) about 3 cm apart, on a non-stick baking sheet.
- Put in pre-heated oven at 180 deg C (170 deg C fan-assisted) or gas mark 4 and bake for eight to ten minutes for smaller cookies, twelve to fourteen minutes for regular ones. Take care not to burn. Leave to cool on the tray for a few minutes, then transfer to a rack with a spatula.
- Once cold, store in an airtight container. Enjoy!

Notices

Decorating St Leonard's Church for Christmas

We shall be decorating the Church on **Friday 14th December at 10 am** and would be very grateful for donations of suitable greenery and would also welcome anyone who would like to come to help with the decorating. See you on the 14th!

Flower Rota for St Leonard's

I am making up the Rota for the coming year. Would you like to take responsibility for one Sunday in the year? If so, please contact me to arrange a date. Also, if anyone already on the rota wishes to change their week for any reason also please contact me. Thank you

Heather Cormack

STAMPS!! Please remember to collect all your stamps from everything but especially all those Christmas Cards which will soon be tumbling through the letter box. Collection box in welcome area at St Leonard's and boxes at back/front of Cameron church.

Just Giving

You can now make your Offering by mobile phone! Simply text **SPLC18 £5 to 70070 to donate £5** toward the work of St Leonard's Parish Church. You can enter a different amount if you wish.

Joining our Church Family

If you would like to join the St Leonard's or Cameron Church family, please contact the Minister for further details.

Welcome to the St Leonard's Parish Kids' Page!

It is the season of Goldi Low ... better known as Goodwill! We love an anagram and we're pretty sure our congregation will like to while away some time over a mince pie or a festive tippie whilst trying to fathom the following. There are ten to find – and we've given clues in brackets on the number of words you're trying to find in each. Good luck!



If you can find all 10 – Ewell Nod. That's well done! Bring your answers to any St Leonard's Parish Kids' gathering and share with any of the leaders – and you'll get a wee treat!

Until the next time ...