



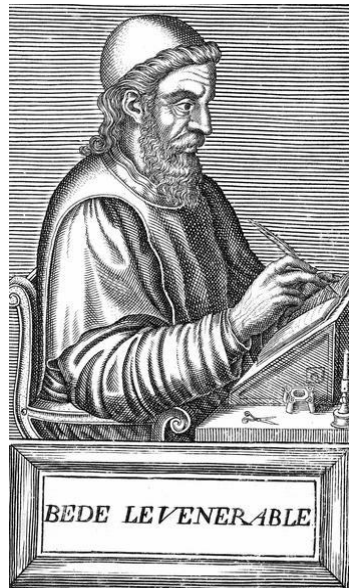
Magazine

No. 104 October 2014

Dear Friends

Summer holidays seem a long time ago now, but on one of the hottest days of the year in July I took the train down to Durham. I'd passed the magnificent cathedral there for decades and at last got myself organised for a day trip by train. Built in 1093 to house the shrine of the Melrose Saint Cuthbert, Durham has been a place of pilgrimage, worship and hospitality for almost a millennium. Admittedly it was a bit of a busman's holiday but I spent hours wandering around this vast, stunning building.

Visiting the little Nazareth chapel, I almost stumbled across the grave and shrine of Bede. Bede is largely forgotten by most people in Britain. He was a scholar monk, and amongst his many writings of the 7th AD is his monumental Ecclesiastical History of the English People. Written in pretty much flawless Latin, this great book earned Bede the title of Father of English history. It is a sweeping account of how Christianity came to Britain in at least two ways. One was through Augustine of Canterbury – a very Roman form of Christianity. The other was from the Irish monks on Iona whose approach to Christianity was more organic, more in tune with the moods of the seasons. Bede told how brave monks from either Iona or one of its daughter monasteries came with the news about



Jesus to the north east of England, founding, among many other places, Lindisfarne.

Speaking about the meaning of life and the Christian faith, Bede writes:

"It seems to me that the life of man on earth is like the swift flight of a single sparrow through the banquetting hall where you are sitting at dinner on a winter's day with your captains and counsellors. In the midst there is a comforting fire to warm the hall. Outside, the storms of winter rain and snow are raging. This sparrow flies swiftly in through one window of the hall and out through another. While he is inside, the bird is safe from the winter storms, but after a few moments of comfort, he vanishes from sight into the wintry world from which he came. So man appears on earth for a little while – but of what went before this life, or what follows, we know nothing."

It has always been a special passage for me. From around 1,400 years ago this little parable wings its way to us, reminding us that insights on faith and the human condition transcend the ages. A happy visit to Durham this summer, reminding me of the way experiencing the challenge of faith can suddenly confront when we are not always looking.

Revd Dr Derek Browning

WORSHIP NOTES

Evening Worship will resume in Church on Sunday 5th October at 6.30pm. The services last around half an hour. As the theme for our evening services we are going to be looking at Samuel Wells' 2013 book, "*Learning to Dream Again – rediscovering the Heart of God.*" We'll look at themes relating to learning to love again, learning to live again, learning to think again, learning to read again, learning to feel again, and learning to dream again. Sam Wells is Vicar of St Martin in the Fields, London, and in his book navigates the contemporary world from the perspective of faith. We will explore how we can remain grounded in the reality of being human in a suffering world, yet open to transformation by the life and joy of God.

Pregnancy and Infant loss service

A special service will be held in the church on Sunday 12th October at 3pm to mark Pregnancy and Infant Loss Memorial Week.

This short, reflective act will welcome all who have experienced or been affected by such loss, whether recently or many years ago. We hope to provide a space to acknowledge grief and hurt, to remember and give thanks for short lives, and to hear the voice of hope and comfort offered to all. Please pass on the details to all to whom this may be helpful. For more information, contact Nicola Whyte on nicolawhyte30@gmail.com or 07803513389.



ROLL CHANGES

Please remember in your prayers the family and friends of:-

Mrs Marie Rorke, who died on 7th June 2014;
William (Bill) Forsyth, who died on 25th August 2014;
Alastair Montgomery, who died on 29th August 2014;
Mrs Irene Fatcher, who died on 8th September 2014;
Miss Jean Laing, who died on 12th September 2014.

And welcome our newest members:-

Tamsin Elizabeth Priscilla Forgan and Sophia May Christine Forgan,
who were baptized on 24th August 2014;
Jamie William George Robertson, who was baptized on 14th September 2014;
Rory Andrew Mackay Stimpson, who was baptized on 28th September 2014.

Have you looked at the Website yet?
www.morningsideparishchurch.org.uk

THE GUILD



The new session of The Guild starts on Tuesday 7 October at 2.15pm in the Church Hall.

We have an interesting syllabus with, we hope, something to interest everyone.

7th October: Revd Dr Derek Browning will speak on our theme for this year "A World to Serve".

21st October: Revd John Smith, formerly of Morningside United Church will tell us about The Royal College of Surgeons

4th November: Morag Donaldson will speak about "The Julius Project" which our Guild is supporting this session. This project mentors homeless people, befriending them and giving them help.

Guild meetings are open to all and there is no pressure to attend every meeting although you are always welcome. If you have not been to The Guild before, why not come along. We shall be delighted to see you.

BETHANY CARE SHELTER CATERING TEAM COFFEE MORNING

There will be a coffee morning with scones on **Saturday 18th October from 10am -12 noon** in the New Church Hall to raise funds to enable the Morningside Parish Church catering team to purchase food for the 2 nights on the Bethany Care Shelter catering rota.

Do come along to support this worthy cause and bring a friend! Tickets £3 will be available in advance at Church or on the day.

Anne McNeil



FLOWER LIST

		Provided by	Arranged by
October	5	Rosemary Owens	Anne Armour/Issie Paterson
	12	Helen Buist	Ruth Henderson
	19	Sheila Grahame	Marjory Watson
	26	Jim Snedden	Eleanor Watt
November	2	Ian Hastie	Irene Wilson

MORNINGSIDE

MORNINGSIDE PARISH CHURCH - Wednesday Open Coffee Mornings

Braid Road/ Cluny Gardens, Morningside, Edinburgh, EH10 6DN Baking 9
Cost from £1.50 (discretionary)

For those of you who are familiar with this format you will recognise that this reflects any entry “good” enough to secure a place in “The Good Food Guide”.

Equally, if you are in the “know”, you will already be a regular patron of the superb open Coffee Mornings, held every Wednesday from 10.00 to 11.30hrs, in our excellent, open and airy new hall, and know that such an entry would be more than justified.

For those of you who are unfortunate enough not to have tasted the fantastic coffee or tea (Fairtrade), and exemplary home-baking (hence the high mark shown in the header!) then you are missing a trick. You should remedy that as soon as you can.

The venue is “open” and welcomes any who may be passing, or are in Morningside shopping. It provides an oasis for refreshment that compares favourably with the surfeit of establishments in the area.

So do please come along and sample the delights that are available for a modest (and discretionary) donation of about £1.50, a donation that goes to help the three main charities that we, as a Church, support.

Those who already attend regularly all agree that the conviviality generated on these mornings is well worth popping in for. Equally, there are great opportunities if you would like to help “front of house”. Just have a look at the list in the vestibule of The Church and find a suitable date. See you soon!

Bakers: Ladies who would merit a place in “Bake-Off”
Proprietor: Morningside Parish Church
Open: Wednesday morning, 10.00 to 11.30hrs
Closed: Rarely, but certainly over Christmas
Cost: Suggested donation £1.50, Service included (and all voluntary too!)
Credit cards: None accepted!
Details: Seats up to 30. Booking not required. Children welcome. Non-smoking.
Wheelchair access.

SCOTTISH LOVE IN ACTION/BROWNIE FUND RAISER

This term all three Morningside Parish Brownie Packs are coming together to take part in The SLA Rice Relay Challenge on 24th November. One of the leaders, Lesley Murphy, is going to Tuni in February. and would very much appreciate any sponsors. If you know a Brownie in one of our packs, they would also appreciate any sponsorship. Lesley is also organising a Quiz Night at the Merchants of Edinburgh Golf Club on Wednesday 3rd December. Cost will be £5 per head and teams can be from 4-6 members. Speak to her after church on a Sunday if you would like to take part. The 15th Brownies have already raised £100 with a concert and Bring and Buy sale at the end of last term.



WORK PARTY



The work party restarts on Monday 6th October at 10.30am in Cluny Centre. A warm welcome will be extended to both current and new members.

During the session various articles are produced by the group, eg sh rugs, knee-rugs, bed socks, children's gloves, mitts etc. On completion goods are handed over to several charities and other outlets.

There are six meetings in the session which runs until April 2015. We meet on the first Monday of each month with the exception of January 2015, namely:- 6th October; 3rd November and 1st December 2014; and 2nd February, 2nd March and 6th April 2015.

At each meeting, wool, patterns and knitting needles are provided, accompanied by tea, coffee and biscuits.

For further information contact Margaret Guild 447 6290

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Scottish Country Dancing has resumed on a Wednesday at 7.30pm in the Church Hall where a small group of us meet to have one of the best forms of exercise - has been acknowledged in the Press - social, mental and physical (light!!). If you have never tried dancing before, please join us as we walk through the dances before we dance them. They are usually easy ones with occasionally slightly challenging ones. So hopefully everyone will have a "reely good time"

For information contact Joan Burnett 452 8975 or myself towards the end of September.

Catriona Reid (466 3111)



SPEAKER AND SUPPER EVENING

It's not always easy to invite friends or family to a church service, but how about an evening where food and conversation are on offer? The Church will be holding its first Speaker and Supper evening on Friday 17th October at 7.30pm in the new halls. Our first guest speaker will be **James Naughtie**, one of the regular presenters on Radio Four's Today programme. Tickets, priced £12, are on sale now from Outreach Committee. Tickets are limited to 60, and admission is by ticket only.

LIFE and WORK – OCTOBER ISSUE

Caring for Creation

Thomas Baldwin examines the relationship between faith and stewardship of nature

Reforming the Kirk

In the first of a six-part series, the Rev Dr Doug Gay outlines the challenges that lie ahead for the Church of Scotland

Blessing 'the Animals Who Grace Our Lives'

Jackie Macadam looks at the growing numbers of 'blessing of the animals' services

The Radical Behind the 'Ragged Schools'

Jackie Macadam learns about the man who helped educate the poorest in Victorian Scotland

An Act of Liberation

The Very Rev Professor David Fergusson considers Jesus' message in healing the bleeding woman

All Are Welcome

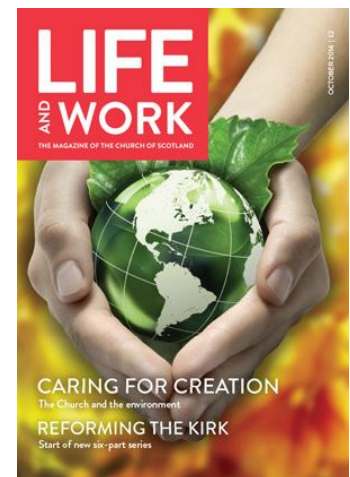
The Very Rev Dr James Simpson urges congregations to become more accepting and inclusive

A Narcissistic Culture?

Ron Ferguson reflects on the issues created by the cult of 'celebrity' and technology

'Many Generations of Christians'

John R Hume visits a Perthshire church with links to early Christianity





MUSICAL NOTES

"You missed yourself", they often say in Scotland. A bit silly, really; but we all know what it means. And certainly we most of us "missed ourselves" on the evening of Thursday 18th September at the first class "Music for Strings" concert given in the church by Paul Livingston and Danny Miller (violins) and Ian Watt (guitar.) A reasonable number of folk attended, some 35 or so (very few of whom seemed to be from the church, alas), but it would have been good to have seen more there to enjoy the wonderful playing of these three young men: perhaps other things were on people's mind that day...(!)

However, don't, please, miss the concert planned for Saturday 1st November at 7.30pm., also in the church. Partly to have something to brighten that often dreariest of months, November (see Thomas Hood!), partly to help maintain music's profile at Morningside, and partly to raise money for Choral Scholarship funds, it looks to be an enjoyable evening, with, as they say, "something for everyone." We have, so far, songs (for mezzo soprano), music for oboe and piano; and contributions from pupils of George Watson's College and from our own new Choral Scholars. Please keep the date in your diaries.

Morley Whitehead

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

During the Festival in August, we were able to enjoy the lunchtime concerts so skilfully planned and organised by Morley Whitehead. These events are eagerly anticipated each year and reached new heights this year, displaying great talents from all the performers.

The first concert opened with a Festal Flourish by Gordon Jacob performed by Morley. Among other items which followed was a Concerto for two violins by J S Bach expertly played by Irene Carter and Donald Taylor, both of whom have just completed their time with us as outstanding choral scholars. There seems to be no end to the diverse talents of young people these days!

The second concert featured Morley and Jeremy Cull playing a Sonata for piano by Mozart followed by three pieces for piano and organ by Widor, sensitively performed by both players. Perhaps the highlight of this concert, however, was the clever arrangement of the famous Vidor Toccata, frequently played at weddings but on this occasion performed by both organ and piano – definitely a show-stopper!

The final concert opened with the great D minor Toccata and Fugue by J S Bach, followed by some Pieces for a Musical Clock by Haydn which beautifully illustrated the range and variety of stops on our magnificent organ. The soprano soloist was one of our new choral scholars for this year, Jenny Goss, who expressively sang songs by Michael Head and Handel. Perhaps the real highlight was her beautiful and sensitive interpretation of the Pie Jesu from Faure's Requiem. Finally, Morley brought this year's Festival series to a rousing finish with Percy Fletcher's Festival Toccata, before a highly appreciative audience.

Tom Davidson.



Many thanks to everyone in the Congregation who kindly deposited Sainsbury's School Vouchers in our box in the Vestibule before the summer break. We took delivery of our order a few weeks ago and the photograph below shows some of our delighted Boys with a selection of some of the items we got.

This is the 55TH EDINBURGH CENTENARY SESSION - an extremely important session for the Five Fives, a place in History in Morningside as we celebrate our Centenary in November. To mark this fantastic achievement we will be attending Morning Worship on **SUNDAY 26th OCTOBER** and we hope to be joined by as many of our Ex-Members as possible. We have a list in excess of 150 names, we don't have all the addresses but if you are reading this please spread the word to everyone you know. Also watch/listen out for announcements in the press, on Facebook and local radio. The service is 10.30am, the place Morningside Parish Church, the date 26th October. On the previous Friday evening, the 24th, we will have an exhibition of photographs and trophies on display too. Centenary events will continue throughout the year. Please pass my email address onto any interested parties.

We wish to expand and grow in this our Centenary Session. We are one of the few City Companies left in Edinburgh and, working with the Edinburgh, Leith and District Battalion Development Officer, David Scott, we will be Outreaching to seven of the City's primary schools - Buckstone, South Morningside, Craiglockhart, St Peter's, Bruntsfield, James Gillespie's and Sciennes - to spread the word about the BB and give all the boys in these schools an opportunity to come along and join us in Morningside where they will be made extremely welcome. Contrary to belief, the BBs have changed dramatically in the last 100 years - it isn't all Drill and Bible Class nowadays although we still hold true to our Object. Our aim is that children and young people accessing the BB have high quality experience that enables them to have the opportunity to participate fully at all levels of our organisation - whether it be Anchors, Juniors, Company or Seniors, we have activities for all.



There are major changes, however, this session - ALL SECTIONS now meet at 7.00pm in the Church Hall on Friday evenings between August and June, the younger Boys in the Anchors and Juniors will finish at 8pm and the older Company and Seniors at 8.30pm.

Rona McLaren

(ronamclaren@btinternet.com)



6TH ANNUAL OUTREACH BEETLE DRIVE

Saturday 20th September saw the New Halls filled with a horde of determined beetlers ready to compete. 58 competitors battled it out over 18 rounds to find who had the greatest, and least, skill or luck, in rolling the die to secure those all important legs, eyes and antennae. As the elusive sixes (body) or fives (head) failed to appear, tempers frayed and frustration with slow play or loose talk became more evident. It may just be a game but it can get serious when you're only an eye, leg or feeler short of calling "BEETLE".

For one eager newcomer, that pressure proved too much, with one premature call of Beetle being ruled out by a Steward's Inquiry and the round restarting unexpectedly. Generally though, fair play prevailed though fortunes varied. Our Minister managed two "nul pointe" rounds failing to even see a six to start his beetle - and then his luck shifted to reach a full house first. An observer put the success down to Derek's partner's throwing technique.

After 18 rounds, the results were declared. In the young person's category, the clear winner was Aimee; the adult category was won by June Cowan with a superb 165. Skill in the lowest points challenge was demonstrated by Theo in the junior section and Bruce Wilson with an equally hard to achieve 111. No prizes were awarded, or indeed deserved, for the artistic skill shown in the depiction of beetles (frankly it was hard to tell what was drawn).

The outcome of the night was a stunning £388 raised for our three partner charities, Bethany Care Shelter, Edinburgh Clothing Store, and Scottish Love in Action. All the participants really got into the spirit of the competition and had a great evening. The evening ran smoothly due to the preparations put in by Kim and David (and David's unique skill as compere) and the work of the Outreach committee, led by Kim and supported by the team on the door, in the kitchen and on coffee. Our sincere thanks to all of them. Next year's return match is eagerly awaited.

Robert Armour

THE LADIES GROUP

We meet on a Monday evening at 7.45pm in the New Hall/Rooms at Morningside Parish Church. All are welcome.

Here is the syllabus for October and November 2014:-

6 th October	Volunteering in India	Speaker: Olga MacFadyen
20 th October	Life in Leith	Speaker: Millie Gray
3 rd November	Hippolyte Jean Blanc, Edinburgh architect	Speaker: Charles Burnett

Anna Cunningham

NOVEMBER MAGAZINE

Material for the November issue of the magazine should be with the editor, Alison Riddell, by **Friday 17th October 2014** and it will be available for distribution on Sunday 2nd November. Contributions may be put in her pigeonhole at church, sent by email to editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk or by post to the church office at 1 Cluny Drive, Edinburgh, EH10 6DN.

If you receive a paper copy of the magazine and would prefer it by email, please contact the office at the address below.

PIROUETTING AUTUMN

Mark R Slaughter

The tree blushed - a rude blast of air
Betrayed a shapely bough.
My saddened heart aware
That Nature's clock was chiming,
I froze upon the twelfth
Clanging tone, caught alone,
Staring at a creaking door –
Left ajar for dancing, coloured Autumn,
Pirouetting in her leaves,
While agitated summer creatures
Backed away resignedly,
Sighing in protracted breves.
I turned; gave company;
We stood together, watching
Summer slowly blow away.



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