



Magazine

No. 95 October 2013

Dear Friends

One of the privileges of being the Minister of Morningside Parish Church is being involved in the shared chaplaincy with Greenbank at South Morningside Primary School. As the years have gone by it has been inspiring to see how this school, spread over three sites including our Cluny Centre, consistently performs to the very highest levels of educational standards. It says a great deal for all the teachers, learning assistants and support staff who show levels of dedication over-and-above the norm. We take such dedication for granted at our peril.

One of the most inspiring events of the school year took place a few weeks before the summer, and was reprised by classes at the end of term summer service.

"Making a Difference" involved classes right across the school picking different projects and themes which looked at how the children, with support from the staff, could show how they could make a difference in the community and in the wider world. Some chose themes relating to making the world a safer place; some talked about the importance of bees to our world's ecology; a number of classes had been to visit a local nursing home where I know the interaction between the children and the residents made a huge difference – the residents told me recently when I was conducting a



service there how much they had enjoyed the children being with them.

These are lessons that the family of faith in the Church would learn much from – very much putting the needs of the community and the world into the context of learning and service. It would be a good example of putting faith into action. Schools, like churches, are complex communities, where the needs of the many are balanced alongside the needs of the individual. A primary school like South Morningside, at the heart of our community, is a shining example of what aspirational children and dedicated

staff can achieve. Anyone going in to the building will be inspired by the range and variety of activities that stretch the minds of our young people. The encouragement to learn

and to ask questions on any topic, the willingness to share knowledge and explore subjects is something that I find thrilling.

In our church our children go to many schools across the city, and it would be no bad thing if we took the time, wherever we can, to celebrate everything teachers do in every school in the nurturing and encouraging of our young people. And when we support our school teachers, let's also offer more support to those who teach in the Sunday Club each week: they deserve our encouragement too!

Revd Dr Derek Browning

KIRK SESSION

The Kirk Session met in September.

- Session noted the long service that Forbes Bowman and Bob Cunningham had given to both the Kirk Session and congregation over many years and thanked them as they stood down from active participation at Session meetings.
- Report from Social Committee – Margaret Thomson reported that the summer lunch had been successful by keeping the price at £10 but exclusive rather than inclusive of drinks. This had enabled the event to make a small profit which has been passed to our three charities. The Social committee had agreed to work with the Outreach committee in jointly organising one of the proposed fund raising events. Although not strictly a Social Committee responsibility, she reported that she had recently added 4 helpers to the list for the provision of post-service coffees making a total roll of 36 willing helpers. Since January a surplus of £1,400 had been raised from these coffees which had been passed to the three charities. It was also some years since a new members' social had been held. It was agreed that one would be held soon and should become an annual event.
- Report from Stewardship & Finance – Robert Armour reported on Stewardship proposals for 2013. As previously reported the focus will be on the giving of talents and time. The Committee had considered a number of ideas on this topic:
 - What are our talents?** – with a suggestion that we consider a talent sale/auction to encourage people to identify and use their talents for the church;
 - I didn't realise the church did** that – to publicise the involvement of the church in the community and the involvement of members in other charitable work;
 - What could I do?** – to publicise opportunities but also give a clear indication of the nature of the work and suggested commitment;
 - Waiting to be asked?** – it was thought that many members already volunteered in many charitable enterprises and might be willing to participate if directly invited to join. It was also suggested that a regular reminder of the vows of membership might be appropriate;
 - Where am I needed?** – there was not seen to be a particular shortage of opportunities but clearly people held back. Again, a clearer idea of the task involved and the proposed commitment would help. Likewise "open days" or "taster sessions" or involvement for a special event or service might help widen the number of volunteers. It was also thought that imaginative one-off events, e.g. men's baking challenge, can attract support. It was agreed that the existing Session groups as well as the ministerial team should be asked for suggestions.The proposal is to work towards a **Pledge Sunday on 1 December** which is Communion Sunday but realistically it was likely that related events would occur in the spring of 2014
- Presbytery Elder's report – Edinburgh Presbytery met on 18th June 2013. Opening worship included the new hymn *Inspire us, Lord*, which was the winning entry in the Guild's 125th Anniversary year competition. **Revd Jamie Griggs** was welcomed as a new member on his induction to Corstorphine St Anne's Parish Church. Mrs Brenda Graham gave the annual presentation from the **Edinburgh Presbyterian Council of**

the Guild. There are 1,300 members (women and men) in Edinburgh; a membership development conference is proposed.

Jane Salmonson, Project Manager for **L'Arche in Edinburgh** (building communities for those with learning disabilities) spoke of the current appeal to build a fourth home in Edinburgh. *L'Arche* had already raised £900k of the £1m cost. Marie Ogilvie advised that Gift Aid forms can be downloaded from the web.

The first "**Guardianship**" arrangements to be implemented were approved– for Craigentenny St Christopher's and Greenside. These will be reviewed in 2 years. Rev John Cowie was to be inducted to Stockbridge, and Rev Iain Goring introduced as Interim Minister for Colinton Mains/ St John's Oxfangs. Tributes were paid to Rev Bill Brown (retiring from Murrayfield) and Rev Ian Maxwell, going from Kirk O' Field to Uphall South.

Superintendence reports were presented on Balerno, Drylaw and Murrayfield.

Social and Community Interests: noted that the inquiry into historic practices at **Mortonhall Crematorium** is under way; and invited Presbytery to affirm support for the ACTS Anti-Human Trafficking Group. This Group liaises with the organisation *More than Gold*, raising awareness of the issue of trafficking in relation to the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

On a personal note **on retiring as Presbytery elder** Dr Ogilvie said it had been a privilege to serve as the representative for Morningside since February 2005, and to be a commissioner to the General Assembly in 2005 and 2011. She expressed her thanks for the support given to her by Hugh Crawford, who continues as an equalising elder. Session thanked Marie for her contribution to Presbytery and her diligent reports keeping the Session informed. Robin Stimpson is the new Presbytery elder, and Chris McNeil is a new equalising elder.

NEW EVERY MORNING

Should you be awake at the early hour of 6.30am on Sundays 13th and 20th October you might recognise a couple of familiar voices on BBC Radio Scotland's religious service programme, New Every Morning!

LADIES GROUP

The Ladies Group meets in the new hall at Morningside Parish church at 7.45pm on a Monday. The following are the dates and topics for our next meetings.

7 th October	Scottish Tapestry	Edinburgh	Tenners
21 st October.	History of The Royal Edinburgh Hospital		Laura Gould
4 th November	Visit to the Holy Land		Rev Dr Derek Browning

All welcome, both members and visitors.

Anna Cunningham, Secretary



CHRISTIAN AID

Forth Valley Chorus will 'Sing out for Christian Aid' in Greenbank Parish Church, Braidburn Terrace on Friday 25th October 2013 at 7.30 pm. The choir comprises a group of about 90 women of all ages and

background who enjoy performing *a capella music*. They are prize winners in their particular style of singing and have appeared on the TV show 'Britain's got Talent'.

Tickets price £8.00 (including refreshments) can be obtained from members of the Christian Aid Committee, forthvalleychorus.com, brownpapertickets.com or a limited number available at the door. Proceeds to Christian Aid.

Bill Reid - 466 3111

Bob Cunningham - 447 4757

Ruth Henderson - 449 6449

THE GUILD ANNUAL MEETING IN DUNDEE

I was among 2,000 women and men from all over Scotland who gathered in the Caird Hall for the Guild annual meeting on September 7. What a joyous and truly inspirational day it was. Marjorie Paton, the Guild National Convener, was in the chair. Some of you may remember Marjorie and Iain Paton from South Morningside days.



The singing of the opening hymn, "Inspire us Lord" almost raised the roof of the Caird Hall. The Moderator, Rt Rev Lorna Hood, recalled in a very humorous way, her visits to Guild meetings. On a more serious note, she spoke of her sadness at the discrimination against women which still exists in some parts of the church in Scotland.

Olivia Giles was the next speaker. Many of us have heard her speak and know what a wonderful person she is and a great example to others.

Linda Young opened the afternoon session with a talk on the Prayer Shawl Ministry, something which started in America and is growing in popularity in this country. (Is it something we might consider starting in Morningside?)

Lorimer Gray said that the Commonwealth Games presented a great opportunity for churches in Scotland to engage in outreach, and "More than Gold 2014" has been set up to suggest ways in which this might be done. I'm sure we'll be hearing more about this in the next few months.

The Annual meetings are always inspiring and this was no exception. It is at such gatherings that one realises what it means to belong to our great organisation, the Church of Scotland Guild.

Audrey R Riddell

WORK PARTY

The restart of the Work Party has been scheduled for 7th October 2013, in the Cluny Centre at 10.30am. It is hoped that there may be new members at this session.



I take this opportunity in thanking ladies who recently gave wool which will be used in due course. Contact me if any lady is interested in this activity.

Margaret Guild 447 6290



FLOWER LIST

	Provided by	Arranged by
Oct 6	Mrs Diane Gaskin Ruddock	Anne Armour
13	Lorraine Sanderson	Eleanor Watt
20		Joan Burnett
27	Ewan & Sally Brown	Val Mannings
Nov 3	Mr I Hastie	Irene Wilson

You will see that there is still a space for someone to provide the flowers for Sunday 20th October.

The new list for next year will be put in the vestibule shortly. If you would like to supply flowers one Sunday, please put your name and phone number against your chosen date. The cost is £40 and cheques are to be made payable to 'Morningside Parish Church Flower Fund'. If you are a UK taxpayer and can give by Gift Aid, please fill in one of the Gift Aid envelopes found on the pews. Monies can be put in the Flower Committee pigeon hole or sent to the church office.

MUSICAL NOTES

For the last two or three years, no-one of any description has applied for our Organ Scholarship, so I am particularly pleased to be able to report that we now have a new Scholar in post. Her name is Miriam Abraham, who hails from Bridge of Don, Aberdeenshire, and has come to Edinburgh University to study Medicine. She has already passed her Associated Board Grade VIII with Distinction, and she will no doubt prove a great asset to us. By the time you read this she will have made her debut (on Sunday, 22nd September), and I am sure that you will all join me in wishing her a happy and rewarding time at Morningside Parish Church.



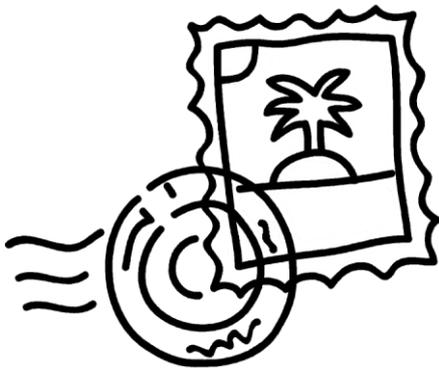
Morley Whitehead

THE GUILD

Dr Marie Ogilvie is the speaker at our meeting on 15th October. She is giving an illustrated talk on "Return to Jalalpur" Marie spent some of her childhood years there with her parents and this promises to be a most interesting talk about a return visit that she made recently. All interested will be made most warmly welcome.

On 29th October, Rev Robin Hill is speaking about the Guild project for this year, "Out of Africa". Out of Africa into Malta addresses issues faced by refugees escaping from a range of tragic circumstances and coming to Malta to seek hope. Robin Hill is an excellent speaker, so please come along to this meeting if you are free.

Both meetings start at 2.15 in the church hall.



USED STAMP COLLECTION

A big thank you to everyone who has donated used stamps for the World Mission appeal. In August I delivered 2 huge sacks of used stamps from our congregation to Mr Scott in Wishaw who co-ordinates collecting of the stamps.

So far this year £2,200 has been raised for The Living Water project in the Czech-Moravian Highlands, details of which are on the noticeboard in the church vestibule. This is a great result so far but please continue to save and donate your used stamps and see if we can help The World Mission project have a record breaking year.

Used stamps can be placed in the box in the church vestibule or handed into the church office or put in my pigeon hole.

Lorna Graham

ROLL CHANGES

Since our last magazine, a number of our members have died. Please include their family and friends in your prayers.

Morris Tough of 4 Greenbank Grove, who died on 25th August 2013

Mrs Elizabeth Fyfe of Cluny Lodge, who died on 3rd September 2013

Mrs Elsa Henry, formerly of 16 Buckstone Gardens and latterly Ashley Court Nursing Home, who died on 21st September 2013.

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS



Another very successful series of concerts were performed in the church during the Edinburgh International Festival. The series got off to an exciting start with John Willmet, organist at Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church giving a brilliant performance of J S Bach's Overture in B. He was then joined by members of the Edinburgh Ensemble for a performance of the Severn Suite by Elgar arranged by Jeremy Cull. They followed that with a superb performance of Handel's Organ Concerto no 6 in B flat. This was not the first time that an organ concerto has been performed in the church, but it was the first time that this one had been played and the first organ concerto in the Lunchtime Series.

The second concert was given by Danny Millar, violin, and Seb Thirlway, piano. Their programme included the Mozart Sonata for Piano and Violin, K301, Elgar's Violin Sonata and Vocalise by Rachmaninoff, arranged by Sillito. This was a very pleasant concert given by two very accomplished musicians. It was good to have a group of people from The Eric Liddell Centre in the audience that day. This visit was arranged by Mr Allan Macintosh who is a volunteer in The Centre on Wednesdays and a very regular attender in church on Sunday mornings.

The final concert was another one of the very popular 'Four Hands, One Piano' given by Jeremy Cull and Morley Whitehead. They make a brilliant team, seem instinctively to know how their partner will play every section, and give the impression that one brain is controlling four hands. Their programme included Mozart's Sonata in D K123a(381), two movements from "Simple Symphony" by Benjamin Britten, four pieces from "Duets for Children" by William Walton, arranged by Howard Ferguson. There was an unusual variation in their programme this year in that Morley sang two songs originally sung by Flanders and Swan. One, which seemed very poignant considering some of the difficulties which Morley has had in moving into his new house, was "'Twas on the Monday morning the gas man came to call". Their programme and the series of concerts came to a rousing completion when they played Farandole from 'L'Arlesienne' by George Bizet.

There were 189 people who attended this year and the Retiring Collection amounted to £695.76. Unfortunately, the banner which is hung on the railings at the church to advertise the concerts was stolen, but I am delighted that Miss Lorna Gunn, who lives in Latheron and who is the sister of the late Mrs Anne Gibson whom many of you will remember, has very kindly agreed to purchase a replacement banner in memory of her sister.

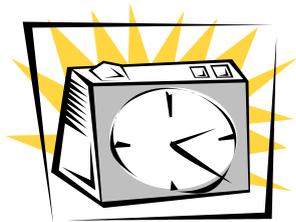
Jim Jenkinson

NOVEMBER MAGAZINE

Material for the November issue of the magazine should be with the editor, Alison Riddell, by **Friday 18th October 2013** and it will be available for **distribution on Sunday 3rd November**. Contributions may be put in her pigeonhole at church, sent by post to 1 Swanston Road, Edinburgh, EH10 7BB, or sent by email to alison@riddell2.plus.com.

MAGAZINE BY EMAIL

As you should be well aware from articles elsewhere in this magazine and previous issues, we are making every effort to reduce costs in all aspects of our church's life and activities in order to tackle our deficit. One way in which you can contribute to this is by taking the magazine by email rather than in printed form. If you are able and willing to do this, please email the church office at the address at the foot of the back page. **If however you are being sent the magazine by email and would prefer to read it on paper, please let the church office know so that we can ensure the correct number are printed.**



CLOCK CHANGE

Remember the clocks go **BACK** one hour on Sunday 27th October.

NEW EVERY MORNING

By Susan Coolidge

Every day is a fresh beginning,
Listen my soul to the glad refrain.
And, spite of old sorrows
And older sinning,
Troubles forecasted
And possible pain,
Take heart with the day and begin again.



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