



# Magazine

No. 126 March 2017

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW LOCUM – THE VERY REVD. DR ANDREW MCLELLAN

I am very much looking forward to my time with you in Morningside Parish Church. I am to be part-time locum during the time Derek Browning is preparing for and serving in the role of Moderator of the General Assembly. I count it an honour to have been invited to spend this time with you. I begin at the end of February and I will continue until July 2018. I know that you are all very proud that your minister has been called to this high office, and so you should be. Meanwhile we will all make sure that Morningside Parish Church continues to flourish while he is away.



I was a parish minister in Greenock, and then in Stirling; and then I was minister of St Andrew's and St George's on George Street in Edinburgh for sixteen years. So I have experience of what a parish minister does. However, I have never been a locum before, so we will all have to learn together what a locum does! The expectation is that I will spend Sunday and two days each week on Morningside business. Some weeks that

may be more; and some weeks it may be less (although I suspect that that will be less likely!).

A significant part of that time will be taken up with preparation for worship (which always takes more time than most people think); but I will spend the rest of my time caring for the needs of congregation and parish. In particular I will be involved in weddings and baptisms, bereavement and funerals. At the moment I know almost no-one in the congregation, so I need to be told who is in hospital, who is in distress, who would value a visit from a

minister. It is always better to be told twice than not to be told at all.

It will be good to work alongside Scott McKenna, the interim moderator, and Jennifer Stark, the Associate for Christian Education and Pastoral Care. We all, in our different roles, intend to do our best for Morningside Parish Church.

Andrew McLellan

## INTRODUCING OUR INTERIM MODERATOR - REV. SCOTT MCKENNA

I was delighted when asked by Dr Browning to serve as Interim Moderator at Morningside Parish Church. I very much look forward to working with the office-bearers over the next sixteen months and, on occasion, leading public worship. While losing your minister for such an extended period of time is understandably unsettling, nevertheless it is a true privilege to have your minister serve as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. The most important thing that we can do for Derek over the coming months is warmly hold him in our prayers. It will be good for him to know of the love and support which he has in his spiritual home.

I have been a parish minister for twenty three years. My first church was Viewpark Parish in Uddingston and, for the past 16 years or so, I have been minister at Mayfield Salisbury Parish serving part of Newington and the Grange. In ministry, my interests lie in the relationship of faith and science, mysticism, interfaith cooperation and dialogue and the

development of personal spirituality. I am currently in my final year of a part-time PhD at the University of St Andrews. My thesis is an intellectual biography of the blind poet, mystic and preacher George Matheson, who is best known for his hymn *O Love that wilt not let me go*.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to do so. I very much look forward to my time with you.

Every blessing, Scott

[SMcKenna@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:SMcKenna@churchofscotland.org.uk)



## LENT STUDY GROUP

Our Lent study material this year is written by the charity Embrace the Middle East (formerly the Bible Lands Society). Its six sessions include Bible study, prayer, information, 'Life at the margins' monologues, and actions. Each week's study introduces us to a different part of God's story in the Bible, showing God's transforming love for those who are marginalised. The study brings us face to face with people in the Middle East today

who are being given hope by Embrace's work. The studies will be led by our locum Minister, the Very Revd. Dr. Andrew McLellan, and our Associate, Jennifer Stark.

The first meeting is on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 7 Greenbank Crescent. Refreshments and fellowship from 7pm, for a 7.30 start. All warmly welcome.

## FRIENDS OF MORNINGSIDE PARISH CHURCH

As many of you will know, the Friends of Morningside is a charity set up almost 30 years ago. Its principal role is to gather and dispense funds to Morningside Parish Church for various property 'beautification' projects around the building. It also helps the church with a wide range of other, very worthwhile matters. Over the years, it has dispensed very significant funds to these endeavours.

The Executive Committee of the Friends met on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017 to approve the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016. The accounts showed that in that financial year the organisation had income of £4,500 from subscriptions, bank interest and gift aid tax recoveries. In the period, we contributed £6,100 to fund the activities of the choral scholars, purchased new communion linen and also funded the cost of the external floodlighting at the Church. The accounts also indicated that the Friends currently have £53,000 in the bank.

At the meeting, the Committee spent some time looking ahead and identified a number of new projects which we might wish to assist.

The main items include:

- Beautifying the chancel with new lighting
- Improving the lighting of external steps on the north and west side of the church grounds
- Installing a cross in lights at the main church building
- Improving signage in the Church
- Introducing containers with flowers throughout the church grounds

Currently we have 31 members who assist with personal donations towards the Friends' activities. If you would like to join us, please contact Bob Cunningham (447 4757) or come along to our 2017 AGM which is planned for 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 and takes place after the morning service.

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### PRE-ELECTION MEETING – WEDNESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> APRIL

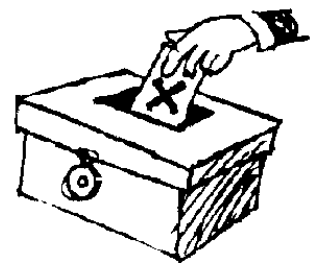
The local council elections to Edinburgh Council will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> May.

As we have done in the run up to previous Scottish Elections, the Church has invited representatives from the political parties represented on the Council to a pre-election hustings meeting in the form of the BBC "Question Time" programme, chaired by Andrew McLellan.

The meeting will take place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30 in the Braid Hall.

This is an excellent opportunity to ask your questions about local (and no doubt also national and international) issues to candidates for election.

Please note this date for your diary. Although there will be the opportunity to submit questions on the night, if you have any questions in advance, please e-mail them to [paul.cackette@hotmail.com](mailto:paul.cackette@hotmail.com).



Paul Cackette

## KIRK SESSION

At its February meeting, the Kirk Session heard reports from:

**Education:** Kenny Robertson, convener, reported on the ongoing work of the Education Committee that focussed mainly on our work with children and young people. Numbers at Sunday Club are gradually increasing, and the majority of those attending are girls. Numbers have increased sufficiently to have, alongside the crèche, two Sunday Club classes, for older and younger children. Our Associate, Jennifer Stark, has begun work on increasing the number of regular adult helpers with the Sunday Club, as more will be needed to create a robust rota to assist the Sunday Club staff. A plan to hold occasional evening events for the older young people is being worked on, with parents being supportive. The difficulty is finding an evening that is suitable for all to attend.

In Adult Education, a Lent Study will be held in March, and the Autumn lecture series in September will focus on ecumenical and interfaith speakers.

In April there will be a hustings for the city council elections.

**Worship:** Douglas Paterson, convener, welcomed the involvement of children in weekly services and in the annual all-age communion. This is a part of our worship that the children appreciate greatly and there has been no shortage of young people willing to take part.

**Church Hall Development and Sale of the Cluny Centre:** Robin Stimpson, Session Clerk, reported that the sale of the Cluny Centre had been concluded just before Christmas, and that we would be moving out of the Centre towards the end

of 2017, dependent on the completion of building works at the Church. Tenders for the building work had been issued and should be received by the end of February. It was hoped building work would begin in early April, at which point the doors leading from the nave and chancel into the vestry would be sealed, as would the door at the Cluny Gardens entrance to the St Matthew Hall. The vestry will be relocated to the St Andrew Room (north transept). Work in the sanctuary, (in the St Andrew Room and the South Morningside Room (vestibule)) is not scheduled to begin until the summer. Steps will be taken to shield the organ pipes from dust encroachment. The Church Administrator is working hard to ensure that current users of the Cluny Centre will, in due course, be allocated space within the Church site from the beginning of 2018.

**Associate's Report:** Jennifer Stark reported on her ongoing work with education and pastoral care. She is organising an Easter workshop for children on one afternoon during Holy Week. Jennifer is also establishing links with the youth associates at Greenbank and Fairmilehead. She is planning to host a 'Raising Children with Confidence' course in May/June of this year.

**Appointment of Commissioner to the 2017 General Assembly:** The Session appointed Robin Stimpson, Session Clerk and Presbytery elder, to represent the Kirk Session at the forthcoming General Assembly.

**Review of Congregational Roll:** the Roll Keeper, Moira Clark, reported that there were 438 members of the congregation.

**Property:** it was announced that Charles Wilson, convener, wished to stand down as Property Convener. The Session warmly thanked Charles for his considerable work in that role.

The Kirk Session concluded with the Session Clerk wishing, on behalf of the Session, every blessing and success in his forthcoming appointment as Moderator of the 2017 General Assembly.

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### THE MONDAY CIRCLE

The Monday Circle meets on a Monday at 7.45pm in Morningside Parish Church Halls. We have had another very successful year, with excellent speakers. We wish ALL our members and friends a peaceful, warm summer and hope to see you all again in October.

Here are the dates for the remainder of the session:-

March	6	Biblical Mothers	Helen Bond
	11	Coffee morning (Saturday)	10 am – 12 noon
	20	AGM	
April	3	Group meal (in the church hall)	
	20	AGM	

Anna Cunningham,  
Magazine Secretary

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### EASTER LEAFLETS

These will be available and ready for distribution to our Parish on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March. The leaflets inviting people to our Easter services are one of the ways in which we can highlight our presence here in Morningside so please pick up a bundle that day. Your help is greatly appreciated.



Have you looked at the Website yet?  
[www.morningsideparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.morningsideparishchurch.org.uk)

### FLOWER LIST

	Provided by	Arranged by
Mar	5 Christine Peterson	Val Mannings
	12 F Bell & R Robertson	Eleanor Watt
	19 WEDDING	WEDDING
	26 Mrs Hazel Nicolson	Anne Armour & Issie Paterson
Apr	2 Ruth Henderson	Ruth Henderson & Val Dunn



### OUTREACH QUIZ Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7pm in the Braid Hall

The Outreach Committee are looking forward to seeing all our regular and hopefully some newcomers joining us for a fun night.

We need teams of no more than 6 people but if you do not have a team let us know and we will find you a team to join.

Tickets are £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for children. Tickets can be bought from members of the Outreach Committee and will be on sale on Sundays 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March.

**SEE YOU ALL THERE**

### ROLL CHANGES

Please give a warm welcome  
to our four new members:

Gavin Page                      Fiona Coffey

Katie Taylor                     Fiona Spencer

## BURNS SUPPER

The Braid Hall was full on the evening of 20<sup>th</sup> January for the Burns Supper arranged by the Social Committee – traditional and excellent fare provided by McKenzie's of Colinton.

After the Minister had said grace, the haggis was piped in by Douglas Ross and addressed with feeling by Robert Armour.

Councillor Eric Milligan gave a most informative 'Immortal Memory' where we all learned something new about Burns: his conflicting attitudes to his ladies and to the world in which he lived. It was clear that Mr Milligan had an extensive knowledge not only of the poet's work but of his eventful life.

He told an interesting and revealing story of having been invited by the South African High Commissioner and poet, Lindiwe Mabuza, to attend a Burns Supper in London to celebrate the tenth anniversary of that country's becoming a democracy. At the event, Burns' poem 'The Slave's Lament' was read and affection for him was clear – despite his

having intended to go to Jamaica to become a supervisor of slaves. (In fact, it was the reception of the Edinburgh edition of his poems that gave him confidence that it was worth pursuing his poetic ambitions rather than going overseas).

Evelyn Reekie played the piano for several Burns' songs well sung by Ian Warwick: 'Rantin' Rovin' Robin'; 'Mary Morrison'; 'My Love She's but a Lassie Yet'; 'The Silver Tassie' and 'The De'il's Awa' Wi' the Exciseman'.

Lindsay Walls gave an energetic recital of 'Tam o' Shanter' and 'Sic a Wife as Willie Had' – the latter followed by a translation in English!

Mark McInnes (a. k.a. Lord McInnes of Kilwinning which provided several speakers with an opportunity for teasing which he tolerated admirably) gave a lively toast to the Lassies and Aline Haggart replied wittily on their behalf. Despite the concerns that these two speakers had as to the other's treatment of them, it was declared a draw.



Douglas Paterson gave a vote of thanks to all who had made the evening so enjoyable.

**Mrs Aline Haggart and  
Lord McInnes of Kilwinning**





## MUSICAL NOTES

Two more choral scholars introduce themselves:-

**Amy-Felicity Horsey** is a 6<sup>th</sup> year (S5) pupil at Edinburgh Academy, where she is sitting her Higher exams this year and is an enthusiastic participant in a range of musical activities, including the school Chamber Choir; she has regular singing lessons with Susan Hamilton. A native of Edinburgh, and a former chorister at St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral and pupil at St Mary's Music School, she has taken part in a wide variety of previous choral activities, including the Queen's Jubilee Diamond Choir at St Paul's Cathedral in 2012 and, more recently, the BBC Watchnight Service at St Mary's Haddington at Christmas 2016. At school she is also a keen member of the Combined Cadet Force and is working towards the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

**Max Carsley** is a former head chorister of St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh. Currently, he attends St Mary's Music School, studying oboe, piano, organ and voice. One of his compositions has been premiered by Paul Stubbings on the Willis organ and St Mary's Cathedral in 2015, a second one, a choral piece, is set to be performed by the choir of St Mary's Cathedral in spring 2017.

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## WORK PARTY

The next meeting of the Work Party will be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March in Room 2, Cluny Centre at 10.30/10.45am. It was good to see everyone at our February meeting. Please join us again for a 'sociable cuppa' and a warm welcome in March.

Please let me know if you have any ideas for new articles we might make.

Margaret Guild (447 6290)

**REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR  
CLOCK FORWARD ON  
SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH!**







## CHRISTIAN AID UPDATE

The next three months is a busy time for Christian Aid in Morningside. This article describes some of the forthcoming activities.

First of all, some very good news. The Morningside and Fairmilehead Christian Aid Committee has recently heard that the £600 raised at our December 2016 Coffee Morning has been match funded with £3,600 of international development funds from the Scottish Government. Consequently, a total amount of £4,200 is now being invested in a number of Christian Aid projects taking place in India and Bangladesh.

March sees the start of Lent. The Christian Aid Committee have sourced a number of "Count Your Blessings" Lent Calendars from the Christian Aid offices in Edinburgh and it is our intention to hand these out at MPC on Communion Sunday on 5<sup>th</sup> March. Make sure that you pick up your copy.

Ian Rankin has accepted an invitation to speak at a Christian Aid event being held at Fairmilehead Parish Church on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017. The evening will take the format of Ian Rankin being interviewed about his life by Eleanor Updale. The evening starts at 7.30 and concludes at 9.30; refreshments will be available. Tickets for the event, priced £8, will be available from 1<sup>st</sup> March and can be sourced in Morningside Parish Church from Bob Cunningham (447 4757), Evelyn Henderson (334 2463) and Ruth Henderson (449 1695). The Christian Aid House to House Collection is taking place this year between 14<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> May. In the past, a number of you have kindly helped with the distribution and collection of CA envelopes and with the counting of the monies raised. The Christian Aid Committee sincerely hopes that you can help again this year with these tasks. We will be in touch with you shortly regarding this matter.

Finally, on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2017, the Christian Aid Spring Fair will take place in Morningside Parish Church. A range of stalls, activities and refreshments are currently being planned for the day and more information about this event will be forthcoming nearer the time.

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For those of you already receiving the Church magazine via email, you may already be receiving a weekly email from the Church that highlights some of the current and upcoming events in the Church's week. If you would like to receive this helpful email, please contact the Church Office ([office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk)) with your email address.

If you use **Facebook**, 'like' our Morningside Parish Church Facebook page!





## "LOTS OF IDEAS" FOR OUR NEW AUDIO VISUAL SYSTEMS

Auction on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Twenty years ago, we ran an antique auction to raise funds for the reslating of the roof at our Church. It proved a competitive, nail-biting, and fun event which gave a real boost to the Raise the Roof fund.

This year, on 29<sup>th</sup> September, we're going to have another auction, to raise funds for the new audio visual systems we're putting into the Church and the Halls as part of the development of the Church. The replacement of our current systems in the Church has been held back until we do the building work and fit out , but we know audibility and reception are poor in some areas. In our halls, old and new, we require modern systems for Worship, Sunday Club and the many needs of church events and our organisations.

To make this a success we need two things.....quality goods to auction....and people who want to get involved. So can you help?

If you can, we're asking everyone in the congregation to give ONE decent item to be auctioned. Something that you'd put to an auction house because of its quality or worth, not just the item you'd drop off at the charity shop. Ideally, something you only want to part with for a really good reason. We want to have an auction that will draw in buyers from outside our Church, rather than just relying on our own members for funds.

What are we looking for? The picture in the attic. The pearls that never make it out the drawer. The silver inkwell. The coin collection that never leaves the box. The piece of antique furniture that just doesn't fit but you can't bring yourself to part with it. The wally dug ornaments you never liked . The 1950s dress. The marble washstand in the basement . The old MG in the garage that never gets out. Ok, that's stretching it...it doesn't have to be an MG. But somewhere you have an item, large or small, that you just don't need but could turn into a good use for the Church. And free up some space.

And we're looking for volunteers who'd like to get involved to make it a success...to plan, publicise and help us run the event. It's a great way to get involved.

September is months away, we hear you say. Yes, but you may be thinking of downsizing, disposing, or just making space sooner than that. You may also know someone who's moving away before September. So we're starting now to build up the lots we need.

If you'd like to get involved, or you'd like to provide an auction lot, or you have friends to relatives who are looking to dispose of items that would fit the bill and are willing to help our cause please get in touch with Robert Armour on 0131 337 3541 / 07831 503658 or at robertarmour@hotmail.co.uk.

## JAM AND BAKING STALL

The Communications Group tried this for an experimental three months before Christmas when they raised a total of over £500 for church funds. This result encouraged them to continue it indefinitely with the exception of the month of December when there is so much else going on in terms of events.

We have been delighted with the faithful band of bakers who have contributed such a high calibre of produce in these past months. Apart from cakes, tray bakes and tablet, we have a lady who produces a variety of interesting jams. In January, we had marmalade and we have had apples and pears too.

In other words, we take a broad view of what constitutes baking and have been delighted at the response of the congregation in buying from our stall.

This is just to emphasise that whereas we are delighted with the repeated contributions we have had from some, we would be happy to accept contributions from anyone in the congregation – chaps and children too.

Isobel Paterson.



**Dates for your diary: \_**

**Next baking stalls on 26 March; 30 April; 28 May; 25 June**

## APRIL MAGAZINE

Material for the April issue of the magazine should be with the editor, Alison Riddell, by **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017** and it will be available for distribution on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**. Contributions may be put in her pigeonhole at church, sent by post to the church office at 1 Cluny Drive, Edinburgh, EH10 6DN or by email to [editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk).



**New elders ordained on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

**L-R: Norma Wilson, Anne Armour, Lesley Murphy, Nyria Bailey, Penny Graham, Keith Bailey, Rona McLaren**

## ANNUAL STATED MEETING

The Congregational Annual Stated meeting will be held on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March immediately after the 10.30am service. Papers will be made available in March.

Locum Minister: Very Revd. Dr. A McLellan    01383 725959    [arcmclellan@gmail.com](mailto:arcmclellan@gmail.com)

Magazine Editor: Alison Riddell    445 2330    [editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk)

Church Office: Carole Byres    447 6745    [office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk)

Join us for worship on Sundays at 9.30am (September to June)  
and 10.30am (throughout the year). Other services as announced.