



Magazine

No. 136 April 2018

Bring your camera to church on April 15! Morningside Parish Church is to be visited on that Sunday by the Moderator of the General Assembly. For any congregation a Moderatorial visit is a very special occasion: but when the visiting Moderator is the parish minister it is an occasion for celebration and for cameras. I am sure that Dr Browning will be wearing his full Moderator's dress; and a picture of yourself with your own minister as Moderator is a souvenir to hold on to.

When I was minister of St Andrew's and St. George's I was a little bit weighed down by the number of my predecessors who had been Moderator. I was visiting an elderly member and my eyes fell on a picture of one of them, C.W.G. Taylor, in his full Moderator's outfit. "Did you admire Dr. Taylor?" I asked. "Oh yes", she replied. "He was a real minister".

Many of you have been following Dr Browning's adventures through the year on the Morningside Parish Church website. He has been extremely busy, going to all parts

of Scotland, to continental Europe, to the Middle East, and on several visits to London. His theme of "hospitality" has allowed him to gather together all sorts of groups of interesting people from different backgrounds who have been able to discuss together and learn from each other while enjoying his hospitality at the

Moderator's flat. I know that members of the Kirk Session very much enjoyed their visit there.

The Moderator is coming to Morningside to dedicate the new halls and the improvements to the sanctuary. We have a great deal to be thankful for in the new facilities available: I am sure they will be put to very good use in the

months and years ahead. We have also a great deal to be thankful for in the work, the hard and sometimes unnoticed work, which has made it all possible. At the great Service of Dedication on April 15 we will be able to express our thanks to God; and to dedicate the completed work to God's glory.

Very Revd Dr Andrew McLellan



FLOWER LIST

	Provided by	Arranged by
Mar 25	Hazel Nicolson	Marjory Watson
Apr 1	EASTER	Flower Committee
8	Barry & Helen Hughes	Irene Wilson
15	Kenny Robertson	Anne Armour/ Issie Paterson
22	Val Mannings	Val Mannings
29	WEDDING	WEDDING



ROLL CHANGES

Please give a warm welcome to our newest member, Ms Kerry Elgey,

Please remember in your prayers the family and friends of Rev Isobel Brain, who died on 28th February 2018.



CHRISTIAN AID MATTERS

Christian Aid Week is almost upon us once again. This year it runs from 13th to 19th May 2018. The Sunday service on 13th May will be themed to include the work of Christian Aid and the benefits that it delivers.

The Committee look forward to your support for Christian Aid this year. Thank you to all of those members who have already volunteered to help with the house to house collection. We always need more collectors and if you can help please contact any of the Committee members listed below. Collector's materials will be available in the Church on 22nd and 29th April as well as 6th May

You may also wish to make a note of the annual Christian Aid Spring Fair which is being held in Morningside Parish Church halls on Saturday 26th May starting at 10am. There will be refreshments available at the event. In addition, there are various stalls selling baking, nearly new goods, books and plants (hopefully) together with a number of specialist craft stalls. There will also be a raffle with a range of excellent prizes.

For further information, or if you wish to help, please contact the following committee members: Bob Cunningham (447 4757) Ruth Henderson (449 6449) and Evelyn Henderson (334 2463).

SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SESSION MEETING ON 6th MARCH 2018

Examination of Congregational Records – in preparation for the annual submission of records to Presbytery there was submitted to Session for approval and attestation–

- **The Register of those in the congregation with PVG clearance** - currently 69 members
- **The congregational roll** - currently 423 members
- **The accounts for 2017** including the submission to OSCR setting out the work of the congregation during the year. The accounts were still being audited but subject to the audit report were approved by the Session. With total expenditure of £379,691 against income of £313,574 there was a running deficit of £66,117. Looking forward, property maintenance costs should be reduced in 2018 with the sale of the Cluny Centre. However after some exceptional one-off payments were taken into account the deficit was reduced to £41,500, only slightly worse than budget.

Development works - The Clerk reported that slow progress was being made on snagging works and in particular: - replacement and additional heaters are being installed in the vestibule; additional lighting in the Chancel; secondary glazing will be installed in the office; the rise in temperature would allow the asphalt to be laid in the driveway; and arrangements were in hand for the reinstatement of the grounds and the planting of shrubs and trees in the spring.

36 Esslemont Road - The Clerk reported that the General Trustees had given consent for the sale. The family have not yet vacated the property.

Associate's report– Jennifer reported that she **had** attended and presented at a Presbytery seminar on **'Loneliness and Isolation in the Community'** and attended a **Church of Scotland conference on 1-3 March** for paid workers with children and young people She highlighted upcoming events at the church; **'Inside out' a retreat to be held on Saturday on 17th March**: and an **Easter workshop** for 4-12 year olds: on Good Friday (30th March), 2-4pm,

Outreach - the popular **Quiz Night** will be held on 24th March

Communications – **Easter Cards** would shortly be available for circulation to the parish

REMEMBERING SERVICE

On Sunday 8th April at 3pm in the church, there will be a time to remember those we have lost. If you, or someone you know, has had a bereavement recently, or further back in the past, this service offers the chance to share in a quiet time with readings and reflective music. The service will last around 30 minutes and there will be tea and coffee available afterwards.

The service is open also to members of your family, or friends and neighbours, who might want to come along to support you. Remembering the death of a loved one is never easy, but it is an important part of moving through bereavement.

WORLD MISSION USED STAMPS APPEAL

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated to the used stamp appeal. The grand total of £2,072 has been raised to date in the 2017 appeal for the Giffen Institute of Theology in South Sudan.



The 2018 appeal will support centres for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities in the Ukraine. Posters and further details will be available shortly and I will display these on the notice board in the vestibule when I receive them.

Please continue to save your used stamps and either put them in the stamps box near the pigeon holes outside the Braid Hall or in my pigeon hole.

Many thanks for your continued support of this worthy appeal.

Lorna Graham.



We are well into our 103rd year in Morningside with our numbers steadily increasing to the current total of 12 members who attend on a regular basis. We have also moved into our new accommodation within the Church and we continue to monitor how that works for us in terms of our numbers and the activities we can provide.

Since the start of 2018, we have undertaken many of our usual activities as well as holding a film and popcorn night. We even played some table top curling and sent a video to Claire Balding during the Winter Olympics! Our Christian Faith focus has been on the logo and motto of the Boys' Brigade, taken from Hebrews 6 v19 – “Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast.” Our members have been learning about Christ as our anchor and how this relates to our time in the BBGA and in real life.

As I write this, our senior boy, Staff Sergeant George Canzini Roberts, is getting ready to attend his Queen's Badge Completion Course. This is the culmination of 2 years hard work by George to attain the Brigade's highest award. This has included service to the Church and the BB, a long-term interest and hobby/skill which requires validation from an instructor or leader and service to his community – George has served Barnardo's for over 2 years. George will be our first “Queen's Man” for many years and it is hoped a date can be arranged soon to make a formal presentation to George in front of the younger members of the BBGA and the Congregation, one Sunday morning.

Thank you again for all the support many in the congregation show for the 55th. It is much appreciated by all the members.

Best wishes.

Scott A J Peter
Captain

DEDICATION OF THE NEW HALLS - A DATE for your DIARY

The Dedication of the new halls will take place on Sunday 15th April 2018 at the 10.30 service. The service will be conducted by our locum, the Very Revd Dr Andrew McLellan, and the sermon and dedication of the halls by our minister, the Right Revd Dr Derek Browning, currently of course the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

After the service refreshments will be served. For catering purposes this will be a ticketed event and further details will be available in due course in the Intimations or from the Church Office

BETHANY CARE SHELTER

A fundraising coffee morning was held in January to raise money to buy food for the Morningside Parish Church Bethany Care Shelter catering team. Thank you to all those who attended and to those who supported the cause with donations.

The Winter Care Shelter has been fortunate in receiving additional funding from the Scottish Government and a large donation from Social Bite to increase capacity so nobody has to be turned away. This has enabled Bethany to secure a permanent venue at Meadowbank Parish Church in London Road from the beginning of January till late April.

Our first night was Wednesday 28th February which will go down as the snowiest night Edinburgh has seen for many years! On arriving at the Church at 7pm a few cold and hungry men were already waiting and entry is at 9pm for the rough sleepers. Both the Bethany mini bus driver and another member of staff were snowed in so there was no collection at Waterloo Place. We served a hot meal and drinks to 45 men and women which was fewer than expected, probably due to St John's Church at the West End providing food and shelter that night also. However seconds were given out and much appreciated.

Statistics show the rough sleepers are mainly British but there are also individuals from Eastern Europe and Africa. Apart from the Bethany professional staff team who are on every night, on some nights each week different agencies attend including a GP from the Homeless Practice, a Community Psychiatric Nurse and a Housing Officer from the Edinburgh Council, together with staff from Street Work and Crisis.

Those coming to the Shelter can access donated items of warm clothing, and reading material provided by another charity called Street Read.

Members of our catering team had to make their way home at 11pm in whiteout conditions with very little on the roads - like going through a ghost town!-but everyone got home safely eventually. Many thanks to the Team!

Our next turn on the Care Shelter catering rota will be on 21st March by which time the weather should be much better.

Anne McNeil

MONDAY CIRCLE MEETINGS 2017-2018

Over the past six months our group has enjoyed a variety of speakers, starting with memories of the department stores that were on the Bridges and Princes Street. Can you remember them? This was followed by some light exercise to help us with our balance and movement as we age. Our chosen charity this year was Richmond Hope which helps children through bereavement.

Approaching Christmas, we learnt how some of our customs have come from the past and how they have changed over the centuries. Sainsbury whetted our appetites with tasty nibbles from the Deli counter which had a festive twist, bringing with them some Stollen to have with our cuppa. Our party started with games followed by a finger buffet, finishing off by singing some Christmas carols to accompaniment on the piano from Geoff Bulmer.

We have 'visited' Alaska and Abu Dhabi where the cultures, climate, etc. were completely different and both very interesting. The film world was not forgotten this year as we learnt about and saw snippets of films that Clark Gable was in. I'm sure you can all remember the one he is best known for? Irene McLellan was known as the 'Queen of Edinburgh' after one of her travels with Andrew during his time as Moderator in 2000/01. It was very enlightening – the organisation, preparations for travelling, the number of visits in Scotland and abroad which at times must have seemed endless and exhausting. Our March meeting was cancelled due to the 'Beast from the East' but our speaker is instead coming to our AGM.

To conclude, I thank the committee for their support, Carole for her part with syllabus and intimations and the biggest thanks go to the two caretakers who diligently set up the hall, IT system when required and ensure that we have what is needed for the evening.

If any church member has a topic to suggest, please let me know. Anyone is welcome to join us for an evening if the subject interests them. All that is left to say is enjoy the warmer weather over the next six months and we look forward to meeting new members as well as our regular members when we resume in October.

Catriona Reid
Coordinator, Monday Circle

PRAYERS AND PARLIAMENT

Some of you know that in February, I was lucky enough to enjoy the sun, sea and hospitality of New Zealand. Our family has had a double emigration there. Two of my great-uncles escaped the poverty and depression of 1920s Scotland for the South Island, a time when emigration was still likely to be for life, with little chance of a trip home. It was the 1980s before visitors began to trickle back and forward, and in the 1990s, my cousin went for a visit and stayed to marry her second cousin! Since then, we've had a steady stream of visitors in both directions, for visits and travels (Kiwis often doing what they call their 'OE' – Overseas Experience), training, particularly in midwifery, and tracing of the family tree. Sadly, my visit last month also included a funeral. South Island funerals are often held in funeral parlours, even when it is a religious ceremony, since many churches are just too small to accommodate the numbers attending.



Bannockburn Presbyterian Church, Otago, New Zealand

The South Island still offers much of the tranquillity, beauty, and friendly, relaxed welcome that I remember from my first visit in 1990; and we visited and worshipped in some beautiful small churches, including Opoho Presbyterian Church in Dunedin; the Anglican Church at Lake Wanaka; and the tiny church above the town of Bannockburn (think Pinot Noir!), still in use and lovingly restored. There are some photos on my page on the church website.

It just so happened that in February, the Speaker of the New Zealand Parliament precipitated a media flurry by changing the prayer used at the beginning of each day's proceedings. The change had been under consideration for some time, but not yet agreed. This must have provided material for many sermons - two of which we happened to hear. Oddly enough, the second, in Opoho, was given by Professor John Barclay of Trinity College, Glasgow, though he hastened to say, 'As a visiting Englishman, it is no part of my business to tell New Zealanders how they should pray in their Parliament!' As a visitor, it was thought-provoking to read and hear reactions. For me, perhaps for other Scots, there were two surprising things: that in a country where, as in Scotland, the Parliament represents people of many faiths and none, the original prayer had remained unchanged till now; the other, that though references to Jesus Christ (and the Queen) have been removed, it is still a prayer. In general there seemed to be support for the change, including from the two clergy I heard, and indeed Catholic Archbishop John Dew. Here are the two prayers:

Original prayer

Almighty God, humbly acknowledging our need for Thy guidance in all things, and laying aside all private and personal interests, we beseech Thee to grant that we may conduct the affairs of this House and of our country to the glory of Thy holy name, the maintenance of true religion and justice, the honour of the Queen, and the public welfare, peace, and tranquillity of New Zealand, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Revised prayer

Almighty God, we give thanks for the blessings which have been bestowed on New Zealand. Laying aside all personal interests, we pray for guidance in our deliberations, that we may conduct the affairs of this House with wisdom and humility, for the public welfare and peace of New Zealand. Amen.

MORLICH HOUSE MORNING COFFEE

Morlich House Annual Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 28th April in Morningside United Church Hall (enter off Chamberlain Road) 10am-12 noon. Tickets £2.50 from Penny Graham or Fiona Watt or at the door.

Donations very welcome for baking, plants and gift stalls.

MAY MAGAZINE

Material for the May issue of the magazine should be with the editor, Alison Riddell, by **Friday 20th April 2018** and it will be available for distribution on **Sunday 6th May**. Contributions may be put in her pigeonhole at church, sent by post to the church office at 2 Cluny Gardens, Edinburgh, EH10 6BQ (Please note the new address) or by email to editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk.



Some of our younger members with the bread they baked for the All-Age Communion on 4 March

Locum Minister: Very Revd. Dr. A McLellan 01383 725959 arcmclellan@gmail.com

Associate for Christian Education & Pastoral Care: Jennifer Stark 07802 263979
associate@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk

Magazine Editor: Alison Riddell 445 2330 editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk

Church Office: Carole Byres 447 6745 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.