



Magazine

No. 140 October 2018

Dear Friends

When visiting St Andrews Presbytery last year, I was taken to Anstruther to see the new Waid Academy and to meet staff and pupils. This excellent new building caters for the varied needs of the East Neuk community, and places a high emphasis on Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies.

The church is surrounded by a cemetery and has been struggling to connect with the community. An awareness that a foodbank might be helpful was identified, but the cemetery around the church was off-putting, and there was an 'embarrassment' factor in a small community about people knowing about

your needs. Imaginatively the church hired a manager, took out the pews in the church and replaced with flexible seating, set up a café, had it staffed by volunteers who provided free tea, coffee and home baking, and also provided free telephone and computer access to allow those needing to make benefit appointments and so on to do so (mobile phone coverage is poor in the area and those on limited income had no access to the internet – the preferred way for appointment making). The café is flourishing, and the congregation is making significant inroads not only in supporting the community, but reinvigorating the church's relevance and

using the assets they have to better use. Consequently, attendance is slowly increasing.

Two teenage boys, normally with little to say, were looking for a film project for the RMPS class work, and made a five minute documentary about the church's work with the foodbank and café. They went on to win a national school prize of £5,000, and have now encouraged their friends to help with the café project, seeing the church making a major impact for the gospel.



All churches can and must look at their assets and see what they might be able to do in the context of their parishes. Churches that not only survive but thrive are doing this all over Scotland.

It's about building bridges into our community. It is about providing 'longer tables'. Who do we need to reach; who do we need to invite?

Despite some media attempt to write the Church's obituary, we are still here. Yes we need more people. Yes we need to improve our financial giving to sustain our work. Yes we need to use our imagination to engage and re-engage with a changing population and parish around us. But I know that in our Church the talent is there. What has God provided us with to use as we reimagine the relevance of the Church in Morningside today?

Very Revd Dr Derek Browning

KIRK SESSION NEWS

At its September meeting

- The Kirk Session appointed Jacqui Lindsay to the post of part-time Pastoral Assistant. We look forward to welcoming her shortly as she begins her work with us.
- Session noted that Gemma King would begin a period of Enquiry for Ministry with the congregation in September.
- Stewardship and Finance committee delivered a major report on how the congregational deficit would be addressed. The current deficit is £40,164. There will need to be a general review of giving later this year where members who are able will be asked to consider increasing their financial commitment to the Church; members would be encouraged to consider leaving legacies to the Church; opportunities to encourage giving to specific purposes would be further enabled; rentals had been increased to 8.5%; a holistic review of the roles of staff and contractors' work (particularly relating to cleaning, accounting, book-keeping and maintenance) and a review of utility and property costs would be carried out in conjunction with the Property Committee.
- A report was received about the problem of heating the sanctuary. Session heard that the electric heating system in the church was extremely old, inefficient, expensive and out of service in some areas. Session agreed to review the complex system (because heating pipes are currently attached to the pews) and a decision about future action would be taken shortly.
- The Social Committee reported on an extensive amount of work over the last twelve months which has greatly enhanced the life of the congregation and wider parish; the new dishwasher and freezer have been a particular help; Food

Hygiene Training has been undertaken by seventeen members; concerns about missing crockery and kitchen equipment were raised, and everyone using the kitchen was strongly encouraged to leave the crockery and kitchen equipment in the kitchen, or return it if it had been inadvertently 'borrowed'!

- The Communications Committee reported on progress with plans to record Church services for distribution with visitors to the housebound.

RECORDING OF CHURCH SERVICES

The new Audio Visual system is now installed and it would be helpful to know who would like to receive a sound recording of the services monthly.

This is a return to what we previously offered but we hope before too long to offer pictures as well.

If you would like to receive these, it would be helpful to know what technology you have to play anything on so that we can provide sound and/or pictures in whatever format suits the machine you already have.

If you have no technology personally, let us know that too so that we might see if we could provide some for you.

Names and contact details, please, to the Church Office.

RECORDING OF THE MAGAZINE

Is there any demand for this?

Please let the Church Office know if you would like this and, if so, what machine - if any - you have to play it.

It is quite a time consuming exercise to provide this so we will gauge the demand before we embark on it.

WORSHIP MATTERS:

The Lord's Supper

There will be communion services on Sunday 7th October at 9.30am (in the chancel) and 10.30am. At the 10.30am communion, children will attend the first part of the service before going through to the Braid Hall for their usual activities.

Peace Festival – What kind of world...? Saturday 10th November 2018, 10am – 1pm Church and Halls

2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the ending of World War One. 2018 is also the Year of Young People. Our church is joining up with Greenbank and Fairmilehead to host an event in our Church and Halls. There will be a coffee morning in the Braid Hall to raise funds for Poppy Scotland, music in the Church, an exhibition about Morningside and World War One (curated by the Morningside Heritage Association) and art work from local schools in the St Matthew Hall. In the Cluny Hall there will be a discussion panel with three young adults who have been involved with the Church of Scotland National Youth Assembly (including two former Youth Moderators) about what kind of future they would like to see for the world and the Church.

Remembrance Sunday is on 11th November at 10.45am.

SPEAKER SUPPER

Friday 9th November 2018 at 7.30pm

The guest speaker will be a return visitor, Brigadier Paul Harkness. Paul has now retired from his military career and has now set up a charity that is highlighting the spread of Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery in Scotland. It will be a challenging, eye-opening and informative evening.

Tickets costing £20 will be on sale on Sundays 21st and 28th October and 4th November from Aline Haggart or Fiona Gossip. Come along and enjoy a lovely meal in good company when the usual refreshments will be on sale.



LIFE AND WORK

Order forms for Life & Work are enclosed in this month's edition and are also available on the Welcome Desk. Further details, including subscription rates, are given on the form, which should be returned no later than 11th November.

ROLL CHANGES

**Please remember in your prayers the family and
friends of
Mrs Anne Fleming MBE, who died on 8th September
2018**

REMEMBERING SREBRENICA

This event will be held on 30th October at 7.30pm in the Church, followed by refreshments in Braid Hall

Fifty years after the world said “Never Again” to the horrors of the Holocaust, genocide took place on European soil while the world stood by and watched.

The name Srebrenica has become synonymous with those dark days in July 1995 when, in the first ever United Nations declared safe area, thousands of men and boys were systematically murdered and buried in mass graves. The victims, predominantly Muslim, were selected for death on the basis of their identity. Some 20,000 - 50,000 women and young girls, some as young as 12, were systematically raped or thrown into rape camps.

The charity Remembering Srebrenica (Scotland) is committed to telling the story through its visit programme and education pack for schools. Nothing prepares you for that first visit hearing from survivors and those who continue to fight for justice. It is only by putting names to numbers and memories to words that victims of this heinous crime can be humanized.

We assume that the genocide in Srebrenica, the mass rape and torture were simply the consequences of a deeply divided society. Yet nothing could be further from the truth. People in villages and towns lived and worshipped and celebrated with one another. Yet almost overnight neighbours became enemies and friendships turned to hatred. The fact that it happened there is a sober reminder that it can happen anywhere.

The speakers are Kezia Dugdale MSP and the Very Rev Dr Lorna Hood OBE



Kezia Dugdale MSP was born in Aberdeen and was first elected as a Member of the Scottish Parliament for the Lothian Region in 2011, and then re-elected in 2016. Kezia has previously served as Scottish Labour Leader, Scottish Labour's Deputy Leader, Shadow Minister for Youth Employment and as Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning. Kezia is a Scottish Labour Co-operative MSP in the Scottish Parliament. She previously chaired the cross party group on Drugs and Alcohol and currently co-chairs the group on Children and Young People. She took part in a delegation to Bosnia in June 2017, and

co-led with Lorna an all-female delegation in April 18

The Very Rev Dr Lorna Hood OBE retired recently after 37 years as a Church of Scotland Minister. Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland from 2013 to 2014, and an Honorary Chaplain to the Queen since 2010. After a trip to Srebrenica in 2014, Lorna agreed to set up and Chair the Remembering Srebrenica Scottish Board. She was awarded a 'Point of Light' by Prime Minister David Cameron in 2015 for her work with the charity and subsequently in 2017 was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. In November 2016 Lorna was appointed Independent Chairperson of Youthlink Scotland Board.

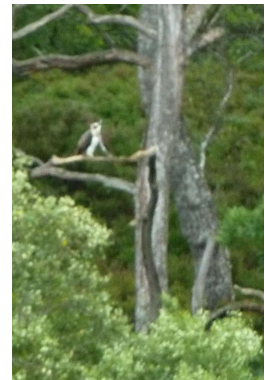


Edinburgh:Morningside Parish Church of Scotland: Scottish Charity No: SCO34396

WEDNESDAY CLUB FOR THE DISABLED

On 26th July, we were once more guests of the Ladies Section of the Biggar Bowling Club who had invited us for lunch, afternoon tea and a few ends of bowls. As usual our first stop in Biggar was the Gillespie Centre for a scone and morning coffee, before heading to the Bowling Club for lunch. The weather was kind to us and we managed around 10 ends of bowls before adjourning to the Clubhouse for a natter and a cup of tea prior to heading home. Once again I must thank those members of the Congregation who supply the majority of the transport for this outing.

On 4th August, we started our outings with a trip to the Trossachs for a cruise on Loch Katrine. After lunch in the Brenachoile Cafe we boarded the 118 year old steamship Sir Walter Scott. Many of the ship's original features are still fitted and used every day. It is the last of its kind in regular passenger service in Scotland, gliding past stunning Trossachs landmarks such as Ben A'an, Ben Venue and Brenachoile and time was spent looking out for the breeding pair of ospreys who have made their home by the loch – a pair of binoculars would have been handy. Our day was concluded with a stop at Dobbies on the outskirts of Stirling for a refreshing cuppa and an Empire Biscuit before heading for home.



It's an osprey!



Saturday 11th August found us at the Museum of Scottish Industrial Life on the site of the Victorian Summerlee Iron Works on the outskirts of Coatbridge. As most of the Museum is outside, we were somewhat fearful of the weather forecast which was threatening a day of rain, but were delighted that they got it wrong, and, while not brilliantly sunny, it stayed dry. The site includes an exhibition hall with a large array of working machinery and interactive displays, a steam-powered sawmill and a tramway (now adapted for wheelchairs) which takes you to the miners' cottages, complete with gardens with a fine display of flowers, fruit and vegetables grown by the local disabled group. Our visit coincided with their annual Steam Day which meant that there was a large selection of large and small steam traction engines which were actually in steam, and could be seen close up. Some of our party even managed to wangle a ride!!

For our final outing on 18th August, we stayed closer to home. In the morning we visited Butterfly and Insect World. After walking through the "rainforest" with an amazing number of

free flying butterflies, we spotted giant snails which moved amazingly fast, geckos and a giant tortoise. Great care had to be taken not to run over the free-running quails with the wheelchairs! This was followed by a handling session with a python, a giant cockroach and giant millipede, a gecko, and - with several arachnophobes standing well clear - a tarantula. After lunch in Dobbies we spent the afternoon at Rosslyn Chapel. After an introductory talk from one of the chapel guides highlighting the history of the chapel and its carvings, the men were free to explore, some even venturing down into the crypt.

Around 10 members of the Wednesday Club attended each of the outings which, from the feedback on the return journeys, they thoroughly enjoyed. As usual, they appreciated the help and company provided by members of the Congregation on each outing. I would also like to add my appreciation of the support given by the dedicated band of loyal volunteers. Without your help, I just could not run these outings.

The first half of the 2018/19 session for the Club starts on 3rd October and carries on until 19th December when our Christmas Party is combined with a visit from the Telephone Choir and, of course, Santa. The second half runs from 16th January to 17th April. We are always on the lookout for people to provide an evening of musical entertainment or to present a digital slide show. If anyone would be willing to provide us with entertainment one Wednesday evening, or knows of someone who might be able to do so, please contact Ian Hastie (447 4533) who coordinates our entertainment.

Charles S Wilson MBE
Club Coordinator

FLOWER LIST			
		Provided by	Arranged by
Oct	7	Sheena Allan	Anne Armour/ Issie Paterson
	14	Helen Buist	Marjory Watson
	21	Liz Munro	Eleanor Watt
	28	J Rimer	Joan Burnett
Nov	4	Penny Graham	Irene Wilson



FRESH START

Fresh Start has come a long way since it was established in 2000 to provide starter packs for those offered a tenancy after a period of homelessness in order to supply them with the basic essentials and they now have more initiatives such as a cooking club, gardening and decorating with the Hit Squad.

Donations are always needed to make up the Fresh Start Starter Packs - if you are cleaning out, downsizing or decorating, and have any items that you no longer need, there is someone who does. For those who have been homeless, donations of kettles, toasters, mugs, glass tumblers, cutlery, bed linen and towels (new or in very good condition unsoiled), cleaning items and other every-day household items can be a lifeline.

For a full list of items needed see the Starter Pack items leaflet on top of the donation box underneath the pigeon holes in the corridor. All that is asked is that all donated items should be **in good condition**, as it is very expensive to dispose of anything that cannot be used. Please no small glass dessert **dishes**, cups or well used pans, but if in doubt please contact me.

Anne McNeil (668 1812)

MONDAY CIRCLE

The Monday Circle meets in The Braid Hall of Morningside Parish Church on a Monday at 7.45pm . Here are the dates and topics for October:-

October	1	Shetland	Wendy Sodergren
	15	Learning From Hospitality	Very Revd. Dr. Derek Browning
	29	Southside	Eric Melvin

NB: The meeting on 29 October is **in the Church** and NOT in the Braid Hall.

Anna Cunningham (magazine secretary)

WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

Amid the Edinburgh Festival, the easiest and most perfect of concerts to attend are the Wednesday Lunchtime Concerts at our church. The first, for organ and soloists, was a good start to the three. A mixture of classical, fantasy and a little Scottish music and words. Our three scholars were perfect. The second concert for four hands was also perfect for Morley and Margaret, even if the music sheets got a little muddled. The last concert was the most entertaining with the music scholars all doing an individual piece and the grand finale being a choral rendition for all scholars and Morley. The audience was enchanted. Long may this last.



Edinburgh:Morningside Parish Church of Scotland: Scottish Charity No: SCO34396

NOVEMBER MAGAZINE

Material for the November issue of the magazine should be with the editor, Alison Riddell, by **Friday 19th October 2018** and it will be available for distribution on **Sunday 4th November**. Contributions may be put in her pigeon-hole 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.

CHURCH WEEKLY EMAIL

For those of you already receiving the Church magazine electronically, you may also 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 weekly update, please email the Church Office (office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk).

THE PEACE OF WILD THINGS

When despair for the world grows in me
And I wake in the night at the least sound
In fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
Rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
Who do not tax their lives with forethought
Of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
Waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

~ *Wendell Berry*

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

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