



Magazine

No. 141 November 2018

Dear Friends

Earlier this year I visited RAF bases at Benson, Holton, High Wycombe, Brize Norton and Lossiemouth, and had the opportunity to meet RAF chaplains and the officers, women and men of the RAF there. It was a privilege to talk to different groups about their work and about the challenges of being in the armed forces in the difficult circumstances of the C21st, where money is often tight and demands on deployment remain considerable. What struck me most of all was the high regard in which the RAF chaplains were held by all ranks. Each RAF base functions like an extended family, with all the fun, tension, support and grief that families experience.

Chaplains are often the 'go-to' people, not only for 'religious' purposes, but also for welfare, counselling and broad support. Chaplains aren't always seeking out people to minister to; what seems to happen is people happen to 'find their way' to the chaplain's door. What is also notable is that in the close confines of service life, people of all ages find little difficulty in relating to a chaplain whose role is primarily religious.

On 1st April this year the Royal Air Force celebrated its 100th birthday and marked the occasion by reflecting on its history and

achievements, celebrated the work currently being done, and looked forward to the next 100 years. The RAF still depends on the skill, dedication, and commitment of men and women who are drawn to the idea of serving Queen and Country.

The world of 1918 is a long way ago, and in many ways unrecognisable. The world that came to terms with the horror of the trenches and the mixed motives of the First World War is very different from the world of 2018. Yet some of the fundamentals of human existence remain: to provide for a peaceful world, built on justice, fairness, kindness and love; to provide an open world where people of all faith and none can co-exist peaceably; to provide a world that protects the weak, vulnerable and marginalised; and to look to a brighter future.

As we mark the RAF centenary, and the ending of World War One, what kind of world do we want? For the people of faith, how does our faith continue to shape our aspirations, and challenge our commitment to do what we believe to be right in a world today that continues to have many challenges?

Very Revd Dr Derek Browning

KIRK SESSION NEWS

At its October meeting, Session heard reports from:-

Outreach Committee: The Challenger Fund was no longer able to distribute **Christmas gifts** to disabled children. The Outreach Committee recommended, and Session agreed, that the alternative idea proposed by the Sunday Club to have children's clothing items purchased for distribution by the Edinburgh Clothing Store should be adopted. Gifts for the men of the Wednesday Men's Club would continue. As before labels will be distributed inviting appropriate much needed contributions with a range of prices available. Good value items can often be acquired at supermarkets e.g. Asda, Sainsbury, Tesco and Morrisons and at suppliers such as Matalan. The gifts should be returned at the Gift Service on 9th December. Details will be given later.

Communications Committee: Easter Card - Delivery was, as always, a challenging task with 5,300 deliveries. They have worked to organize it better but there is still heavy reliance on a limited number of faithful helpers and additional help would be welcome.

Street Event - This was successful in that the leaflet – an invitation to the Harvest Service on one side and a list of organisations that meet on our premises on the reverse – seemed to be of interest. It was useful also to distribute leaflets on the 'Pub Theology' event. For the past three years we have relied on the same dozen people and additional volunteers would be welcome.

Recording of the services - This is in hand and we are waiting to assess demand from members of the congregation who cannot attend church. So far only three names have been put forward.

Audio version of the magazine - This was done in the past and is time-consuming. Again only three names have been put forward.

Website link to sermons – is in hand.

Jam and Baking Stall – Held on the last Sunday of the month except for December, it

continues to be successful and funds the committee's main expenses: Christmas and Easter cards and the magazine.

Property Committee - A detailed schedule was circulated, which included 20 separate pieces of work completed since December 2017. The major items of expenditure (£500+) related to the installation of mesh to the seating in the St Matthew hall (£1740); Stone repairs to pillars at West steps and North steps/driveway (£3808); High level roof works to church (£2460); Repair of handrail at West steps (£804); Share of driveway repairs at Esslemont Road (£3225); External painting of Manse Windows (£3216).

Other major projects agreed:- repair of St Matthew Hall floor - scheduled for Jan.2019; Braid Hall roof light & blind removal scheduled Oct.2018. **Projects under consideration** - Replacement of external floodlights with LED lamps – 2 replacement lamps are shortly to be installed on North elevation to test preferred colour; replacement of high level lamps in sanctuary with LED – work dependent on replacement of high level anchors to secure scaffold tower to roof hatch access; installation of water meter under discussion with Scottish Water.

Quinquennial Presbytery report - a new company has been used and has produced a thorough report. The company carrying out the work has offered us a drone survey free of charge, and identified work requiring attention. Generally buildings were reported to be in good repair internally but externally some work is needed in particular to stonework including pointing. They recommend a continuing programme of maintenance but works identified as desirable within 1 year are estimated as costing c £30k.

Christmas Trees – It was agreed that a small tree would be placed at the Braid Hall and at the entrance lobby at the Cluny Hall - the trees will be decorated on 8th December and volunteers to assist are most welcome

THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL – ADVENT STUDY GROUP

In 2013 Pope Francis issued a challenge to the world of faith to engage with *The Joy of the Gospel* and for Christians to find ways to share their faith as widely as they could.

The Minister will lead a four week study group on the theme, and invites members and friends of the congregation to attend.

The group will meet in the Manse on Wednesdays at 7.30pm and the evening will finish at 9pm.

21st November – The Joy of the Gospel – what kind of Church?

28th November – The Joy of the Gospel – what kind of community?

5th December – The Joy of the Gospel – what should we say to the wider world?

12th December – The Joy of the Gospel – the heart of the Christmas message.

SPEAKER SUPPER Friday 9th November 2018 at 7.30pm in the Braid Hall

The guest speaker will be a return visitor, Brigadier Paul Harkness. Paul has retired from his military career and has now set up a charity 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 Sunday 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.



WORSHIP MATTERS:

Remembrance Sunday 11th November – the annual Remembrance Service will take place at 10.45am in the Church.

Guild Memorial Window – during the 10.30am Service on **Sunday 25th November** two stained glass windows in memory of the Guild will be dedicated. The former Guild members have generously gifted these windows, and the stained glass will be situated in the Church vestibule. Former members of the Guild are invited to sit near the front of the Church on the pulpit side on that Sunday.

December dates:

Communion Sunday – 2nd December. We share the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 9.30am (in the chancel) and 10.30am.

There has been a slight change to the services in December. On **9th December** there will be services at 9.30am and 10.30am as usual.

All-Age Christmas service – 16th December at 10.30am (no 9.30am service on this Sunday)

Blue Christmas – 16th December, 3pm in the Chancel. A short, half hour service in the Church for those who find Christmas a difficult time. Sometimes it is because of bereavement, sometimes it is because of loneliness, sometimes because the sheer relentlessness of the 'season' simply gets too much and you need a quiet place to gather your thoughts and your energy. If Christmas is a 'blue' time for you – this service is for you.

Lessons and Carols – 23rd December at 10.30am (no 9.30am service on this Sunday)



THE BIG QUESTIONS

After the successful event in the Hermitage Bar in October, hosted by Morningside, Greenbank and Fairmilehead Parish Churches, another 'Big Questions' event is hoped to be held towards the end of November. The theme will be 'Faith and Doubt'. Watch out for more information on the website, intimations, and Church email.

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.

MORNINGSIDE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION is celebrating the centenary anniversary of the ending of the Great War. It will participate along with other organisations in a special "Festival for Peace" event taking place at MPC on 10th November from 10.00 till 1.00. At that event, the Association will be displaying an exhibition showing the impact of The First World War on the Morningside community. This exhibition will continue to be displayed on Remembrance Sunday until 12.00. At the Festival for Peace event, the MHA will also launch an interesting new publication entitled "Morningside Memories Vol 3: A Community at War" which tells the story of life in Morningside during the two World Wars of the 20th century. Copies of the publication will be available for purchase.



WELCOME!

Our new pastoral assistant, Jacqui Lindsay, started with us last month on the 14th October. Jacqui will be working with us 20 hours each week and comes to us from CrossReach, the Social Care Wing of the Church of Scotland from their Children and Families section where she worked for over 17 years, most recently as Head of Service for Counselling and Community, overseeing their counselling and prison visitor centres.

She is an experienced counsellor, clinical supervisor and trainer; skills that she hopes will be a useful foundation for the role of pastoral assistant.

Jacqui is married to John, a retired Episcopal priest. They have five children and three grandchildren and have lived just outside Dunbar for the past three years.

"I am very much looking forward to working at MPC alongside the existing pastoral team and getting to know all of you over the coming weeks and months. I am keen to hear what you see as the pastoral needs both within the congregation and the wider parish and community. A question I will be asking myself as I take up this post is how do I best serve the church and how do we as a church best serve the parish pastorally, building on and hopefully enhancing the excellent work that is already in place."

Jacqui can be contacted on her mobile: 07834364628 or by e mail: jacqui.lindsay100@icloud.com (temporary email)

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



ROLL CHANGES

Please remember in your prayers the family and friends of
Mrs Sheena Allan, who died on 24th September 2018
Forbes Bowman, who died on 16 October 2018

LIFE AND WORK

Order forms for next year's Life & Work are included in this month's edition, and are also available on the Welcome Desk. The annual subscription rate is at the discounted price of £31. Further details are given on the form, but please note that the forms must be returned no later than 11th November.



IN THE NOVEMBER 2018 ISSUE:-

Remembrance

- How Scotland will mark the centenary of the armistice
- Reappraising Earl Haig
- The son of the manse who was gassed, and woke up in the mortuary
- A timely art installation
- Remembrance prayer
- The Big Question: How was your family affected by the First World War?
- Moderator: the story of a communion set used at the Battle of the Somme
- How churches are refurbishing their War Memorials

'Padre, can I have a word...':

Interview with the Chaplain General, a Church of Scotland minister

Out of Sight

A prison chaplain highlights Prisoners Week 2018

'One Journey, Many Roads'

The Guild's Annual Gathering

A Little Imagination

How two presbyteries are working together to provide lay Church of Scotland celebrants for funerals and weddings.

Where Simplicity and Greatness Meet

The Very Rev Dr James Simpson urges Gospel communicators to keep it simple.

FLOWER LIST

		Provided by	Arranged by
Nov	4	Penny Graham	Irene Wilson
	11	Remembrance Sunday	Ruth Henderson
	18	Marion Cooper	Anne Armour & Issie Paterson
	25	June Cowan (church)	Eleanor Watt
		The Guild (vestibule)	Irene Wilson
Dec	2	Carolyn Sutherland	Marjory Watson



The new flower list for 2019 is now available on the vestibule noticeboard. 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 should 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.



COME AND HELP US BEAUTIFY THE SANCTUARY

The Flower Committee has been somewhat stretched this year by one retirement and two further members having to take temporary leave of absence due to ill health.

We are always looking for new people to come and join us. No previous experience is necessary - I had never done flowers before - and you don't need to be particularly artistic - I always got a D for my Art at school. Appropriate training can be given if required.

If you want to come along and have a try out before making a decision please get in touch with either myself (449 2866), or our Convener, Eleanor Watt (447 5492), or come and speak to us on a Sunday morning while we are taking the flowers down after the 10.30am service.

The flowers really make a difference to the church and are much appreciated by those who receive them and it would be a great shame if we had to stop doing them.

Irene Wilson, Treasurer, Flower Committee

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 November:-

November	12	Tesco – behind the scenes	Lynn Gilchrist	(Braid Hall)
	26	Royal Company of Archers	Lt Col Richard Callander	(Church)

Anna Cunningham (magazine secretary)

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

CHALLENGER CHILDREN'S FUND – CHRISTMAS PARCELS

THANK YOU

Challenger Children's Fund is a charity based in Edinburgh to which applications can be made on behalf of physically disabled children based in Scotland. Grants of up to £500 can be given for anything not provided by statutory sources - for example mobility equipment, sensory toys, specialist therapy and sometimes holidays.

Due to a local connection, for many years the members of Morningside Parish Church have generously donated parcels at Christmas for the children whom CCF has supported over the previous year. This has been coordinated by Hazel Knight from the congregation, and an anonymous donor has very generously funded the postage.

The charity trustees have had discussions with Hazel over the past year to assess whether we should continue this tradition. We are now finding a lot of practical difficulties, not least because of the increasing number of children to whom grants are made each year.

In 2017 we had a particularly large number of applications and felt that the number of individual children was too many to ask church members to donate gifts for, so we funded 40 gift cards from the charity funds. In addition to this the cost of postage and complexity of postage regulation (for example - no batteries) is increasing. We make every effort to ensure that the address information for each child is correct but despite this we do have parcels returned undelivered each year (these are passed on to other suitable recipients via our connections with other organisations.)

The trustees have decided that this is now too costly and not practical to continue. We wish to express our gratitude for the generosity of the congregation over the years, and our special thanks go to Hazel for all the work she has done to coordinate the initiative.

Fiona Watt Trustee, Challenger Children's Fund

OUTREACH CHILDREN'S CLOTHING DRIVE

Following the cessation of the Challenger Children's Gifting this year, it was felt that we should continue to harness the congregation's very generous nature in what has become a staple part of the Church's Christmas calendar.

The Sunday Club came up with the idea of a children's clothing drive on behalf of one of our charity partners, the Edinburgh Clothing Store.

It will follow the same theme of 'gifting' that proved so popular with the Challenger Children's Trust. Gift tags will have various items of children's clothing noted on them and will be available for collection from the Church on the following Sundays: 18th and 25th November and 2nd December 2018. We will also be issuing gift tags in respect of the Men's Club at the same time.

All gifts should be returned during the 'Gift Service' which will be on Sunday 9th December 2018.

Please note that we do not expect you to purchase your 'gifts' from high end stores; supermarkets do very nice clothing ranges for youngsters.

Please also note, the only gifts that require to be gift wrapped are those for the Men's Club.

Many thanks in advance for your continued support in what is a very worthwhile cause.

Kimberly Milne, Outreach Convener

EDINBURGH CLOTHING STORE (CHARITY NUMBER SC039409)

Once again, to all the people who have made it possible for Morningside Parish Church to keep supporting the Edinburgh Clothing Store I would like to say a huge “thank you” . When we returned from holiday there was a cheque for £1500 waiting which was our share of the money raised so far this year for the three charities which the church supports . It is wonderful to receive this money and it will make a huge difference.

The number of people referred for help to ECS increased again in the year 2017-18 and once again we have seen an increase in the number of children coming. We continue to see all the refugees who come to Edinburgh through the Government scheme as well as individuals and families who are sent by a huge range of agencies.

There has been an increase in the amount of clothing, bedding and towels which we have received this year and we very much appreciate all that has been left in the collection box under the elders’ pigeon holes each week. However there are still gaps which need to be filled. We are therefore delighted with the proposal to have labels with specific items which children need for the congregation to take and bring back to the Gift Service on 9th December. This will be an amazing contribution to our project and will help us meet the ever increasing needs.

As always I cannot thank you all enough for helping to make so many people happy and more confident when they leave the Clothing Store. As one person was heard to say as she left “ I’ve never felt this good about myself and the kids will think it’s Christmas and birthdays all rolled into one”.

Fiona Stimpson

AN ANNUAL EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED

The annual Coffee Morning of The Edinburgh Clothing Store will take place in the Braid Hall on Saturday 17th November from 10.00 a.m. – 12 noon. Tickets priced £4 (£1 for children) are on sale from any Clothing Store helper. Coffee and cream scones will be served and there will be a wide variety of stalls.

Please do come to support us and to meet with people from across the city. It is always a happy occasion – no matter what the weather it is a morning to enjoy

FRIENDS OF MORNINGSIDE PARISH CHURCH SOCIAL EVENT

The Committee of the Friends of Morningside Parish Church is holding a social event on Sunday 25th November. This will take place in the St Matthews Hall at 2.30pm. Refreshments will be available and the Minister will talk about the work of the Friends. He will also provide a history tour of the Church, drawing attention to the building's fascinating features. The event is open to Friends, potential new Friends and all other members of the congregation.

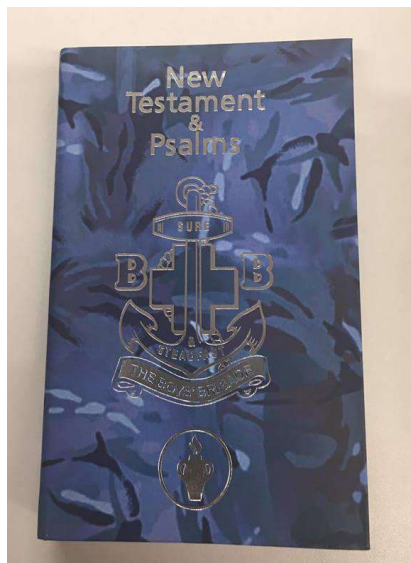
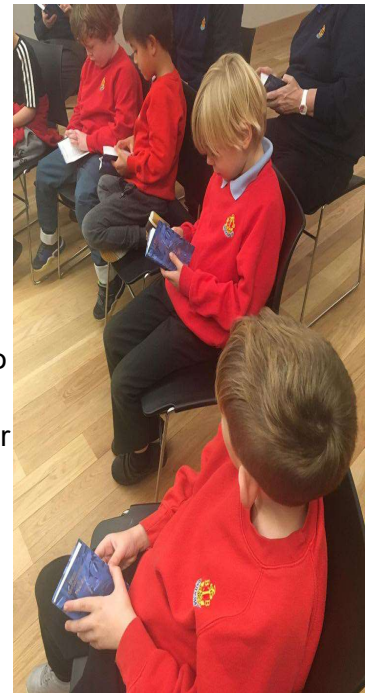


The 55th Edinburgh Company, The Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association restarted for their 2018/19 session on Friday 28th September: Our 104th year in Morningside! We had a great turnout from members and parents for our Enrolment Evening. This allowed us to get most of our paperwork done and dusted on this one evening. Parents and members enjoyed light refreshments, (the hot dogs were the favourites!), the opportunity to ask questions of

the staff and watch a short film highlighting the great work done by the BB and its volunteers in Churches across the UK, week in and week out. I am pleased to say that we have currently enrolled 9 members with 2 more in the pipeline.

I am also delighted to say that we have added to our number of volunteers for this session. Mrs Corbett, one of our parents, will be helping us out on an ad hoc basis. Mr Callum Simpson, a former leader with the 4th Carlisle BB Company has also joined us this session. He has recently moved to Edinburgh with his work and is looking to keep up his work with the BB. We look forward to taking advantage of his vast experience. Finally, our very own George Canzini Roberts, who earlier this year received his Queen's Badge, has joined as a leader. George will be undertaking training this session both at BB HQ in Ferry Road and within the 55th itself. I also take this opportunity to say a big thank you to our previous parent helper, Mr Thomas Moore for all his time and effort with the 55th over the last 3 years as he steps down for a well-earned rest!

Rona and I were also delighted to be invited to speak to The Guild at Greenbank Parish Church at the beginning of October as part of their national 3-year project and partnership with the Boys' Brigade. We had a great evening at Greenbank and I wish to thank them for their kind hospitality and making us both feel very welcome.



The 55th BBGA welcomed the Gideons to Morningside Parish on Friday 12th October when we enjoyed a very informative talk from Adrian Curry. As well as telling us all about the work of the Gideons, he also told us about his own time in the Boys' Brigade back in Northern Ireland. Our boys and girls were all delighted with their free BB Gideons bible.

We have a busy year ahead and we hope to share more with you in the coming weeks and months.

Thank you.

Scott A J Peter
Captain, 55th Edinburgh BBGA

DECEMBER MAGAZINE

Material for the December issue of the magazine should be with the editor, Alison Riddell, by **Friday 16th November 2018** and it will be available for distribution on **Sunday 2nd December**. Contributions may be put in her pigeon-hole at church, sent by post to the church office at 2 Cluny Gardens, Edinburgh, EH10 6BQ 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).

High Flight

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth,
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds, and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of. Wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air...
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark or even eagle flew –
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

~ *John Gillespie Magee Jr*

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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.

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