



THE SHUTTLE

**Marchmont St Giles'
Parish Church
At the Heart of the Community
November 2022**



1a Kilgraston Road, Edinburgh, EH9 2DW

Meeting Matters

November

- | | | |
|----|-------|-----------------|
| 13 | 9.30 | Junior Church |
| | 10.30 | Morning Worship |
| 20 | 9.30 | Junior Church |
| | 10.30 | Morning Worship |
| 27 | 9.30 | Junior Church |
| | 10.30 | Morning Worship |

December

- | | | |
|----|-------|--|
| 4 | 9.30 | Junior Church |
| | 10.30 | Morning Worship |
| | | <i>Closing date for material for the next issue of The Shuttle</i> |
| 6 | 14.00 | Guild Joint Edinburgh Meeting at Craigmillar Park |
| 11 | 9.30 | Junior Church |
| | 10.30 | Morning Worship : Nativity and Gift Service |
| 13 | 14.00 | Guild Christmas party - Craigmillar Park |
| 18 | 10.30 | Morning Worship : Nine Lessons and Carols |
| 24 | 16.00 | Christingle Service |
| | 23.30 | Watchnight Service |
| 25 | 10.00 | Christmas Day Service |

Cover picture

Historical Note : One hundred and four years ago, in the muddy and battle scarred fields of France and Belgium, the 'war to end all wars' was entering its final, desperate throes.

Over the course of the war many millions of horses, donkeys, dogs pigeons were used in all aspects of the strife by all sides and the British Army Veterinary Corps reportedly treated over 700,000 animals in that time. Sadly at the end of the war most of the surplus animals were destroyed or sold to the French.

Of the estimated 1,000,000 horses taken from the UK for the war effort less than 60,000 returned. In 2018 a statue (see p15) was unveiled at Ascot Racecourse to record the service and sacrifice of thousands of animals. Designed by Susan Leyland the statue was crafted at the Black Isle Bronze Foundry in Scotland.

Reflections

Each Remembrance I have the privilege of opening the Poppy Gardens in Princes Street Gardens in Edinburgh and George Square in Glasgow. The noise of Edinburgh includes the rattle of trams and the buses which, while busy is often muted. In Glasgow while less traffic you can always guarantee horns being used on a regular basis, sirens and car alarms. I am always amazed at the contrast.

The other contrast is the unease I feel being in George Square, where one of our Congregation, Gillian died as a result of the driver of a bin lorry. My thoughts always drift to her laughter and zest for life which was so cruelly ended in such a horrific way.

While she didn't die in War, my memories and emotions draw me to a place of Remembrance. I have often wondered about other mothers and fathers who had to hear of the death of a child many years before and the life altering consequences for the whole circle of friends and family. My thoughts still go to Sandy and Muriel and Graeme.

Our experience of Remembrance differs depending on when you were born and grew up, where it was before WW2 or during Vietnam, in the time of CND or in the shadow of the Thatcher/Reagan era. Different emphases are placed at different times and places. When we gather for these services, each with our own thoughts, we also gather communally, to give thanks for the ability to do so in freedom and in truth, while remembering that in the Love of God, we are all known and welcomed home and we are always remembered and never forgotten by the One who created everything out of nought and declared it good.

This year we pray with our brothers and sisters of Ukraine: those in their homeland living with the reality of war and our neighbours here in Edinburgh, who are here for a while, contributing to our communities and enriching our lives as they worry for their family and fitness back home. It is not easy but we can with our welcome make life more tolerable.

As the days get shorter and the world hunkers down in preparation for winter, if you know of anyone who needs a little help, please let me know. There is support available and as a Church it is our duty to be there in challenging times and situations. Let

us pray for peace and let us pray for vulnerable people, even us, and let us work for a world where swords are made into pruning hooks.

Karen K Campbell

CHURCH FAMILY & PARISH NEWS



We celebrate the birth of Ethan Ho on 25th October 2022 in Tokyo. Mummy and daddy are Jonathan and Yi Ling and nana and grumpa are Sharon and Edward Ho, a first grandchild. Congratulations and best wishes.



We give thanks for the life and service of Mr Leslie Richmond, a resident of the parish, who died on 2nd October 2022. Mrs Frances Brown, a member of the congregation who died on 8th November 2022.

Lectionary

November

13: Isaiah 65:17-25
14: Psalm 76
15: Isaiah 66:1-13
16: Isaiah 66:14-24
17: Luke 1:68-79
18: Jeremiah 22:1-17
19: Jeremiah 22:18-30
20: Jeremiah 23:1-6
21: Psalm 117
22: Jeremiah 30:18-24
23: Jeremiah 31:1-6
24: Psalm 122
24: Daniel 9:15-19
25: Psalm 122
26: Genesis 6:11-22

27: Isaiah 2:1-5
28: Psalm 124
29: Genesis 9:1-17
30: Isaiah 54:1-10

December

1: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
2: Isaiah 30:19-26
3: Isaiah 40:1-11
4: Isaiah 11:1-10
5: Psalm 21
6: Isaiah 41:14-20
7: Genesis 15:1-18
8: Ruth 1:6-18
9: Psalm 146:5-10
10: 1 Samuel 2:1-8

Our Christmas Services 2022

11 10.30 Nativity and Gift Service

Please ensure any gifts are delivered to the church by **Sunday 11th**
It would be helpful if gifts are marked with age and Girl/Boy/Both
as appropriate

18 10.30 Nine Lessons and Carols

24 16.00 Christingle

23.30 Watchnight Service

25 10.00 Christmas Day Service



**At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
We Will Remember them.**



Malcolm Goulding Fraser, son of Mary Lee Fraser of 82 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, and the late Harry Fraser is recorded on the Warrender Church memorial. Prior to the war his life had taken him to Chile, South America where he was involved as a striker with Everton Football Club in Cerro Alegre of Valparaíso which had been founded in 1909.

At the outset of the Great War he returned to the UK and signed up. At the age of just 20 while serving with the 2nd Battalion Scottish Rifles (Cameronians) he was killed in action on 1st July 1916, the first day of the Somme offensive.

Remembered along with the 72,170 others commemorated at Thiepval.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme is a war memorial to the missing British and South African servicemen who died in the Battles of the Somme of the First World War between 1915 and 1918, with no known grave.

Here are recorded names of officers and men of the British Armies who fell on the Somme battlefields to whom the fortune of war denied the known and honoured burial given to their comrades in death.

AROUND THE AISLES



Our next meeting is a joint meeting of all Guilds in Edinburgh at Craigmillar Park Church on 6th December at 2 pm. The speaker then is Joanne Brown, the development worker from the national guild.

Our next Southside Guild meeting is 13th December at 2 pm. It is our Christmas party.
All welcome , bring a secret Santa present!

We extend our grateful thanks to Shirley Farquhar and Mhairi Wilson who have been our flower convenors for the last few years. Their skills have been put to good use in adorning our church with flowers each Sunday, organising the small team of arrangers and co-ordinating the flower calendar, we wish them well for the future. .

Activities at Marchmont St Giles' don't just happen in isolation, teams of volunteers work together to make things happen be it flowers, coffees, Butterflies Plus or stewarding at our services. To get involved please speak to the Minister of the Session Clerk and help Marchmont St Giles' be at the heart of the community.



Christmas Stamps are now on sale in Post Offices across the country. This set will be the last Christmas stamps to feature HM Queen Elizabeth II

Support your local Post Office - they're not just for Christmas

The Edinburgh Kiltwalk 2022



The Kiltwalk is a charity with events all over Scotland, and Diane Red-head took part in the Edinburgh Kiltwalk on 18 September 2022.

"I was afraid I wouldn't make it", she says, "as I'm 81 and very slow going uphill. So I chose the shortest course, only four miles, and I was in luck - after an initial climb, the route was pretty flat, much of it on a footpath that used to be a railway line.

"I collected just over £200 for my charity, and this was topped up by half as much again by the Tom Hunter Foundation, which sponsors all the Kiltwalks. There was tremendous support and encouragement at the start and all along the course, and there were "Pit-stops", with refreshments and a chance to rest before carrying on. And there was a real jamboree at the finish, at Murrayfield Stadium."

Diane's charity was MDS-UK, a support group for people with Myelodysplastic Syndrome. MDS, often known as Bone Marrow Failure, is a rare form of cancer that can lead on to Leukaemia. "But hopefully, in my case," says Diane, "it might stay plateaued as simply low levels of red and white corpuscles, and low platelets, as it turns out these are all made in the bone marrow. It's the reason why I bruise easily, but fortunately that's the only real manifestation so far for me."

25 October was MDS World Awareness Day. Diane hopes she's done a little to raise awareness, and wants to put on record her thanks to the lady in Homeross House who lent her the kilt!

If you would like to know more about MDS-UK please follow this link to their website www.mdspatientsupport.org.uk or to support the work of the support group this link will help <https://www.justgiving.com/mds-psg>

Activities of FreshStart during a typical year.



Pick up a copy this flyer from the church centre, there's a calendar on the reverse.

Scottish Water have extensive works ongoing on the edge of Bruntsfield Links to construct a storm tank to relieve sewer flooding in the area. Over the next several months there will a road closure affecting the length of Marchmont Crescent starting from the works site southwards as they increase the sewer capacity.



Scottish Water
Trusted to serve Scotland

Overview of proposals



The above plan shows the route of the new sewers and location of shaft tank, kiosk and work access point.

Key

— = Open cut new pipes shown in Red



Christmas Market & Afternoon Tea at Marchmont St Giles

Saturday 3rd December from 11:00

**Made possible with the help of volunteers
from Meadows Explorer Scouts, 44th
Braid Scout Group, Marchmont St Giles
Congregation & the local community.
Music, children's indoor play area.**

Entry to market; Free

Afternoon tea tickets;

Adults; £10, Under 12s; £5, Under 3s; Free

Family ticket (2 Adult, 3 Under 12s); £30

Booking recommended.

For further information;

0131 447 4359

butterflies@marchmontstgiles.org.uk

Vegan and gluten free options available.

**If you have any food allergies or dietary
requirements please advise us when ordering.**





And finally

I SPOKE TO YOU IN WHISPERS

By Neil Andrew

I spoke to you in whispers
As shells made the ground beneath
us quake

We both trembled in that crater
A toxic muddy bloody lake

I spoke to you and pulled your
ears

To try and quell your fearful eye
As bullets whizzed through the
raindrops

And we watched the men around
us die

I spoke to you in stable tones
A quiet tranquil voice
At least I volunteered to fight
You didn't get to make the choice

I spoke to you of old times
Perhaps you went before the
plough
And pulled the haycart from the
meadow
Far from where we're dying now

I spoke to you of grooming
Of when the ploughman made you
shine
Not the shrapnel wounds and
bleeding flanks

Mane filled with mud and wire and
grime

I spoke to you of courage
As gas filled the Flanders air
Watched you struggle in the mud
Harness acting like a snare

I spoke to you of peaceful fields
Grazing beneath a setting sun
Time to rest your torn and tired body
Your working day is done

I spoke to you of promises
If from this maelstrom I survive
By pen and prose and poetry
I'll keep your sacrifice alive

I spoke to you of legacy
For when this hellish time is through
All those who hauled or charged or
carried
Will be regarded heroes too

I spoke to you in dulcet tones
Your eye told me you understood
As I squeezed my trigger to bring
you peace
The only way I could
And I spoke to you in whispers.....



