



THE SHUTTLE

**Marchmont St Giles'
Parish Church
At the Heart of the Community
May 2024**



he
ain't
heavy



1a Kilgraston Road, Edinburgh, EH9 2DW

Meeting Matters

May

12 10.30 Morning Worship

19 10.30 Morning Worship

26 10.30 Morning Worship

30 Julia Cato's Induction, The Old Kirk and Muir-house.

June

2 10.30 Morning Worship

Closing date for material for the next issue of The Shuttle

9 10.30 Morning Worship

Looking ahead

June

30 10.30 Morning Worship followed Communion and Stated Meeting with Bread and Cheese Lunch

Front Page

He aint heavy he's my brother, see page 11

Reflections

Spring is definitely in the air. I have finally felt heat from the sun, after an interminable winter followed by what felt like constant rain. The flowers are bringing us their flower, the birds are nesting, the crocii have brought us their glory and we are reminded of nature springing back to life. This fits in well with the message of Easter, that after death comes resurrection.

Today as I write Christians of a different tradition than our own are celebrating Ascension; that day 40 days after Easter when Christ ascends to heaven. In the Easter period we live in that liminal time between Christ having risen but is still around, preparing the disciples for what is to come; time is given so that they and we can get our heads around the different experience of receiving Christ from the teacher and healer of Galilee to the Christ in glory at the right hand of the Father.

The Word Made Flesh becomes Flesh Made Word. Christ ascends into the heart of hearts, so that the Word can embody and be made known in every heart. The ancient mystics of the church have highlighted the paradox of the Ascension. Christ leaving is the exact point where we are united with him, in a hidden, inimate union, which can if nurtured become a vital part of the Christian journey.

Once the disciples are left, they have to take responsibility for their own actions and faith. There are many stories of the growth and change within the Church which is birthed and energised by their experience of Pentecost when the power of the Holy Spirit comes and inspires them to move our from what is comfortable to what is dangerous and new.

It has always been that way in the Church, but so often the Church wants to feel comfortable and safe and these things are which everyone wants, but sometimes we struggle when we don't recognise the void and need within so many people's hearts, and to engage with different people, that can make us vulnerable to their questions and challenges. We are called to be on the margins, whatever these margins are in our own context, and to offer the love of Christ in our place in our time.

The Church in Scotland has a big task. There are many people searching for meaning and fulfilment, but sometimes the Church fails to communicate the life affirming and saving message which we have. Each Congregation in Scotland has its own culture, language and priorities, so that is why when we face the reality of joining together with each other, we sometimes speak and express ourselves slightly differently, even if we are saying the same thing.

We have to be very careful that in our conversations that we widen our tables and not build barriers, valuing what each brings to that table. What message does it give the community if Christian communities cannot value each other, or have kind words for each other. How will the church deal with anyone else, if they can't be kind to people of the same faith, let alone someone who is searching for faith?

Spring is definitely in the air. Let us celebrate the love of Christ felt in his ministry, resurrection and ascension and look to all the possibilities before us as we move forward as Christ's people in this place

Karen K Campbell

Lectionary

May	28: Exodus 25:1-22;
13: Psalm 115;	29: Numbers 6:22-27;
14: Numbers 8:5-22;	30: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
15: Ezra 9:5-15;	31: 1 Samuel 1:19-27;
16: Psalm 33:12-22;	June
17: Job 37:1-13;	1: 1 Samuel 2:1-10;
18: Exodus 15:6-11;	2: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)
19: Acts 2:1-21	3: Psalm 99;
20: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;	4: 1 Samuel 2:18-21;
21: Genesis 11:1-9;	5: 1 Samuel 2:22-36;
22: Ezekiel 37:1-14;	6: Psalm 138;
23: Psalm 29;	7: 1 Samuel 5:1-12;
24: Isaiah 2:1-5;	8: 1 Samuel 6:1-18;
25: Isaiah 5:15-24;	9: 1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15),
26: Isaiah 6:1-8	16-20, (11:14-15)
27: Psalm 20;	

CHURCH FAMILY & PARISH NEWS



We give thanks for the life and service of Mrs Patricia Robertson of St Raphaels who died 23rd April.



The minister conducted the marriage of Hui Lim and Luke Chan at Greyfriars Kirk on Friday 26th April. Karen is currently Interim Moderator at Greyfriars during their vacancy following the retirement of Rev Richard Fraser.

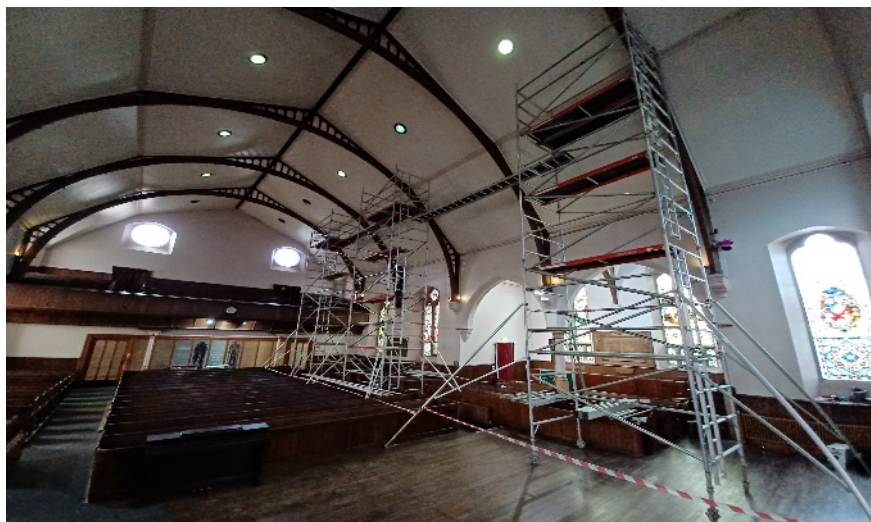
Works got underway on 6th May to update our lighting and sound systems in the church, parts of which are older than thirty years. Our new modern systems will offer us greater flexibility to host events as well as our usual church services .

The work is scheduled to take approximately six weeks during which time our services will be held in the Inchcolm Hall where we will have an opportunity to experience some different styles of worship.

While some inconvenience is to be expected in any project it will be short-lived and provide a better environment for all.

"Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet."

—Jean-Jacques Rousseau.



AROUND THE AISLES

"Some exciting news: we going to run a **summer holiday club** for children between the ages of 5-11 in the church centre!

It takes place from Monday 22nd - Friday 26th July, 10am-12.30pm. Admission is £1 per child. To register, please contact Simon at family@marchmontstgiles.org.uk

If you would like to help out during the week, please also get in touch with Simon!

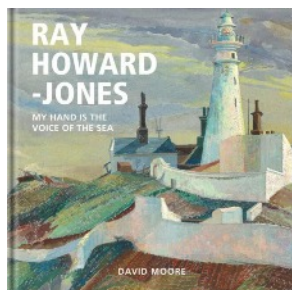
We also plan to start a monthly Messy Church very soon, and need volunteers! Again, see Simon for more information."

THE GRANGE Open Studios

"Date for your diary: **Grange Open Studios** - Saturday 22 June, 12-4pm.

Six local artists and artisans will be opening their home studios again to visitors, all welcome. More details to follow in June."

On Friday 10th May we had an illustrated talk about **Ray Howard Jones**, the artist responsible for the Tindal Mosaic in the South Transcept. She was a prolific artist with some 1800 picture in the care of Galleries in Wales who painted seascapes and was also a war artist capturing scenes on the Home Front in Wales. She created two major mosaics, in Cardiff on the wall of the Western Mail building which was sadly lost earlier this century when the



building was knocked down and the Tindall Mosaic here at MSG, commissioned in memory of Elfreda Tindall who had been a contemporary at Slade School of Art in London, the wife of William Tindal an elder of the Grange Church.

David Moore, our speaker, has published a book about the life and works of Ray Howard Jones and containing a comprehensive selection of images of her works.

Marchmont St Giles

Toddler Group



Every Thursday 10.00 to 12.00
Term time



£1.00



The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland will take place from Saturday 18 May until Thursday 23 May at the Assembly Hall on the Mound.

General Assembly Reports provide an overview of what each council or committee has been working on over the past year, and highlights their future plans.

Reports are summarised verbally to the Assembly by the convener or chairperson of the council or committee, before they ask the Assembly to approve each statement (known as deliverances) in their report. Sometimes the Assembly will ask a council or committee to report back on a specific subject, or set up a committee or commission to consider an issue of importance to the Church.

You can find all of the documents pertinent to this year's Assembly at this link

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about-us/>

The public gallery is accessible on a first come, first served basis from around 8.45 am daily.

The only entrance to the Public Gallery will be from the Lawnmarket (Royal Mile) at the door opposite the roundabout at the top of Johnston Terrace. Members of the public will NOT be allowed to enter by way of the New College Quadrangle.

The Assembly Hall, with the exception of the Public Gallery, will only be open to commissioners with the appropriate ID. Members of the public will, therefore, be restricted to the public gallery and the adjacent toilet facilities.



Newington Library / Fountainhall Road
Lots of stalls, refreshments, entertainment, fun and games
Something for everyone

Donations of collectables,
books, plants, home baking and
Tombola prizes are welcome.
Please drop them off at
Newington Library.



Further information
see QR code
or
Tel : 07918 702862



Cash payments / small change required for most activities and stalls

Volunteers required for stalls and stewarding

Please contact Maggie : 07918 702862 or email: magcollard@googlemail.com



Supported by the Grange Association and City of Edinburgh Council Libraries
Grange Association SC025491 <https://grangeassociation.org>

Whitehouse & Grange Bowling Club

18A Hope Terrace, Edinburgh, EH9 2AR

Scotland's
GARDENS
Scheme



Sunday
30th June
13:00 - 17:00



Admission £2
Children free

In Support of
St Columba's
Hospice Care



The
Eric Liddell
Community



Open Day
&
Summer Fair
Saturday
25th May
10:00 - 14:00

Admission £2

Children free

*Home baking , plants, coffee/
tea,BBQ*

BIKETRAX



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TRY
BOWLS
THE SPORT FOR ALL

And finally

"He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother" is a ballad written by Bobby Scott and Bob Russell. Originally recorded by Kelly Gordon in 1969, the song became a worldwide hit for the Hollies later that year and also a hit for Neil Diamond in 1970. It has been recorded by many artists in subsequent years. The Hollies' version was re-released in 1988 and again was a major hit in the UK.

Scott and Russell were introduced to each other by Johnny Mercer, at a California nightclub. Although Russell was dying of lymphoma and the pair met only three times, they managed to collaborate on the song.

In his 1884 book *The Parables of Jesus*, James Wells, Moderator of the United Free Church of Scotland, tells the story of a little girl carrying a big baby boy. Seeing her struggling, someone asked if she wasn't tired. With surprise she replied: "No, he's not heavy; he's my brother."

In a 1918 publication by Ralph Waldo Trine titled *The Higher Powers of Mind and Spirit*, Trine relates the following anecdote: "Do you know that incident in connection with the little Scottish girl? She was trudging along, carrying as best she could a boy younger, but it seemed almost as big as she herself, when one remarked to her how heavy he must be for her to carry, when instantly came the reply: 'He's na heavy. He's mi brither.'"

The first editor of *Kiwanis* magazine, Roe Fulkerson, published a column in September 1924 carrying the title "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother", the first use of the phrase exactly as it is rendered in the song title.

In the 1940s, the words, adapted as "He ain't heavy, Father, he's my brother", were taken as a slogan for Boys Town children's home by founder Father Edward Flanagan. According to the Boys Town website, the phrase as used by Boys Town was said to Fr. Flanagan in 1918 by one of the residents while carrying another up a set of stairs. The boy being carried is said to have had polio and worn leg braces.

MARCHMONT ST GILES' PARISH CHURCH

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