

The Bridge

Balerno Parish Church Magazine

October-November 2019

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER 2019

Wednesday, 2nd 7.30pm	Dedication Service for the Guild in the Church
Friday, 4th 10-12noon	Fresh Start Collection in Rear Hall
9.30am-12.30pm	Festival Café in St Joseph's Hall
10-12noon	Fresh Start Collection in Rear Hall
Sunday, 6th 9.30-12noon	Fresh Start Collection in Rear Hall
10.00am	Sunday Worship, Harvest Festival. Followed by refreshments
2pm	Afternoon Service
Monday, 7th 2pm	Monday Club
Thursday, 10th 7.30pm	Bible Study
Saturday, 12th 10am	Farmers Market Coffee Morning in St Joseph's
Sunday, 13th 10am	Music Festival Service in the Church followed by refreshments
Wednesday, 16th 7.30pm	The Guild
Sunday, 20th 10am	Sunday Service followed by refreshments.
Monday, 21st 2pm	Monday Club
Wednesday, 23rd 6pm	Dinner Discussion
Thursday 24th, 7.30pm	Bible Study
Friday, 25th, 7.30pm	Gala Disco
Sunday, 20th 10am	Sunday Service followed by refreshments.
4.30pm	Afrikaner Service
Tuesday, 29th 2pm	PALM Cafe
6pm	Youth Group

Cover picture by kind permission of Kathleen Manson

LETTER FROM THE MANSE

During André's absence due to illness, we welcome Rev Anne Logan as our Interim Moderator and Locum Minister.

Dear Friends,

There is a saying about 'bad pennies' and here I am, like that proverbial bad penny, turning up again. During this period of Andre's illness, I know that you will hold Andre, together with Nanda, Henro and Nehan in your prayers.

During Andre's absence, Presbytery have appointed me as your Interim Moderator and I will also be undertaking the locum duties – which is a complicated way of saying that I shall be carrying out as much as I can of Andre's usual role.

In the Church Year, this season is referred to as ordinary time. There are the festivals of Harvest and All Saints; there is the time of Remembrance, but most of the next two months is Ordinary Time. It's good to have the reminder that God is there in the ordinary, not just in the high days and the Holy days. God is there in our everyday comings and goings; in the smiles exchanged in the street; in the daily commute; in the loading of the washing machine.

There are times, often when life is difficult, when we wonder whether God is really there and we long for extraordinary happenings, when we hope that God will act and show us something astonishing, reassure us of his presence and love. Yet, as we read through the Bible, we find the stories of ordinary men and women whom God called and used, whom Christ befriended and called disciples. God is there in the ordinary, in the muckiness and messiness of our day to day human lives.

So I am going to set us all a challenge for this Ordinary Time – to recognise God at least once in every day in something ordinary that we are doing! I look forward to hearing where you have seen God in your ordinary life. 'Let every word and action, everything you do, be in the name of the Lord Jesus, and give thanks through him to God the Father' (Col 3; 17)

Blessings to you all!

Anne

(Rev Dr Anne T Logan)

0131 663 9550 email annetlogan@sky.com

Parish News:

Joint Session Clerk, and Director of Music: Resignations

It is with sadness that I have to share with you that Scott Simpson and Iain Whyte have both resigned from their posts.

Both Iain and Scott hold down very onerous jobs and neither feel able to offer the adequate time to church duties.

I'm sure you will join me, in offering both of them our thanks for the various contributions that they have made to Balerno Parish Church and wishing them well for the future.

Malcolm Ogilvie

Session Clerk

Funeral:

Sadly we have lost a member of the church family who was a dear friend to many of us. Sandra Easton was an incredible lady who met all the challenges of her illness with such an amazing attitude and a wonderful faith in the Lord. She touched many lives and she will be sorely missed, not least for her work as an Elder and as a member of Mission and Outreach. There will be a service in the Church at 2pm on Friday 4th October to celebrate Sandra's life ... please pray for her sons Mark, Mike and their families.

EDITORIAL:

We left you with a quiz question in the last issue! In case you've forgotten, it was 'How many references are there to water in the Bible?' CONGRATULATIONS to Anne Shaw who was first with the correct answer – 722 – with Ross Innes a close second. Would anyone else like to test our knowledge? Please get in touch with a question!

The next issue of The Bridge will cover November/ December ... yes, it's the CHRISTMAS issue! All contributions gratefully received for information on anything that's happening ... one thing we can share with you, the much-loved Labyrinth will be slightly later than usual, so instead of a mindful preparation for Christmas it will be in the week between Christmas and New Year as we prepare for the year ahead.

Lesley

PLACE FOR HOPE

Apologies! The email address given for 'Place for Hope' in The Bridge last month was wrong. The correct address is nigel.g.watson@gmail.com . Nigel Watson and Fiona Bennett are helping us as a congregation to look at what is good about our church and what can be improved, ahead of a meeting at the church on November 16th to discuss this.

In July, Bill and Margaret Black went to the **KESWICK CONVENTION** -

2019 was the 144th anniversary of the Keswick Convention where some 15,000 people attended a programme of seminars and worship over a three week period. The Convention attracts many from all over the UK and beyond.

The theme for the whole week was 'Longing'. There were morning and evening sessions of praising God and exploring Bible truths with a variety of speakers. The main speaker for our week was Rev John Risbridger who spoke on the Psalms... longing for God and His Word.

Books on Christian themes were promoted each day.

The music was inspirational... just imagine praising the Lord and singing 'How Great Thou Art' or 'To God be the Glory' with about another 2,000 Christians! The music leader for our week was Rev Colin Webster from Nottingham.

This was a truly moving and tremendous experience!

If anyone would like to know more about the Keswick Convention we would be really happy to meet and chat ... and perhaps be an encouragement for you to attend next year!

Bill and Margaret Black (449-6707)

ARGYLL CONVENTION 2019

In August this year we had the privilege of attending the Argyll Convention which lasted for only three days and took place in Oban.

It was truly thought-provoking as the main speaker Rev Alasdair Paine explored the letter to the Philippians. We felt his teaching was so relevant to the situation in our church in Balerno at this time. His three seminars were recorded and are available on the Argyll Convention 2019 website... and we would strongly

encourage you to listen in. On the website, scroll down to 'Summer 2019' and click on 'listen or download' and Alasdair Paine's seminars are detailed there.

In the afternoons we had excellent presentations with speakers from Mission Aviation Fellowship, Open Doors, and CARE. They informed us more about the amazing work these organisations undertake for the Lord in the world.

Once again – if you have any queries or comments about the Argyll Convention, please be in touch.

Bill and Margaret Black (449-6707)

HARVEST FESTIVAL 6TH OCTOBER 2019

As Summer comes to an end we look forward to the Harvest Festival, which is on Sunday 6th October this year.

As ever this is an event where many hands make light work.

This year the Balerno Music Festival Young Musicians Concert is to take place on the Saturday morning. Therefore, please can any contributions of flowers and food be brought to the church by or on the **MORNING OF FRIDAY 4TH OCTOBER** when the church will be decorated.

These gifts are distributed after the service either to parishioners who are unwell or frail. The remainder is given to the local food bank.

After the service we also require volunteers to distribute these gifts which will be ready to go out on **SUNDAY 6TH OCTOBER AT 13:00**

If you are able to help with any of this, please speak to *Wendy Williams* on 0131 623 3584 or any member of the flower committee.

THE GUILD

The new session starts soon and we would love to welcome new members. We are a national Church of Scotland organisation working to enrich the lives of people both nationally and internationally. This year our theme is '*Companions on the Road.*' The Guild is an opportunity to meet new friends and we not only meet in our Church but also have Joint Valley and whole Edinburgh Meetings. In September each year there is a national get together in Dundee.

This year we are raising money for 'Join up the Dots,' a Crossreach project to combat social isolation in Scotland. We are supporting both the Music Festival and the Fairtrade Group by providing teas and homebaking at their events. In addition we will have our annual Strawberry Tea to raise funds for our project. Last session we had two very successful concerts raising money to bring music to the housebound in Edinburgh, empowering young single mothers in Zambia and supporting the Church of Scotland worldwide HIV programme.

We meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from October to March in the Ogston Hall at 7.30pm. There is usually a speaker followed by plenty of time for tea and a chat. We also have a Christmas dinner and a summer outing. Men and women from the congregation and any friends in Balerno will be made very welcome.

Morag Lyall

BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOE BOX APPEAL 2019

Since 1993, Blythswood Care have been instrumental in gathering over two million shoe boxes which are distributed at Christmas to some of the poorest people in Eastern Europe and Pakistan.

The recipients in Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Pakistan, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine are truly appreciative and so thankful of all their shoe boxes contain. Every year we encourage our church family to be involved in this Shoe Box Appeal. Last year Balerno Community, church, neighbours, Harmeny School, and friends completed 202 shoe boxes.

A leaflet giving details of how to support this worthwhile initiative is enclosed with your magazine – and if you require more of these then we can give them to you. Also – if you do not wish to participate then please pass on the leaflet to a neighbour or friend.

You can choose whether you want to fill a shoe box for a man or woman, boy or girl and there is a list of suggested items to be included. If you have never filled a shoe box before – please get in touch with us and we'd love to chat and help you!

Some of the headings from a Blythswood Care magazine are – 'your gifts help break through social isolation' – 'these boxes convey love and the realisation

that someone thinks about you is priceless’ – ‘your gifts of toys and everyday things bring smiles and tears of joy’ ... and many more.

We are glad to be the collection point for the shoe boxes which need to be with us by **Friday 25th October** for Christmas distribution. Should you wish any additional information then please be in touch with us by telephone or email or even a chat.

Bill and Margaret Black

11 Larchfield (449-6707) mtblack@blueyonder.co.uk



Produced by
Hazel Twig Theatre Company
Shoebbox Theatre CIC

Funded by
Westhill
make things happen

**Dementia Friendly
Pentlands Hosts**

supporting people living with dementia
Dementia Friendly
Pentlands

A humorous and thought-provoking
play about what makes us invisible
and whether it's possible to change.

Saturday October 26th 2019 7.30pm
Juniper Green Parish Church Halls,
498 Lanark Road, Juniper Green,
Edinburgh, EH14 5BQ

Tickets £8 with Refreshments
- donations appreciated
from:
dementiafriendlypentlands.org.uk
07878-979-883/ 0131-449-6186
Charity No. SC048360

Advised by
Dementia
Voices,
Worcestershire

**The
Disappearance
of Eliza Grey**
by Su Parker Hallcroft

Have you ever wondered what it is like to have dementia? How would other people treat you and how they would make you feel? Dementia Friendly Pentlands are hosting a play “The Disappearance of Eliza Grey’ that helps people understand what it feels like to live with dementia

Eliza is struggling to work out why no one in her local church will listen to her. Their fears, feelings and good intentions may be the prime suspect, or maybe it’s just because its her dementia? Eliza needs the local detective to hear her before it’s too late.

Su Hallcroft and Christine Genders lead the audience through the challenges communities face when someone is told they have dementia, and offers ways

they can become welcoming and accepting towards people living with dementia.

Su Hallcroft trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama wrote the play based on her experience of living with her father who had dementia and has since worked with communities that are seeking to become dementia-friendly. Su knows well what people's experience of living with dementia is like and how communities can become dementia-friendly.

Dementia Friendly Pentlands looks forward to presenting an inventive and entertaining play that explores important issues about what it means to be a dementia-friendly community. We encourage you to join us on October 26th at Juniper Green.

Dr Trevor Adams DFP Trustee

FRESH START COLLECTION:

There will be a collection of household items for Fresh Start on the first weekend of October, **Friday 4th & Saturday 5th, 10am-12noon and Sunday 6th, 9.30-noon.** Van loading will be **Tuesday 8th October** – NB, Tuesday, *not* Monday as it usually is! – time to be confirmed. Offers of help for any of these times will be most gratefully received. Contact Maureen Woodburn 449 6343, email maureenwoodburn@aol.com

SUNDAY CLUB are looking for enthusiastic people interested in joining activities with the younger members of our church. To find out more, please contact Pam McKeon, 449 2541 or email pam.mckeon@bt.com

The **AUDIO-VISUAL TEAM** are looking for a helper for our Sunday services. It really is a lot less complicated than you think! So if you're willing to spend one Sunday in eight sitting in the gallery instead of your ordinary seat, please contact Jennifer bpc-admin@balernochurch.org.uk tel: 449 7245, or Rowena rowena.stewart@ed.ac.uk tel: 449 9499 (leave a message)

ROUND & ABOUT: What's happening at other churches:

Polwarth Parish Church stands in an enviable position on the banks of the Union Canal in Edinburgh, and has recently opened a special garden dedicated to the

memory of nurses and others who evacuated wounded military personnel on barges along canals in Belgium and France during WW1. These unsung heroes worked in dangerous conditions, taking seriously injured people to hospital bases in towns like Boulogne and Rouen. They travelled in flotillas of six barges piloted by engineers from inland waterways in Britain, often exposed to attack from the air as they could only travel by daylight. Called the Peace Garden, it is the brainchild of Professor Yvonne McEwen, director of Scotland's War 1914-1919. Do try to look in if you're passing that way. *Source: Life & Work*

Hands up if you've heard of Tunnock's Teacakes? Or Caramel Wafers? Of course you have! The owner of Tunnock's, grandson of the company's founder, and inventor of the Teacake, is 86 year old Boyd Tunnock – now Sir Boyd, having been knighted in this year's Birthday Honours List. He's also an elder at Uddingston Parish Church, and is known for his generosity and willingness to help others. A few years ago, RNLI withdrew their service vessel from the lifeboat station at St Abbs on the Berwickshire coast and the locals decided to raise money to buy an inshore lifeboat and operate it privately. A substantial donation from Sir Boyd helped them to realise this dream and now the 'Thomas Tunnock' – named after Sir Boyd's father, and affectionately known as 'Tommy Tunnock' – has attended several emergency call-outs. Costs are met by fund-raising, and a small shop selling merchandise has recently opened – the St Abbs Lifeboat is a real community effort. *Lesley Burt*



Many of you contributed buttons – some of them big bags of buttons! – to the **On The Button** Sale organised recently in aid of Marie Curie. Here is Moira's account of her visit to the sale:

Looking at the huge array of buttons of all shapes, sizes, colours and materials displayed in St Andrews and St Georges Church, I couldn't help wondering where all these buttons might end up. Were they adding the final touch to a new baby's matinee jacket? Helping to calm the restless, worried hands of someone with dementia as they explored their 'twiddle-muff'? Perhaps the delicate glass buttons were destined for a bride's wedding dress? Or would the horn and leather buttons smarten up an old tweed jacket?

Cards of buttons had been painstakingly sorted, sewn and displayed by a dedicated team of volunteers for months in advance of the sale. Buttons had even been used to make some very eye-catching artwork; a vase of flowers, a white Scottie dog and a lucky black cat. Even the vintage boxes that people stored their buttons in were to be found on the sales table!

One extremely enthusiastic button collector was delighted to track down a small bag of ladybird buttons. If like me you were ever the proud owner of a red, fleecy dressing-gown from Woolworths I'm sure you'll remember them well! For all of you who kindly handed in donations of buttons, both large and small, a heartfelt thank you! You'll be pleased to know that the final sum raised for Marie Curie was just over £5000.

Moira Darling



101 years on

'Trenches - Unforgotten' is a semi-dramatic work telling the story of the Western Front between 1914 and 1918 through the songs of the time, the words of those directly involved and images of the catastrophe as it unfolded. The play was first performed at Balerno Parish Church on 10th November last year as part of the Church's series of events commemorating the centenary of the Armistice which

effectively brought the First World War to an end. The response to that single performance was such that those involved decided to present it again this year.

Written and produced by John Burnside, *'Trenches'* is a powerful work which introduces the audience to people whose words have survived their passing. We meet some of them at the outbreak of the war and follow them through recruitment and training before they arrive in Flanders. People like William Dove who enlisted, aged just seventeen, just after war had been declared and

after he'd been to see a film, of the British Fleet, at the Shepherds Bush Empire. Henry Williamson, an author who wrote novels concerned with wildlife, English social history and Ruralism, had joined the Territorials in January 1914, and we first meet him when he's training at Crowborough in the summer of that year. He experienced the Christmas Truce of 1914 as did Frank Sumpter also of the Rifle Brigade, from whom we also hear and who describes it so you can almost see it yourself.

We meet many others as we live with them through the horrors of the Somme, realising that while some came home many others could not; and we are with those left behind at home, like Kitty Eckersley, who lived with all the anxieties and pain of dealing with the extraordinary while trying to manage with the pressures of what could still be seen as everyday life.

John has woven together a story which is compelling, taking us through the war to its chilling conclusion, mixing the words of those who were there with the songs they sang in Flanders and at home.

Trenches Unforgotten is performed by members of Balerno Parish Church Choir and members of the One Bar Rest ensemble, and can be seen at 7.30pm on Saturday 9 November at Gibson Craig Hall in Currie. Tickets are free but donations are welcome in aid of Poppy Scotland and Help for Heroes. You can get tickets for '*Trenches Unforgotten*' from Balerno Parish Church Office and Currie Kirk Office from 9 October.



We have been thrilled with the response to our new outdoor seating area! Fortunately the weather has (mostly!) been nice enough for our customers to sit outside while enjoying their tea or coffee and indulging in a cake or scone. We are always looking for volunteers – behind the scenes or front of house, there is always a need for helpers. If you feel you could give some time, even just an hour or two, you will be made very welcome. Just get in touch with Lynsey at themillatstjosephs@gmail.com or pop in to have a word.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

Our annual Christmas sale for the British Heart Foundation will be held in our home (11 Larchfield) on Tuesday 12th November from 9.30am to 9pm.

EVERYONE is invited! For those who haven't experienced this sale before – there is a collection of Christmas cards and paper and gifts – there are crafts – toiletries – stationary – jams – home-baking and coffees/teas and chat! Come and meet the author of children's books which will be available on the day!

Feel welcome and bring your friends and families to come and support the British Heart Foundation who fund incredible research into cardiovascular disease.

Bill and Margaret Black 11 Larchfield - (449-6707)

THE BALERNO MUSIC FESTIVAL is in full swing as we go to press – many events are taking place on the church campus, too many to list here! Look out for notices around the village, and copies of the Balerno Music Festival programme are widely available. www.balernomusicfestival.org.uk

FLOWER ROTA

Date	Donation	Recorder	Arranger
06 Oct	HARVEST	Mrs H Bisset	HARVEST
13 Oct	MUSIC FESTIVAL	“	MUSIC FESTIVAL
20 Oct	Mrs E Mclvor	“	Mrs D Pride
27 Oct	Mrs A Wilson	“	Mrs J Tervit
03 Nov	Mr M Beattie	Mrs W Williams	Mrs C Adam
10 Nov	Mrs M Black	“	Mrs M Black
17 Nov	Mr G Burt	“	Mrs H Jarvis
24 Nov	Mrs M Milne	“	Mrs M Darling

CAR ROTA OCTOBER - NOVEMBER

Oct 6 th	Ian Gidney	6919	Anne Johnston	2930
Oct 6 th pm	Alison Petty	4175	Richard Henderson	4484
Oct 13 th	Judy Savage	5016	Susan McDonald	5756
Oct 20 th	Hector MacDonald	07419 784262	Emma Crichton	5230
Oct 27 th	E McCullough	5876	Sandra Lyall	4375
Nov 3 rd	Sally Lindsay	4987	Bill Black	6707
Nov 3 rd pm	Ken Bisset	5812	Ian Alexander	6739
Nov 10 th	Kay Latimer	6186	Anne Shaw	3874
Nov 17 th	Christine Graham	4181	Brian Buchanan	5378
Nov 24 th	Jim Goodbrand	4517	Graham Lorimer	5099

FOOD BANK OCTOBER - DECEMBER

Week Beginning	Name	Phone
		449
Oct 07	Joyce Mitchell	4680
Oct 21	Martin Petty	4175
Nov 04	Geo & Mgt Harrison	4944
Nov 18	Sally Lindsay	4987
Dec 02	Judy Savage	5016
Dec 16	George & Lesley Burt	4314
Dec 30	Maureen Woodburn	6343

WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER 2019

- Friday, 1st** 7.30pm Balerno Village Screen
- Saturday, 2nd** 2.30pm Balerno Village Screen
7.30pm Balerno Village Screen
- Sunday, 3rd** 8am Breakfast Service in St Joseph's
10am Sunday Service followed by refreshments.
2pm Afternoon Service
- Monday, 4th** 2pm Monday Club
- Wednesday, 6th** 7.30pm The Guild
- Saturday, 9th** 10am Farmers Market Coffee Morning in St Joseph's
- Sunday, 10th** 10am Sunday Service followed by refreshments.
- Friday, 15th,** 7.30pm Gala Disco
- Saturday 16th** 'Place For Hope' Plenary meeting
- Sunday, 17th** 10am Sunday Service followed by refreshments.
- Monday, 18th** 2pm Monday Club
- Wednesday, 20th** 7.30pm The Guild
- Sunday, 24th** 10am Sunday Service (St Andrew's Day) followed by refreshments.
4.30pm Afrikaner Service
- Tuesday, 26th** 2pm PALM Cafe
6pm Youth Group
- Wednesday, 27th** 6pm Dinner Discussion
- Thursday 28th,** 7.30pm Bible Study
- Friday, 29th,** 7.30pm Gala Disco



Locum Minister /Interim Moderator: Rev Dr Anne Logan 663 9550
annetlogan@sky.com

Minister: Rev Dr André Groenewald, The Manse, 3 Johnsburn Rd, Balerno EH14 7DN

Church Administrator:

Jennifer MacDonald 449 7245 bpc-admin@balernochurch.org.uk

Session clerk: Malcolm Ogilvie malcolm.ogilvie@hotmail.co.uk

Treasurer: Jim Todd bpc-treasurer@balernochurch.org.uk

Organist: *Situation Vacant*

Rollkeeper: Craig Dunlop, 449 4317 stephdunlop73@talktalk.net

Steering group convenor: John Burnside johnburnside@virginmedia.com

Fabric Convenor: Dilys Conway 449 7245 dilysconway@blueyonder.co.uk

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Kay Coull 449 6151 coullkay@hotmail.com

Sunday Club Secretary: Pam McKeon 449 2541 pammckeon@bt.com

Mill Operating Unit: Ishbel Smith ishbel.iain@blueyonder.co.uk

Mill Café Co-ordinator: Lynsey Inglis themillatstjosephs@gmail.com

The Bridge Magazine: Lesley Burt 449 4314
bpc-thebridge@balernochurch.org.uk

All items to be included in the next Bridge, to cover **DECEMBER/JANUARY should be submitted by **SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER****