

The Bridge

Balerno Parish Church Magazine



February-March 2020

WHAT'S ON**FEBRUARY 2020**

2nd February	10.00am	Sunday Worship with Sunday Club for pre-school & school age children
	2.30pm	Afternoon Service
3rd February	2.00pm	Monday Club in St Joseph's
4th February	12.00pm	Midweek Communion
5th February	7.30pm	The Guild in the Ogston Hall
8th February	10.00am	Farmer's Market Coffee Morning in St Joseph's
9th February	10.00am	Sunday Worship, no Sunday Club
12th February	7.30pm	Fabric Committee Meeting in the Shepherd Room
16th February	10.00am	Sunday Worship, no Sunday Club
17th February	2.00pm	Monday Club in St Joseph's Centre
19th February	7.30pm	The Guild in the Ogston Hall
	7.30pm	Kirk Session Meeting in St Joseph's Hall
21st February	7.30pm	Balerno Village Screen in St Joseph's Hall
22nd February	2.30pm	Balerno Village Screen in St Joseph's Hall
	7.30pm	Balerno Village Screen in St Joseph's Hall
23rd February	10.00am	Sunday Worship with Sunday Club for pre-school & school age children
	4.30pm	Afrikaner Service
25th February	2.30pm	Palm Café in St Joseph's Hall
	6.30pm	Youth Group in the Ogston Hall
26th February	7.30pm	Dinner Discussion in St Joseph's Hall

Our lovely photos on the front cover were taken by David Coull a few weeks ago in Balerno - Frozen Street, Hoar Frost, Fallen Leaves, Winter Street.

If you have a suitable photo for our front cover, please get in touch!

Dear Congregation,

21/1/2020

I cannot believe that we are already approaching the end of January 2020! I am truly thankful to God that I have recovered and am now well enough to continue my ministry in Balerno. While I was recovering from work-related stress, I felt - for the first time in my life - how wonderful it is to be ministered to.

There were so many amazing “Angels” and “Samaritans” who came to my rescue, who sent me cards and took me out for walks and coffee. They even reached out to Nanda, Henro and Nehan. We will always be grateful for this support!

What really struck me on the first Sunday that I was back at church, sitting in the pews, is how much I have missed my flock, the pulpit, and the “blethers”. It was also on this Sunday, while I was listening to Rev Dr Anne Logan preaching, that I was deeply touched by God’s words for me and us all.

It was the text from John 1:14 that really challenged me: “The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighbourhood.”

Anne asked the questions: “What will Jesus see when He walks through the streets of Balerno? Who will He talk to? What will He say? Who will He visit?”

These are the questions that will keep me pondering for a long time. I pray and hope that each one of us will seriously be challenged by the fact that we belong to God and that He is with us while we walk in the streets of life: when we “blether”, rejoice, love; and even when we go through difficult times...

I wish you all a blessed NEW YEAR full of faith, hope and love.

May God bless you all,

André.

And from Rev Dr Anne Logan:

Dear Friends,

Back in the Autumn, when I first returned to Balerno, one of my first invitations was from the Guild – an invitation to participate in their dedication service when the theme was ‘Companions on the Road.’ Once again, we have all been ‘Companions on the Road’ and I am grateful for the privilege of sharing once more in part of your journey. The path of faith is not always easy but I know that because you travel with courage, commitment and laughter, you will continue to journey with Christ towards the Kingdom. My thanks for your companionship!

Blessings to you all!

Anne.

EDITORIAL

Anne has held our hands and our souls for the last few months, and we are deeply grateful for all she has done for us. However, this is not ‘Adieu’, but only ‘Au revoir’ as Anne will be back to provide holiday cover when necessary! We are delighted to welcome André back – it was good see him at the Burns Supper with Nanda. There is an account of the Burns Supper a few pages on – perhaps we at BPC are introducing a new custom of a lady doing the Toast to the Lassies but why not? Your views on a postcard, please ...

There is always work to be done within and around the Church and anyone who wishes to offer their services as a volunteer in any area will be more than welcome. Writing a short article for the Bridge would be a good start! What would you like to tell us about? Have been somewhere interesting recently? Visited another Church? Met someone fascinating? Share it, please!

Lesley

PARISH NEWS

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death in January of Eileen Chadwick. A member of Currie Kirk, she worked for Balerno Parish Church as Administrator from 2007 until she retired in 2012. She did this under extremely difficult conditions, as the St Joseph's Campus was being constructed virtually around her while she worked more or less where the entrance to The Mill is now! Always calm in the midst of this chaos, she always knew where everything – and everyone! – was. Eileen came to us as Eileen Stout, but later married Donald Chadwick. We send our condolences to Donald on his sad loss.



FORTH BRIDGE ABSEIL: A message from Rebecca Tennant, Community and Events Officer at Crossreach:

A very quick and exciting note to let you know that registration for the Forth Rail Bridge Abseil is now open - a fabulous way to raise funds to support vulnerable adults and children in Scotland!

Please register for your place(s) here: <https://www.rcsqsales.org.uk/register> and click on 'CrossReach' (you may have to copy and paste the link).

Registration is £30 per person to secure your place.

Please can you circulate this email to anyone in your church or guild who you think may like to take part? Thank you. Please note that places are usually full within 3-6 weeks of the registration link opening so please sign up now - I would hate for you to miss out!

There is a £150 minimum fundraising amount to be raised per person. CrossReach staff are here to help you reach this goal. This minimum ensures that the event stays cost effective and that the care CrossReach provides to local communities in the likes of Edinburgh and Glasgow can continue to

flourish. This year one of our main focuses is loneliness and isolation across all age groups and I am delighted we are raising funds to tackle this cause locally.

If you have any questions please do get in touch with me by email: rebecca.tennant@crossreach.org.uk or by phone on 0131 454 4391

Follow the abseil on Instagram or Facebook at TeamCrossReach

Rebecca Tennant 0131 454 4391 rebecca.tennant@crossreach.org.uk

WHO WROTE THAT HYMN?

GRAHAM MAULE 1958-2019

Many of us are familiar with the name of Graham Maule partnered with that of John Bell as writers of many of our best-loved modern hymns. Graham died on December 29th at the Beatson Clinic in Glasgow and leaves a space in the lives of many people in Scotland and beyond. Abandoning a career in architecture to follow a call to church youth work, Graham was a founding member of the Wild Goose Resource Group and staff member of the Iona Community for many years. He formed a collaboration with John Bell and by the early 1980s they were jointly appointed as youth coordinators for the Iona Community. Blessed with musical and creative gifts, they worked together writing hymns, inspiring others as they reached out in words and music, deeply resonant truths joined with simple and beautiful arrangements.

Hymn 165, 'Praise to the Lord for the joys of the earth, cycles of season and reason and mirth...', sung to an old Scottish folk tune; 253, 'Inspired by love and anger...' to the Irish tune 'Down by the Salley Gardens ...' 360, 'Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets...' encapsulates the ethos of justice and healing so dear to both Graham and John. 533, 'Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?...' to another Scottish tune – Kelvingrove – speaks of dedication and discipleship. And so many others, some more familiar than others, all speaking of our faith and fellowship with God.

LMB

ONE BAR REST out and about:

One Bar Rest were out and about over December and into January, entertaining (or so we hope) the Mill Volunteers at their Christmas shindig including with an animated Twelve Days of Christmas. We started together and finished together which our Director says is one measure of success.

We were then flattered to be invited to join with the Church Choir and Jubilate and others on Sunday 15th December for 'Sing a Song of Christmas', Iain Whyte's Christmas Cantata, which also featured Sunday Club and friends. The following week we sang a recessional from the gallery at the Lessons and Carols Service. The Barwell Old Hark, a 17thC traditional pub carol from South Yorkshire was the original inspiration for One Bar Rest; you can listen most easily to The Old Hark on Voices at the Door by Coope, Boyes and Simpson.

Into 2020 and there's no rest for OBR as they appeared on the bill at the Burns Supper on 22nd January with three pieces and as a backing group for David Booth's 'My love is like a Red Red Rose'.

Now it's time for at least One Bar Rest...



Photo, Jack Lyall

FOODBANK

Thank you all for your donations. Lesley tells me that she took a full carload of them to Westerhailes a couple of days before Christmas.

That led me to thinking “what actually happens to all of this?” I had a notion of a few people who had fallen on hard times, going along on a Tuesday afternoon, heads bowed, to pick up a food parcel and scurry home. So I visited Holy Trinity Café where I had a coffee and a chat with Margaret from the office there. She was able to give me a more realistic idea of what happens.

So..... On a Monday morning a Supermarket delivery arrives. This is paid for by donations from various local churches and individuals.

On Tuesday morning a group of volunteers come in and sort the supplies into bags, some for families, some couples and some singles. Our donations are added into the general stock at that point.

At 2pm on a Tuesday, between 30 and 40 people are likely to arrive. They are invited into the café where they are given a cup of tea, and where volunteers are available to sit and talk with them. To listen to their stories, to hear about how their week has gone and what has been happening to them.

There is great hardship amongst some of the residents of Westerhailes. Many live alone and are quite isolated. Without family backup life can be tough. Sometimes there can be other help given in the form of social work or other referrals.... as well as the food parcel.

God’s love in action big time!!!!

Keep the donations coming folks. Baby nappies and sanitary products are expensive. Some are delighted to receive a toothbrush in their bag! It is all gratefully received.

Judy Savage

LOOK AROUND YOU! This New Year we are beginning a series of articles featuring local charities. We all know the big ones, Cancer Research and Oxfam etc, but what about the smaller ones ... the sort of charities that might depend on Children in Need for support for instance? The sort of charities that run on a shoestring and are right on our doorstep... and looking for volunteers! Maybe you have a favourite small charity that you’d like to bring to our attention – if

so, please let us know about it! (If the thought of writing about it worries you, just tell us about it and one of our intrepid team will do that for you!) We start off with a charity based off the beaten track in central Edinburgh:

THE YARD

Some of us became aware of The Yard back in 2012 when DIY SOS built wonderful premises for them, tailored to their unique requirements. So where are they? In Canonmills near George V Park, a 15-20 minute walk from Princes Street. And what are they? Well – they are there to provide disabled children and young people, and their siblings, the chance to experience creative, adventurous indoor and outdoor play in a well - supported environment. It is a unique, safe space where children and young people experience truly inclusive play in quiet surroundings. They've been there since 1986, on land from the Council and opened their first building in 1993 with a grant from Children In Need. By 2012 this was looking very tired and dilapidated and so DIY SOS stepped in. 300 people worked a transformation over 9 days, providing new rooms, a kitchen, soft play etc and outside there is a go-kart track and a wheelchair-accessible swing! Play is essential to social development and The Yard operate a holistic approach to child-centred and child-led play service.

Committed to PLAY



But play isn't everything. There are drop-in family sessions – involvement can start as early as 5 months, whenever a child is diagnosed with a disability. Visits from special schools and language units take place, also training in inclusive play and 'Signalong', and respite for parents and siblings who describe it as 'a lifeline'. Clubs for older children provide self-confidence and self-esteem, often sadly lacking in disabled youngsters. Typically, provision of facilities for young disabled people stops at age 18, but The Yard runs a club for 18-25 year olds.

1100 families visited The Yard last year, from all over Scotland. There are now off-shoot part-time centres in Dundee and Kirkcaldy, with Glasgow next on the list. Membership includes all siblings, plus one friend and up to two parents or carers per visit. They encourage families to come along and try The Yard out during family session at any of the three sites, and the first visit is free,

providing a tour and explain the membership options if they would like to come back. 'Sunday Funday' is where any family can go along and use all the facilities for a small fee.

To find out more about The Yard, go to their website at

www.theyardscotland.org.uk *Volunteers are always needed – in every area from assisting with play to gardening, baking, front of house, community involvement.*



Up and running again after a well-deserved break over Christmas and New Year, The Mill is open Tuesday – Friday 9am-2pm (9am-12.00 on Farmers Market Day!) Teas, coffees, scones cakes and light lunches always available. Free Wifi available.

HINTS & TIPS ... Well, you might not need this very often in your life, but here goes – you know when a balloon escapes from its holder and drifts up to the ceiling? Of course it doesn't matter at home, it's easy to get it down... but at a party in St Joseph's? There is a simple remedy. Get another balloon and put a small piece of double-sided sticky tape (alright, you don't have double-sided, fold a piece over!) and attach this balloon to a long bit of string – long enough to reach the escapee on the ceiling. Hopefully the sticky tape will adhere to the lost balloon and you can then pull it down. (Tip from a minister who has used it after parties in her Church Hall!)

NEW YEAR, AND A NEW CHURCH

We are beginning to hear of new churches being ‘planted’ in communities, and here is a brand-new example in the Presbytery of Glasgow:

A ‘lively and energetic worshipping community’, Moodiesburn Parish Church in North Lanarkshire was recently formally established as the Church of Scotland’s newest congregation. Hailed as a ‘visible sign of God at work among his people’, the congregation, made up of people of all ages from different backgrounds, will now be able to call their own minister. Rt Rev Colin Sinclair, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, preached at a special service. Mr Sinclair said: ‘I am looking forward to marking Moodiesburn Parish Church being given full status. It is very encouraging at the start of a new decade to hear of a new congregation planning for growth’. Around 150 people regularly attend services at the multi-purpose church centre on Sundays and it is used by a wide variety of community groups during the week, hosting a community café called Connections, writing classes, dance groups, a toddlers group called Chatter Box and family events like “Who Let the Kids Out” which attracts around 100 people every month.

It was established by nearby Chryston Parish Church to address rapid growth in the former mining village which has a population of around 7,200 people.

Rev Mark Malcolm and his Kirk Session were instrumental in ensuring the “flourishing” faith community was upgraded to full congregation status because they recognised it presented the best opportunity for continued growth. He will act as Interim Moderator at Moodiesburn Parish Church until it appoints its own spiritual leader.

Mr Malcolm said: “The congregation recognises that there are many needs in the community and plans to work with other organisations to address a wide variety of issues like education, health and wellbeing, addiction and loneliness.”

The Church of Scotland is currently looking for new Assembly Trustees. If you would like to use your passion and professional expertise to guide the governance of the Church of Scotland, please visit the Assembly Trustees page to learn more and download an application pack.

BURNS AGAIN, ONLY DIFFERENT



It's never possible to do justice to every aspect of a Burns Supper. But, you say, all Burns Suppers are the same, and reviewers might hope that that were so; Balerno Parish Church Burns Supper 2020 however was very different; and it was good to welcome back André and Nanda.

Robert Burns, our national bard, is celebrated each year, so can there be anything new to say? Sometimes we need help to stand back and realise just why and how Burns's life and legacy are so important. Bill Caldwell in proposing the Immortal Memory held the audience in his hand as he took us into Burns' loves and hates, showing

us the parallels between Burns' time and ours. We discovered why there are more statues of Burns around the world than other person apart from Queen Victoria Christopher Columbus. This was a learning experience for all, but delivered with the astuteness and accomplishment of one who not only knows his subject but knows how to communicate the timeless messages, challenging us now with 20/20 vision to look at ourselves and our world.



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Burns Suppers aren't meant to hold surprises. You know the menu and the format. But each one is different. As Neil Johnstone, our ebullient and hugely valued Chairman said, you have to be brave to recite *Tam O'Shanter*. And more than that, if it's your first time and it's to a company which includes way more than one aficionado, it's no task for the faint-hearted. Step forward George Burt



who having now done it once will be able to demand appearance money for a repeat. Assisted by a slightly surprised hobby horse, by the time the Brig o'Doon had been passed George really was enjoying himself, knowing that his grip on a spell-bound audience was tighter than Meg's on her tail; but then we did know that she lost it, which a triumphant George certainly didn't.

The politics of putting together a Burns Supper became clear as soon as you saw that the Toast to the Lasses was to be delivered by Ishbel Smith who took no prisoners in a

wry and witty peregrination around the exploitation and under appreciation that has been the lot of the Lasses for too long. Not anymore. Neil Johnstone's Reply (from the Lads) ran up the White Flag and was followed by the penitent floral offering to the lasses, while David Booth mediated a peace through a flawless 'My Love is like a Red Red Rose.'

There were of course many other highlights, from Malcolm Fergusson's Address to the Haggis, Wilma Temple's "My Hoggie", Kerr Cowan's Piping Selection, songs from One Bar Rest and John Howie's Appreciation, last delivered 67 years ago he said, probably after a similar although very different programme which might also have been summed up in one of Kerr's tunes, 'Happy we've been a' thegither.' With which we all agreed as we gied it laldy tae *Auld Lang Syne*.

Richard Henderson



FAIRTRADE/FAIR TRADE IN 2020

It **can't** be a year already since Fairtrade Fortnight, can it?



Yes! Time to clear your diary for **2020's Fair Trade Fair, 10 am - 12 noon Sat March 7** in Balerno Parish Church (BPC) Halls. Please support lovely Fairtrade stalls in St Joseph's Hall, donating direct to producers who too often still help supply our families without making enough to feed their own: Traidcraft, Kwai River Cards, Hadeel, Comfort International, the famous FT Smoothie Bike, and a new trader, just setting up - Benjamin Murenzi, with Rwandan coffee. In the Ogston Hall, amazing Guild refreshments and famous homebaking - yes please, **donations of baking** are as ever really welcome, on the day! There are children's activities, a display of local Schools' prizewinning FT Competition art, with awards (certificates, and Scotmid-sponsored prizes) to winners at 11 am. As well as benefiting producers direct, the whole event also donates to a relevant cause - over £400, last Fairtrade Fortnight - which you'll see advertised in the Halls.

In the background, as well as great Bakers, are other vital props: Minister, Session/Session Clerk, Church Office and Church Officers, Cleaners, and many others - Volunteers and Customers - without whom it couldn't happen at all.

It's always a fun morning - with a serious purpose. UK-wide, Fairtrade's 2020 special focus is on women cocoa workers in Africa, facing particularly tough times, and still among the world's poorest people. There's also celebration of the FT Mark's 25th anniversary; now the best-recognised ethical Mark in the world, it represents a campaign that can't 'sort' the lot, but certainly helps. FT accredited producers get guaranteed prices, and a 'community premium' helping them strengthen infrastructure as **they** choose.

A few weeks later, we reapply to remain a Fairtrade Village, as we've been since 2013, and Balerno FT Village Group - a BPC Group, we're delighted to say - will be collecting the evidence in an ever-changing village, to send to the (accrediting) Fairtrade Foundation. Not as trumpet-blowing - but a way to encourage our shops, businesses, churches, schools, organisations and individuals to sell, buy and use fairly traded goods, at the same time showing our young people how one small-ish community can try to play a useful part in the wider world. The

The commitment of Balerno Parish Church, like St Mungo's a fully recognised Fairtrade Church, matters greatly in all this, backed to the hilt by our current Minister and the two who came before him. Our Mill Cafe, at the very heart of the village, is Balerno's major catering user of FT goods, and a brilliant example; all our Church organisations are committed to using FT products, even when sourcing them sometimes takes the patience of a saint.

Thank you so much, all at BPC, for continuing to support Fair Trade. See you on March 7!

Lesley Henderson

for Balerno Fairtrade Village Group

Unfortunately in the last issue of The Bridge the flower rota was omitted, but it's in place this time! Apologies from the editorial team. Thanks to all of you who donate money for the flowers to decorate the church each week. The distribution of bouquets to members of the congregation are always welcomed.

FLOWER ROTA

Date	Donated by	Recorder	Arranger
01/3	Mrs F McAdam/Mrs W Williams	Mrs R Murray	Mrs W Williams
08/3	Mrs M Marshall	Mrs R Murray	Mrs M Todd
15/3	Miss U Connell	Mrs R Murray	Mrs J Mitchell
22/3	Mrs J Booth	Mrs R Murray	Mrs J Tervit
29/3	Mrs J Lindsay	Mrs R Murray	Mrs D Pride
05/4	Mrs P Tait	Mrs J Mitchell	Mrs W Williams
12/4	EASTER	Mrs J Mitchell	EASTER
19/4	Mrs M Lindsell	Mrs J Mitchell	Mrs C Campbell
26/4	Mrs A Shaw	Mrs J Mitchell	Mrs C Adam
3/05	Mrs C Harris	Mrs A Petty	Mrs C Harris

FOOD BANK ROTA (Fortnightly)

Fortnight Beginning	Name
February 10	Sandra Lyall
February 24	Moira Todd
March 9	Richard Henderson
March 23	Emma Crichton
April 6	Martin Oliver

CAR ROTA

Date	Driver	Tel	Driver	Tel
02/2	am: B Buchannan	5378	A Johnstone	2930
	pm: H MacDonald	07419784262	S McDonald	5756
09/2	J Savage	5016	I Alexander	6739
16/2	A Petty	4175	G Lorimer	5099
23/2	E Crichton	5230	M Ogilvie	6985
01/3	am: C Graham	4181	B Black	6707
	pm: S Lindsay	4987	S Lyall	4375
08/3	K Bisset	5812	B Buchannan	5378
15/3	K Latimer	6186	A Shaw	3874
22/3	E McCullough	5876	I Alexander	6739
29/3	J Goodbrand	4517	G Lorimer	5099

WHAT'S ON MARCH 2020

1st March	9.00am	Breakfast Communion in St Joseph's Hall
	10.00am	Service of Communion
	2.30pm	Afternoon Communion Service
2nd March	2.00pm	Monday Club in St Joseph's
4th March	7.30pm	The Guild in the Ogston Hall
7th March	10.00am	Fairtrade Event in the St Joseph's Centre
8th March	10.00am	Sunday Worship with Sunday Club for pre-school & school age children
10th March	12.00pm	Midweek Communion Service
14th March	10.00am	Farmers' Market Coffee Morning
15th March	10.00am	Sunday Worship
16th March	2.00pm	Monday Club in St Joseph's
18th March	7.30pm	The Guild in the Ogston Hall
22nd March	10.00am	Sunday Worship with Sunday Club for pre-school & school age children
	4.30pm	Afrikaner Service
24th March	2.30pm	Palm Café in St Joseph's Hall
25th March	7.30pm	Dinner Discussion in St Joseph's Hall
27th March	7.30pm	Balerno Village Screen in St Joseph's hall
28th March	2.30pm	Balerno Village Screen in St Joseph's Hall
	7.30pm	Balerno Village Screen in St Joseph's Hall
29th March	10.00am	Sunday Worship with Sunday Club for pre-school & school age children
31st March	6.30pm	Youth Group in the Ogston Hall



Minister: Rev Dr André Groenewald, The Manse, 3 Johnsburn Rd, Balerno EH14 7DN email: bpc-minister@balernochurch.org.uk

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

Organist: Esther Chuang

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

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*All items to be included in the next Bridge, to cover **APRIL/MAY** should be submitted by **SUNDAY 15th MARCH**.*