

COLONIALE



St John's, by the grace of the Spirit, seeks to be an open community, walking in the way of Jesus, engaging with an ever-changing world and living a faith that is timeless yet contemporary, thoughtful and compassionate.

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In this Issue

From the Rector

Cornerstone Centre

- A Tour of the Building Works
- Archaeological Finds

The Green Ginger Group

Together News

- On the streets in Edinburgh, winter 2016/17
- Workplace chaplain
- Marmalade mayhem and Christian Aid
- Ministerial student placements

Heartbeat: News of our members

- Sue Goode retires
- Welcome to the new Dean
- Memorial Wall
- Sponsored hikes
- Jonathan Stevenson

Easter Service Times

Redhall Walled Garden

- Window Panels in the Dormitory
- A personal journey

Cornerstone Bookshop Reviews

Forthcoming Events

Service with a Smile

Coffee Rota

Sunday Readings

The next copy date is 7th May.

Cover image: fresco from Cappadocia.

From the Rector



Markus Dünzkofer

Dear friends,

Lent. Lent? Lent!

It is this time again, when we prepare for the celebration of the death and resurrection of our Lord. There is much to think about and to contemplate. The death of the Saviour remains as much a scandal as when it was proclaimed.

So, is there really anything to celebrate? Yes, there is.

And, no, this is not an invitation to race to Easter with a quick and distant glance at Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. The Easter glory can only come if we do not bypass Good Friday. Neither do I want to singularly focus on the reality of the atonement, as much as I do believe that the cross has this salvific property. Sometimes I wish we would listen less sceptically to our sisters and brothers in the church, who can celebrate, really celebrate this central aspect of our

faith. Why? Well, remember the words of John Donne (1573 –1631):

*I have a sin of fear, that when I have spun
My last thread, I shall perish on the shore; But
swear by Thyself, that at my death Thy Son
Shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore;
And having done that, Thou hast done;
I fear no more.*

But that's maybe for another day to explore more fully.



What I would like to focus on in this wee article is the physicality of the cross – and celebrate it.

It is not too difficult to celebrate the Incarnation, God coming into flesh, when it has to do with a wee baby in a stable **nursed at a woman's breast. Maybe this is** one reason I prefer Advent over Lent (in fact the former is my most favourite, the latter my least favourite church season!): sentimentality often is the grease that oils our human experience and there is nothing more sentimental than a birth, all the while angels sing and shepherds come **adoring. Nothing speaks more of God's** love becoming real among us in our flesh.

But the death of a 33 year old, too young, too untimely, despised and rejected by religious and political authorities, while

his friends and each and every one of us turns his or her back on him, is not a **positive image of God's love coming** among us. How on earth could one celebrate it?

I believe the Incarnation only makes sense if God goes all the way and does not excuse Himself when the going gets tough. God is born of our sister Mary. In Jesus God teaches, preaches, heals, casts out our demons, and restores the marginalised to their rightful place at the table as much as God sleeps, drinks, eats, laughs, cries, dances, and enjoys a good joke. And then God dies a human death, all by himself. Just like you and me; just like in our being born, in our living, and in our dying. All of life, all of it is part of the human experience. It is also now all part of the divine experience. It all matters to us. It all matters to God. It matters how we are born. It matters how we live. It matters how we die.

It matters how we treat children and mothers. It matters how we look out for the vulnerable and rejected. It matters how we interact with the powerful and mighty. It matters how we secure a liveable **planet for our children and children's** children. It matters how we care for the sick and the suffering. It matters how we embrace the grieving and the dying. It matters how we die in anticipation of meeting the One, who loved us into being.

It also matters how we rejoice in living, as we dance, sing, and make waves. It matters how we delight in those gifted to

us as companions on the journey, even when they really annoy us or have hurt us. It matters how we celebrate life in all its beauty and depth, as much as in its darkness and finiteness.

This is what Lent is about, too.

It is from this insight that we here at **St John's continue to seek to make the** experience of Lent not just a necessary chore, but a celebration and an expansion of our spiritual horizons. Using water this year not only returns us to the font, where we promised **"[to] continue in the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers, [to] proclaim the good news by word and deed, serving Christ in all people, [and to] work for justice and peace, honouring God in all Creation" (Scottish Baptism liturgy), but water, as life's most** basic element, reminds us that life matters, all of life: from birth to death – and even beyond death.

I invite you, once again, to a holy Lent.

And let's celebrate it and splash around a bit, too.

Yours as ever,

Markus



Cornerstone Centre

A Tour of the Building Works

At noon on Wednesday 15th February a group of seven of us gathered to tour the Cornerstone Centre development site. We were taken to the **Site Manager's office** (previously the Rector's office, in the basement) and given hard hats and High-Visibility jackets, then Davey, the Site Manager for John Dennis, gave us a most informative and interesting tour.

The tour started by going through from the basement corridor into what is being made into the toilets for the shop unit staff. In this area there were two large round stone apertures in the wall, previously not known about, that had been revealed. The purpose of them was uncertain and the plan is to cover them up once more. We then moved on into the area that had housed the shop and cafe units; now cleared from one end to the other. The clearance work has revealed a number of burial lairs, the details of all of which have now been carefully recorded by the archaeologists. In particular some remains have had to be removed and re-interred in the area that has been excavated for the new lift shaft.

We noticed that the work was going on around us in a quiet and respectful manner and noted a number of signs reminding the site team that this is a place of worship and requesting 'no foul language'.

We then moved up from the basement area to the terrace where we entered the Hall to see how enormous it looked now that it had been cleared of the end wall, side walls, cupboards and floor, along with the previous kitchen and toilet. The ornate door from the East end has

been moved, and has now replaced the more plain door that once stood at the West end. A new door has been formed from the Hall to the Dormitory garden.

Although the Archaeological Report has resulted in a delay of 2-3 weeks, the work is basically on track, according to the project plan, and despite this slippage we were assured that the main areas should be completed and commissioned in time to host the Just Festival this year; other office areas will follow in due course. Many thanks go to Kerrigan for organising the tour and to Davey for conducting it.

Barbara Graham



Photo by Marjory Currie: Theo, Fred, Bishop John tour the building works

If you would like a tour of the development building works, please get in touch with the church office. Tours are generally conducted on Wednesdays at noon and last around 45 minutes.

Archaeological Finds

Addyman Archaeology is a commercial archaeological contractor providing services and advice on archaeological issues arising from development work. Their report on the St John's Cornerstone Centre site is not yet complete, but here is their interim report.

The Paterson monument contained an inscription to 6 members of the family as follows:

'This monumental tablet, raised under her own direction by the executors of Mrs Jessie Pape, of Coatbridge, marks the spot where in humble hope of a joyful resurrection, rest her remains and the remains of those recorded in this stone who were dear to her in life and death'

Robert Paterson of Coatbridge her father d 18 Sep 1826, aged 74
Marion Lindsay, his widow d 24 May 1844, aged 64
Andrew Paterson, their son, d 11 Aug 1844, aged 35
John Paterson, their son, d 11 Oct 1844, aged 45
Jessie Paterson, their daughter, d 30 April 1864
George Pape, her husband, collector of Inland Revenue, Dublin, d 24 Oct 1854

'These all died in faith'

Both Jessie and her husband were buried in lead-lined coffins and were reinterred in them. Of the three excavated remains within the lair, the first buried (at the N end) was thought to be Robert, though it was not possible to age the skeleton. He had a gold bridge on his teeth. The second (placed directly above) was a female over 60, probably Marion. In

the centre was a male, 45-50 years, thought to be John. Andrew was next to him, the skeleton was not required to be excavated as it would not be disturbed by the lift shaft. The coffin of Jessie was above John and that of George above Andrew. All were reinterred within the same burial lair, with marked stones accompanying the remains.

Once the report has been completed we will be able to pass you a more detailed summary of the excavations with images for your newsletter. I have attached an image of some of the coffin furniture and one of the lead coffins in situ.

Liz Jones, Addyman Archaeology



The Green Ginger Group

If you have been inside the church since March 8th you should have seen a river of blue paper starting to flow from the font. We intend that it will eventually flood the whole building. This does depend on you. There will be sheets of blue paper available. Sometimes their display will be incorporated into the liturgy. You are warmly invited to take one home and decorate it with words or pictures or both. You might quote from another, write your own, collage, use colour or black. You might reflect cleanliness, pollution, baptism, drought, flood, pond-life – anything related to water. I expect you will think of other things, better than these. Then take another sheet of paper. By the time we reach Harvest Festival the display should be breath-taking. What is more important, we will all have thought and learned a huge amount about water; and we will have involved at some level every visitor who comes through the door.

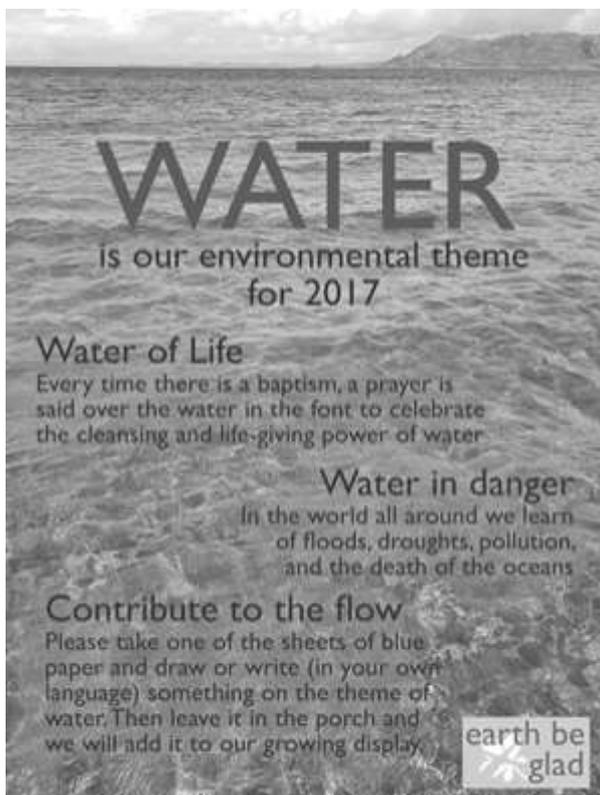
At the Creationtide Fair last year we initiated a new postcard campaign. There are still a few cards left, and sheets of addresses, with suggestions of what to say. They are on the shelf opposite the Children's Corner. Do please send one or two.

Many of us lack the space or the energy to plant a tree ourselves. But we can still do it by donating to Trees For Life. There is a St John's Memorial Grove. An easy way to do this is:

1. Go to treesforlife.org.uk on Google
2. Click on the Trees For Life page
3. Click on Plant a Tree
4. Click on Find an Existing Grove
5. Click on Memorial
6. Scroll down to June 2016
7. Click on Church of St John the Evangelist
8. Click on Add Trees to this Grove

I am delighted to report that we have so far planted 68 trees. Can we make it 100 before the end of Lent?

George Harris



On the streets in E dinburgh, winter 2016/17

The congregation responded magnificently to our appeal for funds to help with the various initiatives for homeless people in our city, and as I write has raised £1,276.36.

This is a massive contribution to the Together efforts, and immensely appreciated this winter, which has again seen more people than ever on the streets. The overnight Care Shelter has regularly had to turn away people from a bed overnight since there was simply not room. The result of this has been that night after night long queues develop outside the venue of the night, anxious not to be amongst those turned away. This queue tends to start forming about 3 hours before the scheduled opening, which on a bad night can be an ordeal. It is an index of how important the security and warmth of the Shelter is to those who have no home, and also the hot meals **cooked by teams from the city's churches.**

The Bethany Trust deserves the thanks of the city for the devoted efforts of their overnight teams (so well supported by the

city's churches), and for the colossal financial burden it takes on in running the Shelter for six months every winter.

Just before the time of writing a **cheerful and dedicated St John's team** cooked and welcomed for the Shelter in the hall of Barclay Viewforth church. While some of the stories of those who came were heartbreaking, many were impressively positive and stoical. As they enjoyed supper cooked by our brilliant cooks, for example, a Lithuanian was to be seen using the chance to teach another incomer from abroad to write English. These are not a different species, but people like us whose life has been suddenly (and, let us always hope, temporarily) de-railed by a sudden blow or the force of circumstance.

Your donations will be a great support to this community.

Robert Philp

New workplace chaplain

Andy Gregg will be our next Edinburgh City Centre Workplace Chaplain. Originally from Northern Ireland, Andy is currently a Workplace Chaplain in Inverness as well as Training and Vocation Director at Workplace Chaplaincy. He is starting in April, so there will be more news of Andy in our next issue.

www.linkedin.com/in/andrewgregg

Marmalade Mayhem and Christian Aid

“What if no-one has had time to make any marmalade?” I thought anxiously, as we approached St John’s that Sunday morning, armed only with my own contribution, a packet of price stickers, some poly bags for the scones, and a tin for the money. No problem! Some jars had beaten me there, and more and more flooded in, along with lemon curd, chutney, a honeycomb homemade by bees, and a large and delicious range of home baking. Before the service, the Choir exercised “droit de chanteur” and started buying while Grace and I were frantically pricing, and as they processed out at the end, the congregation rose and descended upon us. **Mayhem for 20 minutes...were they buying marmalade to spread on the gingerbread, or chocolate treats to binge on before Lent? We didn’t have time to ask, but the groaning tables were cleared, and we had raised £300 for Christian Aid.**

Meanwhile in Bangladesh, Morsheda is about to lose her home, a corrugated iron hut, to the flooding Brahmaputra River, again. Last time she and her children escaped on a makeshift banana tree raft, with her youngest floating in a cooking bowl. How will she manage next time? The char (small islet), on which her community ekes out a precarious living, is vulnerable to the ebb and flow of the river, whose floods destroy homes and livestock and **livelihoods. Feroza’s situation was much the same until Christian Aid’s partner in Bangladesh, GUK, was able to give her a Christian Aid Home Safety Package, enabling her to raise her home above the floods, and use the seeds and livestock and agricultural training, and make a livelihood for herself and her children. It cost £250. Now Christian Aid can do the same for Morsheda. Thank you St John’s!**

There are women in Bolivia thanking Christian Aid for solar ovens, saving local

trees and hours of their time, small farmers in Africa grateful for mobile phones with which they can check weather forecasts and save precious harvests from approaching storms; earthquake survivors in Nepal thankful not only for blankets, food and help with fixing broken water supplies, but also for training in how to build earthquake-resistant homes.

The refugee crisis in Europe inevitably reminds us that Christian Aid was founded in response to the refugee crisis after World War 2, and today is working with and for the refugees in Nigeria, where over a million have fled from Boko Haram. In Afghanistan the **‘returnees’ forced to return by Pakistan’s** changed policy, are desperate for food, water and shelter. The plight of refugees coming to and moving across Europe has been well documented on our TV news. Refugees need not only blankets, tents, food, sleeping bags and showers, fresh shoes and clothes, mobile phones and charging points for them, but respect for their humanity, and healing for the horrors they have experienced.

So what can we do? It may seem **little, but it’s very important that we do it,** and it does make a difference. A marmalade mayhem can challenge the chaos of the flood for Morsheda, a Churches Together Quiz Night can provide a refrigerator for a community kitchen in a refugee camp. Donations and volunteer help for the May and October **Book and Picture Sales at St Andrew’s and St George’s West can help to raise the £100,000 which enables Christian Aid to continue its work helping our fellow human beings to know and enjoy Life Before Death. It’s a privilege for which we can be thankful.**

Marion Ralls

Ministerial student placement with the Together Churches

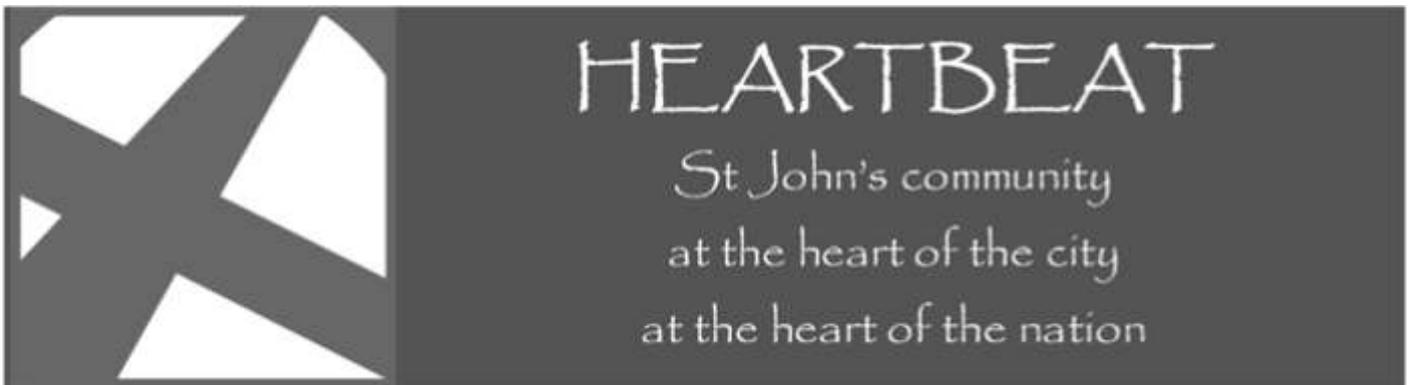
From March through to May the Together Churches welcome seven first year ordination students from the Scottish Episcopal Institute to a three-month placement as part of their training. Each of them is attending Sunday worship in the churches on a number of occasions, as well as other meetings and events. Unlike some placements, this will not be one where students are exercising a role in the churches; the purpose is observation of all that goes on within the shared ministry and mission of the three churches. They are also spending time shadowing some of the workplace chaplains in Edinburgh, learning how this form of ministry **expresses the churches' concern for people in their working lives.**

The seven students, one man and six women, are very diverse in background

and experience. Six are Episcopalians and one is a United Reformed Church student. Two are in fulltime employment; two are fulltime students at New College; one student has a toddler and lives in East Lothian; another student lives in West Lothian. Their times with us have to fit in with work and study, including residential weekends. We will, I hope, have an opportunity to meet each of them over these three months and, when we do, share with them something of what our faith and membership of the Together Churches means to us.

Do speak with me if you'd like to know more, as I am the link person for them, enabling them to make the necessary arrangements for their observations.

Tony Bryer



Sue Goode retires

Sue Goode retires as Postal Secretary of Cornerstone Magazine. Many thanks, Sue, for **seven years' work. We are happy to welcome Rosemary Denny to the Cornerstone team.**

Frances Burberry: welcome to the new Dean

As you probably know, our very own Frances Burberry has been appointed dean of our diocese by Bishop John. She was officially installed on Sunday 5 March at the 3.30pm Cathedral Evensong (Palmerston Place).

Additions to our memorial wall

The names of Michael Usher and Patrick Watson have now been engraved on the memorial wall in the Dormitory.

Nils' sponsored hikes

Nils Schoefer is doing sponsored walks in the Pentlands to raise funds for a research project in Transylvania, studying the differences in biodiversity between traditional and industrial farming methods. He would much appreciate support, even small amounts, and may be contacted at n.h.schoefer@gmail.com. He is happy to answer any questions on the work.

Jonathan Stephenson

One of our former vergers, Jonathan Stephenson, died recently. We pray for his widow, Yvonne, and that he may rest in peace and rise in glory.

Easter Service Times

Maundy Thursday, 13 April, 7:30pm

Holy Eucharist with Washing of Feet & Stripping
of the Altar

Good Friday, 14 April, 12noon-3pm

The Three Great Hours – Praying &
Contemplating Jesus' Last Words

Good Friday, 14 April, 7:30pm

Musical Meditation for Good Friday

Easter Sunday, 16 April, 7.30am

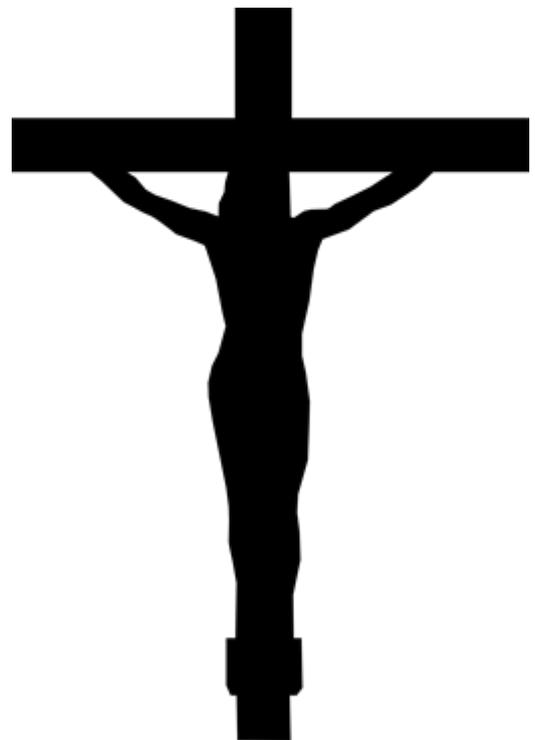
TOGETHER Churches Easter Celebration (no
8am service at St John's!)

Easter Sunday, 16 April, 9:30am

Festival Matins

Easter Sunday, 16 April, 10:30am & 6pm

Holy Eucharist in Celebration of the Feast of the
Resurrection



Special Feature – Redhall Walled Garden

Painted Panels for the Dormitory

In 2006, these panels were **commissioned by St John’s Church from Redhall Walled Garden for Mental Health Awareness Week.** The theme chosen was **“Seasons of Change”, representing the possibility of change in mental health.** The panels were painted by a team of eight trainees, led by Anne Denniss (a former art teacher and Redhall trainee) and Micah Barrett (a former instructor at Redhall). Working in a team outdoors engendered a great deal of excitement and revealed many hidden talents. These panels were originally made to fit the false windows in the north-east wall of the church, and they are now being reinstated there after 10 years at Redhall.



Redhall is a SAMH (Scottish Association for Mental Health) service delivered in a beautiful 18th century walled garden nestling in the heart of

Colinton Dell. Redhall uses a therapeutic horticultural approach to enable people recovering from mental health problems to develop self-management, improve their health and well-being, and actively engage in employability, volunteering and educational opportunities.

If you would like to find out more about how Redhall works, you would be welcome to come and spend a morning there on the first Wednesday of each month. This includes a tour of the garden and a question and answer session; please phone to book a place.

Adult Edinburgh residents (aged 18-65) with a mental health problem, who wish to use this service and can commit to 3 days per week minimum, should telephone 0131 443 0946 for an appointment, or go to: redhall@samh.org.uk or www.samh.org.uk.

The gardens are also open to the public, Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm, at 97 Lanark Road, EH14 2LZ (44 bus route from city centre), where plants and wood chip can be purchased. There are also Saturday afternoon Open Days on 15th April, 20th May, 8th July and 16th December 2017.





Redhall Walled Garden – a personal journey



Redhall is an amazing place; never in my wildest dreams could I have imagined a garden where I could safely work and be supported to care for three family members towards the end of their lives. I was fortunate to discover Redhall through two friends who had worked there.



The reality for many people with mental health problems, myself included, is medication, outpatient clinics and periods of hospitalisation. One in four people experience mental health problems at some point in their lifetime. When I started at Redhall, I had been prescribed antidepressants, which, I realised in retrospect, caused violent mood-swings. This medication was later withdrawn, and my moods became more stable.

At my initial interview, my then Team Leader looked at me shrewdly and said, **“Redhall is what you make of it”** – words that I’ve never forgotten. In retrospect, this was to be the start of a long journey, a journey of recovery – one I think I will be on for the rest of my life.

On my first morning, I was surprised to find a young instructor weeding beside me; I learned later that this happened for all new trainees. A bond developed

between us over the ensuing weeks and months. One of the special features of Redhall is talking and listening – if I had a problem I would go to her.

Redhall seemed like an ordinary garden on the surface; I had no idea that this was a therapeutic service run by SAMH (Scottish Association for Mental Health). It was some weeks before I realised that Redhall had a different purpose, and that the real work was going on beneath the surface.

On a particularly bad day one of the trainees took me to my Team Leader and we had what was to be a crucial talk about the real nature of the garden and its purpose. Redhall holds the hope for people when they have none, until they can begin to see a way forward for themselves, learning appropriate skills and developing resilience and trust. It is a place of acceptance – where there is no stigma around mental health problems.

This reflects my own experience: I could work in the garden – weeding, pruning, painting and arranging flowers – in between travelling to my relatives and coming back to start to recover. The core of the ethos of Redhall is the commitment and compassion of staff and trainees. Everybody was safe there apart from the rabbits, who had to beware of our tea-drinking cat, Gingernut!



Our tea-drinking cat

My first two years at Redhall had passed in a daze; I was overwhelmed by grief and loss. Throughout my time as a trainee, Redhall provided me with the stability and support that I needed to care **for myself. Looking back, I'm so glad that I** was enabled to help look after my brother, father and uncle until the last hours of their lives. That was such a special privilege.

Trainee days over, I became an Art Volunteer for Redhall. I began by decorating our training room for a special visit at Halloween from Sir Chris Hoy (Olympic gold cyclist and Ambassador for



With Sir Chris Hoy

SAMH). I also started my own small business printing cards from my artwork, to raise funds for Redhall trainees and other charities.

Although my health had seemed to improve over the years, something never **felt quite right. I'd had a complex and** challenging childhood, but until recently I had not connected this with my mental health. Over the past three years, I have experienced increasing anxiety and panic **attacks. NHS trauma counselling didn't get** to the root of the problem, and eventually I was assessed for EMDR therapy (Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing).

This therapy, though tough and exhausting at times, has led to a marked and ongoing improvement to both my physical and mental health. In particular, my confidence and self-esteem are beginning to improve. I am now more aware of the links between present events and past traumas. This helps me to make sense of what is happening, and to cope better in **the 'here and now'.**

At the same time, a new psychiatrist queried my original diagnosis of 20 years ago, and suggested that my symptoms were more consistent with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). I experienced a range of emotions on being told this: disbelief, anger, and finally relief.

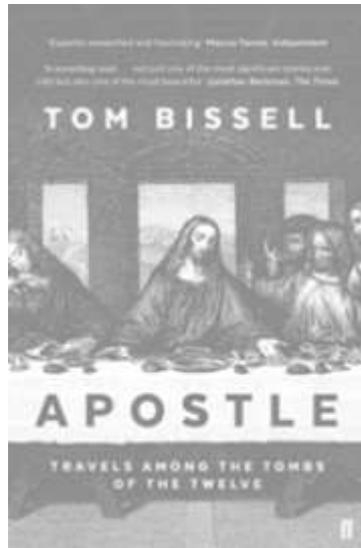
Coming to Redhall was indeed the start of a long journey – a journey of recovery that is still ongoing.

Anne Denniss, Redhall

Cornerstone Bookshop Reviews

'Apostle - Travel Among the Tombs of the Twelve'

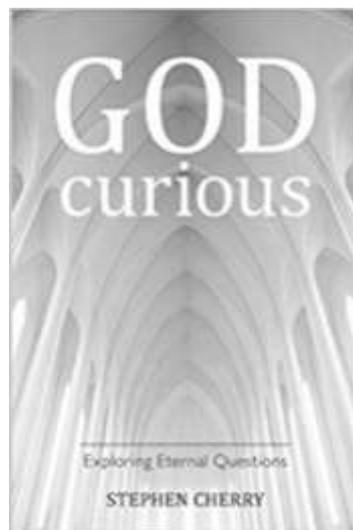
By Tom Bissell
9780571234752
£9.99



In writing what is a compelling account of the earliest friends of Jesus, Tom Bissell embarked on a journey that would take him three years and through nine countries to some of their supposed 'resting places'. Part travelogue, part 'biography', part 'history', Bissell asks who these men might have been, seeking to give them personalities by examining how their identities took shape over the course of two thousand years. Peppared with anecdotes and travellers' tales from those scholars and pilgrims he met on his way, the scholarly depth he shows is lightened to make this a fascinating, readable exploration for believer and skeptic alike.

'God Curious'

By Stephen Cherry
9781785921995
£8.99



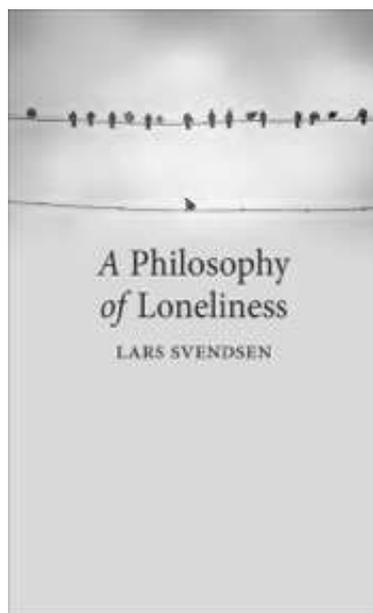
This latest offering from Stephen Cherry (Dean of King's College, Cambridge) was written with those who might be thinking of reading theology at university in mind. However, as he explains in his introduction, as theology is less a 'subject', more a 'form of seeking', 'a quest', he rightly assessed the book's audience might be wider. What he has ended up with is an accessible manual, "pointing," as Canon Mark Oakley puts it, "to theology as the disciplined, human and holistic way in which we can explore the eternal questions that hover over every century"; encouraging the reader to understand that any quest to understand God is also a quest to understand other people and ourselves. "Theology, then," Cherry says, "is the discipline of asking the best possible questions about the most important matters. It is about coming to the limit of your own knowledge and insight and posing the question, 'What is beyond?'" If that intrigues you, you will enjoy reading further.

'A Philosophy of Loneliness'

By Lars Svendsen

9781780237473

£8.99



Wherever there are people, there is loneliness. It is a condition that can severely impact the physical and mental health of the sufferer and all indicators point to the fact that it is being experienced by more and more people in our world today. For all our **'connectedness' with increased** technological scope for being in touch with people far and wide, technology (and other factors) are increasingly limiting the need for daily social interaction. In this timely volume, Svendsen draws on the latest research in the fields of philosophy and social science to explore different forms of loneliness while considering what characteristics might pre-dispose people to them. He also considers the difference between loneliness and solitude and asks searching questions of globalized society. This is a fine addition to what is a series by the same author. Other titles which can be ordered through us are various **"Philosophies of..." and include 'Freedom', 'Fear' and 'Boredom'.**

'Ursa Major'

By Yves Bonnefoy

9780857423740

£13.50



"Countless voices traverse us; endless, almost, as the meanders of dreams or the starry scintillations of summer nights. Only listen, and a few words rise from the murmur..." – the words with which Bonnefoy introduces this collection. For anyone unfamiliar with the work of the late French polymath, this is an excellent introduction to his poetic style. For those familiar with his work, this deeply moving sequence of prose poems is a real treat. Exploring the mysteries of human consciousness and richly illustrated by Indian illustrator, Sunandini Banerjee, the book, in itself, is a beautiful object while his words offer many layers of meaning and demand to be read again and again.

'When Grandad was a Penguin'

By Morag Hood
9781509814018
£11.99



What's to be done when your Grandad seems very much like a penguin? Find out in this charming picture book written and illustrated by Morag Hood (daughter of Helen, who some readers of **the magazine will know from St. Mary's Cathedral!**). With striking, colourful lino-cut artwork, and surreal story this is a **lovely book for reading together. A 'fish-out-of-water' story with a difference!**

Forthcoming Events

Bridge Evening (in aid of the **Cornerstone Centre at St John's**)
Thursday 30 March, 6.30pm for 7pm start

Bruntsfield Golf Club, 32 Barnton Avenue

The cost is £80 per table (£20 per head). Please collect booking forms from the church office or from members of the organising committee (Mo Grant, Grace Durham, Vicki Reid Thomas or Colin McEachran).

Edinburgh Brass Band 5th Anniversary Concert
Saturday 1st April, 7.30pm
St John's Church



Theatre trip to 'Fiddler on the Roof' at the King's
Saturday 8 April

Our ticket allocation is sold out but Fiona McLuckie can provide details of the rows we are in if anyone wishes to contact the theatre direct for adjacent seats.

Social Committee Spring Talk

'Mindroom; no mind left behind'

Monday 1 May, 7.30pm (doors open 7pm for wine and nibbles)

St John's Church

At least 5 children in every classroom have some kind of learning difficulty, and yet so often children with different needs are marginalised and isolated. Mindroom describes itself as a small Scottish charity with a big vision – to ensure that by 2020, every child and adult with learning difficulties in this country will receive the recognition and help that they need.

Come and hear our own Mig Coupe share her experience of working in this crucial area. Tickets (£5) are available from members of the Social Committee during coffee from Sunday 2 April.

Social Committee Summer Tea Party

Tuesday 30 May, 3pm

St Cuthbert's Church Hall

Please join us for our Summer Tea Party. There will be musical entertainment and (as always) an excellent afternoon tea. Most of our older members will receive a postal invitation nearer the time; however all are welcome and if you would like to come please contact Fiona McLuckie on 0131 315 4718.

Creative Together Button Fair

Friday 16 and Saturday 17 June

St Andrews and St George's West

The button fair is to raise funds for Marie Curie Cancer Care. The group has been **busy with donations of 'Granny's Button Box' and would be happy to receive any** further donations. Sheila Waterer is the **St John's representative on the group; take** your questions and buttons to her.

St John's Theology Symposium 2017

Saturday 25 November

Cornerstone Centre at St John's

This will be the only Symposium in 2017, hosted in our new Cornerstone Centre on 25 November. Details will be announced later but the joint speakers are Professor John Swinton of Aberdeen University and Dr Medi Ann Volpe of Durham University. The subject is the Christian understanding of the human person and both theologians are known for their work on how disabled people and people with mental illness can teach us what it means to be human.

Service with a Smile by DES

“What is wrong with telling the truth with a smile?” Desiderius Erasmus to Martin Dorp

I have been asked to clarify an ambiguity. When I first was handed a booklet containing the rules of Rugby Football I was struck by the first rule: **“When the referee blows his whistle play shall cease immediately”**. There was a footnote: **“This does not apply to the start of the match”**.

So in our Service Sheets, when they proclaim **“Please join in all the words printed in bold type”** this does not refer to the stage directions. The person who caused an unseemly fracas by booming out **“Offertory Hymn”, “Confession and Absolution”, “Communion Motets”** and so on was undoubtedly within the letter of the law but outwith the hedge of common sense.

Dear Des,

On the feast of Candlemas I attended the evening service and was puzzled by the symbolism. Some persons carried new candles, some old. Some talked of the coming Lent as a time of abstinence, others did not. We appeared to be in the presence of New Licht Burgers, Auld Licht Burgers, New Licht Anti-Burgers, Auld Licht Anti-Burgers. But nothing was said in the liturgy to make it clear to which doctrine we subscribed. Can it be that we subscribe to anti-sectarian ecumenism?

Yours sincerely,

Professor Gumboil.

DORP: Was that a joke? If so it will be incomprehensible to most subscribers.

DES: You forget, my friend. **“Cornerstone”** is now free. There are no subscribers.

A Message from Canon Wishwash

Some of my church-going acquaintances seem not to appreciate that Lent is a time for the mortification of the flesh. They give up things which are bad for them. I, on the other hand, have bought several boxes of chocolates for daily consumption; I have resigned my subscription to the gymnasium; and I have resolved to abstain from water

and have laid in a few crates of eminently quaffable wine. I fully expect after forty days to have reached a state of physical inadequacy of which even Bernard of Clairvaux would be proud.

St John's

Coffee Rota

April

2nd M Currie; M Brewer
9th M Warrack; S Goode
16th S Brand; E Law
23rd E Yeo; S Jameson
30th C Legge; E Bath

May

7th V Lobban; J Taleyarkhan
14th A Usher; S Kilbey
21st G Edgar; P Walliker
28th M Currie; W Wyse



Harry's



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Sunday Readings

Sunday Readings April — May 2017

Readings for all services each week are available in the *St John's Calendar and Lectionary 2016-2017* available at Cornerstone or the shop in the North Aisle for £5.

Year A	9.30am Matins	10.30am Eucharist	6.00pm Evensong
2 April Lent 5		Ezekiel 37.1-14 Romans 8.6-11 John 11.1-45	Isaiah 50.4-11 Luke 18.31-19.10
9 April Palm Sunday	Zechariah 9.9-12 Gregory Palamas	<i>Liturgy of the Palms:</i> Matthew 21.1-11 <i>Liturgy of the Passion:</i> Isaiah 50.4-9a Phillippians 2.5-11 Matthew 26.14-27.66 or 27.11-54	Zechariah 12.9-11; 13.1,7-9 Luke 19.29-44
16 April Easter Day	Luke 24.1-16 John Chrysostom	Acts 10.34-43 or Jeremiah 31.1-6 Colossians 3.1-4 or Acts 10.34-43 John 20.1-18 or Matthew 28.1.10	Isaiah 51.9-11 Luke 24.13-35 or John 20.19-23
23 April Second Sunday of Easter	John 20.19-31 Cyril of Alex.	Acts 2.14a,22-32 1 Peter 1.3-9 John 20.19-31	Exodus 13.3-10 Luke 24.13-35
30 April Third Sunday of Easter	Luke 24.13-35 Augustine	Acts 2.14a,36-41 1 Peter 1.17-23 Luke 24.13-35	Isaiah 40.27-31 James 1.1-12
7 May John the Evangelist, Patronal Feast		Exodus 33.7-11a 1 John 1:1-9 John 17:20-26	Isaiah 44.1-8 1 John 5.1-13
14 May Fifth Sunday of Easter	John 14.1-14 Ambrose	Acts 7.55-60 1 Peter 2.2-10 John 14.1-14	Isaiah 22.15-22 Acts 2.37-47
21 May Sixth Sunday of Easter	John 14.15-21 John Chrysostom	Acts 17.22-31 1 Peter 3.13-22 John 14.15-21	Galatians 1.11-24 Galatians 2.11-21
28 May Sunday in the Octave of the Ascension	Luke 24.44-53 Leo the Great	Acts 1.1-11 Ephesians 1.15-23 Luke 24.44-53	1 John 5.9-13 John 17.6-19

Useful Contacts

General Enquiries:	Office Open Monday-Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm <i>office@stjohns-edinburgh.org.uk</i> Tel: 0131 229 7565 Fax: 0131 229 2561	
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St John's Terrace	Cornerstone Bookshop Anna Pitt	229 3776
Vergers	Ryan Dimarco, Steve McLaren	

For weddings and baptisms please make contact initially with the Church Office

St John's

St John's is an active city-centre church within the Diocese of Edinburgh of the Scottish Episcopal Church, which is part of the world-wide Anglican Communion.

We welcome people of all denominations or none, firmly committed in faith or doubting and enquiring.

SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S

Sunday

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Choral Matins (not on 1st Sunday)
- 10.30am Sung Eucharist with activities for children
- 6.00pm Choral Evensong

Monday

- 10.30am Service for the deaf (1st Monday only)
- 12.30pm Eucharist

Tuesday

- 12.30pm Eucharist
- 3.30pm Silent Prayer

Wednesday

- 11.00am Eucharist
- 12.30pm Midday Prayer

Thursday

- 12.30pm Eucharist

Friday

- 12.30pm Eucharist



/churchofstjohn



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