

to glorify God ... to proclaim Christ ... and to serve others

**August 2022**

**No. 834**

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Things all around us are changing.....



But..... You are the same, And Your years will have no end.

Psalm 102:27

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**Minister**

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## Changing Faces – a new Editor

After around 12 years of dedicated service, ensuring a fact (and fun) filled Kirk News was provided for all members, Christine Denham has stood down from the role of Editor. Christine did a great job, working tirelessly to pull together information about what was going on in and around Blackhall St Columba's, keeping folk up to date with the news, and providing a quality, well respected publication. For this she has the thanks and appreciation of the Kirk Session and members of the congregation. A presentation in recognition of her service was made at the Kirk Session meeting in June.

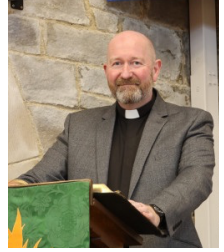
So..... an extremely hard act to follow! I have taken up the mantle and will strive to keep Kirk News up to the standards set by my predecessors. My style might be a bit different, but the purpose of the magazine remains to keep you, the congregation, informed and involved in what's going on at the church.

We have decided to reduce the frequency of the magazine to quarterly. We took cognisance of the considerable effort required by regular contributors to produce input every month as well as the costs and time required to produce and circulate the magazine, and the Kirk Session agreed the proposal.

I look forward to being your Editor, and welcome contributions and feedback from any member on any topic.

Fay Stirling

## From the Minister



### ‘A Time For Everything?’

The Book of Ecclesiastes is one of the Ketuvim (“Writings”) of the Hebrew Bible and one of the "Wisdom" books of the Christian Old Testament. One of its most famous passages is in chapter 3 where we are told that ‘Everything has its time’. The chapter begins, at verse 1, with the words *“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.”*

As I write this article, it is the middle of July and I have been on holiday. Many of the congregation are either on holiday or going on holiday also. Of course, Summer is the time for many people to go away and, on the Sunday that I returned from holiday, I began my sermon by talking about the stress of packing and getting ready for holidays. I read, recently, another article which spoke about the same thing. It said; *“It’s ironic that a well-deserved break often starts with running for a train, queueing your way through a cattle pen the size of a squash court at the airport, or sitting in the biggest traffic jam of the year.”* The article went on to describe an American scientific journal which reported on a study of heart-rate recovery among people who had just had a stressful experience. The researchers in the study looked at three scenarios. It found; *“In the people who vented, sharing every detail with someone else, heart-rate recovery was worryingly slow. Those who replayed the incident to themselves were in the middle of the scale. Whereas the people who simply accepted the difficulty without any fuss had heart rates that either remained low or quickly recovered their natural balance.”* What I thought was a personal feeling seems to be experienced by many.

However, although going on holiday can be stressful, there is always something to look forward to. There are other things I can think of that are also some of the most stressful things we can do in our lives but they too lead to something we can look forward to. For example, whilst moving house is very stressful, we are moving, hopefully, to a new house that we have chosen and are looking forward to living in. Similarly, organising and preparing for a wedding is very

Cont’d.....

stressful but, for the couple at least, they can look forward to being with the person they love and have chosen to be with for the rest of their lives. Lastly, in my short list of stressful things, is the process of having a child. I have been blessed to experience that particular stress three times now and, although there are many stressful times during the pregnancy and birth and, to be honest, on various occasions afterwards too, my own experience is that all the stresses of having a child are well worth it for all the blessings we receive once our children are born.

I entitled this article 'A Time for Everything' and, in relation to many of the things I have mentioned, there certainly is a 'time for' in everyone's lives. However, it is not just individuals who have a time for things. Sometimes, in the life of an institution or an organisation, there is time for things too.

At the moment, the Church of Scotland is facing one of the greatest upheavals in its history. As a result of failing to deal in the past with a number of issues, we are presently faced with an absolute requirement to reduce ministry posts and reduce the number of buildings we maintain and use. It is a time for change. Everyone in Blackhall St Columba's should be aware that, in the Presbytery of Edinburgh, we require to reduce our ministry posts by 40% and our buildings by 30%. These changes will affect every single Church in the Edinburgh Presbytery. Of course, we have already seen some change and many of you will know that we are now the Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian. However, that particular change does nothing to alter the figures.

As we move forward to explore how the changes will specifically affect Blackhall St Columba's, I am reminded of two things. Firstly, I am reminded of the verse from 2 Corinthians 5:17, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!" Becoming and being a Christian is about being open to change and allowing change to better ourselves. Secondly, I am reminded of the study I mentioned that tells me, for the sake of all our heart rates, that, whilst working hard to achieve the best we can for the Blackhall Community and the North West of Edinburgh, we need to accept that change is coming and embrace it while looking forward to the new opportunities it will bring.

God bless all Fergus

## Kirk Session

The Kirk Session met on Tuesdays 3 May and 7 June 2022.

### Building for the Future (Phase 2)

It was agreed that a discussion regarding what should embrace Phase 2 should take place at the September meeting.

### Church Attendance

The Clerk introduced this item and made the following points:

- Prior to lockdown and the move into the large hall, our average Sunday attendance was 215. This was based on a number of censuses carried out throughout the year with the overall figure also including children.
- Since March of this year, he had carried out four counts (one of which was Palm Sunday with an attendance of 128) while 27 March was discounted with only 75 in attendance. The average of the remaining 3 was 117.
- This was not an implied criticism of the Minister. Indeed, we have welcomed a number of new members this year.
- The Clerk asked the Kirk Session “Where are the missing members”.

The Moderator invited comments and discussion which is summarized as follows:

- Elders are best placed to know the circumstances of each member in their District. Who might return to Church and how can we encourage them to do so?
- We have an elderly congregation with the average age much higher than the national average.
- The average figure of 117 recorded in the census excludes those who worship online and those who attend the midweek service.
- Worship habits have changed as a result of the pandemic and the Church more widely needs to be more innovative in meeting this challenge.
- Examples were given of members who attended regularly pre Covid but whose health changes now mean that they cannot attend Church.

The Moderator concluded the discussions by re-iterating that we want people to come back to Church while accepting that the wider community may well endorse other forms of worship too. Elders will liaise with members who in the past were regular attenders but for whatever reason have not come back on Sunday.

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## **Communication**

It was agreed to reduce the number of editions of Blackhall Bulletins published each year from four to three. It was also agreed to restrict the number of Kirk News produced each year from seven to four.

## **Communion Cards**

Following discussion over both meetings it was agreed to cease the issue of Communion Cards for each Communion Service. Kirk Session went on to agree that in substitution a more informal letter of invitation for each Communion be given by the Elder to each member in their District.

## **Correspondence**

Communications were received from:-

The Monte Cassino Society thanking the Minister for the recent Service and enclosing a cheque for £100.

Fresh Start – acknowledgement of £272.20 as a result of Easter retiring collections.

## **Elder Retiral**

The Clerk informed Session of Judith Lowther's decision to retire as an active Elder and added that he would write to Judith thanking her for her faithful service as an Elder.

## **Installation of bicycle rack (outside the Church Buildings)**

It has been agreed to install stands for bicycles in the area to the east of the Sanctuary facing the large hall.

## **Order of Service / Hymn Books and Bibles**

At the May meeting it was agreed to accept the proposal put forward by the Moderator that CH4 Hymn books and Bibles be placed in the seats in the Sanctuary. The June meeting deliberated over the return to an Order of Service being available each Sunday. There were mixed views on this matter and this will come up again for discussion in September. In the interim Elders were asked to elicit the views of members.

## **Lost and found property policy**

A draft guide had been prepared by the Church Secretary and subject to only some minor points this was agreed. Cont'd.....

## **Presbytery Consultative Document**

It was noted that the Moderator and Clerk had met with members of the Presbytery Deployment Group. This was regarded as a listening meeting as the thoughts of Session had already been put forward concerning the proposals affecting our Congregation. The Moderator had also held a meeting with Rev Jenny Williams, Minister at Drylaw (whose tenure as Transition Minister concluded on 30 June 2022). It is planned to have other meetings with Drylaw to explore areas of co-operation. It was reported that although a Locum Minister has been appointed for Drylaw, an Interim Moderator had yet to be decided. (*Rev Iain May has since been appointed*).

## **Roll**

The Kirk Session was pleased to admit the following as members:-  
Ms Pamela Harrington, Gardiner Road, Edinburgh  
Mr George and Mrs Nancy Davidson, Barnton Park View.

## **WATCH Committee**

Kirk Session readily agreed the Committee's nomination for this year's charity, namely Pilton Equalities Project (P.E.P.) (Scottish Charity SC010108) who are based in our local Mission District. They support older people and vulnerable groups and are just now restarting their lunch clubs and other activities. They are also now using their minibuses to transport displaced families from Ukraine.

Eddie Thorn, Session Clerk

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## **Scottish Country Dancing**

Classes will resume on Thursday  
22nd September 2022 at 7.30pm.

We meet in the large hall of St Columba's and will continue throughout the Autumn Term until 8th December.

We are always delighted to welcome new members (ladies and gentlemen) so why not come along for an evening of good fun and laughter. You can be assured of a warm welcome.

Contact - Margaret Brown (0131 332 5957)

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## Sunday Club

Now that we have established a weekly group for children who come to Blackhall St Columba's, we decided to continue throughout the summer without a formal break.

Noah and the Ark was the theme for eight weeks of animal-related activities and we gradually created our wall display with pairs large and small, some in colours only children might have imagined!!!!

Visitors are always welcome to join the small group of "regulars" when we leave during the service to go down to the small hall. And, of course, if you have children or grandchildren who would like to join in the fun, do bring them along to see what exciting things are coming up next.

The Sunday Club team.





## Primary 2 visit the Church

P2 at Blackhall Primary School have been looking at people who help in their community. As part of that study the whole of P2, along with their teachers and parent helpers visited Blackhall St Columba's Church in May to see how we help in the community. We had an in-depth discussion about what we do at Church and how we come together to worship God. The children had some very deep questions!

Having looked at the Church building, and what we did there, we went on to explore how our belief in God leads us to reach out to others in the community and help them. We looked at some of the many charities we support and the different ways in which the community uses our buildings.





## FreshStart

Thank you for your generous support in recent months which has been greatly appreciated by FreshStart.

While we are enjoying summer, unfortunately the need for food support continues to grow and the Pantry Shop is getting busier than ever. Emergency food packs are also being issued in greater numbers so if you feel able to add any non-perishable items to your shopping a collection point will be available in the church each Sunday.

Although there will be no Friday morning collections on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> August, starter pack donations (which are always needed) will be accepted on Sundays 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> August.

Take a look at the poster on this page for another new way you can provide support to FreshStart, by becoming a mentor to someone learning to cook.

Lastly if you would like to volunteer for Friday morning collection duties in the halls the new rota will be starting in September. Please contact Lilian or Michael Cockburn for further details or to add your name to the group of volunteers.

Lilian & Michael  
07427 855199  
cockburn\_carfrae@yahoo.co.uk

## Walking Where Jesus Walked



The Bible has been brought to life for a group of Church of Scotland ministry candidates and probationers in an "eye-opening" visit to the Holy Land.

As well as visiting religious and historical sites, the eight day tour also gave the future ministers, and others in the group of around 30, a greater understanding of the current situation in the region and provided an opportunity to see how the Church of Scotland, together with its local partners, is making a difference by providing new opportunities and helping promote peace.

Along with Old Jerusalem, Biblical locations on the busy itinerary included Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee and what is thought to be the site of the Apostle Peter's mother-in-law's home, while other historic sites visited included Qumran, famous as the location where the Dead Sea Scrolls were hidden, and the mountain fortress of Masada.

Trish Archibald, who began training for parish ministry last summer after previously serving as youth and families' officer at St Michael's Parish Church in Linlithgow, agreed the visit had made a big impact.

"The trip was incredible," she said.

"It was awe inspiring to walk where Jesus walked, to be where the Holy Spirit first came to the disciples, to see, feel, touch, smell, and taste things I have only ever read about in the Bible."

Please remember those who have been called to do God's work in this way in your prayers.

Source – COS website

## In the Sanctuary

### **New blinds..... or are they sails?**

As mentioned in the last edition of Kirk News, it was agreed to install coverings on the large windows above the choir gallery. This was not as straightforward as it seemed. After several failed attempts to engage blind manufacturers – the job was too challenging for most as the windows at their highest measure well over 6m – someone suggested we approached of all things a sailmaker!

Undeterred, contact was made with Forth Marine Textiles, who were only too pleased to provide window coverings in the form of blinds, but blinds which operate like sails! They are stored at the bottom of the windows and hoisted into place using pulleys when needed.

Installation was not easy due to the height and a scaffolding tower had to be erected and dismantled for each window to enable the pulley wheels to be attached at the top of each window arch.

We hope that the new blinds (or sails), which are made from polypropylene sail canvas in a colour to tone with the surrounding stonework and hoisted using traditional jute ropes, provide a solution to the reflection on the main screen.

Our thanks to Forth Marine Textiles, Lothian Hire (for scaffold) and John Dennis & Co (for scaffolders).

### **Flowers in Church**

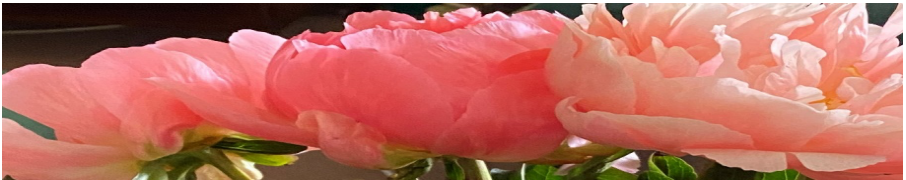
Flowers in Church remind us of some of God's most delightful creations. We all love to see the beautiful flowers which adorn our church every Sunday. Members very generously donate to the Flower Fund often for personal reasons and the flowers are chosen and arranged by a small team of church members.

The flowers are delivered after the Sunday service to people who may need to be given a floral "hug" or reminded of the love of our Congregation. This may be because they are going through difficult periods of their lives or because they are celebrating significant events.

Cont'd.....

Normally Elders will let the Minister or Church Secretary know about people in their Districts who could benefit from flowers. Both the flower arrangers and those who are on the delivery rota give very generously of their time and it is much appreciated. Many people who receive the flowers say what a difference it makes to them that they are remembered and how much they enjoy the flowers.

If you wish to contribute to the Flower Fund you are very welcome to do so, but if not, sit back and enjoy them. In a flower's short life, it can give a great deal of pleasure.



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## **Midweek PEACE service**

We have come to the end of the 2021/22 session and we would like to thank everyone who helped to make this happen; our speakers, transport providers and organiser, soup makers and servers, our pianists and of course everyone who attended.

It is a wonderful opportunity to share fellowship and we hope to see as many of you as possible next session. We will be re-starting on Wednesday 14th September at 12.00

Thanks to your generosity we have been able to give donations of £150.00 to "500 Miles", £200.00 to "Scottish Love in Action", £40.00 to the Christmas Tree Festival, and £200.00 to Friends of Murambina Hospital in Zimbabwe via John and Mary Miller.

We are looking for more soup makers/ servers and drivers so if you are able to help we would love to hear from you.

Shona Cook 07981 970054 or [shonacook55@gmail.com](mailto:shonacook55@gmail.com)

Ruth Laidlaw 07513 967974 or [ruthlaidlaw@gmail.com](mailto:ruthlaidlaw@gmail.com)

## Junior Singers

What a roller-coaster this last year has been for St Columba's Junior Singers! Covid prevented us from meeting and from recruiting new singers and by the time we were allowed to meet again in the church halls, our older members had moved on to secondary school. This meant that on our first choir practice in September 2021, only two children remained from our pre-covid choir. From that shaky start, however, the choir has blossomed into an enthusiastic, hard-working group of 17 girls AND boys! We have sung several times in church and performed last Christmas in the Edinburgh Nativity Service and, although it hasn't been possible so far, we hope we can at some point return to sing in Strachan House.

We will be starting our new session on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> September in the upstairs hall at Blackhall St. Columba's Church. We start rehearsals at 3.45pm (some children come straight from school) and finish at 4.30pm – all during term time. We would be delighted to welcome any new singers in the P3 - P7 age range and, if your child enjoys singing, invite you to bring them along on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September (there is no charge involved) or phone Amy Donaldson (332 1354) if you'd like some more information.



The Junior singers joined the Praise Band for the service on 29<sup>th</sup> May.



The Junior Singers get us all involved in the actions



Meanwhile Fergus tries out some magic



And the Praise Band lead the singing



## Life & Work Magazine

Life and Work is the official Church of Scotland magazine which publishes articles about what is going on within the church. For those of you who do not read it and who would like to borrow a copy please say and I can lend you one. It's an interesting publication about Church of Scotland and what is going on. If you wish to order a paper copy please let me know.

Unfortunately, this is the time to give you notice of a change in the price. The Subscription to a paper copy of Life and Work is still available through the Church bulk order, and will continue to be, as long as people wish to order a copy. In previous years, the cost of the magazine has been discounted for all who took the magazine through the church. This has changed and the discount is no longer on offer. The full cost of a yearly subscription for a printed copy is £36. (The subscription of a Digital version is £20.99 a year.)

Everyone who receives a paper copy at present will be asked in January to pay for the 2023 subscription unless they tell me beforehand that they no longer wish to take the magazine. I must order next year's subscription in early November, so it would be helpful to let me know.  
Alison Hewat

## Keeping Members' Data Safe – Important Guidance

As the world and our church and congregation have opened up post Covid there have been many changes, but our responsibility to protect members' information remains paramount. As people have taken on new responsibilities, others have stepped down, and it is important that everyone involved in organising rotas etc understands their Data Protection responsibilities.

If you have lists and no longer need information such as names, addresses, telephone numbers or email addresses for members it is essential that you do not retain it. If that is the case, could you please let me know which lists you have,  
Cont'd .....



then delete all copies you have on computer and destroy all paper copies. Please could all those who have taken over new roles let me know which lists they now organise. At the same time, please could all Elders who have changed districts delete all old records. Anybody who was previously on a list or rota and is no longer involved should also destroy/delete any copies they have.

This does not mean deleting personal lists which have come about through friendship. Christmas card lists for example do not come into church life categories.

This all sounds very formal but the present data protection rules are clear. We may not hold data unless we have a current requirement for it.

Your help is appreciated as it helps me update the log of who holds what. Our Records may be inspected at any time.

Cheer up, you can now delete all that old stuff on your computer and shred all the unnecessary paperwork. It's very satisfying.

If you need any more information or guidance contact please don't hesitate to get in touch - Alison Hewat (rajahewat1@btinternet.com) or put a note in my church pigeonhole.

## **Edinburgh Floral Art Club**



The Club starts its Autumn Programme on Friday 9th September at 2pm in the Large hall. Our first Demonstrator is Linda Soutar and her title is 'Reflections'.

We have a full programme for the year and meet on the second Friday of the month from September to December and February to June.

If you are not a Member but are interested in coming, do come as a Guest. You will be made most welcome.

## **John Milne Pettigrew Session Clerk 1988-1994**

We were saddened by the passing of John Pettigrew on 12<sup>th</sup> April and pay tribute to the man and his achievements. John was born in Glasgow in 1924 to Robert and Nellie and had one older sister, Margaret. When of age, John attended Albert High School where he excelled and went on to qualify as a civil engineer.

John's heart belonged to three places, Glasgow was the first. The second was Fettercairn. His mother had come from there and whenever he went on holiday that was where he went, to see her parents and siblings. His Grandfather was the malt man at the local distillery, and probably ignited John's enjoyment of whisky. Latterly, he would enjoy a dram each evening at 5pm except on Tuesday and Friday evenings which were reserved for his dear friends Judith and Sandra.

John signed up for the army aged 20 and was sent halfway across the world to India. He spent five years serving there, both in the Second World War and afterwards during the partition where he saw many tragedies. John began his army career as a sapper and finished a captain.

John eventually returned to Glasgow and met the love of his life, Mae Campbell. They met at a dance hall and wrote to each other every day. The family still have the letters, and the love they had for each other is evident in every word. Any of you who knew the two of them and saw them together know how true that is.

They had three children, Anne, Ruth and David. John was immensely proud of them all and he loved them so much. He once said to me that being their father was the greatest achievement of his life.

A civil engineer by profession, specialising in water supply and sewage treatment, his work took him from Hamilton to London and back to Edinburgh where Mae and John lived for many years. There was one more stop before his retirement, Washington DC, for a job at the World Bank. Cont'd.....

His work with the bank took him all across the world, Turkey, Korea, China where he once met the Premier's daughter and finally, after thirty years, he returned to India. India always had a special place in John's heart, he still could remember the Urdu he had learned even in his final years. To him it was an amazing country, full of marvellous people whom he loved to work with and learn from.

Finally John retired and returned to Edinburgh with Mae. His new found leisure time allowed him to spend more time on his hobbies – he loved to read, Dickens being his favourite author of course, though Moby Dick would have been the book he would have taken to his desert island. And of course he played golf. John was a member of Murrayfield golf club and played on courses all across Scotland and indeed the world. It was one of the few things he missed in his old age, along with being able to drive.

Just as he loved his children completely, John loved his Grandchildren, Fraser, Cameron and Anna. He was so proud of them and so kind to them.

The other major part of John's life was Blackhall St Columba's. As many of you know he was an elder here and the session clerk. He taught in Sunday school and loved to go on outings with the walking group. The church was his community and he made many dear friends here.

John had an amazing life, a long life, not many of us are fortunate enough to see 98 years. He had a wonderful family who he loved with all his heart, friends from work and church whom he felt blessed to know and call friends. His job took him all across the world and who knows how many people he helped, bringing clean water and sanitation to those that needed it most. He touched incalculable lives; I think everyone who knew him only had good things to say.

(Edited from the Appreciation given at the Thanksgiving Service for John's life. Thanks to the generosity of those who attended £650.00 was donated to Erskine Park.)

A paeony rose has been planted by the family in John's memory in the church garden.

## Jubilee Afternoon Tea

On 3<sup>rd</sup> June, over 120 members, friends and visitors joined together in the Church for an afternoon tea to celebrate HM

Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee. There was food and chat aplenty and everyone had a great time...even the corgis!



Muriel Stenhouse dressed for the occasion with Arty and a couple of corgis



Donald and Libby Cameron looking very patriotic!



A great use of our flexible space

## WATCH Committee

The WATCH Committee has now started this year's fundraising, in line with our remit of supporting and raising awareness of local charities, with the coin collection during every Sunday morning service in July and August. Please bring along your coins and join in the song!

This year we are raising funds for the local charity Pilton Equalities Project (P.E.P.). They support older people and vulnerable groups and are now restarting their lunch clubs and other activities. Currently they are using their minibuses to transport displaced families from Ukraine. It seems appropriate that we are helping our neighbours to help their neighbours.

We intend to follow the traditional programme after the Summer Coin Collection with the Craft Coffee Morning on 1<sup>st</sup> October and the Christmas Fair on 26<sup>th</sup> November. More details will be published in future editions of Kirk News and the Blackhall Bulletin and through intimations at church services.

The WATCH Committee has had great support from the congregation and the local community since it was formed in 1991, raising more than £275,000 for good causes in that time. We appreciate the support of organisations which meet in the Church halls and hope that they will continue by running stalls at the Christmas Fair and other fundraising activities.

Our P.E.P. fund is already benefitting from events held by the Outreach Committee.

Dates for your diary

- **Craft Coffee Morning** on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October from 10.00am to 12 noon
- **Christmas Fair** on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 2 pm

George Millar  
WATCH Committee Convener



## Christmas Fair – Tombola prizes needed

The Christmas Fair is happening this year!

The WATCH Committee wish to thank businesses, the congregation and friends for all their support over the years. We appreciate that businesses have had a difficult time financially during Covid but we are hoping that some of them will be able to support us with our fundraising.

The Tombola Team are looking for your ideas for vouchers, please suggest a business that you use or know of that might donate a voucher or a prize. They could be *beauticians, cafes, florists, garden centres, hairdressers, restaurants, shops, sports clubs or events .....just a few of our ideas but please help us by thinking of other businesses or people with skills who might donate their time.*

Your help will be greatly appreciated ***Thank you***

Contacts: Rosi Watt (0131 332 4027) [rosijwatt@outlook.com](mailto:rosijwatt@outlook.com)  
George Millar (0131 332 0947) [georgemillar@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:georgemillar@blueyonder.co.uk)

## Tuesday Topics

### GOOD NEWS

We are hoping that Tuesday Topics will resume on 4th October 2022. Meetings will be back in the small hall at 7.30 pm.

The Committee are currently preparing what will hopefully be an interesting and varied syllabus.

We are looking forward to seeing all our members and friends, and will especially welcome anyone who hasn't been along before.

Lyndy Paton, Secretary  
Eleanor Lowrie, President

## The Prayer Circle

Do you know someone in need of prayer? A friend or relative perhaps who is unwell, grieving or find themselves in a position where they don't know where to turn?

Blackhall St Columba's Prayer Circle is a small team of people who will pray regularly for anyone in need of help in complete confidence.

If you or someone you know would appreciate the prayers of others, please contact Prayer Circle secretary Betty Watt at [lbthwatt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lbthwatt@yahoo.co.uk) or the minister, Fergus Cook at [Fcook@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:Fcook@churchofscotland.org.uk) or 0131 466 7503. Alternatively, please put your request slip into the locked box on the table in the church.

If you'd like to join the Prayer Circle, you can also contact Betty Watt.



## CAMEO Club

The Cameo Club (Come And Meet Each Other) is held fortnightly in the large hall of St Columba's and the next meeting is on Friday 12<sup>TH</sup> August. Some of our ladies and gentlemen are members of the church but some are from the surrounding areas. All are welcome. We meet at 10.30 am to 12.00 when coffee/tea/pancakes are served, then we sit back, relax and enjoy some entertainment.

If you have not ventured along, why not "give it a try ". Transport can be arranged. If you would like to volunteer in whatever way, then do give us a ring for more details.

Contacts:

Margaret Brown 0131 332 5957

Fiona Drinnan 0131 343 6762



**There's been a  
"murrduurr" .....Can you catch  
the killer?**

### **Saturday 8th October 2022 6-9pm**

There aren't many of us who don't enjoy an episode of Taggart, Midsomer Murders or Death in Paradise when we can try to examine the clues and work out whodunnit before all is revealed.

Why not come along to our own murder mystery event at the church on Saturday 8th October and see how good your detective skills really are?

Professional actors will provide the background, story and evidence for you to consider over a delicious high tea of fish and chips (and treats for after). Then, they will finish off the evening by performing the "solution" for us.

There are a limited number of places available which will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Tickets are £20 each for the entertainment and the meal.

Why not take a table and bring some friends along?

Please contact Shona Cook on 07981 970054 or by email - [shonacook505@gmail.com](mailto:shonacook505@gmail.com), or the contacts below to book tickets.

**NOTE-WHEN THE TICKETS ARE GONE, THEY'RE GONE!!!!**

## **MURDER MYSTERY EVENING**

**WITH HIGH TEA**



**Blackhall St Columba's Church  
£20 inc. meal**

**Saturday 8th October  
6pm**

**Contact: Michael 07536019488 or Church Office 0131 332 4431**



## Congregational News

### **New members admitted by Certificate of Transference**

Mr George and Mrs Nancy Davidson  
Ms Pamela Harrington

### **Deaths**

#### **May**

14 Mrs Doreen Campbell  
25 Mrs Jean McMutrie

27 Mrs May Duguid  
29 Mr Kenneth Pearson

#### **June**

21 Mrs Heather Galloway

21 Mrs Sian Mackenzie

#### **July**

7 Mrs May Williamson  
12 Mrs Isabel Turnbull

13 Mrs Janet Johnstone

## Dates for your Diary

Upcoming events at Blackhall St Columba's include:

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October

Watch Committee Craft Coffee Morning

Murder Mystery Night (ticketed event)

Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November

Remembrance Service at the War Memorial

Remembrance Sunday

Watch Committee Christmas Fair

Be sure to get these into your diaries so you don't miss them.

# Church Golf Outing



After a three year break the Church golf outing was held on the Friday 8th July 2022 at Ravelston Golf Club. 14 played 18 holes and a further 4 played 9 holes and all enjoyed a lovely afternoon.

The winners this year were:

## **Involvement 88 Cup**

1. Alan Francey

## **Murrayfield Handicap Cup**

1. John Turner
2. George Millar
3. Brian Duffin

## **Murrayfield House Ladies Cup**

1. Diane Ross
2. Pam Harrington
3. Frances Douglas

## **Nearest the Pin 5th Hole**

Eric Turnbull

## **Nearest the Pin 18th Hole**

Eric Turnbull

## **Booby Prize**

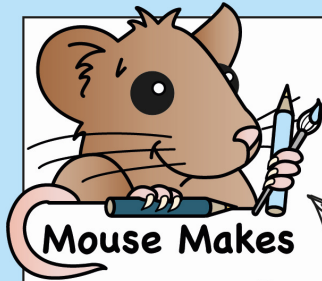
Barbara Halliday

## **9 Hole Prize**

Mike

McKinnell

Once again a big thank you to Ravelston for the use of their Course and afterwards for the delicious meal which was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Frances Douglas for sorting out all the Score Cards and to Murrayfield House for their support and sponsorship of the Event. We now look forward to next year when we hope to return to holding the Event in June.



## Mouse Makes

READ the full story  
in the book of Jonah



What swallowed Jonah?

A big \_\_\_\_\_

How long was he there?

three \_\_\_\_\_ and  
three \_\_\_\_\_

Jonah 1:17

## JONAH'S JOURNEY

Which city did **God**  
tell **Jonah** to go to?

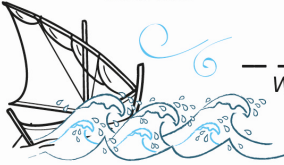
JOPPA

and why?  
Jonah 1:12

Where did Jonah  
try to go instead?

What did he travel in?

Jonah 1:3



What did God send to stop him?

A great \_\_\_\_\_

What did Jonah tell the **sailors**  
to do to make the sea **calm**?

\_\_\_\_\_

him into the **sea**

Jonah 1:4-16



What did Jonah do?

\_\_\_\_\_

then what did the fish do?

Jonah 2:1-10

## DID YOU KNOW?

In Bible  
times wearing itchy  
sackcloth made from  
goat's hair was a sign of  
grief and repentance



When Jonah reached Nineveh  
he proclaimed God's **message**...  
the city would be overthrown in

\_\_\_\_\_ days  
Jonah 2:1-10

What did the people do?

**F** \_\_\_\_\_

What did they put on?

\_\_\_\_\_

Jonah 3:1-9

What did God do?

**R** \_\_\_\_\_

Jonah 3:10

S W A L L O W E D H F  
A D E M E S S A G E A  
C R E L E N T E D S S  
K D B V J G H B O A T  
C A L M O O R N F I N  
L Y W I N D O I I L G  
O S P R A Y W G S O S  
T A R S H I S H H R E  
H T B N F O R T Y S A  
N I N E V E H S H I P

Find the missing words. Look up the Bible references then  
look for them and the words on this page in **bold** in the word search

 <p><b>BLACKHALL ST. COLUMBA'S</b> CHURCH OF SCOTLAND</p>	 <p>@ BStCC_EH</p>
<p>Website</p> <p><a href="https://www.blackhallstcolumba.org.uk/">https://www.blackhallstcolumba.org.uk/</a></p>	 <p>Blackhall St Columba's Church</p>

Address: Columba Road, Edinburgh, EH4 3QU

Telephone: 0131 332 4431

## Publication deadlines

### For contributions to Blackhall Bulletin:

([bulletin@blackhallstcolumba.org.uk](mailto:bulletin@blackhallstcolumba.org.uk))

September 2022 issue

31<sup>st</sup> July (you may have just missed it!)

December 2022 issue

23<sup>rd</sup> October

### For contributions to Kirk News:

([fay@blackhallstcolumba.org.uk](mailto:fay@blackhallstcolumba.org.uk))

November 2022 issue

14<sup>th</sup> October

February 2023 issue

16<sup>th</sup> January

We are happy to take articles on any relevant subject from anyone, so don't be shy!