



St Martin of Tours
Diocese of Edinburgh Scottish Charity No: 011137

Living our faith in our community
through prayer, reflection and action



August September 2023
St Martin of Tours Episcopal Church
is part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

www.stmartinsedinburgh.org.uk

Who are we?

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Priest in Charge | John Vincent johnvincent@stmartinsedinburgh.org.uk mobile 07914 762868 | 374 6365 |
| Organist | Chris Johnson chrisj@epcc.ed.ac.uk | 620 2603 |
| Rector's Church Warden | Liz Moir (Miss) | |
| People's Church Warden | Roderick MacKenzie roderick@blueyonder.co.uk | 07751 519029 |
| Vestry Secretary | Felicity Murdanaigum felicitymurdanaigum@hotmail.co.uk | 07867 278928 |
| Treasurer | Lynn Dailly lynndailly@btinternet.com | 444 2233 |
| Gift Secretary | Stuart Campbell Campbellzn@hotmail.com | 466 8184 |
| Lay Representative | Liz Moir (Miss) | |
| Alternative Lay Representative | Diana Gilligan | |

Message from John

Dandelion Children

The Garden next door to the Rectory is looking very tidy and ordered – a weed and moss free patio, tubs with neat shrubs, top of the range garden furniture waiting for one of those rare Edinburgh days where it is actually warm enough to sit outside. The Rectory Garden however is an altogether different matter; last year I laid down bags of manure, liberally sprinkled some wild seeds and sat back to see what happened. Last year was impressive, but this year, it has been something else; the wild flowers re-



seeded, the existing rhubarb seemed to lap up the rich soil and the garden is a wonderful oasis of colours that are continually changing and attracting bees and many other insects.

The front garden also saw a few sturdy flowers pushing through the cracks and stones including an impressive dandelion right by the front door – such a perfect specimen and there was no way I was going to uproot it until the flowers had gone. I eventually pulled it up with a certain amount of guilt, and then to add to my discomfort, Stuart in his lovely sermon last week, quoted some lines from a poem entitled ‘In Praise of the Dandelion’.

It reminded me of my son and daughter who as Service Children for many years, were often referred to as Dandelion Children, because like the dandelion they are blown like the wind with regular postings and yet wherever they find themselves, they put down roots very quickly, making good friends with who they share a common identity.

And it got me thinking that the dandelion is also the perfect symbol for us; our faith gives us deep roots, so that wherever we find ourselves, or whatever challenges we have to face, we know that we are rooted in God's providential care. Like the dandelion, we know that our faith



is often misunderstood – there are those who would like to uproot faith from public life, and yet God tends to his church with love; he looks on us with beauty despite our failures, and nourishes us with Grace.

Wild gardens also remind us of the mission of the church; to go into the weeds and brambles, to seek out those who are despised by others, or discriminated against because of how they look, or where they are from.

Life can never be a neat ordered patio that we control; Jesus invites us to discover God's beauty in others, to love the unlovable (and that includes ourselves) and to treasure all that he has made. As I look out on my wild garden bathed today in a rare display of Scottish sunshine and alive with bees, I am grateful to God for seeing the beauty in me and whose generous grace calls us all to an abundant life.

John

SMALLS FOR ALL

I have a friend who has a friend – Linda. Linda was a midwife who supported and raised a lot of money for a maternity hospital in Africa - *Malawi*? I sent money monthly in support of Linda's cause. Then it closed and she passed me on to another charity that I now support with a small monthly payment. That charity is "Smalls for All". Let me tell you a bit about it.

Smalls for All collects underwear for people in Africa and the UK who can't afford or can't get any. As they say, "because dignity matters". As an example, the pants they provide to girls in Africa means they can go to school every day of the month. In their last newsletter, they say they have received 50 requests for underwear, 30 from organisations supporting people in the UK - baby banks, uniform banks, organisations supporting people escaping domestic violence, homeless people and refugees. Twenty requests were for organisations in Africa. "Days for Girls UK" and "The Tumaini Fund", along with others, have included Smalls for All's underwear donations in their hygiene kits for girls.

As well as supporting them with cash donations, they accept packs of UNWORN underwear and people can buy an extra pack to donate when buying their own underwear.

They have a website, www.smallsforall.org and they are based at Five Sisters Business Park, Westwood, West Calder EH55 8PN.

Diana

Church Flowers

May I offer a huge thank you to all who made donations to the Flower Fund following my appeal in the last newsletter. These have helped enormously, especially as the flowers need changed more regularly during the warm, humid weather.

I will continue to try to buy longer lasting flowers and greenery to make your donations last as long as possible.

Thank you, Lynn.

St. Michael's Late Summer Concerts

St Michael's will continue with their week of concerts during the last week of the Edinburgh International Festival (19 to 27 August). The concerts are as follows:

Sat. 19 Aug. 4pm Stuart Montgomery, St Michael's own organist, will give a piano, recital, hosting his usual tea afterwards.

Sun. 20 Aug. 3pm Bradley Johnston, classical guitarist.

Mon. 21 Aug. 7:30pm Nikita Lukinov, pianist, whose programme will include Mussorgsky's 'Pictures at an Exhibition'.

Tues. 22 Aug. 4pm Brian Bannantyne-Scott, bass-baritone, and friends in 'A Celebration of Songs in English and Scots, New and Old'.

Thurs. 24 Aug. 7:30pm Brass Tracks, a 5-piece brass group with a broad and exciting repertoire.

Fri. 25 Aug. 5:30pm Hugh MacKay, (cello), with a programme of music for solo cello, including Bach.

Sat. 26 Aug. 7:30pm Jill Crosland, pianist, who specialises in repertoire from the classical period.

Sun 27 Aug. 8pm The Renaissance Group Corncrakes, a reunion of past students from St. Andrews University, celebrating the remarkable choirs to which they belonged. Directed by Neil Price, they will sing some of the music performed in the King's recent Coronation Service.

These concerts are free of charge, but there will be retiring collections at each concert, most of the proceeds going to the musicians. Any remainder will go to church funds.

St Martin's Church Annual Art Show 2023

The dates and times for this year's Art Show are as follows:

Preview evening: Sunday 27th August at 7pm. You are all invited.
Please come along

Art Show Open: Monday 28th August to Friday 1st September 12noon
till 4.00pm

Plus: Saturday 2nd September 10.00am till 12.30pm, with coffee morning

As a trial, I have changed the closing time during the week to 4pm
instead of 6pm

Tea, coffee, and home-baking will be on sale Monday to Saturday, and
we would hope to have a home-baking stall with the coffee morning.

If you are a home-baker, please think about offering some of your
favourites for the café and/or the Coffee morning home-baking stall.

Please note the dates and times and be ready to add your name to the
rota when it appears at the end of this month.

Thank you in anticipation,

Lynn

The Revd Canon William J.T. Brockie

The service of Thanksgiving for the life of Bill Brockie was held at
Mortonhall Crematorium on Friday 30th June 2023 led by the Trinity of
Johns, John Vincent, John Conway and Bishop John. Bishop John took
the risk of asking people from the congregation to come and give
tributes which were very moving as Bill had worked with many
different organisations. The music was very fine, a recorder played as
we entered and trumpet solos as we left. Jenny invited us all back to St
Martin's to allow people to continue to share their happy memories of
Bill.

Felicity

Ukraine – a personal exploration before Putin’s invasion

by Jenny Robertson £10

BOOK LAUNCH

11am on 12th August 2023

St Martin’s Church 232 Dalry Rd, Edinburgh EH11 2JG

Ukraine, the edge of Europe, now takes centre stage. This book explores this little known land whose fertile soil has made it the “breadbasket” of Europe and beyond. A land of steppe and mountain, lakes and rivers, a country filled with colour in woodland and field, in bright folk costumes with rich embroidery, Cossack dance and song, where women and girls are crowned with flowers, a country that long seemed forgotten by time, though not by war, a land much invaded and always battling for freedom.

Jenny Robertson, an experienced author for children and adults, has written about Jewish life and death in East Europe, visited the USSR in the 1980s, lived in St Petersburg from 1991-98, immersed in Russian, and so brought to her Ukrainian travels a multi-faceted understanding of the complexities and richness of this land, where the story of the Eastern Slavs begins. This is likely to be her final book.

The church is located in the Dalry area near Haymarket. Bus routes include 2, 25, 3, 33, 4, 44. There’s metered parking in Murieston Crescent and Murieston Terrace. The Lidl store across the road offers free parking for shoppers for 90 minutes.

Purchases of this book will support the provision of books for Ukrainian refugee children in Edinburgh.

To register for the launch, please email: jstein@handselpress.org.uk

Grannies

Grannies are TALL, small,
round as a ball or thin as a pin.
Grannies wear skirts which flow
or bright sports clothes,
a long scarf or shawl, or no hat at all.
Grannies' hair may be black or brown,
purplish blue, grey at the edges,
or white all through,
snug as a cap, or high as a crown.
Granny may drive a car or ride on a bus.
She lives very far, or right beside us.
She may be Grandma or Granny,
Nanny or Nan, Grandmother, Gran...
But whatever her name,
whether she walks or travels by train
or flies in a plane,
you may be sure, whichever Gran fits,
she loves YOU to bits.

Jenny Robertson

Granny

Granny is wrinkly and crinkly,
she wears beads that are tinkly
and can't run as fast as us.

Granny sighs, "My eyes
are not what they used to be,"
but whenever we hurt a hand or a knee,
all of a sudden Granny can see.

We wave goodbye. Granny's left with our toys
in a house without noise.

She has our pictures in every room
and smiles at them in her quiet home.

Jenny Robertson

Strollers

I have included walks already taken as they were very successful and enjoyed by all.

St Martin's Strollers Walks for 2023

June 3rd Pilgrimage Walk (Fife) See photo on front of Newsletter

We met Chaplain Duncan Weaver at Markinch and visited the 12th century church before starting our walk. After a drive to Kennoway, we walked up and down hill for 5 miles to Clato Lake for lunch. The weather was kind to us, sunny and breezy, perfect walking weather. Some of us walked on to Ceres led by Duncan. He suggested that we walk in silence through the fields, the first ten minutes silence to observe our

surroundings, then ten minutes to give thanks for all we saw and the last ten minutes to pray for all in need. It was very good to spend some time in silence. It reminded me of our walk by the sea last year for the quiet space. We met the rest of the group at Ceres where we were able to visit the Church, which is interesting as it has tables set in the pews to allow the communion meal be take round a table. A good day was had by all.

July 22nd Peter and Liz led the walk Roseburn to Newhaven along the old railway line. We then met at the Chain Pier for Lunch of fish and chips. A good walk even if the weather was dull, but no rain. Some of us went back on the tram from Newhaven.

August 19th Queensferry/Forth Road Bridge (See Diana)

September 16th Musselburgh Lagoons (See George)

October 7th Jim's caravan in Fife (See Jim Armstrong)

November 4th Flotterstone (See Kate & Stuart)

More details of each walk will be given nearer the time.

Peace Pole.

We are making a "Peace Pole" as this year's art show project. If you are willing to join us, please give your name to Stuart. We are meeting Monday mornings at 10am.

Where possible recycled materials have been used. The base of the pole is made of a cupboard holder for a carpet roll. The wire mesh and wire cord was from left overs in Stuart's shed. A tank was an old air fix model no longer wanted and plowshares made from scraps of metal.

The photos below show the work in progress. Now it needs to be decorated.





Craft Club

The craft club continues to meet in Monika and Sonya's lounge, with a break for tea/coffee and biscuits. The group are planning to make entries for the Art Show in August. May and Liz are knitting pure wool plant pot holders which will deter slugs and snails for planting out seedlings in the spring.

St Martin's Eco Group

The Eco group are working on the Peace Pole. The next meeting is on Sunday 13th August. Stuart has used the knitted plant pot holders for his plants with great success.

Quiet Space will recommence in September.

Gorgie Farm.

EVOC INFORMATION.ORG.UK Development Advocacy

Dear Neighbour,

We hope you are enjoying the amazing summertime. We are writing to you from EVOC (Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council) as we took over the lease for the Gorgie City Farm Site at the end March. As part of the lease we are using the office spaces on site, allowing us to manage any maintenance and safety issues. As you are our neighbour we wanted to provide you with an update on the site and how to contact us with any concerns or indeed any ideas. We hope you find this useful.

Maintenance of Site

There have been cleaners on site, working through the facilities, and we've been dealing with safety and multiple maintenance issues, such as burst pipes. We have an interim site caretaker in place to help progress this and are planning risk assessments of the future use of different areas of the site, for people or animals.

While the site has got slightly overgrown, we have been advised by the Scottish Wildlife Trust that this is a positive step and gives us an opportunity to assess the site and find out what is growing across it. It is also full of wonderful colours and biodiversity.

When the time is right, we will be cutting back... just not quite yet.

Activities on Site

You will see people coming and going from the site. This will mainly be EVOC staff. As part of the lease our team are able to use the site for working and for meetings. Please do say hello if you see us.

We are delighted to have welcomed our volunteer gardeners back onto site (Fri 9 Jun) when they did lots of weeding and sowed potatoes, beans and some other veg. We are hoping to have them on site more frequently in the coming weeks.

As we begin conversations with our communities and stakeholders, we hope to be able to host further activities onsite. We need to do a little

more scoping out of what is possible, but please do watch keep out an out for more details to come.

We are also aware how important this space is for peoples connecting and wellbeing and hope to be able to open the site up at certain times for people to enjoy.

We are sad to say there are currently no animals on site, however we haven't forgotten how important they were for people and will be exploring how they may be able to come back.

W: www.evoc.org.uk I T: 0131 555 9100 EVOC is a company limited by guarantee No. SC173582 and is a registered Scottish charity No. SC009944

Staffing

We have now appointed a Project Manager to help lead this work and look forward to Suzanne Campbell taking up the role from mid-July. Suzanne comes with extensive experience in service management with a particular focus on children, young people and families.

Cat Young will be working alongside Suzanne in the role of Partnership Facilitator, leading on participation and engagement for the project. Cat has a range of experiences to bring from her time working with Thrive Edinburgh – the innovative new strategy for improving the mental health and wellbeing of all citizens in Edinburgh.

In the meantime, the Steering Group has been meeting monthly to discuss operational and strategic matters. Working with Bridie Ashrowan, EVOC's Chief Executive, they have been responding to offers of help and interest and building connections with both local and citywide organisations, businesses, and networks - particularly in Gorgie and Dalry, where there is a long-standing network of local community organisations.

Planned Activities

In the long term, we need to work together to move this wonderful resource beyond the cycle of the past - taking time to plan for a sustainable future. We will involve the community and that takes time

to do well. Events with the community will be part of the planning process. We will be sure to put an invite through your door and hope you will be able to join us

We are also bringing together a list of stakeholders, conveying their interest or offers to the steering group: this includes former users of the site and those who can bring expertise or resource for the short or long term. It has been very moving to receive so many offers of help. We have attended the Gorgie and Dalry Forum, and will do so regularly.

In the mean time you can find frequently asked questions for this project on the EVOC website:

<https://www.evoc.org.uk/projects/gorgie-city-farm-site/>

Thank you for your patience.

Gorgie City Farm Site Team

General Enquiries - please contact EVOC Telephone: 0131 555 9100

Email: GorgieCityFarmSite@evoc.org.uk

Telephone: 07368666457 (24HR) Email: info@scotiasecurityltd.com

W: www.evoc.org.uk I T: 0131 555 9100

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Calendar: August September 2023

August 2023

Sun 6 10.30am **Celebrating Communion - Transfiguration**
Preacher: John Vincent

Sun 13 10.30am **Celebrating Communion - Trinity 10**
Preacher: Stuart Robertson

Sun 20 10.30am **Celebrating Communion - Trinity 11**
Preacher: Sarah Kilbey

Sun 27 10.30am **Celebrating Communion - Trinity 12**
Preacher: John Vincent

September 2023

Sun 3 10.30am **Celebrating Communion - Creationtide 1**
Church Preacher: John Vincent

Sun 10 10.30am **Celebrating Communion - Harvest**
Preacher: Sarah Kilbey

Sun 17 10.30am **Celebrating Communion - Creationtide 3**
Church Preacher: John Vincent

Sun 24 10.30am **Celebrating Communion - Creationtide 4**
Preacher: John Vincent

Duncan Weaver telling us about the Fife Pilgrim Way

