



# In Touch

The Magazine of St Mary's  
Scottish Episcopal Church  
Dalmahoy

February – March 2015

[www.stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk](http://www.stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk)

## 2. WHO'S WHO

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**St Mary's Church Dalmahoy**  
**Scottish Registered Charity:**  
**SC014203**

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## ***A note from Deryck***

In the last issue of *In Touch*, John Blaber reported on the autumn Synod discussion on same-sex relationships and potential marriage within the church. This was handled in a sensitive way, encouraging people to be able to state their opinions, hopes and fears in an honest way, be listened to without judgment, yet also be challenged – and enriched – by the variety of views within the spectrum represented.

It worked well and we were asked, as John indicated, to extend the conversations out into local churches and areas. The only way the Vestry can see of this being possible at St Mary's prior to the next Synod meeting (7<sup>th</sup> March) is by combining a lunch planned in support of the '500 Miles' charity on 22<sup>nd</sup> February with discussion on this topic as a congregation.

For some, this seems a straightforward issue – the law has changed, same-sex marriage exists and the church needs to catch up with the 21<sup>st</sup> century. For some, it is a highly personal matter, where any other view appears to imply rejection of those in committed relationships.

For others it can appear differently, in that one wishes to accept people for who they are and, for that matter within their chosen relationships, whilst not wishing to change a long-standing understanding of the institution of marriage as union between persons of differing sex and, despite the complications that carries in terms of variants within marriage in relation to family and child-rearing, the core value of male and female role models at the heart of family life remains.

There is obviously considerable distance between such views and many nuances in between as well distinct alternative views, all of which are encouraged to be heard and respected within these conversations, without people feeling in any way under scrutiny or any sense of judgment. The range of views will be fed back into central discussions where decisions will eventually be made as a wider church.

I urge you to be part of this conversation if you can – and enjoy lunch in aid of a very good cause in the process! Thank you.

With my love and prayers.

Deryck

## ***From the editor***

This issue of InTouch is reporting on events past and giving information and dates of events to come.

There are details of services during Holy Week and information about the Cumbrae weekend which it would be great to have you participating in.

I was thinking this would be a very slim issue, not having indulged over the festive period like those of us reading it, but true to form folk have come up with articles of interest for us all to read.

As always, thanks to all our contributors – we couldn't exist without you.

Could I ask that if you are sending me copy by email that you format it as follows:-

Font Arial; Heading Bold, Underlined ;20 point, the body of the article normal and 16 point.

This would save me a lot of alterations.  
Thanks in advance.

The views expressed in this magazine are personal, and not necessarily those of the editor or congregation.

Margaret Scott

## ***From the Registers***

### **Baptisms**

Dec 7<sup>th</sup>    Zara Elizabeth Warden

### **Weddings**

Dec 18<sup>th</sup>    Zara Costello to Raymond Cunningham

Jan 31<sup>st</sup>    Ruth Thomson to Brian Adam

## **BEWARE OF “VISHING”**

THE UK'S high-street banks are warning that millions of account-holders are vulnerable to fraud - online or over the phone.

The campaign highlights the dangers of “vishing”, otherwise known as voice phishing. The term refers to fraudsters who telephone victims, typically to say there has been a fraudulent transaction on their account.

They advise them, for security reasons, to phone the bank back. But, unknown to the victims, the fraudster stays on the line. Believing that they are talking to their bank, victims often disclose account numbers and passwords directly to the fraudster, who uses the information to steal money from their accounts.

Sometimes the fraudster sends a courier to victims' homes to collect the bank cards, also referred to as courier fraud.

In an effort to stamp out “vishing”, the UK's high-street banks have published a list of eight things they will NEVER ask customers to do:

- Ask for your full PIN number or any online banking passwords over the phone or via email
- Send someone to your home to collect cash, bank cards or anything else
- Ask you to email or text personal or banking information
- Send an email with a link to a page which asks you to enter your online banking log-in details
- Ask you to authorise the transfer of funds to a new account or hand over cash
- Call to advise you to buy diamonds, land or other commodities
- Ask you to carry out a test transaction online
- Provide banking services through any mobile apps other than the bank's official apps.

This useful information which I am sure we can all relate to was supplied by Ted Tracey Bower.

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## **Gift Aid**

Many of you at St. Mary's, Gift Aid your contributions to the church, so whatever level of financial support, an extra 25% can be sought from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. I would like to urge the few who have not signed Gift Aid declarations, to please reconsider, so that any money you give can be increased, at no cost to you, by an extra 25 pence for every pound given, (assuming you pay Income Tax).

To claim this sum of money means of course that the treasurer and myself have to know what you give, as the return to H.M.R.C., has to include details of name and amount given. I appreciate and accept that you may feel strongly that what you give should remain private, and is no one else's business. We can assure you that we treat any sum given with the strictest confidence.

A look at the Annual Reports over the last few years, indicates a very close balance between total income and expenditure. Although we do have a modest reserve, just a small increase in regular income would mitigate against any unforeseen expenditure. I am writing this as it is snowing outside, with gale force winds, just the sort of conditions that may require extra expense!

Thank you    Geoff (Gift Aid Secretary)

### **Summer Blair Castle.**

All welcome to join us for our annual summer  
outing to Blair Castle in Perthshire on  
Saturday 13th June.

More details later, keep an eye on the notice board  
in the Church hall.

Thanks. Gillian.

## “THE BELLS OF WAITING ADVENT RING”

Advent carol services are special. Maybe it is because the child within us stirs in anticipation as we enter the church. Is it the dim light on the ancient stones, the smell of the evergreen decorations, the Christmas tree, the hypnotic candle flames and the beautiful olive wood crib at the altar table? It is very easy to get nostalgic!

There is nothing wrong with that!

This year we were blessed by the visit of the Ratho Primary School children, accompanied by their dedicated teacher. The presence of the eager children and their delightful singing enhanced that anticipation which we were all feeling.



Words of John Betjeman's evocative poem, "Christmas" came to my mind, of "Sleepless children's hearts being glad" as I watched the children fidgeting around, as they always do, with the excitement of the season, which they felt. I sketched them on an old envelope. Their skilful teacher quietened them as the service began, and one noticed how much their eyes were upon her.

As the Biblical story unfolded one realised our own continuity with those folk of old who must have felt the same anticipation, longing and hope of a Saviour yet to come, and their faith in the waiting time. In the readings, carols, and prayers one became aware of the vitality and beauty and above all the love being expressed, and then the realisation of joy released in something of which we are all a part as we all sang



"Oh come all ye faithful". All the while, the children listened and sang their own carols, delighting us with their lusty voices! Maybe like me, you were moved by the lyric of a verse of the Calypso Carol which speaks of "Listening with your heart", for that spirit and longing within us is eternal. How we value that message, and the tradition of repeating

the simplicity of that appealing story every Advent, and of the greatest mystery of the "God behind the child", ever reaching out to the world with words of healing and grace. The presence of the children from Ratho made all the difference.

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Some words from “CHRISTMAS” by John Betjeman

“And is it true? And is it true? The most tremendous tale of all,  
Seen in a stained glass window’s hue, a baby in an ox’s stall?  
The Maker of the stars and sea, became a child on earth for me?”



No love that in a family dwells, no  
carolling in the frosty air,  
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells can  
with this single Truth compare That  
God was Man in Palestine, and lives  
today in Bread and Wine”.

Janet Dyer





The Church at Christmas



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## **Fairtrade Fortnight**



Fairtrade fortnight is approaching fast. 2014 was the 20th anniversary of the FAIRTRADE Mark, the best known ethical label in the UK, and the UK leads the world when it comes to Fairtrade - with more products available and more awareness than anywhere else. Fairtrade is helping to transform the lives of more than 1.4 million people in 74 countries around the world by guaranteeing a fair price for producers, as well as ensuring that the Fairtrade Premium is invested in the local community. From UK sales alone, £23 million of Fairtrade Premium was invested by producers in 2013.

Fairtrade Fortnight 2015 takes place between 23 February and 8 March and is celebrating the impact of Fairtrade and turning a spotlight on the producers who grow the products we enjoy. It is focusing on a few core commodities - cocoa, sugar and tea. Just 1.2% of cocoa and less than 10% of tea globally is traded on Fairtrade terms. We will have our usual Fairtrade stall selling these items and much more on Sunday 1 March. You can read some of the stories of the producers and find lots more information at [www.fairtrade.org.uk/fortnight](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/fortnight).

Steve Haig

### **QUIET DAY FOR LENT**

***With Bishop Douglas Cameron***

***Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2015***

Enjoy some quiet reflective time apart on the first weekend of Lent, with the wise, experienced voice of Bishop Douglas as a guide whom we welcome back after a couple of years' absence from our Quiet Days!

## **Congregational Weekend 2015**

This year's congregational weekend is to be at The College of the Holy Spirit in Millport on the Isle of Cumbrae on Friday 11<sup>th</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup> September. The College is a combination of a Visit Scotland 3 Star Guest House and a Christian Retreat House which consists of 2 main buildings containing 16 bedrooms, a mix of double, single and twin rooms some of which are en-suite as well as 2 common rooms and a library. These buildings known as North and South College are located next to Britain's smallest Cathedral, The Cathedral of the Isles both of which were built at the same time in 1851 by the architect William Butterfield. The College was originally built for students of Theology in the Scottish Episcopal Church and are set in 8 acres of lawns and woodlands.

Our accommodation is only a 5 minute walk to the Sea as well as access to shops, cafés, restaurant's and Garrison House which house's the Islands Library, Museum and a shop selling soaps and other items made in the local area. There are many sights to visit including Lion Rock and the famous Crocodile Rock.

You can take a drive around the island to explore, hire bikes or walk to many of the local beauty spots. As well as spotting the various wildlife that live on and visit the island.

Cumbrae is easily accessed by making a short 10 minute ferry trip from Largs on the Ayrshire coast.

We have booked this weekend as Full Board and the prices for this year are as follows:

Adults: £61:00 per person per night

Children aged 5-14 pay half price

Children under 5 are free

There is a sign-up sheet on the notice board in the Douglas Hall where you can register your interest, please indicate if you can offer a lift to anyone or if you need transport. You can also speak to myself or Deryck if you are able to come for the whole weekend or even if you can come for part of it and if you require more information. There will be a leaflet available nearer the time. We would like final numbers by the end of June as the College need advance notice for catering purposes.

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## **HOLY WEEK & EASTER**

### **SERVICE TIMES**



**29<sup>th</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> April**

#### **Palm Sunday**

- 10.30 Sung Eucharist with procession and dramatised reading of  
the Gospel of the Passion  
18.30 Evening Prayer

#### **Monday & Tuesday**

- 19.30 Compline

#### **Wednesday**

- 11.00 Eucharist (*in the Church*)  
19.30 Compline

#### **Maundy Thursday**

- 19.30 Maundy Eucharist, with Foot Washing

#### **Good Friday**

- 14.00 Stations of the Cross (1 hr)  
19.30 Meditation on the Cross

#### **Holy Saturday**

- 20.30 Easter Vigil and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

#### **Easter Sunday**

- 06.30 Dawn Eucharist (gather in the hall)  
10.30 Family Sung Eucharist

## **Just to make you laugh (Don't shoot the messenger!)**

How do you contact a fish?  
Drop it a line!

Why did Nigel Farage not get a visit from Santa at Christmas?  
Father Christmas comes when you sleep not when UKIP!

How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizza?  
Deep and crisp and even!

Why is the beach wet?  
Because the seaweed!

Why did the lobster blush?  
Because he saw the salad dressing!

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility .

### **Dalmations**

The next meeting of Dalmations will be on 25<sup>th</sup> February with  
David Syme talking about "Two Scotsmen in Tibet"

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## Sunday Readings for

		Old Testament
Feb 1	Epiphany 4	Deuteronomy 18: 15-20
Feb 8	2 Before Lent	Hosea 2: 14-20
Feb 15	1 Before Lent	Kings 2: 1-12
Feb 22	Lent 1	Genesis 9: 8-17
Mar 1	Lent 2	Genesis 17: 1-7 15-16
Mar 8	Lent 3	Exodus 20: 1-17
Mar 15	Mothering Sunday Lent 4	1 Samuel 1: 20-28
Mar 22	Lent 5	Jeremiah 31: 31-34
Mar 29	Palm Sunday	—
Apr 5	Easter Sunday	—
Apr 12	Easter 2	Acts 4: 32-35
Apr 19	Easter 3	—
Apr 26	Easter 4	Acts 4: 5-12

## February – April 2015

Epistle	Gospel
1 Corinthians 8: 1-13	Mark 1: 21-28
2 Corinthians 3: 1b-6	Mark 2: 13-22
2 Corinthians 4: 3-6	Mark 9: 2-9
1 Peter 3: 18-22	Mark 1: 9-15
Romans 4: 13-25	Mark 9: 2-9
1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
—	Luke 2: 33-35
Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12: 20-33
—	Mark 14:1 – 15:39
1 Corinthians 15: 1-11	Mark 16: 1-8
1 John 1:1 – 2: 2	John 20: 19-31
1 John 3: 1-7	Luke 24: 36-48
1 John 3:16-24	John 10: 11-18

## **Edinburgh Playback Theatre Group**



About twenty people came out on a chilly January afternoon for an extra Dalmations meeting to support the theatre group. None of us had any idea of what to expect, but we were in for a treat. We told out stories and they acted them back to us with great enthusiasm and talent. They managed to capture our feelings in many situations, from dealing with lack of transport because of a puncture to signs

of spring with the appearance of snowdrops and what it is like to lose a tooth aged 8.

The audience were wonderful, many telling their stories and others enthusiastically enjoying the fun.

It was a very happy afternoon and I think everyone went away feeling glad that they had come and cheered up by the liveliness of the group.

Their email address is [edinburghplayback@gmail.com](mailto:edinburghplayback@gmail.com) if anybody wants to contact them.

Jane Russell

## **CHARITABLE GIVING**

The retiring collection held during November and early December for the Ebola crisis raised £613 (after Gift Aid was added). £500 of this amount was sent to the DEC Ebola Appeal in November with the remaining £113 being sent via the Mary's Meals Ebola Appeal once the final total was arrived at.

The Church Christmas Card raised £80 in donations. This amount has been sent to CHAS.

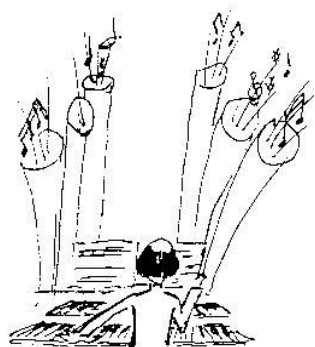
Denis King

### **LENT HOUSE-GROUPS**

Keep a look-out for notification of Lent House-groups, which will be posted over the next few weeks on the board and on the website.

## Organist's Corner

### Programme Notes for February and March



Sunday 1st February – Epiphany 4

Prelude: Herr Gott, nun schleuß den Himmel auf (BWV 1092) – Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Communion: Mit Fried' und Freud' ich fahr' dahin (BWV 616) - Bach

Postlude: Fiat Lux – Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)

Tomorrow is Candlemas, when the Light of the World was presented in the Temple. Simeon's Nunc Dimittis is here presented in two Bach chorale preludes based on the hymn. The theme of light is continued in Dubois' 'Let there be light', a toccata which starts quietly and gradually builds up to a fortissimo climax.

Sunday 8th February – Epiphany 5

Prelude: Fugue in G minor (BWV 578) - Bach

Communion: Siciliano (from Flute Sonata in E flat, BWV 1031) – Bach, arr. C.H. Trevor

Postlude: Toccata and Fugue in D minor (BWV 565) - Bach

Today's postlude, the most famous of all organ works, needs no introduction – or does it? Doubt was cast upon the authenticity of its authorship and upon its origins as an organ piece by Peter Williams in two talks on BBC Radio 3 in 1981. Williams suggested that it originated as a piece for solo violin in A minor by a composer of the generation following Bach. He invited the violinist Jaap Schröder to prepare a version for solo violin and it does work excellently as a violin piece!

Sunday 15th February - The Sunday before Lent (The Transfiguration)

Prelude: For the mountains shall depart ('Elijah') – Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Communion: Then shall the righteous ('Elijah') - Mendelssohn

Postlude: Then did Elijah the prophet ('Elijah') - Mendelssohn

The ascension of Elijah in a 'fiery chariot, with fiery horses' going up 'by a whirlwind to heaven', the subject of our first reading, is masterfully portrayed by Mendelssohn in his famous oratorio 'Elijah'.

Wednesday 18th February - Ash Wednesday

Prelude: O Lamm Gottes unschuldig (BWV 1095) - Bach

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Communion: Lent Prose (NEH 507)

Postlude: O Lamm Gottes unschuldig – Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)  
Tonight's new moon marks the beginning of the Chinese Year of the Sheep. Christ as the 'lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world' is invoked in these two chorale preludes on a metrical version of the Agnus Dei.

Sunday 22nd February – Lent 1 Music by Estonian composers

Prelude: Ave Maria – Peeter Süda (1883-1920)

Communion: Largo – Rudolf Tobias (1873-1918)

Postlude: Maestoso – Edgar Arro (1911-1978)

Tuesday marks the 96<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the declaration of the Estonian republic in 1918, and therefore I play three pieces by Estonian composers to mark the occasion.

Arro's Maestoso was written in 1943 during the most tragic days of the Second World War when Estonia was already under occupation - an occupation which lasted until the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, when Estonia regained its independence.

Sunday 1st March - Lent 2 Music by Welsh composers for St. David's Day

Prelude: Pie Jesu (Requiem) - Karl Jenkins (b. 1944)

Communion: A sad pavan for these distracted times – Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)

Postlude: Processional – William Mathias (1934-1992)

Tomkins was born at St. David's. His 'sad pavan' was written a fortnight after Charles I's beheading. Tomkins himself felt the full force of Cromwell's military coup – the organ which he had designed at Worcester Cathedral was destroyed by Cromwell's troops and he lost his job as cathedral organist. Although he was allowed to remain in his house in the Close, he never lived to see the Restoration.

William Mathias was born in Whitland, Dyfed. From 1970-1988 he was Professor and Head of the Music Department at the University College of North Wales Bangor. He was known as a conductor and pianist and gave or directed many premières of his own works. In 1972 he founded the North Wales Music Festival at St Asaph Cathedral and remained its artistic director until his death.

Sunday 8th March - Lent 3 Music by women composers for International Women's Day

Prelude: Prelude and Fugue on 'St. Mary's' – Elizabeth Stirling (1819-1895)

Communion: Verset: 'Tantum ergo sacramentum' – Juliette Folville (1870-1946)

Postlude: Prelude and Fugue in D minor – Clara Schumann (1819-1896)

Born in Greenwich, Elizabeth Stirling was an eminent London organist of the mid-Victorian period. In 1856 she submitted her exercise for the Oxford degree of Bachelor of Music, but, although accepted, it was not performed, as Oxford at this time restricted degrees to men only (the ban on women graduates was lifted as late as 1920).

Eugénie-Emilie Juliette Folville was born in Liege, Belgium. In 1897 she took a position teaching piano at the Liege Conservatory. She lived for several years in London.

A pupil of her father Friedrich Wieck, Clara Schumann gave her first recital at the age of nine and could play the piano concertos of Mozart and Hummel from memory whilst still a child. A pianist of the first rank, married to Robert Schumann in 1840, most of Clara's compositions were for her own instrument, but her list of works include songs and string trios. The three preludes and fugues of op.16 were written in 1845 and published by her husband as a birthday present.

Sunday 15th March - Lent 4

Prelude: Irish Tune from County Derry – Percy Grainger (1882-1961)

Communion: God so loved the world ('The Crucifixion') – John Stainer (1840-1901)

Postlude: The immovable Do (or The cyphering C) – Percy Grainger

'The immovable Do' was conceived coincidentally. One morning Grainger was practising on one of his harmoniums when the mechanism of the high C broke so the instrument continuously played the tone automatically. Grainger being inventive as always improvised around the drone creating a new piece. The piece 'draws its title from one of the two kinds of Tonic sol-fa notation. I chose the one with an 'immovable Do' (in which 'Do' always stands for C). In my composition – which is not based on any folksong or popular tune – the 'immovable Do' is a high drone on C which is sounded throughout the whole piece. It seemed natural for me to plan it simultaneously for different mediums

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seeing that such music hinges upon intervallic appeal rather than upon effects of tone colour'.

The drone on the high C's are played by wedging two pencils in the organ keys!

Sunday 22nd March - Passion Sunday

Prelude: Majesté du Christ ('L'Ascension') – Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

Communion: The Primerose – Martin Peerson (b.1571-73, d.1650-51)

Postlude: O Mensch, beweine dein' Sünde groß (BWV 622) - Bach

The text for Messiaen's 'Majesty of Christ praying that His Father should glorify him' comes from today's Gospel. Martin Peerson's 'primrose' from the 'Fitzwilliam Virginal Book' acknowledges that last Friday night we reached the Spring Equinox, the fixed point which determines the date of Easter. Bach's hauntingly beautiful chorale prelude on 'O man thy grievous sin bemoan' comes from his 'Little Organ Book', compiled at Weimar around 1714, when he was 28 years old.

Sunday 29th March - Palm Sunday

Communion: Herzlich thut mich verlangen (BWV 727) - Bach

Postlude: In tears of grief ('St. Matthew Passion') – Bach

A chorale prelude on the famous 'Passion Chorale' during the communion is followed by the final chorus from Bach's St. Matthew Passion' as a postlude.

Alan Phillips

### **World Day of Prayer**

... takes place this year *at St Mary's* on  
**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm.**

Please support this occasion as we welcome friends  
From local ecumenical churches.

Thank you.

## ***Keeping “In Touch”***

I have been meaning to write this article for some time: I miss you all and often think of you. The arrival of a beautiful plate recently, hand painted with a picture of St Mary's made me very emotional; thank you very much to everyone; it really is appreciated. I never really had chance to say farewell – for now – to everyone; everything moved so quickly last summer.

When I decided to sell my house in Balerno – it was really far too big for me – I expected it to be quite a lengthy process. However things seldom work out as we plan. Within a fortnight of the house going on the market in May, I had a buyer who wanted entry by the middle of July.

At this stage I started to realise that I would be unable to purchase a new property by that time, and as I was going to Australia for a month in September, I decided to put my goods into storage and stay with friends in the Highlands for the summer. Clearing the house was quite therapeutic; I took twenty six boxes of books to Oxfam, numerous bags of clothes and unwanted linen, ornaments etc to Barnado's, and I came to know the staff at the recycling site in Sighthill very well!

We had wonderful weather throughout July and August, and I very much enjoyed the beauty and peace of the farm on the hill above Drumnadrochit, on Loch Ness. I have never lived with a dog in the house before, but I have become very fond of Max, a gentle golden lab, and thoroughly enjoy the walks each day with him, whatever the weather; the sky is so vast, and the hills and mountains so beautiful and changeable.

I booked my flights to Brisbane to see my son, new grandson and soon to be daughter-in-law; - and then was made an offer of land to build a house on just below the farmhouse. I couldn't decide what to do, so left the decision until my return. I had a wonderful visit to Australia – lovely to see Iain again, and to meet his fiancée, plenty of time for cuddles with Callan, a lovely wee boy and chance to meet Frida, their rather large 18 month old German Shepherd puppy. I was glad I was used to dogs by this stage, as Frida is very loving, and likes to lick feet! We all

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got on very well together, and I was able to look after Callan and Frida, and give Iain and Elisha chance to have a little free time together.

While in Australia, I realised how much I was missing the Highlands, and so decided to take up the offer of the building plot and have a new experience, designing a house I want and getting it built. I will stay in the farmhouse for now – lots of room, but rather chilly in the winter. However a good log fire in the evening is very welcome – along with the odd G & T!

At the end of autumn, I decided to invest in a 4 x 4 and am very glad that I have done so. Since the New Year, we have had quite extraordinary weather; first there were gales which closed all the roads into Inverness, blocked by huge fallen trees. We were also left without power for three days, so putting the world to rights by the light of candles and the log fire was very entertaining. However we had no communications – mobile masts down, and new house phones don't work without power. We managed to find an old plug-in pay phone which had been in the flat above the stables, but to use it we had to put coins in!

After the gales came snow – lots of it – so that getting out of the farm was quite tricky, but the 4 x 4 coped, and we managed to survive. The three old horses living out their retirement here have to be fed regularly, but once out of the stables and into the snow, they just roll around and have a great time

I am hoping to be in Edinburgh at various times – I have been to visit family several times, and will be looking after grandchildren during parts of February and March; and will definitely try to arrange a visit so that I can come to St Mary's again.

Meantime, may I wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

With my love

Chris Bond

## **The Georgian House, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh** **Presented by the House manager - Sheonagh Martin**

As a guide in this property for many years I was fascinated to hear Sheonagh's talk and see the illustrations of Charlotte Square from the time it was built in 1791.

The National Trust for Scotland have been responsible for converting the basement, ground and first floors into a Georgian show House, furnished and arranged as it would have been in the period from the 1790s until about 1810. In the nineteenth century alterations were made to the very fine façade and ultimately, in the 1920s and 30s it was restored to its 18<sup>th</sup> century glory.

The basement, ground and first floors are furnished with beautiful genuine Georgian furniture, arranged in a manner so that visitors can visualize how the wealthy owners lived and entertained in a lavish style. The servants ran the house from the basement where there is an amazing kitchen with coal fired ovens and lots of gleaming copper all to be cleaned! In the passage there is a bell board with a row of bells to summon servants to various parts of the house.

The dining room on the ground floor has a table laid for dinner with beautiful silver, china, crystal and candles. The fireplace in this room is original to the house. At the end of the meal the ladies would retire to the adjoining bedroom, making use of the water closet on the way, while the men used the pewter chamber pot kept in a compartment of the sideboard as they no doubt made merry and drank port and wine. Eventually they would go to the first floor drawing room where they could dance, socialize and be entertained by someone playing the square piano.

There is a parlour upstairs which was mostly used by the family and there the lady would entertain her friends with tea. The tea was kept in locked caddies because it was so expensive, and only the lady kept the keys.

It cannot have been easy living in a large townhouse in those days when there was no running water, rooms were heated by coal fires and candles throughout provided light. The servants worked extremely hard from about 6am until 10 o'clock at night but it was considered a privilege to have such a position, having lived in the tenements on the Royal Mile.

There are excellent portraits and landscapes throughout the house, including a portrait of the first owner, John Lamont, by Raeburn.

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I would recommend anyone who has not been to the Georgian House to visit it in the spring, on a sunny day, when the crocuses are in bloom in the square.

Margaret Hunter

## **DOUGLAS HALL BOOKINGS.**

Anyone wishing to book the Douglas Hall at St Mary's Church, for functions, may do so by contacting the Church Administrator, Paula Marshall at 0131 333 1683, Monday and Wednesdays, between 9.30am and 12.30pm, or the web site: [admin@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk)



### **Hadeel Open Evening with Palestinian Farmers**

**7.00 – 9.00**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015-01-19**

#### **At the Melting Pot**

5 Rose Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PR

Update on the situation with Palestinian farmers  
In the West Bank and the importance of olive oil  
and olive trees in Palestinian culture and economy

This event is dependent on the farmers receiving visas  
from the UK government. Last minute changes in plans  
may be necessary – visit Hadeel on Facebook or [www.hadeel.org](http://www.hadeel.org)

Hadeel open Mon-Sat 9-5 at  
123 George Street  
Edinburgh EH2 4JN  
0131 2251922

or shop online at [www.hadeel.org](http://www.hadeel.org)

A Hadeel stall will be held at the event. If you  
want anything to be brought from the shop, please  
contact us by phone or email [info@hadeel.org](mailto:info@hadeel.org).

## ***Diary of Events, Feb – Mar 2015***

Date	Times	Venue	Event
1 Feb	08.55 10.30	Church	Choir Practice resumes  Sung Eucharist (Candlemas) (Collection of groceries/ toiletries) Fairtrade stall
4 Feb	11.00	Hall	Eucharist
7 Feb	10.30- 14.00	Hall	'Breadmaking & Blethering'
8 Feb	08.55 10.30	Church	Choir Practice  Sung Eucharist
11 Feb	11.00	Hall	Eucharist
14 Feb	13.30	Church	Marriage of Stephen Robertson to Michaela Bryson
15 Feb	08.55 10.30 12.30	Church Church Hall	Choir Practice  Sung Eucharist (no Sunday Circle) Ministry Leadership Team
18 Feb (Ash Wednesd ay)	11.00 & 19.30	Hall Church	Eucharist with imposition of Ash

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## ***Diary of Events (cont)***

Date	Times	Venue	Event
22 Feb	08.55	Church	Choir Practice
	10.30	Church	Sung Eucharist ( <i>No Sunday Circle</i> )
	12.00	Hall	Fairtrade Meeting Lunch for <i>500 Miles</i> Charity
	18.30	Church	Eucharist with Prayer for Wholeness and Healing
25 Feb	11.00	Hall	Eucharist followed by Dalmations Meeting – “2 Scotsmen in Tibet...” with David Syme
28 Feb	13.30	Church	Marriage of Ian Bowie to Fiona Allan
1 Mar	08.55	Church	Choir Practice
	10.30		Sung Eucharist (Collection of groceries/ toiletries for Food Bank)
	12.30	Hall	Ministry Leadership Team
2 Mar	19.30	Hall	Vestry Meeting
4 Mar	11.00	Hall	Eucharist
6 Mar	19.00	Church & Hall	World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service
7 Mar	09.30		Diocesan Synod
8 Mar	08.55	Church	Choir Practice
	10.30	Church	Sung Eucharist

***Diary of Events (cont)***

Date	Times	Venue	Event
11 Mar	11.00	Hall	Eucharist
Sun 15 Mar	08.55	Church	Choir Practice
<i>Mothering Sunday</i>	10.30	Church	Sung Eucharist
18 & 20 Mar	09.30 – 12.00	Church & Hall	Schools choir Festival
Sun 22 Mar	08.55	Church	Choir Practice
	10.30	Church	Sung Eucharist
25 Mar	11.00	Hall	Eucharist followed by Damations meeting – “The National Library” with Veronica Denholm
28 Mar	10.00-12.00	Hall / Church	Spring Cleaning
Sun 29 Mar	08.55	Church	Choir Practice
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	10.30	Church	Sung Eucharist & Procession of Palms
	18.30	Church	Evening Prayer
Holy Week			

## **WHO'S WHO (cont)**

### **Vestry:**

Treasurer	Denis King
Rector's Warden	Jane Russell
People's Warden	Rona Finlayson
Lay Representative	Geoff Angell
Other members	John Blaber Alan Coupe Richmond Davies Ella Henderson Gillian McLennan Bill Scott

<b>Altar Guild</b>	Denis King (co-ordinator) Mavis Blackwell Val Lawrie Faye Watson
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<b>Child Protection/ Vulnerable Adults Co-ordinator</b>	Caroline Gunn
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<b>Covenants Sec.</b>	Geoff Angell
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<b>Fabric Co-ordinator</b>	Rosemary Procter
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<b>Head Server</b>	Denis King
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**Visiting Team:**

Julia Bracewell  
 Lois May Donaldson  
 Rona Finlayson  
 Janice Goodfellow  
 Caroline Gunn  
 Derek & Ella Henderson  
 Margaret King  
 Val Lawrie  
 Carole MacBride  
 Gillian McLennan  
 Olive Metcalfe  
 Jane Russell  
 Bill & Margaret Scott  
 Claire Starr

**Hall Bookings**

0131 333 1683

**Stewards for each Sunday:**

First Sunday	Richmond Davies
Second Sunday	Wilma Brown
Third Sunday	Val Lawrie
Fourth Sunday	Olive Metcalfe
Fifth Sunday	Jane Russell

If you need transport to or from church on Sunday,  
please contact the steward for that Sunday.

Church Office, St Mary's Church Hall,  
 Dalmahoy, Kirknewton EH27 8EB

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**Prayer Chain:**

John & Claire  
Myrtle  
Rona  
Janet  
Gré  
Margaret

**In Touch Editors**

Margaret Scott

**Website Admin:**

John Blaber      [webmaster@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk)

**Service Times**

Sunday	Morning Prayer	10am
	Sung Eucharist	10.30am
Last Sunday of the month	Evening Prayer	6.30pm
Wednesday	Said Eucharist	11am

Monday and Friday – the church is open between 9.30 and 10am for quiet reflection and prayer.

<p><b>Copy date for the April/May Issue is Sunday 15th March</b></p>
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