



# In Touch

The Magazine of  
St Mary's Church,  
Dalmahoy  
June - July 2016

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



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

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## **A note from Deryck**

Change is always with us. We may resist much of it, but we cannot escape it. But just now there is a great deal and for the Dalmahoy Estate and the Douglas family in particular, it indeed seems like the end of an era.

Reflections on John and Sheila Morton are given elsewhere in this edition of *In Touch*; their deaths following one another so quickly being a real shock and significant challenge. Many will miss Sheila's smile and encouraging presence from the back of church.

John was someone we had many official dealings with as Trustee and Patron of the congregation; in that he showed both inspirational generosity and dogged determination, but his heart was always firmly supportive of St Mary's. They now lie beside other members of the family on the south (sunny) side of the church.

Our hearts go out to the family and we welcome into role as the new Earl and Countess, Stewart and Amanda, familiar as they are to many around both Estate and St Mary's. Stewart becomes a Trustee and formal Patron; he will therefore be involved in that capacity in the appointment of my successor!

More about that will be forthcoming over the weeks and months ahead. The Vestry are forming a Vacancy Committee and will keep the congregation informed and involved as the process unfolds. It is a time of change for all of us, but an exciting time for all that: time to look creatively towards the future and ask God's blessing.

*With my love and every blessing, Deryck*

## ***From the editor***

Well I guess you all answered my appeal and this month I have had to stretch the magazine to its fullest. Thanks for all your contributions. There is a lot to read and I am sure there will be something of interest to you all.

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

Margaret Scott      [margaret.scott56@btinternet.com](mailto:margaret.scott56@btinternet.com)



# BBQ

at the Rectory

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July**

5.00 – 9.00 pm

**Bring friends! Bring the sunshine!!!**

Please sign the sheet in the hall if you can,  
to give us a rough idea of numbers,  
but come anyway, even if you don't!

## ***From the Registers***

### **Baptisms**

April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Robin Isla Jareckyj
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	Alice Mary McCue Young

### **Weddings**

April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Scott Watson to Aimee Russell
April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Keith Nichol to Carly Simnett
April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Sean Gilbert to Emma Hanson
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Phillip White to Kristina Cromb
May 29 <sup>th</sup>	Stephen McCall to Paula Marshall

### **Marriage Blessing**

May 27 <sup>th</sup>	Arran and Oleksandra Wylde
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### **Funerals**

May 9 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Sheila Douglas Morton (Countess of Morton) <i>May she rest in peace and rise in Glory</i>
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## Palcrafts Hadeel Study Tour April 2016

For many shops visiting their suppliers is simply a case of getting on a train and going to Earls Court or Olympia where they will gather and show off their products. Not so for Hadeel Palcrafts! Even before we reached our first visit we had passed through military checkpoints and taken several enforced detours!

A group of eleven staff and volunteers visited many of Hadeel's suppliers in the West Bank and the Negev. At times uplifting as we visited [Ma'an L'il Hayat](#) who have new airy premises where we saw the felt nativities we sell being made and we danced in the breakfast break with the workers!

Canaan Fair Trade (who process & bottle olive oil for Zaytoun) has a state-of-the-art factory in Jenin. Theirs is a successful enterprise with farmers producing high quality organic oil and exporting to many different countries. They are encouraging more farmers to join and offer prices above the market and guarantee to take their product year on year. It is very heartening to see work like that being done amidst constant restrictions. Often the farmers have been cut off from their land and have to apply for permits to go to do the care and harvesting.



*Photo: Mohammed Al Ruzzi, Palestinian Fair Trade Assn. (PFTA), Jenin (credit Sarah Burns)*

On the other hand in Bethlehem we visited [Oasis Workshop for People with Special Needs](#), a social enterprise which is struggling. They operate out of a very small building with limited funding and space. Workers make [candles](#), recycled paper, and decorate [cards](#) with pictures done in coloured sands but they find it difficult to get their goods marketed. Hadeel is one of the few outlets for their work.

These contrasts were again highlighted in our visits to some of the groups that supply embroidery to Hadeel. [Idna Ladies Association](#), who have the help of a Japanese designer, are constantly updating their products offering new colours and trying to expand their business. However things were not as positive when we visited [Surif Women's Cooperative](#). The

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proximity of the separation barrier and the difficulties in everyday life that the workers endure has meant that despite making high quality products they are struggling to develop new styles and communication links with the outside world.

On the trip we also had the opportunity to visit one of our more recent suppliers Ahdaf. A small family run business, making the popular recycled glass items including the [peace doves](#), was started by Mervat after her husband became too ill to work. Now supporting her family she still gives a proportion of the profits to St Martha's, a day centre for widows. Accompanied by Shirabe, director of Sunbula, we also visited Amari and Balata refugee camps to assess women's empowerment and income generation projects being run in them. We hope to bring more information and products from these in the coming months.

Even a short time there makes us really appreciate how deeply fortunate we are to live in a country free of blocks and barriers where we have water and power on tap. Everywhere we were met with incredible hospitality and kindness. The spirit and resilience is astounding and we look forward to telling folk more about all the groups we visited and showing the new products that we have found. A DVD will be produced – worth waiting for!

Please support St. Mary's Fair Trade stall and ask for Palestinian products from Hadeel. Look out for the Ramadan specials on our delicious dates.

Carol Morton - *edited from Hadeel's monthly newsletter – email [info@hadeel.org](mailto:info@hadeel.org) or tel. 0131 2251922 to be put on the list.*



## **Yet another first at St Mary's.**

Gardening during a snow shower.

The gardening afternoons have started up again. The first planned session had to be cancelled because of the forecast of rain which did indeed prevail. The second session which took place on the afternoon of the 27th April after Dalmatians began in sunshine and despite a chilly wind, good progress was being made at weeding the flower beds around the church and turning over the soil when a heavy but brief snow shower arrived. Thankfully it did not last for long and neither Gillian, Blackie nor myself even bothered to lay down tools.

If anyone else would like to become involved in maintaining the church grounds then please feel free to join our team on the first and third Wednesday afternoons each month. As I am sure you all realise, there is always something to do to keep the areas around the church looking cared for and it doesn't just happen by magic.

If Wednesday afternoons don't suit your plans then please feel free to participate in maintaining the grounds at whatever time would suit you best, ideally with a likeminded companion rather than just on your own. The new lawnmower has had its first outing too and performed very well. It will be seeing plenty of action during the coming months on a very regular basis. Graeme believes in trimming grass by only a little but often to keep it under control.

If anyone has a suggestion about changes that could be made to enhance the beauty of the church grounds then please contact me with your ideas.

We are all very fortunate to have discovered the little oasis of calm in which St Mary's is set and it is very satisfying to be part of its upkeep. If you feel that too and are able to get involved then please do.

Carole MacBride

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## **Saturday Church Opening During The Summer**

We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to help with being at the Church on Saturdays during the summer. This will commence on Saturday, 7th of May until Saturday, 24th September. The hours will be from 10.00am to 12.30pm; then 12.30pm to 3pm.

Anyone interested, please sign the form on the board in the church hall.

Any queries, please let me know,

many thanks,

Gillian.

## **Bishop's Lent Appeal**

The monies collected for the Bishop's Lent Appeal this year totalled £501.25 after the addition of Gift Aid. This money has been sent off to the diocese.

## **Fairtrade Stall**

Over the past few months there have been a few favourites that have been missing from the stall this is because Traidcraft are no longer stocking these items, if there are any items you would like to see stocked please do not hesitate to let me know and I will see if I can purchase them.

I know that some people have noticed that some of the prices have repeatedly fluctuated over the past year, this is due to ingredients and suppliers costs rising and falling as well as some stock items being on sale occasionally. I hope that this clears up any confusion.

Mandy Smart

## Dalmations

The 2015/2016 session of Dalmations came to a close on April 27<sup>th</sup> with a visit from Bishop John who celebrated Communion and led us in a discussion on what it means to be a Christian in the world as it is at present and the challenges it brings. The thoughts from this were to be used as input to a series of Interfaith forums that the Bishop is involved in.

In April Andrew Murray of the Bethany Christian Trust spoke to us regarding the work that the trust does with the homeless in Edinburgh and Glasgow and the challenges they face. It was a very interesting talk which was well received. Andrew is scheduled to return to Dalmations for our September meeting to talk on Dr Thomas Guthrie who was a pioneer for the sort of work that Bethany currently carries out. A cheque for £500, approved by vestry, was presented to Bethany on the day and we have received a letter of thanks which is displayed on the notice board in the hall.

There is now a provisional programme for the 2016/2017 session which will start on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

August 31<sup>st</sup> Rev Deryck Collingwood – Sort of au revoir to Dalmations from Deryck. Subject not yet decided.

September 28<sup>th</sup> Andrew Murray – Dr Thomas Guthrie. A follow up to the talk on the Bethany Christian Trust that Andrew gave in March.

October 26<sup>th</sup> Tony Busuttil – Forensic Scientist

November 23<sup>rd</sup> Anne Saunderson - Worked in Sierra Leone during Ebola crisis.

December 14<sup>th</sup> Dalmations Christmas meeting. Programme to be arranged. Note earlier date this month as 21<sup>st</sup> is getting too close to Christmas.

February 22<sup>nd</sup> Tim Cocking – On the work of Brightcare. A charity that works in the 'Care Provision Marketplace' and gives advice on this subject.

March 22<sup>nd</sup> - Eric Melvin – A visit to Japan.

April 26<sup>th</sup> – To be arranged

It is a bit of a concern that numbers attending Dalmations has dropped off quite a bit since the end of last year. Where roughly 25 – 30 were attending previously the last few meetings only attracted 15 – 20.

Hopefully in the new session we can rebuild the attendance levels.

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I have attended Dalmations for the past 5 years and found it to be a very friendly and informative experience. The range of talks that we have had has been excellent and the knowledge gained on subjects that I had either little or no awareness of very useful. It is also a great chance to speak with people over lunch and coffee in a more relaxed environment than the hustle and bustle of a Sunday. Dalmations is open to everyone that wishes to come along. You don't have to be retired or even a member of our congregation to join in. All are welcome. Meeting dates and speakers are displayed on the notice boards.

If you or someone you know of would like to attend but has difficulty with transport please let me know and I am sure that we can arrange to get them there.

So onwards and hopefully upwards

Denis King

## St Scruffs Dog Show 25<sup>th</sup> June 2:30p.m.

ST MARY'S DALMAHOY

Register your entry on arrival(50p for each dog)



There will be lots of categories to judge!!!!

Best fancy dress

Most Eloquent Eyes Busiest Wiggle

Most Enthusiastic Tail Best Behaved Puppy

We also want to find the dog that looks most like their owner

There is no ticket price for two legged guests but donations to cover our expenses would be very welcome

***(Introduction &) Address by Deryck from the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Lord Morton, and Burial at St Mary's, March 2016***

There are some people who always just seem to be a 'given' in life. They are just there and part of your own.

Whether you have known him as a much loved patriarch of the family, as neighbour or colleague, as business partner or sparring partner; as John, the Earl, or simply 'Morton' at the end of the phone ... he has been a *very* big part of the life, not just of this family, this Estate, but of this whole Region, and indeed beyond. It is hard to think of life without him.

And his death has come as a real shock. He was strong in stature, not just in personality. He fought back from illness last year, as he always did with every challenge in life. I rather suspect many of us thought he would keep doing that, one more time.

So many stories... It was simply not possible to have any form of contact with the man without hearing a story: about building up the estate and business deals lost and other deals won; or how a cousin escaped across Europe in a hair-raising war-time adventure.

It might happen over a request for a form to be signed; it might be in the middle of a Trustees' meeting – it made no odds. He was a wonderful story-teller and we all stopped to listen.

That extraordinary memory of his was kept sharp by exploiting any such opportunity to share a good tale. But memories like his are founded on something that goes much deeper.

It didn't take very long after coming to St Mary's here some 13 years ago, to realise that Lord Morton, who has been formally Patron to this congregation, had quite a reputation. A varied reputation, right enough, but beneath ups and downs of congregational life – to which he generally had the wisdom to sit relatively light, though he always retained at interest – and behind the ins and outs of business transactions that cannot

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escape a local clergyman's attention completely, he took a very real and keen interest in people for whom they were and are.

It didn't matter who you were, he had the time of day for you. You might happen to turn round in the queue in Scotmid and wonder who the man in the bunnet was. You might have received a visit during his time as Lord Lieutenant of West Lothian and then be amazed years later when you bumped into him and he asked after members of your family by name. It is that attention to detail that feeds a memory and an ability to tell stories in the way that he did.

These are things I have heard from numerous people. Those of you in the family and close to him in other ways will know countless such stories. He loved to pass the time of day with folk and hear *their* stories, as well as tell his own; and it may have helped if 'business' was put aside. Just indulge in human stories.

That human side of the man is how I will probably most remember him. We have had our business dealings, we have had our differences, but with a growing mutual respect. He could be extremely generous and if someone was in immediate need, he could be amongst the first there.

But now is not the time to indulge in too much story telling. In a little while, up in the hall, yes, perhaps. At a Memorial service down the line, certainly.

We are here to pay respect and stand in solidarity in this time of loss with you Sheila and Mary, Stewart, Jamie and all the family. You know, and we know, how much he cared for you – and how central his family life has been to everything else that has revolved around it.

For all his business acumen and foresight, and creativity in thinking and planning, it is probably true to say that little could have come to fruition in his life without the solidity of his partnership with Sheila over more than 66 remarkable years. Or, for that matter, without the sheer motivation as well as loving support that the close presence of children, grandchildren and now, great-grandchildren brings.

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You have been the life blood of his energy and determination – and he was hugely proud of you all. He has worked tirelessly for your future and that is now in your hands.

You cannot match him and nor would it be appropriate to try. He would not want you to – he would want you to be true to yourselves. He was his own man – ‘unstoppable’ as the paper notification says. He had flashes of vision that were brilliant and the courage to take risks in investing for the future.

Like the rest of us, he did not get everything right, but he kept trying, sustained primarily by a loyalty to you all – and that *is* something which you can emulate. Be there for one another. I am quite confident he can trust you in that regard.

It is a real gift to him and to you all that his final illness was not prolonged and that he was able to die, as he would have wished, at home and with Sheila and family. It seemed like he would always be here; he was blessed with a physical strength and mental resolve to appear capable of bouncing back from everything; even from that dreadful time with shingles last year.

But this was his time. And he is now at peace. Let him rest and know that his strength will nonetheless be with you and walk with you; you will not ‘lose’ him in that sense. His gifts to you are lasting. You will miss his physical presence enormously, of course you will. And we will in our own limited way too. He has had and been a big presence.

But the voice of faith says, as Jesus says, I am with you always. For love never dies. And memories keep love close. So keep telling those stories just as he did. And know that he re-tells them in you as you hold him in your heart.

[A fuller appreciation of Lord Morton’s life, given by Barry McCorkell at the Memorial Service at St Mary’s Cathedral in April, is available on the church website at [www.stmarysdalmahoy.org](http://www.stmarysdalmahoy.org)]

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## **Easter at St Mary's** **Passover meal**

On Thursday evening of Holy Week we enjoyed a Passover meal. The prayers and customs before the meal take about 40 minutes but the reasons and symbolism behind each custom is fascinating. For the Jews it is a reminder of slavery and release from their oppressors and of new life in the Promised Land. It was a very enjoyable and thought provoking evening with a great many celebratory toasts.



After the meal we gathered in Church for the stripping of the Altar. Janet read, during the stripping of the altar.

### **Good Friday**

Good Friday was a beautiful day weather wise and a few of us gathered to tend the Easter garden. I know many take pleasure in the beauty of the Easter garden and I was reminded the garden is celebrating resurrection and new life.



In the afternoon we had the Stations of the Cross and followed Jesus journey to the cross and death.

### **Saturday Vigil**

After sundown the Saturday evening vigil started with the church in darkness and after readings and prayers The Paschal candle was lit and the light of Christ was carried in to the Church and in turn all the candles were lit and the Church was flooded with light. 'Jesus has risen', with the response, ' He has risen indeed alleluia alleluia'.



## Easter morning

### Dawn Eucharist

6.30 am, although with clocks going forward, really 5.30 am, a few gathered in the hall and the story was read of the 3 women visiting the tomb to find Jesus was not there and Mary mistaking Jesus for the gardener only to realise it was Jesus when he spoke to her, we



journeyed from the Easter garden to the Church. We then huddled in the porch while Deryck braved the elements to light the Easter fire.

The light was again taken in to the Church and we celebrated Eucharist.

We enjoyed a hearty breakfast afterwards in the hall.

## Easter morning

What a joyous occasion celebrating the risen Christ. Church was full and the feeling of excitement and thankfulness was almost tangible.

Christ is risen  
He is risen indeed  
Alleluia Alleluia



Just something I wanted to share.

I was unable to be at St Marys on the Monday to Wednesday of Holy Week but I went along to my local Church and they were holding times of prayer and meditation through paintings.

One painting was of one younger lady comforting an extremely distressed older lady.

The 'What if' reading alongside was: after Jesus death the mourners had gathered at Mary's home. One mourner said where is Mary? Another answered she has gone to comfort Judas Mother.

Rona Finlayson

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## Sunday Readings for

		Old Testament
June 5	Pentecost 3	1 Kings 17: 17-24
June 12	Pentecost 4	—
June 19	Pentecost 5	Isaiah 65: 1-9
June 26	Pentecost 6	1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-21
July 3	Pentecost 7	Isaiah 66: 10-14
July 10	Pentecost 8	Deuteronomy 30: 9-14
July 17	Pentecost 9	Genesis 18: 1-10a
July 24	Pentecost 10	Genesis 18: 20-32
July 31	Pentecost 11	Ecclesiastes 1: 2,12-14; 2:18-23
Aug 7	Pentecost 12	Genesis 15: 1-6
Aug 14	Pentecost 13	Jeremiah 23: 23-29
Aug 21	Pentecost 14	Isaiah 58: 9-14
Aug 28	Pentecost 15	Ecclesiasticus 10: 12-18

## June - August 2016

Epistle	Gospel
Galatians 1: 11-24	Luke 7: 11-17
Galatians 2: 15-21	Luke 7:36 – 8:3
Galatians 3: 23-29	Luke 8: 26-39
Galatians 5: 1, 13-25	Luke 9: 51-62
Galatians 6: 7-16	Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20
Colossians 1: 1-14	Luke 10: 25-37
Colossians 1: 15-28	Luke 10: 38-42
—	Luke 11: 1-13
Colossians 3: 1-11	Luke 12: 13-21
Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16	Luke 12: 32-40
Hebrews 11: 29 – 12: 2	Luke 12: 49-56
Hebrews 12: 18-29	Luke 13: 10-17
Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16	Luke 14: 1, 7-14
Galatians 1: 11-24	Luke 7: 11-17

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## **Organist's Corner**

Programme Notes for June/July  
by Alan John Phillips

### **Sunday 29th May The Second Sunday after Pentecost Preludes on 'Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend'**

Prelude: (BWV 709 and 726) - Bach

Communion: (BWV 749) - Bach

Postlude: (BWV 655) – Bach

*Four chorale preludes on the hymn (AMNS 491) which we sing today at the Gradual. Another Bach prelude, BWV 632 from the 'Little Organ Book', will be played as an introduction to the hymn in the traditional Lutheran way.*

### **Sunday 5th June The Third Sunday after Pentecost**

Prelude: Master Tallis's Testament - Howells

Communion: Tallis Theme – arr. Martin and Geoffrey Shaw

Postlude: Paeon - Howells

*As a curtain-raiser to the season of English Renaissance music which follows, I play Howells's evocation of the Tudor era. Howells was greatly moved by hearing the first performance of Vaughan Williams's 'Tallis Fantasia' in Gloucester Cathedral in 1910, and the theme of this I play during the communion in an arrangement by the Shaw brothers.*

### **Sunday 12th June The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Mediaeval Organ Music**

Prelude: Estampie I (Robertsbridge Codex c.1325)

Communion: Felix namque – Anon (c.1400)

Postlude: Estampie Retrouvé (Robertsbridge Codex c.1325)

*Although the organ as an instrument is older than Christianity, having been invented by Ctesibius of Alexandria around 250BC (his wife was the first organist), no organ music survives from before 1325. These two estampies (mediaeval dances), together with three arrangements of vocal pieces, were found in a book from Robertsbridge Abbey in Sussex. 'Felix namque', a piece based on the Gregorian offertory chant for the vigil of the Assumption, dates from a slightly later period.*

**Sunday 19th June The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost****John Redford (c.1485-1547)**

*Organist of St Paul's Cathedral, London, Redford was one of the first composers, rather than improvisers, for the organ, and a major contributor to the 'Mulliner Book'. All his organ music was written for the pre-Reformation Latin liturgy and is based on Gregorian chants.*

Prelude: Iste confessor with a meane - Redford

Communion: Veni redemptor - Redford

Postlude: Glorificamus - Redford

**Sunday 26th June The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost****Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)**

*Organist at Waltham Abbey at its dissolution in 1540, Tallis became a Gentleman and organist of the Chapel Royal. His career spans the liturgical changes of the English Reformation. Like Byrd, he remained a Roman Catholic, but kept his post in the Chapel Royal. Born about a hundred years after the death of Chaucer, he died a hundred years before the birth of Handel.*

Prelude: Clarifica me Pater - Tallis

Communion: Veni redemptor - Tallis

Postlude: Iste confessor - Tallis

**Sunday 3rd July The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost****John Blitheman (c.1525-1591)**

*Organist at Christ Church, Oxford, Blitheman became a Gentleman and organist of the Chapel Royal in 1585 in succession to Tallis. He was the teacher of John Bull, who in turn succeeded him at the Chapel Royal.*

Prelude: Eterne rerum conditor - Blitheman

Communion: Gloria tibi Trinitas (iv) - Blitheman

Postlude: Gloria tibi Trinitas (vi) - Blitheman

**Sunday 10th July The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost****William Byrd (c.1540-1623)**

*Byrd, pupil of Tallis and one of England's greatest composers, was organist of Lincoln Cathedral before joining the Chapel Royal as singer and organist. A Roman Catholic at heart, he wrote for both the Latin and English liturgies, but managed to maintain his post in the Chapel Royal to his death.*

Prelude: A Voluntary for my lady Nevell - Byrd

Communion: The Galliard to the Tenth Pavan - Byrd

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Postlude: The Carman's Whistle - Byrd

*'My Ladye Nevell's Booke', a collection of Byrd's keyboard music, was copied in 1591 by John Baldwin, and was probably proof-read by the composer himself. The set of variations on 'The Carman's Whistle' was popular in Byrd's day, and appears in a number of contemporary collections.*

### **Sunday 17th July The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

#### **Peter Philips (c.1560-1628)**

*Philips, like Byrd, was a Roman Catholic, and left England in 1582 after having been a chorister at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. He settled in Antwerp, and visited Amsterdam in 1593, where he probably met Sweelinck. Wikipedia intriguingly hints at a possible Devon origin, so he may have been a relative of mine!*

Prelude: Pavana Dolorosa - Philips

Communion: Pavane - Philips

Postlude: Fantasia – Philips

*The second Pavane I play today was 'the first one Philips made', and the great Dutch organist Sweelinck subsequently wrote a set of variations on it.*

### **Sunday 24th July The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

#### **John Bull (1562-1628)**

Pupil of Blitheman, Bull became organist of Hereford Cathedral at the age of twenty, and later joined the Chapel Royal as singer and organist. He fled to the continent in 1613, and became organist of Antwerp Cathedral.

Prelude: The Spanish Pavan - Bull

Communion: Dr. Bull's Jewel - Bull

Postlude: A Gigge: Doctor Bull's my selfe – Bull

### **Sunday 31st July The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

#### **Giles Farnaby (c.1563-1640)**

*Farnaby, possibly a Cornishman, graduated at Oxford at the same time as Bull. Unlike the other great English virginalists, he did not work in the Church, but earned his living as a music teacher. He is most notable for his virginal music, 52 pieces of his being included in the Fitzwilliam Virginal Book. In the four pieces played as a prelude today, Farnaby gives us a kind of self-portrait.*

Preludes: Farnaby's Conceit – Giles Farnaby's Dreame – His Rest – His Humour

Communion: A Maske - Farnaby

Postlude: Loth to Depart – Farnaby



**William Byrd**



**John Bull 1589**

The caption around the frame reads: 'The Bull by force in field doth Raigne. But Bull by Skill Good will doth Gayne'.

24.

*Address by Deryck at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Sheila, Countess of Morton, with burial at St Mary's, May 2016*

That lovely photo with wee George, on the back of your service, speaks volumes. Sheila was so proud of her great-grandchildren! Proud of *all* the family; and grateful for that privilege of having so many of you close by. I'm sure many of us know the warmth and acceptance that lies behind that smile in many other contexts too. And we all have much to be thankful for.

Sheila's smile could light up a room. It mattered not if it was a wee butt 'n ben, or a stately home. She displayed that charm and grace to make things feel secure and ok.

I guess that she could, dare I say, '*out-grace*', anyone she *chose* to... but she would have the dignity to choose *not* to where discretion suggested otherwise. Because she was a strong woman who had great self-control and awareness... and, of course, a very strong sense of duty. And she loved being with people, whoever they were – something that shone through here at St Mary's and earned her deep affection.

This blend of personal strength and duty seems to have been nurtured from an early age. Being born into the life of a vicarage in Gloucestershire, and Badminton at that - with her father, as well as being vicar, being the Chaplain to the Duke of Beaufort - she would be used to a life of entertaining, no doubt *all* manner of folk, but including those coming to the infamous Hunt. That included the future Edward VIII, then Prince of Wales.

Breakfast at the Vicarage was part of the routine.

Sheila was soon on a pony herself and not only quickly became part of that riding set, but became 'test jockey' for ponies for the then-Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret. You will surmise the rapid development in her skills with and experience of her other great love in life – her horses.



The family moved from Badminton during the war, to a larger vicarage in Shipton Moyne. There were fewer congregations here for her father Jack to look after, but more work to be done around the house, whilst also at a Convent school in Cirencester.

When she was 17, Sheila's family became extended by the arrival of young cousins Rona and Colin, following the very sad death of their mother, Sheila's favourite aunt, Pamela McCorquodale just a few years after their father had been killed at Dunkirk. I am grateful to them for memories from those early years, as also to various other members of the family, and Barry McCorkell's splendid address from John's service at the Cathedral.

Sheila was closely involved in their upbringing. It is their own judgement that this was a sufficiently demanding task, and kept Sheila from being involved in aspects of the war effort that might otherwise have beckoned. She did help out at a local recuperation hospital. But like many of this generation, she lost many good friends.

A young John Douglas had been around for a good few years – they had first met at a party at the age of 7 – and it comes as no surprise that he was noticeably different from the other boys. Father may have had some misgivings about “*that* John Douglas”, but Sheila stated her intentions and her will prevailed: there was to be no other match in the making for her.

They were married at Shipton Moyne in 1949 and formed the firmest of partnerships over these nearly 67 years of married life that they enjoyed together – life revolving around farming – and the inevitable eye for business opportunities: initially in Gloucestershire, where Mary and Stewart were born, before moving to Scotland shortly after Sheila's father died in 1952.

Scotland had been the locus for family holidays for them both. Sheila's mother loved the West Coast – as I believe did Rona and Colin – but Sheila's enjoyment seems to have come more in her role as nanny or in joining her likewise more reluctant father on the golf course – and writing letters to John!

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But the move to Dalmahoy opened up a rolling saga and catalogue of sheer hard work and business wit. That is not a reference to the birth of Jamie after they moved here! Starting with relatively modest land at Warriston, they have gradually reclaimed the estate into what it is today.

And 'partnership' echoes through everyone's reflections on what John and Sheila have achieved and *who* they have been.

They became a formidable team. It is sometimes said that John had the great (and sometimes wild) ideas; and Sheila made sure they were workable.

One does have to balance that against some of Sheila's own idiosyncrasies: like renting out the family caravan to other people, only to worry whether the bottled gas would last out; or finding it perfectly natural that one's horse should be allowed to wander freely around the garden; or that keeping 100 chickens to sell eggs at the roadside on the A71 constitutes good entrepreneurship. Well, others have happily followed her example since.

That doesn't quite explain the 80 guinea pigs. But perhaps that got a little out of control.

But given the way things were, it *is* quite remarkable what they have achieved between them. And Sheila has consistently supported John throughout in all of his business ventures – not least in setting up and running the Country Club in the '80s, doing an enormous amount of hands-on physical work in the re-development. At least she put her foot down when it came to cooking.

And then there was polo! Though it was John's initiative, Sheila also played, and her support and involvement has been a crucial part of the Club's development over nearly 50 years at Dalmahoy.

It is known as a place of welcome to all-comers and that reflects that gift of hospitality that lies at the heart of its development.

Sheila's forte otherwise has clearly been in her instinctive understanding of horses and as a breeder. Mary's first Shetland pony, Annie, was bred up over 4 generations to produce polo ponies.

It is one of our great joys at St Mary's here that horses may come right up to the wall to say hello to wedding guests or passers by. My only

sadness is that we have never yet had one appear *in* the church for the animal blessing service in October – something I would expect Sheila to approve of; they are a treasure and, even as a non-rider, I can appreciate why they can become so captivating.

Polo is of course a family thing and runs down the generations. That has been a great joy for both Sheila and John. It has taken them to distant places and many adventures, including lunar landscapes in the mountains of Peru, where someone has developed the most perfect of polo fields, all on the back of breeding 2 million chickens up there! One wonders what Sheila's reflections became on her early efforts with 100 chickens at Old Hatton Mains.

Which brings us back appropriately to Dalmahoy and family. Because family has been the constant priority throughout this partnership's story. You all know that, and just how important your own progression in life – as well as your presence in their life – has been to your parents and (great-) grandparents.

They have tried to do their best by you... and for you. In Sheila's case, that includes how she has conducted herself and her life over these very challenging couple of months since John died so suddenly in March. She has wanted to be there primarily for you.

But we are all aware that after all those years and all they had been through together, she wanted to be with John too. And that is an irreconcilable dilemma.

That element of choice was taken away from her as from everyone else. This duo are not to be separated by death. For her we can be thankful that her passing was so decisive in its own way.

For all of you who carry that shock and the hurt it inflicts most deeply, this is one of the most challenging times in life. A generation is taken from you and you must step into their shoes – except it is not *into their* shoes, but to wear your own *as they* would have done.

They are unforgettable people to all of us here and they will be deeply missed; they are *inscribed* upon *your* hearts. You can carry them with

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gentleness and care, but with a similar strength also; that is their gift to you.

As we commend Sheila to God's loving care this day, and in this place that was so dear to her heart, we do so in confidence that the loving mercy of God embraces us all and binds us as one, living and departed. God grant her peace; and rest with John.

## **The Toccata Ladies Choir.**

On the afternoon of Saturday 16th April, the Toccata Ladies Choir, a local choir based in Livingston, graced the stage of the Douglas Hall at St. Mary's Dalmahoy and provided those in the audience with a delightful concert of a selection of music from what would appear to be an extensive repertoire.

The choir and music were introduced by their musical director and conductor, Eleanor Howat.

Eleanor gave a brief background to the choir and alluded at the beginning to past and recent awards which the choir has been awarded. Of the 46 or so regular members, 36 were available to perform on this occasion.

Due to the size of the choir, it was not feasible to use the church for the performance. I had wondered if that would lessen the impact of the singing. This fear was soon banished when the choir began to sing and their accompanist played.

The programme was divided into sections of three or four songs, each section having a theme.

Perhaps because of the church connection, a hymn was chosen as the first piece and featured a solo from Margaret Orr. Being the first item of the programme, nerves might have been expected but Margaret sang beautifully and with confidence.

The singing and sound which the choir produces is extremely accomplished. Eleanor has obviously trained the choir very thoroughly. After the first group of songs Eleanor explained that for the second year in succession, the choir had won the Ladies Choir Class at the Glasgow Music Festival which was held in March. She then went on to tell the audience, with rightful pride, that the choir had also been awarded the Glasgow Orpheus Choir Trophy for the best choir and performance. A wonderful achievement which I am sure made us realise just how

privileged we were to be hosting such an exceptional choir. The programme consisted of two parts with a brief interlude during which refreshments were provided. Thanks to those on the Hall Committee for their work on the day and in preparation for the concert. Although the majority of the songs were sung by the whole choir, special mention must be made of Elaine Clark and the comic performance that she provided. Elaine has obvious talent which extends beyond her participation in the choir. Her role as a char lady who loved to sing while she worked was not only funny but a very substantial voice was produced by a lady of diminutive stature. Well done Elaine, you had the audience in stitches.

The choir was accompanied by their pianist, Don Finlay. Don has actually played on the same piano in the church when he accompanied the hymn singing at a wedding several years ago.

He certainly made the piano sing on this occasion and enhanced the overall sound immensely.

A donation of £100 from ticket sales will be made to Linburn for the War Blinded and in addition another £125 will be gifted from a recent donation to the church.



Eleanor thanked St. Mary's for inviting the choir to perform and commented that the acoustics in the Douglas Hall were extremely good. With that in mind, we can hopefully attract other musical groups to participate in fund raising ventures in the future.

Eleanor also advertised that the choir would be having their annual concert at

Howden Park Centre in Livingston on May 6th and 7th.

I attended this on the Friday evening with several friends, some of whom had had their appetite whetted at St. Mary's. The Annual Concert was wonderful. Some of the songs which had been performed were repeated but there were also many others which were not featured on that particular day. A baritone guest, Iain McLean, sang several solo pieces, ably accompanied by Don and Peter Horsfall on synthesiser. Iain also sang with the choir backing him and the resultant sound was skin pricklingly good.

Deryck thanked the choir on behalf of St. Mary's and had obviously been very moved by the performance.

Thank you Toccata, a musical term derived from Italian meaning to

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touch or to stroke, you certainly touched those of us lucky enough to have had time to witness your performance and perhaps you will consider a return visit at a future date.

Carole MacBride

*Preface to "Psalms, Sonets, and Songs of Sadnes and Pietie" (1588)*

*by William Byrd (1543[?]-1623)*

**Reasons briefly set down by th'author, to perswade every one to learne to sing.**

Firs, it is a knowledge safely taught and quickly learned, where there is a good Master, and an apt Scholler.

2 The exercise of singing is delightfull to Nature, & good to preserve the health of Man.

3 It doth strengthen all parts of the brest, & doth open the pipes.

4 It is a singular good remedie for a stutting and 30oice30ring in the speech.

5 It is the best means to procure a perfect pronounciation, & to make a good Orator.

6 It is the onely way to know where Nature hath bestowed the benefit of a good 30oice : which guift is so rare, as there is not one among a thousand, that hath it.

7 There is not any Musicke of Instruments whatsoever, comparable to that which is made of the voyces of Men, where the voyces are good, and the same well sorted and ordered.

8 The better the 30oice is, the 30oice it is to honour and serve God there-with : and the 30oice of man is chiefly to bee employed to that ende.

*"Omnis Spiritus Laudes Dominum"*

**Since Singing is so good a thing,  
I wish all men would learn to sing.**

**Diary of Events, June - July 2016**

Date	Times	Venue	Event
Wed 1 June	1100	Church	Eucharist
Sat 4 June	TBC		Dalmahoy Walking Group Annual Get-Together Including a trip on the Borders Railway and of course, a visit to a restaurant.
Sun 5 June	10.30	Church	Sung Eucharist  (Collection of groceries/ toiletries for St Salvador's Food Bank)
	12.30	Hall	Faith Lunch with the Bishop
Mon 6 June	19.00	Church	Eucharist
	1930	Hall	Vestry meeting
Wed 8 June	11.00	Church	Eucharist
	19.30	Rectory	Ministry Leadership Team meeting
Fri 10 June	1400	Church	Marriage of Kirsten Jack to Stephen Connolly
Sat 11 June	1400	Church	Marriage of Lisa Brown to Stephen Halliday
Sun 12 June	1030	Church	Sung Eucharist
	1400		Marriage of Michelle Barbour to David Selwyn

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

Date	Times	Venue	Event
Wed 15 June	11.00	Church	Eucharist
Sun 19 June	1030	Church	Sung Eucharist
Wed 22 June	1100	Church	Eucharist
Sat 25 June	1400	Church	St Scruff's Dog Show
Sun 26 June	1030 1830	Church	Sung Eucharist Eucharist & Prayer for Wholeness & Healing
Wed 29 June	11.00	Church	Eucharist (St Peter)
Fri 1 July	1900	Church	A Midsummer Organ Concert II Alan J Phillips
Sun 3 July	1030	Church	Sung Eucharist  (Collection of groceries/ toiletries for St Salvador's Food Bank)
Wed 6 July	1100	Church	Eucharist
Fri 8 July	1400	Church	Marriage of Ashleigh Munro to Daryl Pitt
Sun 10 July	1030	Church	Sung Eucharist & Baptism of Charlotte Hay



**Diary of Events (cont)**

Date	Times	Venue	Event
Wed 13 July	1100	Church	Eucharist
Fri 15 July	TBA	Church	Marriage of Christine Murray to Kris Shankland
Sun 17 July	1030	Church	Sung Eucharist
Wed 20 July	1100	Church	Eucharist
Sun 24 July	1030	Church	Sung Eucharist & Baptism of Poppy Ferguson  Marriage of Megan Weatherall to William MacLean
Wed 27 July	1100	Church	Eucharist
Sat 30 July	17.00 – 21.00	Rectory	BBQ
Sun 31 July	0855	Church	Choir Practise
	1030		Sung Eucharist
Wed 13 July	1100	Church	Eucharist
Fri 15 July	TBA	Church	Marriage of Christine Murray to Kris Shankland

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

### **Vestry:**

Treasurer	Denis King	
Rector's Warden	Alan Coupe	
People's Warden	Caroline Gunn	
Lay Representative	John Blaber	01555 663910

### **Other members**

Geoff Angell  
Richmond Davies  
Carole MacBride  
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 Coordinator</b>	Rosemary Procter
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<b>Head Server</b>	Denis King
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**Visiting Team:**

Lois May Donaldson  
Janice Goodfellow  
Caroline Gunn  
Derek & Ella Henderson  
Margaret Hunter  
Margaret King  
Carole MacBride  
Gillian McLennan  
Olive Metcalfe  
Jane Russell  
Bill & Margaret Scott  
Claire Starr  
Rosemary Procter

**Hall Bookings**

0131 333 1683

**Stewards for each Sunday:**

First Sunday	Richmond Davies
Second Sunday	Wilma Brown
Third Sunday	Val Lawrie
Fourth Sunday	Jane Russell
Fifth Sunday	Alan Coupe

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  
Margaret

**In Touch Editor**

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.

**Copy date for the August/September  
Issue is Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July**