

ST MARY'S CHURCH, DALMAHOY



In Touch

February - March 2024

Registered Charity No. SC014203

Who's Who

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 organist@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk

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Cover Photograph: Beside the Sea of Galilee

Pastoral Letter from Christine

Dear St. Mary's:

The world needs us to be bearers of hope and needs communities of people who are able to articulate why being a people of hope is not foolishly naive, but an intelligent, responsible and faith-filled way of living.



The world we live in is getting smaller and more complicated. While we have access to all the information in the world, many are confused and lost. Our lives are shaped by an economic system based on personal acquisition, which nurtures our desire for more things, yet we still grapple with poverty and suffering in our towns and nations, as well as in our hearts. We – and our young people in particular – carry legitimate fears about the future, relating to the environment, climate change, and the rate at which we are consuming the earth's natural resources.

I have had conversations people, whose search for meaning is genuine – who are attracted to, or at least not adverse to, belief in God, who would like very much to lay hold of the hope which is borne of faith, but aren't convinced that it would be intellectually honest to do so.

In turn, many who continue to actively be a part of the Church also struggle with doubts, often unarticulated, which are unsettling and keep us from living the depths of hope and joy to which our faith invites us.

Our culture is struggling to find meaning; seeking answers to their deepest questions.

It is in Christ's self-gift on the cross that we clearly see the face of God. The resurrection proclaims God's power and God's desire to transform death into life, darkness into light, despair into hope. It is



the eternal reminder that we are not alone in the world, that new life can rise from ashes. And it places human freedom, into a larger framework, where everything is caught up in God's redeeming work.

Immersing ourselves in the natural world – the smell of the moist earth, the first time you hear the sound of returning birds in the spring, raking away the dried crust of winter on the lawn, walking on a road under the sheltering sky – can be a renewing and transcendent experience. Taking time to be with others, over a meal or having tea with a friend – such fundamental encounters are a reminder of the dignity and sacredness of each person. The experience of beauty or kindness can be a way of opening the human heart to an encounter with God.

Hope is evoked in all these places, just as it is evoked in the simple tasks of daily life, and in moments of quiet and contemplation. Above all it is born in love, the love which helps us move outside of ourselves.





The experience of love vanquishes doubt much more than any intellectual argument does, no matter how much the latter is needed.

Hope is deeply attractive.

May we continue to be guided by the Holy Spirit as we creatively seek ways of giving an account of our hope. And

may we experience the joy of being able to name life-giving reasons for our hope, letting those reasons shine forth for all to see and hear.

Christine+



From the Registers (February – March 2024)

No Baptism



Weddings

16th March Fiona Thomas & Richard Hanley

30th March Eilidh Lyall & Kyle MacKenzie



No Funerals

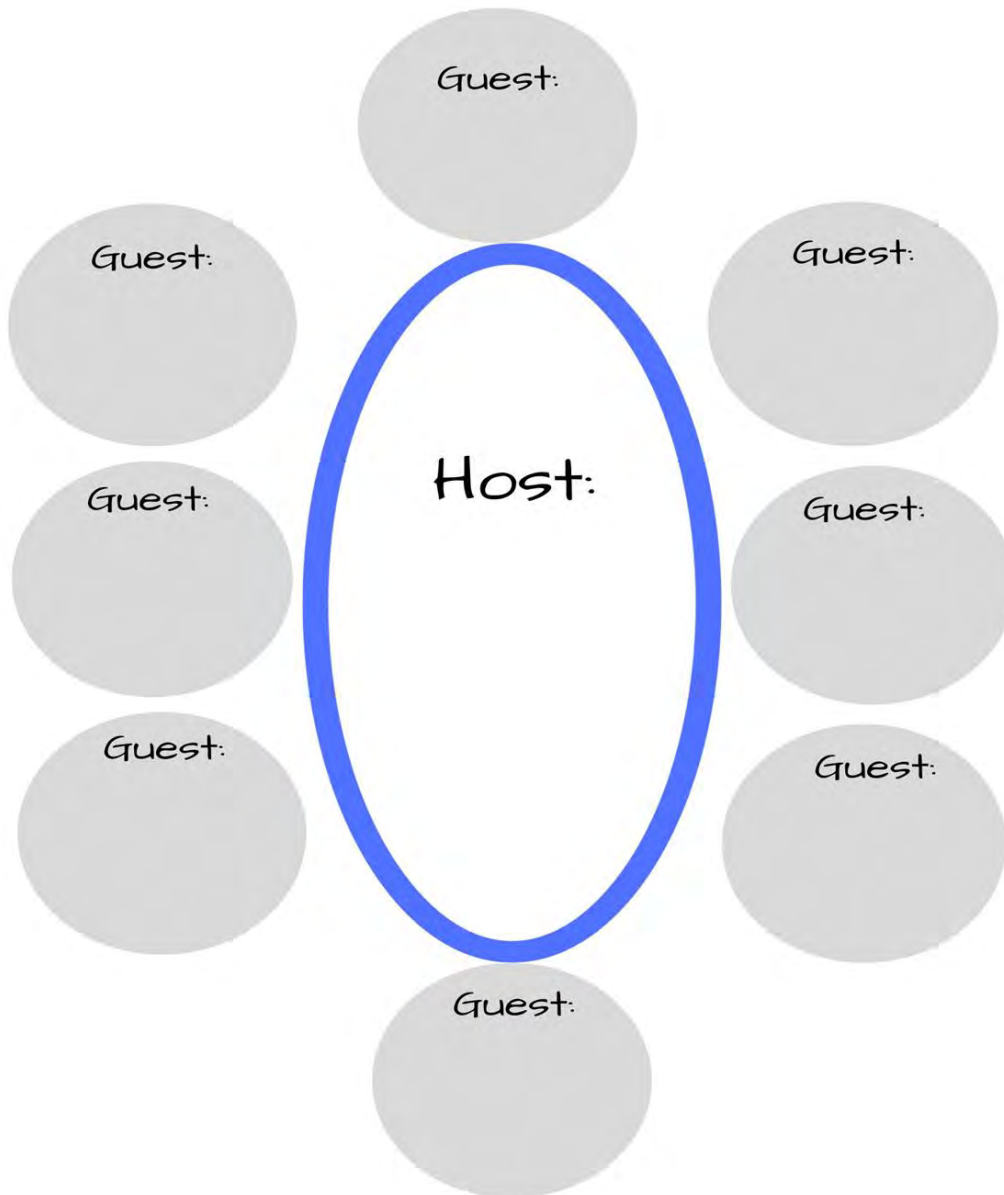


Douglas Hall Classes & Events

Mondays	10:00am-12:00pm	Craft Group
Tuesdays	18:45 – 19:45pm	Yoga (Feb)
Wednesdays	18:45 – 19:45pm	Yoga (Feb)
Thursdays	19:00 - 20:00pm	Yoga
Fridays	19:00 – 21:00pm	Ratho Scouts (occasionally)
Saturday last of the month	10:00-10:30 am	Bookbug
2 nd , 4 th & 5 th Sundays	14:00-18:30pm	Mar Thoma Congregation



More information and **up-to-date** details
can be found on our website
www.stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk



The Open Table

Food and Fellowship at the Rectory

Thursdays: 15th, 22nd, 29th Feb, 7th, 14th & 21st March

Please arrive at the Rectory for 6pm.

Please pop your name above to have a seat at the table.

Please note that if you are intending to host you may arrive earlier.

Dalmatians

Since the report for the AGM was written there have been two Dalmatians meetings. This should have been three, but the November meeting was cancelled due to electrical problems stopping the heating working in the Douglas Hall. Luckily, we were able to contact the speaker, Eric Melvin, on the morning to cancel. Eric will now give his talk on A Visit to Edinburgh Castle in April.



In October, Patricia Keppie of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission came and talked to us on the work that they carry out across the globe. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission's mission is to ensure those who died in service, or as a result of conflict in the two world wars, are commemorated so that they, and the human cost of war, are remembered for ever. The cemeteries, memorials, graves, landscapes, and records in their care will be found at 23,000 locations and in more than 150 countries and territories. St Mary's Dalmahoy has 2 War Graves in our graveyard and Patricia was able to give some background on them.



The annual Dalmatians Christmas Lunch was held in December. As usual it was a very enjoyable event. Including entertainers, guests, and regular attendees there were around 30 people present. The Castaways ladies singing group returned to sing a

programme of Christmas songs and carols which got everyone into the festive mood, as in previous years an outside caterer provided a cold buffet. The tables were decorated, a sweet, liquid refreshments, and crackers were provided, A good time was had by all.



The small raffle was held and £45 raised. This money was donated, with £25 going to Alzheimer's Scotland and £20 to The Seagull Trust.

Thanks to all who made this a successful day.



We are now into a new year and have a programme that takes us up until April.

On January 31st we are holding the annual fun day. It's a chance to have a laugh while taking part in some fun activities such as games and quizzes. A good way to lighten the winter blues.

On February 28th Carole MacBride is going to talk to the group on the Child in the Rough charity. By the time of the meeting Carole will have visited Kenya twice with the charity, so will be able to give an informed talk on their work. This is a charity that St Mary's has supported in the last year.



Another charity that St Mary's has supported recently is Aquabox, which provides safe drinking water and humanitarian aid to people affected by natural disasters, extreme weather and conflicts. Alun Morgan is coming on March 27th to tell us more about the work of this charity.

Finally, as mentioned previously, on April 24th Eric Melvin will be at St Mary's to give his talk on A Visit to Edinburgh Castle. Eric has spoken to Dalmatians a number of times before and his talks are very interesting. I'm sure that he will come up with a lot of facts that people are not aware of.



Although it is still early in the year it is time to think about next year's programme, which will start on August. Over the years we have had talks, singing groups, craft demonstrations etc. So, any suggestions for topics of interest or people who may come along to entertain or give a demonstration would be most welcome.



Just a reminder Dalmatians is open to everyone, you don't need to be part of St Mary's congregation to attend. Should anyone have thoughts or questions on anything to do with the Dalmatians please talk with myself, Jane Russell, Margaret King, or anyone who you know attends it. It would be great to get the number of regular attendees up.

Denis King

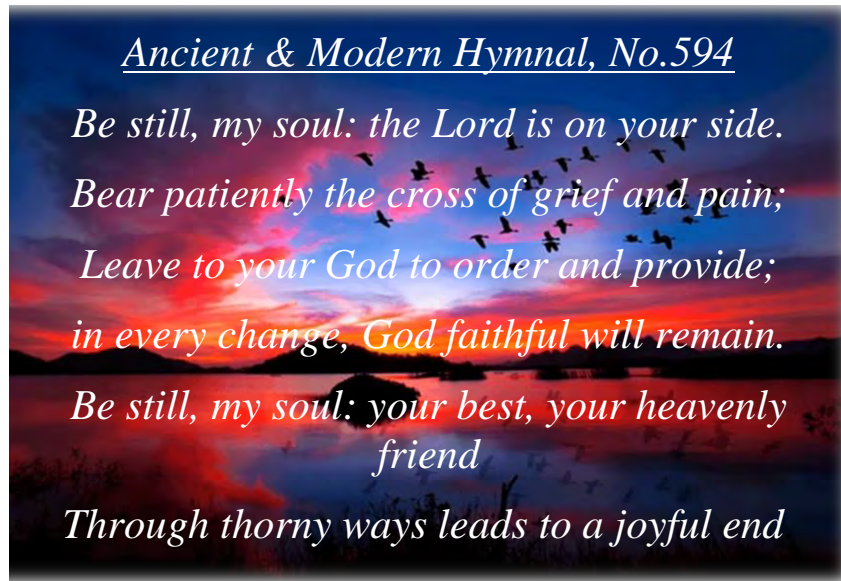


Eucharist Readings: February – April 2024

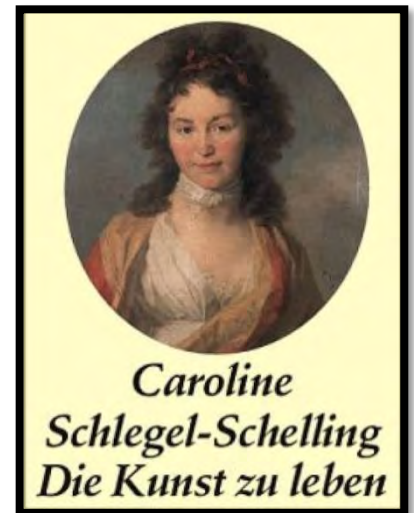
February	
4th: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 1 st : Isaiah 40:21-31 2 nd : 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Gospel: Mark 1:29-39	11th: Sunday before Lent 1 st : 2 Kings 2:1-12 2 nd : 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Gospel: Mark 9:2-9
18th: First Sunday of Lent 1 st : Genesis 9:8-17 2 nd : 1 Peter 3:18-22 Gospel: Mark 1:9-15	25th: Second Sunday of Lent 1 st : Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 2 nd : Romans 4:13-25 Gospel: Mark 8:31-38
March	
3rd: Third Sunday of Lent 1 st : Exodus 20:1-17 2 nd : 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 Gospel: John 2:13-22	10th: Fourth Sunday of Lent 1 st : Numbers 21:4-9 2 nd : Ephesians 2:1-10 Gospel: John 3:14-21
17th: Fifth Sunday of Lent 1 st : Jeremiah 31:31-34 2 nd : Hebrews 5:5-10 Gospel: John 12:20-33	24th: Sixth Sunday of Lent 1 st : Liturgy of the Palms 2 nd : Gospel: Mark 11:1-11
31st: Easter Day 1 st : Isaiah 25:6-9 2 nd : Colossians 3:1-4 Gospel: John 20:1-8	
April	
7th: Second Sunday of Easter 1 st : Acts 4:32-35 2 nd : 1 John 1:1-2:2 Gospel: John 20:19-31	14th: Third Sunday of Easter 1 st : Acts 3:12-19 2 nd : 1 John 3:1-7 Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48
21st: Fourth Sunday of Easter 1 st : Acts 4:5-12 2 nd : 1 John 3:16-24 Gospel: John 10:11-18	28th: Fifth Sunday of Easter 1 st : Acts 8:26-40 2 nd : 1 John 4:7-21 Gospel: John 15:1-8

Hymn of the Lent season: "Be Still, My Soul"

Katherine von Schlegel; trans. Jane Borthwick;



The hymn "Be Still, My Soul" has an interesting origin story that spans over 100 years and three countries: Germany (original text), Scotland (translation), and Finland (tune: Finlandia by Jean Sibelius). While little is known about the author Katharina Amalia Dorothea von Schlegel, there is speculation that she may have come from an aristocratic family and been associated with the court at Köthen in Germany. She contributed several texts to a collection called *Neue Sammlung geistlicher Lieder* (A new collection of spiritual songs) in 1752.



During a period of five years, Johann Sebastian Bach served as a director of music at the court of Köthen, where it is assumed, he was working in close proximity to Katherine von Schlegel. During this time, he had access to an incredibly well-equipped court chapel and worked under Prince Leopold, who was a great lover of music. Bach



Johann Sebastian Bach & Anna Magdalena

wrote many orchestral and chamber pieces for the regular concerts held at the Köthen Palace, including the first part of the Well-tempered Clavier. Unfortunately, his time in Köthen was marred by the unexpected death of his first wife, Maria Barbara. As a result, the 35-year-old widower, who was now the

sole caretaker of four children, quickly fell in love with the court singer, Anna Magdalena. The couple married in December 1721 in a joyous ceremony.

Katherine von Schlegel's hymnody is characterised by faithfulness to Scripture, personal experience, and deep emotional expression. It is worth noting that she is considered to be the leading female hymn writer of this period.

The hymn we know today was translated by Jane L. Borthwick (1813-1897), a distinguished member of the Free Church of Scotland who contributed greatly to bringing the riches of German hymn heritage to the English language.

It is noteworthy that her translation included five of the original six stanzas, and it appeared in *Hymns from the Land of Luther*, second series (1855)

*Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then shalt thou better know his love, his heart,
who come to soothe thy sorrow and thy fears.*

*Be still, my soul: thy Jesus can repay
from his own fondness all he takes away.*

*Be still, my soul; thy God doth undertake
to guide the future as He has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.*

*Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.*

*Be still, my soul; when dearest friends depart,
and all is darkened in the veil of tears,
then shalt thou better know His love, His heart,
who comes to soothe thy sorrow and thy fears.*

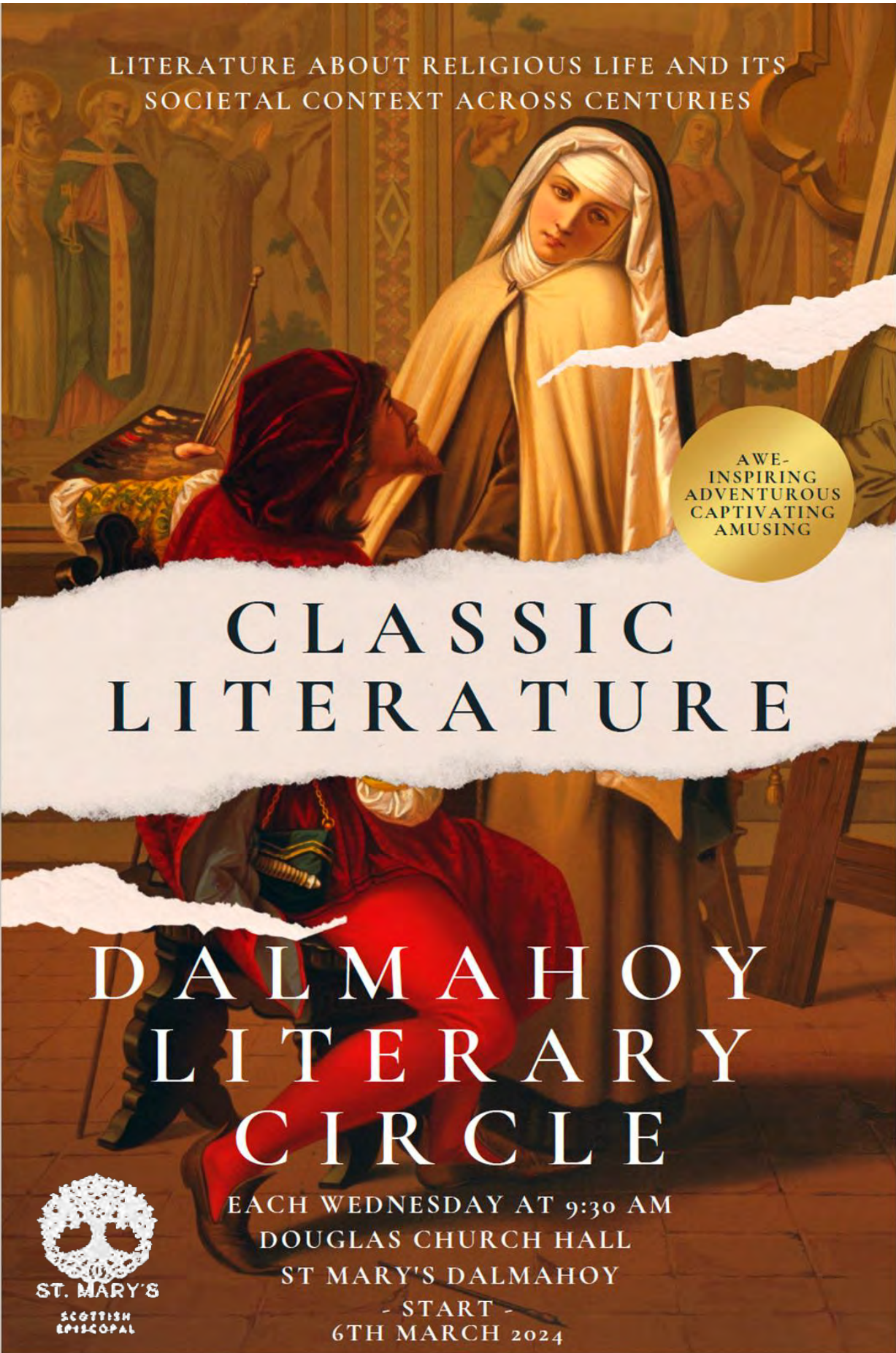
*Be still, my soul; thy Jesus can repay
from His own fullness all He takes away.*

*Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

Thomas Leigh

Director of Music






LITERATURE ABOUT RELIGIOUS LIFE AND ITS
SOCIETAL CONTEXT ACROSS CENTURIES

AWE-
INSPIRING
ADVENTUROUS
CAPTIVATING
AMUSING

CLASSIC
LITERATURE

DALMAHOY
LITERARY
CIRCLE

EACH WEDNESDAY AT 9:30 AM
DOUGLAS CHURCH HALL
ST MARY'S DALMAHOY
- START -
6TH MARCH 2024



ST. MARY'S
SCOTTISH
EPISCOPAL



Dear St Marys Dalmahoy Church,

I am writing on behalf of A Child in the Rough to personally thank you for your financial contributions to our non profit organisation in 2023. With your support we were able to feed the entire school 2 hot meals a day for an entire month. Your generous donation of £280 has also sponsored one of our grade 6 students through their first year of Junior Secondary School which they will start this week. Your support and generosity towards our efforts in Kenya are greatly appreciated.

As you will be aware, A Child in the Rough provides education, meals, aid and emergency medical care to Star of Wonder School in the Kibera Slum of Nairobi, Kenya. Without support from organisations and communities like yourself we could not do the work we do.

This year we have more projects to move forward with to improve the conditions of the school and continue progressing Star of Wonder into the safe haven that it has become. With another trip planned for the end of this month I plan to be on the ground in Nairobi for just under 3 weeks to undertake some of these vital projects. I would like to graciously reach out to ask if you would consider allocating any additional funds towards new projects in 2024.

The main goals for this trip will be to provide every teacher with a new, functioning desk as currently many teachers are sitting on a chair balancing work on their lap. This comes at a cost of around £500. Additionally, we are planning to install shelving and storage in each classroom in an effort to protect the workbooks and textbooks from the dust and dirt of the slum, ensuring they stay in good condition for longer – currently there are no storage solutions in the classrooms and this project would come at a cost of around £400. Whilst these are the main issues needing addressed, there are ongoing costs of projects such as investment into textbooks, new uniforms for the most vulnerable students, monthly food supplies and water tank refills.

We would be incredibly grateful if you would consider our non profit organisation for further support in 2024 and if any additional funds could be allocated towards these much needed projects. Once again, I would like to give a massive note of appreciation and thanks for your support in 2023. Myself and the organisation as a whole would like to express utmost gratitude.

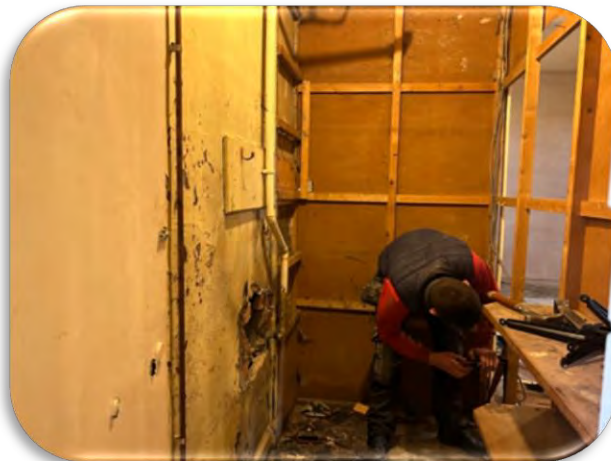
Kind Regards,

Courtney Macdonald



Kiwi Cottage: Exciting Changes.

Where it started:

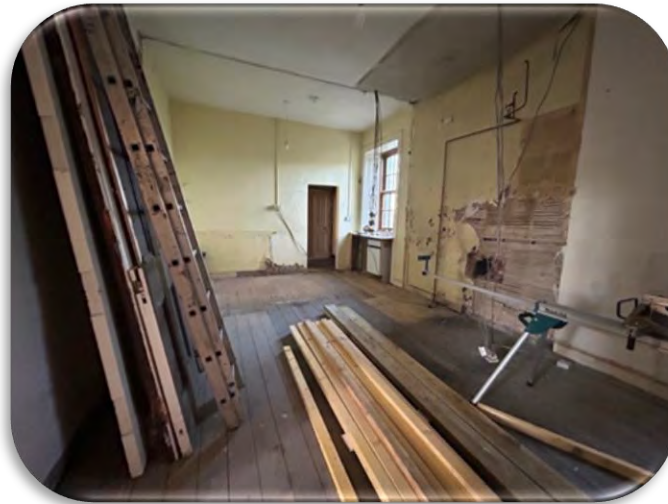
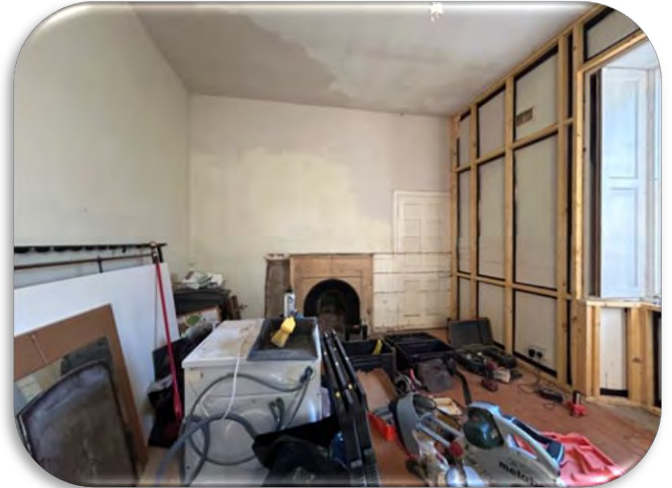


On Monday 15th January work commenced on the cottage and has progressed very quickly.

Everything that needed removed as been taken out, walls, flooring and electrics.



How it's Going:



New insulation has been put in, the electrics have been rewired, the rooms have been redefined.

The radiators are sitting and waiting to be plumbed in. It has been astonishing watching the transformation take place so quickly.

If all continues to go well, we are hoping that work will be finished and the cottage habitable by the end of March.

We will keep you updated.

Mary's Meals

I was approached almost a year ago, by Mary's Meals, to ask if I was willing to have my name put up outside the Chahiro School in Zambia.

I was very surprised, as my annual giving would only be sufficient to feed about 45 children out of many more in the school, but I can only assume that I must be the largest contributor.

As most of you know, St. Mary's has been a supporter of Mary's Meals almost since the start, and you will have noticed in the Sunday Service sheets, that we support Dole Primary School in Malawi. That came about because St. Mary's raised enough money to have a kitchen added to the school to provide breakfasts for all the students. John Helliwell has given over 600 talks to various organisations over many years, and some of us know the Macfarlane Barrow family as many of us have stayed at their centre in Dalmally on many occasions in the past.

I myself have continued to give regularly, hence the possible reason for having my name linked to a particular school. They have apologised for only giving me one "I" in my name.

Geoff Angell



Diary of Events: February – March 2023

Date	Times	Venue	Event
14 th Feb	11am & 7pm	Hall & Church	Ash Wednesday Services
28 th Feb	11:45am	Hall	Dalmations
1 st March	7pm	Rectory	Vestry Meeting
6 th March	9:30am	Hall	Dalmahoy Literary Circle
27 th March	11:45am	Hall	Dalmations

Please check News & Events on our webpage

(<https://stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk>)

Go to News & Events and scroll to the bottom of the page and you'll see the calendar.



PENTLAND MODEL RAILWAY GROUP

LOTHIANS MODEL RAIL SHOW 2024



SAT 6TH APRIL 2024. 10AM - 4:30PM
SUN 7TH APRIL 2024. 11:30AM - 4:00PM

**ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL, DALMAHOY
 EDINBURGH, EH27 8EB**

IN THE GROUNDS OF THE DALMAHOY HOTEL AND COUNTRY CLUB

ADMISSION
ADULTS £ 4.00
CHILDREN £1.00*

*Children 5-15

**WORKING MODEL
 RAILWAY LAYOUTS
 MODEL RAILWAY SALES &
 LIGHT REFRESHMENTS**

MORE AT WWW.LOTHIANMODELRAIL.CO.UK

Where to Find St. Mary's:

FaceBook:

Search:

St. Mary's Dalmahoy



Follow Below Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/St.Marys.Dalmahoy>

YouTube:

Search:

St. Marys Dalmahoy



Follow Below Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUsCU8vdPLYXXpk0yl4GQjw>

An Easy & Fast way to make Donations to St Mary's: Use the QR code below:

You need to have a QR barcode reader app Installed on your smartphone to use the QR code.



Applesauce Cake

2 cups sifted all-purpose flour	240g
1 tsp baking soda	5ml
1 tsp cinnamon	5ml
½ tsp each, salt, ground cloves & nutmeg	
½ cup butter	227g
1 cup sugar	200g
2 eggs	
1 cup thick unsweetened applesauce	250ml
¾ cup raisins or dates	150g
½ cup pecans or walnuts	100g

Sift together flour baking soda, cinnamon, salt, cloves and nutmeg; set aside

Combine shortening, sugar & eggs. Beat a med 1 1/2 mins. Add applesauce and flour mixture; beat at medium-low 1 1/2 mins. Stir in raisins and nuts. Spread into 8in. square baking pan. Bake at 180° 50-55 minutes



Humour

What do Rabbits say before they eat?
“Lettuce pray.”



Why did the bunnies go on Strike? Because they wanted better celery.

Why was the little kid sad after the egg hunt? Because an egg beater.

How many chocolate bunnies can you put in an empty basket? Only one because after that, it's not empty!

Why should you never show Easter eggs a scary movie? They're all a little chicken!

Christmas comes before Easter in one place only—where is it? The dictionary!

What happens if you fall in love on Easter? You live hoppily ever after.

Why are people tired in April? Because they just finished March.

What's a bunny's favourite type of book? One with a hoppy ending.

What do you call a rabbit with fleas? Bugs Bunny!

What do you get when you cross a bumblebee with a rabbit? A honey bunny.

How does Easter end? With an “R”

What did the Easter Bunny say to the carrot?

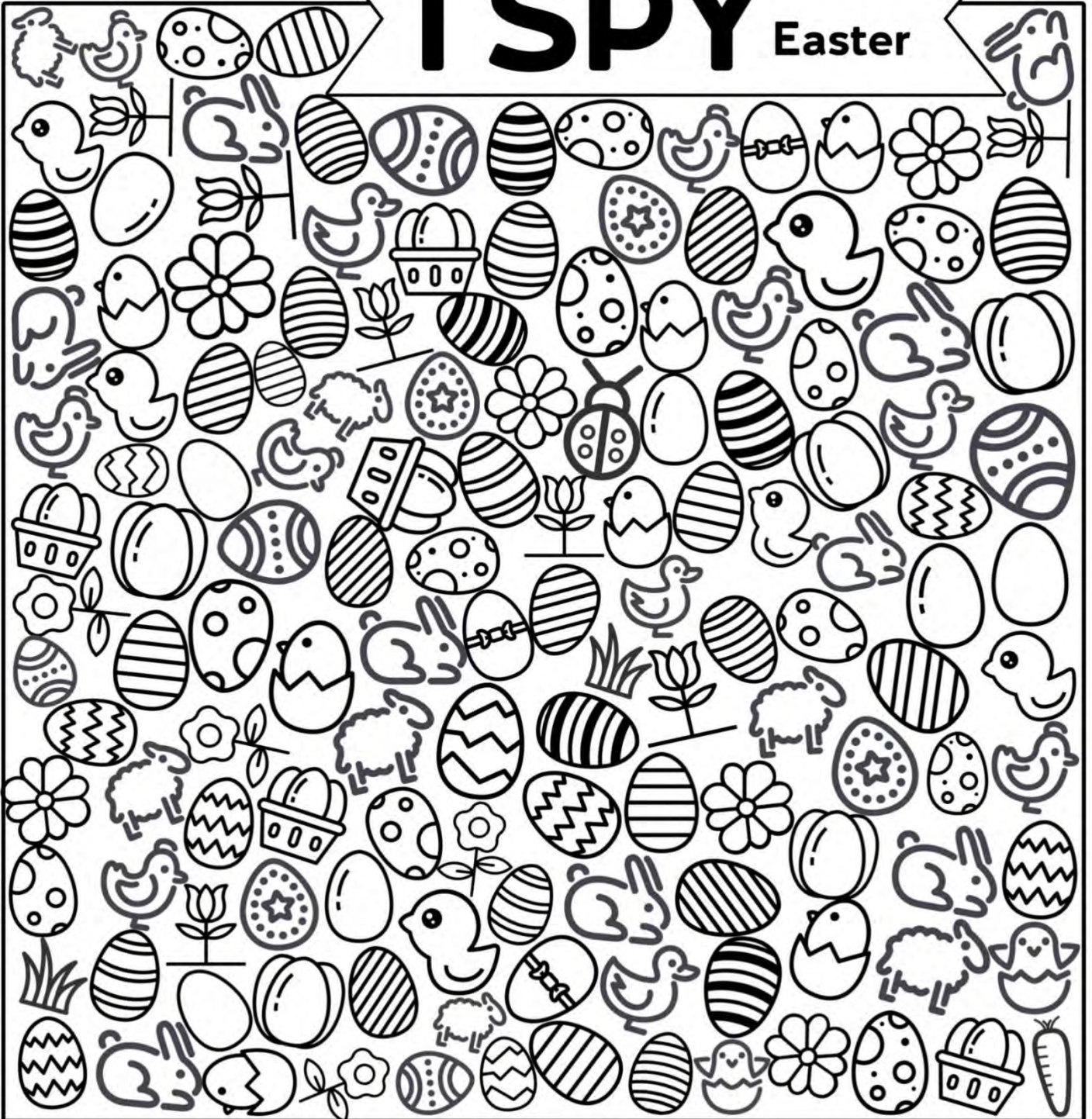
Nice gnawing you.

Why did the Easter bunny wear a hat?

They were having a bad hare day.



I SPY Easter



- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| 2 | | 4 | | 4 | | 5 | | 4 | | 5 | | 7 | | 4 | | 6 | | 5 | |
| 1 | | 6 | | 7 | | 1 | | 3 | | 6 | | 7 | | 4 | | 7 | | 5 | |
| 3 | | 3 | | 4 | | 6 | | 2 | | 7 | | 5 | | 9 | | 6 | | 3 | |

Who's Who (continued from Page 2)

Vestry 2022/2023

Secretary	Pippa Crichton	0131 333 1683 secretary@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
Treasurer	Vacant	treasurer@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
Rector's Warden	Wilma Brown	07503 979 375 warden@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
People's Warden	Amanda Smart	
Lay Representative	Steve Haigh	01506 410 825 layrep@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
Alt. Lay Representative		
Member at Large	Judy Goodman	Mandy Smart
	Anne Clapham	Ella Henderson

Altar Guild

Co-ordinator	Denis King	01506 873061
Irina Grigolava	Carole Macbride	

Child Protection & Vulnerable Adults Co-ordinator

Caroline Gunn	0131 443 4059 protection@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
---------------	--

Gift Aid Secretary

Geoff Angell	0131 315 2639
--------------	---------------

Fabric Co-ordinator

Carol MacBride	07909 582 760
----------------	---------------

Head Server

Denis King	01506 873061
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Hall Bookings

Pippa Crichton	0131 333 1683 admin@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
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Visitors

Lois May Donaldson	0131 449 4279
Janice Goodfellow	01506 495082
Irina Grigolava	07796 305789
Denis King	01506 873061
Margaret King	01506 442549
Carole MacBride	07909 582760
Jane Russell	0131 441 2346

Prayer Chain

Revd Janet Dyer	John O'Connor
Irina Grigolava	Mandy Smart
Steve Haigh	Wilma Brown

Should you wish to add someone, or a situation, to our prayers, please email or telephone (see 'Rector's Warden' on page 2 for contact details).

Sunday Stewards

First Sunday	Richmond Davies	07968 582543
Second Sunday	Judy Goodman	0131 445 4197
Third Sunday	Irina Grigolava	07796 305789
Fourth Sunday	Wilma Brown	07503 979 375
Fifth Sunday	Mandy Smart	

Transport

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

Postal Address

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Dalmahoy, Kirknewton, EH27 8EB

'In Touch' Editor

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Pippa Crichton

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Organist Emeritus

John Blaber

emeritus@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk

Service Times

Sunday	Morning Prayer (Said)	10:00 am
	Sung Eucharist	10:30 am
Wednesday	Said Eucharist	11:00 am

Church Open Times

Monday, Wednesday & Friday – 10:00 am to 12 noon for quiet reflection and prayer.

Saturdays – 10:00 am to 3:00 pm from beginning of May to the end of September except during Wedding ceremonies.

**Deadline for articles for the April – May 2024 issue
is 3:00 pm on Sunday 17th March 2024**

**Please submit articles to:
intouch@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk**



Useful Numbers:

We all have those times when we just need someone to talk to and confide in. Please find below a list of numbers you may find useful.

Why not keep this page just in case.

The Silver Line: Tel: 0800 4 70 80 90 Information – friendship – advice for older people. www.thesilverline.org.uk

Anxiety UK: Tel: 03444 775 774 www.anxietyuk.org.uk

Arthritis Helpline: Tel: 0800 5200 520 www.versusarthritis.org

Mind: Tel: 0300 123 3393 www.mind.org.uk Mental Health.

Age UK: Tel: 0800 678 1602 www.ageuk.org.uk

Samaritans: Tel: 116 123 www.samaritans.org

Childline: Tel: 0800 1111 Calls are free and Confidential

National Domestic Abuse: Tel: 0808 2000 247

Cruse Bereavement Care: Tel: 0808 080 1677 www.cruse.org.uk

