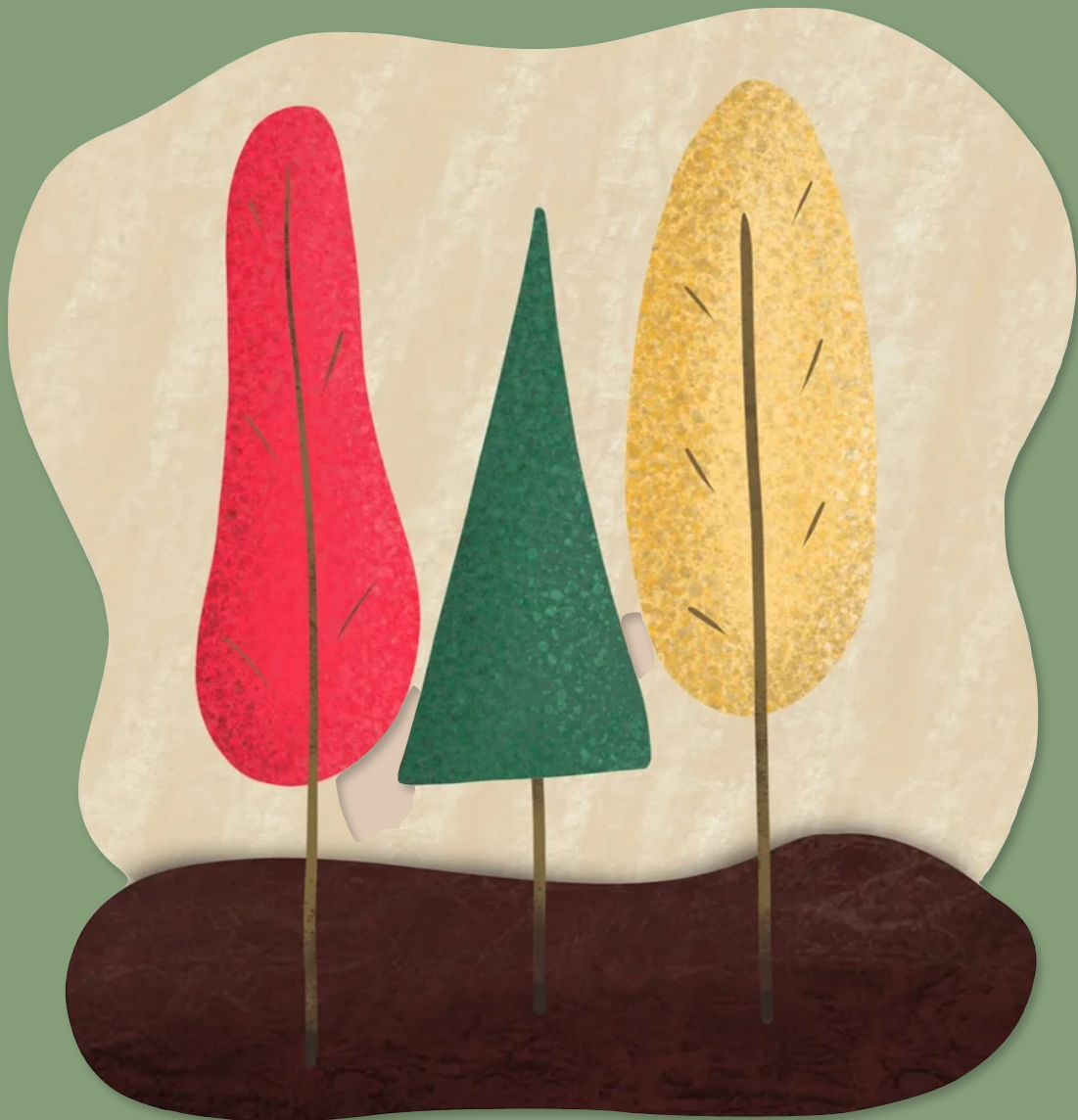




Murrayfield

PARISH CHURCH

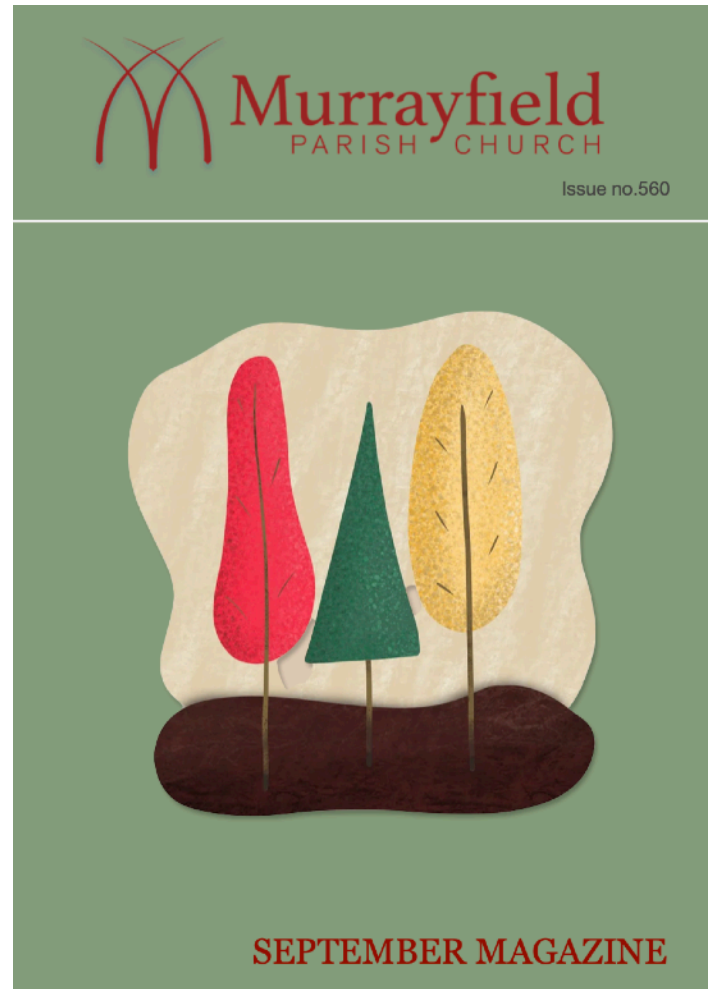
Issue no.560



SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE

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Welcome to the
September edition of the magazine

A letter of thanks

Esther Wanjohi

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the ECUDARE team at MCT for organising such a well-coordinated and enriching visit.

The programme was exceptionally well-structured, allowing me to visit and attend to some activities with the three churches - Murrayfield Parish, the Church of the Good Shepherd and Saughtonhall United Reformed Church.

It was great meeting David and Keith for the first time and I look forward to working with the three ministers to strengthen our relationships and programmes.

We also had a meeting with Kirsten and her brother to discuss their mother's legacy who was a maths teacher and had compassion for IT programs. The meeting was quite impactful and we all agreed on establishing the Elizabeth Forbes Computer Lab for the children. We also reached a consensus on contacting Computer Aid International to explore potential donations for equipping the lab. This initiative holds great promise for the community and our school, and I am eager to see it come to fruition.

The visit to the Church of Scotland where we met with the moderator and the Guild representative was an exceptional experience. The entire team felt that the food for the elderly was very crucial and I trust that Kath will follow up with Carol Finley regarding their involvement in providing monthly food supplies for our elderly programmes. Their potential contribution would be invaluable to our ongoing efforts.

The celebration of Eric Liddell's life at Holy Corner and recording a radio programme that was played last Sunday morning was a profound experience that left me completely transformed. His values and principles are an inspiration, and I will strive to emulate them in my own life and work.



My visit to St. Giles Cathedral was equally impactful. The rich history preserved within the church, particularly the stories of those who gave their lives for the sake of the gospel, was deeply moving.

I do not
have enough words to say
thank you
to you all

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to Kath & David, Andy & Kris, and Shirley & Bill for their warm hospitality and hosting me during my stay.

My thanks extend to the three ministers, Dean, David, and Keith, for their guidance and support.



Esther with the MCT ministers

I congratulate you for maintaining the partnership of the three churches and for sharing the love of God with each other it reminds me of Psalms 133 'how good and precious it is for brothers to dwell in love and unity....'

Lastly, I am profoundly grateful to the Church of Scotland for their ongoing support of HIV programs in Kenya since 2003. This support laid the foundation for my work with women and children, and I am deeply appreciative of the lasting impact it has had. In particular I thank Carol Finley for her previous visits to our institution and the support she gave me during my visit.

Thanks to the ECUDARE team for putting all these together. I can't thank you enough. Every blessing. I'm forever grateful to have you as partners into this wonderful work and opportunity the Lord has given to us on transforming our community here in Ngong.

My last visit to the botanical gardens with Audrey and Keith was great too. Walking through the botanical garden felt like stepping into a vibrant, live painting. Each step brought a new burst of colour, the air rich with the scent of flowers. I felt a deep sense of peace and joy as I wandered along the winding paths, surrounded by lush greenery and the gentle rustling of leaves. It was a moment of pure happiness, where the beauty of nature washed away all my worries, despair and left me with a lingering sense of hope that all will go well for the Ecudare project Kenya. It made me fresh and strong again!

As agreed with ECUDARE committee, we are working on a Christmas box so that we do physical gifts this time round as opposed to virtual gifts. As soon as we are ready we will have the box sent through the Murrayfield parish. Thanks to Fiona for taking me to the fair trade shop. I look forward to working with them.

Thanks to Fay for organising my pictures too. Thanks to every one who supported my visit in one way or another. I do not have enough words to say thank you to you all.

May the Grace of God our father and the peace of God from our father be with you now till we meet again...
Amen

Love and blessings
Esther Wanjohi
ECUDARE Kenya

Some snapshots of the Joint Service on Sunday 11th August



Murrayfield
Churches
together

Harvest Service: Sunday 22nd September 10.30am

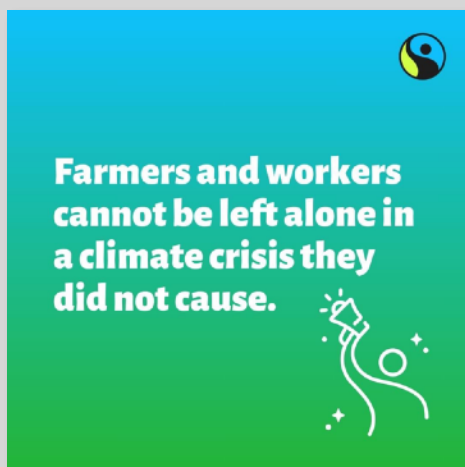
We will be decorating the church on Saturday 21st between 1pm - 2.30pm and would be pleased to have helpers. If anyone has extra garden produce either flowers, fruit or vegetables we would be able to use them in decorating the church. They could be brought between 1pm and 2.30pm on the 21st September or earlier by contacting Tina Brown [HERE](#).



Fairtrade Fortnight: 9th - 22nd September 2024

Fairtrade Cake and Chat with stall and bake sale

Click on the image below to visit the fairtrade website



Fairtrade at 30
The future is fair

This September we celebrate 30 years of Fairtrade. Come and support Fairtrade Fortnight after the service on Sunday 22nd September and join in with a fairtrade cuppa, browse and shop at the stall and bake sale. If you would like to help out on the day or are able to provide baking please contact Fiona Dinsmore [HERE](#)

Pastoral Visiting Team

Jane Smart : Convener Pastoral Group



Members will be aware that we have put in place a revised pastoral visiting system for those living in the parish area. This updated the old elders' districts, and you should by now all have had contact or a visit from your new elder.

As part of that process it was agreed to set up a Visiting Team to support those who have individual additional pastoral or practical needs (eg someone who is housebound). This would also include those living outwith the parish area.

To that end we are inviting anyone who feels called to this volunteer activity to make themselves known to either [Keith Graham](#) or [Jane Smart](#).

To comply with Church of Scotland Safeguarding requirements there will be a simple 'application' process.

Please have a think if this is an area where you could help. The time commitment is something which would vary depending on the capacity of each member of the Visiting Team. It might even be as little as one person to visit on a monthly basis.

Jane Smart
Convener Pastoral Group

Reading lessons and leading Prayers of Intercession on Sunday mornings



It would be great to build on the current rotas and increase participation to a wider group of people. If you would like to join the reading rota, lead prayers of intercession or lead the singing, please get in touch. Or you may prefer to read occasionally at services such as Easter or Christmas? Please get in touch with the office [HERE](#)

Volunteering



We would love to hear from you if you would like to find out more about volunteering at Murrayfield Parish Church. There are so many ways to get involved and volunteering roles can be matched to your skills and the time you have to spare. Contact Keith Graham [HERE](#)

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you to each and everyone of you who already gives to Murrayfield Parish Church. Generosity is a central part of our faith. We believe that God is endlessly generous to us and that we are called to be generous in turn. The mission and life of Murrayfield Parish Church is only made possible because of the generous giving of our members, local community, and visitors.

Standing orders remain the most convenient and cost-effective method of regular givers and supporters. However, a gentle reminder, that as with all things in life, costs have increased for Murrayfield Parish Church and if you felt appropriate to do so we invite you to review your standing order please.

We believe that God
is endlessly generous to us and
that we are called to be generous
in turn

If you would like to find out more about how to create a standing order for Murrayfield Parish Church, then please email the treasurer Lindsay Foulis [HERE](#).

Leaving a lasting legacy

We are privileged if we can leave a mark of our passing, to be remembered by those people and causes we've cared for in life.

A gift in your Will to Murrayfield Parish Church is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support our mission and our ministry. If you would like to create a legacy for your church, then please email the treasurer Lindsay Foulis [HERE](#).

Thank you

The Finance Committee
Murrayfield Parish Church

This year marks a significant milestone for Fresh Start as we celebrate our 25th anniversary. For a quarter of a century, Fresh Start has been a pillar of support for those who have experienced homelessness, helping thousands rebuild their lives by settling into a new home and their community

Founded in 1999, Fresh Start was established with a mission to help people who have been homeless to make a home for themselves. Over the years, the charity has grown exponentially, expanding its services and programs to meet the evolving demands of the community. From our flagship program the 'Starter Packs' to our social and practical services such as painting, cooking and gardening to providing food and advice through our community hub. Fresh Start has made tangible difference to the lives of countless individuals.

The impact of Fresh Start can be seen best in the stories of those we have helped over the years. Individuals like Liz, who first came to Fresh Start after hearing about the volunteering opportunities available from the Volunteer Centre on Leith Walk. She was living in homeless accommodation at the time, and wanted to be involved in something that gave her routine, purpose and a step towards employment again.

Liz got stuck into volunteering in our warehouse and loved being part of the team. After over six months of bidding on tenancies, she was luckily offered a one bedroom, ground floor flat - she was over the moon! However after months of living in a hostel and with little belongings the new flat felt like an empty shell. Thankfully we were able to provide Liz with a full range of Starter Packs of essential household items to help get her started. We also applied for funding for Liz which meant she could fully carpet the entire flat which made a huge difference to making it feel warm and homely. Liz continues to volunteer with Fresh Start delivering Starter Packs to people, like her, in need of help getting started in their new home after being homeless. Liz said " I enjoy volunteering for Fresh Start and by delivering the Starter Packs it feels like my way of giving back in the same way that I was helped when I needed it" We are delighted that we could play a small part in getting Liz back on her feet and wish her all the very best in her new chapter.

Fresh Start's remarkable journey wouldn't be possible without the generosity of its supporters. Whether through volunteering, donating or participating in fundraising events, there are many ways to get involved and contribute. We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all who have been involved and supported us over the last 25 years - we couldn't have done it without you.

Here's what Managing Director Biddy Kelly has to say about Fresh Start turning 25.

"On one hand, providing services to those in need for 25 years is a great achievement, but on the other hand it is a bad reflection of our world today. In the last few years we have seen demand for all our services grow year on year. We have ended the last few years being amazed at the amount we have achieved and always thinking we cannot keep that up in the following year - but the following year we do - because we need to provide people with the hope for a better future. That's what all our staff and volunteers do each and every day and I can't thank each and every one of them enough for their continued support".

You can visit the Fresh Start website [Here](#)

S Club *Julia Hodgson*



S Club ended last term with an Olympic Celebration to mark the 100th anniversary of Eric Liddell's amazing gold medal achievement in Paris 1924.

Everyone was invited to a picnic lunch after the morning service and to try their hand at our olympic pentathlon. Fun was had by all. The sporting theme has continued all summer with the 2024 Olympic Games and Paralympics taking place in Paris.

Club has restarted and we hope to continue the fun this year.



Film Crew +



Dove Room 4pm-6pm for primary 7 and up

Film Crew - will start the new session on Sunday 8th September between 4 - 6.00pm in the Dove. We hope to produce some new videos produced and created by the Crew and continue to have fun as well!

Coming to church with younger children



Do you know that we have a family area in our church? In the Rossie Brown Chapel (at the front of the church on the right hand side) there is an area with quiet toys and activities for younger children to enjoy during the service (supervised by a parent/carer) .

TTT : TONE UP ON TUESDAYS AT TWO

**Tuesdays at 2pm in the Main Hall
Seated (and some standing) exercise
with Joanne**

*Followed by tea,
cake and optional worship
£5 weekly*



We are hoping to start the autumn term of TTT on Tuesday 24th September.

Seated, and some standing, exercise at 2pm taught by Joanne at a cost of £5 per person per week. This is followed by tea/coffee and chat and finally a short worship activity.

All welcome.

Cake & Chat



Cake and Chat falls on the last Sunday of the month after the service. If you enjoy baking and would like to bake for a cake and chat Sunday, please add your name to the list at the back of the church. For more information contact Jane Smart [HERE](#)



A total of £2,411.07 was raised for the Christian Aid campaign in May. This includes the online giving, door to door envelopes, Christian Aid service and Saturday talk/lunch. If you add gift aid this will be a lot higher.

Thank you very much for all your help and contributions to successfully achieve this amount. Having spoken with the Christian Aid office to declare our results, they are delighted.

What's going on in the Church Centre?

In this edition we are delighted to highlight RSCDS
(Royal Scottish Country Dance Society)



We run weekly Scottish dance classes at Murrayfield Church Hall.

Scottish dancing is great for fitness as regular exercise helps improve your health. Our energetic Intermediate class on Mondays will challenge you to learn in a friendly and relaxed way.

Our Thursday evening Advanced class is for those looking to dance at the highest level.

Our experienced teachers will ensure that you learn at the right pace ensuring that you have a happy dancing experience in an inclusive atmosphere. Dance is a great physical activity to get you moving, building cardio endurance and boosting circulation.

Classes at other levels and children's classes are also available.

Find out more at our website: [HERE](#)

*A great resource for the
congregation and a place for building links
with our local community*

A joint statement from Stewart Gillan and Muriel Pearson, Mission Partners in the Middle East.

New Alarm at the Extension of the Administrative Detention of Layan Nasir, a 23 year-old Palestinian Anglican woman held without charge since 6 April 2024

Stewart Gillan and Muriel Pearson CoS Mission Partners, Jerusalem and Tiberias , 29 July 2024

***'Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.'* Hebrews 13.3, NRSV**

'I have just had bad news that Layan's detention has been extended for a further four months. Very upsetting.' So reports Richard Sewell this morning,



Dean of St George's College in East Jerusalem, replying to our request today for an update on Layan Nasir.

Three weeks ago, we learned that an Israeli Military judge had denied

an appeal for her release. An Action Alert issued by the US Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations on 11 July voiced deep concern in about the manner in which Layan was taken, her ongoing detention, and the broader system of administrative detention that means many thousands of Palestinians are kept in custody for months, their families barred from visiting. The link is : [HERE](#)

You will wish to know more.

Writing on 12 July, the Rev Dr Don Binder, Chaplain to Hosam Naoum, Archbishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and Primate of the Anglican Communion in the Middle East, provided background to Layan's story. 'Back in April, Nasir's mother, Lulu Nasir, told Sky News that soldiers arrived at the family's home at 4am on April 6 and threatened them with guns as they searched the house before taking her daughter into custody. Israel hasn't given any reason for Nasir's detention. She is being held at Damon Prison near Haifa.'

Layan is a member of St Peter's Anglican Church in the Occupied West Bank city of Birzeit. No timeline for charges, trial or release has been set in her case. Nasir's priest, the Rev Fadi Diab, and her family have been barred from visiting her. Israel has arrested more than 9,700 Palestinians from the West Bank since the Israel-Hamas war started in October 2023, according to Addameer, a Palestinian prisoner support and human rights NGO based in Ramallah in the West Bank.

Call for prayer and advocacy:

We join with Layan's family (mother Lulu, father Sami, twin brother Basil), her Church (the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, our partner), and fellow students at Birzeit University on the West Bank, in requesting that you remember Layan and her fellow detainees in prayer.

We appeal to you to write letters to your MSPs and MPs to advocate for her release and, while her detention continues, for her family and Rev Diab to be allowed to visit her.

A conversation in June with Archbishop Hosam saw him emphasise the point that Layan is being held in administrative detention, urging that we call for an end to detention without charge.

Can we remember Layan and her fellow detainees as though we were in Damon prison with them? Let us be bold to take up this call, remembering with humility that we rest in the power of the Holy Spirit, as we search for the words to say.

Thank-you. Stewart Gillan and Muriel Pearson

The Murrayfield Club

Jenny Rowe, Project Co-ordinator

It's been a busy summer at the Murrayfield Club with the athletic prowess of the members taking centre stage...

Through the variety of themes which we hold at the club, we've unearthed hidden talents such as champion craftsmanship, musical marvels, wordsmith wonders and sporting superstars.

It may have been some time since certain members broke their long jump, pole vaulting or running records but it definitely stood them in good stead for our Olympics theme.

The members, volunteers and staff all had great fun with our adapted versions of popular sports over the course of a few weeks, culminating in gold medals for the two who scored the highest throughout.

During target shooting, hockey, basketball and weightlifting (points for facial expressions) we were thrilled to announce our champions Agnes and Susan from the Tuesday and Thursday groups respectively.



As well as proving that you're never too old to be a Murrayfield Olympian, some of the club members have been enjoying live music at the Memory Lane Café on Fridays.

In the last few months, we've welcomed Ravaged Hearts with a folk, soul & blues morning, enjoyed a piano session from Sue and got lively with Cloud Nine who held a very engaging session of upbeat songs accompanied by the mandolin and accordion.

We'll have live music at the Memory Lane Café on the 13th September, 25th October, 22nd November and 13th December so pop the dates in your diary and join us 10am-12pm at Saughtonhall United Reformed Church.

The Memory Lane Café is a dementia friendly community café held every Friday 10am-12pm at Saughtonhall United Reformed Church. £3 per person.

Follow The Murrayfield Club on Facebook for updates on café entertainment and to also see what we're up to that week at the club.



Follow The Murrayfield Club on Facebook



MEMORY LANE CAFE

Join us at the *Memory Lane Cafe* every Friday 10am-12pm.
Meet new people, enjoy friendly chat and refreshments.
£3 per person.

Held every Friday at
Saughtonhall Church.
87 Saughtonhall Drive.
EH12 5TR

For more information call:
07881288909

Funded by Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership
NHS • EDINBURGH •
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

Scottish Charity Number: SC023210
reallygreatsite.com

Murrayfield Churches Together



An amazing gift

The Murrayfield Club would like to say a huge thank you to the Rotary Club of Corstorphine for their very generous donation recently. The Club was kindly gifted a specialised piece of exercise equipment which has proved valuable in providing a broader range of exercises and physical games which we are able to offer our members. The Rainbow Chute, which has padded edging for those with limited dexterity and bold colours and letters for increased visibility, is suitable for various groups and has already been utilised by the Holiday Club children as well as the Murrayfield Club members. We look forward to many years of shared use and fun with it .



The Rainbow Chute



Easyfundraising is a great site where you can help Murrayfield Parish Church raise funds by doing your everyday on-line shopping. Over 4000 big name retailers are included, such as Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, Asos, eBay, Boden and M&S. Every time you shop, we receive a small donation to say "thank you". It's completely free and millions of pounds has been raised for causes just like us. We want to raise as much as possible - so please sign up today [HERE](#)

Please save milk bottle tops! *Martha Dickson*

Raising funds for palliative care
for charities Marie Curie, The Lavender trust
and Macmillan

The collection continues for all colours of plastic milk bottle tops. A big Thank You to all who pop tops in to 6 Osborne Terrace bins in front of the two windows in the front garden or the church. You can park on Donaldsons' side of the road at non-peak periods. We now need more than 9.5 million tops to fill a skip - which is when we get paid, as the new clear plastic tops are 1gm lighter than the old tops. Thank you again. It is such an easy way to raise money for palliative care. For more information you can contact Martha [HERE](#)

Organ recital : at the Church of the Good Shepherd

Saturday 14 September at 11am - Organ recital by Chris Dyter (formerly organist at Murrayfield Parish Church)

Admission free, but donations welcomed. Recitals are approximately an hour, followed by wine and soft drinks.



Doors Open Weekend

Come and have a look inside the Church of the Good Shepherd
10am-1pm Saturday 28th September Open Doors
10am for Worship on Sunday 29th September , then Noon-4pm Open Doors.

Bible Buddies!

Catriona Parkin

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 8pm. No preparation required. If anyone would like to join us, even just for a one-off session, please contact Catriona Parkin - 07963279311



MCT Faith Discussion Group



Murrayfield
Churches
together

All
welcome

The Romans

Join us at 7.30pm in person or online in Saughtonhall United Reformed Church on Tuesdays from 1st October. We will be following a programme prepared by the Bible Society that introduces St Paul's Epistle to the Romans. There is no cost but a donation would be gratefully received.

A great friendly and relaxed opportunity for discussion.

Find out more about the course [HERE](#)

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The first Sunday of each month at Murrayfield Parish Church



What's going on in our Church of Scotland Grouping churches?



Messy Church
for all ages!

**Last Sunday of month
in Gorgie Church
(190 Gorgie Road)
3pm–4.30pm**

**Contact Reuben Addis if you
need more info (0786 7915022)
or just turn up!**

Edinburgh: Gorgie & Palmerston Place Church of Scotland
Scottish Registered Charity. SCN: SC004291



Calling all Primary School Children!

Enjoy a fun-filled time of creative
LEGO building and Bible stories.



**SUNDAYS, 3:30pm - 5pm
at Palmerston Place Church**

**18 August; 8 September;
13 October; 10 November;
8 December**



Edinburgh: Gorgie and Palmerston Place Church (SCN SC004291)

The Ronnie Williamson Trust

- Are you **16 -25 years of age**? A **member or adherent** of PPC, GDS Church, St Stephen's Church Comely Bank, Murrayfield Church?
- Looking to engage in **voluntary work in the UK or abroad**, which will have a positive educational, religious, medical, or societal impact on others?
- Need a financial grant or periodical allowance to help make it happen?
No project is too small to be considered.

Find out more by scanning the QR Code

Or e-mail rwt@palmerstonplacechurch.com



Registered Scottish Charity (SC037016)

Palmerston Place Virtual House Group

Ian Graham : GAPP



As we start working together in our parish grouping it seemed ideal to open up our virtual house group to others. It is an opportunity for fellowship - to chat and get to know each other rather than a deep theological discussion.

We re- start on Thursday 5th September, looking at 2nd Timothy.

If you are interested contact me, Ian Graham [Here](#) and I will send a copy of the book we will be using, and add you to the email list for sending the Zoom link.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

**First Saturday of each month
at 9am in Saltyard Cafe
(158 Dalry Road)**

All men warmly welcome to gather with others for chat over a cooked breakfast, a short biblical devotion and open prayer.

More info: contact George at
G.kay@blueyonder.co.uk



Edinburgh: Gorgie and Palmerston Place Church
(SCN: SC004291)
www.gappchurch.org.uk

Life and Work is the magazine of the Church of Scotland.

In a history spanning over 140 years, it has established itself as the voice of the Church of Scotland. Read more about Life and Work [HERE](#)



Our subscription service offers you the convenience of having Life and Work magazine delivered direct to your door or any digital device; you can also arrange a gift subscription.

Every month our 52-page full colour magazine is packed with features, news and opinion on Christian life within Scotland and further afield.

Subscribe [HERE](#)

General Trustees

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The Rev Scott Rennie highlights the importance of the work of Presbytery Building Officers.

Assembly Trustees

RECOVERY AND LEARNING

Dave Kendall believes the Church can learn lessons from football's Tartan Army.

Faith Action Programme

A RADICAL HOPE

Dr Robyn Knight offers a focus on the Minimum Income Guarantee and explains how churches can help.

BIBLES AND BUILDINGS

Church of Scotland Guild's new partner projects

A TIME TO REFLECT

The season of Creation Time

OUR PRESBYTERIES

Shining a light on the presbytery of England

30 YEARS OF FAIRTRADE

Milestone for movement

BUILDING ON CHRIST'S FOUNDATIONS

Message from the Moderator

And much more over 52 pages

STAFF ARRANGEMENTS



Church office: Maureen Gilleade

Organists : Justin Nash and Andy Elders

Cleaner: Kerry MacLean

Staffing Update

Currently we are trying to recruit a Pastoral Assistant and reviewing the job description for the Children and Families Worker prior to advertising this post. This is currently an ongoing process and we will keep everyone updated as things develop.

Click on the images below to visit our Facebook page and the website



CONTACT DETAILS

Church office - Maureen Gilleade
can be contacted
on 0131 337 1091
office@murrayfieldparishchurch.org.uk

Minister Keith Graham can be contacted on
0131 337 1364
kegraham@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk Catherine Campbell can be
contacted
on 0131 445 2662
catherine@murrayfieldparishchurch.org.uk

Session Clerk Scott Kerr can be contacted on
scott@murrayfieldparishchurch.org.uk

Session Clerk Fay Forsythe can be contacted
on 07708 400 589
fay@murrayfieldparishchurch.org.uk



If you know of a member or friend of Murrayfield Parish Church who is in hospital, please contact the church

office so that a visit can be arranged.