

St Peter's Scottish Episcopal Church Galashiels

Scottish Charity SC006210

Useful Numbers and e-mail addresses

Interim Pastor

Geoff Mason 0131 653 6613 mob 07958 713353 biggmason@talktalk.net

Vestry Chairman

Brian Pudner brianpudner@gmail.com

Treasurer

Mike Reynolds: 01896 757114 templestowe@talk21.com

People's Warden

Nancy Muir: 01896 758017 as.muir@btinternet.com

PVG/Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Susan Boorman 07704 788689

Organist

Nancy Muir: 01896 758017 as.muir@btinternet.com

Sunday Squad

Rhona McCleman: 01896 751484

Hall Bookings

Elizabeth Watret: 0175023207 mob 07780 009355 elizabeth.watret@gmail.com

Verger

Phil Todd: 07787 729639

Facebook page - St Peters Sunday Squad Church web site www.stpetersgala.co.uk

Services

Sunday mornings

10.30am Sung Eucharist followed by tea/coffee

1st Sunday of the month

9.30am Sunday Squad

6.30pm Choral Evensong @ Holy Trinity, Melrose

2nd Sunday of the month

6.00pm Healing/anointing service

3rd Sunday of the month

8.30am, April - October Communion service,

9.45am Family breakfast

10.30am Family Eucharist

2nd Monday of the month

11.00am Communion service at Oakwood Park

3rd Tuesday April to September

3.00pm Afternoon Tea Service

4th Tuesday of the month during school terms

5.30 – 7.00pm Messy Church

Thursdays

10.00am Holy Communion service takes place in the hall

Last Friday of the month 5.00pm Choir practice

St. Peter's Church Magazine



Rachel and John Aitken

June 2018

£1 Recommended donation per issue



Living with Loss Retreat 15th to 17th June 2018 at Whitchester Christian Centre
Borthaugh, Hawick, Scottish Borders TD9 7LN
Tel: 01450 377477 www.whitchester.org.uk
 WHITCHESTER CHRISTIAN CENTRE : Charity No. SCO11436

Grief following bereavement can feel overwhelming, particularly if we have lost a partner or child, or if our loved one's passing was sudden or traumatic, or if we have suffered multiple losses. The aim of this supported retreat is to better equip us to deal with our life-changing loss. We will look at some of the spiritual, emotional and practical challenges of our grief, and then explore practical and creative ways of coping with our daily living as it is now, as well as the hope that our faith offers as we continue our journey through life.

About the retreat and course leaders



Abi May is an experienced Christian author, educator and retreat leader, as well as being a bereaved mother. Her husband John has been active in Christian service for four decades.



The focus of our retreat is on making the best of our life in the present.

We have several led sessions every day. These include explanations, reflection prompts, creative activities, discussions, times of reflection and prayer, and listening to music or inspirational readings.

Besides the led sessions, there is time for personal reflection, handouts to work on individually, as well as the opportunity for participants to have individual prayer with retreat leaders if you wish. Selections of relevant books are made available to read during the retreat.

The retreat is a strengthening experience, not only because of our personal reflections, but we may also discover from being alongside others who are grieving that we are not alone as we might have felt.

Abi May is leading the retreat, and her husband John will be available for individual prayer as a grief companion.

About the venue

Whitchester Christian Centre is a 19th Century Dower House 2 miles outside the border town of Hawick. Set in 3 acres of grounds, it provides a peaceful setting for rest and reflection. Whitchester is well served by roads and public transport. Transport can be provided from bus stops.

Booking information

The retreat will be limited to small numbers. All participants will be able to have single ensuite rooms. The price for the weekend will be £135 inclusive of all accommodation, drinks, meals and materials

To book or for more information about accommodation please phone: 01450 377477 or email: enquiries@whitchester.org.uk.

Where there are financial constraints, a bursary may be available to help with your stay. Please contact the Wardens. **Please do not let financial considerations**

prevent you from attending this event



MISSION TO SEAFARERS SCOTLAND
ANNUAL MEETING 30 JUNE 2018
in St Mary's Episcopal Church,
Ronaldshay Crescent, Grangemouth, FK3 9JH

This year's keynote speech will be delivered by the Secretary General of the Mission to Seafarers, the Rev'd Canon Andrew Wright. There will be tea / coffee from 10.00am with the meeting getting underway at 10.30am.

This will be followed by our service in church and then a light lunch. It would be good to welcome you as we reflect on the past year during which we have been very busy with the provision of support to seafarers. Please join us as we review the activities of The Mission to Seafarers Scotland over the last year and share with you our plans for the future. Please reply by email (office.mtss@virginmedia.com) if you can come so that we have an idea of the numbers for our caterer.

Yours aye,
 The Revd Canon Dr RP Harley



This day is also the 25th Anniversary of our good friend Rev Tim Tunley's priesting.

It would be wonderful if some of our congregation could go up to Grangemouth to support Tim at this service as he has been a great support to us over the past three years. I know a number of folk will be involved in our annual breakfast for the community of Galashiels as they pass St Peter's gates as they follow the Ride-out on the morning of Braw Lad's Day. However if you are planning to attend the Mission to Seafarers meeting and service I would be grateful for a lift.

Sheena

Knitted hats:- Mission to Seafarers



At the service on 13th May Rev Tim Tunley received and blessed our latest batch of hats bringing the total to a magnificent 327!! Thank you so much to all the knitters and those who donate wool. You will have heard how grateful the Mission is for our efforts and the plea to "Carry on Knitting!". There is already a mini hat pile growing in the spare room!! I would also

like to mention that a small group of knitters in Kelso sent another 32 hats to all to our contribution. Thank you once again to all of you.

Susan B

GREEN ENERGY

Borders Energy Agency in association with Southern Uplands Partnership is offering a number of site visits to local “green energy” projects during the next few months. These are all examples of good practice and it is hoped that others will follow suit and learn from those with experience. The visits will be free but places are limited so if you want to attend any of the visits please call Pip Tabor of Southern Uplands Partnership on 01750 725154 Or email piptabor@sup.org.uk to reserve a place. All visits are timed for 2.00 pm and details are:-

Friday 15th June – Philiphaugh Archimedes Screw, Hydro power from Ettrick Water

Friday 29th June – Newhall Farm Water Engine, Hydro power from Ale Water

Thursday 19th July – Woodend Farm, Biomass, Solar energy and energy efficiency

Thursday 20th September – Charlesfield Anaerobic digester, energy from waste



Helpers are always needed when it is St Peter's turn to run the Food Bank – Nancy can tell you when it is our turn so that you can put it in your diary.

The Food Bank is always in need of donations - particularly tins of fruit, vegetables, meat, custard, rice pudding, potatoes,, sugar, small packets of pasta, packets of mashed potatoes, pasta sauces, jam, cereal, small size toiletries (soap, toothpaste, shampoo, feminine hygiene items). We **don't** need baked beans or soups.

Cash is also required to buy fresh milk, bread and spreads. There is a box for donations in kind as the back of church – money can be given to Nancy.

Carolside Open Gardens in aid of Arthritis Research

24th June 10am - 5pm admission £6.00

teas + homemade cakes lots of parking

bring your own picnic

This is a rare opportunity to visit one of Scotland's finest private gardens



Woolly Borders Goes to St Mary's

Five of us accepted the offer of spare seats on the coach provided by St John's, Selkirk. We boarded along with several, sheep, lambs, angels, tea-cosies, baubles, Twiddle-muffs and hats! (All woollen of course)!!

The Cathedral was “buzzing” with people busily setting up stalls as we were guided to ours. Having expected a 2x2 metre surface area the 2x2 foot one in front of us was not nearly enough to do justice to our display. We managed to borrow a larger, wooden table. One leg promptly fell off! We propped on corner on a handy plinth!

All the knitted goods generated great interest as people stopped to chat. The sheep were particularly popular and the little flock could have gone to pastures new many times over. Patterns for all the knitted goods were snapped up and several of the hat pattern, wool and needles packs went off to folk who will start knitting for the Mission to Seafarers. Tim Tunley received a couple of donations for the Mission funds. There was so much going on including various workshops.

The lunch provided was excellent – delivered beautifully packaged in small white carrier bags.(also several recycling bins available).

The day ended with a Communion Service – my one regret being that it did not include a traditional hymn.

All in all it was a wonderful experience and Annie Naish and her team can be justifiably proud of the event.



Too hot? Take a tip from these two!!



source dogsnuffle.com



source www.dumpaday.com

THE BIG DAY OUT

Take

.....about 500 people,
.....45 displays from churches in the diocese (including St Peters Galashiels),
.....a banner hanging over the nave with each church in the diocese represented by a design,
.....the opportunity to meet and make friends from other congregations,
.....a choice of 14 workshops
.....the chance to appreciate the cathedral building and grounds,
.....good food and drinks provided for those attending,
.....many resources to see and handle,
..... an all-age Eucharist celebrated in the round by the Bishop.



Mix together for four hours for free.

These were the elements that made up The Big Day on Sat 28 April at St Marys Episcopal Cathedral in Edinburgh. It was a great occasion, appreciated by all who came.

“Best thing arranged by the diocese in years!”

“Isn’t this a lovely building? I’ve never been inside before.”

“Hello, where have we met before?”

“We should do this every year.”

Particular thanks to Annie Naish, the Bishop and the organising team for all the hard work they put in to make it such a good occasion.

Geoff Mason

PVG – Protecting Vulnerable Groups – Disclosure Scotland

The Scottish Government introduced the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme on 28th February 2011. From this date anyone seeking to work with children or protected adults has to apply to join the Scheme in order to be eligible to take up a post either in a paid or **voluntary** capacity.

To require PVG scheme membership the individual must be doing ‘regulated’ work with children and/or protected adults.

Regulated work involves caring for, or supervising, individuals participating in any organised activity.

‘**Children**’ are all people under the age of 18.

‘**Protected adults**’ are individuals aged 16 or over who are provided with (and thus receive) a type of care, support or welfare service. It is a service based definition and avoids labelling adults on the basis of disability. A person will be a protected adult for the duration that they are receiving the service. Therefore some adults will be protected most of the time (e.g. residents within a care home) whereas others will only be protected for short periods.

Some members of our congregation are already members of the PVG Scheme as volunteers in many different capacities within St Peter’s for the work/contact they have with either children or vulnerable adults. Others have their PVG status because of activities outwith the Church. As PVG membership must be registered for the place/organisation where the work/volunteering takes place so we sometimes need to be registered more than once. We would like to encourage those already registered elsewhere to think about adding their registration to St Peter’s, especially if they visit church members who are sick (either at home or in hospital), give lifts to services (or various appointments) or otherwise spend time with children or vulnerable adults who are not family members. In some circumstances it will be wise to have another person with you when taking part in voluntary activities.

I am aware that some folk think the whole business of Safeguarding and PVG are a bit of modern overkill but for our own individual protection and to be within the Church’s insurance and current law we can’t avoid it. You wouldn’t consider not insuring your car or home so please help us to ensure that St Peter’s complies with these regulations.



Saturday 30th June Braw Lad’s Day
8.00am breakfast at St Peter’s
Volunteer helpers needed to cook and give out
Bacon rolls etc at the church gate
talk to Susan or John Maltman if you can help

SAFEGUARDING IN CHURCHES

For those of you who were not able to be at the service when Donald Urquhart, the Provincial Safeguarding Officer spoke to us I will attempt to put together the essence of his talk.

First – what Safeguarding is not. It is not just about Child Protection or sexual abuse. It is not about having a PVG certificate, these three things are a small part of safeguarding.

Safeguarding is really about protecting the vulnerable in all situations and preventing harm, abuse or accidents. The latter includes Health and Safety – loose roof tiles, loose wires, unmarked steps where someone who doesn't see very well or is unsteady on their feet might stumble.

Who is responsible for safeguarding? Legally, it is the members of the Vestry. Practically it is everyone on the premises at the time. That includes the grounds as well as the building.

Who are the vulnerable? Well actually all of us at some time in our lives can be vulnerable from new-born to very old age. Some have special needs because of their physical or mental disability, some are vulnerable because they have been bereaved, been in an accident, been bullied, have been made redundant, become homeless, relationship breakdown (not just couples but families), children in care, adults and old folk in care homes or hospital, loneliness at all ages – the list is endless. I am sure you will recognise a time when you felt vulnerable. Would you know if anyone in church fitted in to any of these examples? What would you do if you did? Perhaps the person doesn't want others to know. Many people who suffer physical or mental abuse at home feel ashamed and try to hide what is happening. Posters giving details of where help is available have been put up inside the Church toilets and then no one knows if anyone has been helped and that information can be accessed in private.

While most of us like to volunteer and be involved in church life and are honest and motivated by our faith, we do need to be aware that there are people in this world that see churches as a soft target and might try to use their membership of a congregation as cover for abusive activities. The media is very quick to publicise abuse by clergy in all

denominations, both current and historical, but what might seem to us to be in the past is faced every day by those who have been victims.

Someone who is greedy or in financial difficulties might offer to take on the role of treasurer and, over time, siphon off money for their own use. Again this is something which has been reported in the media. This is the sort of situation where it would be sensible to check that person's background, a bit like taking up references when applying for work.

Those of us who work with children in the Sunday Squad do need to have a PVG certificate and it is good practice to make sure there are always at least two adults with the children at all times. If you are involved with any activity with under 18's you should always make sure that you are never alone with the children. You may be a perfectly safe adult, but it is not just the children who are vulnerable in this situation – you could be (wrongly) accused of inappropriate behaviour and you would have no witness to corroborate that the accusation is false.

If you suspect that something is "not right" but don't know what to do about the situation there are a number of routes to take. First go and talk to the church safeguarding co-ordinator. If that is not possible then try the Vestry. Still not the right place/person? Phone Donald as his job is the Safeguarding Office for the whole Province.

So to sum up. We are ALL vulnerable at various times in our lives. We ALL have the responsibility to make sure that everyone is safe from harm and secure while on our premises. In childhood, parents are responsible for the safety of their children and often in old age (adult) children are responsible for the safety of their parents.

I am always grateful for the way everyone is so willing to lend me an arm – especially on days when I am particularly unbalanced. I was asked why I don't bring my buggy to church. It is because I rely on several different people for lifts and don't always go home with the same person who brought me that I leave the buggy at home. That means that no one has to lift it into their car (it is heavy and their boot may be full of other things)

There are a number of booklets at the back of church which give more information.