

**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

**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](http://www.stpetersgala.co.uk)

**Services**

Sunday mornings

10.30am Sung Eucharist followed by tea/coffee

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month

9.30am Sunday Squad

6.30pm Choral Evensong @ Holy Trinity, Melrose

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month

6.00pm Healing/anointing service

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month

8.30am, April - October Communion service,

9.45am Family breakfast

10.30am Family Eucharist

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month

11.00am Communion service at Oakwood Park

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month April – October CPR card delivery

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday April to September

3.00pm Afternoon Tea Service

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month April – October CPR collection

4<sup>th</sup> 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



Aconites and Snowdrops

## March 2018

£1 Recommended donation per issue



## SAVING THE ENVIRONMENT



I wonder if you know what a “Fatberg” is.



Did you know that one weighing as much as 19 adult African elephants was recently found blocking one of London’s sewers?

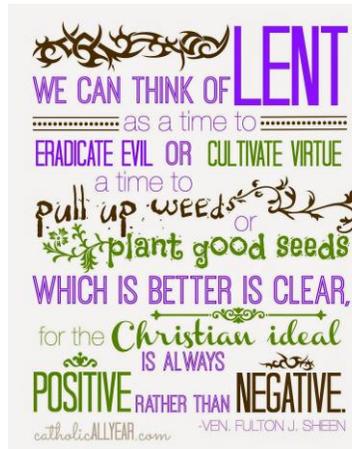
You are contributing to the formation of these monsters if you flush wet wipes, sanitary products or nappies down the loo or pour cooking oil or fat

down the sink when you are washing dishes. Please put the former in a separate small bin and bag it for the general waste collection and have a small jar to collect oil and fat to be emptied into the food waste bin. Emulsifying the fat with hot water and washing up liquid just gets it flowing down the drain where it promptly turns back into oil and fat as it cools and combines with other substances in the sewer, helping the formation of a fatberg.



1 tonne of wet wipes etc. in a sewer

## POPE FRANCIS' WORDS Do you want to FAST this Lent?



FAST from hurting words, and say kind words  
 FAST from sadness, and be filled with gratitude  
 FAST from anger, and be filled with patience  
 FAST from pessimism, and be filled with hope  
 FAST from worries, and trust in God  
 FAST from complaints, and contemplate simplicity  
 FAST from pressures, and be prayerful  
 FAST from bitterness, and fill your heart with joy  
 FAST from selfishness, and be compassionate to others  
 FAST from grudges, and be reconciled  
 FAST from words, and be silent so you can listen

## ST PETER'S LENT APPEAL 2018

**This year's Lent appeal is for Meeting of Minds which is a parent led support group which gives parents and care givers to connect with key professionals in a relaxed and friendly environment. Their mission is to promote awareness and acceptance for children with complex/additional needs.**

What's the difference between MAKATON and SIGN LANGUAGE?

- Makaton is designed to help hearing people with learning and communication difficulties, it is an **aid to communication** not a language as such
- Makaton is unique because it combines signs, symbols, and **speech** to provide multi-modal communication

The local branch of MOM in Coldstream is raising funds to train a Makaton

Tutor to help communication between parents and their children with additional needs



**If you can please donate to this worthwhile charity this Lent.**

The enclosed leaflet has further information about the support one family received from this organisation.

## Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Where will you be on Good Friday? At the noon service at St. Peter's, I hope. But did you know that we can tell the people of Galashiels the Good News that Jesus died and rose again, by coming to Tesco for 10.30. Here we, as part of the Galashiels Fellowship of Churches, will sing Easter hymns. This is the church community reaching out together.

We will also be handing out 300 Hot Cross Buns, wrapped in a napkin that tells the meaning of the cross on the bun.



I would like not to be the only one from St. Peter's this year. Please do come and join me in singing these wonderful hymns about a God who loves us and all the people of Galashiels.

*Nancy.*

## All Ages Family Service



After a couple of months trialling a different format for this service and a long discussion regarding feedback received from the congregation the SLT has decided to go back to some of the more traditional forms of

service. This again will be for a trial period of two months. Adults will not be asked to do any craft work and the children will go through to the hall with volunteers from the congregation who will help them with their activity. Sunday Squad parents will not be asked to supervise the activity so they will be able to stay in church for the whole service if they wish. The Eucharist will be celebrated at the altar and the Peace will be shared after the final hymn.

Do please come along and support all the generations of our church family.

oOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOo

**A huge thank you to Brian Pudner who is taking over making up the church Sunday rota.**



## A7 Centre of Mission ~ update

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February representatives of the three churches that will be involved in the A7 Centre of Mission met with officers representing the other two parties in the partnership ~ The Diocese of Edinburgh and the Church Army.

The outcome was very exciting, all three churches (St. Cuthbert's, St. John's and St. Peter's) have agreed to go ahead with the proposal, the costs of the Lead Evangelist will be shared equally by the three charges.

The first post to be advertised in April will be for the Ordained Priest-in-Charge/Lead Evangelist. A closing date of Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of April was agreed. Apparently clergy are too busy over the Easter period to think about looking for another job! The interviews will be held as soon as practical after this date.

A detailed job description and form of advertisement was discussed for the above vacancy. The format for the interviews was agreed.

It is expected that the post of Pioneer Evangelist (which will be funded by the Church Army) will be advertised nine to twelve months after the Lead Evangelist is in post, so that they can decide what skills and experience the applicant will require for the benefit of the A7 Centre of Mission.

At last we are making progress on this exciting proposition and it was clear from the meeting that all the parties involved are giving 100% effort to ensure that a long term outcome that is beneficial to everyone involved and the wider community is achieved.



The next EcoCongregation Central Borders Network meeting will be on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March at Selkirk Parish Church commencing at 7.30 pm. You are all cordially invited to attend or send representatives. Some subjects for discussion are:-

Earth Hour – Sat 24<sup>th</sup> March 8.30-9.30 pm

EcoCongregation Scotland AGM Sat 28<sup>th</sup> April, Edinburgh

Greener Borders Winter Talks 2018/19

"A Personal Journey to a De-Carbonised Home" - Richard Bond



Bangladesh sunset

I include a report from the February issue of the Mission to Seafarers Flying Angel News Magazine:-

*In October 2017, the Mission's Revd Tim Tunley supported crew from the Migrant Offshore Aid Station (MOAS) aboard the MY Phoenix, as they delivered aid to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh who were fleeing persecution in Myanmar. Tim's primary purpose aboard the vessel was to support the spiritual and mental wellbeing of the 12-strong crew.*

*Prior to their work in South East Asia, the crew on the 40m vessel had been working to rescue those making the treacherous trip across the Mediterranean Sea, in 2017 alone the MY Phoenix rescued or assisted 7,286 people, "90% of their rescue missions had been without fatality," explains Tim. "They spoke passionately about those they had lost."*

*Like all our Port Chaplains, Tim received extensive training in crisis counselling, and was on hand to help the crew process their experiences and stay focused for the task ahead. "What I saw was incredible practical humanity and I came away with tremendous admiration for these men and all the seafarers we work with," he says. Tim is now back in Scotland where the experience has given him greater insight to support the seafarers he encounters.*

## SUPPORTING THE RESCUERS

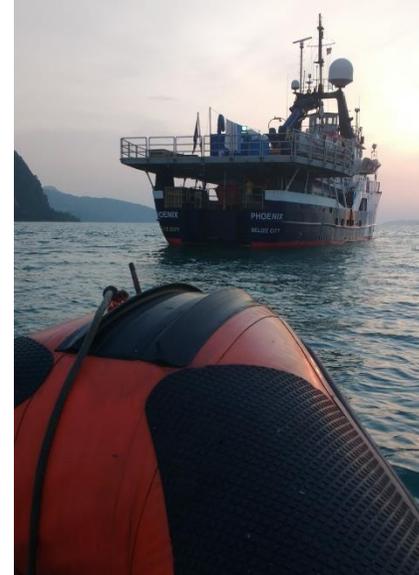
Day one 25/09/17

After a long and not very eventful flight I was met by the agent at Colombo airport. He joined me some of the way to Galle and the taxi driver got lost a few times after that. Which I am told in Sri Lanka is not at all unusual. After much paper work ashore we went to the dock in Galle and I tried to explain what I was going to be doing on board to a man in brown uniform with what looked like a Victorian

hunting gun over one shoulder. Got to the vessel and was met by the Captain really nice guy and was shown over the vessel and then a room and a shower. Never has a shower been so nice.

The 40 tonnes of supplies arrived mostly fat, sugar and flour stuffs. That is when I took the attached pictures. Fresh ships supplies arrived and we loaded those. One thing you can say about Sri Lanka is that it is a hot place to load supplies.

We had lunch together which was great once of the best lentil soups I have ever had.



Approaching MY Phoenix in the rib

Went to sleep for a bit as I was completely disorientated by jet lag and lack of sleep. I was woken by the Master banging on my door needing my passport for immigration. Not long after that we went to sea. I then discovered lunch was so good it was time to see it again as the cook and I were both very seasick. The ship has some very effective seasickness pills.



We are now ploughing the ocean and on our way to Bangladesh. Three things stay with me about today. How friendly the crew are. How hard it is to keep track of the time zone and what a wonderful opportunity it is to be here.

In case anyone was wondering I am having a great time.

The sea days between my first day and yesterday were spent pretty much helping where ever possible and keeping out of the way of anything dangerous. It is a slow work getting to know a well organised group who have been together for a long time and I did not push.

I was not actually seasick again over this period but felt very ill at times. This had to a greater extent now come to an end.

01/10/17

This is the end of my first full week if you count the flights from UK. I am getting to know the crew a lot better and in many ways today's was a bit of a breakthrough.

We went into Chittagong to unload our relief supplies. I was given one job to do which was to guard the main door into the vessel. The Second Officer Zachs security briefing was to the point. His instructions were "Do not let any of the #####s in, only military and Navy get by this door". This was good advice as many people did try to gain entry on to the vessel. The two most persistent were the two men organising the work crew. They wanted to come into the lounge sit around and try and get cigarettes and anything else they could pick up. Zachs advice over the vhf handset, with how to deal with them as individuals was in the same vain as his security briefing earlier, but with a more personal touch.

Christopher from MOAS arrived shook my hand, turned to the rather grand personage behind him and said "This is the head of the Bangladesh Navy". So I shook his hand as well. He had the air of the duke of Edinburgh about him.



Tim and the Captain

I have included lje in an email from Christopher (MOAS) that has a short brief for a project he would like to pursue I have also included in it my reply. I did say that all negotiations for any projects go through IHQ.

While all of this was going on the ship was being unloaded. Lots of local guys carrying sacks on their heads off the vessel. It was very hot and we had one case of heat stroke which was dealt with by the Doctors who had arrived that morning.

Constantly wondering up and down outside where two guards with AK47s. I took them some water but not coffee. This was on the principle that if someone has the gun which is more likely to kill you than any other weapon in the world they should not (in case of crankiness) be over caffeinated or dehydrated. They were not there for the sake of form or ceremony they had the magazines in and they were slowly caressing the single shot and auto function on their assault rifles as we spoke. It was reassuring to know that if any of the porters went berserk with a bag of rice we were all safe.

I met with the Drs and one was a Belgian army field medic. She had that robust go anywhere and get on with quality that has made Belgian medics famous. The other medic was one of the leading surgeons in the world as far as I was told. She often goes to London to assess and train other surgeons. I was impressed. I should also add it was impossible to catch anyone's names as the whole place was full of visitors and very noisy.

Several times during the day I was left wondering what the strange smell was? I realised it was a combination of sun block hot bodies and insect repellent.

So everyone could get at least some rest I took the 8pm till midnight deck watch. Not a lot was going on. All the hoopla of the day was over, the sailors with machine guns had gone and I was left talking to a couple of Navy ratings who needed to practice their English. I was relieved at midnight and had the longest shower and went to bed.

We are going onto the anchorage tomorrow.

Rev Timothy Tunley

(Part 2 will be included in next month's magazine)