

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

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 Monday of the month April – October CPR card delivery

3rd Tuesday April to September

3.00pm Afternoon Tea Service

3rd Wednesday of the month April – October CPR collection

4th Tuesday of the month during school terms

5.30 – 7.00pm Messy Church

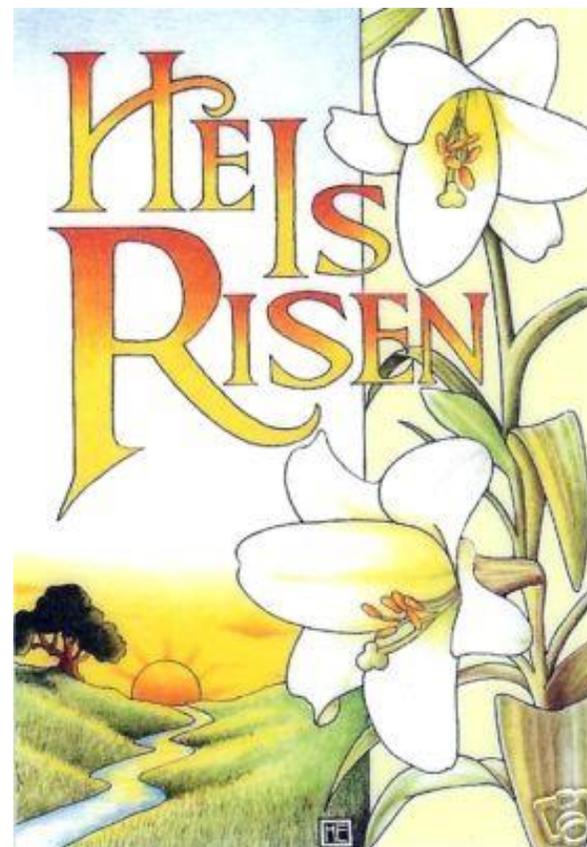
Thursdays

10.00am Holy Communion service takes place in the hall

Last Friday of the month

5.00pm Choir practice

St. Peter's Church Magazine



April 2018

£1 Recommended donation per issue

All hail the power of Jesus' name.

A much loved hymn, strong both in tradition and word to the extent that it has been called 'The National Anthem of Christendom'. The author, Rev Edward Perronet (1726 to 1792) wrote the words while serving as a missionary in India. He worked very closely with John and Charles Wesley. He was with John Wesley in Bolton, Lancashire, on October 18th 1749 when a mob attacked the house. He eventually offended John Wesley by his open hostility to the Church of England. He was a very capable preacher who later became minister at The Countess of Huntingdon chapel at Canterbury and later still the Countess of Huntingdon Church in Worcester. The Countess also disapproved of his attitude to the Established Church and he ended his days as Pastor of a small Independent Chapel at Canterbury. He published several hymns but 'All hail the power of Jesus name' is the only one which has survived. Two tunes are regularly used. One is 'Miles Lane' composed by William Shrubsole in 1779 and the other 'Diadem' by James Ellor in 1838. A powerful tune giving the words great resonance of meaning. James Ellor was born in Droylesden, Lancashire in 1819. He was a hat maker! However he turned his hand to working on the railway between Godley Junction and Manchester. By the age of 18 he was leading the Wesleyan Chapel Choir. He emigrated to New York, to his son's home, in 1843 and resumed his trade as hat maker. He died in 1899 and is buried at Bloomfield New Jersey. There is a true story concerning the Missionary Explorer George Grenfell (born Cornwall 1849) who established a number of mission stations along the banks of the river Congo. On one occasion he was enthralled to hear the hymn 'All Hail the power of Jesus name' being sung with great gusto to the tune 'Diadem', as members of one of the stations were paddling their native canoe up the river. What a sight and sound that must have been!

Blessings John

New Beginnings

The past month has not been an easy one with snow causing disruption for many around the country, and especially here in the Borders. At St Peters, cancellation of services on Sunday 4 March and low numbers on Sunday 18 March, again because of snow, have made it something of a ghost month. However daffodils are beginning to show, and signs of spring can be seen in the countryside and garden.

On 1 April, it will be Easter Day and we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. There can have been few less-prepared followers than those first disciples. Despite the number of occasions that Jesus told them about His death and resurrection (e.g. Mark 8.31), they did not hear his message. I doubt that we would have been any better at understanding what Jesus said. But rise He did, and so a whole new perspective was in front of them. The resurrection brought a new beginning. Jesus' death, though necessary, was not the end but rather a new beginning. That is why the coming of spring in the natural world is so appropriate to the Easter story. New beginnings all round!

This Easter is also a time of new beginnings for the Episcopal churches of Galashiels, Selkirk and Hawick. The advert for a new Lead Evangelist / Priest-in-Charge for the Scottish Borders Centre of Mission (which constitutes those 3 churches) is now out. (Go to https://churcharmy.org/Articles/518099/Get_Involved/Work_for_us/Public_adverts/Lead_evangelist_and.aspx or look on the Church Times website or in the weekly publication).

Please pray for appropriate people to apply, and especially for the person God wants to take on this role. Pray for those involved in the selection and interview process (representatives from the Diocese, Church Army and the three churches). God encourages us to partner with Him by praying. Let's do that, believing that our prayers do influence the outcome.

Geoff Mason



A7 Centre of Mission ~ update

At a recent meeting of all the parties involved, the charges agreed to share the costs of the Priest in Charge equally. St. Peter's Rectory would be part of our payment. The Diocese has agreed to pay £9,000 per annum for three years towards the cost of employing the Priest in Charge, which would mean our share would be £12,000 per annum for three years.

The initial employment would be for five years. Our contribution would rise as the costs of employing the Priest in Charge rise.

The costs of the Pioneer Evangelist (£45,000 pa) will be paid by the Church Army. This post will be advertised nine to twelve months after the Priest in Charge is in post, so that we will know what skills and experience are required to fill this vacancy.

A job description and job advertisement for the Priest in Charge was agreed. The vacancy will be advertised in the Church Times and on the Church Army web site. The closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 27th April.

Interviews will take place on Wednesday 16th May. The Bishop and the Church Army will be involved in the interviews, along with two representatives from each charge. All parties involved must agree on the person appointed. It was agreed that if none of the applicants are suitable then the vacancy will be re-advertised.

If a suitable applicant accepts the post they could be in post by 1st September 2018.

Mike Reynolds



To St Peter's Episcopal Church
Galashiels

On behalf of the Mission to Seafarers Scotland would you please pass on to your congregation our sincere gratitude for all the knitted items which have been given to Rev Tim Tunley. These gifts mean so much to the seafarers especially when it is still so very cold.

Seafarers are so often forgotten and yet we rely on them for 90% of our daily needs. Without them our fridges would be empty, our homes would be cold and our cars wouldn't run. They do their work cheerfully and yet it is such a difficult occupation, physically, mentally and spiritually. More seafarers than ever now need our help, often being abandoned, far from their own shores, without payment, food or water. Their work takes them away from their families often for a year at a time but their efforts remain constant. Your support helps us to be there for them.

If you are able please look at our website which can be found at www.mtss.scot and please continue to encourage all to keep the knitting needles clicking for us again whenever they can.

Jennifer K Gray
Trustee/Director
Mission to Seafarers,
Scotland



Woolly hats in Leith



Nice to see Tony up again after almost 2 years.

He says “thank you” to everyone who has visited him both in hospital and at home over that time

Another member of our congregations who is gradually improving after his fall is **Fred Brown**. He is managing to weight bear and is walking with a stick. He says “Al Christie visits from Church Ministry . John Henderson and Mike Laycock took

me for lunch at garden centre, one of many monthly outings we continue to have by deeds actions and friendship” **Happy Easter to all the Church Family**

THE BIG DAY AT THE CATHEDRAL 28TH APRIL

The theme for our stall will be “Woolly Borders” with a display of our Christmas angels and sheep and of course the woolly hats for seafarers, and some twiddlemuffs for children and adults as well as some of the items made to raise money for the Food Bank.

We will be explaining how we use the Christmas things and offer patterns for them and the hats that are knitted for the Mission to Seafarers and the twiddlemuffs used to calm the wearers



Vestry Report: October 2017 to March 2018

During the 2017/2018 financial year to date, four meetings of the vestry have been held in addition to the AGM of 4th December 2017.

Whilst each meeting reviewed and dealt with the financial and general business of St. Peter’s, the evolution of the ‘A7 Centre of Mission’ has and continues to be the focus of attention and action.

Real progress has been made since this new initiative was introduced to the congregation by Reverend Annie Naish, Diocesan Enabler of Mission, and the Reverend Canon Kerry Dixon, Head of Church Army, Scotland. At the close of that morning service (early September 2017) the substance of Kerry and Annie’s presentation was made available in ‘hard copy’ format to all members of the congregation.

It offered ‘a Proposal Culture for a New Partnership in Ministry and Mission’, bringing together the three A7 churches; St. Peter Galashiels, St. John Selkirk and St. Cuthbert Hawick. The churches together with the Diocese of Edinburgh and the Church Army form a new five partner undertaking, which if progressed will bring an Area Priest in Charge/head Evangelist with all the responsibilities of an incumbent Rector. The Area Priest will be supported through the subsequent appointment of a Pioneer Evangelist; both positions being full time appointments.

A draft but detailed 16 page Proposal ‘A7 Centre Mission’ was issued in November 2017 for each Vestry to discuss, appoint and send three representatives from each of the three churches to a meeting with + John on 12th December 2017, after which each Vestry was charged with making a decision, by the end of January 2018, to support (or otherwise) full participation in the A7 Centre of Mission. All three churches have since confirmed the partnership.

A further meeting was held on Tuesday 20th February 2018: representatives of all five partners were present and details of finances confirmed (shared equally between the three churches), recruitment advertisement and a timetable agreed which interested applicants for Area Priest in Charge role will have a closing date by end of April and interviews held mid-May. Further updates will be given to the congregation at each significant stage in the process of securing the Area Priest in Charge.

St. Peter’s interregnum period is approaching three years duration but at last we are on the threshold of an exciting and positive future together.

Gordon R. Lounsbach Secretary

PINEAPPLES

A pineapple is a tropical fruit known for its iconic shape – a sphere of sweet and juicy flesh surrounded by a tough, segmented skin, with a tuft of spiky green leaves on top. The fruit is actually a collection of flowers, each with its own eye that is fused around the central core. It takes about three years for just one pineapple to reach full maturation. My Dad started growing them in our garden in Nakuru, Kenya when I was a small child. Unfortunately as his posting there was only for three years someone else would harvest the crop! These plants have fascinated me ever since. I have had no success in growing a plant on my windowsill from placing the crown in a dish with water – I expect I am too impatient as I hadn't realized till I started researching for this article that they took so long to grow and fruit. So this is a really long term investment for growers.

Some Nutritional benefits of pineapple. They are naturally high in fibre, an important component of a healthy diet that can help improve digestion, and pineapples also contain vitamins and minerals including calcium, manganese, plus vitamins A and C, as well as folic acid.

Pineapples also contain an enzyme called bromelain which helps fight inflammation, reduces infection and kills bacteria.

In countries where pineapples are grown in vast quantities like Australia and the Far East some of the waste from pineapple processing could provide a range of ingredients for the food and pharmaceutical industries, including a new source of the enzyme bromelain. This could also solve some problems of farmers being unable to sell their crops when canneries close down. As well as the skin, core stems and tops which could be used for this, the leaves can be utilised to make fibre which could replace some of the plastics, synthetic leathers and fabrics currently in use. So, good for the planet too.



Lots of fruits – berries, bananas, apples, pears and oranges – can help reduce chronic coughs. Because of the bromelain in pineapples this fruit also fights inflammation, reduces infection and kills bacteria it is really helpful for folk with asthmatic coughs.



KNITTED HATS FOR MTS

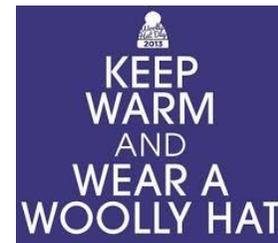
Currently we have 293 hats and 43 scarves produced over the year by our dedicated band of knitters. When he came down on Palm Sunday I gave Rev Tim Tunley 150 hats and 37 scarves to pass onto the Mission to Seafarers where they will be much appreciated as you will see from the letter in this issue of our magazine

I will be taking some hats and scarves to St Mary's Cathedral on 28th April as part of our Woolly Borders church stall. Patterns will be available for folk willing to knit hats for Mission to Seafarers.



When Tim comes back to St Peter's for Sea Sunday on 13th May I will give him the rest of the hats and scarves.

Thank you to all of you who continue to knit and donate wool to this worthy cause.
Susan B.



Our Afternoon Tea Service restart this month. 3.00pm on Tuesday 17th April
This is a short informal Communion service followed by a time to chat with friends over sandwiches and cake.
Please let Monica (01896 757114) know if you would like to come and need a lift.

STATELESS

The international legal definition of a **stateless person** is “a **person** who is not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law”. In simple terms, this means that a **stateless person** does not have a nationality of any country. Some **people** are born **stateless**, but others become **stateless**.

Today, at least 10 million people around the world are denied a nationality. As a result, they often aren't allowed to go to school, see a doctor, get a job, open a bank account, buy a house or even get married.

Stateless people may have difficulty accessing basic rights such as education, healthcare, employment and freedom of movement. Without these things, they can face a lifetime of obstacles and disappointment. At UNHCR, we are determined to end statelessness by 2024. Please take a minute to sign our open letter and become part of the #IBelong Campaign to end this injustice
[UNHCR - Ending Statelessness *www.unhcr.org/uk/stateless-people.html*](http://www.unhcr.org/uk/stateless-people.html)

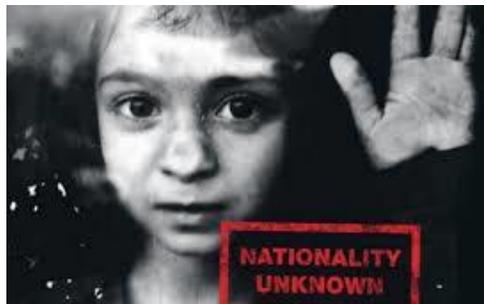


It is hard to grasp just what was going on for the people of Israel during the time of the Babylonian Exile. We are far removed in time, geography, culture, and religious tradition. Even the word, “exile” is unfamiliar to most Americans, though the United Nations

estimate that some fifteen million people worldwide have no recognized nationality and are stateless. Statelessness can come as a result of conflict, shifting borders, or the creation of a new state, but in most cases, statelessness is rooted in discrimination and intolerance. Seen as outsiders and outcasts of society, stateless people are the unwanted and the unwelcome whatever the ground beneath their feet.

Visit www.nowherepeople.org to read some stories of stateless people living in our world. How do their stories help you better understand the writings of Jeremiah?

Middleton Community Church,
Wisconsin



Report from Synod

Saturday 17th March 2018 was the first one of the year and took place at St Paul's & St George's in Edinburgh. There is always a packed agenda at Synod and this one was no different except that I had been asked to speak about the A7 Centre of Mission for the Borders from my perspective.

New members to Synod were introduced, reports from the Diocesan Standing Committee, Finance & Management Committee and the presentation of the Cathedral accounts were presented. I don't think there is anything of any note to report back on these issues.

The Annual Safeguarding Report and it mentioned that the PVG annual checklist had been issued to all charges but only 82% had been returned. Concern was raised for the 10 charges who didn't return their forms and this will be followed up by the Dean and Diocesan Protection Officer as we need to demonstrate sound practice right across the SEC. Although there were no cases to be dealt with in 2017 so far there are 2 cases in 2018. Safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone.

The Mission and Ministry section included my short talk, after which I had some good feedback and prayers were offered from all the other churches in the diocese for the success of this venture. It was also mentioned that A7 The Centre of Mission is receiving money from the St Hilda's fund for three years.

There is now a Mixed Mode Tutor in the Scottish Episcopal Institute called Richard Tiplady who spoke about the new ordinands training course where they work 3 days a week in a charge and receive a Curacy stipend and housing and receive tutoring for the rest of the time. This program includes a pioneer project where they have to complete some mission planning and execution. I felt that this was very forward thinking of the SEI as it is preparing for mission based clergy. There are quite a few ordinands in training with a large majority of them being in their 20s and 30s.

Karen



Rev Tim Tunley's Return from Bangladesh

After our last visit to Chittagong we unloaded our cargo and headed back out to sea. The plan was that the agent would come on board and then he would escort me off the vessel around 9.00am. Nothing happened and having said all of my goodbyes several times the agent eventually turned up around 4.00pm.

We got into his little boat. It was the kind of boat one

would find in a small boating pond in the UK. This small and somewhat cramped craft held four of us. The other thing of note was the very powerful engine on the back. So this small craft with four of us in it went at a huge speed through many of the very large ships that were anchored off the coast.



When we got to the beach a religious procession was underway. Our driver was waiting and the car had become surrounded by a very large crowd who were following a series of small statues being paraded around the beach. The driver decided that the best way to make progress was to not bother waiting for a space but to shunt the car backwards and forward until a space appeared. A large hole was made in the crowd and we started our journey through Chittagong.

It was the stuff of nightmares. There were pedestrians jumping out. Tuk



tuks pulling into the road, cyclists who just rode without any care at all. There were no discernible rules of the road other than drive like the clappers and sound your horn. Many times we pulled out from behind the car in front to be facing a car or truck coming the other way.

I sat in the back trying to make up my mind as to whether I should shut my eyes or not. I decided if I was going to die it would be with my eyes open probably not the best decision. We stopped to pick up another agent and with him I went to Port State Control. This was a large room with three desks and three officers me and the agent. It became

apparent they did not like me or volunteer seafarers. I have seaman's papers so had a right to be there. However I was kept for several hours while they waited for their shift to end so they would not need to do any more work. Eventually my passport visa was stamped and I was let go. At the hotel the Agent wanted an inducement to give me my passport and papers. I was so tired (it was now 11.30pm) I gave him a Scottish £10 note! A small victory as they are almost impossible to use in England let alone Bangladesh. As I had to get up for the taxi at 4.00 am I finally got to bed. The fridge was really loud in the room so I turned it off. I got into bed. I just got off to sleep when a knock at the door woke me up. It was the night porter who had to spray for mosquitoes. This done he went away and I slept. Half an hour later there was a loud ticking noise. The fridge had defrosted and was now spilling water everywhere the ticking was the water dripping in the fridge. I turned the fridge back on and mopped up and went to bed. The alarm sounded far too quickly and I went for breakfast. The driver was late getting me to the airport. As it was early there was little traffic on the road. However because we were late we went at huge speeds through red lights down one way streets the wrong way. Eventually we got to Chittagong airport. All was calm and the flight to Dakar a joy. At Dakar Special Branch took an interest in me and I was held for half an hour while they checked me out. Eventually I got on the flight to *Kuala Lumpur*. I then took the connecting flight to Lang Kowi. It was wonderful to be back again. I had a five day stay while waiting for my flight home. Had I not needed to be back then I would have taken leave and got the ferry to Thailand. After five days I was home and with my wife Christine. The jet lag was horrible and the experiences of Bangladesh stayed with me. But the combination of being home safe and in familiar surroundings spoke very powerfully. As well as all the time I had spent with the crew.

The thought I have had since has been - that I had all the correct paper work and I was still held twice in Bangladesh. The question I have often thought is, "what if you are stateless". If I had been jailed someone from the embassy would have come for me eventually. If you have no papers you do not exist.

Since coming back many seafarers have told me stories of being held for no good reason all over the world.

