

**St Peter's Scottish Episcopal Church Galashiels**

Scottish Charity SC006210

*Useful Numbers*

**Interim Pastor**

07958 713353

**Vestry Chairman**

01896 848659

**Treasurer**

01896 757114

**People's Warden**

01896 758017

**PVG/Safeguarding Co-ordinator**

07704 788689

**Organist**

01896 758017

**Sunday Squad**

01896 751484

**Hall Bookings**

07780 009355

**Caretaker**

: 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> Tuesday April to September

3.00pm Afternoon Tea Service

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



*Paul & Laura Wright*

## September 2018

£1 Recommended donation per issue







## NYBBS Summer Course 2018

This year I attended the NYBBS Summer Course which is held at Strathallan School. The course is run by SBBA (Scottish Brass band Association) alongside NYBBS

(National Youth Brass Band of Scotland). The course ran three separate bands: The National Children's Band of Scotland; The National Reserve Band of Scotland and The National Youth Brass Band of Scotland. Each band caters to different ages and abilities up to the age of 22. Each band has its own conductor and tutors who provide expert advice and experience. They are a crucial part of the course as they allow you to have personal feedback to help you improve. This year I was very fortunate to be part of the Reserve Band with its conductor John Boax and horn tutor Sandy Coffin. They both gave me great advice to improve both my playing and mindset.

The course lasts a week and it is jammed packed with rehearsals, sectionals and a variety of activities. We rehearsed approximately six and a half hours a day plus extra practice if needed, which means you are truly knackered by the end of the week! Everyday there were activities such as rounders and swimming to take part in too. The house staff made sure we had all the niceties like thousands of slices of toast and endless gallons of juice, they really did make it feel like a home away from home.

The NYBBS course is designed to challenge you as well as enhance your playing abilities. It promotes a hard-working attitude and growth mindset. At the end of the week each band puts on a concert for friends and family where we play the pieces we have been working on and the awards are given out. The awards available in the Reserve Band are best section, best student, and promotions to the National Youth Brass band of Scotland. Very unexpectedly I was given an automatic promotion to the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland which means I will be joining them next summer. I received this because I displayed hard work and dedication, I encouraged my section and I improved my playing by listening and evaluating. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at NYBBS and I can't wait to go back next year.

Rosie McLeman

murderer (and my team won again!). It was a lot of fun. On Thenesday (it was Wednesday but did the things we were meant to do on Thursday!), we had the film night we watched "Paddington 2". On Wursday (it was Thursday but did everything we were meant to do on Wednesday!!), it was the disco where there was lots of dancing and singing. On Friday, it was the talent show where lots of secret talents were shown to everyone. At the talent show me and my friends did a skit of 'The Jeremy Kyle Show' and we called it 'The Glenemy Kyle Show' it was so much fun.



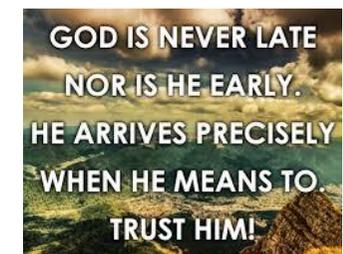
Every day there were lots of activities to choose from like: the scavenger hunt, combat training, spy spa, capture the flag, nail art etc. my favourite activity was film making. I film making we made up a concept and then acted it out. My group did a skit on 'Love Island' called 'Glen Island'. It was so funny.



I had such amazing week back at Glen and hope to be given the opportunity to go again next year. I have found my second home at Glen. Everyone is such a big family and we are all really close. I would like to thank the vestry and the congregation for their kindness in helping me to get there.

Freya McLeman

**God works things out on HIS timetable to bring the best results for US**



## Glen '18

For the second year in a row I went to the Scottish Episcopal Church Youth Camp at Glenalmond College. The theme of Glen this year was 24/7.365

Yesterday, Today & Forever with a sub theme of Spies. I went back to Glen this year to see all my best friends and to rekindle my faith. This year I met even more people and created friendships that will last a lifetime. This year in my house group (Szabo) there were a lot of new delegates which meant a lot of new friends. Throughout the week my house group became closer and they are all like my brothers and sisters now.

Each day of the week we have a worship which is given to a house group to organise and run. My house group was given the Friday evening. We based our worship on the story of the good Samaritan as the theme of the day was 'Helping in the community'. We decided to base the worship in the chapel. We did a few readings and we acted out the story of the good Samaritan. Each worship there is an interactive prayer and we decided to involve the camps prayer tree. We gave everyone a piece of paper to write a prayer on and then fold it into anything they wanted to. We then asked them to place their folded-up paper on the prayer tree.

Unfortunately, this year a bug was going around campus and sent 4 delegates and 2 leaders home ill which changed the format of the week a bit. We switched around everything on Wednesday and Thursday, so the people sent home ill could enjoy the amble as well.



The amble this year was a crystal maze around the campus of Glenalmond College. We were set different activities such as: blind folded maze, code cracker, laser beams and it all ended in a huge water fight. The amble is always the best part of the week.

Each night there was a social activity for everyone to join in with. On Sunday, we had Spy training, which was a competition in groups to see who were the best teamworking spies (and my team won). On Monday, we had the ceilidh which was so much fun. On Tuesday, we had a murder mystery where we had to figure out who was the



## Brother Lawrence (1611 to 1691)

Lay Brother of the Carmelite Order in Paris

Brother Lawrence was born Nicolas Herman of Lorraine to humble parents. He grew up to be a soldier and later a footman for a notable French Family.

Although claiming he had no special gifts he developed a great life changing sense of spirituality at the age of eighteen. On a midwinter day he observed a dry, leafless, tree standing gaunt against the snow. He thought about the wonderful changes that tree would experience as spring unfolded into summer. The bare branches becoming re clothed with leaves in the glory of the sunshine. He felt an overwhelming sense of the knowledge and love of God. After this soul enlightening experience he pledged himself to constantly walk in God's presence throughout his life.

Nicholas Herman was a great awkward, clumsy, man who broke many things.

Although far from being a 'theologian' his profound love of God in all things led him to join the Carmelite

monastery as a Lay Brother. At the age of fifty five he became 'Brother

Lawrence'. His menial duties were allocated to the kitchen area. He felt that there he would be made to smart in God's eyes for his awkwardness and all his faults. He felt he should sacrifice his life to God and deny himself all the pleasures he had once enjoyed.

He really thought he should be damned and he reasoned and wrote about this. He said "I did not engage in a religious life but for the love of God and I have endeavoured to act only for Him. Whatever becomes of me, whether I be lost or saved, I will always continue to act purely for the love of God. I shall hold this good until at last in death I shall have done all that is in me to love him"

He was tortured for four years by these thoughts, during which he suffered much. He came through this agony and passed the rest of his life in perfect liberty and continual joy It does not take much imagination to think of all the hard work and the physical exhaustion of working in a kitchen serving the whole monastery in those days.



Maybe chopping wood to keep the ovens burning, scrubbing all the kitchen utensils, cleaning the floor on hands and knees and all the menial tasks there would be to do as well as cooking!

Yet he said "the time of business does not with me differ from the time of prayer; and in the noise and clutter of my kitchen, while several persons are at the same time calling for different things, I possess God in as great tranquillity as if I were on my knees at the Blessed Sacrament"

There is recorded a series of conversations and letters Brother Lawrence shared with others. Throughout these not only does he exude a sense of total devotion to God but also a confession of 'his imperfections'. He writes about 'driving from my mind everything that was capable of interrupting my thought of God' Although acknowledging his imperfection he finds great advantages by it. He knows we can do nothing without God, he in particular! , but this he sees as enabling us to restrict our offending Him and doing anything that may displease Him, setting Him before us always. He reminds us 'may all things praise God' and how God has shown many favours to him, miserable sinner that he is.

Brother Lawrence died at the age of 80. He was still thinking, still writing, still thanking God for all his goodness, still looking forward to seeing Him, two days before he died, when illness confined him to bed.

There are many hymns which follow the thinking and example of Brother Lawrence but one in particular sticks in my mind. 'Teach me my God and King, in all things thee to see, and what I do in anything to do it as for thee' Then in verse 4 'A servant with this clause makes drudgery divine: Who sweeps a room , as for Thy laws, Makes that and the action fine' It is not published in CH4 but one only has to look in our hymn-book at the section 'Our response to God – in times and seasons' to find many which reflect on the same thoughts as Brother Lawrence all those years ago. A line in another hymn reads 'New leaf, new thrust, new greening for the love of Christ'

This reminds me of the conversion experience Brother Lawrence experienced. And of course we must not forget The Psalms, Psalm 65 for example or Psalm 121 which means so much to me

The life of Brother Lawrence is not lost! His spirit lives on through The Companions of Brother Lawrence (CBL) which is an ecumenical group of Christians who follow the precepts set by Brother Lawrence. Companions are bound together by their desire for God and their call to serve God in the circumstances of their daily lives.

Companions support and encourage each other by mutual prayer and their shared Aim:

To practise the presence of God

To be involved in their local situation

To enjoy to the full all God's gifts

To learn to give and receive forgiveness unconditionally.

To further the Aim, and maintain their common life, they base their daily prayer pattern of living on a simple Rule:

Praying for each other

Seeking ways to deepen their awareness of God's presence

Attempting to lead a balanced life which includes prayer, study, leisure, sleep and exercise and to practise planned neglect when necessary.

Companions are a national organisation and regional conferences are held whenever possible.

Companions remember each other's birthdays and keep in touch through letters, phone calls, e mails and the Secretary's newsletters.

The Companions' daily prayer is:

O God, here we are, all devoted to you; make us according to your heart.

They have a website 'Companions of Brother Lawrence'

John V Roberts

Shirley Douglas, a member of St Peter's congregation, is a Companion of Brother Lawrence and is happy to chat with you.

The book 'The Practice of the Presence of God 2015 Edition' is available through Amazon. Or a pdf version Practice-of-the-Presence-of God.pdf

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**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September there will be a sandwich lunch here together with members of St John's Selkirk and St Cuthbert's, Hawick followed by a time of prayer for the three churches led by Rev Annie Naish.**

