

St Peter's Scottish Episcopal Church Galashiels

Scottish Charity SC006210

Useful Numbers

Interim Pastor

07958 713353

Vestry Chairman

01896 751474

Treasurer

01896 757114

People's Warden

01896 758017

PVG/Safeguarding Co-ordinator

07704 788689

Organist

01896 758017

Sunday Squad

01896 751484

Hall Bookings

01896 751694

Caretaker

: 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

9.00am Super Squad

9.45am Family Breakfast

2nd Sunday of the month

6.00pm Healing/anointing 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



March 2019

£1 Recommended donation per issue

Shared Leadership Team

Susan Boorman	Sheena Cossar	Karen Ellis
John Maltman	Nancy Muir	Monica Reynolds

Church Diary March

Fri 1 st	7.00pm World Day of Prayer service @ St Peter's
Sun 3 rd	9.00am Super Squad 9.45am Family breakfast 10.30am Sung Eucharist, Rev Bill Elliott
Tues 5 th	6.00pm Shrove Tuesday pancakes in hall
Thurs 7 th	10am Communion
Sun 10 th	10.30am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Healing service, Revs Bob King & Grace Redpath
Mon 11 th	6.30pm Bottle top sort
Thurs 14 th	10.00am Communion
Sun 17 th	10.30 Sung Eucharist
Thurs 21 st	10.00am Communion 7.00pm Embrace the Middle East Pilgrimage, Mark Calder
Sun 24 th	10.30am Sung Eucharist
Mon 25 th	6.30pm Bottle top sort
Tues 26 th	5.30pm Messy Church
Thurs 28 th	10.00am Communion
Fri 29 th	5.00pm Choir Practice
Sat 30 th	12.30 Soup 'n; Pud
Sun 31 st	10.30am Sung Eucharist, Mothering Sunday

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BUILDINGS CONVENOR



We have had a vacancy for this job for the past few years and we REALLY REALLY need someone to take responsibility for the maintenance of our buildings. Please talk to John Marsden, Vestry secretary if you are willing to help in this way

Emergency Prayer Circle

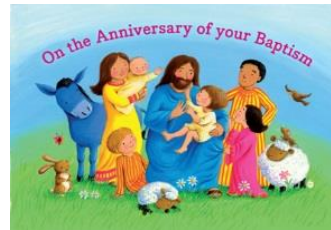
This is a group in the church which prays for people at times of special need. If you know of a member of your family or a friend facing crisis or difficulty who would be grateful of such confidential support Call 01896 831418 or 01896 751484



Prayer Tree

Roslynn, Darrin, Steph, Emily & Holly, Joan, Sheila, (Katie, Stephanie, Ted, April, Finn & Joan), the Ellis family, 6 year old Joe and his family, Miriam, Andrew, Simon & Oliver, (William, Bethany, Katie & John), Patricia, Martin & Sarah

Please e-mail additional names for inclusion to smstcg1945@gmail.com unless otherwise stated they will remain on the prayer tree for two weeks



March Anniversary of Baptism

21st Sahara Maycock
25th Paton Lazzari
28th Takkulah Kemp

BOOKING THE CHURCH AND/OR HALL FOR MEETINGS



I am very happy to say that Al Christie has taken over the booking of the church and hall for the various groups that use our facilities. Contact Al via e-mail maryandal@tiscali.co.uk or phone 01896 755480

If you need to book the church and/or hall for a special occasion or a meeting do please remember that as well as contacting Al you will need to allow time for setting up and clearing away and you probably need to arrange any special setting up with Phil, our caretaker on 07787 729639



**THIS MEANS ALL OF US
PLEASE THINK ABOUT
GIVING A LITTLE OF YOUR
TIME AND SKILLS TO HELP
WITH THE RUNNING OF ST
PETER'S, SUPPORTING
THOSE WHO ALREADY
KEEP OUR CHURCH
FAMILY FUNCTIONING
HAPPILY AND WELL**



Shaw Trust formerly

Tomorrow's People

Shaw Trust is a charity helping to transform the lives of young people and adults across the UK and internationally.

Our specialist services help people gain an education, enter work, develop their career, improve their wellbeing or rebuild their lives. As a charity we add value to every service we deliver by investing back into the people and communities we support.

Shaw Trust is one of the largest 25 charities in the UK. Comprising Shaw Trust, Prospects, Ixion and Shaw Education Trust, we use our 75 years combined experience to support people to develop their potential. By joining together, we are working to reach one goal: to help transform the lives of one million young people and adults each year.

Our 3,500 staff and 1000 volunteers provide joined-up services for government, local authorities, combined authorities, employers, stakeholders – including the Department for work and Pensions, Education and Skills Funding Agency, Clinical commissioning groups and NHS Trusts – and individuals. Our work focuses on seven business areas:

- Employability
- Learning Skills
- Justice
- Children's Services
- Education
- Charitable services and enterprise
- Community Health and wellbeing

Lorna Hanif Galashiels Shop Manager
Email: lorna.bushell@shaw-trust.org.uk
Shop Telephone Number: 01896 664702



We need to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to Mike Reynolds because in addition to the amazing work that he does as Treasurer for St Peter's he has overseen the repair and upgrading of the Rectory while it has been empty and to get it ready for Simon and Oliver to move in. Mike has also taken on the work of

seeing that our church building is safe and secure and up to the standards required by the Diocese.

As well as all that Mike helps set up the church when Phil is away and he brings over the bags of bottle tops from the shed for sorting.

You will be aware that both Mike and Monica help out in various other capacities during services and at Soup 'n' Pud lunches and other social and fundraising events. St Peter's is blessed to have them in our midst.

CONGRATULATIONS to Freya Mcleman and Jadon Rongong, who will be going to Social Bite's Wee Sleep Out Thank You dinner with Malala! They will be worthy representatives of the joint diocesan Wee Sleep Out at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh. Well done to all those who entered, especially the runners-up who have won vouchers for Social Bite's partner, Vesta Restaurant & Bar. The judging was difficult, but it was wonderful to read about all these young people's passion for social justice!
#WeeSleepOut #piskyyouth



2019 LENT APPEALS

Bishop John has chosen two worthy causes for his Lent Appeal this year, one overseas and one local.



Mercy Ships UK funds the world's largest hospital ship, the Africa Mercy. This ship, staffed entirely by volunteers and funded by donations, travels to the world's poorest nations to provide free surgeries for patients with no access to healthcare..

www.mercyships.org.uk MercyShipsUK MercyShipsUK
Registered Charity No: 1053055 (England & Wales) SC039743 (Scotland)



Fresh Start Borders
www.freshstartborders.org.uk

making a difference!

Fresh Start Borders was set up in 2008 by the Selkirk Council of Churches with assistance from Scottish Churches Housing Action and grant funding from Awards for All, **Fresh Start Borders** provide starter packs of household goods and essentials to people in need who are moving from homelessness to a

permanent tenancy. Individuals and families alike are referred to us by support workers from Scottish Borders Council, local housing associations, Citizens Advice and other local charities. Each starter pack, which is made to meet individual requirements, contains new or good quality second hand essential items and cleaning materials. Money raised and donated enables us to purchase new kettles, toasters, duvets and pillows for every pack and when possible, we purchase portable heaters and microwaves for clients in need of these particular items. In recent years, a rising number of people are needing our help. Relying on grants and fundraising to continue the provision of starter packs, the organisation is run by local volunteers and dependent on goods donated by the public.

Your support ensures we can continue making a difference to vulnerable people in the Scottish Borders.

www.freshstartborders.org.uk Fresh Start Borders
Registered Charity SC041071



Registered Charity No. 1076329

Or you can choose to continue supporting Mark Calder in the Embrace the Middle East Running Home appeal.

Donations for all these charities can be brought to church on Easter Sunday, 21st April, Thursday 25th April or Sunday 28th April

**Our special nonagenarian
Joyce Henry
cutting her 90th birthday cake**

**She is surrounded by some
of the work done
by the children in the
Sunday Supersquad
which reminds us that we
have all been made special,
unique and valuable in the
eyes of God**





I never thought about Lent being a time for having a megga clear out of things I no longer need but that would be useful to other people. I am going to take up this challenge – I can hear my daughter shouting “At last!!!”

You may have noticed that I have invited some of the local charity shops to write a piece for our magazine – Red Cross last month and the Shaw Trust in this issue. They all need our support one way or another. Maybe you could give them a little of your time for a while. I once worked in an Oxfam shop. I guess that’s where I learned that there were some wonderful bargains to be had!!

I have to admit that one of the reasons that I manage to have such an extensive wardrobe is that I buy most of my clothes from various charity shops and don’t feel guilty about having so many. Now it is time to take out the things I haven’t worn for some time and recycle them again in the charity shops.

Of course clearing out our material possessions is just one way of sorting through our lives during Lent. What about those bad habits – I’m not talking about giving up smoking or chocolate just for the period of Lent but the more insidious habits that we may not even acknowledge or be aware of. Our actions and thoughts regarding those who are different in some way. Things we do that may irritate other folk – interrupting/not really listening...

Lent is the time to focus on changing our lives to live in the way that Jesus taught us. He will help us if we ask Him.



Mothering Sunday 31st March 2019

Mothering Sunday is the fourth Sunday of Lent. Although it's often called Mothers' Day it has no connection with the American festival of that name. Traditionally, it was a day when children, mainly daughters, who had gone to work as domestic servants were given a day off to visit their mother and family. Today it is a day when children give presents, flowers, and home-made cards to their mothers.

History of Mothering Sunday

Most Sundays in the year churchgoers worship at their nearest parish or 'daughter church'.

Centuries ago it was considered important for people to return to their home or 'mother' church once a year. So each year in the middle of Lent, everyone would visit their 'mother' church - the main church or cathedral of the area.

Inevitably the return to the 'mother' church became an occasion for family reunions when children who were working away returned home. (It was quite common in those days for children to leave home for work once they were ten years old.)

And most historians think that it was the return to the 'Mother' church which led to the tradition of children, particularly those working as domestic servants, or as apprentices, being given the day off to visit their mother and family.

As they walked along the country lanes, children would pick wild flowers or violets to take to church or give to their mother as a small gift.

Its widescale revival was through the influence of American and Canadian soldiers serving abroad during World War II; the traditions of Mothering Sunday, still practiced by the Church of England were merged with the newly imported traditions and celebrated in the wider Catholic and secular society.

UK-based merchants saw the commercial opportunity in the holiday and relentlessly promoted it in the UK; by the 1950s, it was celebrated across all the UK.

RUNNING HOME, IRAQ RISING FROM THE ASHES

For Iraqi families trying to rebuild their lives, poverty and trauma seemed inescapable.

Yazidi and Christian families who fled ISIL's atrocities tell their harrowing stories of the loss of loved ones and the sense of terror that still surrounds them. Yet they also tell us about the hope in their experiences, the hope that they experienced through the love they felt from the communities who welcomed and protected them

And now, Iraqi Christians are determined to return and renew their beautiful homeland.

Many displaced Iraqis are trying to return home now, only to find that everything they knew has been destroyed. Their towns and villages need infrastructure – roads need repairing, water and electricity supplies need restoring and the schools need rebuilding. That's where Running Home begins...

In 2019, Embrace will establish our first partnerships in Iraq, supporting the work of Christians who are already responding to the needs of displaced people.

From building and running schools and healthcare facilities, to rebuilding homes and starting new businesses, with your support, Christian communities are aiming to rebuild their communities and economies and create opportunities for the next generation.

Christians have been a part of the fabric of society in Iraq for 2,000 years. Now, in the aftermath of horrific persecution, their numbers are low so it's vital that we support them and the tireless humanitarian work that characterizes their presence.



Dr Mark Calder, Regional manager of Embrace The Middle East for Scotland and Northern England is running 14 ultra-marathons to try to raise £50,000 for their new project in Iraq.

The motivation for the challenge came during a run last year when the sense of freedom and of pilgrimage during the runs contrasted with the trauma of the Iraqi people who are beginning to return to their homeland.

Since his first visit to Egypt aged 19, the Middle East has been Mark's personal and professional passion. As he says on the Embrace website "I've travelled, studied and volunteered in the region spending time in Yemen, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Lebanon. I also had the opportunity to conduct fieldwork for my PhD in Bethlehem which focused on Syriac Orthodox Christians. After completing my doctorate at the University of Aberdeen, I researched peace-building in Syria and the predicament of young people across the southern and eastern Mediterranean regions. I am fascinated by the cultural diversity of this part of the world and my enthusiasm for Embrace's work, which brought me to work for them, stems from our partnership approach. It ensures you, our supporters, are helping people best placed to respond to specific local needs and situations in their own communities. **I am inspired and motivated to support**

Christians and their organizations which practice commitment to their neighbours and homelands as part of their witness."

Mark has chosen to run the many Pilgrims' Ways in our country. He will be running the St Cuthbert's Way and St Oswald's Way starting in Melrose on 17th March and running 200 miles over 3 days to Durham via Lindisfarne and Heavensfield (Wall).

We are fortunate that Mark has agreed to come to St Peter's church on the evening of Thursday 21st March to give a talk on Embrace the Middle East and the Running Home project. Do come along and support him and see how much we can add to his fundraising efforts. Mark says his faith helps while he runs – "it is the closest I get to a quiet, still mind – it is very easy to pray. I feel that running is almost prayer in itself, an enjoyment of the present. You feel seen and recognised by God."

17th March Melrose to Lindisfarne – 59.3 miles

18th March Lindisfarne to Heavensfield (Wall) - 95.5 miles

19th March Heavensfield to Durham – 34.6 miles

The final ultra-marathon will take place on 16th November between South Queensferry and St Andrews on the Fife Pilgrim Way Please pray for Mark and his support team throughout the coming months.