

SUMMER FAIR

**SATURDAY 12th
JUNE 2010
at 2.00 pm**



Wanted!!!

- Jams, marmalades, and chutneys
- Home baking
- Books and toys
- Plants
- 'Good as New' Clothes
- Prizes and bottles for the raffle and tombola
- Old, cracked or chipped china for the 'Smash the China' game

If you can donate any of the above items for the Summer Fair we would be extremely grateful.

The Fair is on Saturday 12th June at 2pm. The Stockbridge Pipe Band will be playing for us and the local Air Cadets will also be involved in some activities for the children. There will be some community involvement and we are pleased that the four local churches have all agreed to take a stall so there should be something to suit all tastes. I hope that you will support this event by coming along and encouraging friends and neighbours to come too. You can be assured of a very nice tea!!

The View from St. Serf's

June 2010



One of three stained glass motifs above the central window at St. Serf's depicting the hands of God extending from Heaven. From a photograph by Eion Johnston

Church Contacts:

MINISTER:

Rev Sara R Embleton, 20 Wilton Road, EH16 5NX Tel. 478 1624

SESSION CLERK:

Miss Margaret Brown, 129 East Trinity Road, EH5 3PP Tel. 552 4714

TREASURER:

Mrs Muriel Veitch, 16 Bangholm Bower Avenue, EH5 3AS Tel. 552 3408

GIFT AID TREASURER:

Mrs Fiona Tait, 7 Denham Green Avenue, EH5 3NZ Tel. 551 6732

F W O TREASURER

Mr Jim Moir, 13 York Road, EH5 3EJ Tel. 552 8817

CLERK TO CONGREGATIONAL BOARD:

Mrs Rachel Vardy, 34 Warriston Avenue, EH3 5NB Tel. 552 4766

ROLL-KEEPER

Mr Peter Hannan, 15 Caroline Gardens, EH12 6XJ Tel. 334 0276

ORGANIST

Mrs Nicky Fraser, 67/3 Park Avenue, EH15 1JT Tel. 454 4801

CHOIRMASTER:

Mr James Robertson, 19/3 Timber Bush, EH6 6QH Tel. 553 7239

CHURCH HALL

Tel. 467 7185

The View from St. Serf's

This is the last issue of *"The View"* for the summer. The next issue will be the **September** edition and the closing date for material is **15 August 2010**.

The September edition will be published on **29 August 2010**.

Material please to Dorothy & Martin Millar (Editors),
14 Corbiehill Road, Edinburgh EH4 5EE, Tel: 336 1432.

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED WITH *"THE VIEW"*, PLEASE
PASS IT ON TO A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOUR.

WEBSITE ADDRESS: www.leithstserfs.org.uk

SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER: S.C. 008572

Churches Together in Trinity and
Goldenacre

Open Air Songs of Praise



Sunday 6th June 2010
6.30pm

Heriot's Playing Fields Goldenacre

Enter by Ferry Road gate opposite St Serf's Church

Refreshments afterwards in St. Serf's Church Halls.
In the event of bad weather the service will go ahead
in St. Serf's Church.

**Organised by the Council of Churches of Trinity
and Goldenacre**

STOP PRESS...

*Thank you to all who attended and to all those who helped
with the Borders Big Band Concert on 22nd May. As a result
of this very successful evening a total of £680 was raised
for the Church Organ Fund.*

A Letter from the Minister

May 2010

is remembered to this day. Years earlier Mott had been influenced through a speech by an outstanding Cambridge University cricketer Kynaston Studd, who himself had been touched by the American preacher D.L. Moody.

The Edinburgh World Missionary Conference led to the founding of the International Missionary Council in 1921, and ultimately to the World Council of Churches in 1948.

Yet, while conferences can focus minds on mission strategy and may set up useful structures, that is not how an apprentice cobbler William Carey was called to India, nor how a London parlour-maid Gladys Aylward got called to China! Back in 1894 Hudson Taylor – then 62 – was leading over 600 missionaries in China, when he declared, “God chose me because I was weak enough. God does not do his great works by large committees. He trains somebody to be quiet enough and little enough, and then he uses him.”

William Wilberforce pin-pointed November 9th, 1796 as pivotal in the forming of the Church Missionary Society. In his diary he wrote, ‘Dined and slept at Battersea Rise for missionary meeting.’ It was later that Eugene Stock – future leader of CMS – observed, “That dinner at Clapham on November 9th was more important in the world’s history than the Lord Mayor’s Banquet at the Guildhall the same evening!

It is not that organized conferences are of no account. Our prayers are required for important strategies resulting from the long-planned second Edinburgh mission conference, to be held this very June (2-6) in celebration of the 1910 original (www.edinburgh2010.org). And from October 16-25 this year, the Third Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization is to be held in Cape Town, from October 16-25. (www.lausanne.org).

But Pentecost, just passed, provides the real secret that must undergird such conferences, and that explains the remarkable expansion of Christ’s world mission – into an international Family in which up to 100,000 people per day embark upon discipleship, and in which some 1500 new congregations come into existence weekly.

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Dear Friends

At the service on 23rd May I intimated to the congregation that I had written to the Presbytery Clerk to resign from the position of minister of St. Serf’s church with effect from 31st August. I now write to say farewell to the many friends that I have made during the past 11 years, to take stock of all that I have learned during that time and to wish you well for the future.

The three areas that have become central for me in ministry over the past few years are:

- *spiritual formation*
- *emerging church*
- *team ministry*

By spiritual formation I mean the sharing of the Good News about Jesus with people who have very little or no knowledge of the Christian faith as well as the nurturing of the seed of faith in those who make that first step of commitment. It is in those encounters with individuals and with small groups of people that I have experienced great blessing over the past 11 years. And it has been in the pastoral encounters where people struggle to find God amongst the ups and downs of life that I have felt privileged to be a minister.

By emerging church I mean finding new ways for the Church to be the Church in the 21st century. I believe passionately that the Church needs to change dramatically if we are to be faithful to the call to make disciples of all nations. There are many exciting things happening around the country where congregations have tried new ways of reaching with the Gospel those who would not be at home in our traditional services and church life.

By team ministry I mean that I think the days of one minister to one parish are over. I believe we need to move towards area team ministries. Over the past few years I have been fortunate indeed to be able to work with Brian Hilsley and to explore with him what team ministry means. I have found this to be creative, encouraging and fruitful as we have developed and shared imaginative courses and worship.

So these are the three main aspects of ministry that I take with me into the future. I am not going directly into another parish. I am taking some time to discern where I might be able to exercise the kind of ministry to which I feel called.

As you know, the office bearers of St. Serf's are exploring a possible future for St. Serf's with Inverleith. My prayers will continue to be with you at this challenging time and I pray that, whatever form the church takes in Trinity and Goldenacre in the future, it may be a church that finds a way of conveying to others the Good News about Jesus.

Since September 2009 our life together as a congregation has been enriched by the presence of Rev. Alistair McGregor. Alistair has been such a caring pastor as well as friend to me and his presence has enabled me to return to full-time ministry after Victoria's illness. I know that he has also endeared himself to many of you with the warmth of his personality and his contributions to worship. Alistair's last Sunday with us will be on 27th June. He then hopes to step back into retirement - although Alistair's idea of doing nothing might not be yours or mine!

Endings are usually full of mixed feelings. I am grateful for all that I have learned over the past years and for the good friends I have made. I am sad that the vision of one new church in the area comprising the three congregations served by a team ministry proved to be beyond our ability to make happen. I am disappointed that in our weakness as human



Thank you

POVERTY

- Especially to the 18 stalwart St Serf's collectors who gave up an evening or two (or three or four) during Christian Aid Week in May. This task can be tedious, frustrating and challenging but also joyful and humbling and immensely worthwhile. Once again we defied all odds and raised over £3,000. Final totals and those for the Goldenacre area will be posted on the notice boards soon.
- And also to those who gave so generously.
- And to the soup makers and servers and dishwashers and customers at our joint lunch in Inverleith. This was a very happy and relaxed occasion and raised a total of £854.
- And to Wendy Young, Community Action Manager from Christian Aid who focused our minds on the task ahead with her excellent presentation at our social evening on April 11th. We were delighted to welcome friends from Inverleith, Wardie and Holy Cross to this event.

Fiona Davies

“The Evangelization of the World in this Generation”

Edinburgh, 1910! A hundred years ago this month 1,355 delegates from scores of Protestant missions met together under the chairmanship of an influential American Methodist layman, John R. Mott.

Mott's slogan – The evangelization of the world in this generation –

Creating Music



'A Safe Space and a Meeting Place'

A Day of Music and Reflection at The Bield, near Perth.

Saturday 19th June 2010, 10:00 am – 4:30 pm, led by James Robertson

Our choirmaster James Robertson is leading a day at The Bield, a Christian retreat centre just outside Perth. James and I were there for a few days last summer, and can highly recommend the venue – beautiful grounds, a walled garden, a tiny chapel, and various workrooms for conferences and study plus kitchen and residential accommodation, which has recently been upgraded.

James' day is described as "An opportunity to explore the communicative and healing potential of music-making and musical interaction." As many of you will know, James is a renowned music therapist, and is highly skilled in this area. He says "This workshop is open to all who enjoy music. As a group we will simply explore making our own music together. A range of percussion instruments will be provided such as drums, cymbals, wind chimes, bells and a number of instruments that may be new to you but are very simple to play! No previous musical skills are required. We will reflect on the experience of creating music and discuss its healing potential as well as its communicative qualities."

Cost £30, which includes morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea.

More details can be found on the Bield website: info@bieldatblackruthven.org.uk

If you are interested in attending, please speak to either James or myself.

Pam Robertson

Trinity Bowling Club - Lomond Road

We will be starting an 'Open Morning' at 10am every Wednesday from the first Wednesday in May. You are welcome to come along and see the clubhouse and the facilities on offer to members.

Jim Witcombe, President

beings we have not been the best Church that we could have been. But ultimately I believe that the Church belongs to God and that He has plans for it. May we all truly listen to God's guidance as our paths now diverge.

With every blessing

Sara

Worship for June 2010

6th June at 11.00am

Morning worship will be conducted by Rev. Alistair McGregor.

This is to allow Sara to attend a special service at Reid Memorial Church to mark 75 years of that congregation's life and witness.

13th June at 11.00am

1 Kings 10: 1b-10;
Luke 7: 36-8:3;
Galatians 2: 15-21.

20th June at 11.00am

1 Kings 19: 1-15a;
Luke 8: 26-39;
Galatians 3: 23-29.

There will be tea, coffee and a Traidcraft stall in the Large Hall after the service.

27th June at 11.00am

2 Kings 2: 1-2, 6-14;
Luke 9: 51-62;
Galatians 5: 13-25.

Morning worship with the sacrament of the Lord's Supper using the sung liturgy.

Worship in July and August

It has been agreed by the Kirk Sessions of Inverleith, St. Serf's and Wardie to continue with the pattern of worship over the summer months that has been followed for the past couple of years. **Please note that during July and August all services will start at 10.30am.**

4th July	10.30am – St. Serf's Church
11th July	10.30am – St. Serf's Church
18th July	10.30am – St. Serf's Church
25th July	10.30am – Inverleith Church, Ferry Road
1st August	10.30am – Inverleith Church, Ferry Road
8th August	10.30am – Inverleith Church, Ferry Road
15th August	10.30am - Wardie Parish Church, Primrose Bank Road/Netherby Road
22nd August	10.30am - Wardie Parish Church, Primrose Bank Road/Netherby Road
29th August	10.30am - Wardie Parish Church, Primrose Bank Road/Netherby Road

Worship returns to 11.00am on Sunday 5th September

Mile of Pennies

During the summer months please continue to collect pennies for the 'Mile of Pennies' jar and also used postage stamps!

skills of scholar, poet and ruler with a fearless commitment to God's cause. Able, ardent, and sometimes harsh, Columba seems to have mellowed with age.

As well as building his monastery on Iona, Columba also converted Brude, king of the Picts. Columba had great skill as a scribe, and an example of this can be seen in the Cathach of Columba, a late 6th century psalter in the Irish Academy, which is the oldest surviving example of Irish majuscule writing. In his later years Columba spent much time transcribing books.

Columba's death was apparently foreseen by his community, and even, it seems, sensed by his favourite horse. He died in the church just before Matins, and it is a tribute to this man that his traditions were upheld by his followers for about a century, not least in the Synod of Whitby and in Irish monasteries on the continent of Europe.

Here is a prayer of St Columba:

Christ With Us

My dearest Lord,
Be Thou a bright flame before me,
Be Thou a guiding star above me,
Be Thou a smooth path beneath me,
Be Thou a kindly shepherd behind me,
Today and evermore.

WARDIE CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC - LOMOND PARK

13th June 2010 1pm – 4.30pm

*Remembering the Commonwealth Games in Delhi.
We will have the usual sports and any profits will bring us 'Closer to Tilda'
Also fun with the bouncy castle, quiz, treasure hunt, ice creams etc.*

Bring a picnic!!

ALL WELCOME TO COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN

Tickets available soon

Elaine Greig, Wardie Church Secretary

patients and their families. For those that do not already support St Columba's there is a need to raise funds, to secure both the day-to-day care and the rebuild project, from individuals and commercial sources to turn this into reality.

I would ask all members of the congregation to please consider supporting both the operational service provided by the staff and to contribute to the rebuilding project. Both are most worthwhile causes.

Donations can be made on the Internet:

**The St Columba's website is: -
buyabrick@stcolumbashospice.org.uk**

Or by contacting the hospice on: - 0131 551 1381

Can I also encourage anyone with a business to display a collecting box if at all possible.

Brenda Grant

9th June: when the Church remembers St. Columba of Iona (c. 521 -97)

Columba was born in Donegal of the royal Ui Neill clan, and trained as a monk. He founded the monasteries of Derry (546), Durrow (c.556) and probably Kells. But in 565 Columba left Ireland with twelve companions for Iona, an island off southwest Scotland. Iona had been given to him for a monastery by the ruler of the Irish Dalriada.

Why would a monk in his mid 40s go into such voluntary exile? Various explanations include: voluntary exile for Christ, an attempt to help overseas compatriots in their struggle for survival, or even as some sort of punishment for his part in a row over a psalter in Ireland. Whatever the reason, Columba went to Iona and spent the rest of his life in Scotland, returning to Ireland only for occasional visits.

Columba's biographer, Adomnan, portrays him as a tall, striking figure of powerful build and impressive presence, who combined the

UPDATE ON THE FUTURE OF INVERLEITH CHURCH AND ST. SERF'S CHURCH

The representatives of St. Serf's and Inverleith have had further meetings during May, concentrating on the two sets of buildings and sharing as frank and open as possible an assessment of the relative strengths, weaknesses, attractions and drawbacks of the two churches, manses, halls and other facilities.

Clearly it would not be appropriate for recommendations to be made, nor for votes to be taken, without the office bearers of both churches having had the opportunity already enjoyed by the teams of representatives, to visit the premises of the other church.

Accordingly it has been arranged that on Sundays 13th and 20th June, the Elders and members of the Congregational Board of St. Serf's are invited to visit Inverleith after the morning service, to be given a tour of the church and halls by the Inverleith representatives. At the same time the Elders and Deacons of Inverleith have been invited to visit St. Serf's to be shown round by our representatives. The visits have been arranged for successive Sundays to allow as many office bearers as possible to participate.

It is very difficult to put a time scale on the process, but it is hoped that these visits will clarify matters and help us to see the right way forward.

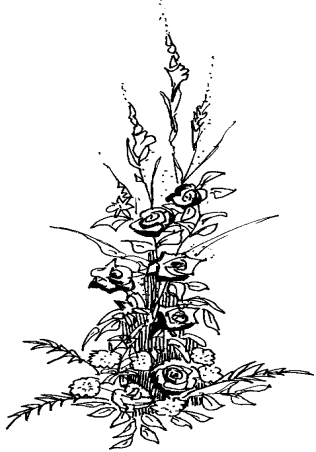
Alison, Gordon, Margaret and Ross

St Serf's Church Guild

You are invited to come along to the Guild on the 1st and the 22nd June at 2pm, for a friendly get together. A visit to St Giles has been arranged for 8th June, meeting there at 2pm.
Everyone is welcome.

Ray Oliver, President

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH



June 6 Mrs N. Wilkinson
June 13 Mrs D. Larnach
June 20 Mrs A. Ross
June 28 Mr and Mrs M. Millar

Arranger for June
Mrs R. Oliver - 552 5931

July 4 Mrs A. Buchanan
July 11 Mrs P. Robertson
July 18 Mrs M. Ross

Arrangers for July
Mrs M. Anderson - 552 2454
Mrs R. Oliver - 552 5931

NEWS OF CHURCH FAMILY

FAREWELL

At the end of June we will say farewell to the Baxter family – Stephen, Rebekah, Jessica and Anna. It has been my privilege over the past few years to be involved with the Baxter family as their minister and friend. I baptised and confirmed Rebekah, married Stephen and Rebekah, baptised Jessica and Anna and confirmed Stephen. It has been wonderful to see the Christian faith become such a part of their family life. As a family they have also made a huge contribution to the life of St. Serf's. They have established and maintained the web site, run the Traidcraft stall and been key to the warm, welcoming atmosphere in Junior Church. We have been blessed by their presence amongst us.

Stephen and Rebekah live in Penicuik and feel that the time is now right to join their local church. The North Kirk is fortunate indeed to be gaining such a committed and fun-loving family. We wish them God's blessing.

Sara Embleton

DEATHS

George Insill, formerly of Homescott House and latterly of Ashley Court Nursing Home.

We are saddened to hear of the death of Margaret Dewar on 25th May and our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this time.

Brenda Grant died on the 14th May at St. Columba's Hospice. Our thoughts and prayers are with her sons, Hutch and Donald and their respective wives, Liz and Jan.

One of Brenda's last wishes was for "The View" to print her letter about the support and care she received at St. Columba's Hospice. We are humbled to reproduce this below.

Letters

Letter from Brenda Grant to the Congregation of St. Serf's:

*St. Columba's Hospice
May 2010*

As a long-standing member of the St. Serf's congregation, I am writing this letter from St. Columba's Hospice in Boswall Road. I feel that the work that is done here to make the lives of those with terminal cancer and other illnesses as pleasant as possible needs to be both celebrated, but also brought to the attention of those who have not been touched by this killer.

I have been extremely fortunate to have spent several weeks in St. Columba's and cannot speak highly enough of the care I have received. The nursing staff are both caring and understanding of individuals needs. The doctors have done a wonderful job in managing the effects of my cancer. I thank them all for their devotion.

As St. Columba's is only partially funded by the NHS, it relies on support from donors to continue to operate. There are also exciting plans to redevelop the Hospice in Boswall Road over the next couple of years to provide better facilities for both