



Juniper Green
Parish Church

Church News

Summer 2016





Friends,

I love taking photographs; it is my hobby. Now and then, an image comes along that strikes me in a powerful way, for what the image is, or where I find it. Let me tell you the story of this picture.

It was taken on the beach at a place called Mellon Udrigle in Wester Ross. My wife and I were on holiday there last October and as we walked along the beach this rock caught my eye. It was amongst lots of other rocks, but the others were solid and fairly bland. This rock, on the other hand, was full of holes, a bit like the proverbial Swiss cheese! It was much more photogenic! Snap! Picture taken.

How did it get to be like this? Along with all the other rocks on the beach, this one is battered by the mighty Atlantic Ocean, but this one (and a few others) have ended up full of holes. There must be weak spots on the surface of the rock and the power of the sea has attacked these weak spots and opened them up. But the sea has not done this on its own; it has used small specks of sand and grit to make these holes; it has then used little stones, pebbles and shells to make these holes bigger; if you look closely you will see that there are pebbles and shells inside these holes still.

Looking at this picture, and being a preacher, of course a parable emerged. Jesus talks about building a kingdom

and uses parables of seeds and sowing to teach us important lessons about what life is like when Jesus is King. He told a story about the mustard seed and this little seed grows into something massive – God's kingdom is like that. We are part of this great kingdom of God across the world.

God's massive power is at work in the



world. The power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in us and in the world. This massive power of God is at work to build the kingdom. But He builds that kingdom in partnership with

us. He uses us, our service, our time, our energy, our gifts and skills to build His kingdom. He challenges us to live by the values of His kingdom; he challenges us to tell others about Jesus and so open the door for the kingdom to grow; he challenges us to campaign for justice and peace in the world. His awesome power and our small seeds work together to grow the kingdom of God in the world.

Many of us feel a bit overwhelmed by the way things are for church at present. We're not sure what the future holds. We're not sure that we should be embarking on a large building project because we remain to be convinced that it is worth it. Regardless of the details of that decision yet to be made about the building, God's great power is at work in us and through us; we are not alone in the work of mission; we are partners with God and by our small strength and small gifts, a great kingdom is being built.



Treasurer's News

Accounts for 2016:
The Accounts for 2016 are progressing more or less as we budgeted. The Offerings are slightly under budget but hopefully there will be an improvement over the second half of the year. The expenditure is reasonable, although heating costs still remain on the high side – the effects of a cold winter and spring. We hope to keep fabric costs to a minimum in the expectation that several areas will be included in the 'Shaping the Future' project.

Heart and Soul: On Sunday, 22nd May, I decided, unsurprisingly, not to take part in the Hibs procession down Leith Walk, but instead, took a stroll through West Princes Street Gardens where the Heart and Soul Festival was taking place. The weather, fortunately, was good which you do need with such an outdoor event, and there were many people taking the opportunity to view the 60 plus exhibitor tents. These included national and international faith groups, local congregations and 'head office' departments. Music was continuous from the Ross Bandstand where, among others, Fischy Music and The Heart and Soul Swing Band performed. It was an excellent chance to see at first-hand what is going on in the life of our church and also the opportunity to meet people.

R Douglas Buchanan, Treasurer



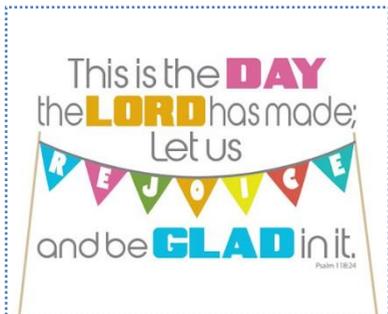
FUNDR AISING CONCERT

As part of our Fundraising for 'Shaping the Future', Richard Michael BEM, one of Scotland's most accomplished and versatile musicians, will present "Richard Michael - My Life in Music" in Juniper Green Parish Church at 7.30pm on Friday 30th September. This is a not-to-be-missed opportunity for people of all ages to hear and see a performance that will be both exhilarating and inspiring.

Richard has influenced a generation of teachers and students with his innovative methods of teaching improvisation through 30 years work with the Fife Youth Jazz Orchestra and a career as composer, performer, author and workshop leader. As a composer, Richard has written for artistes as diverse as Colin Currie, Georgie Fame, Tommy Smith and Guy Barker. He also appeared with Phil Cunningham in BBC2's six-part series, 'Scotland's Music' and on BBC1's "Songs of Praise". In addition, Richard is Honorary Professor of Jazz Piano at St. Andrews University in Fife.

Put this date in your diary now and tickets will be available shortly at the church or through Balerno Music Festival who have agreed to include this event in their programme.

R Douglas Buchanan



SHAPING THE FUTURE – BUILDINGS

As I write, the building project has been out to tender and the project group from the congregation will meet with the architect in the next few days to hear the results of that tender process. We then intend to produce a written update that will go out with this newsletter and thereafter to hold another meeting of the congregation to explain and to hear your comments and questions. The details are still being worked on, but the hope is that we will have that meeting on June 12th after the morning service. The Kirk Session will make decisions on this later in the month of June.

Also with this newsletter there is another letter and a leaflet explaining how you can participate in this project and support it by your giving. The leaflet explains the whole thing in detail and explains also the ways by which you can give. We are also giving this letter and leaflet to every home in the parish in the hope that some of our other friends will also be willing to help and support us. This is a significant piece of work, both in terms of its size and in terms of the life of the congregation. The Kirk Session hopes that you will support this to the best of your ability.

James Dewar



LET'S CELEBRATE CHURCH

On Sunday June 26th, our morning service will be for all ages as a way of celebrating all that is good about church life. We will give books and Bibles to the children as we have in the past; last year we had ice cream in the hall after the service and we will do something like that again. A while back, we asked you what you liked best about Juniper Green Church: we will use some of these comments to shape the service.



Halls Cleaning

Cleaning after the cleaners seems to be progressing well! We re-organised our rota when the new cleaners were employed to clean both church and halls, and now we have eight pairs and one group of three cleaning the office and checking that everything is tidy in the other halls. This mainly involves emptying the bins and following the recycling rules after the cleaners have been in, which means that everything gets a twice-weekly check. Thanks to everyone who is participating. We would like more volunteers of course, so anyone interested, please contact me.

Elaine Wilson



GIRLGUIDING JUNIPER GREEN

Did you know that in Juniper Green we have a Rainbow unit, 2 Brownie units and a Guide unit? Isn't that fantastic! Girls have a safe space where they can learn, have fun, go on outings, create, discuss, make and meet friends, grow in confidence and so much more. We as leaders are very proud of our girls...they keep coming back week after week and it is with great delight that we see them come in and go out with a smile...they must like what they find in Girlguiding here in Juniper Green. The Rainbow and Brownie units are full and the guide unit is growing with more girls moving up to the unit after the summer. Anyone who wants their daughter to be involved in any of the units should apply on the Join Us section of the Girlguiding website and their details will be passed to the appropriate unit.

However, we are in need of help. Are you or have you been or do you know someone who can help out in Rainbows or Guides? Two of the leaders are leaving at the summer time and while we will manage to cover the posts with parental help, it is not ideal and we would love to welcome new leaders. So, ideally, warranted leaders are needed, but this is not a necessity. Give it a think. Perhaps you were involved in guiding away in the past and would like to rekindle your involvement, or do you know a student who was in guiding who would be willing to help us out, or are you just enthusiastic about giving girls the chance to grow... then please think about coming along to lend a hand.

I have now come to the end of my time as District Commissioner for Juniper

Green but Fiona Elliot has taken over so any queries should be addressed to her. (Her number is on the back page of this newsletter). I have had a wonderful time as Commissioner and wish Fiona well as she takes on the district and also acts as temporary Division Commissioner in Harlaw. Thanks to everyone who supports Girlguiding Juniper Green.

Jean Dewar



BIBLE READING

Regularly reading the Bible is an essential part of anyone's journey of Faith, reflecting daily on God's Word. We continue to offer 6 Bible Reading options, including one for young people.

See all the Bible reading material in the Vestibule at the front door of the Church. You can also view the material on the Church Web Site on the Home Page -Daily Bible Study Materials - by clicking on the "blue" description of the Bible reading material namely Every Day with Jesus, Our Daily Bread, Word for Today, Word 4u 2day, 3 Year Reading Plan, and Gideon Bible.

There is also the opportunity to join other people sharing a Bible Study at Church Wednesday led by our Minister.

If you wish more information about Bible Reading material please speak to **Ian Aitken** or **Yvonne Hunter**.

Nurture Team

"For the word of God is living and active."

Hebrews 4 v12



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Fellowship Dinner Meeting took place on Thursday 17th March in Baberton Golf Club and, after an excellent meal, the after-dinner speaker was Robin Watson RIBA, FRIAS of Watson Burnett Architects and a Trustee of Carnegie Trust UK and of Carnegie Dunfermline Trust and of Carnegie Hero Fund Trust to speak about the "The Living Legacy of Andrew Carnegie".

Robin opened by saying that Andrew Carnegie was born in Dunfermline but emigrated to America when he was 12 as his father's occupation as a traditional hand loom weaver was no longer viable because of Recession and mechanization of the weaving industry. Andrew Carnegie became the richest man in the world built on the Steel Industry at a time of great opportunity, as the railroads were being driven across the country and the great skyscrapers of New York and Chicago were being erected. He devoted the latter part of his life giving away as much of his wealth as possible for the benefit of mankind. He said "A man who dies rich, dies disgraced". At today's prices, his wealth was greater than Bill Gates, reputed to be today's richest man in the world. Andrew Carnegie endowed 2500 libraries in the English speaking world, financed many halls (Carnegie Hall in New York and in Dunfermline) and Public buildings, and established Educational establishments. He also dabbled in politics, spending time with the world's most powerful leaders, working tirelessly for World peace by attempting to prevent the world collapsing into the appalling slaughter of World War 1. The Hero Trust Fund was set up in his time

with the continuing aim of recognizing civilian heroism and giving financial assistance and welfare where necessary to people injured or dependents of people killed attempting to save another human life in peaceful pursuits.

The Carnegie Dunfermline Trust was established 'to bring sweetness and light' to those from his native town. The Carnegie UK Trust seeks "Improvement of the well-being of the masses of the people of Great Britain and Ireland by such means as are embraced within the meaning of the word 'charitable' and which the Trustees may from time to time select as best fitted from age to age for securing these purposes, remembering that new needs are constantly arising as the masses advance."

Robin Watson gave current examples of support such as in 'Test Towns' where High Streets are decaying; measuring well-being in N. Ireland; 'Chance to Thrive' – Church of Scotland Priority Area Project – St Mark's Church Raploch Stirling (Minister Rev Stewart Davidson) and Robin Watson has a personal involvement in this project; and 'Gateway to Affordable Credit' to assist the poorest in society - the Working Group included Church of Scotland representatives.

Robin finished his talk emphasizing funding continues to flow to Carnegie Trust to support and initiate projects and activities across a wide range of arts, sport, recreation, education, heritage, community and welfare. Grants can be as small as one- off sums of £300.

The talk and discussion gave a new insight to the Carnegie 'Living Legacy' being very much alive.

The third Breakfast Meeting of Session 2015/16 took place on Sunday 24 April with Scott Burton leading the discussion on the topic "Sharing our Faith: A crucial task if Christianity is to have a future". Scott commenced by emphasizing why sharing our personal faith is so crucial. He quoted a variety of statistics including the Church of Scotland had 50 fewer congregations last year, membership dropped 7%, baptism down 12% and profession of faith down 7.7%. Also, 64% of the UK population can think of no reason why they should go to Church. Finally he quoted one source that suggested that at the current rate of loss, by 2028, men will have all but disappeared from the UK church. He said, a church community needs to be proactive in developing friendships with people outside the congregation, have a welcoming atmosphere, and be a place that seeks to share the Good News. It has been said that on average it can take 5 years and 30 hearings of the gospel before a man will decide to follow Jesus, and so perseverance is required. However, a recent survey said - "Lead a father to faith in Christ and statistically there is a higher probability, 93 %, that the rest of the family will also decide to follow Christ too". Scott emphasized the importance of sharing your faith with others to bring them to know Jesus Christ

The talk and discussion that followed was a prompt to all present of the challenge to reach out into the community and share our faith, especially with men. As Scott Burton said "All should be involved in the act of sharing our Christian faith"

The final Breakfast Meeting of the Session is planned for 5 June 2016 when the speakers will be Malcolm Brown and Martin Elliot with the topic "Reflections on Cambodia".

Anyone wishing more details about the Fellowship Meetings or have suggestions concerning speakers or format please speak to Ian Aitken, Gordon Laing, or Michael Merriman, all members of the Nurture Team.

Nurture Team

"...to do good, to be rich in good deeds and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life."

I Timothy 6 v 18-19

SANDY STEEL

Sandy was an elder in Juniper Green for over 30 years. He was ordained to the eldership in 1963 and was admitted to the Kirk Session of St Margaret's Church in 1971; he retired in 2004. Sadly, Sandy died in April after a long battle with dementia, but being well-cared for in North Merchiston Care Home. His wife Izzy died just a few weeks before him. They came from Aberdeen and never lost the accent; Sandy approached being an elder with energy and commitment, with good humour and a deep concern for the health and well-being of the church. It is good and right to give thanks to God for Sandy's contribution to the life and leadership of the congregation. We commend his family to your prayers as they continue to mourn his death and that of his wife.

James Dewar



I wonder how many of the congregation are aware of the Care Van which goes out into the streets 364 days of the year (the van cannot negotiate the streets on Hogmanay). This is a joint venture between Bethany Christian Trust and Edinburgh City Mission. The van is manned by volunteers in teams from churches the length and breadth of the city and beyond. We have 2 teams in the church and we are allocated 6 days in the year the 3rd Friday of every 2nd month. Each team consists of 2 men and either 2 or 3 ladies. The men drive and ride shotgun and the ladies dish out the food. We provide a gallon of homemade soup, buttered rolls, tea and coffee. Sometimes we also have clothes to hand out. (If you want to help, then please consider buying some socks...supermarkets do packs of 4/5 pairs very cheaply and we will keep a pile of these to give out each time we are on the van. Any donations of these can be given to Jean or Yvonne at any time.) There is a set route for the van to take each night and this is so that the clients know where to come. We bletcher to the folk, have great banter, are chatted up in the van (though not the men!) and listen as they talk. The accents are varied and many. My team was out in the middle of May and we noted 81 folk coming to the van. Some of the folk go to more than 1 stop eg Waverley Bridge and the Grassmarket, but they are all served. Occasionally we have to ask for more hot water for our flasks from the hotel in the Grassmarket and this is readily given. This time we had to head to the shop for more milk. You just never know

how many folk are going to turn up. Remember those folk who come to the van in your prayers... we know not why they are there and we do not judge but treat everyone with courtesy, filling a need.

As you go in the front door of the church and look to the left there is a small room. In the room is a box under the table where some generous folk leave tins and other dried goods which are then transported to Bethany in Jane Street. This is done every 2/3 months when the box is full. The house is delighted to receive our donations and specifically ask for pastas, rice, tins of tuna, tins of tomatoes, beans, longlife milk and jam. However, they are happy to receive anything we take. If you have never been in the habit of contributing to this box, perhaps this is something you could do and if we have a large load or if you would like to donate different foods then some of the extras can be taken to the nearest food bank. If anyone would like to help me out by occasionally taking the food to Bethany then please contact me and I will point you out in the right direction. It's not an onerous task, but a vital one.

Remember...whenever you do this you are doing this in Jesus' name and we are commanded to go out and help those in need.

Jean Dewar





GUILD OF FRIENDSHIP

Our year has now finished, the final event being our AGM and lunch on 12 May 2016. We have had a successful programme of talks, the last two being about The Seagull Trust and the Five Sisters Zoo. We have donated to all the charities represented by our speakers, as well as giving a sum of £600.00 to the church.

We also undertook a project to collect children's clothes for the local charity, "Kids Love Clothes", which was successful. Money is collected regularly for the Leprosy Mission, which, when added to the contributions from church members, came to a total of £511.14 this year.

We have a membership of 42, and attendance at meetings is usually about 30. As there are no meetings during the summer, we have fortnightly coffee mornings at the Kinleith Arms, when members can meet and catch up. These are on alternate weeks, starting on 26 May.

Last year we formed a small programme planning group, which shares the work of organising meetings, and which now is engaged in planning for 2016/17.

Our first meeting in the autumn will be on Thursday 1 September, when we hope to welcome back all our members as well as some new ones.

Elaine Wilson, President.



GREEN STROLLERS

The Strollers started off the season in good spirits. Our first walk was along the Water of Leith to the Dean Gallery, where we stopped for a snack lunch before heading back home. The weather was kind and spirits were high on this our first walk.

Our second walk proved to be very popular. A new record was set when 19 strollers joined up for a walk round Arthur's Seat. I suspect the prospect of lunch in the Sheep's Heid added to the enthusiasm for this popular walk. There was lots of time to chat and enjoy each other's company before returning by bus to Juniper Green.

Our next walk was to Dalmeny Estate in South Queensferry. The weather was excellent, the scenery pretty special and the lunch stop looking over the Firth of Forth completed our enjoyment. We then headed into South Queensferry where we all enjoyed an ice cream before heading home.

We have welcomed some new members this season so please come along and join in the exercise and fun. Speak to any of the Strollers for more information.

For details of future walks, check the notice board in the hall.

Happy Strolling!

Jeanette Campbell

Family News

WEDDINGS



April 9th: Christine Tonner to Jonathan White.



FUNERALS

"I am the Resurrection and the life"

- March 8th Mrs Jessie Jacobs, Juniper Green
- March 24th Mr Sandy Steel, formerly of Balerno
- April 12th Mr William Dunn, Juniper Green
- May 17th Mrs Joy Campbell, Hutchison
- May 24th Miss Annie Aitken, formerly of Juniper Green

Congratulations to



May Jeffrey, Baberton Mains, who celebrated her 90th birthday in May.

Jim Walker, Kingsknowe, who celebrated his 80th birthday in May

Patricia Walker, Kingsknowe, who will celebrate her 80th birthday in June

Thank

You

I recently underwent an operation for a hip replacement and Sheena and I have been overwhelmed by the innumerable phone calls, get well cards and flowers we have received plus offers of help - all these are much appreciated. We take this opportunity of thanking everyone who has taken the time to write, telephone and call in to visit us. Thank you.

Sheena and Bill Blair.



Currie Parish Horticultural and Industrial Society invites you to compete in and/or attend the 138th Annual Show to be held in Balerno Community High School on Saturday, 27th August 2016 from 1.30pm-4.00pm. Further information may be found at www.currieshow.org.uk or a Show Schedule, giving all relevant details, may be purchased at Church priced £2. Purchase of this Schedule will entitle you to free admission to the Show.

Autumn Church News



Articles for the Autumn edition of the Church News should be in by 25th August. They may be handed to Alison Robertson or sent to jgchurchnews@gmail.com.

The Noticeboard



Communion Services

Sunday 5th June
Communion Service at
10.30am.

Sunday 3rd July after the morning
service.

Sunday 7th August after the morning
service.

Sunday 4th September after the
morning service.



Messy Church

Saturdays September 3rd,
October 1st, November 5th
and December 3rd, all
at 3.30pm

Lorimer House services - 26th June,
31st July, 28th August – in Lorimer
House at 3pm.

Sunday@Seven at 7pm in Hall 2 on
June 12th, September 11th

Thursday services –
Thursday 23rd June at 10.30am in St
Margaret's Court

Church Wednesday takes a break for
the summer; prayer focus and Bible
reading notes are all still available.



Prayers for Healing take
place after the morning
service on the third Sunday
of each month; we have a list
of names of people who are
ill and have asked for prayer, there is
then a short Bible reading and a prayer
in which we include the list of names. It
is quite a simple 'service' but many
have found this prayer time to be
significant.



Minister's Sermons

**READ IT AGAIN! READ IT ON
THE WEB SITE! READ IT ON
A PAPER COPY! LISTEN ON A CD
OF A MORNING SERVICE**

Did you want to read the **Minister's Sermon** from last Sunday? Did you miss it? Were there bits of it you didn't understand? Go to the Church website at www.jgpc.org.uk and follow the link to '**sermons**' and you will find them there. Alternatively, go to the soft play area in the Sanctuary for paper copies. There are also sets of Sermons from back to 2009 in titled folders for read and return. Or, get a CD copy of a Morning Service from Sandra Paulin. Or, if you would like a large print copy

Alistair McBean Memorial Quaich

The golf outing will be held on the 26th August at Baberton Golf Course and will be followed by a meal. To reserve a place at the meal and/or enter the golf competition contact Malcolm Brown.

Golfers are requested to indicate their present playing handicap.

Speak to Ian Aitken.

WHO'S WHO

CONTACT

NAME

Minister	Rev James S Dewar
Session Clerk	Ross MacKay
Treasurer	R Douglas Buchanan
Beadle	George Anderson
Bereavement Care Team	Jim Dewar
Catering	Sandy Watt
Christian Action Team	Jean Dewar
Church Halls Cleaning Team	Elaine Wilson
Church Secretary	Alison Robertson
Communications Team	Shona Cook
Crèche	Aileen Hardie
Flower Convener	Hilda McNeil
Freewill Offering Administrator	Lesley Grieve
Fresh Start Organiser	Marjorie Hope
Garden Team Co-ordinator	Jean Dewar
Gift Aid Treasurer	Douglas Buchanan
Girlguiding District Commissioner	Fiona Elliot
Green Strollers Walking Group	(Jeanette Campbell (Beth Walker Fiona Elliot
Global Church Co-ordinator	Elaine Wilson
Guild of Friendship	Alison Robertson
Halls Convener	Vacancy
Kids' Church	Alison Buchanan
Ladies Badminton Club	Sheena Blair
Leprosy Mission	Isabel Campbell
Magazine Distribution	Martin Elliot
MSM	Yvonne Hunter
Nurture Team	Inez Paisley
Open Door Café & Toddlers' Group	Florence Kinnear
Organist and Choirmaster	Greg McIntosh
Prayer Team	(Ian Gilmour (Andrew Watson
Joint Property Conveners	Sandra Paulin
Recordings of Church Service	Isabel Campbell
Roll Keeper	Maureen Heathwood
Safeguarding	Fiona Elliot
Youth Group	

Church Office is open on Friday mornings 9.30 – 11.30am

458 5147

Church Website : www.jgpc.org.uk,

Email : jgpc@supanet.com

Facebook – Juniper Green Parish Church