

REIDON...

REID MEMORIAL CHURCH E-MAGAZINE



JULY, AUGUST 2021

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FROM LINDA

The last fifteen months have been a test of our endurance and perseverance.

We have been required to face many changes and keeping up to date with restrictions has been difficult. There have been many hurdles to overcome and at times it feels like a marathon, not least that our anticipated move into the next stage out of lockdown has been delayed.

This month should see the start of the Tokyo Olympics, having been postponed from last year due to the Coronavirus pandemic. A number of New Testament letters refer to Olympic sport including Hebrews: 'Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith' (Hebrews 12:1-2).

The Christian life is compared to a long-distance race, but despite the struggles and obstacles, there is a great crowd of witnesses cheering us on. We have a heavenly Father who loves us and a Saviour who has run the race before us. If we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, He will enable us to finish the race.

During the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, the British athlete Derek Redmond was running in the semi-finals of the 400 metres. About 250 metres from the finish his hamstring tore. He fell to the ground in pain and stretcher bearers came over to him. However, Redmond was determined to finish the race and so he started hopping >

> toward the finishing line. Suddenly Jim Redmond, Derek's father, ran out of the stands towards him. "You don't have to do this," he told his son. "Yes, I do," said Derek, to which his father said, "We're going to finish this together." They completed the lap with Derek leaning on his father's shoulder. As they crossed the finish line, the spectators rose to give Derek a standing ovation. Although he didn't win an Olympic medal, Derek Redmond finished the race with his father at his side. Let us not forget the encouragement we have to finish the race!

Over the next year or so, we will experience the challenges involved in the essential reform of the Church of Scotland, if it to survive and be relevant in today's society. So, let us run with perseverance the race that is marked out for us, keeping our eyes and our faith fixed firmly on Jesus. As Jim Redmond supported his son, we can support each other and cross the finishing line as a congregation united.

MANY BLESSINGS **LINDA**

CHURCH NEWS

Our minister, Alex, is unwell, however our services on a Sunday are continuing with the aid of pulpit supply preachers.

Alex's absence during July has not been intimated but provision has been made until the position is clarified. We are pleased that Mrs Helen Tew will preach on 4th July and Mrs Fiona Kennedy has agreed to offer her services as pulpit supply and pastoral support on 11th, 18th, and 25th July.

The Rev Dr Jim Jack from Duddingston Kirk has been nominated as our Interim Moderator by Presbytery. Online services will continue and are being delivered on alternate weeks by Pauline Weibye from Craigmillar Park Church and Linda Farrer from >

> Reid Memorial. These can be accessed on our website, just follow the links. We will continue to keep the congregation up to date with developments at Presbytery level as they become available.

In the meantime, there will not be a Stated Annual Meeting. This would be difficult to execute as whatever means are used to deliver the usual reports, whether in person or by Zoom, would mean the exclusion of specific groups of the congregation who would wish to attend.

ReidOn... magazine will not be produced over the summer, unless important information comes to light, that needs to be shared with the congregation. The next edition will be at the beginning of September. If and when we move into Level 1 of the route map out of lockdown, we will be able to return to the joy of congregational hymn singing. Of course, there will be some regulations and conditions involved and these will be communicated to you in a Reid Memorial Newsletter.

With warm wishes

LINDA EDITOR





HOW **CLIMATE CHANGE** COULD AFFECT YOUR **CUP OF TEA**

Now here's something that will send you straight to your kitchen to put the kettle on: the Great British cup of tea may not taste quite so good in the future.

It seems that extreme weather and rising temperatures could lead to inferior leaves in the future, according to Christian Aid.

Kenya, the world's foremost exporter of black tea, is now affected by erratic rainfall, floods, droughts, and rising temperatures. India, Sri Lanka and China, also major tea producers, face climate change problems as well.

Climate change has been predicted by some as likely to cut production in Kenya's best tea-making areas by as much as a quarter by 2050. Even areas of only average growing conditions could see production fall by 39 per cent.

As one tea farmer in Kenya's Western Highlands, explained: 'We cannot predict seasons anymore. Temperatures are rising, rainfall is erratic, often accompanied by unusual hailstones and longer droughts. If this continues, it will make growing tea much harder.'

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK AT THE REID

We would like to thank everyone who made contributions to the Christian Aid appeal this year. The total raised was £747.50. Every bit will help those whose lives are so much more difficult than ours.

HEATHER MACAULAY CHRISTIAN AID REPRESENTATIVE

ALL IN THE MONTH OF **JULY**

IT WAS 100 YEARS AGO, on 10th July 1921 that Belfast's Bloody Sunday took place. Protestant loyalists attacked Catholic enclaves and set fire to homes and businesses, sparking rioting and gun battles. At least 17 people were killed and more than 70 injured. 2,000 people were left homeless.

Also **100 YEARS AGO**, on 30th July 1921 that the hormone insulin was discovered by Frederick Banting and Charles Best at the University of Toronto.

80 YEARS AGO, on 19th July 1941 that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill launched his 'V for Victory' campaign.

75 YEARS AGO, on 22nd July 1946 that the King David Hotel bombing took place in Jerusalem. The Irgun (a militant right-wing Zionist group) bombed the hotel which housed the British administrative headquarters for Palestine. 91 people were killed.

60 YEARS AGO, on 1st July 1961 that Diana, Princess of Wales, was born. (Killed in a car crash in 1997)

40 YEARS AGO, on 4th July 1981, that the Toxteth riots broke out in Liverpool.

ALSO 40 YEARS AGO, on 29th July 1981 that the marriage of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer took place at St Paul's Cathedral in London.

25 YEARS AGO, on 5th July 1996 that the first cloned mammal was born. Dolly the sheep was born at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh. (Died 2003) >

> **15 YEARS AGO**, on 15th July 2006 that Twitter, the micro-blogging social network, was launched.

10 YEARS AGO, on 23rd July 2011 that Amy Winehouse, British soul/R&B/jazz singer and songwriter died. (Alcohol poisoning, aged 27).

OPENING AND CLOSING CHURCHES IN THE UK

There were an estimated 45,500 congregations or churches in the UK in 2020: 79%, in England, 8% (3,700 churches) in Wales, 8% (3,500 churches) in Scotland and 5% (2,100 churches) in Northern Ireland.

New congregations are being started or having to close all the time, and in the fifteen years since 2005 it is estimated that collectively some 3,100 new congregations have started while some 5,800 have closed, a net drop of 2,700 across the UK.

Most of the Anglican new congregations are in the Church of England, many of which are planted by the larger churches. A third of all the churches which have closed in the last 15 years have been Methodist, followed by the Anglicans and Roman Catholics (both 15%) and the Presbyterians (9%). The Baptists (7% of all closures) have also seen over 400 churches close in the last 15 years, which is one in eight of their congregations.

From UK Church Statistics Nos 1-4

DOOR DUTIES



SUNDAY 4th JULY

Gillian Brown, Sheila Capewell
In Charge: Stevie Douglas

SUNDAY 11th JULY

Douglas Mathieson, Joyce Rosie
In Charge: Stephen Thomson

SUNDAY 18th JULY

Alison MacLeod, Mary Allan
In Charge: Linda Farrer

SUNDAY 25th JULY

Lindsay Wood, Geeta Mackay
In Charge: Susan Mackay

SUNDAY 1st AUGUST

June Wylie, Gillian Brown
In Charge: Ian Beckett

PRESBYTERY PLANNING STRATEGY TEAM REPORT

This year at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the sombre tone of some of the debates revealed the present state of the Church as an institution.

The difficult but necessary decisions made will have very real consequences for the national Church, and also for the future of our own congregation.

This was recognised by the Church's magazine Life & Work, which took the step of producing immediately afterwards a special 4-page supplement sharing the outcomes. General Assembly 2021: Special Supplement - Life and Work.

Pre-COVID, the Church was already aware that to safeguard >

> its future in an increasingly secular society, something far-reaching needed to happen to the structures of the Church. Also, that there needed to be a renewed focus by the local and regional Church on its core values of mission and service, seeking to look outward and to proclaim with urgency and boldness its gospel message in word and deed.

So, through the agreement of a Radical Action Plan, and by the appointment of Assembly Trustees and, through them, a Chief Executive, this major overhaul was initiated.

But then the pandemic struck, and while the Church supported the national effort to suppress the virus by closing its buildings, its impact affected the Church mostly financially. Local congregations learned quickly how to produce worship online, followed by the courts of the Church discovering how to conduct their business via online Zoom meeting, but nothing could block the significant loss of income the Church has endured. And it was this factor that required both a speeding up of the process for change, and the need to propose the dramatic steps to achieve stability.

So, at the General Assembly, the Assembly Trustees set out the problem: presently the Church is using £11 million of reserves annually to meet its commitments. This cannot continue indefinitely. To live within its means, the Church could now afford only 600 ministry posts (parish ministers plus Ministries Development Staff), plus maintain 60 vacancies (presently that number is over 200). To achieve this number the presbyteries across Scotland were allocated a number of posts and instructed to achieve that number by 2025. For Edinburgh Presbytery that presently works with the number 78.2, the allocated number is now 48.5.

Two quotes from the conveners who presented these proposals are worth repeating here: The Very Rev Dr John Chalmers, >

> Convener of the Assembly Trustees said, "We are well aware that this is not an easy ask. Every one of us is a member or minister serving in parishes that will be affected by this. We know reshaping the Church around this will involve painful decisions. But in the goodness and grace of God we trust."

The Rev Rosie Frew, Convener of the Faith Nurture Forum said, "We are draining the resources of the Church - people, morale, finance - just to keep this broken system going. Without a radical treatment plan the Church of Scotland will not survive."

In a few months' time, the Presbytery of Edinburgh will have its first look at the draft Plan that seeks to achieve not only the reduction in numbers, but also the reduction in the buildings being considered necessary, plus enabling the local church to fully engage in the Five Marks of Mission which is at the centre of national planning:

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

The Plan will outline the future of our own congregation in all these respects, and this article is to prepare all of us that change is likely and to see how we creatively may respond to this changing time.

The Planning Process Going Forward

The Presbytery Planning Strategy Team (PPST) is well aware that what is now required through the planning process has created a high degree of anxiety, due to uncertainty, as everyone awaits the presentation of a draft Plan. But we would ask from the Presbytery, and also congregations, recognition of the difficult and >

> unpalatable task now before us, remembering that each member of the Group is also a minister, elder, or member of a local congregation.

Here are some of the competing factors that now need to be part of the Plan:

- Reducing the number of posts but doing so without causing financial damage to the national Church, as Edinburgh Presbytery is a major net contributor to the overall budget.
- Yet, also ensuring that congregations in areas of deprivation remain and are well resourced.
- Meanwhile, looking to designate the ecclesiastical buildings as either to be retained or disposed of.
- To ensure that ecumenical working is evident.
- BUT all the time to show that the main driver of the Plan is local engagement in mission.
- With the City of Edinburgh's population growing significantly, with housing developments rising in many areas, what new posts or new forms of church will best reach into these new communities.
- However, Presbytery Reform is also now a reality with the western border between Edinburgh and West Lothian no longer in existence, and further reform could also eliminate the border to the east and south.
- *and*, most essentially, take hearts and minds with us, so that the Plan can be implemented and achieved within the timescale required.

This last point needs to be emphasised: tenure was discussed at the Assembly, aware that without openness on the part of ministers to engage, this could prove a barrier to implementation of a new Plan, while Kirk Sessions and congregations may also find it difficult to accept the proposals being presented.





THE STORY BEHIND THE HYMN: **GLORIOUS THINGS OF THEE ARE SPOKEN**

Glorious things of thee are spoken

Zion, city of our God;

He whose word cannot be broken

Formed thee for His own abode.

On the rock of ages founded,

What can shake thy sure repose?

With salvation's walls surrounded,

Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,

Springing from eternal love,

Well supply thy sons and daughters,

And all fear of want remove.

Who can faint while such a river

Ever flows their thirst to assuage:

Grace, which like the Lord the giver,

Never fails from age to age?...

The year was 1800, and Vienna was under bombardment by Napoleon's troops. The great Austrian composer, Haydn, then old >


> and frail, asked to be carried to his piano. There he made his own defiance of Napoleon, by solemnly play through his composition 'Emperor's Hymn'. Haydn had composed it for the Austrian Emperor, Franz II's birthday on 12 February 1797. Haydn never touched his piano again, and died a few days later, aged 77.

That is where the tune for this well-loved hymn came from. It quickly became the tune of the Austrian national anthem. It was later even adopted by the Germans, as the tune for August Heinrich Hoffman von Fallersleben's (1798 - 1874) anthem *Deutschlandslied*, which began with the famous words: '*Deutschland uber alles*' (Germany before everything). In the ensuing political upheavals, the tune survived in the German national anthem, but was abandoned by the Austrians in 1946.

In the meantime, the tune had also reached England, as early as 1805. It was then that the words of a hymn by John Newton were first paired up with it. This meant that when the Austrian Emperor Franz visited his grandmother Queen Victoria, at Windsor Castle, he most likely would have sung his own national anthem tune to English words written by a converted slave trader turned country vicar!

John Newton's inspiration for this hymn comes from Psalm 87: 'Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God' (vs3) and also a text from Isaiah 33:20-21: 'Look on Zion... there the Lord in majesty will be for us a place of broad rivers and streams...'

John Newton's hymn celebrates the joy of knowing that the Church is the new Jerusalem (Zion) where God abides. He rejoices that God protects His people and promises to supply their needs. He leads them into the Promised Land, just as long ago He led the Israelites through the wilderness to their Promised Land. Back then, He led them with a fiery and cloudy pillar; now we have His very Spirit within us, to guide us each step of the way.



REPORT FROM **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

JUNE 2021

Economic activity at the Reid continues to contract - both income and expenditure are down. However, the good news is that expenditure to the end of May is down more than our income is down. We are in fact currently running a small surplus.

Last year, we did not carry out many repairs to the fabric of the Church and we are conscious that the Fabric Committee has plans to effect various repairs and maintenance. We must make sure we can afford the essential works involved.

The May figure was buoyed by the first post lockdown hall let - the Scottish Parliament election. Hall lets is clearly returning as we also have a summer drama course booked in for a week - to whom we have offered a discount against the hourly rate to help ensure future bookings. We have also received personal donations, and VAT recovery, to the fabric account. We have continued to make savings in all areas which has kept our expenditure to a minimum. Once physical fundraising events get going again - please support them.

A single coin, amongst a group recently donated to the Church, - a 1720 George 1 shilling - has sold on eBay for £150. It is amazing to think it's 300 years old and predates both US independence and Cook landing in what he named New South Wales.

Again, we have been fortunate in recent months to have Wilton >

> Road and Church House let however some essential repairs have been required.

The Finance Committee has met twice recently online. We decided to transfer £12500 to investments - being the whole surplus from 2020 and some of the surplus to date this year. We also agreed our position on sharing expenses with Craigmillar Park and representatives of the two churches will meet shortly to agree the way forward.



WHAT WILL YOU MISS ABOUT LOCKDOWN?

More than half of us admit that we will miss some aspects of the Covid-19 restrictions, especially spending more time at home with our family, and appreciating the quieter roads.

A recent study by King's College London and Ipsos Mori found that around one third of us feel the past year has been similar or better than normal, while 54 per cent of us say that we will miss some of the changes.

Three in ten of us feel closer to our immediate family than we did before the pandemic, while just one in six of us say that we have grown further apart. One in five of us say that our finances are better because of the pandemic.

Overall, it seems that while the public would rather the pandemic hadn't happened, that doesn't mean it's been all bad for everyone, or that people see it as deeply affecting their future lives.



FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE

We have a Fire Safety risk assessment with an evacuation procedure in place and are required to perform Fire Safety drills regularly.

When the need to evacuate is announced, listen carefully to the instructions. The duty door stewards will be on hand to offer assistance and guide you to the nearest exit. A person will be nominated to immediately call the emergency services. The person “in charge” on the day will check the building to ensure that all occupants have left.

You should evacuate the building in an orderly and timely manner using the closest exit to you and assemble on West Savile Terrace at the opposite side of the road to the church. If you are the last person out of a door, please close it after you. Remain at the assembly point so that we can establish that everyone is accounted for. Currently, we are able to use the “Track and Trace” list as a register of those in the building. We are fortunate to have four exits from the Main Sanctuary, two at the north side and two at the south side. There are several other exits in the corridors and halls, and you should make yourself aware of them.

Fire extinguishers throughout the buildings are mainly situated close to the exits. You are advised not to try to tackle the fire.

If you have any questions relating to this matter, please don't hesitate to contact me.

MANY THANKS, **LINDA FARRER**
HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE



GOD IN THE SCIENCES

Exploring the Big Questions: scientists and theologians share their views

It's important to have debates about science and Christian faith and to dig into the hot topics, but we can't exist solely on a diet of controversy. I find it helpful, at times, to simply enjoy the wonders revealed by science and the big questions they raise about meaning and purpose. What's the universe for? What do you do with your feelings of awe and wonder? Where do we get our sense of the value of the living world from? I had the privilege of meeting a group of Christian scientists and theologians who shared thoughts about these big questions, and will share some of their thoughts here.

The Oxford-based theologian Alister McGrath shared that "science is wonderful at asking questions. Some of those questions can be answered, but very often when you do answer them, they simply open up yet more questions. But of course, there are some more fundamental questions I think science simply cannot answer... questions like, 'Why am I here?'"

Rhoda Hawkins, a physicist at Sheffield University, has had a >

> similar experience. "I never cease to be amazed at quite how impressive the world is, and how impressive the mechanisms are for how things work... It really is beautiful in many ways, and it leads me to think about God. I'm not saying that I have any proof, but I'm saying that by looking at the world around me it tells me more about God and it leads me to worship Him."

Another scientist who appreciates beauty is Jeff Hardin, who explained that "studying the wonders of the living world is an exercise in art appreciation. For me, God is the creator of everything... so the joy of discovery is also the joy of appreciating the world that God has made...and leads me to thank God for the amazing world that we have to enjoy and to explore."

I will close with some words from Jeff Schloss, who - like the others quoted above - finds that Christian faith makes science more satisfying for him. "Once I became a Christian... I had the sense that I was studying the marvels of the natural world, which are marvellous in their own right but become more profoundly engaging and enticing when one thinks that you're studying the works of God." Perhaps if we can spend more time listening to people like this, our discussions about science and faith will also be richer and deeper.

Quotes from videos on www.wondersofthelivingworld.org

[This was written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.]

'The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.'



KIRK SESSION DIGEST

The Zoom meeting of the Reid Memorial Kirk Session was held on June 9th, 2021, and was moderated by our Interim Moderator, the Rev Dr Jim Jack.

The following are the main points from that meeting:

- The death of Miss Margaret Monti was noted. The Communion Roll stands at 184 members.
 - The usual reports (Home Mission etc) were not taken, to allow time for the discussion of the decisions taken by the recent General Assembly. The editor of the magazine is also the Presbytery elder for the Reid, and she has prepared a report which will appear elsewhere in the magazine. Please read it carefully.
 - The Cluster Group discussions continue. The Session thanked our representatives (Ian Beckett and Louise McAspurren) as they continue with this work.
 - The Session approved the Joint Mission Strategy, which covers the 3 congregations of Reid Memorial, Craigmillar Park, and Priestfield, Within the Strategy, the Session approved the initiative of
- >

lend
an  ear

> 'Lend an Ear', an informal listening service which, it is hoped, will go live fairly soon. It is envisaged that this service will be initially available to the three congregations involved. We were pleased to endorse the candidacy of Mary Allen and Siobhan Gilliland, who have completed the training courses successfully.

- Following advice from Presbytery there is no immediate prospect of a Stated Annual Meeting. Please see the reports from the Fabric Committee, the Finance committee, and the Treasurer in this magazine.
- The Kirk Session expressed support for Mrs Rosie in her dealings with some groups using our premises, who have not followed the regulations. We are glad that our halls are in demand, and we ask all users to respect the terms of their letting agreements.

We are grateful to Dr Jack for his offer to hold a thanksgiving service with us at an appropriate time. The next scheduled meeting is Wed, Aug 11th, 2021.

This article is a digest of the Kirk Session meeting, if you would like a full copy of the minute, please contact me.

ELIZABETH CLARK SESSION CLERK

CHURCH NOTICES THAT DIDN'T QUITE COME OUT RIGHT...

'There will be a procession in the grounds of the monastery next Sunday afternoon. If it rains in the afternoon, the procession will take place in the morning.'

The church officer was in a hurry to inform the congregation that their minister had recovered from an illness, so he put the following notice outside the church:

'God is good. The vicar is better.'



SEE WHAT YOU'VE MISSED DURING LOCKDOWN?

Our Spring Fair, with lovely cream tea, crafts on sale, gifts, home baking, homemade jams and marmalades.

Perhaps you could give what you've saved?

You can donate easily via
the Reid Memorial website at
www.reidmemorial.org.uk/donation

Charity no. SCO14027

REID MEMORIAL **FABRIC UPDATE** JUNE 2021

Fabric Committee are: Hazel Melrose, Linda Farrer, Ian Beckett, and Stevie Douglas. We could always do with more helpers - we have a big church.

SUMMARY It has been a busy few months:

New committee member: We are delighted that Ian Beckett has agreed to join the Fabric Committee, we offered him a warm welcome and a large to do list.

Presbytery Planning Toolkit: We (Linda, Susan, and I) delivered a positive response to presbytery on all our buildings. Our Presbytery Planning Toolkit response was circulated separately to the Kirk Session and Congregational Board in May.

Property Register: We completed our 2021 presbytery annual report, including updating our Property Register which covers our Fabric responsibilities. Our Property Register is available in the office for all to see. Presbytery inspection of records will follow (when lockdown regulations relax)

Tower Repairs identified in 2017 Presbytery Inspection Report: We requested and received email approval from Board Members to spend £1,276+VAT to proceed with Tower repair work that was identified in the 2017 Presbytery Inspection report. This work is in progress and should be completed by early next week (22/6).

Lockdown: We prepared our church buildings for opening in time for Easter Friday. Our halls opened to users in April. All users were required to complete Risk Assessment to a high standard. We continue to inspect these buildings regularly (thanks Ian and Joyce) and work continues on Risk Assessments to get the groups ready to return to halls. Our large hall was used as a Polling station on 6th May.

Heating: Heating controls have been adjusted to summer settings. Hall and Kitchen heating controls have been put on holiday mode or defrost only mode. Inspections have highlighted a couple of radiator leaks that are being managed till we have sufficient work to bring a plumber in.

Small Hall: Linda arranged for Ian Clyde to redecorate the small hall (same colours). All this has cost us so far is the price of the paint, brushes, and sandpaper. Ian very kindly offered his services to us as a painter free of charge as a way of thanking us for keeping him on paid up furlough terms during lockdown. We are applying for grants (through Finance committee) to replace the flooring. We have a quote from Floor Coverings International of Maurice Place, Edinburgh of £1,753.33 + VAT. The small hall provides significant rental income, so this is a wise investment of money.

Gardens and Ground: Ian met up with Mike Phillips. Mike tends to come the week the garden bins are emptied. We asked if he could smarten up the Blackford Avenue side of the garden, sharper edges make our country garden look intentional and not just overgrown! If you have any comments on the garden, then please pass them to Ian and he will speak to Mike if needed. All the benches in the cloisters have now been stained/varnished, a job well done by Lesley, Joyce Rosie, and Sheila Capewell. We are still waiting for feedback from blacksmith regarding lanterns and main gates repair work.

Roof and Gutters: Ian and Lesley doing a good job keeping our lower gutters free from debris. The one to the right of the Blackford Avenue door was full of vegetation and now cleared. Susan noticed an overflowing gutter near the Vestry (above the brown garden bins) and that will be checked out too. We still have a broken gutter in the cloister and that will need replaced as it has been mended a half dozen times (we have a quote for £1,246 + VAT).

Security: The large bush that obscured the West Savile terrace external access door (where the garden bins are) has been pruned for security reasons (any break in attempts now highly visible). Piano Tuners have been added to our list of suppliers who can access our buildings using the key safe. This combination code will be changed annually.

Manse: No further update from Council at present.

Other: We have added hooks to hold church exit doors open (and not to slam shut). This enables flow of air during Sunday services. Linda attended a Fire Safety training Webinar. The fabric committee took a conscience decision to allow some actions targeted for April/May to slip to June to allow us to focus on a returning a strong and positive Presbytery Planning Toolkit by 10th May. Malcolm Smith, our Piano Tuner, let us know that when tuning piano in church, they discovered moths active under the keys. Any flyers were killed, and 2 treatment strips applied, however as a precaution we will check out other fabrics in church (e.g., carpets, flags, curtains) to ensure we do not have an infestation.

Meetings

Our last meeting was on Wednesday 7th April, and our next meeting is Wednesday 23rd June.

Next Month

- Complete Tower repair work
- Apply for grant to replace small hall flooring
- Check out Moth infestation
- Continue with gardening
- Complete our action to do list
- Review Fabric authorisation levels with Finance Committee.

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR REIDON TO GET ANY BETTER...?

The Reid's magazine is produced by just two people - Linda Farrer and David White - and we gratefully welcome contributions from everyone who supplies us information, news, articles and pictures, every month.

The magazine is only as good as what's in it, and **you can contribute to it too**, by supplying your text and pictures to Linda (email reidon.editor@gmail.com). She can help you put your contribution together. There's plenty of time to send something - we are skipping a month over summer (see below for date)...

SO, YES!



The next issue of **REIDON...** will be September 2021. Please send Linda any articles or notices by 20th August - see page 2 for contact details.



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