

REID ON...

REID MEMORIAL CHURCH E-MAGAZINE

JUNE 2021

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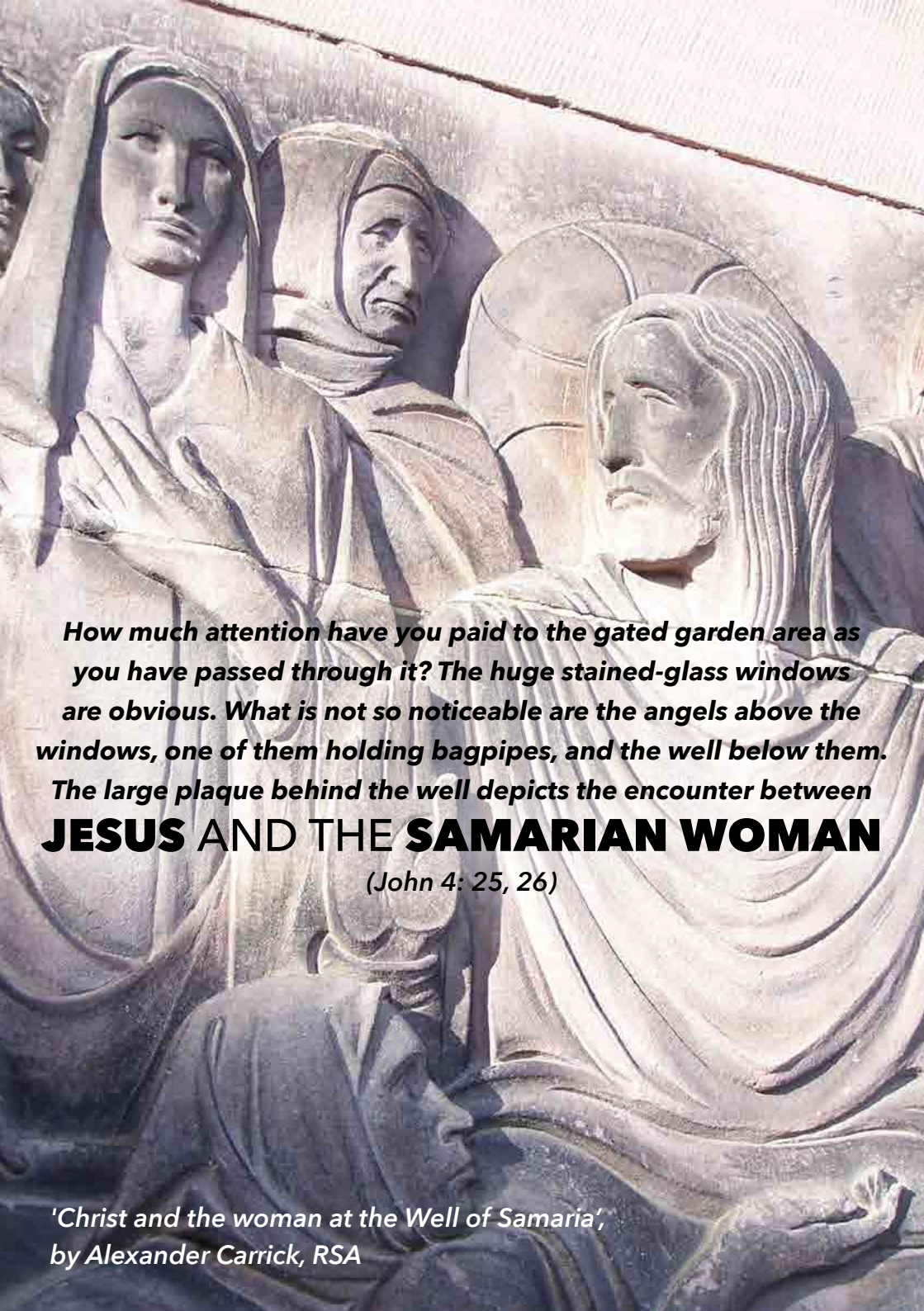
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How much attention have you paid to the gated garden area as you have passed through it? The huge stained-glass windows are obvious. What is not so noticeable are the angels above the windows, one of them holding bagpipes, and the well below them.

The large plaque behind the well depicts the encounter between

JESUS AND THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

(John 4: 25, 26)

*'Christ and the woman at the Well of Samaria',
by Alexander Carrick, RSA*

This was a woman of low moral standing, who had had five previous husbands and was living with a man to whom she was not married. She was at the well at the height of the day because she was shunned by the other women. The woman was shocked when Jesus breaks with Jewish custom. First, he spoke to her despite the fact that she was a woman. Second, she was a Samaritan woman, and the Jews traditionally despised Samaritans. And third, he asked her to get him a drink of water, although using her cup or jar would have made him ceremonially unclean.

Jesus and the woman discussed their views on worship, and she voiced her belief. The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

The woman grasped the reality of her encounter with Jesus, left behind her water jar and returned to town, inviting the people to "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?"

I would have like to have been at the well that day and overheard the exchange between Jesus and the woman, just to listen to Jesus chatting calmly in a non-judgemental way. I like to imagine that initially, there would have been a feeling of tranquillity as the realisation of the situation dawns on the women.

It seems fitting that there is an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity in our church garden. We have seen an increase in the number of visitors to the garden over the last year, each one enjoying the calming ambience of the surroundings. Even people who do not share our faith in the risen Jesus, acknowledge that there is something special about our garden. Maybe, one day, like the Samaritan women, they will accept into their hearts the joy that comes from knowing God.

LINDA FARRER



HAVE A REST

Now that the sun is shining, I hope you are able to get out and about a bit more, and perhaps have a walk to our own, tranquil Prayer Garden in the Cloister area at the church. There you will see that the benches have been beautifully restored and painted.

This is thanks to three wonderful volunteers from our congregation, who have been working for several weeks in all weather, repairing, sanding, and varnishing the benches in the garden. They were certainly in need of attention, and now they look marvellous!

Thanks to those three ladies you can now sit safely in the garden and enjoy the peace and quiet. Thank you, ladies!

SUSAN MACKAY



christian
aid

Give Now



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: THERE'S STILL TIME

There's still time to head to Reid Memorial's JustGiving page and contribute to our appeal for this year's Christian Aid Week.

WHY NOT DO IT NOW?

Just click anywhere on this page, or go to

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Reidmemorialchurch>
and **Give Now** button.

For people without access to the internet, please send donations to **Judith Smeaton, Treasurer, Flat 7, 75C South Oswald Road, Edinburgh EH9 2HH** or call **020 7523 2269**. For details on how to pay money directly into the Christian Aid bank account, please call **020 7523 2226**. Please state Reid Memorial Church. **Thank you!**

HEATHER MACAULAY & DAVID WHITE WORLD CHURCH COMMITTEE

ALL IN THE MONTH OF JUNE

IT WAS 125 YEARS AGO, on 4th June 1896 that Henry Ford completed his first automobile, the Ford Quadricycle, and gave it a test run around Detroit Michigan. It was a simple frame with an engine, two gears, a tiller for steering and four bicycle wheels. It had a top speed of 20mph. Its success led him to establish the Ford Motor Company.

100 YEARS AGO, on 10th June 1921 that Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was born on a dining room table in Corfu.

90 YEARS AGO, on 13th June 1931 that Jesse Boot, 1st Baron Trent, British pharmacist and philanthropist, died. He had turned his father's Boots Company into a national chain of chemists.

80 YEARS AGO, from 22nd June to 5th December 1941 that Operation Barbarossa took place. It was the German invasion of the Soviet Union, the largest military operation in history. In the end, it was a Soviet victory, for the German invaders were repelled when they reached Moscow, and then driven out of Russia by a Soviet counterattack.

75 YEARS AGO, on 26th June 1946 that Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery became Chief of the Imperial General Staff (head of the British army).

65 YEARS AGO, on 13th June 1956 that the first European Cup final (soccer) was held, in Paris. Real Madrid (Spain) beat Stade de Reims (France) 4-3. The European Cup is now known as the UEFA Champions League.

50 YEARS AGO, on 16th June 1971 that John Reith (Lord >

> Reith), 1st Baron Reith, Scottish business executive and politician, died. He was Manager and Director General of the BBC in its formative years. He also formed BOAC (now British Airways).

40 YEARS AGO, on 5th June 1981 that the first report of AIDS took place. The Centres for Disease Control and Prevention in the USA reported that five homosexual men in Los Angeles were suffering from a rare form of pneumonia found in patients with weakened immune systems. These were later recognised as the first official AIDS cases.

Also **40 YEARS AGO**, on 22nd June 1981 that American tennis player John McEnroe earned the press nickname 'Superbrat' when he threw a tantrum during his first-round match against Tom Gullikson at Wimbledon. He hurled abuse at the umpire, swore at the referee, and popularised the phrase 'you cannot be serious' when he disputed a line call. Nevertheless, he went on to win the men's singles championship that year.

25 YEARS AGO, on 4th June 1996 that the Second Severn Crossing was officially opened. The bridge spans the River Severn and links England and Wales via the M4 motorway.

20 YEARS AGO, on 22nd June 2001 that two British schoolboys who murdered two-year-old James Bulger in Liverpool in 1993 were released from secret custody after 8 years. They were given new identities and moved to secret locations.

DOOR DUTIES



SUNDAY 30th MAY

Geeta Mackay, Lindsay Wood

In Charge: Stevie Douglas

SUNDAY 6th JUNE

Elizabeth Clark, Gillian Brown

In Charge: Stephen Thomson

SUNDAY 13th JUNE

Mary Allan, Joyce Rosie

In Charge: Linda Farrer

SUNDAY 20th JUNE

Lesley Beckett, Alison MacLeod

In Charge: Ian Beckett

SUNDAY 27th JUNE

Geeta Mackay, Lindsay Wood

In Charge: Susan Mackay

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



REID MEMORIAL

LAND AND BUILDINGS TOOLKIT REPORT

Towards the end of March, we received an email from The General Trustees who had produced a 'Toolkit' to help us assess our buildings ahead of new Presbytery Plans.

Presbytery's aim is to achieve Buildings which effectively serve the Mission of the Church to the wider community by providing 'well equipped spaces in the right places.'

Every congregation within Edinburgh Presbytery was asked to use this Toolkit to assess their buildings and record their findings. Documents needed to be returned by Monday 10th May 2021.

This was a significant piece of work for us (and all other congregations) and our response was submitted three days >

> before the deadline. The team that put our response together was Linda Farrer, Susan Mackay and Stevie Douglas - with a wee bit of early guidance from Alex McAspurren.

The submitted document is available and can be emailed to you if you would like to read it. Our responses ran to 34 pages, so we do not intend to supply printed copies.

There are a couple of points to note:

- In putting this response together, it is clear that there are a lot of unsung heroes in our church, both past and present, who have generously given their time and talents to our church and that has enabled us to put together such a positive response on behalf of the Reid. Everyone has played their part, thank you.
- When you read the document, you may well see a fair bit of repetition in our responses. Apologies for that - however that was necessary because of the way the toolkit was structured - we were being asked the same or similar questions for each of our 4 different buildings (Church, Halls, Manse and Church Officer's House).



FAIRTRADE UPDATE **KATRINA RUSSELL**

It is not feasible to order from Fairtrade at present but I am still making marmalade, jams and lemon curd. If anyone would like some then please get in touch, either by email **kjrussell477@gmail.com** or mobile **07791407787**. You can leave a message and I will get back to you regarding delivery. All proceeds will go to church funds. Thank you to everyone who responded to my appeal for jam jars. I am now quite well stocked but will never refuse further supplies. Have a good summer and stay safe.

KIND REGARDS **KATRINA**



*Former Moderator
(2019-20) Colin
Sinclair, chats
with First Minister
Nicola Sturgeon
on the first day of
the Assembly (pic:
Church of Scotland)*

REPORT ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 2021 General Assembly began on Saturday 22nd May with a small number of participants in the Assembly Hall and the vast majority of Commissioners taking part on Zoom.

The good thing this year is that people like me who were not delegates were able to watch the proceedings online. The outgoing Moderator, the Very Rev Dr Martin Fair gave a powerful speech about work still to be done by the Kirk in light of the inequalities and suffering that we see around us. The new Moderator, the Rt Hon Lord Wallace of Tankerness QC, Jim Wallace, an elder and former Deputy First Minister in the Scottish Executive was installed.

I was particularly interested in the Faith Nurture Forum, the group involved in the major reforms of the Church of Scotland. Much of the time of this online General Assembly was taken up with the report and supplementary report of the Faith Nurture Forum and the report of the Assembly Trustees. There was discussion of the subject of restricted and unrestricted tenure, and it was carried >

> forward until 2022 for further investigation and reporting. Heart and Soul has been discontinued but it was made clear that there was nothing to stop groups of churches doing a local event.

Agreement is now in place to aim towards 600 ministries posts plus 60 vacancies by 2025. The new Mission Plan Act has been agreed, and with guidance on its implementation due out towards the end of June, all Presbyteries are expected to begin work on new Plans from the end of June. Plans are all to be in place and agreed by the end of December 2022. As of 1st June, all current Presbytery Plans are suspended, though some vacancy processes may be able to continue. Also agreed was an allocation of ministries posts to all Presbyteries. Edinburgh will see a reduction from the 2011 figure of 78.2 to 48.5. A large number of the ministers will be lost through retirement.

A weighting system will be used to decide where the ministry posts will be and will include considerations such as population density, rural, urban, and semiurban areas, remoteness, and priority areas. The Faith Nurture Forum was unable to predict the effect that this will have on givings and attendance. The decisions will be made at Presbytery level, not by the national church. A fine balance will be required to ensure that some of the richer churches will remain and that poorer churches will be supported. Only 44% of churches pay their full Ministries and Mission contributions. It costs a million pounds to support 23 ministries. Greatly reducing the number of rich churches would spell financial disaster.

There was a commitment by the Faith Nurture Forum to offer new training modules from January 2022 that will be accessible to individuals and groups within congregations, to offer learning and training opportunities and ways for the whole people of God to better share in ministry. >

> One significant change for our Presbytery is that from 1 January 2022 we will unite with West Lothian thus resulting in the Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian. It is anticipated the number of Presbyteries will be reduced to nine.

After many years of discussing civil partnerships and same-sex marriage the Assembly took a step towards permitting ministers and deacons who wish to be so authorised to conduct same-sex marriages. This is subject to the Barrier Act procedure and will be discussed by the Presbytery towards the end of 2021.

LINDA FARRER

GOOD NEWS

We have been informed that congregational singing can resume with the implementation of Level 1 of the Covid 19 restrictions.

For us, at Reid Memorial, we should be able to sing as from Sunday June 13th, 2021. Social distancing and good ventilation will still be in place and masks must be worn unless there is an exemption. I will be clarifying whether we can use hymn books or will have printed sheets of the specific hymns.

You may have seen notices on the church doors about the maximum capacity of each area within the building. This is Physically Distanced Based Capacity (PDBC), and we are required to display it prominently by law. We may be inspected to ensure that we are compliant. The figures were achieved by using the suggested Church of Scotland calculation. Children under the age of 5 are not included.

LINDA FARRER



THE STORY BEHIND THE HYMN: **'LORD, FOR THE YEARS'**

*Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord for the years, we bring our thanks today.*

*Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.*

*Lord, for our hopes, the dreams of all our living,
Christ and his kingdom one united aim;
Rulers and peoples bound in high thanksgiving,
Lord of our hopes, our trust is in your Name. ...*

BY TIMOTHY DUDLEY SMITH

This well-loved hymn was written in 1967 by the Revd Timothy Dudley Smith, who later became Bishop of Thetford. He later confessed: "I wrote it on a train when I was very pressed for time. I'm thankful if something I write gets picked up, but I >

> suspect anyone who does something in a rush later regrets that they didn't find time to apply the sandpaper a bit more!"

Dudley Smith had been asked to write a hymn for the centenary service of the Children's Special Service Mission, now Scripture Union, in St Paul's Cathedral. His commission was to write words that could be fitted to Jean Sibelius's *Finlandia*, as it was to be accompanied by an orchestra with this tune in their repertoire. And so - 'Lord for the years' was written.

Dudley Smith need not have worried about lack of time - his lyrics were a 'hit' in the cathedral on the day and went on to become so well-loved that George Carey chose the hymn to be sung at his consecration as Bishop of Bath and Wells, and then again later, in 1991, or his consecration as Archbishop in Canterbury Cathedral.

The hymn continued to be widely sung and loved, until in 2002 Timothy Dudley Smith was asked to write an extra verse for it so that it could even be sung around the time of the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

Many of the words in the hymn are true for the Queen herself, as she celebrates her 95th birthday this month. She does indeed thank God 'for the years your love has kept and guided, urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way'...

And so indeed the 'extra' verse added for the Queen has also held true:

*Lord for our hopes, the dreams of all our living,
Christ and his kingdom one united aim,
Rulers and peoples bound in high thanksgiving,
Lord of our hopes, our trust is in your Name.*

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

REID PHOTOGRAPH COMPETITION

The Fundraising Committee are pleased to announce the winner of the Spring Photo Competition is **Sheila Capewell**. Her prize was a pot of ivy-leaved pink geraniums.

Well done, Sheila. Thank you to all who sent their delightful photographs. Hopefully, we will be able to display them at our fair when restrictions ease. Thank you to David White for using his expertise in deciding a winner, not an easy task. *(The winning photo is shown on the next page followed by the other finalist entries. NB Please tilt your head or device 90 degrees to view the first four!)*

The committee hope to run another photographic competition in the autumn, and it would be great for more people to get involved. The spring competition raised just over £60 so thank you to everyone who took part.

THE REID MEMORIAL JUST GIVING WEB PAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR DONATIONS

What have you missed during lockdown? Various fairs with lovely refreshments, crafts on sale, home baking, Fairtrade, homemade jams, and marmalades. Perhaps you would like to donate what you have saved? You can donate easily via the Reid Memorial Website at www.reidmemorial.org.uk/donation.

The committee are always interested in any new fundraising ideas, and hopefully after the summer if restrictions ease, we may be able to get back to some normality. Have a great summer however you aim to spend it. As always, stay safe.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE





Sheila Capewell

Sheila Capewell





Sheila Capewell



Sheila Capewell



Sheila Capewell



Sheila Capewell



New Beginnings

Katrina Russell



Joyce Rosie



Mary Allan



Michelle Harrison

The next issue of **REIDON...** will be July & Aug 2021. Please send Linda any articles or notices by 25th June - see page 2 for contact details.



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CHURCH • EDINBURGH

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