

# REIDON...

REID MEMORIAL CHURCH MAGAZINE



MAY 2018

FRONT COVER: Painting of the Reid as part of Nathan Coley's installation *The Lamp of Sacrifice* at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, 2016 [David White]



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# FROM THE EDITOR

**After the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples on a number of occasions over the next forty days.** We are told "On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about" Acts 1:4. On the Mount of Olives, they witnessed the ascension of Jesus into Heaven and for about ten days the disciples waited in the upper room in Jerusalem with other believers.

I wonder how they passed this time as they waited. Clearly, time would be spent in prayer. Their thought may have turned to how God's gift would be presented to them. I'm sure that their time spent with Jesus had strengthened their faith. The dictionary defines faith as "belief in, devotion to, or trust in somebody or something, especially without logical proof."

Ascension Sunday is on 10th May and Pentecost on 20th May this year. My thoughts will be on that period when the disciples patiently waited. Again I turned to my dictionary; patience: The capacity to accept or tolerate delay, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious. Eventually, God's gift was presented to them. In the temple the disciples spoke in foreign tongues, there was a rushing of wind and Peter boldly addressed about 3,000 people who were immediately converted. So the birth of the Church was established.

As Alex and Jill head off to Lisbon, we are facing a summer of uncertainty. The definitions of faith and patience feature strongly in my thoughts as the Nomination Committee follow the laid down procedures. The congregation are not permitted to know at what stage they are at, and we must have patience and faith in allowing them to continue uninterrupted. I'm sure that we are praying for a positive outcome, although our prayers are not always answered in the way we expect. God gives us what He wants us to have. The quality of patience and self-control shows itself particularly in a willingness to wait upon God and his will. We, as believers are called upon to be patient in our expectations of God's actions, and in our relationships with one another. This isn't to say that we should be complacent while we wait. We are the strong, loving family of the Reid Memorial and should look to the future as such.

A friend of mine told me that her dish washer had broken down and laughingly asked if we could pray for a new one! I suggested that it wasn't really appropriate so we prayed together for an improvement in her domestic arrangements. We were hoping that her son might help to wash the dishes in the meantime.

With prayerful good wishes, **LINDA**

# SERVICES



Services for May are as follows:

6th May 10:30am **MORNING WORSHIP** conducted by Rev Dr Fiona Tweedie

13th May 10:30am **MORNING WORSHIP** conducted by Rev Bill Brown

20th May 10:30am **MORNING WORSHIP** (pulpit supply)

27th May 10:30am **MORNING WORSHIP** (pulpit supply)

3rd June 10:30am Sacrament of **HOLY COMMUNION**  
6:30pm Sacrament of **HOLY COMMUNION** in the Sanctuary

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## BLESSING

8th April Indie Catherine Murray, daughter of Tara and Tony

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## DEATHS IN APRIL

4th April Mrs Doris Foreman, Lygon Road (D 21)

17th April Mr Peter Wilson, Latterly Letham Park NH (D 29)

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**THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2018:** 19th - 25th May

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2018:** 13th - 19th May

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This month's **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK** (13th-19th May) gives us a chance once again to show our love for our brothers and sisters in greatest need - I know that we will once again demonstrate our very best. Last year this church stood by those people who have lost everything by raising nearly £1,500. **Please look out for the Christian Aid envelopes in the 13th and 20th May's Orders of Service and fill them with as much as you can - we can help beat disaster and poverty together.**



# ALL IN THE MONTH OF **MAY**

**400 YEARS AGO**, on 23rd May 1618, the Thirty Years' War (Central Europe, mainly present-day Germany) began. It was one of the longest and most destructive conflicts in European history. Millions of people were killed and finally ended on 15th May 1648.

**200 YEARS AGO**, on 4th May 1818 that Britain and the Netherlands signed a treaty on the prevention of the slave trade.

Also **200 YEARS AGO**, on 5th May 1818 that Karl Marx, influential German revolutionary socialist, sociologies, economist, philosopher and journalist, was born. He was best known for his pamphlet The Communist Manifesto and his book The Capital.

**150 YEARS AGO**, on 26th May 1868 that the last public execution in England took place. Irish nationalist Michael Barrett was hanged at Newgate for his role in the Clerkenwell explosion in London in December 1867, in which 12 people were killed.

**75 YEARS AGO**, on 16th & 17th May 1943 that the Dambusters Raid took place. Britain's RAF launched Operation Chastise, deploying bouncing bombs to bypass anti-torpedo nets and breach dams, causing catastrophic flooding in Germany's Ruhr Valley.

**70 YEARS AGO**, on 14th May 1948 that Israel was declared an independent state as the British mandate in Palestine came to an end. (Several Arab states invaded Israel the following day.)

**50 YEARS AGO**, on 8th May 1968 that British gangsters, the Kray twins were arrested for murder. They were convicted in 1969 and sentenced to life imprisonment.

**20 YEARS AGO**, on 23rd May 1998, that in a referendum, the people of Northern Ireland voted to accept the Good Friday Agreement. 75% were in favour of a Northern Ireland Assembly.

**10 YEARS AGO**, on 25th May 2008 that NASA's Phoenix robotic lander spacecraft landed on Mars. It searched for environments suitable for microbial life and studied the history of water on Mars.

10th MAY

# ASCENSION DAY

## 40 DAYS WITH THE RISEN CHRIST

**Easter is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection - when he came back to life after being crucified.** But the gospel story does not end there. The next chapter comes on the day known as 'Ascension Day'. It is the day when Christians believe Jesus returned to heaven. This is really important for Christians, as it tells them that Jesus is alive and ruling with God the Father and the Holy Spirit as one person of the Trinity.

Christians celebrate Ascension Day forty days after Easter and it commemorates Jesus leaving his disciples to take his rightful place with God. The gospel writer Luke in his second book, Acts, states that the disciples saw Jesus offer many "convincing proofs" that he was alive in the six-week period following his resurrection. Jesus had told the disciples not to leave the city of Jerusalem, but to wait for the gift that his Father had promised: that of the Holy Spirit. On the first Ascension Day, the disciples were with Jesus outside Jerusalem but were still confused about his mission. They asked him when he would restore the kingdom to Israel. Jesus told them.

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But 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." (Acts 1:7-8)

As he was still speaking, Jesus began to disappear into a cloud. The cloud was an important symbol to the Jews. It had been the sign of God's presence when the people of Israel had left Egypt in the Exodus. It had become the way of talking about God - he was in the cloud, mysterious, not completely knowable by humans, he was holy.

Ascension Day is important for Christians because it is further proof to them that Jesus is more than a man, but God himself and deserving of praise and worship. One of the earliest Christian teachers, St Paul, told early followers that:

'God lifted him (Jesus) high and honoured him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth—even those long ago dead and buried—will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that he is the Master of all, to the glorious honour of God the Father.' (Philippians 2:9-11)

20th MAY

# DAY OF PENTECOST

## WHIT SUNDAY

Pentecost (from Greek meaning fiftieth) took place on the well-established Jewish festival of First fruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion. A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born. Jesus had told His disciples that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for His disciples - but He knew they could not do the work themselves - they would need His help. And so they waited in Jerusalem, praying together with his other followers, for many days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues - to the astonishment of those who heard them. That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the disciples and followers of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent. Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

### **GRACE TO BE NOT LIKE PORRIDGE**

*O Lord, grant that we may not be  
like porridge*

*Stiff, stodgy and hard to stir*

*But like cornflakes: crisp, fresh and  
ready to serve.*

- Anon

### **YOUR DWELLING-PLACE**

*Lord, grant me a simple, kind, open,  
believing, loving and generous  
heart, worthy of being your  
dwelling- place.*

*By John Sergieff,  
Russian priest, 1829-1908*

21st MAY 1738

## **PENTECOST** AND CHARLES WESLEY

Charles Wesley stressed that salvation cannot be earned, but must be received by grace through faith in Christ. Charles experienced this 'true' conversion, when on Pentecost Sunday, 21st May 1738, he wrote that the Spirit of God 'chased away the darkness of my unbelief.' On the evening of his evangelical conversion he wrote a hymn to celebration his new life in Christ:

*And can it be that I should gain                      For me, who Him to death pursued?  
An interest in the Saviour's blood?              Amazing love! how can it be  
Died He for me, who caused His pain?          That Thou, my God, should die for me?*

Thereafter Wesley wrote thousands of hymns, which are rooted in spiritual Christianity, brimming with joyful praise to Jesus Christ, keenly personal and expressive of joyful assurance and hope of those who have trusted in Christ as the sole means of salvation.

## IMPROVEMENTS TO THE **LARGE HALL**

Well! What a difference a coat of paint makes! The painters have done a marvellous job on our large hall, I hope you agree? The work was all done in the estimated time, of two weeks, during the Easter break, so it did not affect many of the groups who let the hall during the week. It is really looking fresh and bright, and we may even treat ourselves to some new tablecloths for the coffee tables.

There is a story concerning the large stage curtains... they were given to a reputable dry cleaning company some months ago to be cleaned, when the work on the heating began on the hall. Unfortunately, when they returned them to us, there was only one large curtain... they had "misplaced" the other. As the months have gone on, it seems the curtain has not been found, so it appears we need to get new stage curtains, measured and made, as one curtain is no good to anyone! So - "watch that space" we are in communications with the firm now, and they should be financing these new curtains. We may even decide to get dark blue instead of black! But don't hold your breath, we are not there yet.

Enjoy the bright, warm hall during our coffee times, and try to remember what colour it used to be. Enjoy! Happy days!

**SUSAN MACKAY**

# NATIONAL DAYS IN THE MONTH OF MAY

Did you know that May is **NATIONAL WALKING MONTH**? So why not help celebrate by signing up to Just Walk organising your own walk this May and it's an easy way to fundraise for the BHF. Remember, every pound you raise will fund research that's so urgently needed to help us beat heart disease. Let's tell heart disease to take a hike.

**LOST SOCK AWARENESS DAY** takes place on May 9th every year, to commemorate all those odd socks that started life as a shiny new pair. Celebrate World Lost Sock Day by attempting to reunite long lost pairs of socks or just join the trend of wearing mismatched socks.

**WORLD FAIR TRADE DAY** is celebrated on Saturday 12th May and is endorsed by the World Fair Trade Association, the global authority on fair trade, comprised of over 450 member organisations from 75 countries around the world.

**NATIONAL SMILE MONTH** is the UK's largest and longest-running campaign to promote good oral health. Together, with thousands of individuals and organisations, National Smile Month highlights three key messages, all of which go a long way in helping us develop and maintain a healthy mouth.

Join in our **GREAT BRITISH FISH & CHIPS SUPPER** on 18th May. Invite people to your dining room, your favourite restaurant, to the park or wherever you can eat the classic British favourite, fish and chips. This is in aid of Spinal Injury Association.

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## FLOWERS IN CHURCH

### DATE

**6th MAY**

**13th MAY**

**20th MAY**

**27th MAY**

**3rd JUNE**

**10th JUNE**

**17th JUNE**

**24th JUNE**

### DISTRIBUTORS

Mrs J Rosie

Mr & Mrs Beckett

Mrs K Russell

Mrs M Houston

Miss E Browne

Miss A MacLeod

Mr & Mrs Dalziel

Mrs J Rosie

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Henry Philip

Fiona Paxton

Irene Cato

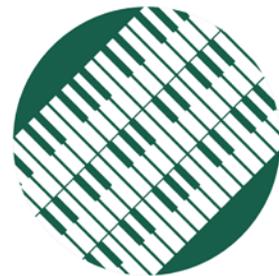
John Craik

Jessie Fitzsimmons

Mary Marrs

Irene Cato

Alison MacLeod



# NOTES

## FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

**MARTYN STRACHAN**, Organist and Choirmaster

### **6th MAY**

*Four Offertories founded on the Modes* - Eric Thiman

1. *A Dorian Pastorale* 2. *A Phrygian Berceuse* 3. *A Mixolydian Menuet* 4. *An Aeolian Pavane*

*March Out of the Blue* - Hubert Bath

### **13th MAY**

*Chorale Prelude 'Heut triumphiret Gottes Sohn'* BWV 630 - J S Bach

*March on a Theme by Handel* - Alexandre Guilmant

### **20th MAY** Pentecost

*Variations on 'Martyrdom'* - Ernest A Dicks

*Marche Religieuse* - Leon Boëllmann

### **27th MAY** Trinity Sunday

*Andante Religioso* - Alec Rowley

*Choral Improvisation on Dominus Regit Me* - Eric Thiman

*Sonata No.3 in G major Op 88 Pastoral, first movement* - Josef Rheinberger

**Eric Thiman** (1900-1975) was organist of the City Temple in London from 1958, having previously served at Park Chapel, Crouch End and Elm Road Baptist Church, Beckenham. He was largely self-taught, but later became a pupil of Harold Darke. His organ music was designed to meet the needs of parish church organists of modest technical attainments, while still maintaining sufficient musical interests. The *Four Offertories on the Modes* (precursors of the scales) are character pieces in a consciously archaic style. His *Choral Improvisation on Dominus Regit Me* treats the tune that is usually sung to the words 'The King of Love My Shepherd Is'.

**Hubert Bath** (1883-1945) worked mainly in the field of film music and he provided music for several significant releases in the 1930s and 1940s. The best-known was *Cornish Rhapsody* written for the 1944 film *Love Story*. His *March Out of the Blue* was written for a RAF display at Wembley, but in 1948 it was adopted as the signature tune for *Sports Report*, the radio sports results programme and for that reason, it may be familiar to you.

**J S Bach** (1685–1750) wrote many chorale preludes for liturgical use within the Lutheran Mass. This example treats the chorale appropriate to the Sunday following Ascension Thursday and celebrates Christ's triumph over death.

**Alexander Guilmant** (1837–1911) was a noted recitalist and teacher based in Paris and had an enormous influence on organ playing through his teaching and compositions. He had an admiration for Handel and composed two pieces based on themes by him. The Paraphrase treats the well-known tune from Judas Maccabaeus ('See the conquering hero comes') which is associated with the hymn 'Thine be the Glory'. The theme upon which the March is based is 'Lift up ye heads, O Ye Gates' from Messiah.

**Ernest A Dicks** (1865–1948) Like both Eric Thiman and Alec Rowley, Ernest Dicks supplied the needs of organists who needed music of good quality to play as voluntaries. He issued eight books of Short and Easy Pieces and other publications that included pieces based on hymn tunes. The Variations on 'Martyrdom' are mostly quiet and reflective, as befit the character of the tune and the various sets of words associated with it.

**Leon Boëllmann** (1862–1897) Although Boëllmann died young, he still managed to compose a significant amount of music for his instrument. His *Douze Pièces* of 1890, from which this March is taken is a notable collection which is on a higher level than many similar publications printed in France at this time. Boëllmann also avoids the bombast that can creep into marches written for the organ and it appears that he bore in mind the religious character of the piece.

**Alec Rowley** (1892–1958) was a Londoner and was organist of St Mary Magdalen, Chiswick, St John the Divine in Richmond and St Alban's, Teddington. He wrote a great deal for both organ and piano and was professor of piano at Trinity College, London. Many of his pieces are miniatures and the quality can sometimes be variable, but they are always very well laid out for the instrument.

**Josef Rheinberger** (1839–1901) was a notable figure in German in the second half of the nineteenth century and a hugely influential teacher. He seems to have composed in all forms, but outside Germany, only his organ music is well-known. As well as about a hundred separate pieces, there are twenty organ sonatas. The Third Sonata has the designation 'Pastoral' and includes a reference in the first movement to the eighth Psalm Tone, which may have had association with a psalm of a pastoral character. (It was often sung in the Anglican Communion to Psalm 23.) The mood is positive throughout and the texture clear, rarely being in more than three parts. The movement may not conform to the usual idea of a pastoral, but on its own terms, it is most effective.

# DOOR DUTIES



## **6th MAY**

Susanne Dalziel, Hazel Melrose

**In charge: Alistair Dalziel**

*Welcome table: Alison Masson*

## **13th MAY**

Siobhan Gilliland, Alison Macleod

**In charge: Ian Beckett**

*Welcome table: Lesley Beckett*

## **20th MAY**

Sheila Capewell, Joyce Rosie

**In charge: Graham Annan**

*Welcome table: Rose MacKenzie*

## **27th MAY**

Diane Craik, Susan MacKay

**In charge: Stephen Thomson**

*Welcome table: Graham Clark*

## **3rd JUNE**

Graham Clark, Douglas Mathieson

**In charge: Elizabeth Mathieson**

*Welcome table: Joyce Rosie*

*Evening: Richard Black*

## **10th JUNE**

Linda Farrer, Douglas Mathieson

**In charge: Elizabeth Mathieson**

*Welcome table: June Wylie*

## **17th JUNE**

Siobhan Gilliland, Lindsay Wood

**In charge: Robin Jones**

*Welcome table: Ann Jones*

## **24th JUNE**

Suzanne Dalziel, Jacky Harris

**In charge: Alistair Dalziel**

*Welcome table: Liz Suttie*

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## **SAY YES**

*We accompanied our son and his fiancée when they met with the priest to sign some pre-wedding ceremony papers. While filling out the form, our son read aloud a few questions. When he got to the last one, which read 'Are you entering this marriage at your own will?' he looked over at his fiancée. 'Put down "yes,"' she said.*

## **AS GOOD AS IT GETS**

*A shipwrecked man spent five years on a deserted island. One day he was overjoyed to see a ship drop anchor in the bay. A dinghy approached, and a ship's officer handed the sailor *The Times*, *The Financial Times* and *The Daily Telegraph*. "The captain suggests," said the officer, "that you read what's going on in the world before you decide if you wish to be rescued."*

# FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

**There are only a few weeks to go until our next fundraising event; the Community Coffee Morning on 16th June 10am - 12noon in the Large Hall.**

This year we will be raising funds to go towards the cost of a dishwasher for the Church Kitchen. This will benefit the volunteers [and others] who make and serve teas and coffees to us every Sunday and allow them to get home a bit quicker.

At our next committee meeting in May we will be firming up the arrangements for the **Fiddle Concert**. This will be held in the Church on Saturday 14th July 7.30pm - 9.30pm. We are very fortunate in having a return visit from Yla Steven and the Edinburgh Highland Reel and Strathspey Society. We'll also have Fiddle Frenzy who are pupils at the Blair School of Music in Texas and the San Diego Children's Choir.

We are indebted to a member of the Congregation who donated two bicycles to us to sell and also thanks go to two members of the Congregation who bought them which raised £200 for Church funds.

The **Book Shop** has been a bit slack recently due to the re-decoration of the Large Hall. Currently the total for this year stands at £268 for the Book Shop and £59 for Dusty Bin. Many thanks as always to those who support and donate to our Fundraising Events.

## **SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE WITH HOME BAKING**

Thanks to the very respectable amount of £156.60 raised on Sunday 1st April. We are now past the half way mark with the current total standing at £546.40. The final sum of £1,000 will be split between the Edinburgh Children's Hospital and Edinburgh Young Carers. Both organisations are involved with the support of children and young people. We as always sincerely thank you for your on-going donations and support.

## **SPRING CLEAN TIME AGAIN!**

***Susan is planning to do a bit of Spring Cleaning in the church one Saturday morning in May. The date she is considering is Saturday 12th May. If you think you could help, even for a little while, please add your name to the sheet on the Welcome Table, or contact Susan at [crmackay@aol.com](mailto:crmackay@aol.com). The more the merrier, and tea/coffee will be provided. Thank you.***

# JAMIE STUART AND THE GLASGOW BIBLE

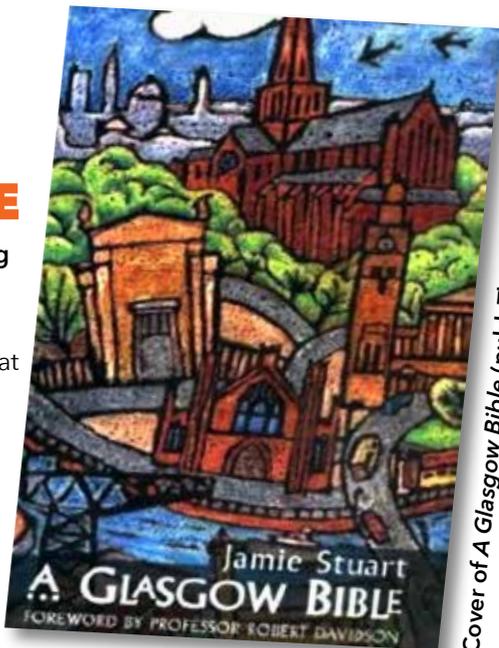
The Sunday Club have been looking at great Christian communicators, ancient and contemporary.

One name that has come up is that of Jamie Stuart (1920 - 2014), who led a varied life before becoming famous when his 1997 book *A Glasgow Bible* became a Scottish best-seller. The lead-up to the publication of the book was a long one of fortuitous connections.

In 1953, having married a war widow with a nine-year-old daughter, he sold vacuum cleaners by day while maintaining a stage career in the evenings, to boost his income.

His Christian faith led him in 1981 to visit the Edinburgh Festival to see Alec McCowen, who had memorised all of the Authorised Version of St Mark's Gospel. "It triggered something in me," he recounted later. "I thought: 'Why not present the Gospel in the Scots tongue?'" Over two years he combined the four Gospels into a one-man play, *A Scots Gospel in the Guid Scots Tongue*, touring it across Scotland and abroad.

He explained that "a number of Glasgow ministers then said to me, 'Jamie, your Scots Gospel's no' bad, wee man, but you're a Glaswegian - would you not consider doing it in the Glasgow-speak?'"



Cover of *A Glasgow Bible* (publ. The Saint Andrew Press)

So Stuart set about re-working the gospels into what became *The Glasgow Gospel*. Having sold out rapidly, he worked on *Auld Testament Tales*, and combined the two books into a single volume in 1997 as *A Glasgow Bible*.

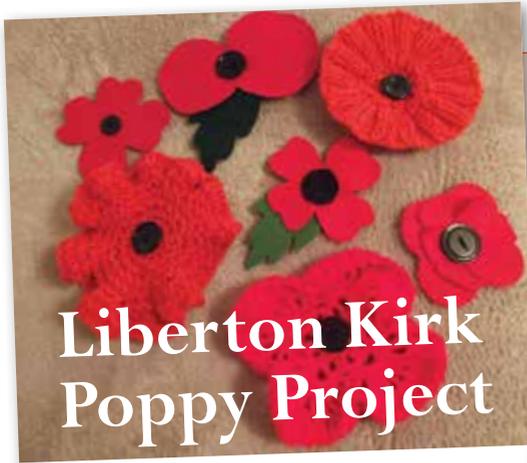
He also worked on *Proverbs in the Patter*, a Glaswegian-dialect version of the Old Testament book, going on to publish an autobiography, *Still Running*, in 2014.

So enjoy a flavour of *A Glasgow Bible*, and thank Jamie:

[David to Goliath] "Weel, come oan then, ya big scrawny plook!",

[Older brother on return of prodigal]

"Ah've slaved for ye aw thae years an ye didny even wance gie a party for me. An noo that wee nyaff comes back! Been oan the randan, so he has! Spent aw yer money oan booze an hooers! An ye kill yer best coo for him?!"



# Liberton Kirk Poppy Project

**For 11th November 2018, Liberton Kirk plans to commemorate the centenary of the end of World War 1 by creating a cross of poppies mounted on the tower with a veil of poppies flowing from it. Standing on the Edinburgh skyline, it will be visible for miles around.**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** We need 8000 red poppies **MADE BY YOU** – knitted, crocheted, felt, fabric, plastic, ceramic, metal – whatever you fancy.

They can be any size, with or without a leaf, and a safety pin would help. There are many templates on the web or use your imagination. A 100g ball of red wool from a Pound Shop will knit about 12/14 poppies. Use black buttons or beads, or make a felt circle for the centre.

Find knitting instructions at: <http://counties.britishlegion.org.uk/media/4069303/Poppy-Patterns.pdf>

## **KNITTED POPPY**

**Size 6 needles or near. Red dk wool (100g £1 in pound shops makes about 18)**

**Cast on 52 stitches  
8 rows of rib - 2 plain 2 purl  
Rows 9, 10, 11 k2tog  
Run darning needle through remaining stitches to draw up and sew seam. Pull to flatten.**

## **Can you go one step further?**

- Ask your friends, family, neighbours and colleagues to join in and make poppies too.
- Do you have overseas contacts to spread the word? Imagine poppies arriving from all over the world!
- How about a working coffee morning; make some at a meeting; or ask your local school to join in?
- Can we encourage uniformed organisations to learn to sew on a button – knit a poppy first or cut one from felt and ask them to sew the button in the middle?
- Would you like to attach a name to the poppy in memory of someone who fought? These names will be kept in the church. Do you have a story to tell too (A4 please)?

**START NOW** and drop them off to us before the end of September.

## **Drop off points**

To the café at Liberton Kirk Centre:  
28-30 Kirkgate, Edinburgh, EH16 6RY

or by post or arrangement to:  
Dorothy Morrison,  
8 Kirk Park,  
Edinburgh,  
EH16 6HZ  
dorothymorrison@talktalk.net

Please say where they are from.

**Together we can do this!**

*Dorothy Morrison*



# VACANCY BUSINESS



I just wanted to keep you all up to date with progress. The Nominating Committee is working diligently to identify a new minister for the linked congregations and it will report progress as soon as it is able to do so. In the meantime there are two decisions that have to be made very soon by both Kirk Sessions.

**Firstly, which manse will be used for the new minister?** The fabric folk from both congregations have discussed this, and the provisional decision is that the Craigmillar Park manse will be used. The Reid Memorial manse is currently let to a tenant who wants to continue there for a while yet, so this seems sensible! Financial arrangements with Craigmillar Park need to be worked out, and agreement from Presbytery, then that will be sorted.

**Secondly, the time of our Sunday worship services will need to change.**

We will have one minister who will be preaching every Sunday in both churches, so we need to have start times that allow him or her to do that relatively easily. None of us likes major change and it has not been an easy decision for the Sessions to make, but Craigmillar Park may go for an earlier start, probably, 9.45am and we shall go for a later start, say 11.15am. That means both congregations face a change of 45 minutes. For us, 45 minutes later, and for Craigmillar Park, 45 minutes earlier every Sunday.

By the time that you read this, the Kirk Sessions will have decided formally. We will get together and hopefully reach an agreement on the details. It would be sensible to introduce the new start times before the new minister starts, so in principle this will be introduced two or three weeks before we invite a sole nominee to preach as our minister, whenever that may be. We know that not everyone will be happy about this, and we are sorry for anyone who will be badly inconvenienced. Please do speak to one of our elders if you have concerns, and we'll see if there is anything we can do to help.

Remember too that we are all be welcome in Craigmillar Park, and their members welcome here, so if you really can't make our own service, you'd be perfectly free to attend the other church - it will be the same minister after all, and very probably more or less the same service. **ELIZABETH**

The next issue of **REIDON...** will be the Summer edition. Please send Linda any articles or notices by **25th May** - see page 2 for contact details.



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