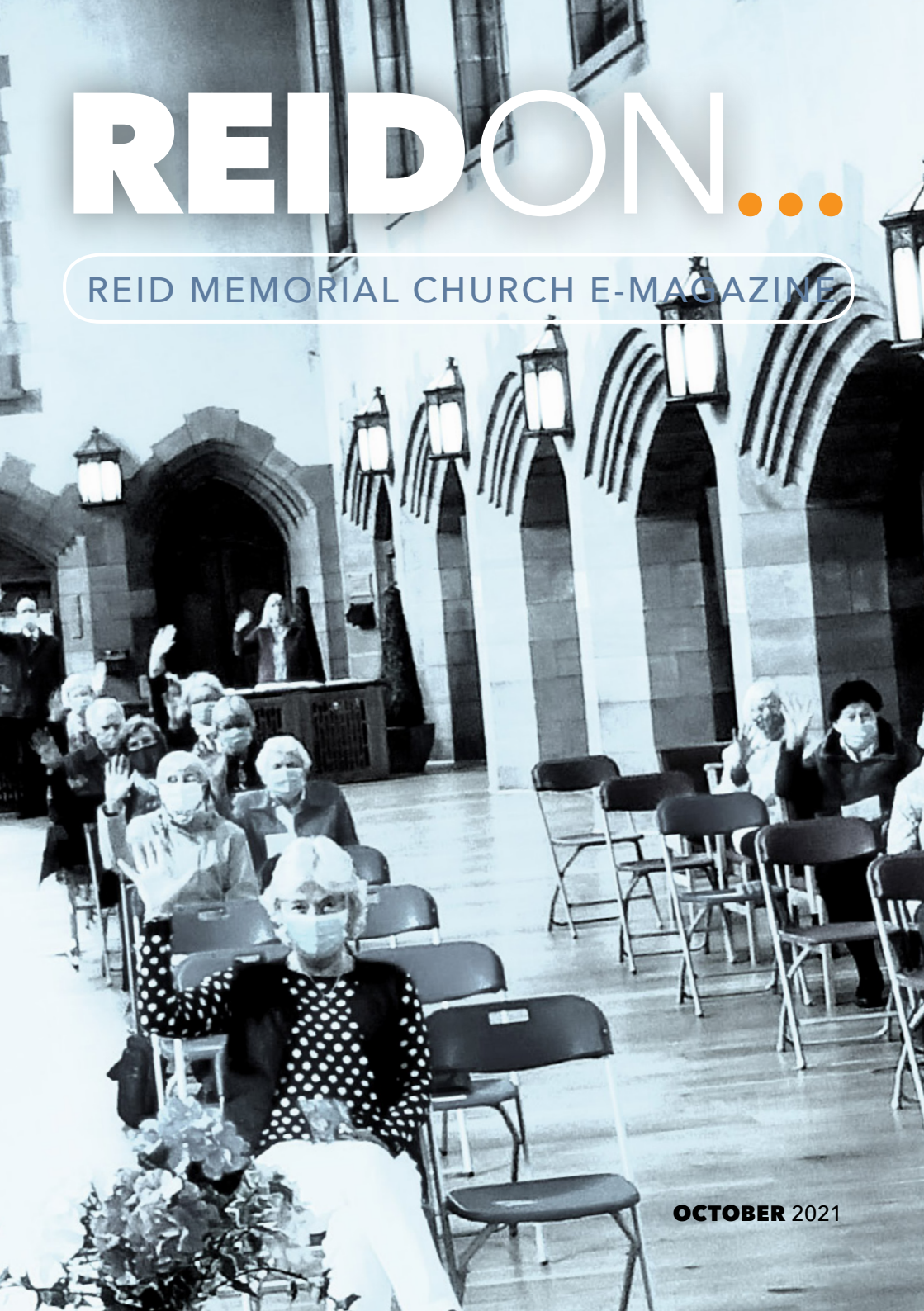


REID ON...

REID MEMORIAL CHURCH E-MAGAZINE



OCTOBER 2021

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MINISTER'S LETTER

Do you remember, as a child, being taught to sing, 'The Animals Went

in Two by Two' Although intended to

say something about Noah and the flood as

recorded in Genesis it also says something else

that is, perhaps, less obvious. What is less obvious is that there are

animals in the song that wouldn't normally be seen together. Yet,

that idea is not totally unusual in Scripture. In a number of places

it speaks of such strange sights, including that of the "lion laying

down with the lamb". So what is this about, and what is its relevance

to us?

We live in a time when we see clearly that our world is in danger.

Due to nature and human activity habitats are slowly being destroyed, and the environment is becoming more widely polluted.

We read of both global warming and rising sea levels, coupled to

the melting of the ice-caps. Yet the Scriptures point to a time when

nature is healed and restored to what it once was. This isn't some

fantasy or dream but a looking forward to the return of Christ Jesus and the world being redeemed. So often we think of redemption as

applying only to mankind, however the Bible makes it clear that all of creation is within the plan of God.

The Bible teaches us that we are called to be stewards of the

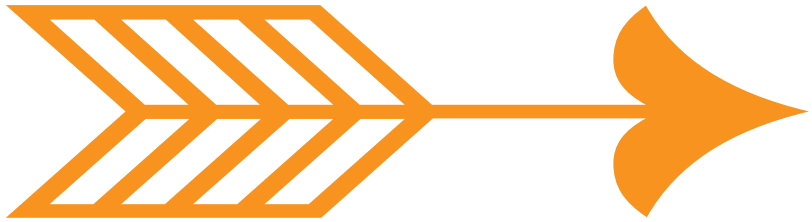
earth. That means careful nurture of our environment and the many species that share this planet with us. Yes, we may await a new

"heaven and a new earth" but we have the current one to look after as we do so. From September 1st through to October 4th is now >

> regarded as Creation-tide within the church. It is a time for us to work together to consider God's creation and our role in nurturing it.

The animals in the song went in two by two to get out of the rain. Let's come together to seek ways to tend to nature not that the animals may go two by two but that the ark will no longer be necessary. Let's work together to bring something of Eden into play during our lives.

YOURS IN CHRIST, **ALEX**



REID MEMORIAL IS **MOVING FORWARD**

As the restrictions ease, much of the familiarity is returning to our services of worship.

We are still required to be aware of distancing from each other, wear face masks, sanitize our hands, record visitor's contact details, and maintain a good flow of air.

We can share the joy of singing our much-loved hymns, with Martyn playing the organ. It's wonderful to listen to the voluntaries that he has selected each week as we enter and leave the church. Hymns are being printed on the order of service. The plastic chairs have gone and have been replaced with our rattan chairs with cushions. >

> Our thanks go to Fiona and the flower team who are providing beautiful displays and arrangements. The flowers are artificial, although it's difficult to tell and are handcrafted by Fiona. The displays are changed regularly with the seasons, as you can see from the photographs.

Very soon, hopefully by the middle of October, we will be able to enjoy fellowship over a cup of tea or coffee after the service. It will be good to catch up with our friends in the congregations. Of course, some restrictions will still be in place, the main one being that you will be served at your table. Not too bad, I'm sure you'll agree. Guidance will be issued nearer the time.

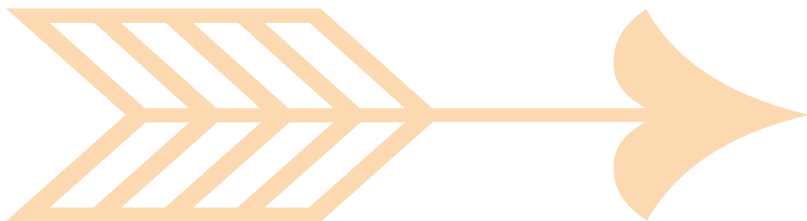
Plans are afoot to make the books available again. We need to work out a way to do this and keep everyone safe.

Most of the groups who previously used our halls have returned, along with some new groups. With the permission of the Kirk Session, the Main Sanctuary is being used by music groups for rehearsal; a jazz band on Tuesday nights and the Edinburgh Symphony Orchestra on a Wednesday night.

As you can see from this article and others in the magazine, we are moving forward. A lot of work is going on behind the scenes by a significant number of people to make all this happen.

So, if you haven't already done so, come back, in whatever capacity feels right for you. Our reputation for being friendly and welcoming hasn't changed.

THE EDITOR



ALL IN THE MONTH OF **OCTOBER**

125 YEARS AGO, on 3rd Oct 1896 that William Morris, British textile designer, pot novelist and socialist, died. Best known for his association with the Arts and Crafts Movement.

80 YEARS AGO, from 2nd Oct 1941 to 7th Jan 1942 that the Battle of Moscow took place. Nazi Germany launched a massive offensive against the Soviet capital. It was one of the largest and most important battles of World War II. Soviet victory.

75 YEARS AGO, on 1st Oct 1946 that the International War Crimes Tribunal in Nuremberg ended. 12 Nazi leaders were sentenced to death for war crimes committed during WWII. 10 of them were hanged on 16th October. Hermann Goering committed suicide the night before he was to be hanged.

70 YEARS AGO, from 15th to 17th Oct 1951 that the first party election broadcasts were televised in the UK. The three main parties, Liberal, Conservative and Labour, were allocated 15 minutes each.

ALSO 70 YEARS AGO, on 18th Oct 1951 that Snowdonia National Park was established in Wales.

ALSO 70 YEARS AGO, on 30th Oct 1951 that Dartmoor National Park was established.

ALSO 70 YEARS AGO, on 31st Oct 1951, that zebra crossings were introduced in the UK. The first one was in Slough, Berks.

60 YEARS AGO, on 6th Oct 1961 that US President John F Kennedy advised Americans to build bomb shelters to protect themselves from nuclear fallout in the event of an attack by the Soviet Union. >

> **50 YEARS AGO**, on 1st Oct 1971 that the first CT scan was performed on a patient at Atkinson Morley Hospital in Wimbledon.

40 YEARS AGO, on 3rd Oct 1981 that a hunger strike by IRA members in Maze Prison, County Down, ended after seven months. 10 prisoners had died.

25 YEARS AGO, on 18th Oct 1996 that the journal Science published the first study that showed a causal link between a toxin found in tobacco smoke and the development of lung cancer.

20 YEARS AGO, on 7th Oct 2001, that the first US and British forces arrived in Afghanistan to launch a massive military offensive following the 9/11 terrorist attack.

10 YEARS AGO, on 20th Oct 2011, that Muammar Gaddafi, head of state of Libya (1969-2011) was captured and killed by military from the National Transitional Council.

PRAYER FOR WEEK BEGINNING 3rd OCTOBER

Inspirational God,

When everything seems to be falling around us like the autumn leaves, help us, Lord, to remember that you stand firm.

You are our rock.

You never change.

You are always faithful,

always with us,

as we move into each new day and each new season.

Thank you for loving us so much that you gave us Jesus, so that by putting our trust in Him,

we can know the security of your love, for ever!

*In His name, we thank you, Sovereign Lord. **AMEN** >*

> **PRAYER** FOR WEEK BEGINNING 10th OCTOBER

*Gracious God,
We thank you,
for families, friends, and neighbours
for the joy of close relationships
and for all that you teach us of love.
Encourage the young,
support the old,
and assist those who care for them.
Grant us patience,
understanding,
and good humour
and let our service to each other
be modelled on the life of Christ. **AMEN***

PRAYER FOR WEEK BEGINNING 17th OCTOBER

*Loving God,
Give grace to us and our families,
to those who we love best,
and who forgive us most.
Grant to our friends and neighbours
strength in need,
comfort in sadness
and joy in companionship,
that we may serve each other,
and love as he loves us. **AMEN** >*



> **PRAYER** FOR WEEK BEGINNING 24th OCTOBER

Most gracious Son,

*May your teaching dispel the darkness of ignorance in our mind,
and may your commands be beacons of light showing us the path
to peace.*

As we walk on that path,

may we find your footprints on the ground,

that we may place our own feet where you have trodden.

*We believe that you will strengthen our limbs when they grow
weary,*

and raise our spirits when they become heavy,

*because nothing gives you greater pleasure than watching us follow
the way of salvation. We pray that you will always be our friend and
our guide, and so bring us to your Father's heavenly kingdom.*

AMEN

A Prayer of Erasmus, 1469-1536 - most renowned scholar of his age.

DEAR FRIENDS,

On behalf of Louise and myself I wanted to say thank-you for all of the love, support and prayers you offered while I was off recently. This made a huge difference to us, and helped in the healing process. Although I am not yet fully fit I am well on the road to recovery and being looked after by the medical profession. Again, thank-you for all that you have done to encourage and support us.

WITH THANKS AND BLESSINGS, **ALEX**

PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS SET TO RISE IN AFGHANISTAN

As the Taliban tighten their grip on Afghanistan, Release International has warned that attacks on Christians are likely to rise across the region.

One church leader in Afghanistan said Christians were living in great fear. Some who worked for the government now face reprisals, and any identified as Christians could be killed. Christians risk betrayal, even from their own family members.

A Christian contact of one Release International partner describes the situation as 'dire.' Says 'Micah': "Our brothers and sisters in Christ are telling us how afraid they are. In the areas that the Taliban now control girls are not allowed to go to school and women are not allowed to leave their homes without a male companion."

The church in Afghanistan already faced sharp persecution, even before the Taliban advance. That church is invisible and must operate underground in this land where Muslims who change their faith are breaking the law and considered to have betrayed their communities.

To be exposed as a Christian is to risk being charged with apostasy, which is punishable by death or imprisonment. There have also been honour killings of Christians by their families.

One of the communities worst affected by the Taliban is the Shia Hazara minority, which has been especially responsive to the Christian message. >

> In May 2021, the Taliban bombed the Sayed Ul-Shuhada High School in Kabul, killing at least 85, mainly schoolgirls. The previous year the Taliban staged a shooting at a maternity clinic, killing women, children, and babies.

It was the Pakistan Taliban who shot 15-year-old Malala Yousafzai for going to school and telling the world about it in a blog.

Thousands of Afghans, including Christians, are now seeking refuge in neighbouring Pakistan. But the Taliban are growing in influence there, too. Before the Afghan president fled, he accused Pakistan of permitting thousands of jihadi fighters to cross its border to support the Taliban.

Through its international network of missions, **Release International** is active in some 25 countries around the world, supporting pastors, Christian prisoners and their families.

WORLD CHURCH COMMITTEE

Reid Memorial has a long-established World Church Committee that responds to changing situations for people overseas, as part of our Christian imperative to serve others. There has always been a grave need to support the world's poor, oppressed and persecuted, and that need has never been greater.

You can help: we've recently started meeting again on Zoom after a lengthy gap while Covid restrictions were in place, and we're looking for new members. Would you like to join us? Just email Lindsay Woods, our Convener.

PLEASE JOIN US!

REID MEMORIAL FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

We hope you all had a good summer and enjoyed some of the lovely sunny days.

The committee are still working in the background to come up with new fundraising ideas, that are possible under the current Church of Scotland covid restrictions. We plan to run a **coffee morning** in October and a **Crafter's fair** in November depending on restrictions. A Risk assessment is being submitted to Presbytery and we will confirm dates once we have a reply. In the meantime, below are details of our next fundraisers that everyone can participate in.

Photograph Competition

Our October fund raiser is a photographic one. The theme is 'Nature in Autumn'. Your photographs, landscape, or portrait can be of Nature eg. flowers, trees, plants, birds, animals.

Send your entry either by **email** to musicsheena@hotmail.com, **post** to Fundraising Committee, Reid Memorial Church, West Savile Terrace, Edinburgh, EH93HY, or **put through the Church letterbox**. Please attach your name and contact details with your entry.

The winning photograph, with your permission, will be published in *ReidOn...* magazine. The winner will receive a small prize.

Entry cost is a donation which can be by:

Cheque to Reid Memorial Church - Photo competition

Posted through the Reid postbox or

Bank transfer to Reid Memorial, Sort code: 831842, Account number 00245095, reference photos and your surname.

Entries must be in by 30/11/2021. Good luck. We look forward to your entries. >

> **The Reid Memorial Just Giving Web Page is available for donations.**

WHAT YOU'VE MISSED DURING LOCKDOWN?

Normally there would have been various fairs with lovely refreshments, crafts on sale, home baking, Fairtrade, homemade jams, and marmalades. Even just meeting up with friends. Perhaps you could donate some of what you've saved?

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

The church will be very thankful for any contribution.

URGENT APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS

When we undertake coffee mornings, fairs etc we have to put in places certain activities which require more people. As we don't have a large committee, we are appealing to anyone who maybe able to help at events in some way. The committee would be extremely grateful for any help which will be vital to undertake events.

If you would be willing to help, please contact either Katrina Russell **kjrussell477@gmail.com** or Sheena Richardson **musicsheena@hotmail.com** or any committee member.

The Fundraising Committee will continue to look at other possible events as and when restrictions change and hopefully can get back to some 'normality'. In the meantime, take care and stay safe.

KIND REGARDS, **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX APPEAL 2021



October is when Reid Memorial supports **BLYTHSWOOD'S SHOEBOX APPEAL**. Despite Covid-19 restrictions in the UK and Europe, last year's appeal delivered 75,218 gift-filled boxes to eight countries in Eastern Europe, and the Reid was part of this!

For 55 years now, Blythswood Care has combined the Christian message with practical help for those in need, by appealing for filled shoeboxes - essentials that form part of relief and development aid, or social projects for young and old, bringing hope to thousands in impoverished parts of Europe, Africa and Asia.

Throughout the month, you'll see leaflets for Blythswood in the church - please take one and follow the simple check-list in it if you would like to fill a shoebox, (or a drawstring bag). Here's some suggestions for essentials you might pack: • toothbrush and toothpaste • hat, scarf, gloves • soap • underwear, socks, tights • small toys for boys and girls such as cars, dolls, balls (should be new shop-bought toys). • Sweets (no chocolate or any other food) with a Best Before date no earlier than March 2022. You can deliver to the church or to one of Blythswood's pick-up points, before the end of October. See **Blythswood's website blythswood.org** for all the info, or contact **ALISON MACLEOD**.

(FROM **DAVID WHITE**, WORLD CHURCH COMMITTEE)

A SHORT HISTORY OF **27A EDINBURGH GUIDE COMPANY**

As the 27A Company is about to change its Leaders, this seems like a good moment to give a short account of its 85 years of existence so far!!

When the Reid Memorial Church opened in 1936, the 27A Guide Company began its life. One of the very first Guides to be enrolled was a certain Dorothy Polson, who later became Dorothy Donaldson.

After her time in Guides Dorothy went on to Cadets, which was for those who wanted to become Guiders (as opposed to Land, Sea or Air Rangers who just wanted to have fun, but often did become Guiders anyway!). There were 5 Guiders over the years to 1943, at which point a still very young Dorothy took over the company, going on to be Unit Guider for the next 29 years. In that time her Assistant Guiders included Sylvia Ritchie (Wood Hawkes), Edythe Birrell, Ruth Liggat, Alison Purkins (Reid) and Judith Smeaton (Liggat), all members of the Reid.

The Company camped from the early years and Marjorie Longmore (Nish), Mary Clarkson (Brown) and Sylvia remember going to camp in the late 1940s, travelling in the back of a removal van. This was a fun way to travel, and we were all disappointed when safety issues brought the tradition to an end in 1983! A bus for the Guides and a van for the equipment isn't quite the same.

In 1972, Alison and Judith took up the reins and camping >

> continued to be a major part of the Company's activities. With the exception of 1978, summer week-long camp was the highlight of the year right up to 2019.

Over the years so much changed, though cooking on an open wood fire was constant. Food deliveries of meat, milk, groceries were initially by individual suppliers, then became massive pre-camp shopping trips to a supermarket the day before, to finally be on-line deliveries to the site. Daily potato peeling was often replaced by rice or pasta. Steamed puddings came out of tins, instead of starting life as individual ingredients and needing hours of cooking. Camp clothing went from heavy school gaberdines that never dried once they got wet, to plastic raincoats that got torn and ended up held together with Sellotape, to light nylon cagoules and trousers. Singing round a real campfire (with or without midges!), days out (with the excitement of swimming and getting a shower and hair wash!), inspection and the intense competition that could produce, challenges and badge work. So many memories.

In 2012, Linda Banks (Bain) became Unit Guider, having been helping Alison since 1983!! She, Morag Samuel (Purkins) and Jennifer Embleton continued the camping traditions until Covid stopped play in 2020.

Throughout all these years, small groups of 5 - 7 Guides did weekend Patrol Camps at Netherurd, Trefoil or Carsewell. With this amount of camping experience, it was possible to run an annual week-long summer camp each year and latterly 27A were the only Edinburgh company that were keeping up this tradition. So many good friendships were made at camp, and it was from getting to know each other better that girls were able to enjoy meetings so much more.

Over the years there have been many changes: "new">

> Promise and Law, "new" programmes, "new" handbooks. Now it is new leaders. The loss of camping opportunities and the knock-on effect, another new programme requiring increased paperwork, living at considerable distances from the Church and ever-increasing commuting times - these have all combined to make Linda, Morag and Jen decide that this is the right time to move on. We are very grateful to them for all the time and effort that they have put in over many years - about 90 between them!!

We wish the new leaders well as 27A enters a new phase.

ALISON PURKINS

NEWINGTON CHURCHES TOGETHER

NEWINGTON BASICS BANK

At the moment we have around 15 clients, which is a bit low. This may be because some of our clients have come to the end of their 6 weeks.

Our cupboards are re-stocked from donations and from the Edinburgh City Mission store with fresh fruit and vegetables coming from Fairshare/Cyrenians. Recently we received an unexpected box of cooking apples and a bag of green beans from a member of one of the NCT churches. These had been picked from their allotment the previous day and were divided into the waiting bags. The leftovers were put in the fridge for the following week.

Our volunteers are always busy checking the use by dates of the donations and maintaining good stock control. I sometimes help by chatting with the clients - particularly one or two of the youngsters.

Thank you all for your support and please continue to pray for our clients and helpers.

ALISON MACLEOD

DOOR DUTIES



SUNDAY 3rd OCTOBER

Joyce Rosie, Douglas Mathieson
In Charge: Linda Farrer

SUNDAY 10th OCTOBER

June Wylie, Sheena Richardson
In Charge: Susan Mackay

SUNDAY 17th OCTOBER

Siobhan Gilliland, Lindsay Wood
In Charge: Stevie Douglas

SUNDAY 24th OCTOBER

Lesley Beckett, Sheila Capewell
In Charge: Ian Beckett

SUNDAY 31st OCTOBER

Alison MacLeod, Elizabeth Clark
In Charge: Stephen Thomson

SUNDAY 7th NOVEMBER

Geeta Mackay, Gillian Brown
In Charge: Linda Farrer

SUNDAY 14th NOVEMBER

Richard Black, Mary Allan
In Charge: Susan Mackay



FAIRTRADE
FOUNDATION

FAIRTRADE UPDATE

Unfortunately I am not able to sell any Fairtrade items at present. The autumn/winter catalogue is now out and you can order on line at traidcraftshop.co.uk. There are quite a lot of new items that you might be interested in. I have a catalogue but am not allowed to distribute this due to covid restrictions. I continue to make marmalade, jams and lemon curd and all proceeds go to church funds. If anyone would like some, but can't get to church, 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.

STAY SAFE. KIND REGARDS, **KATRINA RUSSELL**

THE IRISH MAN AND HIS COW

An Irish farmer named Seamus had a car accident. In court, the lorry company's hot-shot lawyer was questioning Seamus.

"Didn't you say to the police at the scene of the accident 'I'm fine'?" asked the lawyer. Seamus responded: "Well, I'll tell you what happened. I had just loaded my favourite cow, Bessie, into the..." "I didn't ask for any details," the lawyer interrupted. "Just answer the question. Did you not say at the scene of the accident 'I'm fine'". Seamus said, "Well I had just got Bessie into the trailer, and I was driving down the road..." The lawyer interrupted again and said, "Your Honour, I'm trying to establish the fact that, at the scene of the accident, this man told the police that he was fine. Now, several weeks after the accident, he is trying to sue my client. I believe he is a fraud. Please tell him to simply answer the question."

By this time, the judge was fairly interested in Seamus' answer and said to the lawyer: "I'd like to hear what he has to say about his favourite cow Bessie." Seamus thanked the judge and proceeded: "Well, as I was saying, I had just loaded Bessie, my favourite cow, into the trailer and was driving her down the road when this huge lorry and trailer came through a stop sign and hit my trailer in the side. I was thrown into one ditch and Bessie was thrown into the other. I was hurt, very bad like, and didn't want to move. However, I could hear Bessie moaning and groaning. I knew she was in terrible pain just by her groans.

"Shortly after the accident, a policeman on a motorbike turned up. He could hear Bessie moaning and groaning, so he went over to her. After he looked at her and saw her condition, he took out his gun and shot her between the eyes. "Then the policeman came across the road, gun still in hand, looked at me and said, "How are you feeling?"

"Now, what would you have said?"

SUPPLIED COURTESY OF **HENRY PHILLIP**



The next issue of **REIDON...** will be November 2021. Please send Linda any articles or notices by 22nd Oct - see page 2 for contact details.



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CHURCH • EDINBURGH

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