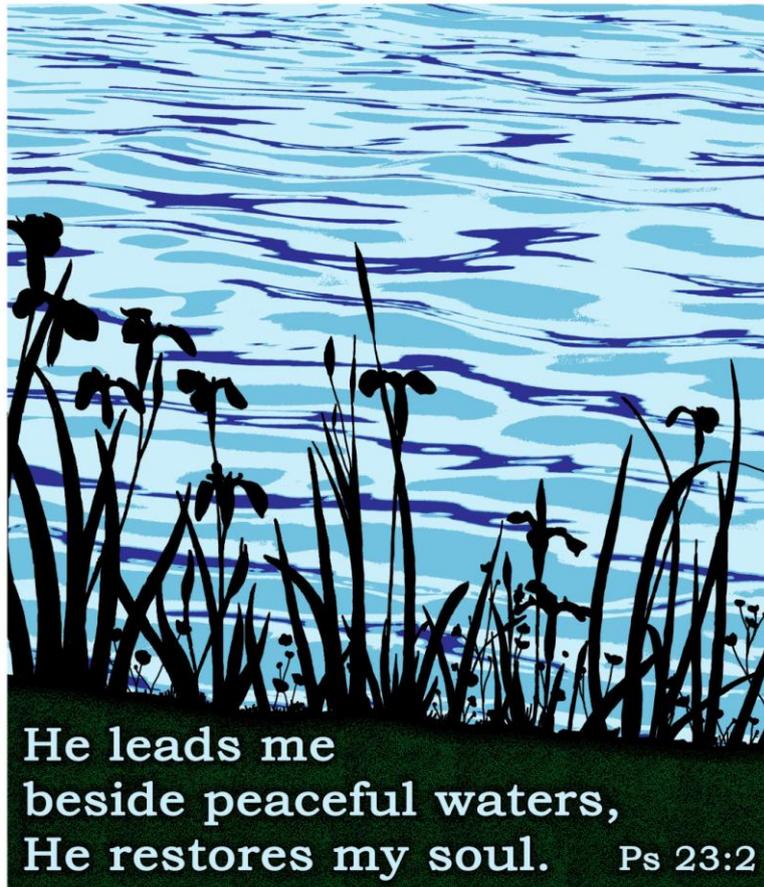


# THE BROUGHTON BEACON

*Magazine of Broughton St Mary's Parish Church, Edinburgh*



## JULY - AUGUST 2020

Issue No. 237

[www.bstmchurch.org.uk](http://www.bstmchurch.org.uk)

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# Broughton St Mary's Parish Church

12 Bellevue Crescent EH3 6NE



**Broughton St Mary's**  
Parish Church and Community Hub



**CHURCH OFFICE:** 0131 556 4252

**Church website** [www.bstmchurch.org.uk](http://www.bstmchurch.org.uk)

**You can email us at** [mail@bstmchurch.org.uk](mailto:mail@bstmchurch.org.uk)

**Find us on facebook** [www.facebook.com/bstmchurch](http://www.facebook.com/bstmchurch)

Broughton St Mary's Parish Church is a charge of The Church of Scotland in the Presbytery of Edinburgh. The church building was erected in 1824 by the burgh (city) of Edinburgh during the building of the New Town.

It is a distinctive architectural landmark on the city skyline.

And it is home to a faithful and creative worshipping community, while also serving as the parish church for people of all faiths and no faith.

In normal circumstances our facilities are open 7 days a week, offering a welcoming space to a number of community groups, organisations and faith-based initiatives. You are welcome to book the use of the facilities for your own creative initiatives.

*No bookings being taken at the moment due to the coronavirus.*

As a welcoming church, Broughton St Mary's offers a supportive space for the full participation of LGBT people in the life of the church.



Tom Exterior

We are currently in a vacancy situation following the sudden death of our minister, Peter Macdonald, in February. We are grateful for the support of our Interim Moderator, Rev Dr Karen Campbell, of Marchmont St Giles Parish Church.



Our church administrator, Lindsey Rowlands, is currently on furlough so **the Church Office is closed** until further notice. You can contact Broughton St Mary's by email via the Session Clerk, Ian Buckingham, [ianbucks@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ianbucks@hotmail.co.uk) or [mail@bstmchurch.org.uk](mailto:mail@bstmchurch.org.uk)

For enquiries about the Beacon, contact the Editor, Diane Chisholm, at [diane\\_c@btinternet.com](mailto:diane_c@btinternet.com)

For more information about Broughton St Mary's, visit our website [www.bstmchurch.org.uk](http://www.bstmchurch.org.uk) , or [www.facebook.com/bstmchurch](http://www.facebook.com/bstmchurch)

**Keep safe and well everyone!**

## The Broughton Beacon July - August 2020

### Letter from Matthew Bicket

Dear Friends,

So what have **you** done during Lockdown? In the first couple of weeks, I sorted out my collection of CDs and my bookshelves. There is now a box under the bed in the spare room filled and ready to go to the Charity Shops when they open again. My wife and I also pulled out the display unit, cleaned behind it, and cleaned all the crockery and ornaments which were housed there; we turned the mattress (Yes, lockdown had that effect!) and I scanned photos, some dating from the 1930s and 40s which were of my parents and which had been in boxes. They are now filed on the computer.

Some of the photos were more recent, but taken in the days before digital cameras. Many of them were from my time in Bangladesh in the late 1970s when it was impossible to get colour film and so many of them are black and white. There were also coloured ones from the early 1980s when coloured film did become available in Bangladesh. It was wonderful reliving those times and I posted a number of the photos on my Facebook page. And the result? I had messages from people who recognised themselves as children 40 years ago! They also recognised grandparents and parents (some of whom were youngsters!) and I am now in contact with people in Australia, America as well as with folk who are still in Bangladesh.

One of the things I have missed in Lockdown, and I know I am not alone, is face to face contact with family and friends. Other than times we have been on holiday, we had seen our grandson every week since he was born almost 8 years ago. We have missed contact with them in Haddington, and with our daughter in Dundee and my mother in law in Blairgowrie, as well as more local friends.

Modern technology has been vital to us all these last weeks, whether Facebook or Zoom. I have really enjoyed sharing worship with you, and being able to see you as we share together in worship. I know we are all longing to be able to get back to church (even if there is physical distancing for a time) as interaction with others is so important for our well-being.

Thanks are due to everyone who helped make services such as these possible and for giving all of us the opportunity to come together “virtually” and be able to interact with one another, albeit at a distance.

Continue to stay safe and continue to be the Church wherever you are.

Yours sincerely,  
Matthew

### From the Session Clerk

The Kirk Session met in video and telephone conference on 4 June. Session agreed that in view of the current Covid-19 restrictions we should not seek to employ a locum minister at this time. Our Interim Moderator, Rev Dr Karen Campbell will conduct any funerals until such time as a locum is appointed. Services will be conducted by invited ministers and worship leaders.

Our plans to refurbish the sanctuary and vestibules are ongoing. We have received feedback from the Committee on Church Art and Architecture (CARTA) which advises and regulates the development of buildings in partnership with the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland. The feedback (positive and negative) relates to the choice of glass doors at the central doorway of the church, the repositioning the baffle doors in the vestibule, the use of a temporary screen in front of the war memorials, removal of some pews in the sanctuary to aid access, creation of handrails at the chancel, general lighting and performance lighting. Discussions will soon be held with our architect regarding the feedback as well as there being a consultation with an audio-visual expert regarding a new sound system and projection screens.

The Kirk Session nominated John Endicott to be its representative at Presbytery from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. His nomination was sustained by Presbytery at its meeting on 16 June.

Session was joined at its meeting by Rev Jim Jack from the Presbytery's Deployment of Resources Committee. Mr Jack was gathering information on the life and work of Broughton St Mary's and he will report to his committee which will bring forward a proposal to Presbytery as to whether Broughton St Mary's should remain an unrestricted charge within Presbytery. This is normal procedure and is the one of the first procedural things that happens in a vacancy. There will be more steps along the way.

The collection for Rev Dr Anne Logan who served as temporary locum raised a total of £280. Thank you to all who contributed.

*Ian Buckingham*

A message from Anne:

“Dear Ian, Please would you pass on my thanks to everyone at Broughton St Mary's for the very generous gift. I was very touched that you all thought of it, especially at this difficult time, when people have been through so much. Although the last few months have been very difficult for you as a congregation, your faith, warmth and compassion have been evident. So, I look forward to a time when your beautiful sanctuary is in pristine condition once more and you are journeying on a new path with a faithful and inspired minister as your companion. Meantime you will all remain very much in my thoughts and prayers in the months ahead.

With very best wishes, Anne.”

## Remembering St Valery, 1940

*I have been asked by church members to share this story.*

Readers may be aware that it is 80 years since the capture of the 51<sup>st</sup> Highland Division at St Valéry-en-Caux in Normandy. Or, more likely, you may never have heard of this episode, when thousands of men were surrounded on the French coast, just days after the rescue at Dunkirk. Exhausted and out-gunned, they were forced to surrender. They were taken prisoner, marched hundreds of miles and held captive for five years. Although the rescue at Dunkirk is often remembered and celebrated, the surrender and capture of so many men at St Valery is rarely mentioned. The reason I know about it is that my father, Colin Chisholm, was one of them.



*Seaforth Highlander, Colin Chisholm, 1939*

The 51<sup>st</sup> Highland Division was made up primarily of Highland regiments, but also included Lowland and English regiments. It was renowned for the ability and courage of its men. To Scotland, the news of the defeat came like another Flodden. It is said that there was barely a household in the highlands that had not been directly affected by the surrender.

On 12 June this year, a 'Doorstep Tribute' was held all around the country, and beyond, to commemorate the courage and sacrifice of the 51<sup>st</sup> Highland Division. I organised a tribute in my street. I asked a neighbour, who is a piper, if he would play the pipe tune, *The Heroes of St Valery* for me, on my doorstep. It was very moving. You can hear this lovely tune on YouTube. (I then discovered that one of my neighbours works for The Scotsman and I ended up being interviewed for the papers! *Evening News and Scotsman, Saturday 13 June, heading 'Heritage and Retro'*).

My dad's story took a dramatic turn when, as the Allies were advancing in 1945, he and a companion managed to escape from a prisoners' work party. They travelled by night, eating turnips out of the fields, until they were able to give themselves up to the Allied forces.

Like many of his generation, Dad rarely talked about his experiences, choosing to put it all behind him and get on with his life. The stoicism and good humour displayed by his generation in the face of unimaginable horrors and privations is truly remarkable.

*Diane Chisholm*

## 'Super Gran' Margaret!

David McConchie's 101-year-old grandmother, Margaret McConchie, has completed a zipwire challenge to raise funds for NHS charities. Twelve weeks after dislocating her shoulder, Margaret raised £12,000 for the NHS by throwing herself down Scotland's longest zipwire. Inspired by Captain Tom Moore, she described the experience as 'just marvellous'. An inspiring lady!

*An online article and video appears in the Scotsman, Saturday 20 June.*

## Weekly Offerings

As we are currently unable to meet in the church for worship it has not been possible for worshippers to place their weekly offering in the offering bag. Many people already give their offering by standing order. Please consider making a standing order with your bank so that your offering can go direct the church bank account. Thank you to those of you who have done so. Details for internet banking are below.

**Bank:** Clydesdale Bank, 83 George Street,  
Edinburgh EH2 3ES

**Account name:** Broughton St Mary's Parish Church

**Sort code:** 82 63 05 **Account number:** 70048491

If you do not have access to internet banking, please contact [treasurer@bstmchurch.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@bstmchurch.org.uk) for a form that can be mailed to your bank.

If you prefer to make your offering by cheque or cash, you can still do so. You can do this by **posting or hand delivering your offering to the church post box, where it will be collected. The church post box is checked regularly.** Some of our membership now make their offering in this way, and I thank them for this.

*Ian Buckingham*

## Fund Raising

If anyone would like to purchase marmalade, jam or certain home baking items (eg fruit loaves) please contact Debbie Buckingham on 0131 557 5051. These items can be delivered if you live within a reasonable distance of the church.

We hope to resume our fund raising events once all the current restrictions of movement are over. Please keep safe and well.

*Debbie Buckingham*

## Prayer Requests

As we can no longer come together as a church family in a physical sense, it is not possible for us to write our prayers in the Prayer Request book held at the church. Perhaps you would like instead to notify me of any concerns you have for family, friends, neighbours, work issues, in fact anything that makes you uneasy at this time? I can add them to the prayer requests I presently send out to our prayer group. Also, if any of you would like to join the prayer request group please do not hesitate to contact me. As I have said before, prayer is the most powerful tool we have in our armoury, more powerful than any of us realise. Asking God to keep you all safe in the Palm of his Hand,

*Sandra Endicott*     [jendicott@btinternet.com](mailto:jendicott@btinternet.com)

## Pastoral Care

The members of the Pastoral Care Team, and others, have been working hard to keep in touch with members who might need support during the Covid-19 pandemic. We offer a chance to talk on the phone or to help pick up and deliver shopping or medications. If you are aware of anyone who might need help, or if you yourself would welcome some support, please contact **Colin Beck** on 0131 556 4516.

## The Beacon - online!

The Broughton Beacon can now be accessed online via email and also on our website, [www.bstmchurch.org.uk](http://www.bstmchurch.org.uk). Look for the 'What's On' section and click on 'Magazine'.

We will, of course, continue to send the Beacon by post to those not able to receive it online.

## MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church will not be meeting for the time being.



For more information contact Jan Allan  
[messychurch@bstmchurch.org.uk](mailto:messychurch@bstmchurch.org.uk)

## CHURCH GARDEN

Throughout the lockdown we have been making sure that our church garden is maintained, with grass cutting, weeding, planting etc continuing, albeit with social distancing in place.



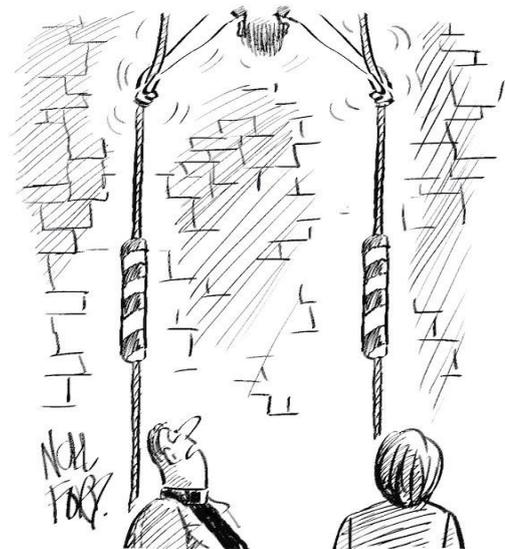
The garden is such a beautiful, quiet space. We are so lucky to have it.

### Can you help?

There are one or two jobs which could be done safely by volunteers if anyone is looking for something to do. Do you have DIY skills and some tools? Our garden bench is in need of repair, and the garden furniture could perhaps do with being spruced up. Also, there are downpipes outside the garden doors which desperately need a coat of paint. We can provide the paint.

If you are interested in helping, please get in touch with Diane (0131 657 2447) or Debbie (0131 557 5051).

Thank you!



*Eric took social distancing while bell ringing very seriously.*

## JULY - AUGUST CALENDAR

The calendar has been suspended for the time being due to the ongoing situation with the coronavirus.

### Black Lives Matter

‘To bring about change you must not be afraid to take the first step’.

*Rosa Parks*

Millions of us in several countries in these weeks are walking in solidarity with those who are raising our awareness about continuing racial injustice at several levels in our common life. The tragic and needless death of George Floyd has ignited a massive stirring within our global consciousness. Together, we must hope and pray that these popular uprisings will bring radical change both within our public discourse and public institutions. And of course in our own hearts and minds.

Dr Martin Luther King’s warning in 1967 that the worsening conditions for black Americans must be condemned as equally as the riots is still true. ‘A riot is the language of the unheard,’ said Martin Luther King. ‘Our nation’s summers of riots are caused by our nation’s winters of delay. And as long as America postpones justice, we stand in the position of having these recurrences of violence and riots over and over again’.

*With thanks to Rev Peter Millar*

### I am only one

I am only one, but I am one.

I cannot do everything, but I can do something.

What I can do, I ought to do,

And what I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.

*Anon*

### Reopening of Churches

We are now in Phase 2 of the Scottish Government’s Route Map out of lockdown. Churches can now open for private prayer, marriages and other ceremonies. However, this will only be allowed if physical distancing and strict hygiene practices are followed. In addition, it is expected that further guidance from the Scottish Government will restrict the number of people who will be able to participate in marriages and other ceremonies. We have already received guidance from the Church of Scotland on the reopening of churches and there are many hygiene and health requirements that are required to make a building safe to receive worshippers (too many to list here). The Kirk Session must risk assess if we are in a position to open the church in Phases 2 and 3. The Presbytery has to ensure that all necessary procedures are being followed and only once approval from Presbytery has been obtained will we be allowed to open the building. At the time of writing, the Kirk Session has not met to discuss the reopening of the church building, but will do so at its next meeting on 16 July.

*Ian Buckingham*

## More Rainbows



One of our church members, Jim Liddle, has created a lovely, inspiring window in his stair, with the help of some young neighbours. Jim says he was inspired ‘during Lockdown, to create a "Tribute Window" on the first floor landing of my stair. A few of our younger residents had approached me, given they were struggling with stress and anxiety, and I thought the window might help to give us all a positive focus. It has certainly helped lift folk’s spirits, and has brought a smile to the faces of those delivering mail or parcels to residents’.

### Peace be with you

Through absence,  
Through doubt,  
Through questions  
And fears,  
Through locked doors  
And longing  
Jesus comes.

His risen presence  
Bringing blessing,  
Hope and healing,  
Restoration  
And His precious,  
Faith-affirming  
Gift of peace.

*Daphne Kitching*



*The Flower Rota has been suspended for the time being due to the ongoing coronavirus situation.*



## New Ways to Worship

We have been holding virtual worship since we had to close the church building due to the Covid-19 restrictions. On average we have a congregation of around 30 each Sunday at **10:30am**. Our locum minister leads a short act of worship and this is followed by time to chat. If you have a computer, tablet or smart phone you can connect for worship via Zoom. Details on how to do this can be found on the church website at

<https://www.bstmchurch.org.uk/2020/04/home-worship/>

If you are on the church's email list you will be sent instructions and an order of service.

**You do not need the internet to join in** the virtual worship. You can also join by telephone. At least 6 of the congregation currently use this method of connecting. You can join by following these instructions:

Step 1: Dial 0131 460 1196

Step 2: A recorded voice will ask you to enter the meeting ID on your telephone key pad.

Step 3: Enter 112 135 361#

Step 4: A recorded voice will ask you to enter your participant number.

Step 5: Enter #. You are now in the meeting and able to speak to all the people who have also connected.

The Zoom meeting will open at 10am to allow people to get ready and to deal with any problems.

We thank **David McConchie**, church member and our web administrator, for arranging these meetings.

**TV and Radio:** For those of you who would prefer to worship via the television or radio there are a number of options. **BBC1** has a weekly service of worship on Sunday mornings, followed by 'Reflections at the Quay' which comes from Glasgow. Times vary but these usually start around 11am. Check details in a TV guide. On **BBC Radio Scotland** there is a weekly service of worship at 7.30am. There is also a weekly service just after the news at 8.10am every Sunday on **Radio 4**. So, there are lots of opportunities to feel part of Christian worship in these times of lockdown.

## The Last Laugh

*With summer holidays (or not) in mind...*

### Seagull

A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and



led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand. "Daddy, what happened to him?" the young boy asked in dismay.

"He died and went to heaven," the father replied.

The boy thought for a moment and then asked: "Why did God throw him back down?"

### Lost in translation

Last year, some friends took their six-year-old on a car trip to France. To help pass the time on the way down to the Channel, they encouraged their son to practise his new reading skills by calling out road signs. He fell asleep just before they entered France. When he awoke, he saw the French motorway signs and rubbed his eyes. In a worried tone he whispered, "I think I forgot how to read while I was asleep."

### Ask a silly question...

Two tourists were driving through Wales. They reached Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrob-wyllantysiliogogoch (yes, that place in Wales) and stopped for lunch. Still gazing in fascination at the place name on the sign outside, one of the tourists approached the waitress and said: 'Before we order, I wonder if you could settle an argument for us? Can you pronounce where we are, very, very slowly?'

'Sure,' the girl replied with a shrug. She leaned over the counter and said: 'Burr - gurr - King'.

### Sad but true...?

British Airways poster:

'Breakfast in London; lunch in New York'

Added underneath:

'Luggage in Bermuda'

