

THE BROUGHTON BEACON

Magazine of Broughton St Mary's Parish Church, Edinburgh



APRIL 2022

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www.facebook.com/bstmchurch

Broughton St Mary's Parish Church

12 Bellevue Crescent EH3 6NE



MINISTER: Rev Laurene Lafontaine 0131 556 4252 llafontaine@churchofscotland.org.uk

CHURCH OFFICE: 0131 556 4252 Church website www.bstmchurch.org.uk

You can email us at mail@bstmchurch.org.uk

Find us on Facebook 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.

Our facilities are open 7 days a week, offering a welcoming space to a number of community groups, organisations and faith-based initiatives. We welcome enquiries to hire the use of the facilities but regret that we can only accept bookings for activities allowed under current government guidelines. Contact us for further information. 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.



On 2 December 2021 we welcomed our new minister, Laurene Lafontaine, after a long vacancy following the death of our previous minister, Peter Macdonald. Laurene's induction was a happy occasion and we look forward to working with her as we face the challenges ahead for all of our churches in these difficult times.

Owing to current Covid guidelines, our church administrator, Lindsey Rowlands, is working mainly from home and can be contacted on admin@bstmchurch.org.uk or 0131 556 4252.

You can also contact Broughton St Mary's by email via the Session Clerk, Ian Buckingham, at mail@bstmchurch.org.uk

For enquiries about the Beacon, contact the Editor, Diane Chisholm, at mail@bstmchurch.org.uk

For more information about Broughton St Mary's, visit our website www.bstmchurch.org.uk



The Broughton Beacon April 2022

Letter from Laurene

*“What lies behind us and what lies before us are
small matters
compared to what lies within us.”
(Ralph Waldo Emerson)*

The Lenten season is for the tending to “what lies within us.” It is a time for personal reflection and introspection, and then letting go of all that keeps us from experiencing the fullness of our God-given life. I trust that you have had a meaningful Lent thus far. In our preparation to celebrate the Risen Christ on Easter morning, we are continually reminded of humanity’s fragility. Whether it be finding our way into the emerging Covid endemic reality or watching the ongoing horrors of the merciless and cruel war led by a maniacal bully, it can challenge us at our deepest core. And yes, it is easy to get overwhelmed. Thank God, we have one another and God’s spirit to lead us through these difficult times.

I often wonder what those first years after the first Easter were like for Jesus’ followers. Having experienced Jesus’ ministry, the Last Supper, and the Crucifixion, the disciples waited. In the darkness of that moment, those long hours before the Sunday sunrise must have felt like aeons.

In many ways, we are in such a time of darkness: physically isolated from one another, our social routines and structure upended, movement limited, fear festering, brooding, and yet, there is hope. There is hope because of good news shared by the women on that first Easter morning. There is hope because we have one another. There is hope because the spirit of God is creating a new way of being together. We are a resurrection people. We are living into a reality that we have always known; the most important aspect of life is our relationships. The joy of Easter morning is we have been given new life through Christ.

If there is any silver lining of this crisis, it is that we are invited to celebrate all the incredible ways people are coming together, caring for one another, and experiencing the virtual support of one another. We will get through these challenging times.

We are resurrection people whose lives are rooted in the hope of our living God. Be well. Be the light of hope.

Peace,
Laurene

Holy Week and Easter Services



Palm
Sunday

Broughton St. Mary’s Church
Sunday, 10 April 2022
10:30 am



Maundy
Thursday

St. Andrew’s and St.
George’s West Church
Thursday, 14 April 2022
7:00 pm



Good
Friday

Tenebrae Service
Broughton St. Mary’s Church
Friday, 15 April 2022
7:00 pm



Easter
Sunday

Sunday, 17 April 2022

Dawn Easter Service
Greenside Church
on Calton Hill
7:00 am

Easter Service
Broughton St. Mary’s Church
10:30 am

Sunday Worship

Services in the sanctuary at Broughton St Mary's take place each Sunday at 10:30am. Current Covid guidance requires us to have 1 metre distancing in place. Services will continue to be broadcast via the Zoom platform for those who are unable to attend worship. For information on how to connect to church services on Zoom, you should follow the instructions on the church website at

<https://www.bstmchurch.org.uk/2021/12/church-reopening-2/>

If you do not have internet access you can still join the service on your telephone 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/service.

Lifting of Covid Restrictions

The Scottish Government has announced that churches are no longer required to record the contact details of worshippers attending church services. The requirement to wear a face covering in church currently remains in place although it is expected that during April it will become personal choice on whether one wears a face covering. We recognise that some will welcome the chance to take part in worship without a mask while others may feel more at risk. In view of this, the Kirk Session will take measures to ensure that safe distancing seating arrangements will be in place for those who wish to avoid close contact with unmasked worshippers.

Kirk Session Meeting

Members of the Kirk Session are asked to note that the next meeting of the Kirk Session will take place in the Drummond Room at 7pm on Thursday 7 April. The meeting will also be available on Zoom for members of Session who are unable to attend in person.

Ian Buckingham

Thank You from The Yard

Members of the congregation recently donated to a collection for the work of The Yard which is based in our parish. The following message has been received: "On behalf of everyone here at The Yard we would like to thank Broughton St Mary's church for your generous donation from the congregation. Thank you for thinking of The Yard. Kind donations such as these allow us to continue to provide fun, friendship and support for disabled children and their families.

Wishing you all the best,

Lauren Shand, Development Assistant"

If you would like to know more about the work of The Yard, go to

<https://www.theyardscotland.org.uk/the-yard-edinburgh>

THE EASTER PLAY

Part of an article by Thomas Baldwin in April's Life and Work magazine.

"Edinburgh's open air Passion Play returns this Easter with a live performance in Princes Street gardens for the first time since 2018.

The Edinburgh Easter Play has become a popular fixture in the city, staging the Gospel story every year on Easter Saturday in the iconic location of West Princes Street Gardens, below Edinburgh Castle. Having been forced to cancel planned performances in 2020 and 2021 because of the pandemic, the team is delighted to be back in rehearsals for this year's play, *Hope Rises*, which will be performed on **Saturday 16 April**.

The play is created by a community cast from across the city, working with a professional director and a professional actor playing Jesus. Each production approaches the story in a new way."

For more information see www.easterplay.org

War in Ukraine

The Church of Scotland has items on its website related to the conflict in Ukraine. See the links below.

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2022/articles/kirk-minister-with-personal-ties-shares-reflections-on-ukraine>

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2022/articles/church-members-offer-to-host-ukrainian-refugees-in-their-homes>

Fund Raising

COFFEE MORNING

The Coffee Morning on Saturday 26 March, raised £250.92. Thank you to everyone who made this possible.

Date for the Diary

JUBILEE AFTERNOON TEA – Saturday 28 May

We're holding an Afternoon Tea in the Garden Room, from 3pm to 4.30pm.

Sandwiches, a scone and cake will be served with pots of tea. Tickets are priced £6 and will be on sale mid-April.

Please keep this date free and come along with your friends! There will be a limit on numbers (to be decided), so buying a ticket early is recommended.



Plea for help

The Fund Raisers are looking for:

1. New members to join the team
2. Offers of help to bake, provide sandwiches and/or serve teas at the Afternoon Tea.

Please speak to Deborah Buckingham any Sunday.

Thank you.

Deborah Buckingham

PASTORAL CARE

Thank you to those who have been doing their best to keep in touch with our members and friends, many of whom have been stuck at home. If you know of anyone who might need support - even if just a friendly phone call - please contact **Colin Beck** via the church office at 0131 556 4252.

Car drivers needed: Can we make a plea for drivers who could help some of our older members get to church? Some folk have a long wait at a cold bus stop, or have to hire a taxi to get to and from church. It would be great if we could offer them a lift sometimes. Contact Colin Beck on the above number if you can help.

Flowers: And if you know of anyone who would appreciate receiving the church flowers on a particular Sunday, please contact Colin or any member of the Pastoral Care team.

MESSY CHURCH



Messy Church takes place on Saturday 2 April, from 11.00am, with games, crafts, stories and a light lunch.

The theme this month is *Lost and Found*, so why not join us? Hope to see you there.

For more information about Messy Church, please email messychurch@bstmchurch.org.uk

Jan Allan

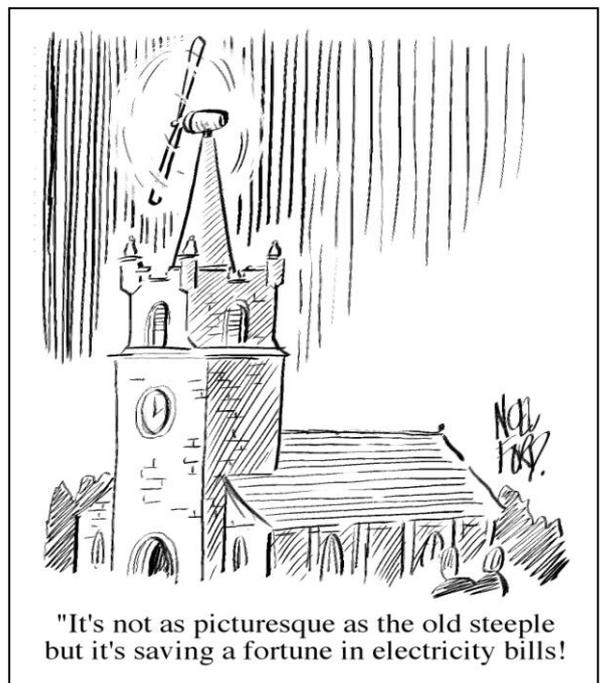
Les Colombes (The Doves)

A stunning art installation called *Les Colombes* is on display at **St Giles Cathedral until 7 April**. The artwork consists of a floating flock of more than 2000 white paper doves which have been hung above the nave in the cathedral, each folded paper bird bringing a message of hope, peace, humanity and new beginnings with it. German artist Michael Pendry describes the work as 'Art for Peace'.

The doves were made by those visiting the cathedral and the National Museum of Scotland during the past two months.

It is FREE to view the doves during the day. Tickets for Evening Viewing, with multi-media illumination and soundscape, are £5.

www.burnsandbeyond.com/events/michael-pendrys-les-colombes



APRIL CALENDAR

Most of our regular church and community groups have resumed their meetings, including those listed below. While still being Covid-aware, it is great to see our building busy and lively again!



Action Group: Every weekday 9am - 3pm
Smart Cookies After School Club: Afternoons 2-6pm, 12-6 on Fridays

Mondays: Food Bank 1 - 3pm
SCO Chorus 7.15pm
Tuesdays: Brownies 6.15 - 7.45pm
Pitchcraft Choir 6.30pm
Wednesdays: Cadenza Choir 7pm
Wildfire Choir 7.30 - 9pm
Thursdays: Food Bank 1 - 3pm
Rainbows 6 - 7pm
Church Choir 7pm - 8.30pm
No Strings Attached Wind Band 7.15- 9.15pm
Fridays: Helen O'Grady Drama 1.50 - 3pm
Cosmic Dance 5.15- 9.15pm
Violin lessons 6 - 8pm
Saturdays: Helen O'Grady drama 10-11am
1st Saturday of month (March - June): Messy Church 11-1pm
Cosmic Dance 11.15 - 12.15pm
Sundays: Broughton St Mary's Church services 10.30am
United Methodist Church (Zimbabwe) 12.45pm
Assembly of God (Brazil) 4.30pm
4th Sunday of month: Quakers meeting 6.45 - 8.45pm.

For a fuller calendar please see the printed version of the Beacon, or contact the Church Administrator, Lindsey Rowlands, on 0131 556 4252.

Emmaus

(Luke 24:13-32)

In the breaking of the bread
Our eyes were opened,
We knew Him then.
The Lord was with us
In Emmaus,
There was no doubt.
He was alive and with us,
The scriptures made sense.
What a difference!
But thinking back
To that journey -
To the grief that overwhelmed
us,
The discussions, disagreements
And debilitating
disappointment -
A different opening of the eyes,
We never *were* alone.
Before the word and bread,
Because of the word and bread
He was there,
He is here,
Always.
Daphne Kitching

From Peter Millar's 'Candle in the Window'.

My heart is moved by all I
cannot save: so much has been
destroyed.
I have to cast my lot with those
who, age after age, perversely,
with no extraordinary power,
reconstitute the world.
Adrienne Rich

We do not see things as they
are: we see things as we are.
The Talmud

This present day is now all that
matters: here fingers touch
tasselled eternity,
and self-importance blows
away in tatters,
but love stands by to bless
mortality.
Bruce D. Prewer

Congregational Register

DEATH

2 March Mrs MARGARET McKAY, (formerly of Broughton Road), Northcare Suites, 100 Telford Road, EH4 2NF.

BAPTISM

13 March LILLY JANE SINCLAIR, infant daughter of Lorraine Dickson and Craig Sinclair.



Flowers for the Sanctuary

	DONORS	ARRANGED BY	DELIVERY
APR	3 Jan Allan	Liz Brown	Colin Beck
	10 Elise Theurer	Ian Buckingham	Volunteer needed
	17 Elspeth Gray	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed
	24 Joan Gault	Pam Skrgatic	Volunteer needed
MAY	1 Donor needed	Pam Skrgatic	Volunteer needed
	8 Moira Campbell	Ian Buckingham	Barbara Robertson



The Real Easter Egg celebrates its 12th year

Churches and communities across the UK will be coming together to celebrate Easter as restrictions are relaxed. So, no wonder that the theme for the Real Easter Egg this year is 'Let's Celebrate'!



The Real Easter Egg was created in 2010 as a way for churches, groups and individuals to share the Easter story while supporting Fairtrade. Twelve years on, it has a network of thousands of churches and supporters. More than three million people have read the Easter Stories it produces, and it has raised more than £320,000 for good causes.

This year, you can also reach out to UK families facing hardship by donating to food banks through the Real Easter Egg's new foodbank scheme. All Real Easter Eggs are made of Fairtrade chocolate and come with an Easter story in the box. The stories range from simple guides to 24-page activity book versions with a prize competition worth £200.

They are palm oil free and plastic free. Because of the continued effects of the pandemic, it is more important than ever that we find ways to share the Easter story in 2022 and support producers. The Real Easter Egg is a proven way to do this.

More details at www.realeasteregg.co.uk

The Last Laugh

Q: Why was the Easter bunny upset?

A: He was having a bad hare day.

Q: What is Easter Bunny's favourite kind of music?

A: Hip-hop, of course!

Q: What do you call a rabbit that can tell a good joke?

A: A funny bunny.

April rains

The rain, though raining every day upon the just and unjust fellow, falls chiefly on the just, because the unjust has the just's umbrella.

Quiet in church

A mother who took her fidgety seven-year-old to church finally had an idea. About halfway through the long sermon she leaned over and whispered: "If you don't be quiet, the minister is going to lose her place, and she will have to start the sermon all over again." It worked.

With AGMs at church in mind...

A conference is a gathering of important people who singly can do nothing, but together decide that nothing can be done.