

# By the Way



## Together

**The Magazine of St Augustine's Scottish Episcopal Church, Dumbarton  
And  
St Mungo's Scottish Episcopal Church, Alexandria  
Issue No 2 August 2014**

### **St Mungo's Mission Action Plan - Year 2 Ready for Signing!**

The congregation of St Mungo's Alexandria are about to sign Year 2 of their Mission Action Plan. There has been a lot of work put in over the past year, with the invaluable help of our facilitator, Gill Reynolds, and MAP, Year 2, will celebrate the fact that much has been achieved over the past 18 months or so.

Our goals were realistic ones, and our goals for Year 2 have to be realistic too. We are looking at being more visible in the community and the wider world, which will involve some sort of community project, and a revamp of our website.

Our new Lady Chapel will be utilised more, and the link with the Guides and brownies will be fostered and improved. Along with this is the hope that we can forge new links with the local Primary School in new and imaginative ways. There are plans, too, to join with St Augustine's in a session with the Diocesan

Welcome, Integration, and Numerical Growth Team, (WINGS), to explore ways in which we can move on from where we are and where we've been.

The success of our Lent Group will be built upon, starting in Advent, and we will explore ways in which St Mungo's and St Augustine's can work more closely together.

Gill will be with us on Sunday 31st August at the 11am Service, and it will all be signed and sealed during the Eucharist.

St Mungo's folk need to make a special effort to be there on that day as we progress and begin to build on a vision for the future.

We move forward at a realistic pace, knowing that Our Lord is with us and is not going to desert us now!

# St Augustine's Parish Directory

St Augustine's, 2a High Street, Dumbarton G82 1LL 01389 734514 (staugustinessec@btinternet.com)

**Rector:-** Revd Kenneth Macaulay  
St Mungo's Rectory, Queen St,  
Alexandria G83 0AS (frkenny@sky.com)  
Tel: 01389 513365 Mobile: 07734 187250

**Associate Priest:-** Revd Alison Jones  
54 Helenslee Cres, Dumbarton G82 4HS  
Tel: 01389 603371 Mobile: 07814 789817 (halisonjones@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** David Rowatt (dsrowatt@blueyonder.co.uk) Tel :- 01389 513388

**Secretary to the Vestry:** Janette Barnes (Janette.Barnes@btinternet.com) (01389 761398)

**Lay Representative:** Tim Rhead (trhead@hotmail.com) (01389 761676)

**Alternate Lay Representative:** Vacant

**Fabric Convener:** Margaret Hardie, Fran Walker and their Team

**Project Development:** Fran Walker (fran\_walker@hotmail.com) Tel:- 01389 761403

**Trustees:** The Rector,  
Margaret Wallace (01389 757200),  
Barbara Barnes (barbarabarnes78@gmail.com) (01389 755984)

## Other Vestry Members:

MargaretHardie (mghardie@blueyonder.co.uk) (01389 767983),  
Roberta Mailley (01389 731863),  
Anne Dyer, (Anne@alternativeswd.org)  
Linda Jenkinson (lindajenkinson@blueyonder.co.uk) (01389 761693),  
Gavin Elder, (gavin@alternativeswd.org) (01389 768657)  
Margaret Swan, (margaretswan@blueyonder.co.uk) (01389 764742)  
Liam McLarnon (liamhome82@sky.com) (07724 809271)

**Regional Council Representative:** Vacant

**Child Protection Officer:** Barbara Barnes

**Friends of St Augustine's:** Linda Macaulay (01389 513365) (lindaymac@sky.com)

**Music Art Drama (MAD):** Fran Walker

## Mission Action Planning Group:

The Rector  
Gavin Elder  
Anne Dyer  
Morag O'Neill (morag.oneill@blueyonder.co.uk) (01389 763710)  
Fran Walker  
Liam McLarnon

**Freewill Offering:** Margaret Hardie

**Flowers:** Maggie Wallace

**Hall Lets:** Maggie Wallace (01389 757200)

# St Mungo's Parish Directory

St Mungo's, Main Street, Alexandria G83 0BN 01389 513365 [www.stmungosalexandria.org.uk](http://www.stmungosalexandria.org.uk)

**Clergy:** See St Augustine's (We have a joint Ministry Team)

**Treasurer :** Gaynor Davies ( [ronyag1@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:ronyag1@blueyonder.co.uk)) tel: 01389 754017

**Secretary to the Vestry:** Morag Cameron ( [moragnancy.cameron@gmail.com](mailto:moragnancy.cameron@gmail.com))  
tel: 01389 756357

**Lay Representative:** Pauline Dow ([paulinedow@btinternet.com](mailto:paulinedow@btinternet.com)) tel:01389 751046

**Alternate Lay Representative:** vacant

**Property Convenor:** James Murdoch ([jimart@jmurdoch.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:jimart@jmurdoch.fsnet.co.uk)) tel: 01389 753129

**Other Vestry Members:** Andrew Baxter tel: 01436 672898

Tom Marshall tel: 01389 764697

Rachel Tough ([Rachel-alden@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:Rachel-alden@blueyonder.co.uk)) tel: 01389 757831

Ruth Wallace tel: 01389 759284

**Regional Council Representative:** Andrew Baxter

**Vulnerable Groups Officer:** vacant

**Gift Aid:** Pauline Dow

**Flowers:** Pauline Dow

**Hall Lets:** Secretary ([moragnancy.cameron@gmail.com](mailto:moragnancy.cameron@gmail.com)) tel: 01389 756357

## FIRST APPLIANCE CARE

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Washing machines, Tumble Dryers,  
Dishwashers, Refrigeration, Cookers,  
Vacuums (Dyson specialists)

New appliances supplied & installed  
Quick call out – fully trained engineers  
Call Alan Mailey 07710 327999



Authorised Agents

**We need people to step up to fill the Vacancies and to volunteer for being part of the MAP Group 2014-2015.**

**Being "too old" is not an excuse. Being tired is, but we have had a few months of ministry now which has taken a great burden from many shoulders.**

**We need regeneration, and we work with what we have! That means you!**

# Smile-Lines

## How prayer reaches God

An anxious mother went to seek help from her minister. "How do we know if our prayers are heard by God?" she asked. "My 10 year old daughter says her prayers every night, but I am not sure they are reaching heaven." Touched by her worry, the minister spent some time explaining to her about God's omniscience and omnipresence....but still the mother looked worried. Finally he asked her why she thought her daughter's prayers would NOT be heard by God. The mother explained: "Because instead of saying 'amen', when she finishes, she says 'click, send'."

## Seaweed

Where does seaweed go to look for a job in the summer? The 'kelp wanted' section.

## Oops

Memory is what tells a man his wedding anniversary was yesterday.

## Drowned

Sadly, my friend drowned this summer in a bowl of muesli. A strong currant pulled him in.

## Wrong water

A mother was watching her four year-old son playing outside in a small plastic pool half-filled with water. He was walking back and forth across the pool with an expression of great concentration on his face, and making big splashes. Suddenly, the little boy stopped, stepped out of the pool, and with a look of disgust, began to scoop water out of the pool with a pail. "What's wrong, dear?" asked the mother.

"My teacher said Jesus walked on water, and this water doesn't work," he replied.

## Only me

Can you do anything that other people can't?  
Sure, I can read my handwriting.

## Genealogy

Where you confuse the dead and irritate the living.

## As you enjoy your children/grandchildren during the holidays, remember ...

1. You spend the first two years of their life teaching them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next 16 telling them to sit down and be quiet.

2. Grandchildren are God's reward for not killing your own children.

3. Mothers of teens now know why some animals eat their young.

4. Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said

5. The main purpose of holding children's parties is to remind yourself that there are children even more awful than your own.

## Knock, knock

What do you get when you cross an atheist with a Jehovah's Witness?

Someone who knocks at your door for no apparent reason.

## Divine illustration....

A teacher was observing her classroom of young children while they drew. As she came to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said gently, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, the girl replied with perfect composure: "They will in a minute."

## So far so good

So far today, God, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent. I'm really glad about that. But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed and from then on I'm going to need a lot more help. Thank you. In Jesus name. Amen

## Smile

What is a smile? It's when you laugh in a whisper.

## Me!

Father to sons on holiday: "Now then, what are you two boys fighting about?"

Boys: "We're fighting to decide who's behaved the best today."

## Remember this, if you are near the water with a dog

What is the difference between a ship and a dog? A ship advances with a bow and a dog advances with a bow-wow.

## From Kenny



Being a born and bred Glaswegian, I was extremely proud of my city and the Opening Ceremony that was rolled out for the Commonwealth Games. It is good to celebrate our roots and being around Glasgow on the day, you could almost touch the excitement and buzz that there was around the place.

It's always good to know where you come from, and we cannot begin to understand the significance of Jesus unless we delve into the Old Testament and see where He came from!

However, with every other Glaswegian, on that balmy July evening, I was aware that as these scenes were shown on our screen from the East End, within a discus throw, there were Food Banks and incredible poverty in this vibrant place.

The thing about Glasgow is that there is always hope, and that is the way I have always known it. Shipbuilding has all but gone, and many other heavy industries too, as it has in Dumbarton & The Vale, but there is always this prevailing sense of hope within the people of the west of Scotland.

We look back at what has been, are able to celebrate what is today, and use today to build a future which is different and hopefully better! That is the recurring theme of the Bible, and it needs to become the recurring theme of the Church too!

In effect, that's what Mission Action Planning is all about! We look at our past, celebrate what is good today, and build on that with visions of a

brighter and better future!

Some things cannot continue the way they always have been, however much we would like them to. I'm sure we would all like the glorious tradition of ship-building, for example, to continue and return to what it was, but it cannot be, and that is an era that is over.

Just as Glasgow keeps re-inventing itself, so must the Church, to meet modern day needs and to speak to modern day culture. We need to pray that the Spirit will lead us and guide us in this task, which is why prayer is the very foundation of our MAP Plans.

This, of course, causes upset, because we don't really want things to change and are uncomfortable with the whole concept, but moving in the general direction of renewal, in small steps, is perfectly acceptable. To lie down and despair is not!

I believe both of our parishes have a future which will be very different from what we have today, but it is with hope that we travel, being unafraid of set-backs or little failures!

So, in hope, we follow our Mission Action Plans and aspirations, not being afraid of renewal, but welcoming it as a part of life, as a part of the Life of the Holy Spirit. We just need to keep praying and being open to different things. The Church of your youth is very different from the Church of today, and so it will ever be!

However, we walk into the future together, with hope in our hearts, or as they say in Glasgow, "Bring it on!"

*Kenny*





## We All Go Bananas!

The **Get Connected Team** hosted another fabulous event in the church hall last month. This time the theme was based around **Fair Trade**. In particular they gave a big nod to the world of bananas and encouraged visitors to take information away with them and think more about their supermarket purchases..... In their usual fun way, the team turned the hall yellow for the occasion and family and friends were impressed by the effort to showcase *Fair Trade*. They also supported a stall provided by a local fair-trade representative, Lavette Callender, gaining just over £50.00 for her on the day.

Banana Muffins & Yellow Cup Cakes went down a treat along with fair-

trade tea and coffee. The group made a grand total of £202.00 from the Tea Room and count this event as another success in their contribution to connection, learning about the wider world. The group will look at hosting a bigger Fair Trade Session in the church later in the year.

Pictured are the Girls' Group, Carol with her usual Tombola, and Sophie who drew the short straw and was a banana for the day!



# Gambian News

The school continues to thrive as do our children, their education preparing them for Lower Basic School, the daily feeding programme ensuring they are well nourished and the provision of health care giving them the best chance of avoiding some of the dreadful illnesses that can plague children living in poverty. So what more is there to say about the school?

Well lots really, Kenny, Fran and I get regular updates on what is happening from Helen Touray and from Sulayman our Headmaster. Sulayman's reports are regular and keep us abreast of how the children are doing as well as reports on the teaching and support staff. So we know that our money is being well spent on the children's education and on materials and equipment to make the school as good as our own Scottish Nursery schools, or as close as we can expect.

We see the children playing on the yard toys during the breaks, Bikes and Scooters, Drums and Skips (skipping ropes to you and me) are well used and appreciated. This year we saw photos of the annual Graduation Celebration at the end of the school year when the 3<sup>rd</sup> year class left to go on to the next level of education with a good knowledge of English which will allow them to flourish. They have benefited from all the other lessons which have taught them about their own culture, the history of the Gambia and lots more.

We had a volunteer helping in the classroom this year, a young girl who will be training to be a teacher and offered her services for a very small fee.

We finally had the roof fixed with a permanent solution, so Sulayman won't have any leaks in his office during the rainy season. This has been a long drawn out story but finally we are watertight!

The children had their annual field trip and it seemed great fun and educational, but I will let Sulayman tell you all about it.....

## REPORT ON THE ANNUAL FIELD VISIT.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of May marked yet another annual excursion for Dumbarton London Corner Nursery School. This year we visited the Banjul International Airport from where we proceeded to a rural settlement in a coastal village called Gunjur.

Upon arrival at the Banjul International Airport we were received and taken on a conducted tour of the airport by personnel of the Gambia Civil Aviation Authority (G.C.C.A), under the directives of their able and capable leadership of the Deputy Director General Madam Catherine Nying who levelled the grounds before our arrival at the Banjul International Airport.

During the conducted tour we were opportune to visit the "Bantaba" which is the main hall; from there we

visited the Check in Hall which we are told is a semi restricted area.

We also have a look of their scanning machines as the guide demonstrates the process to the children. This was the first visit of its kind for most of the pupil and staff to the Banjul International Airport thus exposing them to a lot of sightseeing.

Furthermore, we visited the Departure Hall a place fortified with seats, Restaurants and Bars for those leaving the country. As we out of the door to the main landing site the children were so excited in seeing some airplanes at a very short distance amidst yelling plane, plane and some started counting 1,2,3,4 and so on and so forth.

From here the children continued on to visit the Arrival Hall where visitors are received from around the world. Here they were introduced to trolleys for carrying heavy loads.

The visit at the Banjul I International Airport was very interactive and educative and lots of the kids expressed their intentions of been a pilot when they grew up and finished their tertiary education.

Next stop Gunjur Fishing Site. Here children saw different kind and types of fresh fish and preserved fish. Saw lots of fishing boats and nets with fishermen just from fishing with their catch.

Finally, despite the fact that the beach was not organized as expected, the children had a lots of fun at the beach running, playing football and sand play.

However, some children over ate which resulted in vomiting on our way back home in the bus. The trip was indeed restless but a successful one.

Food, refreshments, snacks and bus for transporting the children to and from the visited areas, was sponsored entirely by Dumbarton Gambia Education Association (D.G.E.A), under the capable and able Chairmanship of Rev.Fr.Kenny and his team of trustees.

In conclusion, on behalf of the children, staff, parents and on my own humble behalf would like to thank all those involved in making this annual excursion a memorable and a successful one either directly or indirectly or in cash or in kind, we say a big thank you for your benevolence.

Attached are some pictures.

My Best Regards

Sulayman Saidy

Thanks Sulayman for all the care you give to the children and the school.

**Linda Macaulay**



# SCHOOLS TRIP TO DUMBARTON CASTLE

Over the past two years, we have held five ecumenical services at the site of the old chapel at Dumbarton Castle. In June, we invited local primary schools to an event at the rock. Educational packs on the theme of St Columba, written by members of the organising group, had been given to each school in advance so that pupils could prepare for their visit.

On the day, 200 Primary 6 and 7 children from six local schools came to the castle by bus, taxi or on foot. They split into groups of ten, with a teacher or helper from the school and guide provided by local churches. Sharon, Fran, Barbara and Maggie from St Aug's helped as guides or stewards.

After exploring the castle, using questionnaires to highlight points of interest, everyone gathered on the level area next to the well for a short service led by Canon Conroy, assisted by Rev Iain Johnston from Riverside. A pupil from each read out a prayer which they had written and we sang two hymns on the theme of St Columba. A local actor, dressed in a robe and cowl, who had been impersonating St Columba around the castle, gave some spiritual advice to the assembled gathering of some 250 adults and children.

Gemma Doyle MP and Brigadier Hardie, Keeper of the castle were present and representatives from the Scottish Government and Faith in Community. As they left, children and helpers were given a badge with a dove to represent St Columba.

A feedback session was held for teachers and helpers and the unanimous opinion was that the event had been a great success and that the children had really enjoyed it. We hope that this positive experience of a Christian activity in the context of a local landmark, which many seldom if ever visit, will remain long in their memories.

We also feel that sharing this with Catholic and non-denominational schools is important. Help and advice were given to the project by Faith in Community Scotland as part of the Scottish Government's Anti-Sectarian initiative.

We hope to organise a similar event next year and other activities with the schools before then. The organising group consists of Canon Conroy ( St Patrick's ), George Campbell ADC to the Keeper (Riverside ), Veronica Adam and Jo Fazzini, retired teachers ( ST Patrick's ), Joan Baird researcher (Riverside ) and Tim Rhead Dumbarton Churches

Together (St Augustine's). John Duffy and Bill Heaney have helped with stewarding and publicity. We value your interest and prayers for these activities.



## Saying Farewell...

It was with more than a little sadness that St Augustine's said farewell last month to Peter and Henriett Cairns-Lengyel who have gone back to Hungary. Henriett is taking over as Priest-in-Charge of a new parish there, together with other commitments. Both have been heavily involved with St Augustine's and we will miss them very much.

Peter's contribution to Prayer and study Groups will be particularly missed, and, of course, we have lost our server!



For whatever reason, the Scottish Episcopal Church felt unable to welcome and include these fine people in the way they would have liked. God Bless! We will certainly keep in touch!



## “Be Still” – The 2014 Ladies Retreat

At the start of June, eight ladies went off to invade The Gillis Centre in Edinburgh on the first ever St Augustine's Ladies Retreat. Some were members of the congregation and regular worshippers at the church (Evelyn, Linda, Anne, Morag, Henriett), some were members of the church community operating out of the community halls (Caroline), some were hard working ladies working within the local community to help others (Maureen, Julia). Most of us didn't really know each other before we left but we all had one thing in common – a genuine desire to get some stillness into our lives (even if it was only for a weekend) and to learn more about God.

We learned quickly that a SatNav in central Edinburgh is about as useful as a chocolate teapot; most folk were travelling in a minibus together and were close to an hour late arriving after getting lost umpteen times trying to find the correct road from the city centre out to the Gillis Centre. On the plus side, however, Henriett had never been to Edinburgh before and now she probably knows it like the back of her hand.

So, having arrived, what did we get up to?

Well, Henriett (who was leading the weekend for us before she and Peter moved back to Hungary) had organised a number of sessions around the theme of stillness, prayerfulness and thoughtfulness. We started off discussing what prayer meant to us all, when do we pray, why do we pray, how do we pray? This was a good way of focussing our thoughts and we had at least as many answers for each question as there were people present. Further sessions included:

- Imagine Jesus is coming to see you – what happens? What do you talk about? Where do you go?
- Guided meditations
- Lectio Divina – a method of meditating on a Bible passage by reading it and focusing on what immediately stands out for you, then rereading in light of those thoughts to see what else then comes to the fore.
- Brief guide to other forms of meditation and prayer

In between all these sessions there was plenty of free time. Time to be still and relax on your own or with others. Time to read, or chat, or pray, or go off on your own. Time to find The Meadows Summer Festival and wander round it. Or even just time to relax in the gardens.

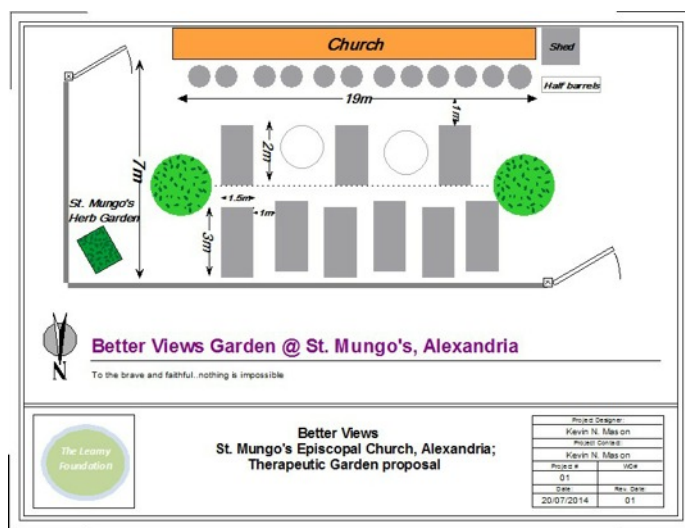
We finished up on Sunday morning with a chance to sum up what we'd all learned and have a short service led by Henriett.



We should thank the Diocese, who provided funding towards the costs of the weekend, which helped to subsidise it for us all. Thanks also to the person who donated money towards travel costs, which covered the cost of fuel for the minibus.

We all had a fantastic weekend at a really lovely retreat centre. Everyone got a lot out of the time away and returned to the real world feeling refreshed and energised for doing the work of the Kingdom in our own locations and situations.

## St Mungo's Garden Project



The Rector, with an awful lot of help from his friends, is proposing a small Therapeutic Garden Project at the side of St Mungo's which will include some raised beds, a herb garden, and possibly a greenhouse in the Rectory Garden. All this would be funded externally and wouldn't cost us any money, but would be a simple step towards engaging with the community, and helping a few folk along the way.

Other benefits would include some weeding and other work within the small area between the back gate and the hall.

Of course, he needs the congregation to approve this, and so there will be a short Congregational Meeting in church after the 11am Eucharist on Sunday 17th August. More information will be available then, and questions can be asked and answered. Please try to be there!

## Need Something on your Pins?

No, not treatment for bunions, but knitting. Can't think of what to knit next?

Imagine getting on a ship in summer in the Philippines, dressed in shorts and t-shirt. Soon you find yourself in Scotland or transiting freezing Arctic waters with only your overalls to keep you warm.

So why not knit hats, gloves, scarves, balaclavas for the seafarers and contribute to St Aug's Woolly Hat Day at the end of October. And get your friends to contribute too.

Every year we celebrate Sea Sunday, celebrating and praying for the seafarers who visit our ports, bring vital food and goods from around the world. This year Roberta was able to present some of the hats she knitted recently to Rev Robin Underhill of the Mission to Seafarers. Robin gave us an update of the work of the Mission and distributed a number of patterns to interested members of the congregation.

Every week the Mission to Seafarers receive woolly hats knitted by their supporters which they give out to seafarers at their port centres. The woolly hats, and balaclavas and scarves and fingerless glove not only keep the seafarers warm, but are also a symbol of the care and support that the Mission gives seafarers all over the world.

**Scarves** can be done in garter stitch in whatever colour/s you have. They need to encircle the throat twice with the ends covering the chest. They should not be more than 10 inches wide and 5 ft long.

There are a couple of different patterns for **hats** – but basically they start off with 2 plain, 2 purl rib for at least 5.5 inches (if not more) and the finished 'length' of the hat is about 12 inches, ie there is plenty of rim to pull down in cold weather.

More information about Woolly Hat Day is being distributed in August. In the meantime if you want to get started and need patterns ask Fran Walker, (See St Augustine's Parish Directory for her number), or go to <http://www.missiontoseafarers.org/support-us/woolly-hat-day>.

We will have a Woolly Hat Sunday on October 19th, when we can all bring our hats to both churches for a wee blessing before we send them off for the Mission!



*(Roberta Mailley hands over some hats to Fr Robin!)*



It was wonderful to see Betty Burch back in church in St Augustine's recently! We have missed her!



Alison brought new meaning to Pentecost with a procession of individual candles, lights, from this year's Paschal Candle in St Augustine's

Everyone was offered to take the Light of Christ into the world with them!

Meanwhile, Kenny was boring St Mungo's folk!

# St Augustine's Sunday Rotas

**Sunday July 27<sup>th</sup>**

**11am Eucharist**

Readers: M Hardie & Ghislaine Kennedy

Intercessions: Linda Macaulay

Chalice: David Rowatt & Fran Walker

Sidespersons Chrissie Ashman & M. Swan

**Sunday August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**11am Eucharist**

Readers: Linda Macaulay & Liam McLarnon

Intercessions: Tim Rhead

Chalice: Margaret Hardie & Barbara Barnes

Sidespersons: Ronnie Blaney & L. Jenkinson

**Sunday August 10<sup>th</sup>**

**11am Eucharist**

Readers: Maggie Wallace & Sharon Rowatt

Intercessions: Margot Rhead

Chalice: Sharon Rowatt & Janette Barnes

Sidespersons: Liam McLarnon & David Ansell

**Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup>**

**11am Eucharist**

Readers: Evelyn & Morag O'Neill

Intercessions: Fran Walker

Chalice: Sharon Rowatt & Tim Rhead

Sidespersons: Gavin Elder & Maggie Wallace

*If you are unable to be in church for whatever reason, please find a substitute! There will be a further notice issued by mid August! This rota has been done by the Editor who has no idea when folk will be on holiday, so apologies if we have caused a problem! Normal service next month!*

## Flowers

Week Ending 2nd August: L. Macaulay

9th August: M. Hardie

16th August: B. Barnes

*Please arrange a partner to do the flowers with you!*

# Tim's Bits and Bobs

## Country Trip

The next one will be on Saturday August 16th to Kilcreggan or Kilbarchan, and details will be released later. Watch out on the pewsheets!

The June trip went to Gartmore where we saw the Robert Cunninghame -Graham Memorial, which used to be in Dumbarton, then went to see Gartmore House.

To our surprise, it was open so we were able to have a look inside. On the way back we went to the nearby Ben View tea-room, which has a magnificent view of the Trossachs.

## Christian Aid -

A Ceilidh is being held on Saturday September 6th from 7.30 to 11.30 at the Abbotsford Hotel.

Voice Box will provide the music and there will be supper and a raffle. Tickets £7 are available from Tim. (01389 761676)

Christian Aid Week in Dumbarton raised £2,916.39. This includes the Fashion Show which produced £391. St Aug's contributed £154. Thank you very much to all who helped.

Morag O'Neill will be representing St Augustine's on the Dumbarton Christian Aid Committee in future.

*(We are enormously grateful to Tim for all his work and commitment in this area of the Church's mission and we are sure that Dumbarton Christian aid are going to miss his wit and wisdom! Thanks, Tim, for all the work you've done and for the tens of thousands of pounds that you have helped raise over the years.)*

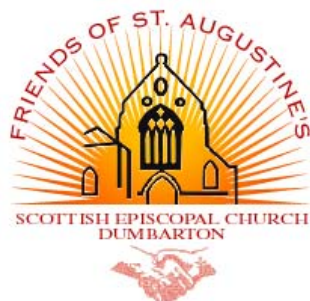
## Thanks

Thank you to all who sent me material for this month's magazine. There were so many photographs and some material which we just didn't have room for, and perhaps we need to go back to having separate Parish Magazines that we can share with each other. Trying to fit so much into a 16 page publication is almost impossible! (Ed)



## Friends of St Augustine's:

We are now into a new Friends year, the AGM has passed and the membership renewal letters have been sent out.



So this is a good place to start my report, by reminding you to send in your annual subscription to Margaret Hardie so that you can continue to support St Augustine's and all the good work that is carried out within the local community, and to receive the benefits of your membership. Discounted entry on most events, free magazine posted out to you and entry into the free £10 M&S raffle which is held every month of the year make it a good deal. If you have never been a member why not make this the year that you join. The phone numbers and email addresses are on the information page of this mag.

Ever looking forward we have lots of plans for the coming year with some different events and a lot of the old favourites. As you read this we will have celebrated the Commonwealth Games in the usual St. Aug's fashion with food and drinks from around the world and now are looking forward to the August bus run. This year we are going to visit the newly opened Bannockburn Experience at the Heritage Centre near Stirling. This will be an interesting time with some awesome audio visual 3D displays. With some shopping or tea/coffee on the way home it is proving a popular event.

September is the time for the annual Community Fair and this year we are going to make it a little bit different so that we attract families as well as our regular customers. So look out for Mickey Mouse and Princesses along with food and stalls to appeal to all tastes. This will be on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September from 10am till 2pm. Look out for more details on the church website and Facebook page, on the notice board in the Community Hall and in the next magazine.

November will be the Big Event, and this year will be another Pantodine. No details yet but it may involve a bean seed and a giant!!!!

At the AGM it was agreed to second members of the Get Connected girls group which meet every

Tuesday in the Hall on to the Friends Exec. This enthusiastic group of teenagers and their parents are becoming more and more involved in what goes on around the church and have already agreed to put on the October Friends event and we hope that they will bring their energy and ideas into the Friends plans and occasions in the future.

Thanks for all your support, hopefully we will see you at events or the Saturday coffee mornings in the Hall from 10am till 12 noon. This is another way to support the church and all it does.

Linda Macaulay

## Parish Weekend:

The Parish Weekend for St Augustine's has been arranged for October 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>. Put this weekend in your diary now!

Revd David McCarthy will be coming to lead us on a weekend which will include a bit of party, free time, and a look at how we share leadership in the Joint Charge.

These weekends are always full of fun, and nobody has ever regretted attending!

Please note that the weekend is for members of both Charges, and Vestry members of both congregations should try to attend. We will make it as affordable as possible! Transport will be organised and all you have to remember is your bag and your bottle!

Let Kenny know asap if you intend coming!

## Bishop's Lent Appeal:

There was a mix up last month, which suggested that the St Mungo's total for the Yorkhill Childrens' Trust was a "mystery"! No mystery! The Editor just hadn't done his homework. St Mungo's raised £312.42. Well done!

## Facebook

St Mungo's have a new Facebook Page. Connect with us on <https://www.facebook.com/stmungosalexandria>

Contributions to Scott or Kenny!





private let in the winter months to show a movie of our choice (we will invite other churches to share this experience ) and the Alternatives Hospitality Team will provide us with some food after the show - we won't need to run up the road giving us time to discuss the movie and share our views... here's hoping for a good turnout for our first event in Oct 2014. Watch this space!

## WHY DID YOU PLAY THAT?

(from Dr Andrew Baxter, St Mungo's Organist)

I recently played "Rorate Coeli" by Jeanne Demessieux. She was a member of the generation of French musicians who played an active part in the cultural revival that followed the liberation of France. Sadly she died with cancer in her 40's. This piece is based on the tune of an ancient hymn to the Blessed Virgin.

Whilst many are unhappy with the some aspects of some Marian devotion, perhaps we should remember about babies and bathwater. For nearly 2000 years this pure and modest woman, with her veiled head, has remained accessible. She embodies a particularly deep but straightforward approach to love. This love is portrayed in some of the calmest and most eloquent music ever written.

There are countless such works, both song and instrumental music, that can carry the listener to peace and tranquility. Some of which have reached best sell status. There are over 50 current recordings of Schubert's Ave Maria. There are recordings of Ave Marias by at least 20 other composers in the catalogue, dating from the Middle Ages to the 21st Century. The appeal of this music is not limited to practicing Christians. Whether sung unaccompanied by a group of boys, or by an opera singer accompanied by a symphony orchestra, (yes, Pavarotti has done it), this music is invariably capable of taking the listener towards the frame of mind from which the peace of God may be glimpsed.

Incidentally, Jeanne Demessieux was organist of the Madeleine, the Parisian church dedicated to that other great Mary. French tradition has it that following The Resurrection, Mary Magdalene and others of that circle left the Holy Land and sailed west along the Mediterranean to land near Marseilles and settle in the south of France. Mary Magdalene was buried in what became the Basilica of St Maximim at Aix en Provence. Her remains were transferred in 771 to an even bigger basilica at Vezelay.

Does the carol refer to this voyage?

Whatever is good for your soul do that...was the inspiration for some as a new task for the St Augustine's MAP Outreach Team this year.

The idea of bringing new folk nearer to God, and growing in spiritually got the wheels in motion to engage with community members teetering on the edges of our church family.

With this in mind and as an extension to utilising the recently refurbished small room in the hall the idea of a Book Club came into being. We have piloted the first session by throwing down a challenge to the ladies who took part in a recent retreat to read The Shack by Wm Paul Young over the summer, take notes and come back as a group and share their views.

We will then suggest another 'good read' and set off again. The intention being that we advertise and let others know the latest book we are working with and so the group will grow.

Of course after we are finished with our read we leave some of the books behind in the Quiet Room allowing the hall users to enjoy, or we pass our book to someone we feel may benefit from the book. The real essence of the Book Club being that we bring folks together to help understand our world and our purpose. – the books we use will be chosen with this intent. ( any recommendations are most welcome )

## Meaningful MOVIES for Aha! moments

Of course not everyone loves to read books so we came up with the idea that we could consider showing MOVIES WITH A MESSAGE. We have approached the Concord Cine Club who will give us a

## From Alison

You sun-burn'd  
sicklemen, of August  
weary,  
Come hither from the  
furrow, and be merry;  
Make holy-day: your rye-  
straw hats put on....  
(Shakespeare - *The  
Tempest*)



The holiday season is here - and the sun is even shining here in Dumbarton! I've been thinking about the word 'holiday' - what it meant and what it means today.

You probably know that 'holiday' is a contraction of 'holy day' - a day when everyone would cease from their usual activities in order to observe a special day of religious or sacred significance. The dictionary defines a holiday as 'a day of festivity or recreation, on which no work is done'. It is interesting to note that while for us in the UK, 'holiday' can be anything from a single day (like a Bank holiday) to a grand tour of the world lasting several months, in the States 'holiday' usually only refers to one special day when work stops, rather than an extended period (for which 'vacation' is used). Much nearer to the original sense of the word - *holy day*.

In the UK, going on holiday is something we look forward to - we plan it, we anticipate it, we breathe a sigh of relief when we can shut the door on work for one or two weeks and go somewhere different. But although we often have 'a really good holiday' we can sometimes be disappointed: relaxing isn't always easy; sometimes if you are a parent with young children going on holiday can be even more work than being at home (especially stuck in a tent on a rainy day, still cooking, still keeping children occupied, still clearing up...); sometimes the thought of returning home hangs like a black cloud from day one! And for others a holiday is impossible because it is something they can't afford, or they are full time carers, or too frail to go away on holiday themselves.

Maybe rediscovering the idea of a holiday as a single day, a holy-day, makes holiday something far more accessible and far less

overloaded than what we usually mean by the word. I love the old fashioned expression 'make holy-day' - the word 'make' suggests that 'holy-day' / holiday is something we create by our joyful participation in it.

There is something about our intent to make the day special, a day to relax and enjoy, something different from the usual grind. So sometime this August make holy-day. Enjoy making your day as light and easy as possible, do something out of the ordinary or just make a space for some rest and refreshment for your body and your soul.

Blessings,

**Alison**

## Kiev Accordion Duo

Again, we were wonderfully entertained in St Augustine's by Igor and Oleks and we raised over £400 for their charity helping those still suffering as a result of the Chernobyl Disaster.

Their visit coincided with the shooting down of the Malaysian airliner over The Ukraine, and it brought into sharp focus the problems that these



lads and their families are living with along with their fellow Ukrainians at this time.

Our prayers go with them!

# Rotas for St Mungo's

## Sunday August 3<sup>rd</sup>

11am Eucharist  
 Reader Pauline Dow  
 Intercessions Pauline Dow  
 Chalice Tom Marshall  
 Sidesperson Jean Brown

## Sunday August 10<sup>th</sup>

11am Eucharist  
 Reader Jean Brown  
 Intercessions Pauline Dow  
 Chalice Tom Marshall  
 Sidesperson Alicia Steele

## Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup>

11am Eucharist  
 Reader Jim Murdoch  
 Intercessions Jim Murdoch  
 Chalice Tom Marshall  
 Sidespersons Tom & Ian Marshall

## Sunday August 24<sup>th</sup>

11am Eucharist  
 Reader Jean Brown  
 Intercessions Pauline Dow  
 Chalice Tom Marshall  
 Sidesperson Jean Brown

## Sunday August 31<sup>st</sup>

11am Eucharist  
 Reader Pauline Dow  
 Intercessions Pauline Dow  
 Chalice Tom Marshall  
 Sidesperson Alicia Steele

## CLEANING ROTA

3<sup>rd</sup> August Margaret  
 10<sup>th</sup> " Jean  
 17<sup>th</sup> " Eveline  
 24<sup>th</sup> " Finella  
 31<sup>st</sup> " Iona/Mary

## Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup>

11am Eucharist  
 Reader Jim Murdoch  
 Intercessions Jim Murdoch  
 Chalice Tom Marshall  
 Sidespersons Tom & Ian

## Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup>

11am Eucharist  
 Reader Jean Brown  
 Intercessions Pauline Dow  
 Chalice Tom Marshall  
 Sidesperson Jean Brown

## Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup>

11am Eucharist  
 Reader Pauline Dow  
 Intercessions Pauline Dow  
 Chalice Tom Marshall  
 Sidesperson Alicia Steele

## Sunday September 28<sup>th</sup>

11am Eucharist  
 Reader Jim Murdoch  
 Intercessions Jim Murdoch  
 Chalice Tom Marshall  
 Sidespersons Tom & Ian

## FLOWER ROTA

3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> August Pauline  
 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> " Jim  
 31<sup>st</sup> Aug & 7<sup>th</sup> Sept Finella  
 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Sept Pauline  
 28<sup>th</sup> Sept & 5<sup>th</sup> Oct Jim

7<sup>th</sup> Sept Margaret  
 14<sup>th</sup> " Jean  
 21<sup>st</sup> " Eveline  
 28<sup>th</sup> " Finella  
 5<sup>th</sup> Oct Iona/Mary

# ***From St James the Least of All***

*(St James is a mythical parish somewhere in the UK. Fr Eustice is an Anglo-Catholic older priest, who monthly writes to his nephew Darren, who is Curate at a happy-clappy church in the Diocese. Please don't take these letters too seriously!)*

**The Rectory  
St. James the Least**

*My dear Nephew Darren*

Well, at least you tried. Filling in for another colleague who was away on holiday was kind of you; that it was somewhere with a high church tradition was adventurous of you. But just because something is worth doing, must you do it to such excess?

I can remember the first time I saw you having to use incense; you held the thurible as though you had just been presented with a dead rat. This time, however, I am told that you heated so much charcoal that the congregation thought you were going to hold a barbecue rather than burn incense.

The church warden was impressed with how quickly everyone knelt down as you went by. If it was in more of an effort to stay clear of your thurible than to pray; well never mind, at least they were on their knees. And I am entirely on your side; you were not to know that their new fire protection system included automatic sprinklers, activated when too much smoke is detected. I am sure most of them would have dried out by Evensong.

You told me that you had not been sure what to do with the thurible when you reach the front. But swinging it so enthusiastically that the chain broke and catapulted several pounds weight of red hot

brass through one of their stained glass windows was really not the best solution. Never mind. I am sure the insurance company will be sympathetic.

But surely you knew that smells also implies bells? So why the panic when the server rang the bells in your ear beside the altar? To have promptly dropped the chalice and shouted 'fire!' was surely something of an over-reaction? Especially as it meant that the verger re-started the sprinkler system. I am told that several in the congregation left church looking as if they had taken part in a mass baptism, involving full immersion whilst fully clothed.

I am told that you actually even wore full robes, rather than your customary T-shirt and jeans. Just one tip: should you ever wear them again, you might wish to wear the chasuble right side out. But that is a small point compared to the 'hat', as you called it. My dear nephew, wherever did you get it from? That is only worn by a bishop – and even then, the two tabs hang at the back, not over your face.

I am told that some of the congregation feared that in some frightful 'fresh expression' of episcopal rule, you had suddenly been handed control of the diocese. With the Church in its present woeful state, I suppose anything is possible.

Your loving uncle,

***Eustace***