



## What's inside

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Our April Newsletter has decidedly artistic overtones. We begin with a Welcome from Craig, our Assistant Minister, examining Holy Saturday as illuminated uniquely by Rembrandt; and our St Giles' picture is, for once, not a photograph but a painting by Rev John V Gardner. The outreach work of the Neighbourhood Group features in updates on past appeals and a future diary date; also by a very moving description of the impact of the work of 6VT supporting Edinburgh's young people. As the introductions to the faces of St Giles' continues, we have asked our Communications Committee to take 'selfies' by which they may be recognised on a Sunday morning – even with masks on! – and we ventured up to the rarefied atmosphere of the organ loft to interview our Assistant Organist, Jordan English. For all this, and more, please read on!



## Reflection from the Assistant Minister



One of my favourite paintings and religious images hangs in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. Its title is the 'Descent from the Cross,' and it was painted by the Dutch master Rembrandt van Rijn. The image is shown on the following page and depicts one of the oft-forgotten scenes of Holy Week: Jesus' body being taken down from the cross and cared for by Joseph of Arimathea and others – an image that always seems to evoke a combination of intrigue and melancholy. What might it have felt like to hold the weight of the world in one's arms? Where was God when all this was happening? – when our Lord was being crucified and laid to rest in an empty tomb? Was there an eerie stillness across the land, as if its life-source had been suddenly extinguished, or did the wind rage and swirl like an autumnal Scottish gale?

For Rembrandt, the scene looks rather docile; that is, there's a calm darkness across the sky and nothing but the flicker of a candle to illuminate the task at hand. Of course, anyone familiar with Rembrandt's religious paintings will know that he loves the contrast between light and darkness, and often uses that as a way of drawing an observer's eye to certain points or themes in a painting. In this instance, it appears that we're invited to fix our attention upon two different persons: Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Joseph of Arimathea, a somewhat enigmatic disciple who asks Pilate for permission to give Jesus' body a proper burial.

When it comes to Mary, I wonder whether her fainting is a sign of distress or weariness; and perhaps in many ways, it's both. Over the past few days, she's watched her son be beaten by guards, mocked by a crowd, and brutally murdered at the hands of power. Amidst all of this, I wonder whether she lamented being the vessel chosen by God to bear God's eternal Son. Of course, it's impossible to know – but I wonder. After all, we could probably all name a time in our lives when we lamented that to which God calls us.

In any event, it's Joseph that draws my attention the most. The look on his face is astonishing, but I can't ever pin it down: Is it wonder? – Intrigue? – Fear? – Is he worried about dropping the body of our Lord? Then again: Perhaps it's just the face of someone who has encountered something Holy – something that leaves them overwhelmed so as to be silenced by the sheer magnitude of the moment.

As we turn our attention towards Eastertide and eventually to Pentecost, perhaps we would do well to join Joseph in keeping our eyes on the mystery of God's embodied life and love for the world. After all, I think this is something of what it means for us to be the Church: To be a people captivated by that which is holy and transcendent; a people holding on to Christ – even amidst the darkest of nights.

### Rembrandt image citation

Arthur K. Wheelock Jr., "Dutch 17th Century, Rembrandt van Rijn, Constantijn van Renesse/*The Descent from the Cross*/1650/1652," *Dutch Paintings of the Seventeenth Century*, NGA Online Editions, <https://purl.org/nga/collection/artobject/1200> (accessed March 27, 2022).



## Support for Ukraine



The situation in Ukraine has been changing rapidly from week to week, and the Church's response has also been evolving; from individual and united prayer to fundraising events and practical support. The latest information on St Giles' role in these efforts is included in the weekly e-bulletin, sent out each Friday. If you are not currently on the distribution list for this, please email us on [comms@stgilescathedral.org.uk](mailto:comms@stgilescathedral.org.uk) and we will be pleased to add you to it.



## A diary date for Bethany

Like many church congregations throughout Lothian, St Giles' participates in Bethany Christian Trust's work of catering for homeless people. On three nights each winter, the Neighbourhood Group team purchases ingredients, cooks and serves a two-course meal to c.50 homeless folk in Bethany's Welcome Centre.

To support Bethany and its important work, the Neighbourhood Group will hold a fund-raising event on the evening of Midsummer Day, 21st June. In the Edinburgh Sports Club, Belford Bridge, we will serve a two-course meal, as we would at the Welcome Centre. There will be a speaker from Bethany, telling about their work. There will be some musical entertainment. The Sports Club has a pay-bar which will be available to those attending the event.

Bethany is a very worthy organisation which relies heavily on voluntary donations. It reaches out to people who have slipped through society's official safety nets. Between St Giles' and Bethany there is now a sound working partnership which has been developed and supported by fundraising such as this.

We hope that members of the congregation will respond positively to this continuing attempt to support. Tickets will be available nearer the time.

Meanwhile, mark the date in your diary: **Tuesday 21st June.**

## Burns and Beyond

This one had been a long time coming - we had been looking forward to hosting Michael Pendry's Les Colombes ever since conversations around it began back in 2020. Multiple lockdowns and delays later, the doves finally landed in St Giles' Cathedral! People from all over the city collaborated on the work by helping to create the 2,000 paper doves which made up the installation flying high up along the length of the nave and chancel.

This project enabled us to form closer relationships with our neighbours on the High Street. We worked closely with the children of the Cowgate Under Fives Centre, who really enjoyed creating doves for the display. The children also had a lot of exciting visits to the Cathedral to watch the installation take shape.

The artist Michael Pendry arrived at St Giles' in mid-March to complete the delicate task of

hanging each of the doves in turn, creating the dynamic sense of the flock soaring through the Cathedral. The installation was free to view during our normal opening hours and special ticketed immersive viewing sessions were held during the evening. These sessions took on an extra dimension with a multi-media light display and a specially-commissioned soundscape.

We were delighted to be able to host Les Colombes in partnership with Unique Events and the Burns and Beyond Festival and everyone in Heritage and Culture is very excited to find out what might be on the cards for next year.

Les Colombes has previously appeared in Salisbury Cathedral; St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London; Mount Zion in Jerusalem; Heilig-Geist Viktualienmarkt in Munich, Grace Cathedral San Francisco and most recently, Washington National Cathedral.

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Michael Pendry said: 'The Les Colombes installation has found homes of some of the world's most iconic sacred spaces, and now I'm thrilled to exhibit this piece in Edinburgh's St Giles' Cathedral, where it can challenge and engage new audiences, both in-person and virtually'.

"Doves are symbols of hope and peace in the Christian tradition," said Rev Calum MacLeod,

"and are seen as a sign of the Holy Spirit of God. I am delighted we are partnering with Michael Pendry to welcome this installation to St Giles'. I am reminded that St. Columba, who brought Christianity to these shores, was known as 'the dove of the church - Columcille.' In these days of turmoil and violence in our world I hope 'Les Colombes' give hope of peace."

**Sarah Phemister, Head of Heritage and Culture**





To continue the sequence of articles about the charities St Giles' is trying to support, this month we introduce...



6VT Edinburgh City Youth Cafe is a charity that provides a range of universal and specialist services for children and young people in and beyond Edinburgh. Our services are delivered to babies and all ages up to 25 years, with most of them directed at teenagers through our Drop-in three nights a week, 52 weeks in the year. Our Terrace Tots support the well-being of young parents who are often isolated by providing emotional and practical help along with regular community activities. We supply free health and hygiene products, emergency food packs for those who are homeless and other ad-hoc crisis support. All who attend the Drop-in and during school holidays receive a free hot meal.

Young people seldom need only one type of support. With each one therefore we adopt a

holistic approach, using the different skills of all our staff to help them access a wide range of personal development opportunities and emotional and practical support, concentrating especially on those facing difficulties in their lives such as homelessness, isolation and coping with mental health.

We have two specialist services that are the only ones of their kind in Scotland. Our Cairn Service supports young victims and witnesses of crime. Our Hospital Youth Work Team works in the Infirmary's A&E Departments, providing non-clinical support to young people who arrive there suffering from self-injuries, substance misuse and harm by others. Follow up support is also given in the community.



*Continued overleaf*



6VT has been operating for 28 years and during this time we have worked with tens of thousands of young people. Some of them have seen us as a place of friendship and opportunities; others will tell you 6VT has been their lifeline! Some from years back contact us to tell us how 6VT has shaped their futures in terms of relationships, careers and taking the “right path in life.”. The following message received recently brings alive the impact of our work:

*“I went to 6VT from around 2004 – 2009 and it really helped me. I was often in trouble beforehand and it made me think about my behaviour and the consequences of it. When I had my child at 16, 6VT really helped prevent me from becoming isolated and supported me and signposted me in those early years. My child is now a teenager and I am a second year medical*

*student. I feel it is important to reach out and let you know the work you do is valuable and had a profound impact on my life. 6VT gave me support through crazy teenage problems, pregnancy, homelessness and starting off as a 16 y/o parent. I even learned some cooking skills.”*

6VT is many different things to different people. Our work with marginalised young people is made possible because of support from organisations like St Giles’. Thank you.

If you wish to find out more about our work, visit our website [www.6vt.info](http://www.6vt.info) or follow us on Facebook @6VTYouth



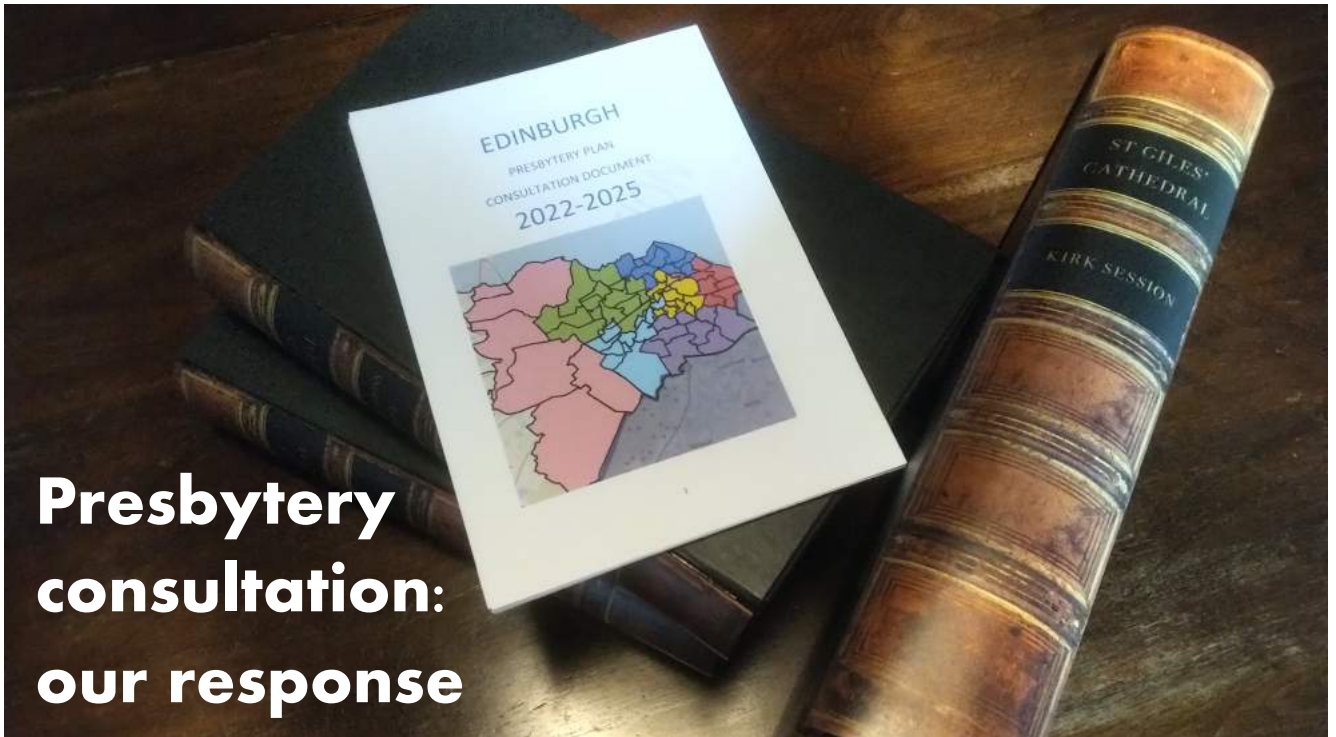
## Advent Appeal – the final total

The Advent Appeal - the seventh such - met with a very generous response from members of the congregation. In all, the appeal raised a sum of £4059, including Gift Aid.

The money has been divided among the three named local charities helping those in need: the Edinburgh Food Project, the Edinburgh Clothing Store and Streetwork.

I wish to offer my personal thanks to everyone who contributed so very generously.

**Victor Ashton**



## Presbytery consultation: our response

Last year, the General Assembly passed an Act (The Presbytery Mission Plan Act) which required all Presbyteries to develop plans to reshape the churches in their area and deliver a significant reduction in the number of Ministers. For the Edinburgh and West Lothian Presbytery (a recent merger of 2 Presbyteries) the requirement is to reduce the number of Ministers by 40 per cent (29.5 posts) by 2025.

The Presbytery published its draft plan at the end of 2021 and asked for comments upon it by 15 March this year. As many of you will know, the plan included a proposal that the Parishes of St Giles' and Canongate should unite – while retaining both churches and both Ministers. This would create a 'Royal Mile' Parish. The draft plan also suggested that the Cathedral building should be 'released' into the care of Historic Environment Scotland. It further proposed that to further the work of the church, individual churches should collaborate in what will be called 'Mission Districts'. St Giles' and Canongate would form part of a 'Central' Mission District which would include the churches in the city centre and also several churches further out including, for example, Broughton St Mary's, Marchmont St Giles' and Mayfield Salisbury.

Our Kirk Session deliberated on the draft plan and offered a response which makes the following key points:

- That because the proposed union of St Giles' and Canongate would not reduce the number of Ministers or buildings, it would not therefore produce any financial savings. Nevertheless, we recognised the wider imperatives that are driving these proposals and would work with Canongate to examine the practicalities of uniting into a single parish;
- That we recognised that the union had the potential to strengthen the mission of St Giles', including broadening our perspective and extending our capacity to work effectively with all the communities that live in, work in or visit the city centre;
- That we felt that the Mission District should be drawn more tightly so as to include only the churches in the city centre – recognising that this community of churches have particular characteristics (for example, gathered congregations enhanced by visitors) and common outreach missions;

*Continued overleaf*





- That the suggestion that we release the Cathedral building to Historic Environment Scotland was unhelpful. I have recently had a meeting with HES and we have agreed that there are areas where we can usefully collaborate but that their taking charge of the building is not something that is on the table.

What happens now? Well, Presbytery will be considering responses to their consultation with a view to finalising their plan by the end of this year. I suspect that there is much further dialogue that is going to take place during this process. The intention is that the new structure, with the reduced number of Ministers, will be in place by 2025. Meanwhile, we will begin to develop discussions with Canongate (a few of us had a very positive first engagement a few weeks ago).

This is a time of major change for the whole Church and we are not exempt. There are big challenges to be faced over the next three years. But we have already found in Canongate a like-minded Church and I believe we should be optimistic that we can develop a relationship that will be fulfilling and beneficial to both of our congregations.

**Mark Batho, Session Clerk**

## Dr Elsie Inglis Event

The Holy Cross Aisle, with its monuments to those killed in war, in particular to chaplains, doctors and nurses, and the memorial to Elsie Inglis herself, was an appropriate setting for St Giles' contribution to the Lord Provost's campaign towards setting up a statue in her memory.

Over the two days, 8th and 9th March, hundreds of people came into the aisle, sat quietly for a few minutes, looked at the display of medals and memorabilia, sometimes wrote comments in the Visitors' Book, donated money and went on. At times, there was a palpable sense of surprise that such a distinguished figure could have lived and died with so little recognition in her own city and country. One of the visitors, a clinician who had, herself, worked in the Elsie Inglis Hospital, confessed somewhat sheepishly that she had had no idea there was such a heroic story behind it all.

So in addition to raising funds, the event served to raise awareness. Members of the congregation, interested citizens of Edinburgh and foreign visitors came and went away, quietly

reflective. Some of the comments in the Visitors' Book express admiration for such an inspirational woman, one who challenged the prejudices of her time and overcame all adversity. Appropriate, too, as the event fell on International Women's Day.

Several large donations have been made by corporate bodies to the Lord Provost's campaign fund. Various events in the city raised a sum of £15,000. Over £1,000 came from the St Giles' event. Considering that this very important figure, more highly esteemed in Serbia than she is in Scotland, was a member of our congregation, it would surely have been remiss of St Giles' not to have played its part.

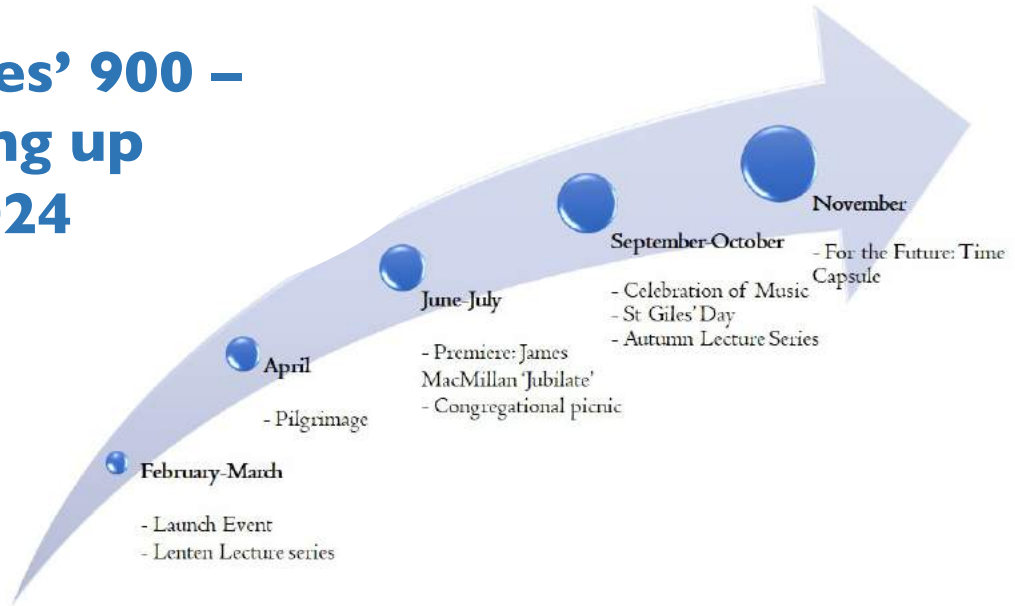
I wish to thank all who visited, contributed online and supported the event. The fund, of course, remains open to anyone wishing to contribute. The donations website is:

<https://onecitytrust.com/dr-elsie-inglis-fundraising-campaign>

My thanks to all.  
Sheana Ashton



## St Giles' 900 – shaping up for 2024



**Over recent months we have received lots of ideas for the programme for our 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. We are very grateful for these contributions, and we are keeping our vision for the programme at the front of our minds as the activities for 2024 begin to take shape.**

An outline programme for the year has been drafted and, while there are a lot of details still to be finalised, we now have an overview of the celebrations in 2024.

Celebrations start around mid-February with a community event which will provide a framework for the following months, with the formal programme coming to an end around St Andrew's Day.

The events to top and tail the celebrations will be creative, engaging, participative, challenging, eye-catching, community-focussed, child-friendly and fun!

Two lecture series or 'St Giles' Sessions' are planned in early March and in September/October. These interesting, informative and thought-provoking events will challenge us to think about our role as the High Kirk of Edinburgh, Scotland's national church and the mother church of Presbyterianism. What does this mean for us now? How will we shape our future in these roles, locally, nationally and globally?

Many people come to visit St Giles' as part of a pilgrimage and we plan to build on this, link into pilgrimage paths and have a pilgrimage on Easter Monday in 2024.

In June there will be the premiere of a new setting of the Jubilate by James MacMillan, the final commission in the St Giles' 900 Choirbook project,

and during the year music will be very much at the forefront of our celebrations.

A Congregational Picnic is planned for early July. We also plan to link in with the many festivals that take place in Edinburgh over the spring and summer months, so that we can engage people from all cultures and communities and raise the profile of St Giles' locally and nationally.

St Giles' Day will be celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> August and special banners to celebrate St Giles' are already in production.

The closing St Andrewstide event will bring together creatively the activities involved throughout the year, as we formulate a legacy to shape our future.

Part of that legacy is to ensure that the building of St Giles' is in as good condition as it can be and that it is fit for purpose as we enter our next 100 years. We are working alongside the General Committee of the Kirk Session, to identify what needs to be done and identifying how we can secure the required funding.

In future editions of St Giles' News we will focus on aspects of the programme as the details are developed. If you have any questions or comments in the meantime, please get in touch.

**Anne Whiteford, St Giles' 900 Committee Convenor**



## Organ Loft Calling ...

### An interview with Jordan English

#### *What attracted you to playing the organ, and when?*

The first time I heard an organ being played I was eight years old and had just joined Carlisle Cathedral choir. Listening to the organ being played nearly every day and being amazed that one person could make so much noise was the defining moment when I realised that I wanted to learn the organ. I had to wait a few years though, but finally started having lessons on the Cathedral organ when I was thirteen.



#### *Do you have a favourite composer or genre of music?*

It is too difficult to choose a favourite composer. Essentially anyone from 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century France. I am particularly interested in performing music by organist-composers whose works are still known in France but for one reason or another aren't known in this country, such as Edouard Commette, Henri Dallier and Achille Philip.

#### *What do you do when you're not sitting at the console (or on a train!)?*

Currently I am doing quite a lot of singing back at Carlisle Cathedral when I'm not in Edinburgh, some teaching and playing for Dumfries Choral Society.

#### *You're studying improvisation – how can one be taught to invent something?*

You are taught more about the techniques of improvising, what to do with a melody or a rhythmic idea. The hardest thing to do, I find, is gelling all the ideas together you come up with in your head, so that the performance is cohesive and having the ability to do this whilst you are playing. The only way to get better at it is to do it.

#### *Have you seen much of Scotland, or is Edinburgh the furthest north so far?*

I still haven't seen much of Scotland, but I have been as far as Fort William, and more surprisingly, up Ben Nevis.

#### *Every organ has its own personality. How would you describe the St Giles' Rieger?*

Loud, very loud, but with lots of character. It is very versatile and well suited to playing music from the Baroque and German Romantic periods, as well as contemporary music. As it was first and foremost built for solo repertoire performances and congregational singing, accompanying a choir can be a little tricky as it isn't a "typical cathedral organ", but there are plenty of ways to produce the desired sounds when playing with the choir.

#### *What's the worst thing that's happened to you while playing for a service?*

The worst thing to happen to me was the time the Carlisle organ packed up in evensong during the anthem, Elgar's 'Great is the Lord'. I frantically tried switching it back on at the console but had no luck, so I had to come down from the organ loft and check the mains to see if a fuse had tripped. Still no luck. So, I went back up to the organ, the choir were still singing! and by some miracle the organ switched back on. I managed to find where the choir were in the music and started just as they reached the Bass solo. After the service the organ then wouldn't switch off. We still don't know what happened to the organ that day.

*Continued overleaf*



*Do you have a "bucket list" of instruments you'd like to try?*

Unsurprisingly nearly all of them are in France (St Ouen in Rouen, St Sernin in Toulouse, and Nancy Cathedral) but there is also the organ in the concert hall at the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur. During a school trip to Malaysia, we had a tour of the famous towers including the concert hall. After seeing the organ one of the teachers got permission for me to try the organ, but sadly no member of staff could locate someone with a key to unlock the console! So, if I ever make it back to Malaysia, that would be one of my first stops.

*If you're relaxing by the fire on a cold winter evening with a book and a glass of something, what's in the book and what's in the glass?*

I have a great affinity for Greece, so the book would be anything by Nikos Kazantzakis, and in the glass would be gin.

## Christian Aid Week



Christian Aid week takes place this year from Sunday 15th to Saturday 21st May. As usual we will be looking to raise money for this worthwhile cause, which helps people in very practical ways to improve their lives and conditions in various countries throughout the world, where possible training local people to work in their own communities. Projects cover everything from the provision of clean water, teaching sustainable farming techniques, improving education and health provision, to supporting co-operatives and community enterprises. Global warming is bringing drought for some and flooding for others. Supporting people to find ways to be self sufficient and feed and support their own families in countries like Sudan and Zimbabwe is a focus for this year's campaign.

On Sunday 15th May we will be inviting the congregation to donate through filling the familiar red Christian Aid envelopes which will be placed on the chairs in the Cathedral and then leaving them in a designated alms dish on the way out. By also completing the Gift Aid section on the envelope, Christian Aid will be able to reclaim any tax on your donation.

In previous years some members of the congregation have saved up their loose change over the year - remember that, pre-pandemic coinage?! If anyone has any 'least coin' collections, please bring them to the church on either the 15th or 22nd May and hand them in to the Elder's Vestry before or after the service.

And if anyone has been doing any other fundraising for Christian Aid, or has any ideas for the future, especially now we are – hopefully - moving out of restrictions and can consider activities where we could get together to do things, please get in touch with Helen Heatlie, who is now the Cathedral's Christian Aid link person. Helen is usually in the choir on a Sunday morning and therefore available downstairs in the Lower Aisle before, between or after services, but she can also be contacted by e-mailing [comms@stgilescathedral.org.uk](mailto:comms@stgilescathedral.org.uk) – the communications team will pass all messages on.



## General Committee Report

### Covid Update

As you will be aware from the recent announcements from the Scottish Government many of the restrictions and legislation that we have been operating under for many months have been relaxed. From 21<sup>st</sup> March the requirement to operate a Test and Protect register for all attending worship was removed, and from 4 April the legal requirement for masks to be worn attending worship was relaxed. The Covid-19 virus, however, is still with us and many more have been infected with the milder Omicron variant in recent weeks, including many members of our choir and members of staff. It is important that our congregation feels confident in returning to church, and comfortable in the surroundings of St Giles'.

We are therefore encouraging those who wish to, and are able, to continue to wear masks, at least while moving around the building. Hand sanitiser will still be available at the entrance, and much of the cleaning of surfaces and touch points will continue. We will also, for the present, offer only the bread to the congregation during the celebration of Holy Communion, in the manner that we have adopted recently.

In one respect, we at St Giles' are fortunate indeed: with such a large building in which to

gather, there are many opportunities to maintain a distance when seated, should members of the congregation wish to do so.

It is hoped that, by taking these small, considered steps gradually to relax the measures we adopt, we are able to continue to provide as safe an environment as possible for all who wish to join our acts of worship.

### Burns and Beyond – a word of thanks

As I am writing this the Les Colombes art installation as part of the Burns & Beyond event has been completed and is now in place in the nave of the Cathedral – our head of Heritage & Culture, Sarah Phemister, has described the work in a separate article within this Newsletter. The spectacular installation that comprised the hanging of 2,000 paper doves required significant planning and logistics to complete the work required. Special thanks must go to our Heritage and Culture staff and our Beadles for the work involved, much undertaken out of normal hours, to ensure that the installation is such a success. The work does not stop with the completion of the installation as the Cathedral is open for evening viewings and then the building is returned to normal, until the next major activity is planned and installed all over again.

**John Andrew, General Committee Convenor**

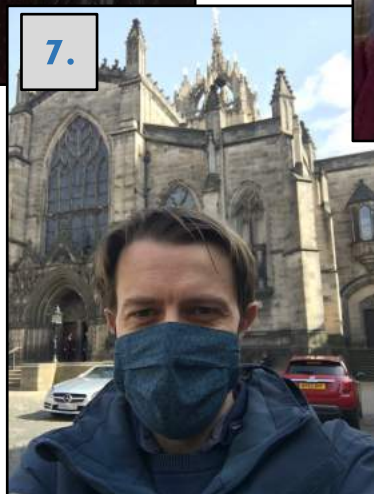
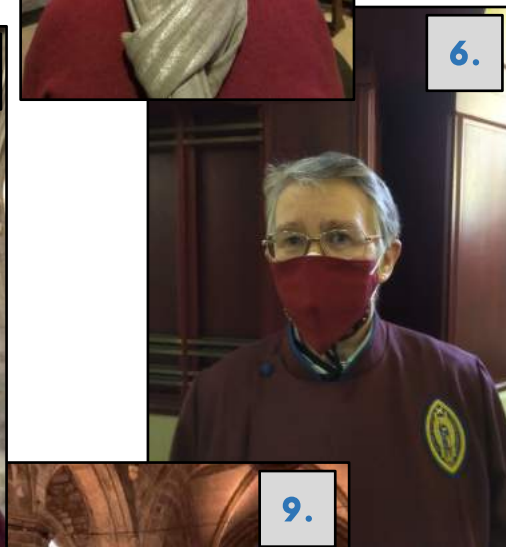


A new perspective? The end of Covid restrictions has seen the reopening of the rooftop at the National Museum of Scotland. This provides the relatively rare opportunity to see nearly the full length of the cathedral side-on.



## Who's who?

We thought it might be good to introduce the faces of the Communication Committee – well, at least the top-half of the faces! We also thought it might be interesting to see how many faces you can already name. If you can't name all of them yet, the answers are on the last page.





This evocative painting is entitled "Early morning Communion, St Giles' Cathedral" and appears with the kind permission of the artist, Rev John V Gardner. Formerly a member of the St Giles' ministry team, John has been painting full time since 2004, and his work has been shown by the Royal Scottish Academy of Artists and Architecture and the Royal Scottish Society of Artists in Watercolour.



## And Finally...

We hope you have enjoyed reading this edition of the newsletter. If there is anything you would like to see included in future editions, please get in touch on [comms@stgilescathedral.org.uk](mailto:comms@stgilescathedral.org.uk)

Many of you will be aware that, in addition to this bi-monthly Newsletter, we are now also sending out a weekly email. This is intended to provide timely information of current events, as well as passing on occasional bulletins on the subject of road closures, parking restrictions etc. which sometimes impact Sunday morning routine.

If you are not already on the distribution list for this email, and would like to be, please let us know – also on the comms email address listed above.

## Contact information

The [@stgilescathedral.org.uk](mailto:@stgilescathedral.org.uk) address has been rolled out to certain of the key contacts at St Giles' – some examples are shown below:

Calum MacLeod, Minister	<a href="mailto:minister@stgilescathedral.org.uk">minister@stgilescathedral.org.uk</a>
Sigrid Marten, Associate Minister	<a href="mailto:sigrid.marten@stgilescathedral.org.uk">sigrid.marten@stgilescathedral.org.uk</a>
Mark Batho, Session Clerk	<a href="mailto:sessionclerk@stgilescathedral.org.uk">sessionclerk@stgilescathedral.org.uk</a>
Niall Lothian, Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@stgilescathedral.org.uk">treasurer@stgilescathedral.org.uk</a>
Michael Harris, Master of the Music	<a href="mailto:michael.harris@stgilescathedral.org.uk">michael.harris@stgilescathedral.org.uk</a>
Sarah Phemister, Head of Heritage & Culture	<a href="mailto:sarah.phemister@stgilescathedral.org.uk">sarah.phemister@stgilescathedral.org.uk</a>

As Communications Convenor, Amanda Forsyth monitors the [comms@stgilescathedral.org.uk](mailto:comms@stgilescathedral.org.uk) address, and is generally able to forward queries to other members of the Kirk staff and Session. She can also be reached directly on [amanda.forsyth@stgilescathedral.org.uk](mailto:amanda.forsyth@stgilescathedral.org.uk)

Useful contacts:

The Minister's Secretary	0131 225 4363
Beadles' Office	0131 226 0672
Cathedral Shop	0131 226 0673 <a href="mailto:shop@stgilescathedral.org.uk">shop@stgilescathedral.org.uk</a>
Finance Office	0131 225 8683
Heritage & Culture	0131 226 0674

## Picture credits

As ever, we wish to thank Peter Backhouse, who has provided his photographic skills for a number of the images in the Newsletter. We would also like to thank Ivar Struthers, who has kindly allowed us to use his image of St Giles' at sunset on the front cover.

## Who was who?

1. John Andrew, 2. Michael Harris, 3. Anne Whiteford, 4. Victor Ashton, 5. Amanda Forsyth, 6. Marjory Lobban, 7. William Taylor, 8. Lesley Elliot, 9. Sarah Phemister