



The EDGE

News of the Diocese of Edinburgh

www.dioceseofedinburgh.org

September 2005

Volume 10 Number 1

10 Years on The EDGE

Church life revolves around communication - too little of it or too much of it. We are always wanting to know what is going on in our Church and in our Diocese. There is often a lot of information around, we just need to put ourselves in the way of it.

This is what we have endeavoured to do with *The EDGE* for the past ten years and have tried to report what has been going on, in and around the Diocese. We have been helped enormously by people e-mailing, phoning and posting news to us. From the beginning of *The EDGE* there has been a dedicated team who have coped with all the missed deadlines, quirks of computers and all the other frustrations of publishing.

Back in 1995 the Diocese splashed out on a fax machine for me, as the Editor. This meant that I did not have to drive round the Diocese grabbing hold of odd bits of paper from sometimes even odder sources. Now, like everybody else, our communication is mostly electronic. This can easily dehumanise meaningful communication and we must be careful that the medium does not become the beginning and end of what we want to say. We hope that *The EDGE* does record properly the human communication we have amongst ourselves.

From the beginning *The EDGE* has tried to reflect and celebrate what is going on in the life of the Diocese of Edinburgh. We hope that it has aided our unity as a people with a mission to serve God and our neighbour. Our life together is rich and varied. The small team that run *The EDGE* have had the privilege of learning about the lives of many people. It will not surprise you to learn that there has often been a story behind each story we publish.

We have published a lot of good news and there have been times when we have had to record the sadnesses that affect us all.

We hope very much that *The EDGE* has contributed to the life of the Diocese of Edinburgh and that through it people have felt lifted and encouraged and will be so for the next ten years.

Mark Goodman

and a New Start -



Anna, the Bishop's Secretary married Henry Howard, a Lay Clerk at the Cathedral on 10 September. We wish them both every happiness for the future Photo David Treherne

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Gazette

Appointments

The Revd Michael Lockey Rector of St Andrew's, Kelso w.e.f. 13 August 2005. Continuing as Priest in Charge of St Mary and All Souls, Coldstream.

Resignations

The Revd Roger Wiles Priest in Charge Emmanuel Church, Edinburgh w.e.f. 31 August 2005. Now Vicar of Holy Trinity, Poulton Lancelyn, The Wirral, Cheshire.

Warrant

The Very Revd Jim Mein w.e.f. 26 June 2005.

Permission to Officiate

Gordon Anderson St John the Evangelist, Jedburgh w.e.f. 9 August 2005.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN LECTURE

by
BRIAN SMITH, BISHOP OF EDINBURGH

**Friday 11 November: St Peter's
Lutton Place, Edinburgh,
7.30pm**

**Friday 18 November: Holy
Trinity Melrose, 7.30pm**

**Monday 21 November: St
Catharine's Bo'ness, 7.30pm**

Diocesan Synod

The next meeting of the Diocesan Synod will be held on
Thursday 27 October

at

Palmerston Place Church at
6.45pm.

The meeting will begin with Eucharist at 5.30pm in St Mary's Cathedral.

The Diocesan Centre



Christine Shepherd

It would be entirely understandable if anyone phoning into the Diocesan Centre in recent months was left with a slightly confused feeling. 'Christine' is no longer the Bishop's Secretary but the Diocesan Administrator (Christine Shepherd), and just as you get used to the Bishop's Secretary being called Anna Parsons, lo and behold a new persona will appear after 10 September – Anna Howard. Simple explanation – Anna is getting married on that date.

The new Diocesan Office structure, set in place by the Personnel Committee, is Christine Shepherd (Diocesan Administrator) who line manages Anna Parsons (soon to be Howard), Bishop's Secretary; John McEwan (Administrative Assistant) and Kerry McKue (Book-keeper).

All enquiries relating to the Bishop should be directed to Anna; for everything else contact Christine in the first instance.



Anna Howard

This edition of *The EDGE* has been designed, typeset and laid out by the Editorial Panel:

Mark Goodman (0131 663 7000
E-mail: MarkAS@goodman24.freeserve.co.uk
(St Mary's, Dalkeith and St Leonard's, Lasswade)

John Howard (0131 476 0631
E-mail: jvhoward@ecosse.net
(St Mary's Cathedral)

David Treherne (0131 336 5250, 0551 143 6798
E-mail: d.treherne@physics.org
(St Ninian's, Comely Bank)

Pat Treherne (0131 336 5250
E-mail: patreherne@fish.co.uk
(St Ninian's, Comely Bank)

The EDGE, Diocesan Centre, 21A Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 5EL
(0131 538 7033 Fax: 0131 538 7088 Email: edge@dioceseofedinburgh.org

Bishop Brian's Letter

In *The Edge* this month are a number of matters concerning the development of our training programme. As you know, the General Synod urged all dioceses to develop patterns of training for ordained ministry, for lay ministry, and for those wishing to explore the nature of the Christian Faith.



During the past year various initiatives have been developed, and this autumn sees these being taken further forward.

I would want to thank all who have been working to set up the programme, and also thank those who will be taking part as leaders of the sessions or as participants in them. I also hope that a large number of people will choose to share in these events that are being mounted.

There is a growing interest in matters of the Christian Faith, spirituality, and religious belief, and the church must seek to respond to it, and encourage it. Both within the church and outside people are sensing a call to explore matters of faith and spirituality – a call that may have been ignored for too long. Let us now take this forward together.

+Brian

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN WITH TISEC THIS AUTUMN

Last year the TISEC seminars which formed a central part of the theological education of those training for authorised ministry were open to everyone, lay and ordained alike. A number of lay people within the diocese took up the offer of looking more closely at topics such as Contemporary Issues, New Testament, Missiology, and modern Church History

This year, Edinburgh TISEC is offering the same opportunity again, so if there is something you would like to study in real depth, consider joining the TISEC group.

This autumn's topics are:

5 October – 2 November: **Old Testament**

16 November – 14 December: **Ethics**

Each module comprises five seminars and people from outside are required to commit to one module, not just individual seminars. The seminars are held on Wednesday evenings in the Diocesan Centre and cost £25 per module.

For more information contact John Conway on 0131 337 5471

DIOCESAN RETREATS 2006



In 2006 the Diocese is offering two Retreats. The Weekday Retreat is for Clergy and those with Licensed Lay Ministries. The Weekend Retreat is open to all.

The Retreats will be led by **The Revd Andrew Walker** who is director of the London Centre for Spirituality, co-director of the Ignatian Spirituality Programme and Rector of St Mary Woolnoth in the City of London. He is also a Psychosynthesis counsellor, trainer and supervisor.

The theme of the Retreat is **Becoming Whom We Contemplate** - reflecting prayerfully on our spiritual journey and practices.

Leaflets with application forms have been distributed to each charge with this mailing of *The EDGE*. Also available from: Diocesan Retreats Secretary, The Diocesan Centre, 21A Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 5EL

ADVANCE NOTICE

Theology, Prayer and Ethics as part of the Life of Faith

A five week study course on
Being a Christian in the 21st Century

Led by
Brian Smith, Bishop of Edinburgh

Wednesdays 3 - 31 May 2006,
6.30 - 9pm
Holy Trinity Centre, Melrose

For more details contact: Elspeth Strachan,
Ministry Development Service, Edinburgh
Diocesan Centre, 21a Grosvenor Crescent,
Edinburgh EH12 5DH
email: adventures@dioceseofedinburgh.org
Tel 0131 538 7033



JAM is going on retreat!

Jam is the Lay Ministry Network for Edinburgh and the Borders and it is going on retreat to The College of the Isles, Millport from 7- 9 October this year. The retreat is entitled: "Listening to the Call in Prayer", and will be led by members of JAM, with a talk by Ivan Mann, the new warden of the college.

JAM is an ecumenical lay ministry network that celebrates the creative variety of responses to our baptismal call to love and serve God. It meets regularly and aims to explore ways of bringing together lay people for mutual support, sharing of resources, worship and theological reflection. Its main purpose is to encourage people to discern their individual calling and, like jazz musicians, to sing with others the song God has given them.

If you would like to join JAM, please contact Elspeth Strachan, Bishop's Officer for Ministry, Edinburgh Diocesan Centre, 21a Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 5EL. Tel 0131 229 3654

FAITH IN OLDER PEOPLE

A small group has been working away for over eighteen months to establish a new project to help churches and communities celebrate the faith of older people and also ensure that they receive the care and support that they may need.



Mary Moffett is the Project Worker and will be working half-time, based at the Project Office in the Diocesan Centre.

The work is a natural development of the work that she has been doing for the past eight years attached to St Cuthbert's Church in Colinton. It is hoped that she will be able to make contact with every church in the diocese (and not only Episcopal), encouraging them to review their work with the older members in their community, to assess needs, share skills, develop new ones and if appropriate appoint a specific person to have responsibility for working with and for older people. These people will then receive ongoing support, encouragement and training from the Project. We are also building up a library of resources – books, videos, magazine and occasional papers which will be available to churches.

We have managed to secure funding from a number of charitable bodies which means that this work can begin and develop at no additional cost to the diocese.

Mary can be contacted on 0131 337 1383 (ansafone when office is not staffed) or by e-mail: fiop@dioceseofedinburgh.org

Malcolm Goldsmith

EXPLORING CHRISTIANITY

is a course for those who want to deepen their understanding of the Christian faith imaginatively and as members of a learning group. Part of the Diocese of Edinburgh's 'Adventures in Faith' programme, it is an opportunity for people from different parts of the diocese to share their understanding of how faith and life relate and to consider what it means to be a Christian in the 21st century.

What is the course about?

The course aims to explore how Christian belief, spirituality and action relate in daily life. Each session will include elements of group sharing, worship and input from a variety of presenters.

Unit 1: What Christians Believe

An exploration of key elements of Christian belief from an experiential, theological and biblical perspective.

Unit 2: Worship and Prayer

A look at the spirituality of, and meaning behind, different ways of worshipping and praying.

Unit 3: Going Deeper

A variety of practical workshops and courses relating faith to life, covering topics such as the work/life balance; talking about spiritual issues with others; exploring worship; pastoral care for the frail elderly. Details of the events in this unit will follow later.

Courses will be held in 3 locations, St Martin of Tours, Edinburgh, Holy Trinity, Haddington and St Columba's, Bathgate. **Leaflets with more information and application forms are available from the Diocesan Centre, and are also available on the Diocesan website which includes an application form for download.**

Exploring Christianity lasts for one year and is arranged in two units of five/six sessions ending with a third unit of practical workshops and seminars. Throughout, there will an emphasis on shared experience and different methods of learning and a recognition of different theological positions. Each unit will have a consistent facilitator, but a variety of local presenters. As well as presenting some sessions, Bishop Brian will launch the course in October and lead a Quiet Day in Lent.

View From Earth

97.3FM and 1548MW

Religious Broadcasting on Radio Forth

Over the summer there was great deal of discussion over the future of the 'Thought for the Day' slot on BBC Radio Scotland and where it fitted in the schedules. It is easy to forget that religious broadcasting exists elsewhere than the BBC. Forth Radio, One and Two have been involved in religious broadcasting since the Station began 30 years ago.

Each day in the Edinburgh area tens of thousands of listeners hear the daily *View From Earth* broadcast. This is commercial radio and *View From Earth* reflects the Station's listening demographic. *View From Earth* is fresh and colourful and deals with the issues of the day and offers the sounds of faith in the clattering market place of contemporary radio broadcasting.

View from Earth also broadcasts for an hour on Sunday mornings and *Open Line* (late Saturday night), a phone in hosted by the highly respected broadcaster, Andy Monaghan, who is also a Roman Catholic priest.

The work of broadcasting *View From Earth* and *Open Line* is supported by denominations across the Lothians and Fife by the *Edinburgh and District Churches Council on Christian Broadcasting*, (EDCCLB).

EDCCLB exists to support, encourage, monitor and evaluate religious broadcasting in the Lothians. The Diocese of Edinburgh supports the work of EDCCLB through representation on the Council and also helping financially. Most of the funding, though, comes through other church bodies.

This is a great time of change in the broadcasting world and religious broadcasters have to work hard to

maintain their presence. This has been done in the Edinburgh area by committed and skilled broadcasters like Andy Monaghan, Lawrence



Andy Monaghan



Lawrence Twaddle

Twaddle, Alan Sorenson, award winning broadcasters. (Lawrence and Alan are both Church of Scotland ministers). GRF, based in Glasgow have also contributed to the programmes' successes. These broadcasters also create special programmes through the year for times such as Christmas, Easter, Remembrance Sunday and other events as they arise.

Twenty or thirty years ago the death of radio was being spoken about. It was assumed that it would be overtaken by other electronic media. Not only has radio not died it is healthier and bigger than ever. In less than two years Dunedin FM, a new speech based radio station, will be broadcasting from Edinburgh to a potential audience of over 900,000 people.

Radio is alive and well and it is important to be aware that Christian broadcasters of skill and understanding are working to ensure that the voice of faith is not drowned out by the multitude of electronic voices.

Mark Goodman

*Diocese of Edinburgh EDCCLB
Representative and Contributor to
View from Earth*

Christian Mystics and Thinkers for Our Time

Opportunities to explore and apply the Wisdom and Spirituality of Christian thinkers, both ancient & modern led by Ali Newell of the Ignatian Spirituality Centre, Glasgow.

Series One: The Sacredness of Creation
Mondays 24, 31 Oct & 7 Nov 2005 7.30 - 9.15pm

Series Two: The Sacredness of Relationships
Mondays 6, 13, 20, 27 March 2006 7.30 - 9.15pm

All at St George's West, Shandwick Pl, Edinburgh. All courses require booking and cost £30 per series, bookable at Creative Space Bookings, St George's West Church Office, 58 Shandwick Pl. Edinburgh EH2 4RT Tel 0131 225 7001

email: mail@creativespacesgw.org.uk

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

www.creativespacesgw.org.uk or contact FIONA BENNETT at the booking details

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GRANTON WATERFRONT CHURCHES CENTRE.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER
(PART TIME).

Seven denominations are co-operating in an Ecumenical venture within this exciting new development in the Granton Waterfront. Building work is progressing and the GWCC seeks to appoint a Community Development Worker, initially on a part time basis (16 hours per week) early in 2006 at a salary of £10,000 per annum.

The development over the next 10/15 years will comprise:- 6,500 houses; 2 Sports Centres; 3 Hotels; Library; Museum; Marina; 2/3 Primary Schools; Shopping Precinct; Telford College with some 27,000 students.

The Community Development Worker will develop links with residents, developers and organisations on site

establish links with local Churches and community groups

foster relationships between the existing communities and the new development.

The post is open to those who are in sympathy with the work of the Christian Churches.

Further information and a Job Description is available from the Secretary, 3 Craigcrook Road, Edinburgh EH4 3NQ to whom Applications with a CV and the names of two referees may be sent.

An informal approach may be made by phone 0131 477 0312.

Closing date for applications 31st October 2005.

Around the Diocese with John Howard

Seafarers

Sea Sunday was celebrated in several of our congregations, and at least five magazines carried articles about the work of the (Anglican) Mission to Seafarers (formerly the Mission to Seamen). The Mission's chaplains and assistants minister in 230 ports throughout the world, helping men and women crew members who can be victims of illness, loneliness, bad working conditions, unseaworthy ships and even piracy. The Revd Robin Underhill, Secretary for Scotland (based in Lockerbie) who preached on 10 July at St Andrew's, Kelso, is anxious for support in prayer, cash and kind (books, balaclavas, etc.), and is available for speaking engagements at church events and services. Phone him at 01387 811 112 (or e-mail: mts_Scotland@onetel.com) and see the website: www.missiontoseafarers.org.

The Mystery Worshipper

Another website to consult is: <http://ship-of-fools.com>, the 'online magazine of Christian unrest'. Volunteer reporters are sent to churches of all denominations worldwide, leaving only a calling card on the collection plate. The magazine of St Michael & All Saints, Tollcross, (August) gives the text of the Mystery Worshipper's report on their High Mass on Trinity I. They were fortunate in having a visitor remarkably sympathetic to their tradition. He (she?) even gave the sermon 10 out of 10.



Episcopalians were well represented in the thousands who took part in the Make Poverty History march in July.

Photo Mark Goodman

A new altar

St John's, Jedburgh, one of the first Scottish churches built for worship in the style favoured by the Oxford Movement, has at last got a free-standing altar (made and donated by George Runciman) which allows the celebrant to face the people. The Revd John Grover writes in the magazine (Issue 3, 2005) on 'Being around the table' explaining the style of Eucharist already practised for fifty years in some churches. You cannot of course make changes in worship acceptable to all, and Issue 4 has a letter from 'Protesting Anglo-Catholic' setting out their reasons, but who is at least grateful for the '9 o'clock' service continuing at the 'high' altar.

Ministry and prayer

Magnificat, the Cathedral magazine, has started a series called 'Ministry on Mondays', beginning in June with Elizabeth Seligman writing about her voluntary work with the Church of Scotland Postnatal Depression Support and Counselling Service. In July David S. Payne wrote about his

work (actually on Tuesdays and Wednesdays) in Perth with the Walled Garden at the Murray Royal Hospital and the Disability Information Service.

In a more informal way the Revd Duncan McCosh, Galashiels, has an idea called TTT = This Time Tomorrow. "Once a month we might ask someone what they will be doing at this time tomorrow: we can listen to their story and find time to uphold them before God in prayer as they engage in a small part of their life story then." (*The Triangle*, June.)

From 11-16 April the early-rising Rector of St Cuthbert's, Hawick, the Revd Ian Walter, was filling the 'Time for Thought' slot on Radio Borders. The six talks (printed in the May magazine) had to be timed to last exactly 57 seconds!

The BBC TV programme 'The Monastery' was watched by the Revd Andrew Bain, Haddington, and, one hopes, many others. Five men were filmed as they spent five weeks experimentally living the Rule of St Benedict. 'What surprised many including the men themselves was the way in which the community was flexible enough to cope with conflict and personality clashes...and the calm compassion with which the abbot and his brothers held the men as they journeyed and explored the contents of their own hearts.' (*Gloria*, July-August.)

Childrens' Eucharists, held monthly over the last three years at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Murrayfield, were explained by Canon Tim Morris (July/August).

Thank you Linda !



Linda Femister, a long-standing member of St Margaret of Scotland, Easter Road has received a certificate from Edinburgh City Council thanking her for her voluntary work in the local community. The certificate was presented to Linda by Donald Anderson at a special reception held at the City Chambers on 14 June. The certificate was in recognition of Linda's nineteen years as a volunteer at the South Side Community Centre. During this time Linda has served on various committees and attended many meetings but above all she has enjoyed meeting with the people she helps who are unable to get out for their own shopping without assistance.



Two of the St Ninian's gardening team, Tricia Atkinson and Avril McQue in the "back" garden. Photo :David Treherne

Edinburgh's Episcopal Churches are Blooming Good

For the second year Edinburgh Episcopalians have continued their success in the annual Keep Edinburgh Growing awards, announced at a presentation in the City Chambers on 8 September. This year the Best Place of Worship category was won by St Ninian's, Comely Bank with St Peter's, Lutton Place a close second. The third place (out of twelve who entered) was taken by Nicolson Square Methodist Church, who are involved in setting up the EcuCom project with St Peter's (See next page).

In making the awards the judges took into account the gardens, eco-friendliness and community use.

'In the Children's Eucharists the children minister to the adults by bringing these very qualities [openness, trust, spontaneity, enthusiasm, playfulness and relationship] into public worship. These are their gifts of the Holy Spirit, and in exercising them they become models and reminders to us of the call of Jesus to childlikeness. In this respect the Children's Eucharist is not a service "for children" as much as one by the children particularly focused "for adults" when the gospel and values of the kingdom are proclaimed and presented for all who will see, hear and receive them.'

'Still'

This is the title of a huge painting by Alison Watts hanging at present in the Memorial Chapel of Old St Paul's. Like other paintings of hers it is a mainly white depiction of large folds of draped material which the eye of the beholder can see either representationally or symbolically. *White Rose Magazine* (Summer 2005) canvasses opinions of the congregation about it. These vary of course: negatively 'I feel no real focus or sense of inspiration from this except that of great sadness...'; but another member wrote '...It is

completely appropriate where it is and so much better than a mouldy Victorian altar piece.' There are many other good things in this excellently produced magazine entitled 'Visual Art & Sacred Space'

Rosslyn Chapel again

Grapevine, the magazine of Rosslyn Chapel (June) has a letter from an American visitor deploring the invasions of her fellow-countrymen using the *Da Vinci Code* as a guide-book. 'What condition will the Glen and the Chapel be left in after the crowd dies down?...Just as visual art and beautiful music feed the psyche and the senses, so noise and crowded clutter drain the vital energies of the Chapel....Yet the spiritual community struggles to hold mid-day prayer service for world peace and reconciliation...'

Taizé

Holy Trinity, Melrose, held a candlelit service in Taizé style on 17 April, quiet and reflective, with Bible readings, poems and meditative songs. Jane Stevenson wrote (in *The Triangle*, May) about the way this meditative singing becomes a way of listening to God.

Following the tragic death of Brother Roger, St John's, Princes Street held a service of Prayer and Meditation on 23 August to coincide with his funeral. On Page 9 of the issue we remember his visit to Edinburgh in 1991.

John V. Howard

10th
Year
1996
Strathallan
Glenalmond
2006
PYN
Youth
Week
Reunion

10 Years of the Provincial Youth Week

The Provincial Youth Week, first held at Strathallan School in 1996 moving to Glenalmond College in 2002, will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary next year.

To mark this occasion and to celebrate ten years of successful Youth Weeks, a reunion event will be held on the 1 July 2006 in Perth.

This event will bring all leaders and delegates from previous Youth Weeks, together in a worship event, followed by an evening of entertainment. (not sure if we should include the evening entertainment bit as it will be for over 18's only) The reunion will be a chance to catch up with friends from camps gone by, laugh over the jokes and exploits of the past, share experiences with others and celebrate the joy and enthusiasm which have gone into ten years of Provincial Youth Weeks.

All previous leaders and delegates should be receiving a personal invitation through the post or by e-mail. However, if you are an ex-attendee and have not received this initial letter then please complete the online application form, which can be found at: www.PYNreunited.com.

We look forward to seeing many of you on the 1 July, 2006!

Lorna Mortis reports on

Kirchentag 2005



Photo: www.kirchentag2005.de

'When your child asks, in time to come ...' taken from (Deuteronomy 6:20-25) was the slogan of the 30th German Protestant Kirchentag held in Hannover from 25 – 29 May.

Dating back to 1949, the Kirchentag is primarily a free movement of people who have been brought together by their Christian faith and their commitment to the future of the church and the world. Today, the Kirchentag gathers together people, not just from all over Germany, but also the world, offering them the opportunity to explore their spirituality and responsibility for society and the world in the hope and strength that can grow from the encounter with others and with the Gospel.

Any Kirchentag is an experience and this year's was no exception. On the first evening we made our way to the Opernplatz where one of the seven opening services was being held. There, in the midst of a huge throng of people, we were able to glimpse a giant screen projecting what was happening on the stage as we listened to Bishop Dr Margot Käßmann emphasising the two main concerns of this year's Kirchentag – spirituality and globalisation. She spoke of a church looking forward to what is to come, a church in motion, a church trying to face questions honestly and begin tackling answers.

Later that evening, we gathered on the banks of the Liebnitzufer and there, in the darkness, sang. As 10.30pm approached, the singing faded, candles were lit, and the bells of Hannover solemnly tolled.

For the next four days the whole of Hannover was a constant hive of movement and sea of blue scarves as 'Kirchentaggers' moved from venue to venue.

There was the opportunity to attend bible studies and talks on the main themes as well as cultural and youth programmes, a variety of worship and the 'market of opportunities' - two giant halls where hundreds of small stalls showcased a wonderful range of local and national church groups. Here, it was possible to meet others and to discuss many issues.

One of the main highlights of this year's Kirchentag was the dialogue with major politicians including the German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, who was grilled by young adults from several countries on serious global and national issues.



On the Sunday morning, thousands gathered in the Schützenplatz to draw the Kirchentag to a close and to share the Eucharist under a blazing sun before making their way home.

The Revd Lorna Mortis is Priest in Charge, St Margaret of Scotland, Edinburgh.

A New Ecumenical Community for Edinburgh as Nicolson Square Methodist Church and St. Peter's, Lutton Place launch EcuCom.

Applicants are being sought by Nicolson Square Methodist Church and St. Peter's, Lutton Place to form a new ecumenical community, EcuCom. The Community will be based in a four bedroomed flat in Nicolson Square. Nicolson Square Methodist Church once hosted a Wesley Community. Now that community is no longer there, an idea has developed to form a new faith community.

The idea is that the issues of faith and work can be explored from within a living community. Membership of either church is not necessary but a faith element is required. There would be a spiritual focus to the life of the community during the week which could be Eucharistic or some other reflection based around the life of the new community.

Those who apply would need to be interested in exploring the relationship between community life and daily living of faith in the wider world.

Applicants would need to

- Be a people of Christian faith and have a current connection with a church community;
- Have an interest in both ecumenical and interfaith issues;
- Work/ study within easy commuting distance of the community house, situated in Nicolson Square, Edinburgh;
- Have a willingness to relate to others and possess a sense of responsibility, all peppered with a good sense of humour;

For further details and to view the flat, contact Nikki Macdonald on 07985919509.

Remembering Brother Roger in Edinburgh



AP

Born: 12 May 1915, in Switzerland. Died: 16 August 2005, in Taizé, aged 90.

A day or so after Brother Roger was fatally stabbed in front of thousands of Taizé pilgrims a Cursillo group gathered in Holy Cross Church, Edinburgh. A song was chosen - the Iona version of *The Magnificat* sung to the well known Scottish folksong *will ye go, lassie, go*. For Mike Coates it triggered a particular memory, and brought to mind a very special occasion that has been little recorded in the official tributes - a visit by Brother Roger, in 1991, to St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh. Mike recalls:

'Spontaneously, an ever increasing surge of joyful noise erupted . . . People, excited by Brother Roger's visit; by his presence among us; by his warmth and simplicity; and, above all, by his outpouring of God's love, sang with heartbreaking joy, and to such an extent that it seemed that the roof of the cathedral would rise with the joyous volume of the singing. I will never forget it!'

And so we sang *The Magnificat* once more for Brother Roger, and John Howard was prompted to scour the Cathedral archives for an article by Ian Paton, then Vice-Provost of the Cathedral, from their magazine

Magnificat for July/August 1991, from which the following is taken:

The evening of the 18th June (1991) was an historic occasion for Edinburgh. Nearly 2,000 people, young and young-at-heart, were crammed into the Cathedral. Mostly sitting on the floor, in every available corner of the building, they had come to take part in a service of Prayer and Song, and to see and hear a very special man - Brother Roger, the founder and prior of the ecumenical Community of Taizé, in France.

Roger Schutz founded the Community at Taizé in 1940, as a place to welcome refugees. He wanted the brothers to be 'a parable of community'. Since that time the community has grown to around 90 brothers from 20 countries and from both Protestant and Catholic churches. Today the 'refugees' are the thousands of young people who flock to Taizé each summer for the week-long meetings. I say 'refugees' because many of them are disappointed by the divisions and rejection they experience in their institutional churches. At Taizé, in the experience of community and of worship, they seem to find a new vision for their faith. I should know, because years ago I was one of them.

Brother Roger and the Community have never wanted to create a movement around themselves, but rather to encourage people to go back and participate in their local churches, if necessary asking them to change. It's a good question - how much do we listen to young people in the Church? Brother Roger's visit was part of the 'Pilgrimage of trust on earth'. This has to do with Taizé's call to Reconciliation.

On 18th June (1991) Brother Roger said to us:

'To build up the entire human family across the earth, Christians are called to be an irreplaceable ferment of reconciliation . . . The most essential thing is the peace of our heart, a simple heart, so simple that we become for others a humble presence that reconciles . . . Let us remember: the little we have understood of the Gospel comes from Christ and we cannot keep it for ourselves. When we live Christ for others, the peace of our heart makes life beautiful for those around us . . . Perhaps you are saying: I don't have the courage to live Christ for others. Then I will dare to remind you of the Gospel's call: leave discouragement behind, leave hopelessness behind, let your soul live! Yes, in the name of Christ, let your heart live!'

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY ICE

Following the attacks in London the East Anglian Ambulance Service proposed that people should be encouraged to carry ICE details with them. This has attracted nationwide support including that of the Scottish Ambulance Service.

How it works:

If you are unconscious in an emergency, medical personnel, who are not permitted to contact anyone without your permission, may need to find out essential medical information about you.

The suggestion is that on your mobile phone (if you do not have a phone or do not always have it switched then on a card) you have an ICE entry then this can be taken as permission to contact the person named who must be able to give medical information as needed. This person can be anyone you wish - not necessarily next of kin.

For obvious reasons of security you should only give the first name and telephone number of the appropriate person NOT address and/or surname.

This could save your life
ICE David 0xxxxxxxxxxx

BOOK REVIEW by Liz Armitage

Phoebe Anna Traquair 1852-1936. *Author:* Elizabeth Cumming
National Galleries of Scotland in association with the National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh 2005. ISBN 1 903278 65 1. £9.95 from Cathedral Office during working hours, or from Gallery shops.



Song School - Angels and Trumpets

I remember quite clearly the shock thirty years ago when, in the tiny museum attached to the ruins of St Andrews Cathedral, I first encountered a recreation of pre-reformation painted stonework. As a child of the Kirk, ecclesiastical buildings, in my experience, were monotonously beige or grey not red, blue, green and gold. This memory came flooding back recently when I stood in the south chapel of the Catholic Apostolic Church on Mansfield Place surrounded by the gloriously vibrant murals by Phoebe Anna Traquair. The resonances are diverse; the Book of Kells, the art of the Italian Renaissance amongst others, set in contemporary landscapes and with styles and subjects familiar from the Cathedral Song School. The experience of being in this chapel for the first time supplied an enriching counterpoint to my reading of this book.

Elizabeth Cumming explores many of the enthusiasms and influences in the life of the artist in this beautiful wee book. Phoebe Anna Traquair sought through her art practice a synthesis of a wide and seemingly diverse range of influences: artistic, literary, political and religious. This is evident when writing to a friend about Fra Angelico's art she says it "really belongs to the lyric but it is so purely spiritual I can't compare him, unless it be to spring flowers, or boys' voices, or birds". These comparisons are an indication of the

artistic environment Traquair spent her life exploring.

These explorations are described and beautifully illustrated in the book (including pictures of the Song School by Peter Backhouse). We are carried along as Traquair moves from palaeontological illustration to domestic embroidery to the mural schemes and large embroidered panels for which she is most renowned. But also we see her book illustration, paintings on canvas and on furniture, and her exquisite enamelwork.



Song School - Lay Clerks

The roll call of Traquair's friends, colleagues, contacts and influences is breathtaking. The artistic and literary milieu of Edinburgh in the late 1800's is described, and there is the expected list of the Pre-Raphaelite and Arts and Crafts glitterati; Ruskin, Rossetti, Holman Hunt, Morris et al. But through her travels, she also came in contact with the work of a wide swathe of western European art seemingly finding the early Renaissance most harmonic to her ideas, ideals and eye. She also engaged with the literature of her time as well as various historical texts both to inform her thought, but also to spur her art. Mercifully, the book is light on the domestic detail which can bedevil books about artists who happen to be women.

This book is an interesting and engaging read and a delight to the eye. It would be obviously useful

and intriguing to those involved with Song School tours or who have come to love 'our' murals over the years. However, this is also a book for those wanting to know more about 19th and early 20th century Edinburgh or the Arts and Crafts movement. But most of all, it gives insight into the life and art practice of a fascinating and singular artist.

Liz Armitage is a Secretary and the Magazine Editor at St Mary's Cathedral

Photos of the Song School Murals by Peter Backhouse

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RIDING LIGHTS

at St Peter's, Lutton Place

Riding Lights' forthcoming production "Remember, Remember..." 1605 - The Tragedy of the Gunpowder Terror - is a crackling new play about Guy Fawkes and his co-conspirators, to mark the 400th anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot. To light up our new and not so new age of terror.

Everard leads a charmed existence - one of the King's bright young things, with a glamorous house, a glamorous wife and a devout faith in God. But his world is turned upside down when a gang of well-heeled terrorists explodes into his life. And three years after being knighted by James I, he finds himself under a different kind of sword, on trial as a traitor.

Don't miss the only Edinburgh performance on Riding Lights' UK tour on Friday 18th November at 7.30pm at St Peter's Episcopal Church Hall, Lutton Place. Tickets priced £8 (£5.50 concession) are available from Riding Lights on 0845 961 3000 (all calls charged at local rate). Suitable for adults and children aged 13+.

For further information, please phone Karen Docwra at St Peter's, Lutton Place, on 0131 668 1538.

Life As A Silver-Haired Active Retired Enthusiast

In 2001 Liz Traill decided to follow God's call to work in Africa. She enrolled in the CMS SHARE Programme with the idea of sharing experience and professional skills. Liz was appointed to teach at the Bishop Barham University College, Kabale, Uganda in the Environment Department. This is her story.

Four years on, a bit greyer but still fit and ready to keep going, what was achieved? In a light-hearted game at a CMS weekend conference, we tried to spell out the meaning of S-H-A-R-E. Have I been a *Silver-haired Active Retired Enthusiast*? It has been a very rich and varied experience. It has involved a lot of hard work, preparing courses and lectures, setting and marking exams. I have also played a role in setting up a new Christian University College.

My special interest is water and sanitation. Early on, the students in the Environment classes did a survey on which the Committee based a project proposal for rainwater harvesting throughout the campus, plus sanitation facilities. The proposal was taken to a Swiss agency but they turned us down. We attempted to apply for a grant from the EU but were defeated by the bureaucracy. Every time there is a need to have an interface between our Ugandan culture and the West, there is stress and anxiety, rather like a clutch plate slipping and failing to engage. Being at the interface has certainly been one of my roles, needing the grace of God daily. Bishop Festo Kivengere used to say: "Jesus is our shock absorber", and He is. Praise Him.

One major difference is the attitude to time. One becomes adjusted to the way of life. It may be slower, but many human qualities like listening skills, care for the neighbours and interest in families become properly developed. I regard time in the Bank in Kabale as an opportunity to meet friends! However, frustration arises when a job scheduled for today does not get done, the electricity goes off in the middle of photocopying for the next lecture or the proverbial 'man with the key is not around'.

Another difference is the attitude to money. In Uganda, basic survival is the aim with the enjoyment of whatever resources God provides at the

time. Our idea of saving for a rainy day is not there. Thus no-one has sufficient reserves to meet emergencies. When a death occurs in as family, all neighbours and friends are drawn in. They come and sit quietly with the bereaved family, then hold a discussion on what needs to be done and people give what they can to contribute in cash or kind for the funeral arrangements, cooking for the wider family, announcements on the radio. I find such communal support very moving and I am glad to be involved when this happens to one of my neighbours. It makes me feel part of the community, whereas continually being asked for money reinforces the perceived role of rich outsider.

Lastly, I see that 'urgent' frequently overtakes 'important' at all levels of life in Uganda. For example, if there is a death within our College community it seems to many that they must attend the burial. If almost all the senior Administration and Lecturers, with a busload of students, go off for the day, the normal work of the College may grind to a halt. We have discussed changing this cultural practice which has become exaggerated by the AIDS pandemic - a memorial service could be held in the chapel on the day of the funeral with a few chosen representatives going to the family home. This sounds a good solution but the thought is lost when the next tragic death occurs. Just recall that we may have as many as 5 funerals connected to the College in some way in one week and you will see the problem!

It would be good to ask an African for their impressions of our culture. We do some strange things and it would be salutary, as Robert Burns said, to see ourselves as other see us!

Liz Traill is a member of St Baldred's, North Berwick.

[Edited from an article to appear in Links, the magazine of the Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association in Spring 2006]



GLOBAL BAZAAR

FAIRTRADE

SATURDAY 29th OCTOBER
10am – 3.30pm

Queensferry Parish Church Centre
South Queensferry

STALLS

Traidcraft * Hadeel * Tearfund
Kwai Diver Crafts * Fair Shares
Jutexpo * Common Grounds
New Consumer

Tastings Exhibition Information

Admission £1 – Includes Refreshments
Accompanied Children Free

St Paul's and St George's Church Furnishings



St Paul's and St George's church are looking for a good home for some of the church furnishings that are to be removed as part of their 'Project 21' building project. These include the pulpit, rood screen, pews, porch and chairs. If these can be used by other churches in the Diocese, please contact Emma on emma@pandgchurch.org.uk or 0131 556 1335 by the end of October.

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FREE ENTRY



**COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE
EDGE
and FLIER and SMALL AD DEADLINE
Monday 31 October 2005
Publication Mid November**

Articles, which may be edited, can be submitted in a variety of formats, preferably by email, typewritten or on disc in Rich Text Format (RTF). Most other types can be read (IBM PC compatible). Files can also be sent as email attachments (RTF format preferred).

Articles should normally be a maximum of 650 words in length. Photographs are welcomed and the contributor holds the copyright unless otherwise stated.

The views expressed in articles are the views of the authors and are not necessarily the views of the Scottish Episcopal Church or of the Diocese.

Advertising copy and material is accepted subject to the availability of space.

The EDGE is available in colour online as a PDF file from the Publications page on the Diocesan website www.dioceseofedinburgh.org

A special text only version is also available in Rich Text Format (RTF) on the website.

Back issues of both versions can also be downloaded.

The Bishop's weekly Newsletters (which are sent to all incumbents) and all Media Releases are available from the News and Media page on the website.

**Choose to be Real
Assertiveness - a Christian approach**

A 10 week course on inter-personal skills based on material produced by Stephanie Holland and Clare Ward for training people in the caring professions.

Facilitated, with Christian reflection by Liza Coates TSSF

Monday evenings 7.30 to 9.30 at The Church Centre, Christ Church, Morningside. Starts 26 September 2005 (until 28 November 2005)

Cost for the 10 sessions is £40 including study material. further information from Liza Coates, 68 Newbattle Terrace, Edinburgh EH10 4RX.

Tel: 0131 446 9846 or email: Liza_Coates@quista.net

NEED A SPEAKER?

The Mission to Seafarers has speakers available to preach during Sunday services and to speak at church events.



The Mission's chaplains and their assistants minister to seafarers in 230 ports worldwide. Their work is a very interesting and enlightening topic since it involves far more than the usual form of ministry. Many seafarers are victims of loneliness, illness, stress, poor working conditions, ships that are not seaworthy and piracy – Yes, pirates! The usual response of listeners is, "I never realized you are involved in all those things".

Now is the time to review your calendar of meetings for the forthcoming Autumn – Winter – Spring period and to reserve your date for a speaker.

For further information please contact:

Revd Robin Underhill, Secretary for Scotland, The Mission to Seafarers. Tel: 01387 811112

Email: mts_scotland@onetel.com

The AGM of The Mission to Seafarers Scotland will be held at St Mary's Church, Grangemouth on Saturday 22 October 2005 at 11am. All are invited to attend.

This will be an excellent opportunity to meet the new liaison bishop following the retirement of The Rt Revd Neville Chamberlain.

The AGM will be addressed by the Revd Howard Drysdale who is Port Chaplain for Aberdeen for the British and International Sailors Society.

Programme: Coffee 10:45am; AGM 11am; 12 Midday Eucharist; 12:45 Lunch.

RSVP to: 01236 440132