

St Ninian's Church  
Corstorphine

# Quarterly



Summer 2023



**Edinburgh, Corstorphine St Ninian's Parish Church (Church of Scotland)**  
**144 St John's Road, EH12 8AY**  
**Scottish Charity Number SC016557**

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website: [www.corstorphinestninians.org.uk](http://www.corstorphinestninians.org.uk)

**If you are a visitor to St Ninian's or are reading this magazine for the first time,  
the following information may be useful:**

Our SUNDAY SERVICES are held at 10:30am and are followed by fellowship with tea and coffee in the Martin Shields Hall.

COMMUNION SERVICES are at 10:30am and 3:00pm on the first Sundays in March, June, September and December.

During term time PRIMARY SUNDAY SCHOOL is held every Sunday and SECONDARY SUNDAY SCHOOL meets two-weekly, both at 10.25am. A CRËCHE is available for pre-school youngsters.

The CHOIR leads the Praise under the direction of our Organist, Anne Kirkpatrick, and choir practices are on Thursday evenings from September to May.

The GUILD meets weekly on Tuesday afternoons between September and April, with interesting speakers, teas, and outings.

Volunteer drivers offer a CHURCH TRANSPORT SERVICE for our less able members - see the back page for contact details. Reserved car parking is also available at the rear of the church for anyone who cannot walk far or who prefers to avoid steps - access to the church is by the path to the right of the buildings.

Many Church and non-Church organisations use our premises throughout the week and contact details can be found on the back page.

*Dear friends,*

*“When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you ... and you say, ‘I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me’, you may indeed set over you a king whom the Lord your God will choose. One of your own community you may set as king over you...”.*

*(Deuteronomy 17: 15)*



**B**y the time you read this, St. Ninian’s will have marked the coronation of King Charles III on 6<sup>th</sup> May with a service and a lunch on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May (see over page for photographs). The service was an opportunity to celebrate a new figurehead - a sovereign - who represents us as a nation, and who plays a part in the governance of our nation.

Monarchy has a long history. The Bible records that the Israelites appointed kings to serve over them. Those kings represented the nation and played a significant role in its governance. However, the king was not meant to be a focal point for the nation’s identity. That role was reserved for God and his Law. Consequently, there is a lot of ambivalence in the Bible about monarchy because the Israelites recognised the dangers of entrusting so much power in the hands of one human being, “... he must not acquire many horses for himself, or return the people to Egypt in order to acquire more horses... And he must not acquire many wives for himself, or else his heart will turn away; also silver and gold he must not acquire in great quantity for himself.” (Deut. 17: 16 - 17)

This ambivalence gives rise to a heated debate in the Bible about whether the nation should be a monarchy ruled by kings or a theocracy ruled directly by God through priests. Ideally, the monarch should be God-fearing, “When he has taken the throne of his kingdom, he shall have a copy of this law written for him in the presence of the levitical priests. It shall remain with him and he shall read in it all the days of his life...” (Deut. 17: 18).

Today, as Christians, we have a faith in the love of God to govern our lives through the sovereignty of Jesus Christ over all earthly power, and through the community of Holy Spirit over all earthly communities. But we are not just Christians, we are also British, and as such we need a sovereign to represent us as a nation and to personify who we believe ourselves to be as a nation. We are fortunate that this dual allegiance is probably easier for us to reconcile than it might be for other faiths; the coronation will have a distinctly Christian identity. Nevertheless, as British Christians we can pray and hope that King Charles will not only represent the breadth of culture and identity that makes up modern Britain, but that he will be guided by, observant of, and an advocate for the law of love; love of God, of neighbour, and of ourselves, which Jesus Christ gave us as a new commandment to live by.

A modern, multi-cultural Britain that respects its traditional past is alive to the debates about what it is in the present, and that hopes for a prosperous future for all its subjects in a Christian Britain guided by a loving self-respect, loving relationships with our neighbours around the world, and a love for the God who created us all, and under whose sovereignty we all have an equal place, share in an equal dignity, and have a right to expect equal opportunities.

God save King Charles III who, we pray, will serve us and God in love and, as his mother did before him, model how we too can love God, our neighbours and ourselves.

Best wishes,

*James*

# Wanted - editor for the Quarterly

I have been editor/co-editor of the Quarterly for 10 years and I am now looking for a successor. The Quarterly has a long history - 86 years of continuous publication - and it would be a great pity if no-one volunteers to secure its continued existence.

*What would you be doing in this rôle?*

- Inviting contributions by email and in the Intimations
- Using the existing template, setting out the magazine in Microsoft Word, then proof-reading.
- Emailing the final draft to the Church Office for printing and to the church website administrator for uploading.

*What resources and skills would be useful?*

- A PC or laptop running the Windows operating system (but a transfer to a Mac OS may be possible)
- Familiarity with Microsoft Word, email and the Internet
- Preferably, but not essentially, some familiarity with a basic, free photo editing program
- Some free time during the first week or so of February, May, August and November

**Note: The creation of content is NOT a major aspect of the job - most of the content comes in the form of submissions from regular and occasional contributors.**

If you think this is something you could do, please contact me soon to have a 'no obligation' chat. I will give you a comprehensive handover.

Alec Stevenson (t: 0131 334 4471; m: 07740 429 782; e: [alecstevenson0@gmail.com](mailto:alecstevenson0@gmail.com) )

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## The Coronation Celebration Lunch



*thanks to Norma Gilmore  
for the photographs*

# A Word of Thanks

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the lovely send off on 23 April, and for the gifts, the flowers, the hugs, and the cards (special thanks to Alpha, 😊😊). They are all very much appreciated.

Having spoken about journeys in my final service (for now), I just wanted to thank you all for sharing the road (and your pulpit) with me over these last seven months. You welcomed me with open arms, and I found a safe place (as well as a cosy corner) to grow and learn. I've loved chatting with you and laughing with you. I've loved getting to know God better with you. A special thanks to the minister for not only putting up with me on a Sunday, but also for his guidance at our weekly meetings.

While our paths may head in different directions for a time, I hope and pray that your journeys will be smooth, but that there will also be an opportunity to meet again.

In the meantime, I'll leave you with the words of the blessing I sang.

Love and blessings,

Elaine Hogan  
*your ministry student, 2022-23.*

## The Irish Blessing

*May the road rise up to meet you,  
May the wind be always at your back,  
May the sun shine warm upon your face  
the rain fall soft upon your fields,  
And until we meet again some day  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand,  
May the memories that we have shared,  
Linger on and on.*

\* \* \* \* \*

On a recent holiday visit, Jenny Taylor found a series of cards bearing "Special Thoughts for Special People" in St John's Episcopal Church in Rothiemurchus. Here are some of them:

- Those who deserve love least need it most.
- Be patient with the faults of others; they have to be patient with yours.
- Courage isn't having the strength to go on; it's going on when you don't have the strength.
- It's not the hours you put in that count, but what you put in the hours.
- The business of faith is to see things that are out of sight.
- Good exercise for the heart – bending down and helping another up.
- Give not from the top of your purse but from the bottom of your heart.



*Many thanks to Jenny*

# Congregational Register

## Funerals:

24 March 2023\* Mr Peter Bolton, 43 Hillview Terrace  
28 March 2023\* Mrs Eleanor Wilson, Murrayside Nursing Home  
30 March 2023\* Mrs Dolina Stewart, 40 Meadowhouse Road  
14 April 2023 Mrs Doreen Domke, 42 Hillview Crescent

\* Denotes member

\* \* \* \* \*

## Presbytery plan update

The presbytery mission plan, in which it was proposed that a three-way union between St Andrew's, St Anne's and ourselves be progressed and that all our buildings be retained for more than five years, was agreed at a Presbytery meeting in November last year, albeit the resources allocated to the new union are inadequate to progress the union at the moment.

However, when the Presbytery plan was submitted for approval by the national Presbytery Mission Plan Implementation Group (PMPIG) and the General Trustees, Presbytery was informed that; "in the view of General Trustees the number of buildings proposed for retention in the Corstorphine area was noticeably higher than in other areas of the Presbytery or when compared to areas in other Presbyteries. Therefore, rationalisation of Church buildings is necessary in Corstorphine".

This has the effect of putting the whole of the presbytery mission plan on hold and forced the Presbytery to revisit the building classifications in Corstorphine. After much discussion and correspondence, it was agreed with all the parishes in Corstorphine and the Presbytery Deployment Group (who are drawing up the plan) that **all** buildings in the Corstorphine parishes would be re-categorised as "B". This building category means that the building can be disposed of

within five years. An amended Presbytery Mission Plan containing this change was agreed at the Presbytery meeting on 25th April, thus allowing the whole of the Presbytery plan to be sanctioned by the PMPIG.

The Presbytery Deployment Group (PDG) has advised that a decision must be made before 31st December 2024 on which buildings would be released for disposal by 31st December 2025. In the meantime, the proposed three-way union between ourselves, St Anne's and St Andrew's and the two-way union between Craigsbank and Corstorphine Old will continue.

However, I would reiterate that no property disposals can take place without the agreement of the congregation and the Minister. Similarly, no progress can be made towards the proposed three-way union until the issue of allocated resources is resolved and the agreement of the ministers is achieved.

We have raised several questions with the PDG and are awaiting their reply. Further discussions are planned with the PDG and with all five parishes involved to determine the future of the Church buildings in Corstorphine within the timetable above.

*Andrew Job,  
Session Clerk team*

## ST. NINIAN'S DEACONS' COURT

The Deacons' Court of St. Ninian's was established by St. Ninian's Free Church in 1844, one hundred and seventy-nine years ago. It has had a long history, has taken on many responsibilities, and played a significant role in the worship and community life of this church. Its first task of major undertaking was to build a church. When members of the congregation left what is now Corstorphine Old Parish Church to establish Corstorphine Free Church they established a congregation without a building and called a minister without a manse. Since then, the Deacons' Court has built on to the original church and added halls.

From the start of St. Ninian's history, the Deacons' Court not only built, but it also counted; it had to manage the congregation's money. Over the years, the Deacons' Court has had the responsibility of raising money for the congregation's needs and investing it responsibly in the work of ministry and mission. In more recent years the Deacons' Court has taken responsibility for the employment of staff and the management of the commercial lets of St. Ninian's halls. Most recently, the Deacons' Court took responsibility for St. Ninian's response to the pandemic.

The responsible stewardship of these temporal matters - buildings, money, staff, crises - has allowed the Kirk Session and the minister to pursue the responsible management of the congregation's spiritual matters, things like worship, pastoral care, mission, and Christian education. Without the temporal foundation that the Deacons' Court laid and built on over the past 179 years, it is difficult to see how St. Ninian's could have flourished spiritually as much as has it has done. In 2023, the Deacons' Court leaves to the newly constituted Kirk Session sound finances and well-maintained property, and we can hope that there will be more years of ministry and mission to come.

None of this would have been possible without the work of individual deacons who, over the years, have volunteered their time, their skills, and their commitment to the Court. Just some of those Deacons who have served this congregation over these 179 years met on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February for the last time as a Deacons' Court. When they did, they imagined that they were not alone, but were joined with those who had gone before them and who served the cause of the Gospel, the work of the church, and the wellbeing of St. Ninian's through their membership of the Deacons' Court; some still with them on earth, others above them in heaven. Wherever they were, on behalf of St. Ninian's (and I'm certain along with those ministers who have gone before me and have served as moderators of the Deacons' Court over the years) let me say thank you to all the deacons over the years for all their work, their time and their talents that they have all brought to the Deacons' Court over the years.

*“Gracious God, thank you for all those men and women who have served on the Deacons' Court of St. Ninian's over the years: for the time they have given; the skills they have brought; the love they have had for the congregation, and their enthusiasm for the work of your church. Thank you for their witness to you that has provided a sure foundation for the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ in this part of Corstorphine. Bless, we pray, the ongoing work of St. Ninian's in its new constitution. Help those who have served the Deacons' Court most recently to find a new place in a new structure within a long-established church. We remember those who have gone before us while we look forward to giving to those who will come after us an inheritance that they in their turn can cherish and build upon. Amen.”*

James



# St Columba's Hospice Coffee Morning

On 11th March we were able to hold our annual coffee morning in aid of funds for St. Columba's Hospice after the break due to Covid. We were slightly anxious as to the level of support we might expect. However, once again, we had a wonderful morning and raised the amazing sum of £3,438.03, the highest yearly figure yet. After discussion with the Hospice we have determined that since 2000 we have now raised in excess of £50,000. Our grateful and sincere thanks to everyone involved and those who have supported us over the years.



After all our hard work we held a celebratory meal at Fabios.

*Margaret Hunter*  
*Convener*

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## Corstorphine Literary and Geographical Society (aka "The Lit")

Following the relaunch of the Lit and good support at its meetings a decision has been taken to plan for a full session from September 2023 through to June 2024. With a meeting on the first Monday of each month there will be four meetings from September to December and from March to June. You will be welcome on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 7.45 pm in the Burns Hall.

We would still welcome people to give support in various ways but without the need to be on any committee. This would include setting up and clearing the hall and, of course, would be required only once a month or even less if we could create a pool of helpers.

There will be changes in some of the ways that the Lit will be run, and this involves changes to the Constitution. To do this a Special General Meeting of the "Lit" will be held on Monday 5 June 2023 in the Burns Hall. This will be immediately before the planned programme for that date.

You are welcome to attend.

*Valerie Thomson*  
*Hon. Secretary*



# St Ninian's Guild



**The Guild Report** given at the AGM on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023 will have given you an idea of how we are faring.

With no minutes from a previous Guild, I guess that the only matters arising would have been the proposal that was taken to the Kirk Session in September 2022 stating that the Guild should be closed. However, that was not acceptable and with many, many phone calls we got the Guild back on its feet at the beginning of November. All we needed was a contact person and a treasurer.

With no hierarchy and no committee everyone now had ownership of our Guild. People chose how they could help and throughout the session the members welcomed people at the door, set and cleared tables, helped in the kitchen but never more than twice in succession. No one has a label. Thank you to everyone who has done these tasks - vital but not arduous when shared. Others have given a vote of thanks, baked, counted money on the various occasions when necessary and taken the money to the bank - all important and all appreciated.

For some it may not have been possible to give practical support, but everyone has a say and these were used when decisions were needed. Yes, our Guild has functioned thanks to everyone's participation.

We have welcomed speakers from within the church and outwith, bringing interesting topics to our members. We celebrated the 83<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of our Guild with a delightful lunch in-house. We have celebrated birthdays - all special with one exception. It must be an exception to have a 95-year-old member at our Guild.

We have moved forward with faith, faith that our Guild would flourish. It is now up on its feet and we shall keep it going. We have an amazing fellowship. With 40 members including 10 new ones, the most recent person coming only a few weeks ago, we shall flourish.

We are a friendly Guild - reaching out to each other, especially when someone is unwell and especially to our new members. We have stretched a helping hand to others by supporting the Rock Trust with food items and by giving generously in our efforts to help people in dire situations in Ukraine. Your giving has been absolutely amazing and thank you for that.

Fun - we have had fun especially on the occasions when our own efforts were shared with Memories, with the Best Job Ever and in a quiz session. Faith, fellowship, friendship and fun - they are all there and will be the core aims of our Guild as we move forward and establish its future.

*Valerie Thomson*

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## Fabric Committee

Our annual Property Reports were approved by Presbytery in March.

Car access in and out of the car park is difficult due to cars parking in St Ninian's Road. With the help of a local councillor the white lines at the entrance will be extended to provide wider access and better sight lines.

The Presbytery inspectors called for straightening of the leaded window in the Deacons' Room which had a sag at the bottom due to old age. Yes, many can sympathise with this condition!

Following reports of Church lighting being left on and doors being left unlocked we have placed signs at all the external doors as a reminder for the last person leaving the premises.

Work has continued at the Manse over the last few months. Slating has been renewed over the first floor Study. The Bathroom ceiling has been re-lined and a stronger extract fan installed. The Kitchen walls have been treated and repainted. All the external wall cracks have been drilled, reinforced and filled and we are pleased to report that no deep structural cracks were found.

An unusual problem occurred in April when a pigeon entered the Burns Hall roof vent and got trapped behind the suspended ceiling tiles. It was eventually released and chased out through the fire exit door. Grilles are being manufactured to prevent any future incursions.

*Alister McGlashan*

*Convener*

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## Mission Committee

The past few months have been very busy for the Mission Committee, keeping us on our toes.

Our March collection for Fresh Start was once again well supported and duly delivered to Ferry Road Drive. From what started as a garage collection point in Cramond, this has now grown into a massive supportive venture for those seeking a *fresh start*. A big thank you to all those who have given so generously over the years.

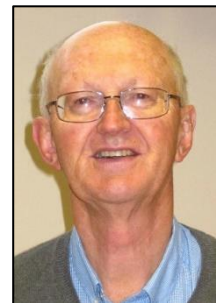
The Easter Cards were delivered to the 1800 homes within the Parish by a distribution firm, and the committee, in discussion with the Minister, will look to consider how these cards are delivered in the future. District Elders delivered cards to the homes outwith the Parish boundaries.

Forty *Bags of Hope* were delivered to members who can no longer attend Church, our thanks to those who took time to deliver these. This time the bags contained a bowl of narcissi and a small chocolate egg. As previously, these were gratefully received and provided a worthwhile experience for those delivering them. (cont'd)

On 5th April we were able to hold a new members' social. Six of our new members managed to attend along with their District Elder, the Minister, a member of the Session Clerk team, the Treasurer and Roll Keeper. We were able to show the new members round our Church facilities, and our thanks go to Andrew Broom for his informative knowledge of St. Ninian's history. Our thanks also to Georgie Wallace and Margaret Benson for the lovely supper.

*Margaret Hunter*  
Convener

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At the time of writing, this year's Christian Aid (CA) Week (14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> May) is fast approaching and will follow a similar pattern to the last few years.

The events planned around CA week at St Ninian's include:

- The Coronation Lunch on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May where donations will go to CA
- The CA Quiz -available in the Crush Hall from 28<sup>th</sup> April to 21<sup>st</sup> May
- A retiring collection for CA Week taken on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023
- CA Service on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May shared with the Guild

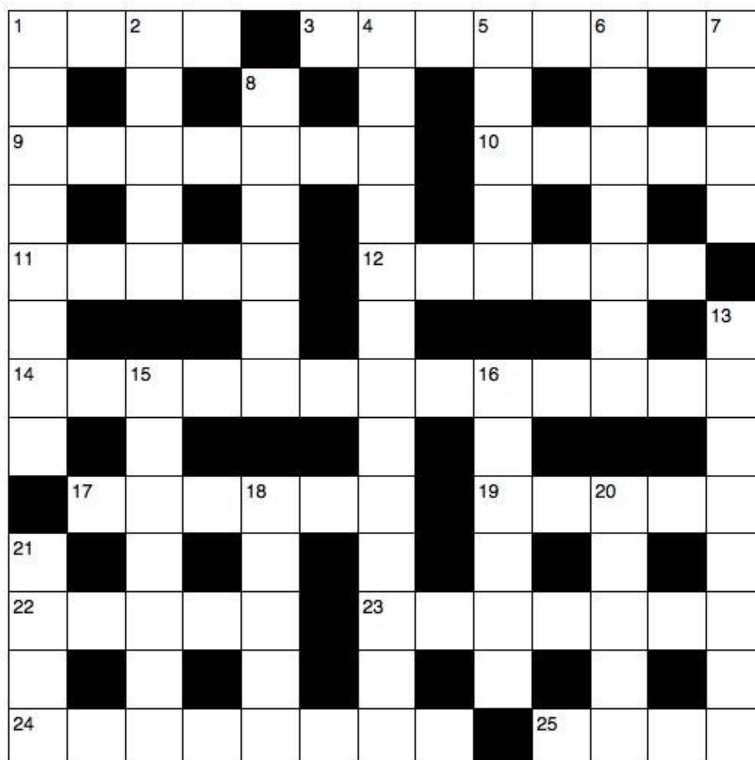
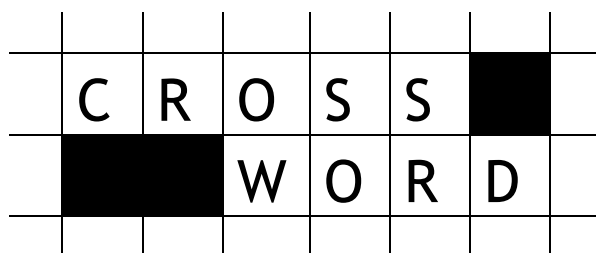
Christian Aid is a movement for everyone who believes poverty can be beaten, bringing them together to raise funds for our life-saving projects. Each year, CA showcase a country where Christian Aid's partners, funded by our generous donations, are transforming the lives of those living in extreme poverty.

In Malawi, food, fuel, fertiliser and school fees have doubled in price in the last 12 months and hard-working farmers are seeing their harvests fail as the climate crisis brings increasingly erratic weather. Malawi experienced a year's worth of rain during the 4-week Cyclone Freddy with over 508,000 people displaced and hundreds have lost their lives. The number of people affected by the Cyclone continues to rise. There is also an increased risk of malaria and cholera in the immediate aftermath.

Your gifts this Christian Aid Week will help farmers in Malawi to plant better seeds, secure a fairer price for their crops, and build happier futures for their children.

Thank you for all your support.

*Alec Millar, Christian Aid Co-ordinator*  
Tel : 334 1471      [alec.w.millar@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:alec.w.millar@blueyonder.co.uk)



**Across**

- 1 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
- 3 'I — — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
- 9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
- 10 Group of eight (5)
- 11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
- 12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)
- 14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9)
- 17 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
- 19 Attend to (3,2)
- 22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
- 23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)
- 24 Rule of sovereign (8)
- 25 Test (anag.) (4)

**Down**

- 1 The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)

- 2 'The playing of the merry — , sweet singing in the choir' (5)
- 4 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5)
- 5 Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
- 6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
- 7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
- 8 Minister of religion (6)
- 13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)
- 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4)
- 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)
- 18 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
- 20 Establish by law (5)
- 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)

[Answers on a later page!]

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## Wordsearch

### Facts about King Charles

- He was born at 9.14pm on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1948 at Buckingham Palace.
- He has been heir-apparent to the throne since he was three years old.
- He is the first monarch in British history to have earned a university degree.
- He can speak Welsh.
- He is a qualified pilot and diver.
- He is a keen watercolour painter, a published author and played the cello at Cambridge.
- As Prince of Wales, he founded about 20 charities which raise about £140 million each year for good causes.
- Aged 73, King Charles III is the oldest monarch ever to be crowned in British history.
- He became King on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022, after the death of his mother, the Queen, in Balmoral. As King, he is also now head of the Commonwealth.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AUTHOR</li> <li>PILOT</li> <li>CELLO</li> <li>BALMORAL</li> <li>DIVER</li> <li>KING</li> <li>HEIR</li> <li>NOVEMBER</li> <li>CHARITIES</li> <li>MONARCH</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMMONWEALTH</li> <li>PALACE</li> <li>WELSH</li> <li>CHARLES</li> <li>WATERCOLOUR</li> <li>UNIVERSITY</li> <li>THRONE</li> <li>BUCKINGHAM</li> <li>CAMBRIDGE</li> <li>OLDEST</li> </ul> |
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The parable of the Fish and the Nets

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS

ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN WAS A BIT LIKE CATCHING FISH!

WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING THEY THROW THEIR NETS INTO THE LAKE...

...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL, THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE

ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.

THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS

THE BAD FISH GET THROWN AWAY!

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE TOO WILL BE SORTED LIKE THE FISH. WE CAN CHOOSE TO DO GOOD OR BAD THINGS WITH OUR LIVES.

BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.

(from resources on the website 'Parish Pump', as are the Wordsearch and Crossword which appear on the two preceding pages)



# News from Corstorphine Community Council

## 1) CORSTORPHINE CONNECTIONS UPDATE (LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD - LTN)

The next phase of the implementation has been further delayed and is now likely to be May 2023

The artistic commission is almost finalised and new gates for Corstorphine Primary and Carrick Knowe Primary will be produced by blacksmiths with installation planned over the summer.

Following correspondence from residents and discussion with Living Streets, Spokes and local Councillors, a short section of protected cycleway on Ladywell Road will be removed to improve sightlines for pedestrians crossing the road near Ladywell Medical Centre. Parking will be retained.

Refer to [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/corstorphineconnections](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/corstorphineconnections)

Comments to [edinburgh.Consultation@projectcentre.co.uk](mailto:edinburgh.Consultation@projectcentre.co.uk)

## 2) POLICE REPORT

Continued issues with motorbikes/off-road dirt bikes -please report if you witness.

Don't get work done by someone who is just passing by or 'cold calling'. Use the Trusted Trader Scheme <https://trustedtrader.scot/Edinburgh> 0131 513 9921

The Police may be contacted on 999 (for emergencies), 101 (for non-emergencies) and by e-mail on [EdinburghCPTNorthWest@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:EdinburghCPTNorthWest@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

## 3) COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr Scott Arthur (Transport and Environment Committee Convenor) gave a presentation entitled 'Transport Transitions' which gave an overview of the opportunities, aspirations and challenges being faced to improve air quality, reduce congestion and meet net zero 2030 targets. Ultimately looking to reduce the number of vehicles being driven into the city and encourage a switch to public transport or active travel where possible. The movement of goods/freight is also being looked at to improve the situation for businesses and HGV/Commercial traffic. The Air Quality Action Plan, Public Transport Action Plan, Active Travel Action Plan and Road Safety Action Plan will all go out to consultation at the same time.

Cllr Beal noted that transport is the main issue that he is contacted about, with potholes and pavement defects consistently being raised. Cllr Arthur advised that he believed that a sum of approximately £7-8 million is required across the city to stop the decline.

Cllr Beal is on the board for Transport for Edinburgh. He has been dealing with correspondence re Corstorphine Connections. The request for traffic lights at the end of Pinkhill Road was refused. Flooding in Corstorphine is being referred. (cont'd)

The council is consulting on whether to retain the Spaces for People measures on Meadow Place Road and Queensferry Road. The details on how to contribute to the consultation are here <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/32266/advert>. The deadline for comments is the 20th May.

#### 4) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A representative from Mactaggart & Mickel, who are developing the site of the former Woolworths and Community Centre on St John's Road, will be in attendance at the April meeting of the Community Council. Of note are the removal of affordable housing units and changes to parking allocation from original plans.

#### 5) OTHER

Following the closure of the Post Office within RS McColl on St John's Road, the opportunity to run a Post Office on St John's Road is being advertised on the Post Office website. You can find out more and apply at <https://runapostoffice.co.uk/branch/st-johns-road-post-office-edinburgh-eh12-7xd>. The closing date is 15thMay 2023. Please spread the word to anyone who may be interested in this opportunity.

*Ian Kirkpatrick  
Member of Corstorphine Community Council,  
representing Corstorphine Churches Together*

\* \* \* \* \*

## Crossword Answers

**ACROSS:** 1, Stop. 3, Call upon. 9, Regular. 10, Octet. 11, Inner. 12, Hudson. 14, Holy Communion. 17, Myself. 19, See to. 22, About. 23, Iterate. 24, Monarchy. 25, Stet.  
**DOWN:** 1, Straight. 2, Organ. 4, Abraham's faith. 5, Lloyd. 6, Puteoli. 7, Note. 8, Cleric. 13, Innocent. 15, Lay down. 16, Ussher. 18, Enter. 20, Enact. 21, Balm.

# Past Times in St Ninian's

## 25 Years Ago, from St Ninian's Year Book 1999, recording activities in 1998

**ALPHA:** "It has been another exciting year at Alpha. We started the year with a change of venue - to the lounge. Our new surroundings are much cosier and friendlier. We had a fascinating walk round Dean Village one Sunday, and also visited Alec and Patricia Noble, and Scottie the dog, at Dunbar Church for our summer outing. They have a great swimming pool just across the road!

"Earlier in the year we led part of the Palm Sunday service, and all of the Closing Day service, which was our last 9.30am meeting. After the summer we changed our meeting to 11.00am on Sundays. This has made us feel much less isolated and we enjoyed sharing with the other departments in leading the Sunday School Christmas service.

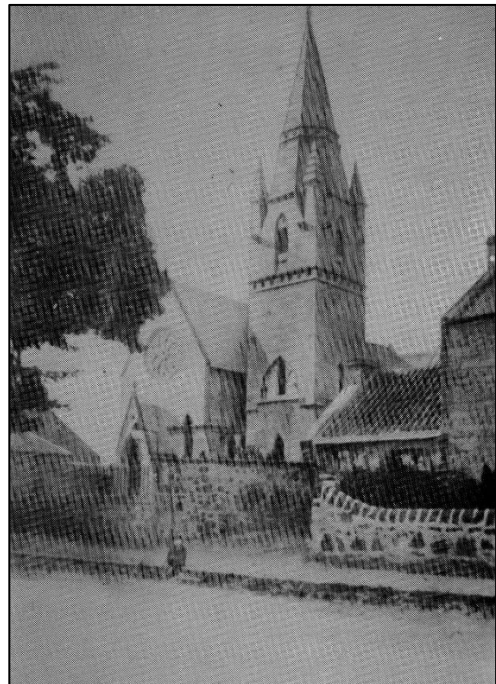
"We had our usual November weekend away to the Christian Centre at Glenshee and went to see a Christmas show in the Netherbow Theatre. In between all these events we have fitted in our study topics which were: Religions of the World, Living as a Christian, Jesus Episodes and Bible Heroes. If you're in P7, S1 or S2, then spice up your Sunday mornings and come along to Alpha and join in the fun."

## 50 Years Ago, 1973, from the Quarterly, April 1973

### **From Minister's Notes, by the Rev Colin R Martin**

"In the month of May this year St Ninian's will celebrate its 130<sup>th</sup> Birthday. In 1843 a group of 36 people met in a schoolroom just to the east of the present church building for what was virtually the inaugural Service of Worship of the congregation of St Ninian's Church (though clearly it was not known by that name until the Union of 1929). One wonders what those founder members thought would be the future of their little village Free Kirk. Such fantastic changes have taken place in community and church over these 130 years. Numerically speaking we are now the fourth largest charge in Edinburgh, and the activities of the congregation might reasonably be described as wide-ranging. . . We in Corstorphine are privileged to live in an area where the majority of people still claim a church connection. We have 2,000 members on our Roll. Surely then one of our missionary tasks is to 'the lost sheep of Israel, - our own wanderers and sluggards and waverers.

What a tremendous Birthday Present it would be, if every member who does regularly worship brought one member who doesn't back to Worship Services - if every member of an organisation brought one new member - if the children who are not encouraged to come to Sunday School were encouraged. We would have a worse accommodation problem than ever - and it would be the happiest problem we could hope and pray for! . . ."



*The newly built Church in 1870  
with the original 1843  
schoolroom still attached*

**St.Ninian's Church, Corstorphine**  
**General Fund Statement of Receipts and Payments for the period ended 30th April, 2023**

**General Fund - Summary**

	2023 Actual	2022 Actual	Variance	
Total Receipts	61,620	59,837	1,783	●
Total Ordinary General Expenditure	(71,848)	(58,444)	(13,404)	●
General Fund - Surplus (Deficit)	<u>(10,228)</u>	<u>1,393</u>	<u>(11,621)</u>	●
Legacies Received	-	14,214	(14,214)	●
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>(10,228)</u></b>	<b><u>15,607</u></b>	<b><u>(25,835)</u></b>	●

**General Fund - Analysis of Receipts & Payments**

**Receipts**

Congregation Offerings (inc. Gift Aid)	45,053	53,056	(8,003)	●
One-off Donations	145	293	(148)	●
Contributions from Congregational Organisations	640	-	640	●
Contributions from outside organisations for use of halls	11,402	5,668	5,734	●
Bank Interest and Investment Income	400	320	80	●
Other Receipts	3,980	500	3,480	●
	<u>61,620</u>	<u>59,837</u>	<u>1,783</u>	●

**Expenditure**

Giving to Grow contributions / Presbytery Dues	(30,739)	(33,119)	2,380	●
Local Salaries, Social Security & Pension Costs	(12,314)	(12,122)	(192)	●
Office / Administration Costs	(1,883)	(2,285)	402	●
Fabric Expenditure	(17,047)	(4,210)	(12,837)	●
Premises running costs (halls & manse)	(6,864)	(4,426)	(2,438)	●
Other Local Costs	(3,001)	(2,282)	(719)	●
	<u>(71,848)</u>	<u>(58,444)</u>	<u>(13,404)</u>	●

**COMMENT**

As at 30th April, there is a deficit on the General Fund of **£10,228** which is a decrease of **£11,621** on the position for the same period in 2022. The difference can be explained as follows:

**Higher Income = Increase in surplus of £1,783**

- There were increases in Hall income **£6,374**, Bank Interest and Investment Income **£80** and Other Receipts **£3,480**. These increases were offset by reductions in Offerings **£8,003** and donations **£148**.
- The increase in Other Receipts was mostly due to a Listed Places of Worship claim which allows us to recover VAT paid on specific types of expenditure on church buildings. The claim amounted to **£2,925**
- The decrease in Offerings was due to timing and some larger donations made in 2022.

**Higher Costs = Reduction in surplus of £13,404**

- Costs increased in most areas except Giving to Grow contributions, Presbytery dues and Office Admin costs.
- The main areas of increase were: Fabric expenditure **£12,837** due to structural work carried out on the manse roof and external walls; Premises running costs **£2,438** due to lower gas payments in 2022 as a result of a billing error and the inclusion of cleaning costs in 2023 which were previously reported under Salaries.

Taking account of legacies received the decrease on the position as at 2022 is **£25,835**.

*Janice Reynolds (Treasurer)*