

**St Margaret's  
Scottish Episcopal Church  
Magazine**

**50p**

**October 2016**



**Paradise? But where? (answer inside)**



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#### **A warm welcome to St Margaret's**

Should you wish to speak to the Rector, he is regularly available at the Church on Wednesdays between 6 and 7pm (if the church does not appear to be open, please ring the bell at the left side of the small door to the left of the main West door). Otherwise he can be contacted on 0141 632 3292.

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**Memorial concert for Nimmo Davidson**

Paisley Philharmonic Choir, with instrumental soloists from Hutchesons' Grammar School, will present a memorial concert for Nimmo Davidson at St Margaret's on **Sunday 2 October at 7pm** (*apologies for getting the day of the week wrong in the last magazine!* – Ed). The programme includes music by Vivaldi, Faure, Handel and Strauss. Proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Ciaran Pryce appeal and the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Donation programmes available at the door (suggested donation £10). Anyone unable to be present and wishing to make a donation please contact Mattie Davidson on 632 0016.

## 20/20 Vision - Project Guidelines

As mentioned in the last magazine, the Vestry has drafted guidelines with which to evaluate projects to be supported. These are reproduced as a supplement to this magazine and can be retained for future use or handed on to anyone who may be interested.



## Scott writes.....

We are now well into a new session at St Margaret's and we look forward to seeing what God will be doing in and through us in the next few weeks and months. One or two events already stand out for us in the autumn. The first is the memorial service for Nimmo Davidson, which takes place on Sunday 2 October at 7pm. This will be a fitting tribute to a man who devoted himself fully to the liturgical life of the church and particularly to its musical life. I do hope as many of you as can make it will support Mattie and the charities that the concert aims to provide for through the proceeds of what promises to be a grand occasion.



The second event takes place the following month with the arrival of a delegation from the diocese of Gothenburg, which forms the final formal diocesan visit. As part of this visit will be a special service here in St Margaret's to mark the end of the formal link. The following day, on Sunday, November 20, our Patronal Festival, Rev. Maria Ottensten, well known to many of us, will preach at the 10.30am Eucharist.

In addition to these significant one-off events, we will also begin our study course, "Pilgrim" on October 12. This course focuses our thinking on what it means to follow Jesus of Nazareth in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century. (*For more information, see page 22 - Ed*). It is an appropriate course to be running alongside the adult and junior confirmation classes, which themselves culminate in the visit of Bishop Gregor at the end of October for our Confirmation Service.

So there is a lot going on, and it is good to see the church thriving in this way. I'm grateful for all those who, in one way or another, support these and so many other ventures here in St Margaret's. The life of a church, like our own lives, is very often determined by what we actually do. It cannot be the be all and end all of our experience, but it is an important indicator as to what kind of life we are leading. Sometimes activity is a way of hiding from deeper issues that need to be addressed, and churches must always be aware of doing things simply for the sake of doing them. Nonetheless, what we do can reflect what is going on at the heart of the community.

One way of being more secure about our motivation in this regard is to

measure the extent of one particular activity, and that is the prayer activity of the church community. Here in St Margaret's, in addition to our normal services, we have a regular pattern of Morning and Evening Prayer, which offers an important grounding for all our activity and for those who participate in it. It can be tempting to regard prayer as a rather impractical activity, or something reserved for the really 'spiritual' individuals who are 'into that sort of thing'. In fact, it is the touchstone for all else that happens. Prayer focusses our attention, if you like, on the bigger picture. It grounds us, motivates us, and energises us. Everything else that goes on in St Margaret's is placed in its proper perspective as we bring the church and its activity to God.

It is wonderful to see so much life around the place and be assured that, as we offer all our activity - from the 20/20 Vision to the Sunday School, to the various groups which meet in and around St Margaret's - to God in prayer, that we will find ourselves to be a people of purpose and joy in a place of hope and peace.

**Scott**

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### **Correcting our arithmetic**

Would you think I was joking if I said that you can put a clock back, and that if the clock is wrong that is often a very sensible thing to do? We all want progress. But progress means getting nearer to the place that you want to be. And if you have taken a wrong turning then to go forward does not get you any nearer. If you are on the wrong road, progress means doing an about turn and walking back to the right road; and in that case the man who turns back soonest is the most progressive man.

We have all seen this when doing arithmetic. When I have started a sum the wrong way, the sooner I admit this and go back and start again, the faster I shall get on. There is nothing progressive about being pig headed and refusing to admit a mistake.

And I think if you look at the present state of the world, it is pretty plain that humanity has been making some big mistake. We are on the wrong road. And if that is so we must go back. Going back is the quickest way on.

*(CS Lewis, Mere Christianity)*

## **Around St Margaret's October 2016**

### **Choral events**

The choir sang a beautiful Compline service on 18 September. The timeless melodies of Plainsong and Mediaeval music rang gracefully through the church. Brother Cadfael would be proud!

Forthcoming events include Sung Compline on 16 October and Words and Music for Advent on 27 November.

### **Community Council Gala Day**

St Margaret's Fair Trade stall was in action at the Newlands Gala Day on Saturday 3 September. A warm afternoon saw many people turn out and the new Dandelion café in the park was doing a roaring trade. The Fair Trade tent was strategically sited between Angela's community choir, with Kenneth playing the keyboard, and June Gray's Trefoil Guild stall (selling lollipops and lucky dips). Many gathered to hear the performance of a varied and interesting programme, and the Fairtrade stall took £150.

### **Joint service 11 September**

This duly took place at St Ninian's; a good sized congregation was present and the various churches were fully represented. The service encapsulated the differing traditions of the four churches. Lesley Ann Craddock gave the sermon on the Great Commission (Matthew 28.16-20), encouraging us to get out of our comfort zones and reach out to the world around us. The joint choirs performed well. An excellent lunch was served after the service. The collection amounted to £340, and the Regional Council meeting on 13 September decided that the money should go to the Glasgow Children's Holiday Scheme.

### **Combat Stress**

Not content with all the exercise he gets as he does all odds jobs round the church and garden, Douglas Pearson is volunteering to do 22 press ups per day for 22 days in aid of Combat Stress, a charity which seeks to support soldiers who are recovering from traumas inflicted by war. If you would like to help, please get in touch with Douglas.

### **St Oswald's**

We are sad to hear that Lesley Ann's husband Ashley is seriously ill. Please remember them both, and indeed all our friends at St Oswald's at this difficult time.

### **The new look Penny**

Penny Forshaw is delighted to testify to the success of her Weightwatchers programme. She has lost an incredible six and a half stones! The pictures are there to prove it on the notice board in the corridor through to the hall. Well done Penny!

### **Harvest... and Bread of Heaven**

*The Flower Team writes:* Our Harvest festival will be celebrated on Sunday 2 October. Non perishable produce for the City Mission would be greatly appreciated and there will be boxes under the back table as usual from Sunday 25 September until Sunday 9 October.

In addition it would be of enormous help to the flower team if 2 people would volunteer to do a basket arrangement - one of fruit and one of vegetables, to be placed under the pulpit and at the font. Baskets and small tubes for few flowers will be provided.

*..and Jan MacDonald adds:* The Harvest festival will be followed by a bread and soup lunch. A variety of homemade and traditional bread will be on offer, so please come and enjoy the fare!

### **Second Sunday concerts**

The concert series recommenced on 11 September, when, on a delightfully bright autumn afternoon an outstanding group of performers (two violins, viola, cello, bassoon, clarinet, double bass and horn) from the Royal Scottish National Orchestra performed Schubert's Octet. It was a magical performance, which the audience of 70 thoroughly appreciated. "Follow that!" was the comment of one seasoned concert goer.

October's concert (9 October) will feature pianist Edward Cohen performing Shostakovich's Second Piano Concerto, with Michael providing the orchestral accompaniment at the organ. Music for organ and piano by Bach will complete the programme.

### **Thank you to grass cutters.....**

Thanks to those who have kept the grass cut over the summer. The rota for grass cutting is at the back of the church, so if there is a vacant slot between now and the end of the season, so please do take a turn. The burden of the rota has fallen on a willing few, so we would be glad of some more willing hands!

### **.....and weeders**

Thank you to the many people who have helped to keep the church garden free of weeds; it makes an appreciable difference.....but the weeds keep on growing, so don't let up!

### **Sponsor a tree...?**

Plans are afoot to fill the gap which was caused by the felling last year of a diseased tree on the Kilmarnock Road side of the garden. We are hoping to plant either a birch, a lime or a beech; the decision is yet to be finalised. Anyone who would like to donate towards this is asked to get in touch with Maida.

### **Garden gnomes .... and visitors welcomed**

Keen eyed observers will have noticed that the old and battered roses are being removed from the Newlands Road flower beds. While clearing the roses one Sunday afternoon, the "garden gnomes" were able to talk to a family who happened to be passing; one of the party was Caroline Holroyd (daughter of Jack and Irene Skerry), who was baptised at St Margaret's in the late 1950's and now lives in Southport. She was delighted to be able to view inside the church.

### **Front cover**

The picture on the front cover is of the wildflower garden at the back of the church..... thank you Angela for all you are doing to beautify the grounds.

### **Knit and Natter (to call it by its proper name!) continues**

The first meeting in August attracted around a dozen people, who enjoyed making crafts. It meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month in church (please enter by the Newlands Road door) from 10am -

12.30. Coffee and tea is provided. Please bring your knitting, sewing, crocheting and any other wops (works in progress) or just come and enjoy some company and chat. If you are interested in coming or would like to help, please speak to either Revd Maggie McTernan or Jenny Whelan. We hope to be able to assist with transport for anyone who needs it.

### **Doors Open Day**

St Margaret's again took part in Glasgow Doors Open Day this year. The church was open over three days from Friday 16 to Sunday 18 September - from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm - welcoming visitors to share in the beauty of our building. The stewards did an excellent job of welcoming nearly 100 visitors (and in one case having a discussion about lay lines and water divining!). The comments left in the visitors' book have left us in no doubt as to the effect our wonderful church building has had on them.

### **Exercise to Music**

Ann Rawson's Exercise to Music class recommences on Tuesday 27 September at 11am. Come along and keep those limbs supple!

### **Fairtrade news**

*Liz Bryce writes:* On Thursday 18 August a group of about 20 from the congregation met at my house for a Potluck supper based on LOAF principles. We had a lovely feast and shared a lot of ideas about St Margaret's as an Eco-congregation.

These included:

- urging people to do some of their Christmas shopping from the Traidcraft catalogue which is already available on the stall.
- Having regular Fairtrade lunches together
- Having special stalls at events eg Harvest and Advent
- Supporting and contributing funds to eco-congregation projects such as developing the church gardens
- Continuing to encourage people to patronise the stall and widening the range stocked whenever possible

St Margaret's Fairtrade group had a very successful stall at the Newlands Gala Day this year. We had a good number of customers and took over £150. Thanks to all the helpers and all who prayed for good weather!

See you at the Fairtrade stall and don't forget to get your Christmas catalogue.

### **Kirsty in Thailand**

*Kirsty writes:* I have just posted a blog post containing details of what I've been up to if you fancy having a wee read. This is the link - <https://thethailanddiariesblog.wordpress.com/>

### **Scotland's Churches Trust**

The trust exists to promote understanding of and engagement with the rich heritage of Scotland's ecclesiastical heritage. The trust's annual John Hume Lecture offers a view of differing styles and types of churches throughout Scotland. This year's lecture takes place at St George's Tron Parish Church on Thursday 29 September at 6.30pm (tea and coffee available from 6pm) and will be given by Professor Ian Campbell, University of Edinburgh on the topic "House of God, House of the Assembly: Why churches come in different shapes and sizes". All welcome.

### **Ministry celebration**

This will take place in St Margaret's on Saturday 29 October at 11am, when our Eucharistic Assistants will be relicensed. Please come and support them.

### **Bruadarach - Sharing the Vision**

Scotland's first ecumenical Pioneer Gathering, entitled "Bruadarach" (Gaelic for vision) will be held on 26-27 October at the Mercure Hotel Perth. This two day conference is open to all who want to explore Pioneer Mission and Fresh Expressions of mission in Scotland. See Maggie for further information.

### **Alzheimer's Coffee morning**

The Annual coffee morning will take place in the church hall on Saturday 5 November from 10 am to 12 noon. The usual range of craft goods will be available, and of course the wonderful St Margaret's home baking! Please see Jan MacDonald with offers if you can offer to help.

### **Swedish visit**

Maria Ottenston and a group from her diocese in Gothenburg will be visiting us from 17 to 20 November, to mark the end of the formal link between our diocese and Gothenburg.

**A 'Time to Remember' Service at St Margaret's  
3pm on Saturday 12 November**

*Eileen Smith writes:* This is the annual occasion when we come together within our beautiful sanctuary to remember and give thanks to God for the lives of our loved ones who have died - either this year or longer ago. Please join us for a time of peaceful remembrance with music, readings, prayers, reflection and contemplation.

This year, there are many within our Church family who have lost a loved one – you are especially invited to join us. There may also be others who have been bereaved for a longer period and still feel their loss keenly – you too are especially invited to join us.

If you know someone, a relative, friend or neighbour, who would find this Service helpful and comforting please invite them along - and offer to accompany them. Invitation cards are available in the Church for you to give them. Refreshments will be provided at the end of the Service.

**Remembrance Sunday Concert (13 November) in Greenlaw**

Hugh MacDonald is organising a concert in the borders village of Greenlaw on Sunday 13 November at 3.30pm. Hugh's mother, who died earlier this year, lived in Greenlaw and the concert will include works by Frederick Kelly, who was billeted in Greenlaw and was killed on 13 November 1916, the last day of the Battle of The Somme. More information about the background to this concert will appear in the November magazine.

**Annual General Meeting**

This will take place on Sunday 20 November immediately after the morning service. As a result of retirements from the Vestry, we have vacancies for the People's Warden and one or two ordinary members of the Vestry. Nomination forms are available from Gerry Wells and anyone who is interested in filling these posts is invited to speak to Gerry or to Scott.

## October Diary of events

- Sun 2nd Pentecost 20  
Memorial concert 7pm
- Tues 4th Holy Communion 10am  
Short and Sweet" Reflection 7pm
- Wed 5th **No Rector's Hour**
- Sun 9th Pentecost 21  
Second Sunday concert in the church 3.30pm  
Edward Cohen - Shostakovich Second Piano Concerto
- Tues 11th Holy Communion 10am  
Vestry 7pm
- Wed 12th Rector's Hour 6pm  
Pilgrim Study Group 7.30pm in the church
- Sun 16th Pentecost 22  
Sung Compline 6.30pm
- Tues 18th Holy Communion 10am
- Wed 19th Rector's Hour 6pm
- Thu 20th Knit and Natter 10am to 12.30pm
- Sun 23rd Pentecost 23
- Tues 25th Holy Communion 10am
- Wed 26th Rector's Hour 6pm  
Pilgrim Study Group 7.30pm in the church
- Sat 29th Ministry Celebration 11am
- Sun 30th Pentecost 24 - Confirmation: Bishop Gregor presiding

**Morning and Evening Prayer** at 9.00am and 5.30pm on  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

**Tuesdays 11am** Exercise to Music

## Readings for October

2 October	Habakkuk 1: 1-4; 2: 1-4
Pentecost 20	2 Timothy 1: 1-14 Luke 17: 5-10
9 October	2 Kings 5: 1-3, 7-15c
Pentecost 21	2 Timothy 2: 8-15 Luke 17: 11-19
16 October	Genesis 32: 22-31
Pentecost 22	2 Timothy 3: 14 - 4: 5 Luke 18: 1-8
23 October	Jeremiah 14: 7-10, 19-22
Pentecost 23	2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18 Luke 18: 9-14
30 October	Isaiah 1: 10-18
Pentecost 24	2 Thessalonians 1: 1-4, 11-12 Luke 19: 1-10

## Chorister at Cheltenham

*Elliott Osmond shares his Junior Choral Course Diary, August 2016*

### TUESDAY

On the train I felt nervous, but so excited at the same time. The course is happening at Cheltenham College. My journey from Glasgow was certainly



a lot longer than most people coming from London! Thanks to several movies and a card game, I survived the four trains and started my walk to the school.

When I arrived I got shown to my room and I unpacked with my dad. I'm sleeping in a dorm and sharing a space with another boy. Afterwards I collected my music and nametag and went to start rehearsing.

I've made LOADS of friends on the first half day. There are almost sixty children on the course. I'm one of the youngest – the oldest are sixteen. Most of them have been on the course in other years too.

### WEDNESDAY

I've spent six hours singing today! Our music is a mix of different styles. It includes Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, *Gospel Train*, some Andrew Lloyd Webber tunes, and *Can't Take My Eyes Off You*. The food is delicious, especially the desserts. I enjoyed playing tennis as my afternoon activity. I'm enjoying *Elijah* but it is very hard. I've never sung a piece like it – it goes through so many different emotions.

### THURSDAY

Today was a great day! I learnt two new songs that I have heard before (*Memory* and *Go Go Go Joseph!*). My afternoon activity was swimming which is very popular.

Even the warm-ups are fun, like "A man named Joe" where you have to keep adding extra actions to the song. Martyn and Ralph are both really funny.

[Martyn Ford & Ralph Allwood, the course conductors.]

### FRIDAY

I'm starting to really improve my singing and sight-reading. Today I played dodge ball and we went through a lot of new bits of *Elijah*. Ralph pointed out that when we work on a new part we all mumble the music quietly,

and then we blurt out the bits that we're confident with. But it's better to sing confidently and make mistakes loudly than be cautious and quiet.

Solos are starting to be given so I'm going to put my hand up to give it a go.

### **SATURDAY**

No solos today but I'm starting to learn my music by memory. Luckily we will have our copies for *Elijah*! But we still need to look at the conductor as much as possible. Ralph has a competition to see who looks up the most. He says that sometimes it's better to look up and make mistakes than have your head in the copy. It's important to look at the conductor to stay in tempo and know when to come off at the end of a note, especially if there's a pause. And you make a nicer and more expressive sound if you're looking out too.

I got to swim again today and they said there is a special surprise for tomorrow.

In the evening we watched everybody perform different songs in their consort groups. We were really excited when it was our chance because we'd worked hard on ours. Our song "New York, New York" went fantastically well, and we performed it with some fun movement too. I enjoyed everybody else's performances. Singing in a small group really helped my confidence, and it was great to perform to such a friendly crowd. I had to sing the second part, which was good experience because I'm used to singing the tune instead of the harmony.

### **SUNDAY**

Hurray! Today was a Scotland-themed day. Only two people (a member of staff and myself) actually live in Scotland so it was special for us. We played the Wide Game and did Scottish country dancing. We also saw a performance from our tutors.

In the evening Martyn asked for people to volunteer for a solo in *Go Down, Moses*. I put up my hand and was told to sing it through a few times. Martyn helped me adjust my tone to suit the piece. Martyn was impressed at how quickly I picked up on his suggestions, and he gave me the part! I think I'm really improving in creating expression to suit the different styles of music that we're working on.

## MONDAY

The day of the performance. It felt fantastic to show the audience all of the music we've been making. My solo went well and we ordered a CD of the concert. I've had such a great week. It's been an amazing opportunity, and I hope I get the chance to come here again. But I'm also glad to be going home!

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## Puzzle corner - Solutions to September's puzzles

### Sudoku

L	R	U	Y	J	W	S	A	M
S	W	A	L	R	M	Y	U	J
J	M	Y	S	U	A	L	R	W
W	Y	J	R	A	U	M	S	L
A	L	S	J	M	Y	U	W	R
M	U	R	W	L	S	J	Y	A
R	A	L	U	Y	J	W	M	S
U	S	M	A	W	L	R	J	Y
Y	J	W	M	S	R	A	L	U

### Double jointed

Whale dweller / Enemy of Elijah

Jonah / Ahab

His coast would be enlarged / Prophet

Jabez / Ezekiel

Favourite son / Short NT book

Joseph / Philemon

Devoted daughter in law / Friend of Luke

Ruth / Theophilus

Descendant of Herod / Island of Revelation

Agrippa / Patmos

## Intercessions

Let us approach our God with our needs and cares.

We pray for our church, that it may truly serve the world, and proclaim God's love, not only by word but also by action.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.



With the party political conferences getting under way, we pray for all people caught up in the world of politics. Give us men and women of integrity in our public life, people of courage and conscience, ready to work passionately for a better world where justice and peace flow like a river to the sea. Give us all the generosity to recognise the limitations which our politicians possess and acknowledge that they are only human. Help us to work with them for the common good.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

A strained ceasefire continues to hold fast, just about, in Syria. We pray for everyone caught up in that conflict. Bring order to chaos, the prospect of peace from the noises of war, a sense of direction to all those fighting, open their ears to the cries of the afflicted, their eyes to the endless destruction being wrought, and their hearts to the overriding claims of peace. Bless all those seeking to bring an end to the fighting.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those on our hearts, who feel personally abandoned, who cry out for justice, recognition or healing. Remember too, all those who are wrestling with fears, doubts, anxieties.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For ourselves, that we may see our own faults more clearly, acknowledge our weaknesses as well as our strengths, and give Christ the opportunity to make us new.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord God of all creation, accept our prayers through Christ our Lord.

Amen

*David Bryce (18 September)*

## Seven Lochs Walk - 21 August

As usual the weather forecast was non-committal; sunny spells and showers, but that didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the group which met Claire Quinn, the Community Engagement Officer for Glasgow & Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership at Easterhouse train station for a guided walk of just under 5 miles in the recently created Seven Lochs Wetland Park (SLWP) - an exciting new Green Network project.

The Seven Lochs Wetland Park straddles the Glasgow - North Lanarkshire boundary and is destined to become Scotland's largest urban nature park, bringing together almost 20 sq km of lochs, parks, nature reserves and woodlands. It encompasses seven lochs, five local nature reserves, a country park and one of Glasgow's oldest buildings at Provan Hall. The park will become a major new hub for heritage conservation, learning and engagement for both visitors and local residents and help local communities to take ownership of the park for generations to come.

We had a short walk past local housing to start our walk at Bishop Loch Local Nature Reserve, a relatively newly planted woodland of native species such as hazel birch, aspen, rowan and oak. Conservation and management work done with groups of volunteers includes removing some trees and replanting to break up the original regimented forestry planting scheme, to give the woods a more natural feel. Claire explained how the wetlands were an important habitat for water voles, a protected species which on occasion had interfered with local construction projects and were often mistaken for rats by local residents. A researcher from Glasgow University, called in by the city council, trapped and tagged several of these voles, using empty Pringles tubes and calculated that there were up to 150 per hectare in the area, almost four times the normal population density of their *riverbank* cousins! There was also a badger sett in the woods. Steadily, the path then ascended until we found ourselves overlooking Bishop Loch.

Bishop Loch is one of two Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in the Seven Lochs Park. Looking down there were dense reed beds where new paths, boardwalks, interpretation boards and viewing areas will be installed to allow visitors controlled access to the loch. Osprey and Marsh Harrier have been spotted there and there is the remains of a crannog (an ancient loch dwelling some 2,500 years old). Recent archaeological investigation has revealed more

about the ruins of the country residence of the Bishop of Glasgow which stood on the edge of Bishop Loch from the 14th Century until it was destroyed in 1579. High up, on the north bank, was Gartcosh Hospital with its two imposing towers. Built in 1896 as the 'City of Glasgow District Asylum for pauper lunatics' the hospital was in use until the 1980s. Some of the buildings are now being converted into housing as part of a major new development. Away to the east, was the Scottish Crime Campus, built on the old Gartcosh steel works and opened in 2014. This futuristic building, rising amid the distant trees, seemed a stark contrast to our own natural, historic surroundings on the south bank of the loch.

As we headed along the path we became aware of a family of buzzards overhead, probably on a 'teaching' exercise over the fields, shortly followed by a kestrel, easily identified from its hovering flight over the field verges. We stopped to admire a carpet of blue Devil's-bit Scabious before crossing Lochend Road heading along Lochend Burn towards Commonhead Moss.



We stopped to investigate a pond by the path, delighted to see damsel flies flying about then resting briefly on the reeds. More ponds have been added to this network through making scrapes (pools and ribbons of shallow water that dry slowly over the spring and summer and fill back up again in winter). It's not unusual for new ponds to form almost spontaneously as a result of the complex geology, hydrology and past mine workings of the area. Quickly we were out onto the open 'Moss'.

Commonhead Moss is the largest area of degraded (dried out) raised bog remaining in Glasgow. You can see some good photos here <http://glasgowwildsbetter.blogspot.co.uk/2013/05/commonhead-moss-lnr-drumpellier-country.html>

The edges of the bog are fringed by birch woodland and wet heath habitat. Part of the work of volunteer groups is to remove the numerous birch seedlings and fell saplings across the bog and to block up drainage channels

which had been dug in the past. Peat bog plants absorb CO<sub>2</sub> as they grow then when they die the carbon is locked away in organic chemicals in the soaking peat for thousands of years; they are places of carbon storage. As a peat bog dries out it releases a surge of CO<sub>2</sub> – a greenhouse gas. With 94% of this unique habitat destroyed in the UK, this is a precious site.

As we progressed along the pathway, there was evidence of fly-tipping, fires and vandalism (including by a local land-owner!) which was very sad to see in such otherwise beautiful surroundings.

Local primary schools have been involved in various outdoor projects including producing art work to decorate stone entrances and way markers on the Seven Lochs Trail (8km route linking Drumpellier Country Park and the east end of the Seven Lochs, to Hogganfield Park in the west)

After crossing the M73 (road bridge!) and A752 Gartcosh Road (no bridge!) we arrived in Drumpellier Country Park. a former private estate and mediaeval monastery with easy paths through managed woodland and around Lochend Loch and beside the Monklands Canal. The lochs at Drumpellier are part of a chain of kettle ponds formed towards the end of the last ice age. As the glacier that covered most of Scotland slipped down towards the sea it churned up great tracks of land. This created the great lochs, such as Loch Lomond and Linnhe, and also produced small pockets of water such as the Garnkirk chain of Hogganfield, Frankfield and the Bishops Lochs that include Drumpellier's Lochs, Woodend and Lochend.



The lochs and the canal attract a large number of water birds, both resident and over-wintering migrants – we saw a cormorant, swans with sleeping cygnets and lots of ducks. The wide range of facilities in the park makes it popular with families. In the sunshine, beside the blue loch, full of birds it was good to feel a sense



of fellowship, not just with our own group who had mingled and chatted all the way, but with all those out in the park that afternoon enjoying the beauty of nature.

The Seven Lochs Green Network Project includes the development of walking and cycling routes linking the gateway sites and improvements to paths, signage, interpretation and management across the whole park, as well as a range of activities for people to enjoy and learn about the area's heritage, including opportunities for training and volunteering. In summer 2016 it secured £4.5 million funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund which will help develop it as a major new heritage park for Scotland, including restoration of Provan Hall in Auchinlea Park. This repair and enhancement project at Provan Hall is the first step in creating a unique visitor gateway which will consist of improved parkland, a unique group of medieval buildings with associated interpretation and a proposed new-build visitor centre with first class facilities and amenities.

The significant greenspace SLWP resource will come under intense pressure due to regeneration initiatives and planned Community Growth Areas that will see up to 4300 new homes constructed in the period to 2025.

What an opportunity to demonstrate how to integrate development with the expansion and enhancement of Glasgow's Green Network!

A huge thank you to Claire for opening our eyes to this gem on our doorstep. Do take the opportunity to explore for yourself and follow the future development <http://www.sevenlochs.org/>

*Jan MacDonald*

## What is Pilgrim?

Pilgrim is a major new teaching and discipleship resource. It aims to help every local church create a place where people can explore the Christian faith together and see how it can be lived out each day.

Pilgrim takes a different approach to other Christian programmes. It approaches the great issues of faith not through persuasion, but participation in a pattern of contemplation and discussion with a group of fellow travellers.

Pilgrim is comprised of two stages: the Follow stage for those very new to faith, and the Grow stage for those who want to go further. Each stage contains four short six-session courses which focus on a major theme of Christian life.

## Pilgrim's approach

### **It starts at the very beginning**

Pilgrim assumes very little understanding or knowledge of the Christian faith.

### **It focuses on Jesus Christ**

Pilgrim aims to equip people to follow Jesus Christ as disciples in the whole of their lives.

### **It flows from the Scriptures**

The primary focus of each session is a group of people engaging with the Bible together.

### **It draws deeply from the Christian tradition**

In the Early Church, the Christian faith was taught by the transmission of key texts which summed up the heart of the Christian message. Pilgrim restores this approach for the twenty-first century.

If you would like more information, do speak to Scott or Maggie.



## *The Last Word*

On a visit to a church in his diocese, Archbishop John Habgood of York was shown an old photograph of himself: owl-like spectacles, cricket cap, flannels and pads, with bat in hand. He had been in the team playing against Westcott Theological College's neighbour Jesus College. It must have been the only time in his ministry that he had batted against Jesus.

### **St Margaret of Scotland, Newlands**



#### **Service details**

##### **Sundays**

9.00am Said Eucharist  
10.30am Sung Eucharist,  
Crèche, Sunday School & Youth Group

##### **Tuesdays**

10.00 am Holy Communion

##### **Morning and Evening Prayer**

**Mon, Wed, Thu and Fri 9.00am and 5.30pm**

For other services not listed please see Diary inside

Church Website address: [www.episcopalnewlands.org.uk](http://www.episcopalnewlands.org.uk)

Scottish Charity No SC 008953

**Next issue 30 October**

**Copy deadline Sunday 16 October 6pm**