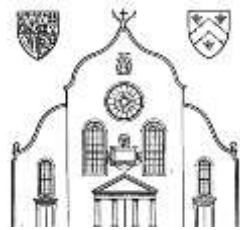


**CANONGATE KIRK**  
**THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE**  
**& EDINBURGH CASTLE**

[www.canongatekirk.org.uk](http://www.canongatekirk.org.uk)

**Newsletter April 2023**



**MINISTER'S LETTER**

“Muster, March and Remember” was the theme of the Royal Regiment of Scotland’s recent reunion of those who had served in the Regiment since its formation from its various antecedent Regiments on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2006. At the conclusion of their weekend of events, a contingent marched down the Royal Mile behind the Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland and came to a halt outside Canongate Kirk, the Regimental Kirk, before joining the congregation already mustered for our morning service on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March. The Band came in too and played from the gallery and it all made for a most memorable service. A newly commissioned Memorial Board was given pride of place on the chancel step and has now been moved to our War Memorial Chapel for safe keeping. “Muster, March and Remember.”

Every Regiment of the British Army has its own Regimental Collect, or prayer. The Royal Regiment of Scotland’s was included in our service and goes like this: *God of our fathers, whose hand shapes the coastlands and hills of home, fashion likewise our lives. Guard the Royal Regiment of Scotland; keep us brave in battle, resolute in adversity, loyal to comrade and Crown; that inspired by the faith and cross of Saint Andrew, we might secure lasting peace and eternal rest; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen*

As Easter approaches, we are reminded that it was Jesus himself who was brave in battle, resolute in adversity and ultimately loyal to the will and purpose of God. And that it is for us, in the light of his death and resurrection, to fashion likewise our lives. Details of our Holy Week and Easter services can be found below. I hope you might be able to join us in the Regimental Kirk. You don’t need to march here in order to muster, but let’s remember together how God so loved the world...

*Neil Gardner*

<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Maundy Thursday	7pm	Holy Communion
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Good Friday	7pm	Evening Service
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Easter Day	10.30am	Morning Service (with Baptism and Confirmation)

*In addition, the Minister will also be preaching at the Evening Service in St Giles Cathedral at 7pm on Monday 3rd April, the Monday of Holy Week.*

## PARISH REGISTER

### Memorial Service

17<sup>th</sup> March Colonel Francis Farquharson Gibb

North Berwick

*(“Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”)*

### NEWS FROM THE KIRK SESSION

There was no formal meeting of the Kirk Session in March; nevertheless it was a busy month. March saw the reintroduction of duty Elders' teams at Sunday services. This marks a return to the system that operated pre-pandemic, albeit in a slightly modified form. The Finance Committee has been busy preparing the Annual Accounts for 2022. Following approval by the Kirk Session at our meeting in February, the accounts were presented to the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Having been noted by the congregation they now proceed to independent examination before being submitted to the Church of Scotland and the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator (OSCR). In addition the Annual Review is being prepared for publication in the coming days and a few items of remedial work are being progressed with regard to the fabric of the Manse and the Harry Younger Hall. The Kirk Session is next due to meet on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

### CORONATION CONCERT

In a welcome return to Canongate Kirk, some hugely talented young students from the Yehudi Menuhin School will perform a special eve of coronation concert at 3pm on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May. The programme will be a celebration of 100 years of piano music including Chopin's Études. Tickets £10/Under 16s £7.50 with all proceeds donated to Canongate Kirk. More information from [www.musicinblairatholl.co.uk](http://www.musicinblairatholl.co.uk) or from [alaviniagordon@gmail.com](mailto:alaviniagordon@gmail.com) T: 07850268820 Spectacular performances fit for a King – don't miss it!

### CONCERTS AT CANONGATE KIRK IN APRIL

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 7pm

Edinburgh University A Capella

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm

Wanatchee High School Choir

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April 1pm

Hawthorn Academy

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 3pm

Yehudi Menuhin School Coronation Concert

More details on our website <https://www.canongatekirk.org.uk/>

### CORONATION SUNDAY

Last Summer we marked The late Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a celebratory reception for the congregation immediately after the morning service. We plan to do something similar this year the morning after HM The King's coronation in Westminster Abbey. The morning service will inevitably mark the occasion and weather permitting everyone will be able to toast the newly crowned King at a reception in the courtyard. Help will be needed and volunteers will be welcome.

### LIVESTREAMING: CAN YOU HELP?

We have been blessed by a willing band of volunteers who press the necessary buttons on a laptop in the gallery every Sunday morning to enable the broadcast of our service online via our website. We know for a fact that this facility is appreciated not just locally and across the country but around the world. Friends in Australia, Japan and the USA watch regularly and we were recently joined for a baptism by someone stationed in Antarctica! These days numbers watching by the end of the week are generally averaging around 50 or 60, but the Sunday after The Queen's death they peaked at over 3600 and we can probably expect another spike around the time of The King's Coronation. It would be great to add to the number of those who help

spread the work and worship of Canongate in this simple but invaluable way, and the more who take a turn the less frequently they will be required. If you have basic computer skills and would like to find out more, please have a word with Imogen Gibson in the Kirk Office.

### **CRAFT CLUB**

The Canongate Craft Club had a successful inaugural meeting in February. Attendees worked on a variety of different crafts, including the knitting of baby blankets, cross-stitching and pom-pom making. There was even a short demonstration on how to make an origami paper crane - with successful attempts by all who were brave enough to try. The Club will meet monthly on the second Wednesday of each month, with the next meeting on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April from 6.30 – 8pm in the Harry Younger Hall. All crafters (and non-crafters) welcome!

### **THE BIG HELP-OUT**

As part of the His Majesty The King's coronation initiative The Big Help Out, the Crafting Club will be hosting a Coronation Craft-a-thon to make baby blankets for the Simpson Neonatal Unit. The Craft-a-thon will take place in the Harry Younger Hall on Monday 8th May from 10am till 4pm. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Crafters can join for any part of the day, and all are welcome. Please speak with Elise Ramsay or Alexis Moyer for more details, and to sign up.

### **TRUSSELL TRUST**

We continue to welcome donations for Edinburgh foodbanks supported by the Trussell Trust. Non-perishable foodstuffs and toiletries can be brought to church any Sunday and left in the basket in the foyer.

### **STAMPS**

Don't forget that we also have an ongoing collection for used stamps. This year's Stamp Project aims to raise funds for The National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon (NESSL). NESSL employs more than a thousand people including their pastors. The economic crisis in the country and the consequences of the huge explosion in Beirut has struck hard and the Synod is struggling to pay salaries for pastors which range between £100 to £150 per month. The money raised from stamp collections will go towards supporting a pastor for a full year's salary.

### **TEA AND COFFEE AFTER CHURCH**

With thanks to those who have already volunteered to help with tea and coffee on a Sunday morning, anyone else wishing to help should give their name to David Croft who will coordinate the rota. It's shown on a sheet on the Kirk foyer notice board, so please check there to see if there are any gaps. The task, delivered in teams of two, should take up no more than 30 minutes of anyone's time and would hopefully be required no more than once every six weeks.

### **TELEPHONE SERVICE**

The weekly service continues to be livestreamed to our website at 10.30am every Sunday and then available online at any time, and may also be heard on a landline telephone – simply dial 0131 546 4001 and press 1 when prompted. Calls are charged at your phone provider's usual local rate – please let anyone know who is unable to access the internet but might appreciate this kind of connection.

## **EDINBURGH EASTER PLAY 2023**

This year's production is a large-scale traditional passion play in full costume, played out beneath the iconic backdrop of Edinburgh Castle. The show will take place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 2pm in Princes Street Gardens. The show is free and un-ticketed. More information at <https://easterplay.org/>

## **CHRISTIAN AID BOOKSALE**

The annual booksale raising funds for Christian Aid will take place at St Andrew's and St George's West from Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May. Donations of books, antiques and collectables, pictures, stamps and postcards, sheet music and toys such as games and jigsaws can be handed in to St Andrew's and St George's West, 13 George Street from 9am – 8pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

## **OLD SAINT PAUL'S WEEKLY LUNCH**



OSP's is offering a free soup and rolls lunch every Monday from 12.30-2.30. The aim is to offer a warm, convivial space for anyone in the church and wider community who wants it, including people who might want a warm place to work or relax, so the hall will be open for a bit longer than the 12.30 - 2.30 lunch time.

## **VETERANS' LUNCH CLUB**

603 Sqn provides a Monthly Veterans Lunch Club at 603 Sqn HQ, 25 Learmonth Terrace, Edinburgh, EH4 1NZ. Please contact Sergeant Paul Greenwood for details on 07583 092701 or email [paul.greenwood195@mod.gov.uk](mailto:paul.greenwood195@mod.gov.uk) The aim is to provide veterans both young and old, ex-regular and ex-reserve with a warm welcoming place to meet once a month where they can have a simple lunch or just a tea/coffee.

## **EXHIBITION AT MUSEUM OF EDINBURGH**

*Local Foreigners – the Human Face of Immigration* is an exhibition at the Museum of Edinburgh (opposite Canongate Kirk) featuring photographs of people who have moved to Edinburgh from other countries and made the city their home. Each person has chosen a cherished object to display. The exhibition is an extension of Local Foreigners, a project by Maryna Sulym an immigrant from Ukraine. Until Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September. Admission free. For more information visit <https://localforeigners.org/>

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<i>Office Opening Hours: Mon, Wed 9am – 1pm, Thursday 9am – 12 noon, Fri 8am – 12 noon.</i>			
Website: <a href="http://www.canongatekirk.org.uk">www.canongatekirk.org.uk</a>		 @CanongateKirk	 @canongate.kirk
Scottish Charity SC 015251			



MUSIC IN BLAIR ATHOLL PRESENTS:

# A CORONATION CONCERT

FRIDAY 5TH MAY - 3.00PM  
THE KIRK OF THE CANONGATE,  
EDINBURGH

TICKETS: £10.00  
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*All proceeds to the Kirk of The Canongate*

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email: [alaviniagordon@gmail.com](mailto:alaviniagordon@gmail.com)

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